Chair’s Corner
Laird Easton

Welcome to 2012, the quasquicentennial of Chico State! In 1887 the California legislature approved the funding for a Northern Branch of the State Normal School, with the goal of training teachers. The Chico Normal School opened its doors to 90 students two years later. Only a handful of California colleges and universities are older and only San Jose State University predates Chico within the CSU system.

Looking now at the photograph of the first graduating class—the women dressed in white sitting primly on stage with the men posed hieratically behind—it seems impossible to make any sort of human contact with these spectral figures. One might as well try and fathom the dream life of the figures on a Mayan hieroglyph. Visually at least the first class of Chico State appears to belong to another world entirely, to have receded completely beyond the cusp of living memory.

And yet how long really is 125 years? I think of it this way. My paternal grandfather—and namesake—held me in his arms when I was just born. He, in turn, had been held by his grandmother, Elizabeth Clementine Kinney, a minor poet and writer who was an acquaintance of such mid-nineteenth century luminaries as Emerson, the Brownings, and Tennyson. She was born in 1810, the very year Napoleon was at the height of his power in Europe. Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin were both one year old. So, in my (perhaps fuzzy) way, I conceive of a mere “laying on of the hands”—my great-great grandmother to my grandfather to myself—separating me from that near mythical period when Bonaparte made the thrones of Europe quake. I know that many of you can trace your ancestry back in the same way. And I would not be surprised to learn if there were some among you who could trace a living link, a “laying on of the hands,” to those men and women on the stage at Chico Normal School in 1891.

Cynics will point out how specious this idea of a “living link” across the generations is. After all, they will say, you do not, in fact, share very much of a genetic inheritance with your great-great grandparents. And if this is true biologically, it is even more true of cultural and institutional history. The dominant impulse of scholarship today, at least in the humanities, is to scoff at the notion of origins, of some sense of continuity that persists through the years. All of that, they say, is a convenient myth, reinvented by each generation through a process of selective highlighting and forgetting. In the case of Chico State, what possible continuities can there be between

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the Northern Branch of the State Normal School of the 1880s, the Chico State College of the mid-twentieth century, and the California State University at Chico of the second decade of the twenty-first century? Even Trinity Hall—for me at least, the very embodiment of the History Department for over twenty years—has, in fact, as my friend Dean Joel Zimbelman recently informed me, seen many departments come and go. In the not too distant past, it was once the student union and before that the home of the library. All is flux. There is no nœud vital.

And yet I wonder. The set of pictures above haunts me. The first, a black and white photograph, depicts Trinity shortly after its completion in 1933, austere, pristine, and unadorned. The second is a recent picture taken from approximately the same angle. Here we see how time has weathered the building a bit, how the shrubs and vegetation have grown up around it, softening its contours. Comparing them I think of all the generations of students, and indeed of faculty, who have had this image imprinted on them, who approached Trinity with laughter or dread or pleasure. I think of the building as the stage for a thousand little dramas, discussions, revelations. Nowhere do you have a greater sense of the hungry generations trodding you down than in a university, and yet the university experience provides a rather timeless dramaturgy for each of these generations. In any case, I cannot help but feel that all of these young people—all of these colleagues, present and past—have not left something of themselves behind here in Trinity. In connection with this theme you will find here brief accounts by three of our distinguished emeriti, John Boyle, Don Lilibridge, and Carl Peterson, depicting the History Department at Chico State, not one hundred and twenty-five years ago, but around time of its emergence fifty years ago. I hope you find them as droll as I do.

And the History Department continues to evolve. Larry Bryant and Judith Raftery—both stalwart pillars of the department—have both retired since the last edition of History News. We have not had any new hires, although we are conducting a search that might result in the hire of a historian of the Middle East, so stay tuned. This past October Marla R. Miller delivered the Eleventh Annual Joanna Dunlap Cowden Memorial Lecture before a packed audience in the Rowland-Taylor Hall, speaking on “Betsy Ross: Life Behind the Legend.” It was an absolute tour de force, truly one of the highlights of that illustrious lecture series. This spring two of our colleagues will deliver public lectures: Robert Tinkler, “Lincoln’s Loyalists: Dissenters in the Confederacy” on March 7, and Tim Sistrunk, “Bartolus of Sassoferrato: The Making of Western Environmental Law,” April 4. Both of these will be held in the Rowland-Taylor Hall and begin at 7:30 p.m. They are free and open to the public, and there will be a reception afterward, so please stop by if you are in the area.
The History of the History Department: Emeriti Remember

John Boyle (1965–2000)

Let’s go back to 1968. That is the year that I, new PhD in hand, and wife Barbara, children Tom and Martha, and a cat named Homer made our way up Highway 99 to the quaintly named town of Chico to launch what would turn out to be a three-decade long career teaching Asian History at Chico State. Homer did not have a long life, but the rest of us, 44 years later, are pleased with the decision to settle in Chico.

I did a little research before coming to Chico and discovered that parents throughout the state considered Chico State to be a “safe school,” where their youngsters would be insulated from the temptations associated with more urban campuses. After a while we learned that the students knew better but went along with the myth.

I was a little on the mature side since I had spent many years in government work, several of them in Japan. The job market was fairly competitive at that time, and I felt lucky to get a position at Chico State. Professor Don Lillibridge recruited me for the position, and my cause may have been helped by the fact that I grew up in Sioux Falls, S.D. and Don grew up a decade earlier in nearby Mitchell, S.D. A common prairie heritage with the department chair probably counted for something. Don was given to assigning mirthful nicknames to everyone. I was quickly tagged as “The Tiger of Malaya.” I let it go, confident that most folks didn’t recall that the real “Tiger of Malaya” was hanged as a war criminal after WWII.

I was more than a little nervous about teaching. Despite many years of absorbing the radical atmosphere of the Asian academic community in the Bay Area I remained uncommitted. My senior colleagues in influential positions weren’t exactly waving Mao’s “Little Red Book,” but they seemed much more convinced than I that Mao’s Chinese-style revolution represented the wave of the future.

My solution was to adopt a middle-ground position more often geared to explanation and inquiry rather than advocacy. Call that wishy-washy if you will, but I stand by it. Would it shock the reader to know that when I lectured on the subject of Pearl Harbor and its causes that I spent ample time viewing that subject from the perspective of Imperial Japan?

My first semester at CSU I proposed to teach a course called “Revolutionary Movements in Modern China,” History 271. In another era, University bean counters would have canceled the class and compelled me to offer a section of U.S. History which would attract more students since it was a state-mandated requirement.

Years later, in fact, the department did order me to teach U.S. History one semester because one of my Asian History sections was under-enrolled. To the luckless students who found themselves in that class, I now, 30 years later, apologize. They must have been puzzled to find themselves day after day immersed in my “Asianized” version of American history. Commodore Perry opens up Japan. The U.S. role in the Boxer Rebellion. Chinese immigration issues, Japanese relocation, Teddy Roosevelt sends the Fleet to Asia, The Flying Tigers, the Korean War, etc. All in all, Grover Cleveland and Chester Arthur probably got less attention in my lectures than their contemporary, Japan’s Meiji Emperor. But somewhere out there, I hope, are a few students who remember the fascinating story of the Iwakura Mission of 1860 that brought about diplomatic relations between Japan and the U.S. Chances are that you didn’t hear about it in high-school history class.

Anyway, back in the summer of 1968, they let me do my thing. Alas, only three students turned up for Section 1 of Revolutionary China. This in spite of the fact that the Cultural Revolution was in full swing and the Red Guards were turning China upside down. The low attendance might have had something to do with the early hour of my offering: 7:30 a.m. Even “Elements of Animal Husbandry” met at a more respectable hour.

Of my three students one customarily absented himself on the understandable grounds of oversleeping; another one usually appeared late after
Faculty Research: Lisa Emmerich on Indian Identity, Gaming, and Life in Chico

When did you arrive at Chico State? What brought you to campus?
I arrived in Chico in 1990. I was a faculty member at Nebraska Wesleyan University when I was given the chance to come to Chico and teach exclusively in my areas of professional expertise, American Indian history and American Indian studies. Twenty-one years ago, there weren’t that many jobs in my field. I really felt like I’d won the lottery when the call came to offer me the position. And then there were the palm trees, too.
Before I came to Chico I’d spent three years following jobs around the Midwest: Minnesota to Ohio to Nebraska. That meant three Midwestern winters. Unless you are an avid ice fisher, winter, where it gets to be -30, is not all that fun. So when I arrived in town for my interview and saw the palm trees, I figured that it didn’t get too cold here. And I was right. The day I moved into Chico in late August 1990 it was 113 degrees.

What do you teach?
During a typical semester I teach introductory survey courses on American Indian history and American Indian studies. In the past I’ve also had the chance to teach more specialized classes on American Indian religions and American Indian law. As a member of the faculty of both the Department of History and the Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies (MCGS), I’m also on call to teach the US History Survey, American Westward Movement, the Introduction to MCGS, the MCGS Senior Seminar, and the occasional graduate class in History.

Have a favorite class?
It’s probably not a big surprise that I love teaching the American Indian courses. Each gives me an opportunity to reframe the national “master narrative” and move Native peoples and communities away from the American historical periphery. I’m especially a fan of the American Indian Law class because it gives me the chance to introduce students to a wide variety of legal issues that, while specific to tribal peoples and their communities, can have direct ramifications for their lives.

What are your research interests?
When I arrived at Chico State I was working on American Indian women and assimilation efforts during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. From that starting point, I began to look at American Indian health care during that same time period. While I continue to find those subjects compelling, my research interests lately have tracked in a different direction. Casino gaming in Indian Country now occupies most of my attention. There are so many different angles to the story of Indian gaming: the economic implications of newfound prosperity in previously impoverished communities; the impact of gaming on tribal sovereignty; the rise of Native political clout on the local, state, and national levels; and the redefinition of American Indian identity to incorporate elements of corporate capitalism are just a few of the topics that interest me.

Any current projects?
I’ve been awarded a sabbatical for the spring 2013 semester to work on the issue of tribal disenrollment. Since casino gaming became a fact of life in Indian Country, many tribes across the United States have decided to re-examine their standards for citizenship and, as a consequence, have chosen to disenroll individuals previously considered members in good standing. While their inherent sovereignty certainly allows Native nations to set membership requirements, many in and outside of Indian Country are questioning the connection between this policy and the division of gaming assets. While at first glance the math seems pretty simple—reduce the size of the tribe and increase the revenue share of those remaining members—it’s actually quite a complicated subject. Not to mention highly politicized. I’m delighted to be engaged in such an incredibly exciting and challenging research project.

Ever gambled at a tribally operated casino?
Sure, but for research purposes only. I consider the $25 I spent (lost) recently at a local casino to be part of my expenses as an American Indian historian.
It has been a busy year for Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club here at Cal State Chico! In spring 2011, we held another successful used book sale, experimented with pizza and trivia nights at local venues, and welcomed thirteen new initiates into Phi Alpha Theta at our annual Spring Initiation Party. Our many thanks to last year’s officers, Kevin Dewey and Kendra McCoy, and especially our outgoing president, Katie Fox!

This fall we welcomed Nicole MacDougall, Kevin Luty, and Tyler O’Connell as our new slate of officers, and Prof. William Campbell replaced Prof. Jason Nice to join Jessica Clark as a co-faculty advisor. It was great to see a lot of new faces at our kick-off pizza meeting in September, and we were thrilled when eight new Phi Alpha Theta initiates joined our ranks during the fall membership drive. In October, we went to see the world premiere of the film *El Clásico*, a documentary about the rivalry between the soccer clubs Real Madrid and Barcelona, which was written, directed, and produced by Chico State students—including History’s own Matt Robertson! Our “big event” so far this year has been a fieldtrip to San Francisco, where we enjoyed a lovely brunch at Prof. Campbell’s SOMA apartment, and then hiked Land’s End trail to the ruins of the Sutro Baths. In the late nineteenth century, at the time of their construction, the Baths were the world’s largest indoor bathing facility. The ruins, nestled on the northwest cliffs of San Francisco, provided a picturesque conclusion to the day. This coming spring, the club will be joining forces with a number of university- and regional-based organizations. First on tap, in March we will be bringing the award-winning documentary film maker Justin Dillon to CSU, Chico to take part in a week-long program to raise awareness of human trafficking. There will be more to come, so please stay tuned!

For further information about Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club events and membership, please do not hesitate to contact either Profs. Campbell or Clark.

Advisors: Professors Jessica Clark and William Campbell
Chico State History Graduates Present at the American Historical Association Conference in Chicago, January 2012

At the AHA last week in Chicago, three of our (relatively) recent grads presented conference papers. I was able to see two of them present, and they did dynamite jobs. That’s an objective assessment (!)—even allowing for my natural bias, these were very interesting papers, and our former students handled audience questions beautifully.

Anna Alexander (née Funk), who was president of Phi Alpha Theta and graduated in 2006, presented a paper at a panel that I chaired. Her paper was titled “Quotidian Catastrophes in the Modern City: Fire Hazards and Risk in Mexico’s Capital, 1860-1910.” Anna’s work looks at urbanization, modernization, and the rise of a professional fire-fighting corps in Mexico City. Her dissertation also considers improvements in fire-fighting technology and how urban residents came to cope with risk. Anna is a visiting professor at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan, and is currently interviewing for full-time jobs.

Sonia Robles, who graduated from Chico State in 2005, just defended her dissertation, titled “Shaping México lindo: Radio, Music, and Gender in Greater Mexico, 1923-1946” at Michigan State. She was on a roundtable panel that looked at radio in different countries, and the title of her presentation was "Crafting Mexico in México de afuera: Radio and Mexican Communities in the United States.” Sonia is a lecturer at Rutgers University in Newark and is also looking for a tenure-track position.

Shari Orisich, who graduated from Chico State with an MA in 2002, is finishing her dissertation at the University of Maryland in College Park. Her paper, titled “The Politics of Looking: Images of Normal and Deviant Youth in Postrevolutionary Mexico City, 1938-1958,” argued that the popular press stripped juvenile delinquency of its social context. After 1940, the modernizing Mexican state was less interested in building schools and institutions for poor people. The press cynically portrayed young delinquents—especially gang members—as incorrigible troublemakers, which (Shari argues) prepared Mexico for the use of authoritarian measures like those seen in the infamous massacre at Tlatelolco in 1968. Shari plans to finish her dissertation this year.

Submitted by Professor Steve Lewis

Present at the Re-Creation: Some Thoughts on Escaping and Embracing the Past. Timothy Bell, BA 1994

In 1994, I left California State University, Chico as a proud graduate with a bachelor’s degree from the Department of History. The degree was a reflection of my earnest fascination with the past and its impact on the present rather than a facet of some larger career plan. As it turned out, however, “history” would indeed factor into my future profession.

The next few years immediately after college were eventually promoted to an urban development officer; a role akin to a project manager. The position blended aspects of urban planning, architecture, real estate, finance, development, and community organizing. In this position, I learned that San Jose was a city with, as they say, some history.

To an extent, that history is one common to many major American cities. After the Second World War, the United States embarked on a pattern of development that emphasized low-density, suburban-style growth and focused on single-family home construction outside of urban centers and on the infrastructure for automobiles. San Jose transformed from a (relatively) compact town surrounded by acres
upon acres of fragrant prune orchards to a sprawling, freeway-belted auto mall that stretched across the Santa Clara Valley.

The downtown center of San Jose, like cities across the country, fell into decay when people, businesses, and investment headed to new developments radiating outside the urban core. This deterioration was abetted by some of the massive “urban renewal” programs of the sixties whereby entire city blocks were bulldozed to “clean the canvas” for future development. Unfortunately, this new development all too often never happened and entire flattened city blocks stayed that way for years. Some of the greatest losses of historically significant buildings in downtown San Jose took place during this time.

Starting in the 1980s, the Redevelopment Agency of San Jose was tasked with rebuilding the downtown after decades of decline. One of my main responsibilities as a development officer was to implement agreements with private developers investing funds in new projects and thereby “fill the donut hole” in the center of the city. “Investing” could mean negotiating the sale of city land (those vacant properties) in exchange for new construction that met the goals of the city’s strategic plan (higher density, a mixture of uses, pedestrian- and mass transit-friendly). It could also take the form of rehabilitating the remaining significant historic buildings downtown. Community activists canvassed the city council to make historic preservation a priority. As a result of this new interest in the city’s “historic fabric,” San Jose saved and revitalized two major buildings: the Montgomery Hotel and the California Fox Theater, among others, as well as the glorious enclave of Arts and Crafts-style residential bungalows known as Naglee Park.

My role in such projects was three-fold. First, ensure that the developers complied with their contractual obligations as stated in the scope of development, schedule of performance, and method of financing. It also included expediting projects through the gauntlet of review from city departments and other public entities that had review jurisdiction, including the community. Finally, perhaps the most interesting aspect was the design review phase. The Redevelopment Agency included a full-fledged design studio (owing to our executive director who was himself an architect) that rendered judgment both on submitted building designs as well as their situation within the larger urban context.

For historic rehabilitation projects, the design review process ensured that the design elements of the original building were preserved whenever possible and re-engineered when time and deterioration required it. I have memories of entire warehouses filled with bits of the Montgomery Hotel and California Theater that had been carefully removed, cleaned, and evaluated. These projects were presented to the Historic Preservation Council of San Jose, a committee comprised of a diverse array of architects, historians, and local community representatives who would review the planned rehabilitation against standards established by the State of California.

Equally interesting were the projects that placed new buildings in historic neighborhoods downtown. Suffice it to say that I learned that one does not “respect” an existing historic building by proposing a new one that merely copies old design motifs (think Greek columns and other “façade gingerbread”). Rather it was expected that new buildings would respond to the massing and patterns of their older cousins (cornice lines, window panes, arcades, scoring, etc.) with modern techniques and materials that provided continuity with the old skyline, but did not result in ersatz mimicry. One of my favorite design teams out of Chicago (oh, city of architecture!) rose well to these challenges.

And so how successful has the effort been at "saving" San Jose from its past and saving the “past” of San Jose? From my vantage point, the answer is frankly mixed. The prune orchards will never ever again bloom, but a beautiful urban forest now lines the light-rail transit mall of downtown. The economic collapse of 2008 has resulted in some of the gleaming new residential towers being partially vacant, but it is arguably an improvement over the nadir years of the 1970s with the memories of empty city blocks. And while years of demolition have denuded the city of much of its built historic heritage, the result has been a renewed civic consciousness about the value of such buildings and the preservation of much of what remains. San Jose may continue to struggle with the decisions of the past, but it also appears to have recognized the value of its history.
Faculty and Staff News: 2011

Claudia Beaty
I am still working on my master’s thesis and will have it done by April, since that is the final deadline! We have three pleasant, efficient, and reliable student assistants staffing the reception desk, so the department office is running smoothly. Once in a while a former History student drops by, which is always enjoyable. If any of you alumni happen to be on campus, please stop by and say hello!

Lawrence Bryant (emeritus)
On my full retirement last spring 2011, my first problem was moving out of my office in Trinity Hall and culling several decades of collected books, research files, student papers, and other accruals of my twenty-four years at CSU, Chico. This task was finally completed by August. Then, I took a lengthy vacation on Saint Simons Island, Georgia, where I had spent much of my youth. Now back in Chico, I occupy myself by attempting to bring order to the books and research materials in my study and reading from a long backlist of works. Also, my research project for a book on “Royal Magnificence and National Redemption: Representations of the Early Modern French State” slowly but consistently moves forward. Ultimately, the project will require a lengthy visit to France.

William Campbell
Since the last departmental newsletter in January 2011, I presented a research paper related to indigenous responses to “defeat” (ca. 1763–1783) at the Pennsylvania Historical Association’s annual conference. I also completed the required preparations for my first monograph, tentatively titled “Speculators in Empire: Iroquoia and the 1768 Treaty of Fort Stanwix.” The work will be published in the fall of 2012 in the New Directions in Native American Studies Series by the University of Oklahoma Press. This past fall, I was also fortunate to take part in a USAC site evaluation in Bangalore, India. During the visit I met with a number of CSU, Chico Study Abroad students who exhibited an incredible thirst for adventure and knowledge. Finally, in August 2011 I assumed the co-advisory role of the History Club and Phi Alpha Theta. And with the much appreciated help of Professor Clark, in November 2011 my spouse and I welcomed over a dozen history students into our home for brunch before trekking around the beautiful and historical Land’s End Trail in San Francisco.

Jessica H. Clark
It’s been another lovely year at Chico—I’ve been kept on my toes serving as coordinator for the “Great Books & Ideas” Pathway, part of the new General Education program that goes live next fall, and completing the revisions of my monograph, which I hope to see out next year. I have an article, “Roman Optimism Before Cannae: The Vow of the Ver Sacrum (Livy 22.10),” forthcoming in the journal Mnemosyne, and received a CSU, Chico Research Award to complete a project on early Roman historiography this spring. I delivered papers at the annual meetings of the Association of Ancient Historians, the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, and the American Philological Association. My co-advisor, Bill Campbell, and I led our thriving History Club on a fieldtrip to San Francisco this fall—be sure to check the website for some of the beautiful photographs taken by one of our students!

Sandra Collins
I now conclude my third year at Chico, and I must say each year gets more professionally and personally satisfying. After the tragic earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis in Japan during March 11, 2011, I was sincerely touched by the various student activities at Chico to fundraise and raise awareness for the devastated Sendai area. Chico students and residents raised over $20,000 for the relief effort in Japan, and they inspired many to continue to help Japan in its rebuilding efforts. Amazing.

Interestingly, after many years oriented towards Asia, I found myself on a very memorable Euroquest in 2011. I was greatly honored to be invited to present at both Sorbonne University in Paris, France (on Japanese sport cartoons; Go! Captain Tsubasa!) and at Jesus College in Cambridge, University (the
interception of fair play and bushido in modernizing Japan). I thoroughly enjoyed the intellectual discussions with fellow conference presenters, including our own Professor Cottrell, but I also got to enjoy these beautiful cities in new and exciting ways by bringing my son Max to Paris and Luke to Cambridge.

I co-edited a book, *The Triple Asian Olympics: Asia Rising* for Routledge this past summer that will be published August 2012, which included my own article about my comparative methodology for the 1964 Tokyo, 1988 Seoul, and 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. I continue to research and write, albeit a bit more slowly with new courses, my own manuscript on the East Asian Olympic Games.

**Bob Cottrell**  
Potomac Books is publishing my latest this spring: *Two Pioneers: How Hank Greenberg and Jackie Robinson Transformed Baseball—and America.*

**Laird Easton**  
In November my book *Journey to the Abyss: The Diaries of Count Harry Kessler, 1880-1918* was published by Knopf. So far it has been reviewed by *The Atlantic, The Wall Street Journal, The Dallas Morning News, The New York Times, The Barnes & Noble Review,* and *Vogue.* The literary editor of *The Atlantic* listed it as one of five runners up to the five best books of 2011; *Vogue* put it on their best books list as well. Modris Eksteins writes in *The Wall Street Journal* that “Harry Kessler was an extraordinary exemplar of the crisis that overwhelmed Europe in the 20th century. He captured, in his person and in his thoroughly engrossing diaries, all the dichotomies of his era: the ideals and the devastation, the passion and the despondency, the frisson and the horror . . . Absolutely riveting.” Michael Dirda concludes his description of the book in *The Barnes & Noble Review* thus: “What a life! To read *Journey to the Abyss: The Diaries of Count Harry Kessler, 1880-1918* is to revisit, at least in revery, a lost world of European civilization, to experience for a while all the cultivated *douceur de vivre* that disappeared forever in the blood-soaked trenches of World War I.” In fact, his review is so good, gets Kessler and his diary so well, that I will provide the link for it here: [http://bnreview.barnesandnoble.com/t5/Library-Without-Walls/Journey-to-the-Abyss-The-Diaries-of-Count-Harry-Kessler/ba-p/6445](http://bnreview.barnesandnoble.com/t5/Library-Without-Walls/Journey-to-the-Abyss-The-Diaries-of-Count-Harry-Kessler/ba-p/6445).

In September I gave a paper titled “Die Rolle der außereuropäischen Kulturen bei Kessler und seine Zeit: USA. Mexiko, Ostasien, Orient” at a symposium in the Villa Vigoni, on Lake Como, high in the Italian Alps. I had never been to that part of Europe before, and it certainly was beautiful.

Although more conferences on Kessler are in my future, I am trying to adjust to the prospect of no longer having him to “kick around.” Whither now? Is there still an above and a below, a North and a South, an East and a West? Etc.

Finally, in December I was re-elected for a third term as chair. It would be nice to be chair for just one year when the budget was actually better—more munificent—than the year before, a year when I did not have to say to my colleagues, “Do more with less.” That is my dream. And all I have is my dream.

**Lisa Emmerich**  
Lisa Emmerich’s article, “American Indians in the Twentieth Century,” was recently published in Gordon Bakken’s *The World of the American West.* She was awarded a sabbatical leave for the spring 2013 semester to continue her current research on the relationship between American Indian gaming and tribal disenrollment.

**Susan Green**  
Susan Green was elected to a three-year term as chair of the National Association for Chicana / Chicano Studies (NACCS). NACCS is the professional organization that represents scholars who focus on issues pertaining to Chicanos/as. The organization was formed in 1972 and focuses on scholarship and mentoring in higher education. Green is serving as chair of the Conference Program in Chicago in March. The theme of this year’s conference is “NACCS @ 40: Celebrating Scholarship and Activism.” Green has the distinction of being the first scholar to both receive one of its student awards for scholarship (Graduate Student Premio, 1995) and to chair subsequently the organization. In spring 2013, Green will preside over the conference in San Antonio, followed by a year as past-chair, in
which she will edit the proceedings from this year’s Chicago conference.

**Stephen Lewis**  
For historians of Mexico, 2010 was a banner year. It marked the centenary of the start of the Mexican Revolution and the bicentenary of the revolt led by renegade priest Miguel Hidalgo, which kicked off Mexico’s war of independence from Spain. There were plenty of conferences and commemorations and a flurry of edited volumes that promised new and insightful answers to some rather old questions. For a year, anyway, Mexicanists like myself felt pretty important.

But 2011 brought us back down to earth. When I wasn’t teaching or trying to insert International Studies classes into the new General Education curriculum (don’t ask!), I was putting the finishing touches on a couple of articles. I also spent part of the summer in Mexico, trying to wrap up the research portion of my current project on official Indian policy in Mexico.

In February 2011, *The Americas* published my article “Modernizing Message, Mystical Messenger: The Teatro Petul in the Chiapas Highlands.” The article looks at how Mexico’s National Indigenist Institute (Instituto Nacional Indigenista, or INI) used bilingual hand-puppet troupes to promote its development programs to Tzeltal and Tzotzil Indians in Chiapas. In monolingual indigenous communities where there were no roads, no electricity, no running water, and precious few entertainment options, the puppet shows were a real hit. Some of the skits were purely entertaining, but most promoted the INI’s programs in education, agriculture, health, and infrastructure. The Teatro Petul made such a deep impression that some adults asked the puppets about marriage strategies and birth control. Children often mistook the puppets for saints, and asked the puppets about the second coming of Christ and whether their recently deceased grandparents had made it to heaven. In other words, the indigenous took the INI’s chief agent of education and persuasion and appropriated it for themselves. I hope to use a modified version of this article in my forthcoming book.

**Mike Magliari**  
Michael Magliari was awarded a one-year research fellowship for 2010–2011 by the National Endowment for the Humanities to enable him to complete work on a new book. Titled “Free State Slavery: Bound Indian Labor in California, 1850–1867,” Magliari’s book is under contract with the University of Nebraska Press. Magliari presented a paper on his current work at the annual conference of the Western History Association in October. He also published a review of Randall Milliken’s *Native Americans at Mission San Jose* in the April 2010 issue of *California History*. As a practicing public historian in the local community, Magliari continues to serve on the board of directors of the Bidwell Mansion Association and the Chico Heritage Association. This past summer, Magliari helped direct the CHA’s successful campaign to secure enactment of a new historic preservation ordinance by the Chico City Council. The ordinance, which passed on a 6-1 vote, became effective in September.

**Jim Matray**  
My research and writing continues to focus on U.S. relations with Korea after World War II. On 2 February, I delivered a lecture on campus titled “Fighting for Peace: The Lessons of the Battles of Pork Chop Hill.” Much of my time during the remainder of spring semester was consumed with editing fourteen essays presented at a conference held in May 2010 at the Truman Little White House in Key West, Florida. Truman State University Press will publish this anthology, titled “Northeast Asia and the Legacy of Harry S. Truman: Japan, China, and the Two Koreas” in March 2012. I also signed a contract to co-edit the Ashgate Research Companion to the Korean War, securing commitments from leading scholars to prepare eighteen of the thirty-two essays in this volume. More eventful, late in April I fell off a ladder and broke my wrist—fortunately the left one. Two months of successful recovery and rehabilitation certainly complicated my work schedule. Before the end of spring semester, Korea Broadcasting System interviewed me for a documentary on “Syngman Rhee and the Republic of Korea.”

In June, I chaired and commented at a session of the annual convention of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) in Alexandria,
Virginia. For the next several weeks, I conducted research both at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, and at the U.S. Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for my forthcoming book examining the battles of Pork Chop Hill, to be published by Indiana University Press in its “Twentieth Century Battles” series. I spent much of the rest of the summer preparing PowerPoint presentations for my course covering U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1914. I had sabbatical leave in fall semester to continue work on my Pork Chop Hill book. In late October, I traveled to Seoul, Korea, to deliver a paper at a conference the Council on U.S.-Korea Security Studies sponsored titled “The Changing Situation in North Korea: Opportunities for ROK-U.S. Cooperative Policies.”


Jason Nice

Jason Nice received two course releases during the fall 2010 semester to redesign History 102 (CELT Instructional Grant) and begin work on his next research project (Faculty Development Grant). The research grant gave Jason time to begin his analysis of thousands of photographs of seventeenth-century manuscripts relating to the career of John Egerton, first earl of Bridgewater. In March, he will present his preliminary findings at the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies to be held at the University of Washington. As a new member of the General Education Advisory Committee, Jason has also contributed to campus efforts to redesign the general education program at Chico State.

Carl Peterson (retired)

At 70, ignoring the protests of my wife, I still climb trees, chain saw in hand, and trim 8-foot hedges that no longer seem such a good idea as when I planted them 30 years ago. Retirement has freed me to read only what I want, which means mostly European and hardly any American history. And we travel a bit, attempting in my dotage the Grand Tour that you are supposed to undertake in youth. So far, beginning in London and Paris, we have reached the Elbe. Last year in Leipzig I watched an Asian tourist cross the Augustusplatz, his wife trailing ten paces behind with the camera. Periodically he would halt in front of a monument, signal, and she would shoot. The efficiency of it was impressive. But I guess I do the same thing. Since the first tourist made his pilgrimage to Rome, the aim has been to place oneself in history. I suppose this is something that all students in our discipline struggle to do, in one way or another.

Tim Sistrunk

I have had an interesting year thinking about the different dimensions of the history of environmental law, especially with regards to issues about sustainable practice in education, politics, and research. I joined the University’s new Campus Sustainability Committee as a Faculty Senate representative and have learned a lot participating in community efforts to promote sustainability across our campus. As part of my ongoing work about the medieval juridical understanding of the environment, I organized a session at the last meeting of the American Society for Environmental History in April titled “The European Experience with Sustainable Practice in the Later Middle Ages,” where I read my own work about “Defining Sustainable Practice in Late Medieval Law.” In some ways, research on the environmental history of Western Europe in this period is really just beginning, and it is exciting to join in conversations about the possible avenues such inquiry can go. I have also tried to add an environmental legal perspective to discussions of Chico’s Book in Common this year (Dave Eggers’s Zeitoun) by highlighting these issues in several lectures about the events that unfolded during Hurricane Katrina’s
landfall and the devastation of New Orleans in 2005. I am reminded often about the importance of the historian’s approach to human interaction with the resources of the spaces we inhabit, both to understand what has been done before us, but also to address contemporary challenges.

**Dale Steiner**
Dale Steiner was recently named vice chair of the National Council for History Education. He has served on the NCHE’s Board of Trustees since 2009.

**Robert Tinkler**
In 2011, I reviewed Michael Bernath’s *Confederate Minds: The Struggle for Intellectual Independence in the Civil War South* for The Georgia Historical Quarterly and *In the Shadow of the Enemy: The Civil War Journal of Ida Powell Dulany*, edited by Mary L. Mackall, Stevan F. Meserve, and Anne Mackall Sasscer, for the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*. I also gave a presentation as part of a panel on “Teaching the Civil War” at the annual conference of the Southern Historical Association in October 2011. My research on southern Unionists during the Civil War, buttressed by a productive visit to the Library of Congress in June 2011, continues.

**Kate Transchel**
For most of 2011 I was engaged in preparing materials for my manuscript on human trafficking from the former Soviet Union. Having returned in November 2010 from a four-month research trip to Russia, Ukraine, and Moldova interviewing victims of the trade in human flesh, I spent a lot of 2011 transcribing those interviews. It is dreary, difficult work, but I only have a few left. One of the stories about a woman who was sold to a brothel in Belgium and, after getting rescued, subsequently opened the most effective anti-trafficking NGO in Ukraine, was published on the IREX Website ([http://www.irex.org/news/marinasi-story-survivors-fight-against-human-trafficking](http://www.irex.org/news/marinasi-story-survivors-fight-against-human-trafficking)).

2011 also was a very active year for public speaking, owing largely to my work on human trafficking. I was the keynote speaker at CSU, Chico’s fall Take Back the Night Event, gave a presentation on my research at the International Forum, spoke at a conference at UC Berkeley on trafficking, and ran a workshop on trafficking at CSU, Chico’s Women’s conference. In March I was invited to Washington DC to give a training on human trafficking to members of the military and the State Department. I also spent a great deal of time working with Janja Lalich and the students in STOP (Stop Trafficking of Persons) to organize CSU, Chico’s first annual Human Trafficking Awareness Week to take place March 5-9, 2012. It will have some very interesting speakers, workshops, and films, so stay tuned for that.

However, not everything I do is connected to human trafficking. In 2011, I started work as co-editor on a collection of essays to be published in late 2012. The collection, *The Socialist Beat: Rock & Roll and Youth Identities in Eastern Europe*, deals with underground youth cultures in late socialism.

Perhaps the highlight of my year was teaching as a USAC Visiting Professor at Lauphana University in Lüneburg, Germany. The course, “Rocking the Bloc: Rock & Roll and the End of Communism in Eastern Europe,” was a lot of fun. I used rock music as a way to look into the social, economic, and political failures of Eastern European communist states that ultimately led to their demise. The students really engaged with the subject, especially since we were able to go to Berlin and see the remains of the Wall, listen to some really bad East German punk, and visit a nearby town that was part of the GDR. Lüneburg is a beautiful medieval town, once was the capital of the Hanseatic League, so there was plenty of history there to explore! When the course was over, my husband and I toured Germany and then visited some friends in Switzerland. While there, we had the opportunity to trek in the high mountains of the Swiss Alps. Marvelous!
Meghan O’Donnell, BA 2009, MA 2011 History
I graduated from CSU, Chico with a BA in History in 2009 and a master’s in 2011. Although it’s been almost a year, it still seems very strange to wake up in the morning and realize I have no need to trek over to campus to meet with faculty or attend class. I already miss being a college student. However, I am one of those lucky people who get to use their history degree every day. I am a lecturer at CSU, Monterey Bay and currently teach US History and US Political Histories. Learning to be at the front of the class giving a lecture, instead of in a desk taking notes has been a wonderful and challenging experience. I know I would not have been prepared to handle it, had it not been for the amazing community of history professors that reside down that long hall on the second floor of Trinity. Currently my main focus is on my courses and enhancing my personal pedagogical style, but I’m also really excited to be collaborating with a few educators here at CSUMB’s Humanities Dept. in developing courses that not only teach history and historical thinking, but also help students develop commitments to social justice, social responsibility, and democratic participation. Another exciting project that I’m working on is a grant proposal that will assist state school graduate students in the humanities get hands-on job training and teaching experience at local community colleges during summer and winter intersessions. In collaboration with one of my fellow CSU, Chico graduates and friends, Bryce Havens, we’re working on this proposal in an attempt to improve employment opportunities for those studying the humanities and prepare them to compete in today’s shrinking job market. And finally, despite a major lack of discipline, I’ve been working on the somewhat daunting task of improving and refining one of my master’s research papers in an attempt to submit it for publication. I hope this is not an act of complete futility.

Bryce Havens, BA 2007, MA 2011
I graduated from CSU, Chico with both my BA (2007) and MA (2011) in History. Though it has been less than a year, I already miss it: the beautiful campus; the narrow stretch of hallway in Trinity Hall; the old, slightly muggy air of Holt 350 and 352, where so many of my classes were held; and, most of all, the wonderful faculty of the history department. Not to fall victim to romanticism, but I feel as if part of me will always be there. Currently, my plans are to continue my education in the field of history, with a focus on modern Europe and Germany. I was recently accepted into the PhD program at Florida State University, and I am still waiting to hear back from eight other universities. If all goes well, hopefully I will one day join the ranks of academia and be able to pursue a career of teaching and research (or as I like to think of it, the perfect balance between the vita activa and the vita contemplativa). Pursuing a doctorate is a major commitment to make. However, I feel certain that, thanks to my wonderful education at CSU, Chico, both in history and in being an historian, I am well prepared for such an endeavor.

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