

# California *History Action*

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## And Now For Something a Little Different

This year we meet in some of the worst of times at one of the best of places. Both conditions call for an annual conference that's a little different from CCPH standard fare. In keeping with the conference theme, "If You Ain't Got the Do-Re-Mi: Booms and Busts in California History, the conference committees have worked especially hard to keep attendance costs as low as possible. In these hard times CCPH Monterey 2009 is a relative bargain.

In the pursuit of economy, but even more in pursuit of an enriched conference experience, we have decoupled the various conference activities in order to take best advantage of Monterey's remarkable historical resources. CCPH annual gatherings have usually headquartered in a multi-purpose conference center where everything except off-site field trips happened under one roof. Historic Monterey invites exploration, not sequestration, so we have taken this year's conference out of the convention center and into the historical landscape. There will be no conventional "headquarters" hotel; instead CCPH has secured a very favorable conference rate at the Downtown Travelodge, within easy walking distance of most of the conference venues. Conference activities will take place in adobes, museums, civic buildings, and other historic structures close at hand. The Friday afternoon "roaming" sessions will provide free time for both structured and self-guided tours of local and nearby places of extraordinary historical interest.

Woody Guthrie's classic California lament, "If You Ain't Got the Do-Re-Mi," reminds us that our personal present can inform our collective past. Our host city reminds us that historical depth is a palpable civic amenity to be preserved, treasured, and shared. I hope you will join us as we savor both in Monterey.

—Howard S. (Dick) Miller, President, CCPH

## Monterey a Century Ago

by J. Smeaton Chase

*Joseph Smeaton Chase (1864-1923) was a transplanted Englishman who made his mark in California as a gifted travel writer. In 1913 he published his now-classic California Coast Trails, an account of his 1910-1911 solo horseback journey from Mexico to Oregon. Below are some of his impressions of Monterey. (J. Smeaton Chase; California Coast Trails: A Horseback Ride From Mexico to Oregon; Boston and New York, 1913; pp. 219-223.)*

*Complicated odors of fish and antiquity met us as we entered Monterey, where street-cars wrought Anton's [his horse] nerves to the point of desperation. I piloted him by back ways to a stable, and found myself a lodging at the house of a charming Spanish lady to whom I brought a letter of introduction from my good friends at Lompoc.*

*Monterey forms almost a compendium of the history of California.... Much of the air of its early days still pervades the place, and makes it in a way the most interesting town in California. The [presidio's] green lawn has gone, but many of the low adobe houses remain, and a good part of the population is Spanish or Mexican still;*

(continued on the next page)



A newsletter for history advocacy published by the  
**California Council for the Promotion of History**

*Bridging the Past, Present, and Future*

## Bidding a Fond Farewell

This being my final issue as editor and designer of *California History Action*, I felt it only appropriate to save a few inches of space for a brief farewell. As many of you know, I've been pondering handing over the reins of this publication for quite a few months, and now that the time is at hand, I must admit I'm quite looking forward to the future for a number of reasons. First, I'll of course welcome the free time and look forward to using it for some creative writing and family history projects I've been wanting to dig into (and for some inevitable house and garden projects that have been put off for far too long, not solely due to this newsletter by any means). I'm also looking forward to seeing what a fresh, new team of individuals will choose to do with the newsletter—yes, I can't wait to be one of you, our readers.

Many thanks go out to the numerous people who have helped with articles and photographs over the years (and to my husband for the hours he's put in over the years helping with labeling and sorting the newsletters for bulk mailing). I also want to thank those who have so kindly sent me grateful notes and messages since hearing of my imminent departure. And, never fear, I'm planning to remain available to those who will take over the reins, to help with the inevitable questions, and to occasionally submit articles and reviews as time permits. I've thoroughly enjoyed my time with CHA and do feel it has brought as much into my life and career as I have put into it. Good luck to the new editorial and design team, who will introduce themselves to you in the next issue, and happy reading now and in the future!

—Jenan Saunders

(continued from the previous page)

and my hostess, Doña Carmelita, herself a resident of Monterey from girlhood, has not a few compatriots with whom to talk over the old, gay, easy days that lingered here long after the rest of California had become charged with American energy....

Many of the buildings are ticketed with some legend to attract the interest of tourists. Generally a claim to being the first or the last of their kind or purpose in the State is the theme. Here is the first brick house, and here the first one built of lumber. That low shady house was the home of Governor Alvarado, one of the last Governors of the Mexican province; and at the bottom of the street that bears his name is the Custom-house, where, on the 7th of July, 1846, the flag of the United States took the place of that which [Richard Henry] Dana saw flying. Near by is the first theatre...

A ramshackle wooden house on a side street hoists the sign, "R. Stevenson House." I was not sorry to find that the authenticity of this particular relic was denied by my hostess, who declared that Stevenson was merely an occasional visitor at the house in question, and that he lived in a house (now pulled down) adjoining the one which professes to have been occupied by the last American Consul, Thomas O. Larkin....

In a walk about the outskirts of the town I came upon the old church, often called the Mission, of San Carlos. Having always been the parish church of Monterey, it escaped the ruin that fell upon its sisters, and is to-day, at the age of nearly a hundred and twenty years, a handsome, solid building. I was struck by the strange appearance of the pavement of the courtyard, which was laid with circular blocks of some whitish material that was like, and yet unlike, stone. They proved to be the vertebrae of whales, and reminded me that Monterey had once a whaling industry of some importance. Near the bay I found a building which was formerly the office of the Monterey Whaling Company. The last of the old whaling-men of Monterey may still be seen haunting the water-front, and in the marine-store you may see a bomb-gun awaiting the purchaser who will never appear. On the bay, the mixture of dories, lateen-sailed fishing-craft, steam-launches, and glass-bottomed observation boats from which tourists may spy out the wonders of Davy Jones's locker, mark the intermingling of the old and the newer interests.

It was evening as I walked again up the long street. As I passed along, I encountered now a tinkle of mandolins, now an odor of Spanish cookery and roses tangled together, quite unspeakable. Children played in the cypress-shaded gardens, or sat at the doors of the hunchbacked adobes with their fathers and mothers. On a side street a modern wooden church with a painful spire was lighted up, probably for choir practice. Protestant as I am, I turned away and walked again past the old Catholic Mission. The last swallows were wheeling home, and the sparrows in the ivy were sleepily querulous. The fading light lingered on the crumbling cornices, and the tile-capped belfry rose peacefully into the clear dusk of the sky. After all, age is a kind of sacrament. ■

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## Preserving the American Historical Record Act Reintroduced

In an effort to safeguard American historical records and make them more accessible to the public, Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Congressman John McHugh (R-NY) in late April introduced a bipartisan bill in the House that would authorize \$50 million annually for preservation activities. Hinchey and McHugh's Preserving the American Historical Record Act would also use those resources to make records more available to the public.

"From the local to the federal level, this country's history is well-documented in a variety of ways, but those documents and materials are often not maintained in a way that properly preserves them and displays them in a way that enables people of all ages to research and learn from them," Hinchey said. "This bill will provide the resources needed to effectively preserve our country's historical documents in ways that will make them more accessible to the public for generations to come."

The Preserving the American Historical Record Act would authorize \$50 million to preserve and provide access to historical records by supporting:

- The creation of a wide variety of access tools, including archival finding aids, documentary editions, indexes, and images of key records online;
- Preservation actions to protect historical records from harm, prolong their life, and preserve them for public use, including digitization projects, electronic records initiatives, and disaster preparedness and recovery;
- Initiatives to use historical records in new and creative ways to convey the importance of state, territorial, and community history, including the development of teaching materials for K-12 and college students, active participation in National History Day, and support for life-long learning opportunities; and
- Programs to provide education and training to archivists and others who care for historical records, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and skills to fulfill their important responsibilities.

The Council of State Archivists, the Society of American Archivists, and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administration support Hinchey and McHugh's legislation and are prepared to help coordinate this initiative if the bill is approved and signed into law. Base funding would be provided to each state or territory, with the remainder of funding distributed using a population/area-based formula. A 50 percent match for any funding awards would be required of state and local partners. Hinchey sponsored identical legislation in the previous session of Congress with McHugh's support. ■

## Public-Domain Status of Recordings Delayed

Sound recordings were not protected by federal copyright law until 1972. A Library of Congress report indicates that the miscellany of state laws protecting pre-1972 sound recordings will extend copyright protection until 2067, creating a situation where some recordings dating to the 19th century are not available in public domain.

The Library announced in April the completion of a commissioned report that examines copyright issues associated with unpublished sound recordings. This new report from the Library of Congress and the Council on Library and Information Resources addresses the question of what libraries and archives are legally empowered to do, under current laws, to preserve and make accessible for research their holdings of unpublished sound recordings made before 1972.

The report, "Copyright and Related Issues Relevant to Digital Preservation and Dissemination of Unpublished Pre-1972 Sound Recordings by Libraries and Archives" is one of a series of studies undertaken by the National Recording Preservation Board (NRPB), under the auspices of the Library of Congress. It was written by June Besek, executive director of the Kernochan Center for Law, Media and the Arts at Columbia University. The report is available free of charge at [www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub144abst.html](http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub144abst.html).

Unpublished sound recordings are those created for private use, or even for broadcast, but that have not been distributed to the public in copies with rights holders' consent. Such recordings often possess considerable cultural and historical significance because they may be the only record of an event or performance. These would include radio broadcast recordings, oral histories and interviews conducted as part of field research or newsgathering, and authorized as well as bootlegged tapes of historic live musical performances for which no other recording survives.

The patchwork of state laws protecting unpublished sound recordings made before 1972 is far less clear-cut than the federal copyright law. States may protect copyright through criminal, common or civil law. Thus, copyright protections for these sound recordings will endure far beyond the terms of other kinds of media. Books, sheet music, maps, motion pictures and photographs published prior to 1923 are already in public domain. To help bring clarity to the morass of rights issues, Besek's report describes the different bodies of law covering these recordings and the uncertainties inherent in these laws, and provides guidance—using nine examples of unpublished sound recordings—for libraries to use when preserving and making these materials accessible to the public.

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## Increases in Funding for NEA, NEH, AND IMLS

from the California Association of Museum's *Enews*

On March 11, President Barack Obama signed into law H.R. 1105, finalizing FY09 funding levels for federal agencies. The following are the funding levels that will go into effect for the remainder of the fiscal year 2009:

- IMLS' Office of Museum Services: \$35 million, a \$3.7 million increase over the previous year.
  - National Endowment for the Humanities: \$155 million, a \$10 million increase over the previous year.
  - National Endowment for the Arts: \$155 million, a \$10 million increase over the previous year.
  - Arts in Education programs at the Department of Education: \$38.16 million, a \$660,000 increase over the previous year.
  - Teaching American History grants at the Department of Education: \$118.9 million, a \$1 million increase over the previous year.
  - National Science Foundation educational programs: \$845.26 million. These funds support informal learning experiences designed to increase interest and engagement in the understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).
  - National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund: \$69.5 million, including \$20 million for Save America's Treasures. These funds support the preservation of nationally significant sites, structures, and artifacts.
- The bill also contains a number of earmarks, some of which support museums around the nation. ■

## IMLS Awards Almost \$3 Million to Support Conservation Efforts at Nation's Museums

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has announced the 35 recipients of \$2,994,748 million in Conservation Project Support (CPS) grants. These grants are awarded to museums that are committed to identifying conservation needs and priorities, and performing activities to ensure the safekeeping of their collections.

This year, IMLS received 129 applications from museums across the country that aspire to develop and implement a logical, institution-wide approach to caring for their living and material collections, and have identified a project that meets one of their highest conservation needs. Of these applicants, the 35 awarded institutions plan to delve into a wide range of conservation projects, including two of the following in California that may be of interest to CCPH members:

An award of \$80,875 to the San Diego Historical Society to hire a team of consultants to provide an overall survey of the entire collection, including three historic structures—the Villa Montezuma (1887), the Marston House (1905), and the Serra Museum (1929)—as well as perform an overview assessment of the paintings, works on paper, and archival materials held in these structures. The survey will gather information on all aspects of the facilities and operations that affect the care and management of the historical society's holdings. The General Survey and Long-range Preservation Plan that will result from the project will enable the historical society to develop a rigorous program for addressing institutional conservation needs and will ensure proper stewardship of the collections for the future.

An award of \$122,546 to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art for the first item-by-item conservation survey of the more than 1,000 three-dimensional objects in the Architecture and Design Department and develop a long-term preservation plan. Recognized as one of the foremost repositories of California modern and contemporary architecture and design, the collection emphasizes experimental work in a broad range of design traditions and media, with highlights including the Eames Conference Room (c. 1989) by Charles and Ray Eames; Frank O. Gehry's Fish Lamp (c. 1983 and 2003); and the NeXT Cube (c. 1986), a computer created by Steve Jobs. The project will expand methodologies for conservation of contemporary art to include architecture and design, and will share the new condition survey methodology and templates on its website.

For more information about all the awards, visit [www.ims.gov/news/2009/050109.shtm](http://www.ims.gov/news/2009/050109.shtm). ■

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In 2005, Besek addressed pre-1972 commercial recordings in another study for NRPB titled "Copyright Issues Relevant to Digital Preservation and Dissemination of Pre-1972 Commercial Sound Recordings by Libraries and Archives." This report can be accessed at [www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub135abst.html](http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub135abst.html). Established by the National Recording Preservation Act of 2000 and reauthorized in 2008, the advisory National Recording Preservation Board ([www.loc.gov/nrpb/](http://www.loc.gov/nrpb/)) is appointed by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and consists of representatives from professional organizations of composers, musicians, musicologists, librarians, archivists and the recording industry. Among the issues that Congress charged the board to examine were access to historical recordings, the role of archives and the effects of copyright law on access to recordings. ■

## May is California Museums Month!

Join the California Association of Museums in recognizing the positive impact museums make on communities across California. Here are five ways you can promote and participate in California Museums Month that do not require any travel or expense:

- Invite your State Senator and Assembly member to visit your museum and meet with you.
- Write a “letter to the editor” for your local paper.
- Partner with other museums in your area to send a joint press release that promotes all your programs during the month of May.
- Host a behind-the-scenes tour for your city and county officials and other local dignitaries.
- Pitch an op-ed piece to your local paper that talks about the role of museums and why they are important.

Handy templates for all these items can be found on the CAM website at [www.calmuseums.org/museum\\_month/index.html](http://www.calmuseums.org/museum_month/index.html). Together, we can have a stronger voice in communicating why museums are unique and valuable educational organizations that benefit the state’s citizens and communities. ■

## San Juan Bautista Named a National Trust Distinctive Destination

Each year since 2000, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has selected 12 vacation destinations across the United States that offer an authentic visitor experience by combining dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture, cultural landscapes and a strong commitment to historic preservation and revitalization. The destinations selected in 2008 ranged from a French colonial village along the banks of the Mississippi River that captures the pioneer spirit of the early settlers, to a Texas town that serves as a gateway to the unspoiled terrain of the 19th century western frontier, to a gorgeous Southern city with roots three centuries deep, and a coastal town renowned for its seafood and historic buildings.



A few miles off of Highway 101 nestled in the heart of the San Juan Valley is the small town of San Juan Bautista. Known as the “City of History” because of its unparalleled collection of Spanish colonial architecture, San Juan Bautista exudes the charm and the character of the past. The location for Alfred Hitchcock’s cinematic masterpiece, *Vertigo*, this Spanish mission town lures visitors with turn-of-the-century architecture, wooden sidewalks in parts of the historic district,

tall Western storefronts, Adobes and, the centerpiece of the town, a stately mission church, offering an authentic glimpse into Old California like no other.

Today, in a rich and authentic setting, the tale-telling relics of the mission—in continuous use since 1812—fascinate visitors, including quirky details such as a cat door carved into the chapel door and 180-year old paw prints on the floor tiles. Surrounded by meticulously groomed gardens, the mission sits on what is the last original Spanish plaza in the state. A striking example of a 19th century village built on a traditional Spanish-Mexican colonial plaza plan, this National



Historic Landmark is composed of five buildings completed between 1813 and 1874. It features the Casto-Breen Adobe, the Plaza hotel, originally built to house Spanish soldiers protecting the mission, a stable with a collection of buggies and wagons, a blacksmith shop, a saloon, a jail and other furnished buildings that augment the frontier atmosphere of the town. A historic walking tour of the area encompasses nearly 50 sites of interest.

So why not get out to this Distinctive Destination sometime this summer and enjoy the distinction? Last year represented the ninth time the National Trust for Historic Preservation has announced a list of Dozen Distinctive Destinations. To date, there are 108 Distinctive Destinations located in 42 states throughout the country. In each community,

residents have taken forceful action to protect their town’s character and sense of place. For more information, visit [www2.preservationnation.org/dozen\\_distinctive\\_destinations/2008](http://www2.preservationnation.org/dozen_distinctive_destinations/2008). ■

Photos (from top to bottom):  
• The bell tower at San Juan Bautista’s mission,  
• the Plaza Hotel, and  
• the mission’s striking colonnade.

# Reviews

*African American Women Confront the West, 1600-2000*. Edited by Quintard Taylor and Shirley Ann Wilson Moore. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2008 390 pp.; illustrations, notes, index, bibliography; \$24.95, paperback.

In January 1600, a servant named Isabel de Olvera appeared before the town mayor in New Spain and presented affidavits. She is recorded as saying that she was going on an expedition to Santa Fe and feared she would be “annoyed by some individual since I am a mulatto.” She presented papers to the mayor before she departed so she could travel with signed proof she was free and not bound by marriage or slavery. Amazingly, she also said “I demand justice.” The mayor signed the documents.

Perhaps this story about one black servant woman in North America comes as such a surprise because there has been so little written about black women in Western settlement. One is left with only stories of African American women in abject slavery, or militant women of the 1960s, or accomplished black professionals in the 21st century. This book fills some of the historic gaps as it tells the stories of many black women who made diverse contributions to civil rights, education, culture, church, and community in the West. There are personal stories about women in Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah (a Mormon!), Oregon, Montana, Las Vegas, Sacramento, Seattle, San Francisco, Hollywood, and more. Some women in this book homesteaded farms with their husbands, some were domestics or started their own businesses, some were active in local politics, some became lawyers, journalists, and public speakers, and many received advanced degrees in the early years of the 20th century. This collection is a sound resource for those interested in details about individual African American women’s efforts, challenges and victories, especially between 1850 and 1960.

While the early entries in this book are perhaps too filled with theory and statistics, many first-person snippets pepper the text, and readable chapters fill out the book. One chapter describes how free blacks came to the Sierra foothills and Sacramento at the beginning of the Gold Rush in 1849. Men typically sent for their families as soon as possible, or even bought family members’ freedom with earnings from mining. Education for their children was a primary concern and women were at the forefront of efforts to raise funds, secure school locations (mostly in church basements), and teach. One group of black women purchased a lot on O Street, between Ninth and Tenth Streets in Sacramento, as a permanent school site in 1858. By 1894 a black female teacher was finally appointed principal of a large integrated primary school.

The war industry and ports in the East San Francisco Bay area attracted many Southern African Americans to plentiful jobs in the 1940s. There were new social freedoms for these men and women, but there was also general resentment from established white residents toward both white and black newcomers who came in droves to work during the war. Even established black residents separated themselves from new arrivals by class. It was the black female newcomers who supported and strengthened all African Americans who migrated there, even as they suffered discrimination from labor unions and signs that read “We Refuse Service to Negroes.” In fact black migrants used positive stereotypes of their southernness to forge a common identity and establish permanent communities. Onnie Lee Logan, a migrant from Alabama, recalled, “Love, care, and share, that’s what we did.”

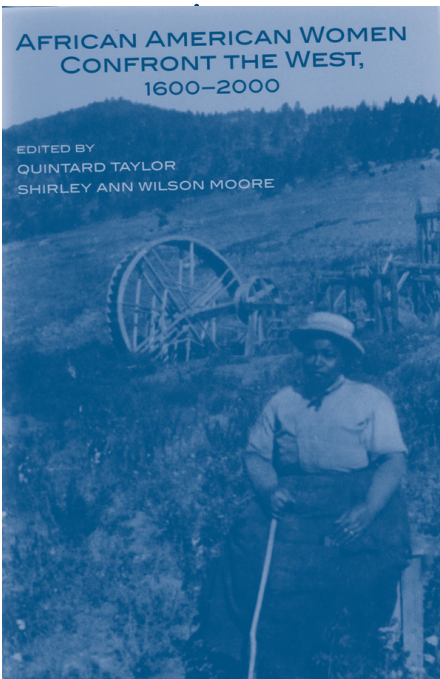
During the early 1950s blacks in Kansas were organizing to defeat segregation in education. Several women in separate efforts over several prior decades helped to raise the issues of unequal treatment under the law and demand change since 1881! The history of *Brown v. the Board of Education*, which ended school segregation laws, is filled with the stories of courageous African American women. In fact 11 of the 12 plaintiffs in that

case were women who took their grade school children to segregated white schools to enroll them in order to record the principals’ refusal to allow enrollment based on race. Equally inspiring are the efforts of Clara Luper in Oklahoma. She organized youth in non-violent protests and sit-ins in the 1950s to defeat segregation at lunch counters, restaurants, and stores in Oklahoma City.

Throughout the book there are many references to women’s participation and leadership in African American churches and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), with its motto “Lifting as we climb.” Women’s activism in both arenas played a critical role in organizing and sustaining the African American community and winning equal treatment under the law.

If readers are looking for evidence of the power of female determination, true accounts of victories over social and political challenges, and insights into the courage and dignity of African American women, this is recommended reading.

*Kathleen Cronin is a grant manager at the California Cultural and Historical Endowment.*



**Big Daddy: Jesse Unruh and the Art of Power Politics.** By Bill Boyarsky. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. 278 pp.; photographs, notes, index; \$29.95, hardback.

Bill Boyarsky's recent publication *Big Daddy: Jesse Unruh & the Art of Power Politics* is a noteworthy account of California's indomitable former legislator & state treasurer. One of America's most gifted journalists, Boyarsky argues forcefully that Unruh was a middle of the road political pragmatist who worked for the interests of the working-class, poor, and socially marginalized. He was hostile to the wealthy, but knew how to mingle with them in order to benefit his own policy agenda and over the top personal life-style during his career in Sacramento from roughly 1950 to the mid-1980s. "What happened in Sacramento, stayed in Sacramento," Boyarsky recalls in his introduction, reflecting on his early career as a political journalist covering Unruh in Sacramento. Yet, in spite of the disclaimer, Unruh's salacious peccadilloes are recounted throughout the book.

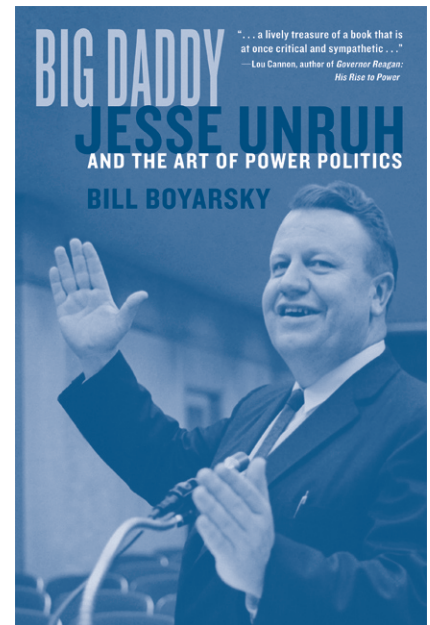
Graphic detail of Unruh's sexual liaisons with various women, alcohol, and drug addiction proceed chronologically by chapter and indeed were central to the evolution of Jesse Unruh's political thinking. While general carousing may define the political life of many Sacramento solons both then and now, the journalistic intrusion into the lives of public servants has changed dramatically since Unruh walked the halls of the Sacramento capitol. Journalism today, Boyarsky laments in his prologue, is more interested in the cult of celebrity and holds a general contempt for privacy, two things that would likely have focused more attention on Unruh's personal life than his political accomplishments.

Aside from writing a riveting political biography of one of California's most colorful politicians, Boyarsky's account offers a timely analysis of modern-day centrist Democratic political philosophy, perhaps destined to make President Barack Obama's reading list, given the president's penchant for reading American political history. Specifically, Boyarsky highlights Unruh's party leadership which utilized effectively the mantra of big government, and incorporated and encouraged the participation and needs of racial and ethnic minorities. Unruh worked in a bi-partisan way in California's complex political geography—one divided between red and blue counties up and down the coast, but also too in the interior of the great San Joaquin Valley. Most importantly, according to Boyarsky, Unruh maintained the interests of white working-class Americans, or blue-collar Democrats, the folks whom Vice-President Joe Biden boastfully claimed to represent in Western Pennsylvania. This assumption is at times the most problematic aspect of Boyarsky's account, but at the same time, the most valuable. Boyarsky's reading of the California Democratic Council as an ultra-leftist political organization, for example, deliberately contrasts with Unruh's more centrist, anti-communist politics. While this certainly shows the limits of Unruh's political radicalism, Boyarsky offers far too simplistic an interpretation of California's Democratic left in the immediate post-World War II years.

Boyarsky's use of secondary sources though is generally impressive, specifically the best historiography on modern California politics. He uses effectively many historical accounts conducted by the Regional Oral History Office at UC Berkeley. He also conducted a number of oral histories with the Unruh family and friends over the years, among them a number of Unruh's former sexual consorts. Combining the voices of those that knew Unruh with other scholarly accounts on the making of modern California, we get a sense of how the power of Unruh's personality helped push forth the legislation that made the modern state we know and perhaps take for granted, or condemn, today. Among Unruh's achievements include the passage of key civil rights legislation in housing and employment, improving state institutions for the mentally retarded, as well as re-vamping the California Constitution regarding salary for the state assembly.

Unruh's greatest legacy was perhaps steering tremendous gains in the realm of civil rights and improving race relations in California from the beginning of his budding political career on the USC campus as a GI Bill of Rights veteran. He likewise, though, paradoxically would later warn the California legislature of the dangers of moving too fast for the racial tolerance of California's white working-class, that were hostile toward the racial integration associated with the passage of the Rumford Fair Housing Act. Unruh's warning foreshadowed the fact that the Democratic Party would lose an important voter base to Republicans in the gubernatorial election of Ronald Reagan in 1966. Unruh's working-class background in rural Texas made him keenly aware of the racism inherent in the ideology of what the historian James Gregory referred to as "plain-folk Americanism." Alienating the white working-class was politically inexpedient, and Unruh knew this, but civil rights social protest forced the California legislature to pass a more rapid paced civil rights agenda for which the majority of white Californians were not ready.

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## New 1780-1880 Collection for Educators Online

Calisphere ([www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu](http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu)), part of UC's California Digital Library ([www.cdlib.org](http://www.cdlib.org)) added another Collection for Educators titled "1780-1880: California In Transition" ([www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/themed\\_collections/topics0.html](http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/themed_collections/topics0.html)). It has some great images that may be useful to teachers and others. ■

## Free E-Newsletter Launched

L.A. Conservancy partner CA-Modern Magazine (published by the Eichler Network) has launched a new quarterly e-newsletter to keep California's mid-century modern lovers up-to-date with the latest modern coverage and preservation news. Their new e-newsletter includes previews of CA-Modern articles, alerts for upcoming events, and home improvement resources from the Eichler Network's roster of Preferred Service Providers. Visit [www.laconservancy.org](http://www.laconservancy.org) to subscribe. It's free. ■

## Library of Congress, UNESCO and Partners Launch World Digital Library

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and 32 partner institutions have launched the World Digital Library, a website that features unique cultural materials from libraries and archives from around the world. The site—located at [www.wdl.org](http://www.wdl.org)—includes manuscripts, maps, rare books, films, sound recordings, prints and photographs. It provides unrestricted public access, free of charge, to this material.

In addition to promoting international understanding, the project aims to expand the volume and variety of cultural content on the Internet, provide resources for educators, scholars, and general audiences and narrow the digital divide within and between countries by building capacity in partner countries. The World Digital Library functions in seven languages—Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish—and includes content in more than 40 languages. Browse and search features facilitate cross-cultural and cross-temporal exploration on the site.

Descriptions of each item and videos, with expert curators speaking about selected items, provide context for users and are intended to spark curiosity and encourage both students and the general public to learn more about the cultural heritage of all countries.

The World Digital Library was developed by a team at the Library of Congress. Technical assistance was provided by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina of Alexandria, Egypt. Institutions contributing to the WDL include national libraries and cultural and educational institutions in Brazil, Egypt, China, France, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The National Library of China (NLC) contributed manuscripts, maps, books, and rubbings of steles and oracle bones that span the range of Chinese history from ancient to modern times. Examples of other treasures featured include Arabic scientific manuscripts from the National Library and Archives of Egypt; early photographs of Latin America from the National Library of Brazil; the "Hyakumanto darani," a publication from A.D. 764 from the National Diet Library of Japan; the famous 13th century "Devil's Bible" from the National Library of Sweden; and works of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish calligraphy from the collections of the Library of Congress. ■

## New Self-Guided Walking Tour Publications and Podcast of Historic LA Now Available

The Los Angeles Conservancy is currently developing new self-guided printable tours and podcasts. At this time, they are offering two basic self-guided tours of historic downtown and one of Pico Union. Each tour includes a printable map and descriptions of each featured building.

As part of a program called Downtown LA Walks, the Conservancy has worked with the Confederation of Downtown Associations to produce a free podcast tour of historic downtown highlights. The tour features about a dozen buildings as well as interviews with Conservancy Executive Director Linda Dishman, preservation architect Brenda Levin, and film critic/historian Leonard Maltin. The podcast series also includes tours of downtown shopping, arts and culture, and international destinations. The podcasts are available as RSS feeds and direct downloads, and each includes a printable map. Enjoy!

To access the walking tour publications and the podcast, visit [www.laconservancy.org/tours/tours\\_selfguided.php4](http://www.laconservancy.org/tours/tours_selfguided.php4). More will be coming soon, so be sure to check back in the future as well. ■



## Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities:

The **Conference of California Historical Societies** is holding its annual meeting **June 25-28, 2009**, in Martinez. For more information, visit [www.californiahistorian.org](http://www.californiahistorian.org).

The **Society of American Archivists** will hold a joint annual meeting with the Council of State Archivists **August 11-16, 2009**, in Austin. "Sustainable Archives / Austin 2009" is an opportunity to explore the concept of sufficiency across all aspects of archival practice, theory, and visioning. For more information, visit [www.archivists.org/conference](http://www.archivists.org/conference).

The **American Association for State and Local History** will present its 2009 annual meeting in Indianapolis, **August 26-29, 2009**. The theme for the meeting is "Making History a 21st-Century Enterprise." For more information, visit [www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm](http://www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm).

The **California Council for History Education** will hold its fourth annual conference, **September 24-26, 2009**, in Costa Mesa. For more information, visit [www.csuchico.edu/cche/](http://www.csuchico.edu/cche/).

The 49th annual conference of the **Western History Association** will be held **October 7-10, 2009**, in Denver, with the theme, "Wired West." For more information, visit [www.umsl.edu/~wha](http://www.umsl.edu/~wha).

The **National Preservation Conference** will take place **October 13-17, 2009**, in Nashville, Tennessee. The conference will have the theme, "Sustaining the Future in Harmony with Our Pasts." For more information, visit [www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc](http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc).

The **Oral History Association's** annual conference will be held **October 14-18, 2009**, in Louisville, Kentucky. Collecting and preserving stories via interviews long has been the central focus of oral history method and practice. The conference celebrates this basic unit of our field, the interview, by placing it within a circle of critical issues necessarily encountered in working with oral histories—in "doing something" with the materials oral historians collect. Too often relegated to the methodological sidelines, these include technological, philosophical, analytical, archival, collaborative, ethical, educational, and public aspects of working with oral history interviews. For more information, visit [www.oralhistory.org](http://www.oralhistory.org).

The **Society for American City and Regional Planning History** presents the 13th National Conference on Planning History, which will be held in Oakland, California, **October 15-18, 2009**. For more information, visit [www.dcp.ufl.edu/sacrph/conference/conference.html](http://www.dcp.ufl.edu/sacrph/conference/conference.html).

The **California Council for the Promotion of History** will hold its annual conference **October 22-24, 2009**, in Monterey. With the theme, "If You Ain't Got the Do-Re-Mi: Booms and Busts in California History" the conference program is sure to be enlightening and entertaining. Plan to join us there. For more information, see the first page of this newsletter or visit [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph).

The **Western Museums Association** will hold its annual conference **October 24-30, 2009**, in San Diego. The theme of the conference is, "A Rising Tide: Sustainable Practices, Green and Beyond." For more information, visit [www.westmuse.org](http://www.westmuse.org).

The **Museum Computer Network** will host its annual conference in Portland, Oregon, **November 11-14, 2009**. The conference will have the theme, "Museum Information, Museum Efficiency: Doing More with Less!" for more information, visit [www.mcn.edu/conferences](http://www.mcn.edu/conferences).

The **National Association for Interpretation's** National Workshop will take place **November 17-21, 2009**, in Hartford, Connecticut. The workshop slogan, "Navigating Change, Revolutionizing Interpretation" is an apt one, as our world, our audiences and our economy change at an ever-quickening pace. For more information, visit [www.interpnet.com/workshop](http://www.interpnet.com/workshop).

The 124th annual meeting of the **American Historical Association** will take place **January 7-10, 2010**, in San Diego. The meeting will have the theme, "Oceans, Islands and Continents." For more information when it becomes available, visit [www.historians.org](http://www.historians.org).

The **California Association of Museums** is inviting proposals for its annual conference taking place **March 3-5, 2010**, in San Jose, California. The conference's working title is "Reflect on Tech," and the conference will explore how current computing technology is changing the way museums are fulfilling their missions—and what is possible in the future. Program proposals should explore how museum personnel can effectively use current computer technology, explore its real and potential impact on our industry, and address both the practical needs and philosophical interests of our community. The deadline for proposals is June 12, 2009. For more information, visit [www.calmuseums.org](http://www.calmuseums.org).

The **National Council on Public History** is holding a simultaneous meeting with the **American Society for Environmental History**, **March 10-14, 2010**, in Portland, Oregon. The meeting has the theme "Currents of Change," and proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, working groups, and posters are being accepted until June 30, 2009. For more information, visit [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

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## CCPH Liaisons

The following is a list of CCPH liaisons with state and national heritage organizations. This list of representatives has been established so that liaisons can supply important information to the CCPH membership and so members will have an appropriate contact should the need arise. Are you a member of a state or national association and want to serve as a CCPH liaison? Contact us at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu) or 916 278-4296.

American Association of Museums (AAM)  
Open  
American Assoc. for State and Local History (AASLH)  
Mike Bennett  
California Association of Museums (CAM)  
Carola Rupert Enriquez, 805 861-2132  
California Historical Records Advisory Board  
Chuck Wilson, [chuckw@cur.edu](mailto:chuckw@cur.edu)  
California Historical Society (CHS)  
Dick Orsi, [rorsi@csuhayward.edu](mailto:rorsi@csuhayward.edu)  
California Preservation Foundation (CPF)  
Open  
Conference of California Historical Societies (CCHS)  
Nan Hauser Cotton, 916 644-2610  
National Council on Public History (NCPH)  
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Society for California Archaeology (SCA)  
Open  
Society of California Archivists (SCA)  
Patricia Johnson, [pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org)  
Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA)  
Susan Douglass Yates, [syates@coh.org](mailto:syates@coh.org)  
State Historical Resources Commission  
Rick Moss, [rmoss@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:rmoss@oaklandlibrary.org)  
Western History Association (WHA)  
Ken Owens, [owensk@csus.edu](mailto:owensk@csus.edu)  
Western Museums Association (WMA)  
Rebecca Carruthers, [reb2000@surewest.net](mailto:reb2000@surewest.net)

CCPH encourages the reprinting of articles published in this newsletter. To do so, use the credit line - "Reprinted from *California History Action*, the newsletter of the California Council for the Promotion of History." To inquire about using photographs, contact the CHA editor.

## CCPH Leadership

### Officers

#### President

Howard S. Miller, Morro Bay  
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#### Vice-President/President-Elect

Pam Conners, Sonora  
[wendypam@pacbell.net](mailto:wendypam@pacbell.net)

#### Immediate Past-President

Paul Spitzzeri, City of Industry  
[p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org](mailto:p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org)

#### Recording Secretary/Admin. Assistant

Heather Lavezzo, Sacramento  
[ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu)

#### Treasurer

Paul Spitzzeri, City of Industry  
[p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org](mailto:p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org)

### Executive Committee

Meta Bunse      Paul Spitzzeri  
Pam Conners    Howard S. Miller  
Chuck Wilson

### Board of Directors

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#### Terms Expiring 12/31/10

Debbie Bahn	Acton
Mark Bowen	Sacramento
Jordan Biro	Folsom
Meta Bunse	Davis
Jim Hofer	Riverside

#### Terms Expiring 12/31/11

Leslie Fryman	Citrus Heights
Katie Haley	Sacramento
Heather McCummins	Sacramento
Sara Skinner	Pacific Grove
Tory Swim	Sacramento

## California History Action Editorial Information

*California History Action* is the official publication of the California Council for the Promotion of History. Its purpose is to disseminate news to the membership. The organization's numerous committee chairs provide much of the information herein. It is the responsibility of the general membership to provide input to the newsletter. This sharing of information is critical to the well-being of the organization.

Issues will be produced quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines are the first of the month of publication. This late deadline is designed to provide information to the membership in the most timely manner. Material must be received prior to the

deadline to be printed in the current issue and should be submitted directly to the editor (address below).

It is preferred that articles and other material be submitted electronically by email (either in the text of the message or as an attachment). However, typewritten printed material is also accepted via fax or mail.

Views expressed herein are solely those of their authors. Their publication does not constitute an endorsement by CCPH.

Jenan Saunders, Editor  
CCPH, Dept of History, 6000 J St,  
Sacramento CA 95819-6059  
[ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu)

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The **National Council on History Education** will hold its next annual conference **March 25-27, 2010** in San Diego, California. Conference planners are currently accepting proposals for presentations and poster sessions that address the theme "Crossroads of Peoples and Places Over Time." The proposal deadline is October 5, 2009. For more information, visit [www.nche.net](http://www.nche.net).

The **American Association of Museums** will hold its annual conference **May 23-26, 2010**, in Los Angeles, California. Session proposals are currently being accepted and are due by August 31, 2009. The theme for the meeting is "Museums Without Borders." For more information, visit [www.aam-us.org/am10](http://www.aam-us.org/am10).

The 50th annual **Western History Association** conference will take place **October 13-16, 2010**, in Lake Tahoe (Incline Village, Nevada). For more information, visit [www.umsl.edu/~wha](http://www.umsl.edu/~wha). ■

## CCPH Committees

### Awards

Donna Harris ([harrisdl@earthlink.net](mailto:harrisdl@earthlink.net))

### California History Day

Rick Moss ([rmoss@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:rmoss@oaklandlibrary.org))

### Standing Conference Committee

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### Conference 2009 - Monterey

([ccphprogram@hotmail.com](mailto:ccphprogram@hotmail.com))

### Legislative Action

Jordan Biro ([jbiro@nossaman.com](mailto:jbiro@nossaman.com))

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and Tory Swim ([tinkerswim@yahoo.com](mailto:tinkerswim@yahoo.com))

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Jordan Biro ([jbiro@nossaman.com](mailto:jbiro@nossaman.com))

and Ty Smith ([tysmith@parks.ca.gov](mailto:tysmith@parks.ca.gov))

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Chair Open

### Publications/Newsletter

Jenan Saunders ([jsaunders@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jsaunders@parks.ca.gov))

### Standards and Professional Register

Chuck Wilson ([chuckw@cur.edu](mailto:chuckw@cur.edu))

### Keeper of the Register

Leslie Fryman ([archaeo44@yahoo.com](mailto:archaeo44@yahoo.com))

## Join the California Council for the Promotion of History

All members receive issues of *California History Action*, the CCPH newsletter for history advocacy, notices of CCPH conferences and workshops, and other CCPH publications. Corporate and Institutional members also receive membership rates for two individuals at conferences and other events. Annual dues are due January 1; those received from new members after August 1 will be credited to the next year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

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All dues and contributions are tax-deductible. Send this form and payment to CCPH, CSU Sacramento, Department of History, 6000 J St, Sacramento CA 95819-6059. For more information contact 916 278-4295, [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu), [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph).

\*Include copy of current student ID.

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# CCPH Awards Nominations Currently Being Accepted

It's time to put on your thinking caps and consider whom among your colleagues is deserving of being nominated for a CCPH award this year. Awards are given in three categories:

The Certificate of Meritorious Performance and Promise award is given to an individual, organization, or agency accomplishing an outstanding contribution to the promotion of history.

The Award of Distinction is granted to an individual, organization, or agency accomplishing long-term outstanding contributions, lifetime achievements, or dedication of career duties to promote history.

The James C. Williams Award for Outstanding Service is a special commendation given to an individual, organization, or agency member of CCPH demonstrating professional excellence and long-term commitment to this organization.

Award nominations are due by August 15, 2009. For more information, visit the CCPH website at [www.csus.edu/org/ccph/awards](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph/awards).

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