

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Forest History Society awards and fellowships are fully supported by endowment. The awards program enables the Society to recognize research and writing in forest and conservation history and to stimulate further research into our understanding of the relationships between people and forests. High standards for selection reflect equally upon the recipient and the Society. Following is a list of awards for 2007.

### LEOPOLD-HIDY AWARD

The Leopold-Hidy Award honors the best article published in *Environmental History* in the preceding year. The award is presented jointly by the American Society for Environmental History and FHS and judged by the editorial board of the journal. This year's award went to **Richard Judd**, author of "A Wonderful Order and Ballance': Natural History and the Beginnings of Forest Conservation in America, 1730–1830," (January 2006). Judd's essay examines the origins of conservationist thought among a group of scientists who explored the trans-Appalachian frontier in the late colonial and early republic period and suggests the lines of continuity to later thinkers. One reviewer called it a "masterful narrative that takes a group of early conservationists on their own terms and not merely as precursors to John Muir and other conservationists." Another said: "I had no idea the degree to which late 18th century scientific discourse informed and affected later generations. Judd has rescued a group of conservationists 'from the enormous condescension of posterity.'" A third noted, "This essay [reminds us] that colonial and early republic America remains a fruitful and yet woefully under-appreciated field."

### THEODORE C. BLEGEN AWARD

The Blegen award recognizes the best article in the field of forest and conservation history that is not published in *Environmental History* and was awarded to **Roxanne Willis** for her article "A New Game in the North: Alaska Native Reindeer Herding, 1890–1940." Published in the *Western Historical Quarterly* 37 (Autumn 2006): 277–301, this article

assesses the introduction of domesticated reindeer to Alaska by the missionary Sheldon Jackson, ostensibly for the benefit of native communities. It explores new ground with a compelling narrative and a keen sense for the complexities of the interaction between Native Alaskans, do-gooding Anglo-Americans, and the shifting economy of the far north.

### JOHN M. COLLIER JOURNALISM AWARD

This is a collaborative effort with the Institutes for Journalism & Natural Resources (IJNR), and was awarded this year to **Jeffrey Barnard** from Grants Pass, Oregon. Jeff is the southern Oregon correspondent for the Associated Press, having worked for the AP since 1983. He is responsible for stories and photos of general interest in southern Oregon, with a particular focus on the environment. He was named first AP state environmental writer, 2003. His longstanding areas of coverage include salmon restoration, forests management, wildfire, Klamath Basin water, and commercial fishing. Jeff received a B.A. in History from the University of California at Berkeley in 1972 and an M.S. in Journalism from Boston University in 1976. He attended the IJNR on Northwest issues in 1999 and wildfire in 2001. Jeff will visit FHS in November 2007.

### F.K WEYERHAEUSER FOREST HISTORY FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to a Duke University student working in forest and conservation history, this year's fellowship went to **Krithi Karanth**, a Ph.D. student investigating "Forests, People, and Wildlife: Forest History and Its Influence on Large Mammal Range Contractions and Extinctions in India." Her proposal integrates both forestry and historical questions into a larger project. Karanth's ambition of integrating the landscape changes and shifting species distribution patterns into a comprehensive framework that interrogates the last 150 years of land use and wildlife policy is a compelling and promising project. Judges thought it was both a sophisticated and methodologically sound research proposal.

### CHARLES A. WEYERHAEUSER BOOK AWARD

The book award acknowledges an author for superior scholarship in the field of forest and conservation history. It was awarded to **David Blackbourn** for *The Conquest of Nature: Water, Landscape, and the Making of Modern Germany*, published by W. W. Norton & Co., 2006. It is an account of the development of German nationhood during its governments' and peoples' transformations of landscape and attempts to harness the power of water through reclamation, exploration, river engineering, dam-building, and other methods. Judges considered his book highly readable with a compelling narrative that will undoubtedly play a significant role in bringing environmental analysis into mainstream history. It is beautifully written and illustrated and takes on a major environmental topic in a major European nation and serves up a comprehensive overview of more than 200 years. No one reading this can ignore the centrality of changes in the landscape to mainstream political history.

### RECENT ALFRED BELL TRAVEL GRANTS

**Dr. Anthony Stanonis**, Assistant Professor of American Studies at Texas A&M, is working on a comparative study of the development of beach resorts in the southeastern United States including Gulfport, Mississippi, and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Both of these communities were begun by lumbermen who first harvested commercial timber before focusing on other "natural resources" such as sun and sand.

**Thomas Fetters**, independent scholar from Lombard, Illinois, used the records of Westvaco and its predecessor companies to investigate the phosphate industry near Charleston, South Carolina. There was quite a bit of overlap between the phosphate and lumber industries in the region and some Westvaco maps of land holdings indicated where phosphate mines were located.

**Dr. Adam Sowards**, Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies at the University

of Idaho, is investigating urban national forests, i.e., those forests that are within fifty miles of metropolitan areas of greater than one million residents. There are about a dozen of these forests in the U.S., and they face their own unique set of issues revolving around recreation, urban sprawl, the urban-wildland interface fire problems, and watershed protection.

**Dr. Carl Bajema**, a retired biology professor from Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, is working on a history of Michigan's legendary logging era. He was also interested in surveying the FHS photo collection for possible use in several documentary films that he has planned.

**Dr. Tom Cox**, retired professor of history at San Diego State University, worked on a history of the journal *Environmental History* including its predecessors the *Journal of Forest History* and the *Journal of Forest and Conservation History*. He used the FHS archival collection.

**David Tomblin**, Ph.D. candidate in history at Virginia Tech University, studied ecological restoration work by the White Mountain Apache Tribe of Arizona. FHS holds the papers of Harold Weaver, a Bureau of Indian Affairs forester who worked with the tribe in the 1940s and 1950s.

**Dr. Ranjan Chakrabarti**, Professor of History, Coordinator of the UGC Special Assistance Programme on Environmental History at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and Secretary of the Association of South Asian Environmental Historians, conducted research for his book *The Jungle, Wildlife, and Deforestation in Colonial and Post-colonial India*. He is particularly interested in the John Richards Collection on Southeast Asia.

#### OTHER VISITORS

**Kathy Newfont**, Associate Professor of History at Mars Hill College, visited FHS twice to work on her book about the

politics of resource use in western North Carolina.

**David Ashcraft**, Director of Development for the Pulp and Paper Foundation and Executive-in-Residence of the Paper Science Dept. at North Carolina State University, received an overview of FHS collections.

**David White**, forest ecologist and former USFS employee, worked on a history of the Bent Creek Experimental Forest on the Pisgah National Forest.

**Mary Montgomery**, Librarian and Curator from the Seattle Museum of History and Industry, toured the collections and reviewed the photographic database with the FHS Archivist and Librarian.

**Phung Tuu Boi**, Director, Nature Conservation and Community Development Center, Hanoi, Vietnam, visited the collections and photographs. He was on a nationwide tour speaking on "Agent Orange and the Environment: From Research to Remediation." □

# WCEH

## First World Congress of Environmental History

*Researchers worldwide will gather to discuss their work in environmental history.*

*Call for papers will be issued during Summer 2007.*

**August 4–8, 2009**  
**Copenhagen, Denmark**

*Hosted by ICEHO—The International Consortium  
of Environmental History Organizations and Roskilde University*

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