

Western Circuit Rider

**Newsletter of the Western Jurisdiction
Commission on Archives and History**

May—June—July—August 2014

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Promoting the Ministry of Memory

President's Corner 8-5-2014

Our 2015 Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History, and Historical Society Meeting is set for April 9-12, 2015, in Colorado Springs.

People will need to make flight plans to the airport in Colorado Springs.

Merlene Barner and her committee have a great event planned. It sounds like Nancy Mead is putting together an interesting tour and program.

Get this on your calendar and I look forward to sharing this time with you.

Also, a warm greeting to our new General Secretary, Fred Day, who has been an excellent pastor of Historic Saint George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Fred has been a board member of the General Commission on Archives and History, and helped host our board meeting at Historic Saint George's. Welcome, Fred.



Jim Walker, President WJ UM CAH

Congratulations to Priscilla Pope-Levinson (from Seattle Pacific) on her election as the new president of the Historical Society!



Welcome to the Reverend Alfred Day II

From the webpages of the General Board of Church and Society comes news of our new General Secretary who will follow in the footsteps of Rev. Robert Williams who held the position for 9 years. Day has been a pastor and district superintendent in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, as well as having been elected to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. More details can be found at <http://umc-gbcs.org/faith-in-action/day-to-lead-archives-history> or www.gcah.org.

Methodist History, a quarterly journal published by the General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church, is available for free on-line at www.gcah.org.

The April 2014 issue Table of Contents has the following manuscripts:

Stuck in the Middle: The Role of Sunday School Hymnals in the Hymnody of the Methodist Episcopal Church; The Influence of Danish Missionaries to India on Susanna Wesley's Methods of Education and its Subsequent Influence on John Wesley; and Methodism, Nonviolence, and the Civil Rights Movement with James M. Lawson, Jr.; and Book Reviews.

The July 2014 issue has:

Mission Outside the Walls: The Alliances of Methodism to Defeat the Old Colonial Order Related to Church and State in Argentina, 1880-1890; The Sand Creek Massacre: Matthew Simpson and the Broken Arrow of Patronage; Book reviews and Volume LII Indexes.

Financial Statement

Our Treasurer, Al Wright, (who just turned 90) reported that on February 28, 2014 our general fund balance was \$6,546.76 and the Roberts Book Fund has \$723.44.

Anticipation of the end time of history is a fundamental part of Christian faith.

Fr. Paul C. Cochran,
Rector of Holyrood Episcopal Church, New York City.

Coming in the Next Issue:

- ◆ More submissions by our fellow readers
- ◆ Important information of some sort.

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Pledge of Allegiance

On February 10, 1954, Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan introduced a bill in the United States Congress to amend the United States Pledge of Allegiance by adding the words “under God” to the text of the pledge. On February 21, 2014 Alaska State Senator Coghill introduced Resolution No. 26 recognizing June 14, 2014 as the 60th anniversary of the first recital of the pledge as amended.

“A Lost History” is a 60-minute documentary which uncovers the hidden achievements and gifts of Methodist Women. It was originally broadcast nationwide in March, 1984 on 163 of 214 NBC-TV stations. It was narrated by Lynn Redgrave. Carolyn DeSwarte Gifford, Coordinator of the Women’s History Project for the Commission on Archives and History was one of the women featured. Have you seen it? Do you have a copy in your archives?

Lerone Bennett, Jr. says,
“There is. . . a reciprocal relationship between the past and the future.

Marji Tuell served as editor of “A Holy Enthusiasm: What Could We Do Without It?” in 1986. Women of the Pacific and Southwest Conference experienced the creation of the California-Pacific and Desert Southwest Conferences. The book recognized persons who had been part of 17 annual conferences which were part of the predecessor groups.

“Heritage of Love and Work” is the Rocky Mountain Conference book of local UMW unit histories, prepared by the Centennial Celebration task group chaired by Frances Naylor.

I need stories to put in this newsletter from each of the 8 conferences in the Western Jurisdiction every issue.

The point of the Western Circuit Rider is to keep our network of historians informed of activities and publications that could be of interest to church historians. (I think!)

The last issue had some really good articles and I thank the submitters. I think there should be articles submitted by each officer also.

I would like your feedback on what you want in a newsletter.

Next issue target date would be in October.