



Smithsonian National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center

by Catherine A. Christen
Research Associate
Smithsonian Institution Archives

Glancing across the dirt road, the new tenants idly noted the neighbors moving about in their lighted doorway, perhaps to collect their shoes or discard the trash. Then the recognition dawned: this vision was ludicrous, a Gary Larsen moment. That lighted doorway was an open stable equipped with heat lights, and the neighbor an endangered Scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), considered extinct in its African desert homeland. Sharing its meadow was a herd of female Przewalski's horses (*Equus przewalskii*), extirpated from their native Mongolia. Such is householding at CRC, the Smithsonian National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center, whose staff scientists specialize in captive breeding and conservation biology research programs.

Ever since this expansive property in northwest Virginia's Shenandoah foothills became government land, the neighbors have been as likely to be hoofstock as humans. Yet only in the last few decades have these quadrupeds been not familiar domesticates, but rather threatened or endangered species from around the world. In 1909-1911, the U.S. Army acquired thousands of farmland acres just outside Front Royal, Virginia, for a remount station, to breed and train horses and mules for the U.S. Cavalry. During WWII, the complex also served as a canine (K-9) training facility and housed several hundred German and Italian prisoners of war (who worked on nearby farms). When these Army enterprises were deemed outdated in 1948, the U.S. Department of Agriculture took over the outpost, refitting it as a beef cattle experiment station.

Conservation and Research Center in Front Royal, Virginia (Chris Wemmer).



Scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) and calf. Overhunting, especially motorized hunting with modern firearms, led this species to presumed extinction in its African home ranges the late 1990s (Smithsonian National Zoo).

In 1973, top administrators at the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoological Park learned about this station just as U.S.D.A. was phasing out its own operations. Quickly they secured a use permit, completing the 3,200-acre site's transfer by 1975. The Front Royal complex offered just what the Zoo had been seeking for years, its easily adapted facilities providing a "rural annex" to complement the Zoo's famous Rock Creek Park exhibition venue in Washington, D.C. Smithsonian's Secretary and ornithologist S. Dillon Ripley wrote, with characteristic ebullience, "I am thrilled with this development which seems to me an answer to prayer." Ripley, committed to both conservation and ecological research, noted that he anticipated long range planning for "a whole variety" of Center activities.

Since then the Zoo's scientists, the majority of whom now work within CRC, have gradually met such expectations, developing an extensive roster of programs and activities dedicated to captive breeding of endangered wild animal species (including both birds and mammals) and to research contributing to species survival. This has included both local and international *in situ* wildlife ecology and conservation biology projects. CRC has also become well known for its commitment to environmental education and especially to hands-on training in wildlife ecology and conservation biology, with courses offered both at the Center and in field sites around the globe. Indeed, course alumni worldwide rallied to CRC's defense in 2001 when the Center and its programs were suddenly threatened with closure by a new Smithsonian administration intent on other priorities. Today the Center's future again appears reasonably secure. As with the Wildlife Conservation Society, (New York Zoological Society), and the Institute of Zoology at the London Zoological Society, scientists at CRC and elsewhere at the National Zoo continue to provide investigative depth to complement the Zoo's ever-popular public exhibitions.

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From the President's Desk

ASEH Denver, 2002

From March 20-24, Denver's Historic Brown Palace vibrated with the energy of 370 environmental historians celebrating ASEH's twentieth conference. The conference theme, "Producing and Consuming Natures," signaled an inspiring new direction for the field. The theme highlighted the intersections between environmental history, cultural studies, and gender analysis. Its fifty-five sessions, plenaries, breakfasts, lunches, and banquets explored "the various ways humans have historically drawn nature into their livesthrough working and imagining, devouring and debating, transforming and transporting it." It featured "papers on the human history of nature as symbol as well as substance, in popular culture and consumption as well as production and extraction." Moreover it framed "nature as plural," inviting "topics that engage a diversity of views about what nature is or should be, within or across cultures." We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the program committee's vision in setting a new agenda for the society: Christopher Sellers, chair; Dale Goble, J. Donald Hughes, and Jennifer Price.

We owe the local arrangements committee our most profound thanks for providing a congenial atmosphere and for its vital

role in organizing the registration, programs, field trips, breakfasts, and all the on-the-ground details that made the conference run so smoothly. They even arranged sunshine for the field trips, along with an opening reception at the University of Denver, a dinner at Denver's "Ocean Journey" aquarium, a reception at the Denver Public Library, and the capstone event of the conference, a dramatic presentation by Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute. We thank the local arrangements committee for their dedication and untold hours of voluntary effort: Ari Kelman, chair, Thomas Andrews, Verna Clark, Mark Fiege, J. Donald Hughes, Jared Orsi, and Terry Williams, along with the conference sponsors and all those at the University of Denver who contributed time and funds to support the meeting.

Celebrating our Anniversaries: 25th, 20th, 5th

At Denver, we celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the society by John Opie in 1977. As past-president, Susan Flader recalls, Denver itself was the scene of ASEH's inspiration: "ASEH was very much John Opie's idea. I recall a discussion about it while riding in the back of Estella Leopold's jeep in Denver, where we were gathered for an Organization of American Historians conference." John Opie, who was unable to attend the meeting, was applauded voluminously for his dedication and vision.

In Denver, we also celebrated the twentieth anniversary of ASEH's first conference, held at the University of California, Irvine, from January 1-3, 1972, organized by environmental and Soviet Union historian Kendall Bailes. ASEH Vice-President Douglas Weiner, like Bailes a student of Columbia University historian Loren Graham, commemorated Ken (who died of AIDS in 1989) as "highly-organized, supportive, soft-spoken, unflappable, and unfailingly diplomatic." Bailes published the conference papers in 1985 in a volume entitled, *Environmental History: Critical Issues in Comparative Perspective* (University Press of America), an early resource for the field. In addition to his scholarship on the environmental history of the former Soviet Union and the Russian scientist, Vladimir Vernadsky, Bailes was a poet who deftly captured our twentieth anniversary's theme of nature's "producing and all-consuming" role in human existence:

Time's Arrow

"Time's arrow slays us all,
but not before we briefly soar
through love's orbits intersecting
to touch, deny the void
than sailing outward, sink along
our own trajectory toward a junction
with that fatal arrow
which brings us back to earth.
Like some proud foolish bird
That flew too close about the hunter's
Blind and found death's marksman waiting."

Kendall Bailes

American Society for Environmental History

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The American Society for Environmental History seeks understanding of the human experience of the environment from the perspectives of history, liberal arts, and sciences. The Society encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue on every aspect of the present and past relationship of humankind to the natural environment. ASEH maintains a web site at <www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ>. Contact <dwilliam@snu.edu> to discuss including material on the web page.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent by July 22, 2002 to:
Lisa Mighetto, Editor, 119 Pine St., Suite 207, Seattle, WA 98101. E-mail to <mighetto@hrassoc.com>.

Other correspondence should be directed to: American Society for Environmental History, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701-3147.
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from **President** page 2

In a very special event at the banquet, the society in a standing ovation recognized the fifth anniversary of the vital role played since 1997 by our secretary Lisa Mighetto. In the five years that she has served the society we have been able to reach a new level of visibility and organization. *ASEH News*, which Lisa edits, has renewed vitality. Our business meetings run smoothly and our conference organizers have an extensive set of useful guidelines crafted by Lisa. She was the local arrangements chair of our millennial gathering in Tacoma, Washington in 2000. She contributed a multitude of hours, taking time off from her employment to direct the arrangements. In the words of past-president Donald Pisani, "Lisa is unfailingly efficient, good-natured, and kind. She is one of those saint-like people who all of us appreciate and endeavor unsuccessfully to emulate." Lisa prepared an anniversary exhibit of the society's history that featured historical documents from our archives, including the program of the 1982 Irvine meeting. We all give her our deepest gratitude and heartiest thanks.



At the Denver conference Carolyn Merchant presented Lisa Mighetto with a plaque commemorating her five years of service as ASEH secretary.

Carolyn Merchant
ASEH President

Future ASEH Meetings

2003. Providence, RI. March 26-30, 2003. Providence Biltmore Hotel, Kennedy Plaza, Providence, RI 02903. (800) 294-7709. Local Arrangements Chair, Nancy Jacobs, Department of History, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. (Nancy_Jacobs@brown.edu). Program Committee Chair, Ravi Rajan, Department of Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA. 95064. (831) 459-5740. <srrijan@cats.ucsc.edu>

2004. Victoria, B.C., Canada. March 31-April 4, 2004. Joint Meeting with the National Council on Public History (NCPH). Local Arrangements Chair, Lorne Hammond, Curator of History, Royal British Columbia Museum, 675 Belleville Street, Victoria, BC V8W 9W2. (250) 387-2486. <lhammond@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca>

2005. Knoxville, TN. Local Arrangements Chair, Kathleen A. Brosnan, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-4065. (865) 974-5421. <kbrosnan@utk.edu>

If you would like to volunteer to serve on an ASEH local arrangements or program committee for 2004 or beyond, please contact ASEH Vice-President, Douglas Weiner, Department of History, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. (520) 621-3736 or ASEH Secretary Lisa Mighetto, Historical Research Associates, Inc. 119 Pine St., Suite 207, Seattle, WA 98101. (206) 343-0226. <mighetto@hrassoc.com>

ASEH Denver Conference photos courtesy of Steven Anderson, Nancy DeStefanis, Betsy Mendelsohn, Carolyn Merchant, and Lisa Mighetto.

Marty Reuss
and
Marty Melosi
at the
Denver
Conference



Discussing Environmental History On-Line

The H-Environment e-mail discussion group is part of the H-Net online initiative, and is supported by both ASEH and the European Society for Environmental History. Currently, our subscriber list is drawn largely from within the United States and Canada, but we would like to expand our subscriber list to reach more people outside of North America. We welcome subscribers from all over the world and appreciate the perspective a broader world base would bring to the list. Please urge your friends (inside and outside of the US) to subscribe. For more information, visit our website at <<http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~environ/>>.

Travel Grants

ASEH Travel Grants Awarded for Denver Conference Attendance

E.V. and Nancy Melosi Travel Grant: Connie Chiang

Morgan and Jeanie Sherwood Travel Grants (2): John Sandlos and Nikolas Kozloff

Donald Worster Travel Grant: Jeremy Benstein

Ellen Swallow Richards Travel Grant: Christine Macy

J. Donald Hughes Travel Grant: Subach Chandran

Minority/Non-White Travel Grant: Sylvia Washington

from **National Zoo** page 1

Also looking up are prospects for preserving CRC's past. The Smithsonian Institution Archives is accessioning up to 100 cubic feet of CRC records over the next several months, starting with CRC's 1974-1985 central administrative files. Among the highlights are files pertaining to many overseas conservation biology projects, including the SI-Nepal Tiger Ecology Project of the 1970s and 1980s, long-term ecology studies of red howler monkeys (*Alouatta seniculus*) in Venezuela, and Eld's deer (*Cervus eldi*) and elephant (*Elephas maximus*) conservation projects in Myanmar (Burma) conducted from the 1980s through the present. Accessioned files should be available to researchers (with some restrictions) by early 2003. Interested researchers may wish to consult the CRC and Smithsonian Institution Archives pages at the Smithsonian's website <www.si.edu>.



Executive Committee Meeting

ASEH Executive Committee Meets in Denver

Highlights of the Executive Committee meeting, held in Denver on March 21, include the following:

- Elections. The Nominating Committee will now select two candidates for each position open on the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee, allowing ASEH's members to elect their representatives more directly. The revised bylaws are available on ASEH's website.
- Website. In the future, ASEH will maintain its own website at <www.aseh.net>. The site will be designed during the summer and posted during the fall. It will include a link to H-Environment, which hosts ASEH's current site.
- ASEH will apply for membership in the American Council of Learned Societies.

Call for Nominations

ASEH Candidates

During the next few months, the ASEH Nominating Committee will be nominating candidates for ASEH Vice-President/President Elect (one candidate, uncontested); for members of the ASEH Executive Board (eight candidates for four positions); and for the next Nominating Committee (four candidates for two positions). The Committee invites and welcomes all suggestions from ASEH members regarding potential candidates and any other considerations regarding nominee choices. Please direct your comments to any (or all) of the members of the Nominating Committee: Kate Christen, Chair <chritwi@aol.com>; <christen@osia.si.edu>; Andrew Hurley <ahurley@umsl.edu>; Verena Winiwarter <verena.winiwarter@univie.ac.at>; and Paul Hirt <forrest@mail.wsu.edu>. We look forward to hearing from you about your thoughts on this important ASEH matter.

Awards 2001

ASEH 2001 Prizes Awarded at Denver Conference

George Perkins Marsh Prize for Best Book in Environmental History

Karl Jacoby, *Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves, and the Hidden History of American Conservation* (University of California Press, 2001).
and

Louis A. Perez, Jr. *Winds of Change: Hurricanes and the Transformation of Nineteenth-Century Cuba* (University of North Carolina Press, 2001).



Mart Stewart presented Karl Jacoby with the George Perkins Marsh Prize for best book.

Rachel Carson Prize for Best Dissertation

Sara Pritchard, "Recreating the Rhone: Nature and Technology in France Since World War II."



Vice President Doug Weiner presented Nancy Jacobs with the Alice Hamilton prize for the best article outside Environmental History.

Alice Hamilton Prize for Best Article Outside Environmental History

Nancy J. Jacobs, "The Great Bophuthatswana Donkey Massacre: Discourse on the Ass and the Politics of Class and Grass," *The American Historical Review* 106:2 (April 2001).

Leopold-Hidy Prize for Best Article in Environmental History

Ramachandra Guha, "The Prehistory of Community Forestry in India" and Tom McCarthy, "The Coming Wonder?: Foresight and Early Concerns About the Automobile"

Awards Submissions for 2002

This year, the prize committees will evaluate submissions (published books and articles and completed dissertations) that appear between November 1, 2001 and October 31, 2002. Please send 3 copies of each submission by November 8, 2002 to Lisa Mighetto, HRA, 119 Pine Street, Suite 207, Seattle, WA 98101. If you have questions, please contact her at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>



Special Insert: ASEH Committee Service Form ASEH Donation Form ASEH Providence Conference Call for Papers



ASEH Committee Service Form

_____ I am interested in hosting an ASEH meeting in _____ (place) in _____ (year)
_____ I am interested in serving on an ASEH committee

Mail to: Lisa Mighetto, Historical Research Associates, Inc., 119 Pine St., Suite, 207, Seattle, WA 98101. (206) 343-0226. Or e-mail:
<mighetto@hrassoc.com>



ASEH Donation Form

I am pleased to support the ASEH through a gift, which is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.
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I am contributing to the General Endowment Travel Endowment Minority Challenge Grant S.P. Hays Research Fund

My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed. Make checks payable to American Society for Environmental History.

My pledge in the amount of \$_____ is payable monthly quarterly annually for ____ years (Reminders are sent)

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Unless otherwise indicated all donors will be listed in the ASEH Newsletter. I prefer to be listed as anonymous.
Mail to: Mark Madison, ASEH Treasurer, National Conservation Training Center, Rte. 1, Box 166, Shepherdstown, WV, 25443

American Society for Environmental History

Annual Meeting Announcement and Call for Papers

Frontiers in Environmental History: Mainstreaming the “Marginal”

Providence, RI, March 26 – 30, 2003

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 1, 2002.

The program committee for the American Society for Environmental History Annual Meetings to be held in Providence, RI, in March 2003, invites proposals for panels, papers, and posters. Proposals may address any area or field of environmental history. However, in keeping with the theme of the conference, the program committee specifically solicits submissions that call attention to previously underrepresented world areas and intellectual approaches. Panels on the environmental history of Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Eastern Europe are particularly encouraged. Of equal interest are subjects that examine urban and industrial environments and those on the interface between environmental history and disciplines such as geography, anthropology, ecology and economics. By exploring the margins and encouraging interdisciplinary conversations, we seek to expand the frontiers of the field, and in the process, gain new insights on its traditional core.

The program committee *strongly encourages* proposals for complete panels with four individual papers and a chair. In order to maximize the number of papers and create more opportunity for creative exchanges with members of the audience, the program committee prefers not to include a commentator in each session. If you feel that a discussant is essential for your panel, please include in your application an explanation of why a commentator is intrinsically necessary for its coherence. Please note also that although the committee prefers full panels, individual paper proposals are welcome. The committee seeks proposals from scholars across a broad range of disciplines. Panels that are interdisciplinary or which bring together papers on common themes from across different world areas are particularly encouraged, as are those involving scholars from traditionally underrepresented regions.

To apply, please complete the enclosed form (please type), and send SIX copies, along with six copies of the required attachments to:

Ravi Rajan
ASEH Program Committee Chair
Department of Environmental Studies
University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, USA.

Please feel free to contact any member of the program committee should you have any questions:

Colin Duncan, McGill University (cduncan@leacock.ian.mcgill.ca)
Nancy Jacobs, Brown University (Nancy_Jacobs@Brown.edu)
Byron Pearson, West Texas A&M University (bpearson@mail.wtamu.edu)
Stephanie Pincetl, University of Southern California (pincetl@rcf.usc.edu)
Ravi Rajan, University of California, Santa Cruz (srrajan@cats.ucsc.edu)
Sylvia Washington, Northwestern University (s-washington4@northwestern.edu)

Mission statement: The American Society for Environmental History seeks historical understanding of the human experience with the environment. Drawing upon perspectives ranging from the liberal arts to the social and natural sciences, the Society encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue on every aspect of the present and past relationship of humankind to the natural environment.

Frontiers of Environmental History: Mainstreaming the “Marginal”

American Society for Environmental History Annual Meetings, Providence, RI, March 2003

Panel / Paper / Poster Application Form

Note: Panel organizers should fill in all the fields of this form and append the attachments requested in section “D”.
Individuals who submit paper or poster proposals should fill in rows 1, 2 and 7 and append the attachments.

PLEASE TYPE

A General

1	Title of the Panel/Paper/Poster:		
2	Scope of the panel (select what applies)	<input type="checkbox"/> US/Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Central/Latin America <input type="checkbox"/> Western Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Africa	<input type="checkbox"/> Middle East/Central Asia <input type="checkbox"/> South Asia/Pacific Rim <input type="checkbox"/> Australia/New Zealand <input type="checkbox"/> The Poles <input type="checkbox"/> Interdisciplinary / theory

B Paper titles (Speaker/Title)

3	
4	
5	
6	

C Contact Information

7	<i>Panel Organizer (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:
8	<i>Panel Chair (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:

9	<i>First Speaker (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:
10	<i>Second Speaker (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:
11	<i>Third Speaker (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:
12	<i>Fourth Speaker (Name/Affiliation):</i>	Street Address with postcode: Email Address: Phone number: Fax Number:
D Please attach the following:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 250 word abstract of the panel <input type="checkbox"/> 150 word abstracts of every paper in the panel <input type="checkbox"/> Short (two page) CV of every member of the panel <input type="checkbox"/> Information on previous ASEH meetings each panelist has attended during the past three years: Where? When? In what capacity? (Please include this information in the CV) 		

Conference Summary

ASEH Meets in Denver Last Month

Conference Highlights

By Melissa Wiedenfeld

The Denver meeting, held March 20-24, marked the 25th anniversary of the founding of ASEH, and the 20th anniversary of the first conference, held at U.C. Irvine in 1982. More than 370 people attended the meeting in Denver last month. The conference was held at the Brown Palace Hotel, a Denver historic landmark built in 1892 (no connection to Margaret Tobin "Molly" Brown).

The conference opened Wednesday evening, March 20 on the University of Denver campus with a reception and an opening plenary session on the theme of the conference, "Producing and Consuming Natures." Christopher Sellers (SUNY Stony Brook) introduced the plenary panelists: Ann Fabian (Rutgers University), Gregg Mitman (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Philip Scranton (Rutgers University), and Susan Strasser (University of Delaware). Fabian, a cultural historian, captivated the audience with a discussion of Walt Whitman's poem "This Compost," corpses, and how nature produces and consumes humans (through the realm of decay). Mitman emphasized the importance of science to environmental history, reminding the audience of the agency of non-human actors in history. Philip Scranton urged environmental historians to look for a fresh perspective by using business history resources (including those found at the Hagley Museum and Library <www.hagley.org/center.html>). Susan Strasser began her talk by discussing the relevance of using *Walden*, but moved on to the importance of looking at consumption and the relationships of consumption.

We awoke to a beautiful (but brief) snow storm Thursday morning. That evening, conference participants attended a buffet dinner at Ocean Journey, Denver's aquarium (slated to close in April). The aquarium displayed riverine fauna from two regions: the Colorado River in the U.S. and the Kampar River in Indonesia.

In addition to the dozens of excellent papers presented in panels, there were several breakfast and brown bag sessions on a variety of topics, including the following:

- **Doing and Teaching Environmental History after September 11th**
- **Environmental Historians and Their Publics**
- **Environmental Biography**
- **Technology, Urban Environments, and Environmental History**
- **Roundtable on Navigating the Job Market**
- **Ethnicity, Race, and Environmental History**
- **Roundtable on Publishing a First Book**
- **International Perspectives on Environmental History**
- **Roundtable on Publishing in Journals**

On Friday afternoon, the weather cooperated and participants fanned out across the sunny and warm greater Denver area on various field trips, including the following:



ASEH Birders at Barr Lake.



President Carolyn Merchant served as M.C. at the Saturday evening banquet.

BIRDING AT BARR LAKE

Not surprisingly, there are many birders in the ASEH ranks, and many went out to Barr Lake northwest of Denver with Kurk Dorsey to improve their lists. Most people would say the "best birds" were the pair of Great Horned Owls (my personal choice was the Rough Legged Hawk), but magpies are appealing birds as well. [Editor's note: a possible sighting of a Say's Phoebe generated much discussion.]

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Some participants went on a guided tour of the National Center for Atmospheric Research above Boulder, a leading center for research on weather patterns, global warming, and acid rain.

BOULDER OPEN SPACE AND MOUNTAIN PARKS

Many ASEH members visited Boulder to learn about the city's pioneering efforts with parks and open spaces. Boulder prides itself on being one of the first American cities in which citizens voted to tax themselves to maintain open space. Since that 1967 vote, the city has controlled urban sprawl and provided recreational opportunities by establishing a chain of parks and open spaces.

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE and THE DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Denver's favorite museums provided another outing for those interested in natural history and historical research. The DPL staff introduced participants to the resources available for research in environmental history. Check out their website at <<http://sss.denver.lib.co.us/>>.

DENVER URBAN ENVIRONMENTS

Thomas Andrews led participants on a walking tour of crucial sites in Denver's environmental history, including a discussion of the city's architecture, urban planning, environmental management, and recreation/consumption opportunities. They also went on to see the REI flagship store housed in a renovated powerhouse.

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET

Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute gave the Keynote address at the banquet Saturday evening. Lovins, an experimental physicist educated at Harvard and Oxford and well known for his 1977 book, *Soft Energy Paths*, has received many distinguished awards, including a MacArthur Fellowship. His work, including 27 books, has focused on transforming the manufacturing sector toward advanced resource productivity. He spoke about natural capitalism (see <<http://www.rmi.org/>>).

Announcements

Earth and Environment Forum

The Earth and Environment Forum was established in 2001 as an interest group within the History of Science Society. Members of this forum aim to promote research and education in the history of environmental sciences and in the environmental history of science. There will very soon be a link to our web-based newsletter from HSS website at www.hssonline.org/society/mf_society.html. As part of this newsletter we will include a membership directory, conference announcements, and links to other websites for professional societies, research resources, academic programs, and educational resources. We warmly invite the participation and feedback of ASEH members interested in connections and areas of overlap between environmental history and the history of science.

Call for Papers

Seascapes, Littoral Cultures and Trans-Oceanic Exchanges
Conference at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC
Thursday February 13 to Saturday February 15, 2003

Organized by the American Historical Association, the World History Association, the Middle East Studies Association, the African Studies Association, the Latin American Studies Association, the Conference on Latin American History, the Association for Asian Studies, the Institute of European Studies at Columbia University, the Harriman Institute of Russian Studies at Columbia University, the Community College Humanities Association, and the Library of Congress, this conference aims to go beyond area studies and to cross the usual national, geographical, and cultural boundary lines of scholarship by examining the role of oceans and sea basins as highways of exchanges between world areas as well as social and cultural sites in their own right. National historiographies are challenged by seascapes that wash the shores of multiple global areas and that create littoral social relations with dynamics of their own. Studying the historiography of trans-oceanic exchanges promises to break new ground in the study of human linkages along several lines.

Each of the three conference days will focus on a particular rubric:
Day 1: Social and political organization.
Day 2: Economic implications.
Day 3: Cultural, environmental, and scientific issues.

More specifically, but not exclusively, papers might consider some of the following themes and their possible combinations:

Social and political organization: Littoral societies *versus* national authority over seas; the relationship of ports to one another as well as to their hinterlands; informal maritime communities and demographic flows; the gender division of labor in trans-oceanic exchanges; the emergence of a politically conscious Black Diaspora.

Economic implications: Evolution of regulation of trade, currency, and migration, as well as the transgression of such regulations; capital, resource and technology flows; origins of

“globalization” in trans-imperial networking of colonizers and colonized beyond traditional nationally based metropole-colony relations.

Cultural, environmental, and scientific issues: Seaside sites of hybridization: ports, beaches, tourism; religions as sponsors of trade; hybridization of rituals; effects of climate and weather patterns on trans-oceanic exchange; ecology; biological exchanges.

Please consult www.theaha.org/conference/seascapes for application information. *Deadline: April 30, 2002.*

Renate Bridenthal, Emerita, Brooklyn College,
The City University of New York and Jerry
Bentley, University of Hawaii,
Co-Chairs

Denver Public Library to Honor Distinguished Latinos Awards Presentation Slated to Honor Celebrated Coloradans

Denver--Lena L. Archuleta and Ruben Valdez will be honored by the Denver Public Library as the first recipients of the Lena L. Archuleta Community Service Award and the Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame awards. The awards were established to honor Colorado Latinos for their outstanding contributions to Denver and the Colorado.

The Lena L. Archuleta Community Service Award and Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame awards presentations will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 6 at the Woodbury Branch Library located at 3265 Federal Boulevard.

Lena L. Archuleta, former Denver Public Library Commissioner; who worked to establish greater ties between the Latino community and the Denver Public Library will be the recipient of the community service award bearing her name and the first woman to receive the Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award. Ruben Valdez a former member of the Colorado House of Representatives (elected 1971) and the first elected Hispanic Speaker of the House (1975), among other high profile posts, will be the first man presented with the Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award.

The Denver Public Library Commission chose to create the awards to recognize persons of Latino decent that have made significant contributions to the Library system and the community. The awards provide a meaningful way to express appreciation and recognition of community service that enhances the Library's ability to serve the community.

"The inaugural recipients of these prestigious awards are very deserving," said Eric J. Duran, Library Commissioner. "The awards and ceremony celebrate these special people and provide a unique tribute in honor of those who have given of themselves and positively impacted the Latino community in Colorado."

Lena L. Archuleta Community Service Award
The award is named for Lena L. Archuleta, longtime educator, civic leader and former Denver Public Library Commissioner, who worked hard to establish greater ties between the Latino

Community and the Denver Public Library.

Winners of the Lena L. Archuleta Community Service Award will be honored at a special community event and the recipient's name will be inscribed on a permanent plaque for the Library.

Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award

The Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award, will celebrate the induction of two individuals (one male and one female) into the Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame annually. The recipients will be Coloradoans of Latino origins that have made a major contribution to and/or achievements in the Latino community.

The recipients must be Latinos whose contribution in a particular field positively impacted the total community. Photographs of Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award winners will be installed in the Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame at the Library.

The Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame Award is named for Cesar Chavez, a national Latino leader who served the Latino community and helped Latinos gain recognition for their contributions to the nation. Chavez is known for his support of farm workers, which resulted in the formation of the United Farm Workers Union and his commitment to public action, social justice and non-violence.

The Library Commission's Awards Committee selects the winners of the Lena L. Archuleta Community Service and Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame awards. Annually, the Lena L. Archuleta Community Service Award and Cesar Chavez Leadership Hall of Fame awards presentations will be held in conjunction with the celebration of Cesar Chavez Day in the last week of March. The celebration is free and open to the public.

For more information about Latino Awards Program of the Denver Public Library, call 720-865-2045. TDD for persons with hearing impairments: 720-865-2080.

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ASEH Member News

Adam Rome received the 2002 Frederick Jackson Turner Award, given by the Organization of American Historians to the best first book in American history, for *The Bulldozer in the Countryside: Suburban Sprawl and the Rise of American Environmentalism* (Cambridge, 2001).

Douglas W. Dodd has accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor of History at California State University-Bakersfield, where he will teach Public History, American West, and Environmental History.

Martin V. Melosi, University of Houston, has won the Urban History Association Prize for the best book in North American urban history for 2001, awarded by the Urban History Association for his book, *The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present* (Johns Hopkins, 2000).



Tamara Whited presented Sara Pritchard with the Rachel Carson Prize for best dissertation at the Denver Conference.



Editor Adam Rome presented Tom McCarthy with the Leopold-Hidy Prize for best article in *Environmental History* at the Denver conference.

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American Society for Environmental History

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