



# Terra Cognita

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DISCOVERIES

No. 15 • SUMMER 2020

## 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

# The Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of SHD Amid Unprecedented Circumstances

By Mirela Altić

2020 is an important year for the history of SHD. We were founded exactly 60 years ago as an international, United States-based organization aiming to stimulate interest in teaching, researching, and publishing the history of geographical exploration. The idea of founding a society appeared in the summer of 1960 when Thomas (Thom) Goldstein, a professor at the City College of New York, attended a conference in Lisbon honoring the 500th anniversary of Prince Henry the Navigator. On

that occasion he met John (Jack) Parker, the then curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota, and Vsevolod (Steve) Slessarev, assistant curator of the same library, and they began an informal conversation about what it would be like to start a society that would focus on discoveries. On Thom's invitation in December 29, 1960, altogether eight interested people met at a lunch in New York City, and they made a decision to form a new organization whose focal point would be exploration. They called it the Society of the History of Discoveries. That is how SHD started. Since then, SHD continued to grow into a prominent organization that held 60 annual meetings and counts about three hundred people.

Yet, as much as SHD has a lot of good reasons for celebrating, we are faced with making unprecedented decisions. The global threat of pandemic that put so many limitations on our lives has forced us to accept new ways of doing our jobs and of communicating with our colleagues as well as our loved ones. The current situation teaches us humbleness and patience. In this process, we have learned to overcome many obstacles, and we have also realized that we can do more than we thought we could. Mindful of your safety and health, we have decided to accept the motion and turn our regular live annual meeting, scheduled to be held in New Orleans on November 13-15, 2020, into an online event that will be held on the same days as the planned conference. It was in no way an easy decision. We waited as long as we could, hoping for a positive epidemiological situation that would allow the conference to be held safely. Unfortunately, the developments during late June and July have not gone in our favor.



Despite the transition to an online conference model, we will make special effort to get the best outcome that will be innovative, but also user-friendly and accessible to all our members. We will keep all the usual content and try to add some new ones. The good side of the online event is that, with mandatory registration, attendance will be free of charge. Unfortunately, the social aspect of the meeting will not be the same as in our traditional live meetings. Yet, the online event will enable us to stay in contact and share scholarship with

colleagues and friends in a safe way. The conference will be held via the Zoom application. All registered participants will receive a meeting invitation in the form of an email containing the link, ID, and password of the meeting a few days before the conference. We will also prepare detailed instructions for those less experienced in the participation in online events. I trust that for this year you will embrace this online model. I sincerely hope to see you in person next year when we will catch up and celebrate together.

*For this year's presenters and presentation titles, see page 7.*

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this Newsletter finds you and your families in good health. This year, we all found ourselves in a completely new, exceptional situation that threatened not only our activities but also our safety and health. In that regard, I apologize for reporting on our annual activities later than usual. We have been carefully weighing our options in this unprecedented situation.

Since I took over the presidency in November 2019, with strong support from the dedicated members who serve on the Council, **Anne Good** (Vice President/President Elect), **Wesley Brown** (Treasurer), **Lydia Towns** (Executive Secretary), **Lauren Beck**, **Ron Fritze**, **Alistair S. Maer**, **Gregory McIntosh**, **J.C. McElveen**, **Charles Sullivan**, and **Marguerite Ragnow** (past president), we have strived to further develop our Society by contributing to its better visibility, membership growth, and internationalization. I am pleased to say that the past president as well as our past treasurer Donald McGuirk left the Society and its business in good condition, which will greatly facilitate my work. Our finances are now in the safe hands of Wesley Brown, an experienced treasurer with professional expertise in banking business.

Our 60th anniversary provided us with additional opportunities for the promotion of SHD. On the occasion of our 60th birthday, part of the next issue of *Terrae Incognitae* is dedicated to the history of our Society, its founders, and the 50th anniversary of our journal. As a reputable society focused on the history of exploration, SHD was invited by the State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, to participate in the organization of a conference dedicated to the 250th anniversary of the arrival of James Cook in Australia. Rescheduled for August 25-27, 2021, due to the pandemic, it will be a great opportunity for us to present SHD in front of an international audience. The main celebration of SHD's anniversary was planned to be held at our 2020 Annual Meeting. However, due to the circumstances, we have been forced to move the meeting to an online format, but we are hoping to have a proper live celebration in 2021.



Mirela Altic

I am pleased that our past president Marguerite Ragnow has continued to serve us, not only as an ex officio member of the Council, but also as our Web Content Manager. Thanks to her dedication, our web page has a new look and has been updated with a lot of new and exciting content. At the same time, our Secretary Lydia Towns, in addition to her usual duties, continues to work intensively on our archives at UTA, making sure that all our records are well catalogued and organized. We are especially dedicated to activities that focus on attracting new members. As of this year, through our journal, but also through journals of our partner organizations like the Washington Map Society, we announced our annual activities and published an invitation for joining SHD. We have established a closer cooperation with individual associations, and have started making invitations for our conferences on a larger number of online platforms. Most recently, thanks to the generosity of former SHD Life Member, Mary Emily Miller, the Society for the History of Discoveries has been pleased to establish the Dr. Mary Emily Miller Endowment that provides travel funding for student members whose papers have been accepted for presentation at the Society's annual meeting.

I hope that we will overcome the obstacles the pandemic currently imposes on us and that we will soon be able to continue holding our traditional annual meetings in person. Thank you all for your continued cooperation and support of SHD. It has been a pleasure serving you for the past two years as your vice president, and now as your president.

Take care of yourself and your family.

**Mirela Altic**

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Society for the History of Discoveries members who contributed to this issue are:  
Mirela Altic, Marguerite Ragnow, Wes Brown, Anne Good, Richard Weiner and Lydia Towns.

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## FROM THE EDITOR

We all knew that 2020 would be a year of excitement and adventure, unfortunately it has not been the excitement we were looking forward to. While 2020 will go down in the history books as the year of Covid-19, the year everything stopped for many and Zoom took over our lives, we still want to celebrate the fact that SHD turns 60 this year. What an accomplishment this is! The Society was created to help foster the study of the history of discoveries, to be a place where researchers could share their passion for their research and for cartography, and form academic bonds that will help foster the field. Over the past sixty years it has become so much more than that. SHD has become a community of friends and colleagues, a welcoming society for anyone, young or old, professional academics or those just being introduced to the field, to learn, grow, expand their own horizons, and make lasting friendships. Over the past sixty years countless journal articles have come out of the feedback received at Society meetings. After dinner conversations and discussions over beers have resulted in new research projects, collaborations, and books. And friendships have been formed through Society meetings that have endured the test of time. This is truly something worth celebrating. This is what I treasure most about our Society. Having communicated with many of you over the past several weeks in preparation for this newsletter, I know that many of you feel the same. The welcoming, congenial community atmosphere of the Society is something that we should highlight and promote as we discuss it with our friends and colleagues, and encourage graduate students and young scholars to join.

On that note, I would like to invite you to help me continue to foster a sense of community within the Society. While we will still have our Annual Meeting, this year's meeting will be virtual. I am very grateful that technology affords us the opportunity to still present our research and have a meeting this year, despite Covid. However, a key aspect of the meetings are the coffee breaks, the meals and the excursions. It is during these breaks that we are able to visit with each other, share our broader research projects and new publications, and create partnerships for new projects. While there is no good way to replace this face to face interaction, I wonder if there is a way for us to continue to share within our community over the next several months. As you know, I have begun sending monthly announcements to the membership. I would like



Lydia Towns

to encourage all of you, if you have any information you would like to share with the Society, or if you find online resources that you think our members would be interested in, please send it my way so that I can incorporate it into the next month's announcement. During this time of social isolation, we need to do everything we can to maintain our community.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who shared their accomplishments and news with me this year. It is because of you that the Society is able to maintain its annual newsletter. We are proud of your accomplishments and enjoy celebrating with you! That being said, please continue to share your newsworthy accomplishments and/or information with me! It is difficult to produce a newsletter if there is no news to share!

I hope you enjoy this year's newsletter. In honor of the Society's 60th Anniversary I have created a new section titled "Memories" which contains brief statements from our members on what the Society has meant to them and retellings of some of their favorite memories from past meetings. While I will miss seeing you in person this November, I look forward to interacting with you virtually. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to participate in the conference from the comfort of your home and join us this year as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Society for the History of Discoveries!

*Lydia Towns*

## FROM THE *TI* EDITOR

# 2020: A Year of Special Issues

By Richard Wiener

In 2019 we successfully transitioned from two to three issues per year, a practice we are continuing this year. 2020 is exciting for an additional reason: each of our issues this year is a “Special Issue.” We started with our Spring 2020 issue, “Exploring Latin America,” which included four full-length research articles that examined travelogues by German explorer-scientist Alexander von Humboldt, Austrian Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, and Englishman traveler-academic James Bryce, and also contained book reviews about some of the issue’s featured historical actors. We are about to release our Special Anniversary issue (it appears in August, and most of it is already online on the Taylor & Francis website), which, in addition to our traditional “Articles” section that consists of three compelling pieces—one on the impact that Spanish exploration had on indigenous peoples in Colombia’s Pacific Lowlands, another on the reinvention of Columbus

and the enterprise of exploration in early-nineteenth-century Anglophone historical works, and, finally, one that provides a new interpretation of Henry VIII’s attitudes about Atlantic exploration—also has a special section that commemorates milestone anniversaries. It includes historical reflection pieces on both the Fiftieth Anniversary of *TI* and the Sixtieth Anniversary of SHD, as well as biographies of SHD founders Thomas Goldstein, John Parker, and Vsevolod Slessarev, and of Barbara Backus McCorkle, another important SHD member. Turning to the fall, we are very fortunate to have *TI* Associate Editor Anthony Mullan serve as guest editor for our December issue. He is putting together a fascinating special issue on Cuba that will examine different aspects of “encounter” and foreign influence: one article on Creek Nation-Spanish interactions in Cuba from the 1760s to the 1820s, another on foreign influence on the development of Havana’s Escuela Mecánica during the nineteenth century, and a third piece that examines the ways Cuba was represented in foreign maps and promotional literature in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War.

*TI*, which covers any period up to the mid-twentieth century and examines all aspects of exploration, discovery, and encounter, publishes articles (approximately 8,000–10,000 words), shorter articles (approximately 5,000 words), review essays, and book reviews. I encourage you to send me your submissions ([weinerr@pfw.edu](mailto:weinerr@pfw.edu)). I also encourage you to send me your ideas for possible articles, review essays, reviews, and thematic issues. Indeed, I would be happy to discuss potential pieces with you while they are still in the development stage.

Visit *Terra Incognitae* online at <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ytin20/current>



Richard Wiener

## 2020 Treasurer’s Note

Hello SHD friends and members. I am your new Treasurer taking over in January from Don McGuirk who did a wonderful job these past few years. We have about 160 active members, mostly in the U.S. but also from 14 other nations. The current balance in our operating accounts is about \$21,000, up slightly from last year. But the big news is we also have \$25,000 in a permanent endowment donated by bequest from our long-time member Mary Emily Miller. Earnings therefrom will be used to supplement travel expenses to our annual conferences for young academics. I hope to see you at our conference soon.

*Wes Brown*



## FROM THE WEBMASTER

In our ever changing world, a web site needs to be flexible and dynamic. In that spirit, we want to hear from you on what's working and what's not. If you cannot find something on the site or it isn't working as you think it should, please let me know by emailing me at [ragn0001@umn.edu](mailto:ragn0001@umn.edu). There is always room for improvement.

Please keep in mind that the underlying structure is designed so that the web site can be accessed easily from all types of devices; unfortunately, that may mean that text and images don't always look quite right on a big screen in order to accommodate phone viewing. I am working to clean up some of these issues.

This summer I will be uploading photos and program information from past conferences – this is a slow process, so if you don't find what you're looking for, please check back again another time. Once I've posted all of the photos and program information that I have, I'll be sending out a call for missing info. Likewise, more past newsletters will be going up and I know there will be some gaps that will need to be filled with materials from members.



Marguerite Ragnow

Finally, a reminder that we now manage our membership dues and roster through the web site. If you last paid your dues by credit card, the system will automatically renew your membership for another year on the date that you paid the previous year. (For example, if you paid your dues last year in July, your dues will be charged again in July this year.) You will receive an e-mail generated by the system letting you know that this automatic renewal is happening a couple of weeks beforehand so that you have the chance to opt out, that is, not renew with a credit card online. I am happy to help with any issues you may have with this system, as well.

Regards,

*Marguerite Ragnow*

## Announcing the Dr. Mary Emily Miller Endowment!

This year SHD is excited to announce the establishment of the Dr. Mary Emily Miller Endowment. Created through a generous bequest by Dr. Miller to the Society, this endowment will provide travel funding for up to two student members whose papers have been accepted for presentation at the Society's annual meeting. Dr. Miller, a Life Member of SHD, was a passionate and outspoken teacher, historian, and philanthropist. She began her academic career in 1955, graduating with distinction in History from the University of Delaware, followed by a certificate in Business Administration from Harvard-Radcliffe College in 1956. She became the first dean of women and a member of the History Department at the newly chartered Methodist College in North Carolina while working on her Ph.D. Her published dissertation, *The Delaware Oyster Industry, Past and Present*, became a foundational work in environmental and economic history, as well as an important contribution to maritime history. She went on to work at Park



Dr. Mary Emily Miller

College in Parkerville, MO before accepting a position at Salem College, now Salem University, where she taught from 1966-1992. Mary remained dedicated to teaching and education throughout her retirement, spending the rest of her life teaching and participating in an extraordinary range of academic, volunteer and philanthropic activities. In 2011 Mary became the first woman inducted into the Delaware Maritime Hall of Fame. At the SHD meeting in Austin, Texas in 2014 she commented that she had attended nearly every one of the Society's annual meetings in the past half century. It is in remembrance

of her dedication to SHD and her academic philanthropy that the Society is proud to establish this endowment to provide travel awards to assist student members interested in sharing their scholarship with the Society.

To learn more about this endowment please visit

<https://discoveryhistory.org/endowment/>

# Recap of the 2019 Annual Meeting: Gainesville, Florida

The 2019 SHD Annual Meeting was held on November 14-17, 2019, at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. Our host, the George A. Smathers Library, delighted us with their hospitality, while also providing a guided tour of the treasures in their special collections which include many rare books and maps. The keynote speaker at the annual dinner was **Dr. Kathleen A. Deagan**, Professor Emerita and Curator at the Florida Museum of Natural History and a distinguished local archaeologist. She delivered a fascinating talk on archaeological findings, which highlighted the early Spanish colonial period in Florida. At the 2019 Annual Meeting, SHD also proudly named Professor **Barry Gough** as a Fellow of the Society. On Sunday, a post-conference tour was offered to St. Augustine. About a two-hour ride from Gainesville, St. Augustine was a



Dr. Kathleen A. Deagan

real treat for the history lovers. After **Dr. James Cusik's** guided walking tour through the city center, which also included a visit to the Government House, we made a short sightseeing stop at the Castillo de San Marcos, a 17th-century Spanish fort built to protect Spanish interests in Florida. A special thanks is due to our local arrangements team, **Carol McAuliffe, Haven Hawley, Laura Douglass Marion, and James Cusik.**



Left to right: Lauren Beck, Tom Sanders and Barry Gough



Post conference walking tour of St. Augustine

## Postponement of the Virginia Garrett Lectures

The 12th Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography were slated for October 1 - 3, 2020. In light of the current circumstances, the VGL Planning Committee decided to postpone the lectures for one year to **September 30 - October 2, 2021**. This will still be a joint meeting with the ICA Commission on the History of Cartography. The theme is *"Coordinating Cartographic Collections"* with an emphasis on map collectors and collections. A field trip to the Amon Carter Museum Conservation Lab is a small group pre-conference option. Programming is not yet finalized, but the current line-up of speakers include Jack Franke, Imre Demhardt, Gerald Saxon, Barry Ruderman, and Leah McCurdy.

# SHD Conference 2020: Accepted Paper Proposals

Arranged Alphabetically by Author

## Keynote Presentation

by

**Jason Wiese**

Chief Curator of The Historic New Orleans Collection  
and Deputy Director of Williams Research Center of THNIC

*This Vast Country of Louisiana:  
Cartographic Treasures at the Historic New Orleans Collection*

**Mirela Altic**

*“Geographical Knowledge as Power: The Role of the Society of Jesus and the Society of Foreign Missions of Paris in the Early Exploration of Louisiana”*

**Lauren Beck**

*“Gendered Place Naming Practices of North America in a Settler-Colonial Context”*

**Wes Brown**

*“Guillaume Delisle’s Maps of North America and the Mississippi Valley – Louisiana Revealed”*

**Robert Caldwell**

*“The Choctaw-Apache Community of Sabine Parish, Louisiana”*

**Gary Davis**

*“‘Fit for Geographical Purposes’: Objectivity vs the Ineffable in Andrew Ellicott’s Surveys Related to the Southern Border of the United States, 1796-1800”*

**Anne Helness**

*“The Circulation of a Tale of Shipwreck through Three Early Modern Knowledge Projects”*

**Craig Howard and Richard Gross**

*“How Scholars Buried La Salle”*

**Harold Meinheit**

*“Mapping the Mekong: The French Expedition of 1866-1868”*

**J. Albert Nungaray**

*“Issues in Historical and Contemporary Perceptions and Adaptations of Indigenous/Native American Medicine and Healthways”*

**Dennis Reinhartz**

*“Jan Nieuhoff and East Asia: The Experiences of a Dutch United East India Company Agent, 1665-1672”*

**Andrew Sluyter**

*“The Colonial Land Surveys of Spanish Louisiana: a Website, Webmap, and Mobile App”*

**Lydia Towns**

*“And also what an honorable thyng, Both to the realme and to the kynge, To haue had his domynyon extendynge,” John Rastell: a case study of English interest in the New World during the reign of Henry VIII”*

**Chet Van Duzer**

*“Re-Interpreting Discovery: Revisions to the New World in an Unstudied World Map of c. 1535”*

**Thomas Warner**

*“The Rizo Family of Portolans and the Thirteenth-Century Revolution in Navigation”*

**Alex Zukas**

*“The Mississippi Delta and Louisiana as Contested Regions in Early 18th-Century Maps of North America”*

**Abstracts and Speaker Biographies will soon be available at:**

<https://discoveryhistory.org/meetings-conferences/>

# Postponement of the 250th Anniversary Cook Conference, Mapping the Pacific, Organized in Partnership with SHD

By Mirela Altic

Due to the COVID-19, the State Library of New South Wales has decided to postpone the conference organized on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of James Cook's voyage to Australia. Originally planned for September 7-9, 2020, the conference is now rescheduled for August 25-27, 2021. We will be updating the website as plans are confirmed, including the availability of speakers.

Mapping the Pacific will examine the traditional wayfinding knowledge of the Pacific community, European exploration and the mapping of the Pacific from the early modern era through to the 19th century. It will also consider the 500th anniversary of Ferdinand Magellan's Pacific voyage and the 250th anniversary of James Cook's extraordinary exploration and mapping of the Pacific,

The conference will be open to cartographers, geographers, historians, map collectors, curators, and everyone with an interest in maps. This conference is planned as a three-day event, commencing with an opening reception on Wednesday, 25 August, at the State Library of New South Wales.

The conference is being hosted by the State Library of New South Wales in collaboration with the Australian and New Zealand Map Society, IMCoS, and SHD. More information can be found on the conference website

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections/research-and-engagement/mapping-pacific-conference>.

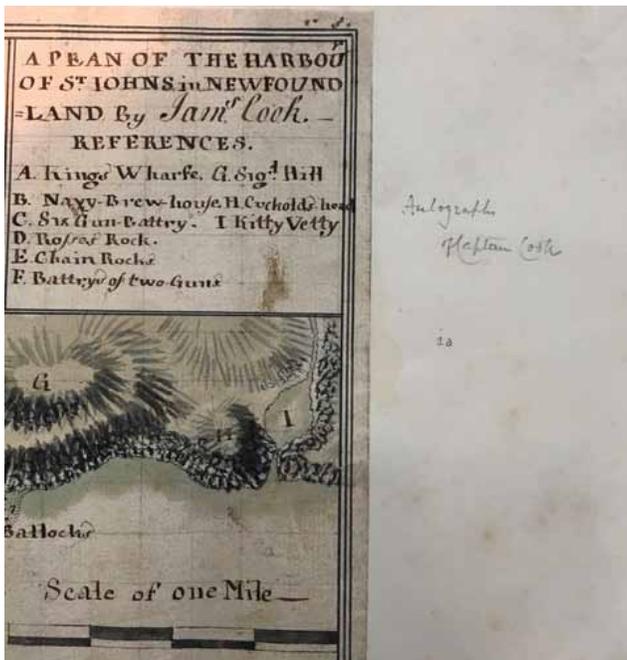


Photo (left) Cartouche; see inscription on right "Autograph of Captain Cook"  
Photo courtesy of Alberta Auringer Wood, from the State Library of New South Wales (above)

## Student Essay Competition

At the time that the newsletter went to press, the winner of the Student Essay Prize Competition had not yet been determined. Anne Good reports that we received 32 entries and only a few of them were not on the broadly defined topic of geographical exploration. These essays were written by graduate and undergraduate students from around the United States and as far afield as Australia and

India. The entries are lengthy, and of very high quality in terms of original research and excellent writing. It is great to see all of this interesting work being done on the history of travel, exploration, cross-cultural interaction and various types of texts. We look forward to announcing the winner of the competition soon.

## SHD NEWS OF MEMBERS

### Members' News

**Lauren Beck** is pleased to report that *The Cultural History of Exploration* (6 volume) series (co-edited by Beck and Fabio López Lázaro), is well underway, with most chapters situated with authors.

She also reports that funding for her project, Honouring Our Place: Women, Indigenous People, and People of Colour in the Place Names and Place Emblems of the Americas, was awarded a grant from Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to continue her research into place names and their visual analogues in the Americas. She is currently working on a book devoted to this topic.

**Gina Bennett** successfully defended her dissertation titled "Imperial Women of Darien: Scottish Migration and Gender in the Atlantic World, 1650-1740," earning her PhD in history from the University of Texas at Arlington in May, 2020. She is also thankful for the opportunity to submit and have published her first book review in *Terrea Incognitea*.

**Gayle K. Brunelle** is now Professor Emeritus of California State University, Fullerton. Her new book, *Assassination in Vichy: Marx Dormoy and the Struggle for the Soul of France*, co-authored with Annette Finley-Croswhite, will be published with University of Toronto Press in September, 2020. Gayle is getting married in August and now resides in France, where she is working on several projects, including editing a volume of Bloomsbury Press' forthcoming multi-volume series, *A Cultural History of Exploration*.

**David Buisseret** is currently compiling an index to the material in back numbers of *Terrae Incognitae*. In addition to this project, David, along with Carl Kupfer, a friend and fellow-member of the Chicago Map Society, are working on an article concerning Claude Bernou, due to appear in the next issue of *The Portolan*. Bernou was a cleric, based in Paris, who used his post at the colonial ministry to amass a great deal of material about the French exploration and mapping of North America. He then used this material in plotting a series of maps, reproduced in the upcoming article. These maps have been understudied in the past.

**Mylynka Kilgore Cardona** completed her third year in the Department of History at Texas A&M University-Commerce. This Spring, she taught the department's first Introduction to Cartography course which drew 22 undergraduate students, and despite being suddenly switched mid-semester to an online-only format, it went well. She hopes to bring a panel of undergraduate students to a future SHD meeting. TAMUC awarded Dr. Cardona Faculty Development Leave for the Fall 2020 semester and she will be working to complete her manuscript on Dutchwoman Alexandrine Tinne and

her explorations of Africa. She will also be doing some preliminary work for a chapter on the types of explorers found in the nineteenth century which will be in the forthcoming Bloomsbury series *A Cultural History of Exploration*, volume editor Jane Samson and series editors Lauren Beck and Fabio López Lázaro. Dr. Cardona continues to serve on the board of the Texas Map Society and was recently nominated for the Second Vice President position. She has spent most of the coronavirus quarantine reading, honing her knitting and crochet skills, drinking a lot of coffee, and avoiding a cross-stitch project of a double hemisphere world map she foolishly thought would be fun.

**Imre Demhardt** is currently consulting with Brenda McClurkin and Ben Huseman at the Special Collections at the University of Texas at Arlington to plan the 12th Virginia Garrett Lectures and Symposium of the ICA Commission on the History of Cartography. Originally planned for October 2020, the joint event is rescheduled for Sept. 29 – Oct. 2, 2021, at UTA Special Collections. The (tentative) theme will be Collections and Collectors with a Gallery Exhibition on Africa from the Jack Franke Collection.

**Richard Francaviglia** recently published two books pertaining to the Atacama Desert. The first, titled *Imagining the Atacama Desert: A Five-Hundred-Year Journey of Discovery* is non-fiction. In June, he was notified that his second book – a novel titled *The Enchantress of Atacama* – has received Finalist awards from the 2020 Next Generation Indie Book Awards in two separate categories – "Regional Fiction" and "Suspense." Available on line (Amazon.com books), *The Enchantress of Atacama* is Francaviglia's tribute to his favorite South American fiction writers. In a recent interview, he stated: "On one level, this novel is a sexy political thriller, but on another it addresses exploration and discovery quite intimately – as themes deeply woven into interpersonal encounters." For this newsletter he further notes that "Although some SHD members may blush while reading portions of *The Enchantress of Atacama*, most will find its geographical and historical metaphors of special interest." In this and other writing projects, he continues to explore the psychological frontiers of exploration and discovery.

**Don McGuirk** and his wife Di recently moved to Kansas City, MO to be near grandkids. Don recently gave a presentation to the Kansas City chapter of the Lewis and Clark Organization on the Lewis and Clark expedition, the maps that may have affected their route and the maps that it generated. Don is currently working on two projects; one is a toponymic history of the Bahama Island now called San Salvador. The other project is on the Vavassore World map of "1540" (possibly 1508).

*Continued on page 10*

**Gregory C. McIntosh** is continuing at the University of Lisbon as a member of the Medea-Chart team [www.medea-chart.org](http://www.medea-chart.org) within the Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa (Interuniversity Center for the History of Science and Technology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon), working on the origin, use, and evolution of portolan charts and nautical cartography.

**Benjamin Olshin** has been very busy on various projects (from music to fine arts!), and would like to report that he recently contributed to an education project supported by the Library of Congress, with an essay entitled, “Maps Speak... We Should Listen” and a piece entitled, “Mapping the Neighborhood: A Classroom Project”, which guides students in looking at old city maps, making maps of the area where they live, and thus teaching them to be aware of their “locus” in history and geography. This material was published in a guide for teachers of history, “The City as a Primary Source Connecting Historical Primary Sources and the City”. His current cartographically-inclined work is a book chapter on mapping as applied to spacetime: in that project, he is investigating the key question of whether Minkowski’s diagrams – which are essentially maps – are tools for understanding Einstein’s concept of Special Relativity or are actual depictions of spacetime itself. The philosophical questions involved are very similar to those asked by cartographers in their examination of the question of the “map” versus the “territory”, a conundrum captured in the famous piece “Del rigor en la ciencia” by Jorge Luis Borges.

**Mary Pedley** continues her work at the Clements Library at the University of Michigan, particularly in making their resources available during the COVID-19 shutdown. “I was particularly glad to highlight one of our special maps, the Cassini Planisphere terrestre of 1696, as it relates to testing and tracking in a brief video available on YouTube:”  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=qwkSCOeFDOM&feature=youtu.be>

**Dennis Reinhartz** is completing the final year (2017-2021) of his presidency of the Historical Society of New Mexico. And in the isolation of the pandemic, he is working on two projects:

- “Jan Nieuhoff in Brazil, China, and East Asia: The Experiences of Dutch Chartered West India Company and United East India Company Agent, 1640-1672.” Dennis presented the first of three projected parts of this piece at our Milwaukee meeting and hopes to present a second part for our 2020 meeting. Nieuhoff served the Dutch India companies for over three decades in Brazil, China, and East Asia and visited South and East Africa along the way at the height of the Dutch Empire, and finally vanished in Madagascar. He left behind extensive accounts of his travels, service, and explorations, including hundreds of onsite drawings he did along the way.

- “Aliens and UFOs in New Mexico’s Changing Space Age Iconography.” Since the end of the Second World War, especially with the Manhattan Project, White Sands rocket testing, the Roswell Incident, the oil and gas boom, renewable energies research, and the New Mexico Spaceport, New Mexico has undergone tremendous changes, and continues to do so. These changes can be chronicled by examining the evolving imagery, official, popular culture, and other, of the State. This is a serious but fun project.

**Leah Thomas** is currently serving as the co-editor of the Washington Map Society’s journal *The Portolan*.

**Lydia Towns’** dissertation, titled “Opening the Atlantic World: England’s Transatlantic Interests During the Reign of Henry VIII” won the George Wolfskill PhD Dissertation Award.

**Alberta Auringer Wood** has been “down under” in New Zealand since the end of December. On a short trip to Australia in early March, before the Lockdown, she had the privilege of working in the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney, where she was able to examine two maps of Newfoundland harbors done about 1763, including one of St. John’s, where she lived for many years. She states that “It was a real thrill to see these maps that somehow ended up among the collections at the library relating to Captain James Cook’s voyages in the Pacific.” Her adventure continues as she remains in New Zealand until Covid travel bans are lifted.



Alberta Auringer Wood examining the maps and holding a Map Scale indicator at the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney.

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## Publications

**Nick Kanas** recently released the 3rd edition of his book *Star Maps: History, Artistry, and Cartography*, published by Springer. Unlike previous editions, this edition is hardcover, includes two new chapters on pictorial maps and celestial images in art, has 50 new images and additional new text, and incorporates all the color plates directly into the text. The reviews of the new edition have been very positive.

**Alistair Maeer** completed two journal articles and three book chapters, two of which were the results of a conversation during the SHD meeting in Colonial Williamsburg.

- ‘Fashioning an Expanding English World: Commerce, Curiosities, and Coastal Profiles from Edward Barlow’s 1668 voyage to Italian port-cities,’ eds. Charles Rozier & Dirk Steinhilber *Britain and Its Neighbors: Cultural Contacts in Medieval & Early Modern Europe*, Routledge—forthcoming
- ‘The Cartography of the Sea: Mapping England’s ‘Mastery,’ of the Oceans,’ eds. Claire Jowitt, Graig Lambert, & Steve Mentz *The Routledge Research Companion to Marine and Maritime Worlds, 1400-1800: Oceans in Global History and Culture*, London: Routledge, June 2020.
- ‘Instruments of Acquisition and Reflections of Desire: English Nautical Charts and Islamic Shore, 1650-1700,’ eds. Justin Olmstead & Molly Beck *Britain in the Islamic World since 1500*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2019.
- ‘The English Pilot,’ J. Brian Harley, David Woodward, and Matthew Edney eds. *History of Cartography, vol. 4 Cartography in the European Enlightenment*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019.
- ‘Marine Charting by Great Britain, 1650-1800,’ J. Brian Harley, David Woodward, and Matthew Edney eds. *History of Cartography, vol. 4 Cartography in the European Enlightenment*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019.

**Benjamin Olshin** recently published what he describes as “a long book” titled *Lost Knowledge: The Concept of Vanished Technologies and Other Human Histories* (Leiden: Brill, 2019) <https://brill.com/view/title/35646>

This book is the culmination of a project that he presented a paper on back in 2017, at the International Conference on the History of Cartography in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, when he gave a talk entitled, “Indigenous Mapping: Culture Creates Cartography”. This investigation, which touched upon the idea of non-Western, indigenous systems for gathering, storing, and passing on technical and scientific information, was part of a much larger study he was doing in that area.

**Mary Pedley** is happy to report the publication of *The History of Cartography Volume Four: Cartography in the European Enlightenment*, available in both print and electronic versions from the University of Chicago Press.

<https://geography.wisc.edu/histcart/volume-4-cartography-in-the-european-enlightenment/>

Mary and her co-editor, Matthew Edney, are delighted with the results, grateful to their 207 contributors and the editorial team in Madison (University of Wisconsin), and hope that the volume, organized as an encyclopedia, will serve as reliable and beautiful reference work for all who love maps. For further information about the History of Cartography series, please go to the History of Cartography Project web-site:

<https://geography.wisc.edu/histcart/>

**Carla Rahn Phillips** recently published the following articles:

- “The Struggle for the South Atlantic: Sources and Serendipity.” Annual Lecture of the Hakluyt Society, London, UK, June 19, 2019; published London, Spring 2020.
- “The Magellan-Elcano Expedition,” *The Nautilus: A Maritime Journal of Literature, History, and Culture*, vol. XI (Spring 2020): 26–40.
- “Los marinos y soldados de las armadas,” *Desperta Ferro, Número especial XXII. La Armada Española (III): El Atlántico, siglo XVI* (March-April 2020): 67–71.
- “A Translation and Transcription of Pedro De Alvarado’s 1526 Contract with the Spanish Crown: Pacific Exploration and Territoriality,” *Terrae Incognitae*, Vol. 51, No. 3 (December 2019), 235–270.

**Luis Robles’** recent article was published in the journal *Imago Mundi* last January: “No, Mapmaker Juan Vespucci Was Not a Medici Spy.” *Imago Mundi* 72, no. 1 (2020): 41–46. [10.1080/03085694.2020.1675341](https://doi.org/10.1080/03085694.2020.1675341).

**Leah Thomas** recently published a journal article and a book chapter.

- “Knowledge Networks: Contested Geographies in The History of Mary Prince,” *ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830* 9, no. 2 (2019): art. 2 [1-26], accessible online at <http://doi.org/10.5038/2157-7129.9.2.1182>
- “Materializing the Immaterial: Creating Capital in a Mirrored Mirage” was published in the collection *Cultural Economies of the Atlantic World: Objects and Capital in the Transatlantic Imagination*, edited by Victoria Barnett-Woods (Routledge): 79-101.

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**Lydia Towns** published an article in the 2020 Summer edition of *Terrae Incognitae* titled “Merchants, Monarchs, and Sixteenth-Century Atlantic Exploration: New Insight into Henry VIII’s Planned Voyage of 1521.”

**Chet Van Duzer**, recently published his book, *Martin Waldseemüller’s Carta marina of 1516: Study and Transcription of the Long Legends* (New York: Springer, 2020)

This book presents the first detailed study of one of the most important masterpieces of Renaissance cartography, Martin Waldseemüller’s Carta marina of 1516. By transcribing, translating into English, and detailing the sources of all of the descriptive texts on the map, as well as the sources of many of the images, the book makes the map available to scholars in a wholly unprecedented way. Thanks to the generosity of the Kislak Foundation, the book is available in open access at this address:

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-22703-6>

## Presentations and Papers of Note

**Gregory C. McIntosh**- “The Aberrant and Puzzling Pesaro (Oliveriana) Manuscript Planisphere: A Copy of a Copy of a Copy?” 28th International Conference on the History of Cartography, Amsterdam, Thursday 18 July 2019.

**Harold Meinheit** delivered a lecture at the Library of Congress on February 25, 2020 on the mapping of Siam in the nineteenth century. The lecture was entitled “Boundaries and Brigands: James McCarthy and the Mapping of Siam.”

The following is from the Library of Congress’ flyer advertising the talk:

“This lecture by Harold Meinheit focuses on the issue of border demarcation as Siam came under increasing colonial pressure in the late 19th century. By looking at the figure of James McCarthy, superintendent of Siam’s Royal Survey Department, and his efforts to map Siam, the lecture draws attention to the relationship between the science of mapping, the wielding of power, and the creation of borders. Accompanying the lecture will be a display of maps and books related to the mapping of Siam.”

## In Memoria

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### **Rand Burnette**

1936 – 2020

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/rand-burnette-obituary?pid=195605283>

### **Patricia Burnette**

1937-2020

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/myjournalcourier/obituary.aspx?pid=196216720>

### **Jim Glanville**

1941-2019

[https://roanoke.com/obituaries/glanville-james-oliver/article\\_8e550a02-0b36-5197-a929-095ed1dd56e8.html](https://roanoke.com/obituaries/glanville-james-oliver/article_8e550a02-0b36-5197-a929-095ed1dd56e8.html)

### **Kenneth Nebenzahl**

1927-2020

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/chicagotribune/obituary.aspx?n=kenneth-nebenzahl&pid=195246499>

## Memories: Celebrating 60 Years of SHD

“My best memories of the society came from working with Lauren Beck as Associate Editor of *Terrae Incognitae*. She and I are working together on a series being published by Bloomsbury Press, “A Cultural History of Exploration,” and she and I might never have crossed paths if not for the Society and journal. It was David Buisseret who introduced me to the Society in 1988 when I attended an NEH Summer Seminar on early maps he ran at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Shortly thereafter I published an article in the journal, and I worked with him as well as Lauren Beck while I was Associate Editor. David will always embody both the journal and the Society for me - warm, courteous, thoughtful, and supportive.”

– *Gayle Brunelle, former Council Member*

“Of all our meetings, the one I best remember is the Jamaica meeting of 1990, attended by about sixty members. The venue was a luxury hotel right on the Caribbean, arranged for us by the

local committee, and the papers generally concerned West Indian history. After the conference, we visited Kingston and Port Royal, and also spent some time at the University of the West Indies, where some professors dwelt mercilessly on the hard facts of Jamaican history.

The photograph (below) was taken as we visited the mountain home of the Facey family, above Ocho Rios. Mr. Facey is seen at the left, and among our group are many early members: Eric Wolf, Jack Parker, Wilcomb Washburn, Thomas Goldstein, Robert Power, Helen Tanner, Helen Wallis and Barbara McCorkle. Happily, there are also some who yet live: Don McGuirk, Kathleen Abbass, Carol Urness and David Buisseret with his family; perhaps keen-eyed readers will be able to identify some other members...”

– *David Buisseret, former President; former editor, TI; SHD Fellow*

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Group Photo, Annual Meeting in Jamaica, 1990. SHD Archives, Special Collections, University of Texas at Arlington

“I was asked to share my “beloved memories of SHD” in celebration of SHD’s 60th anniversary. I could write about interesting papers or meeting locales, but those things are present with most organizations. The one thing I like best about SHD is the camaraderie of its members. I have had wonderful experiences talking and traveling with fellow members. Members freely share their knowledge and make everyone feel welcome. I always look forward to seeing them again at future conferences.”

– **John Docktor**, former Council member

“I don’t go to many SHD meetings as they’re generally at the wrong time of year. Although I’ve helped organize the two in Portland, ME (1996 and 2011). I do have a “fond” memory, though, of being stuck on the coach, with its chassis resting on the camber and drive wheels in the air, on the drive to the museum (at Jamestown?) we visited during the Williamsburg SHD in 2005.”

– **Matthew Edney**

“I had been a member of SHD for a number of years without attending a meeting when Sandy Biederman contacted me about serving on the council. I had just gotten off of five years as Executive Secretary of the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference, so I was a bit dubious but Sandy did his magic and I agreed. My first conference was in Chicago at the Newberry in 2007. We had a wonderful meal at an Italian restaurant that was supposed to be a favorite of Al Capone’s. I had a great time in Chicago (I went to college in River Forest) and I have had a great time at every meeting that I have attended ever since; due to the great scholarship; the wonderful community of scholarship; and the making of many new friends. Thank you Sandy!”

– **Ronald Fritze**, former President

“I remember racing around the countryside, driving through the mountains, visiting Little Big Horn while in Cody, Wyoming with Mike Downs and speed touring Yellowstone getting to see a Grizzly at dusk. I remember meeting Anthony Mullan in Denver in 2001 and not seeing him again until Gainesville last year. My first meeting was in Guadalajara when I was the editorial Assistant for David Buisseret, my mentor. In Guadalajara I tried Tequila for the first time, for which I am ever grateful. I remember drinking a few beers in a tavern with Matthew Edney in Williamsburg where he offered me two entries for the History of Cartography project, the much-delayed Enlightenment edition. As a grad student working for the journal, attending conferences alongside my professors, and meeting scholars and collectors I was afforded an amazingly rich opportunity. In effect, the whole time I was benefiting from working with kind and passionate people who were willing to help out a neophyte. In all I have a collection of social and professional memories than are deeply personal and academically rewarding.”

– **Alistair Maeer**, current Council Member

“One of many fond memories of SHD: I think it was the annual meeting in Portland in 1996 when about 50 of us loaded into a yellow school bus and were driven out

into the tules (or boonies) somewhere for an evening excursion. After some period of time, the bus came to a stop in a forest of absolute darkest. The bus driver seemed to be lost. The stillness was broken by a voice from the back of the bus: “Anybody got a map?” The ensuing laughter eased our momentary apprehension. Another memory:

Following the annual meeting in San Francisco in 1989, many of us made an excursion to the Nut Tree in Vacaville for a luncheon. Afterwards, Bob Power took Mike Mathes and myself to see his family’s manse, actually an old farm house built out in the “back forty” in the early 20th Century. But, when we three went to leave, we discovered that somehow we were locked inside the house and could not get out. We had to wait sometime until someone wandered by and could hear our shouts through the window pane.”

– **Gregory McIntosh**, current Council member

“A number of members and officers and I were sitting on the beach at Ocho Rios, Jamaica in 1990, one of the more unconventional meetings. Future meeting sites was discussed and I mentioned Mackinac Island, Michigan as a future site. The group thought it was a good idea, chiefly because members saw it as a legendary place that they heard of but had never been there. It was going to be a challenge to get everyone to the island without any inconveniences or problems. My goal was to make it a smooth event.

So Mackinac Island became the site for the September 1994 meeting. Given its relatively isolated location and its varying weather in the fall, I had my task before me. Plans were made in advance. Members flew into the small airport at Pellston and I had a bus coordinated with arriving planes that brought the members to Mackinaw City and the ferry to the Island. One member and his wife got on the wrong ferry and enjoyed free drinks and appetizers on the trip to the island. A member from Mexico sent me a \$100 bill fee in a transparent envelop via Fed-Mex and unbelievably it arrived without a loss. The conference went well as the weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed the history of the legendary island with its maps and records, the fort built in the 18th century, and a wonderful visit on the veranda of the hotel. On the last day, as the members headed across the straits, the famed bad weather of the Upper Peninsula hit, but they were headed home. As I remember, everyone had a wonderful experience and took home fond memories, especially those who joined us for a fabulous dinner at the Grand Hotel.”

– **Russ Magnaghi**, former Secretary-Treasurer

“I remember meeting the group in Raleigh for the first time and you were so welcoming in my home state. Such lovely times were shared in Austin, Tampa, Santa Fe, Pasadena, and Golden. The Huntington Library and traveling along the coast of California was a highlight for me, as well as for my daughters. All were wonderful times.”

– **Ann Ortiz**, former Council member

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"I think the thing that strikes me most about SHD, both now and across my tenure as a member, is how welcoming everyone is and how accessible the sessions are. My first meeting was Portland, 2006. I knew one person, Carol Urness, both of us successors of SHD founder Jack Parker in our successive positions as curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota. I had joined in 2005, shortly after becoming full-time curator. It seemed almost a mandatory action for a Bell Library curator! Carol assured me that I could bring my accountant husband to the meeting and that he wouldn't be bored, something that keeps him away from other academic conferences. Everyone we met was friendly and welcoming—genuinely pleased that I had joined the Society. And that was before the Council made me editor of *Terrae Incognitae* at that same meeting! I often encourage graduate students to submit papers and/or attend the meeting—it is such a welcoming place for new scholars. And my husband, who has attended every conference with me since 2006 has never been bored; it is the only conference he attends. He finds the papers interesting and comprehensible to someone outside the field, and the atmosphere open and engaging. SHD is a gem; we need to work harder to spread the word, especially among younger scholars, who will no doubt find a home with us."

—**Marguerite Ragnow**, former editor, *TI*; immediate past president SHD; webmaster

"Perhaps the fondest memory I have is that when I joined SHD over forty years ago, all of its founders were still alive and active. It was wonderful to get to know them and to talk to them about things important and trivial. Ursula Lamb was probably my favorite."

—**Dennis Reinhartz**, former President; SHD Fellow

"Right after my Army career I was able to control my time more, gaining the ability to attend map and history of discoveries happenings. At the time, some of the original members of SHD lived in the Washington area and convinced me to check out SHD. My first SHD meeting was in 1997 in Newfoundland; I would have never just gone there on my own. The group assembled were smart people with a love of history and travel and socializing. We all found there a land visited by past explorers, indeed the Vikings! Serving on the committee for the Washington DC 2000 SHD meeting, I was able to work with members dedicated to making THAT meeting a memorable one for folks visiting for the first time, or perhaps repeat visitors who could be shown something they had not seen before. As VP/lead organizer of the Portland Oregon and Chicago meetings, I considered all my efforts a way to give back to the group of people who had collectively organized past meetings, and who would plan future events. As SHD Web Content Manager, I collected photos and programs of past and current meetings so that SHD history could be captured and preserved and readily available for everyone. What did the annual meetings have? Good presentations from academics and serious independent scholars. A different city each year – all with interesting places to visit – places with interesting twists (like mile-high mines in Colorado, Lewis & Clark's camp in Oregon, and a city-wide Festival of Maps in Chicago – with maps at over 30 locations around the city!). Socializing with like-minded

people who rapidly became friends, and who I would see at other meetings around the world. People who were always there during the entire year, at the end of an email or phone call when I had a discoveries or cartography question. Over the years I have traveled widely with SHD. From Denver to Gainesville, New Orleans to Cody. From Williamsburg to Raleigh, Portland Maine to Portland Oregon. From Tampa to London, Arlington Texas to New Orleans. Everywhere another adventure, at places like Yellowstone Park or the map room of the British Library. Everywhere sharing good times with past friends and new friends. While virtual meetings may become a necessary short-term solution during a 2020 pandemic, I look forward to the return of future in-person meetings."

—**Tom Sander**, former President; former Webmaster; SHD Fellow

"My fondest memories about SHD are the meetings I attended (New Orleans, Chicago, Arlington, Santa Fe, Portland, Raleigh, etc.) and the people I befriended in the process. But nothing brings more of a smile to my face today than when I recall SHD members accusing me and my UTA colleagues of being part of the shadowy and notorious "UTA Mafia." The mafia was "led" by a loquacious New Jerseyite, Dennis Reinhartz (though I use the term "led" very loosely), a professor of history at UTA. His mob included David Buisseret, then the erudite holder of the Garret Chair in Cartographic History; Richard Francaviglia, the peripatetic director of the university's Center for Greater Southwestern Studies; the Georgia-born and genteel Kit Goodwin, cartographic archivist in the libraries' Special Collections; and me, the youngest of the group and the dean of libraries. Of course, our Godfather was Jenkins Garrett, a longtime SHD member and leader and major benefactor to UTA, not to mention his wife Virginia (is Godmother the right term?), another SHD stalwart and avid map collector, generous donor, and lifetime SHD member. The Garretts loved knowing that the donations they made to the university over many years had sparked interest and participation in the groups they were members of—none more important than SHD. The Garretts are no longer with us, but they would be happy to know that SHD is still sponsoring thought-provoking meetings, engaging special events, and an excellent scholarly journal. The members of the UTA Mafia, while still around, are now scattered around the US, from Santa Fe, to Portland (OR), to Chicago, to Mansfield and Arlington (TX). Just writing this has brought a smile to my face!"

—**Gerald D. Saxon**, former President

"It seems a lifetime ago when I received an e-mail about the plans for the 60th anniversary of the Society for the History of Discoveries. I volunteered to help put together a history of the Society. I suggested that we begin with the list of members and the programs for the first ten (or so) meetings. This would provide an opportunity to see the titles of papers of the early meetings, the names of members, the optional tours, whatever... It would also show the development of the Society in those early years. I thought that this approach might offer chances to "tell some stories" about members and meetings. As part of this project, I have written short biographies of the three founders of SHD—Thom Goldstein, Jack Parker, and Steve Slessarev for the

*Continued on page 16*

2020 summer edition of *Terrae Incognitae*. Ed Dahl provided a biography of Barbara McCorkle, who held the Society together for many years. Doing this brought back many memories of wonderful times together—far too many to share here. I will add one memory: a meeting that started with the arrival of a group of very grumpy, ruffled, sleepy participants. Some of our experts in geography had spent a night on a Greyhound bus because they had booked their destination to Bloomington, Illinois, rather than Bloomington, Indiana. This was the 1965 meeting, hosted by the then quite new Lilly Library, established at the University in 1960. We need to smile, friends, and hope that there will be a chance to write a better history of the SHD before too long!

—*Carol Urness, former President; SHD Fellow*

“I was sad to learn of the passing of Rand Burnette and his wife Patricia. They, and other people like them, are among my fondest memories of SHD over the years of my membership since the early 1970s. SHD provided stimulating talks and enjoyable social events. We met so many interesting people. After my late husband Cliff and I retired in 2005. We moved to mainland Canada, and we were able to attend several meetings. We also had the pleasure of hosting one in St. Johns, Newfoundland, before we retired. I enjoy reading the journal, though I am missing it due to being away from home about six months. I wish that I were able to attend more SHD meetings!”

—*Alberta Auringer Wood, former Council member*



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