F

orest History Society awards and fel-

lowships are fully supported by

endowment. The awards program

enables the Society to recognize research

and writing in forest and conservation his-
tory and to stimulate further research into

our understanding of the relationships

between people and forests. High standards

for selection reflect equally upon the recip-
pient and the Society. Following is a list of

awards for 2007.

LEOPOLD-HIDY AWARD

The Leopold-Hidy Award honors the best

article published in Environmental History

in the preceding year. The award is pre-
sented jointly by the American Society for

Environmental History and FHS and

judged by the editorial board of the jour-

nal. This year’s award went to Richard

Judd, author of “A Wonderfull Order

and Ballance’: Natural History and the

Beginnings of Forest Conservation in

America, 1730–1830,” (January 2006).

Judd’s essay examines the origins of con-
servationist thought among a group of sci-

entists who explored the trans-Appalachian

frontier in the late colonial and early repub-

lic period and suggests the lines of conti-
nuity to later thinkers. One reviewer called

it a “masterful narrative that takes a group

of early conservationists on their own terms

and not merely as precursors to John

Muir and other conservationists.” Another

said: “I had no idea the degree to which

late 18th century scientific discourse

informed and affected later generations.

Judd has rescued a group of conserva-

tionists ‘from the enormous condescen-
dation of posterity.”’ A third noted, “This

eSSay [reminds us] that colonial and early

republic America remains a fruitful and yet

woefully under-appreciated field.”

THEODORE C. BLEGEN AWARD

The Blegen award recognizes the best arti-

cle in the field of forest and conservation

history that is not published in Environ-

mental History and was awarded to

Roxanne Willis for her article “A New

Game in the North: Alaska Native

Reindeer Herding, 1890–1940.” Published

in the Western Historical Quarterly 37

(Autumn 2006): 277–301, this article

assesses the introduction of domesticated

reindeer to Alaska by the missionary

Sheldon Jackson, ostensibly for the bene-

fit of native communities. It explores new

ground with a compelling narrative and a

keen sense for the complexities of the

interaction between Native Alaskans, do-
gooding Anglo-Americans, and the shift-
ing economy of the far north.

JOHN M. COLLIER

JOURNALISM AWARD

This is a collaborative effort with the

Institutes for Journalism & Natural

Resources (IJNR), and was awarded this

year to Jeffrey Barnard from Grants Pass,

Oregon. Jeff is the southern Oregon cor-

respondent for the Associated Press, hav-

ing worked for the AP since 1983. He is

responsible for stories and photos of gen-

eral interest in southern Oregon, with a

particular focus on the environment. He

was named first AP state environmental

writer, 2003. His longstanding areas of cov-

erage include salmon restoration, forests

management, wildfire, Klamath Basin

water; and commercial fishing. Jeff received

a B.A. in History from the University of

California at Berkeley in 1972 and an M.S.
in Journalism from Boston University in

1976. He attended the IJNR on Northwest

issues in 1999 and wildfire in 2001. Jeff will

visit FHS in November 2007.

FK WEYERHAUSER FOREST

HISTORY FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to a Duke University student

working in forest and conservation his-
tory, this year’s fellowship went to Krithi

Karanth, a Ph.D. student investigating

“Forests, People, and Wildlife: Forest

History and Its Influence on Large

Mammal Range Contractions and

Extinctions in India.” Her proposal inte-

grates both forestry and historical ques-
tions into a larger project. Karanth’s

ambition of integrating the landscape

changes and shifting species distribution

patterns into a comprehensive framework

that interrogates the last 150 years of land

use and wildlife policy is a compelling and

promising project. Judges thought it was

both a sophisticated and methodologically

sound research proposal.

CHARLES A. WEYERHAUSER

BOOK AWARD

The book award acknowledges an author

for superior scholarship in the field of for-
est and conservation history. It was

awarded to David Blackbourn for The

Conquest of Nature: Water, Landscape, and

the Making of Modern Germany, published

by W. W. Norton & Co., 2006. It is an

account of the development of German

nationhood during its governments’ and

peoples’ transformations of landscape and

attempts to harness the power of water

through reclamation, exploration, river

engineering, dam-building, and other

methods. Judges considered his book

highly readable with a compelling narra-
tive that will undoubtedly play a signifi-
cant role in bringing environmental

analysis into mainstream history. It is bea-
tifully written and illustrated and takes on

a major environmental topic in a major

European nation and serves up a com-
prehensive overview of more than 200

years. No one reading this can ignore the

centrality of changes in the landscape to

mainstream political history.

RECENT ALFRED BELL

TRAVEL GRANTS

Dr. Anthony Stanonis, Assistant Professor

of American Studies at Texas A&M, is

working on a comparative study of the

development of beach resorts in the south-
eastern United States including Gulfport,

Mississippi, and Myrtle Beach, South

Carolina. Both of these communities

were begun by lumbermen who first harves-
ted commercial timber before focusing on

other “natural resources” such as sun and

sand.

Thomas Fetters, independent scholar

from Lombard, Illinois, used the records

of Westvaco and its predecessor compa-
nies to investigate the phosphate industry

near Charleston, South Carolina. There

was quite a bit of overlap between the

phosphate and lumber industries in the

region and some Westvaco maps of land

holdings indicated where phosphate mines

were located.

Dr. Adam Sowards, Assistant Professor

of History and Director of the Institute for

Pacific Northwest Studies at the University
of Idaho, is investigating urban national forests, i.e., those forests that are within fifty miles of metropolitan areas of greater than one million residents. There are about a dozen of these forests in the U.S., and they face their own unique set of issues revolving around recreation, urban sprawl, the urban-wildland interface fire problems, and watershed protection.

**Dr. Carl Bajema**, a retired biology professor from Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, is working on a history of Michigan’s legendary logging era. He was also interested in surveying the FHS photo collection for possible use in several documentary films that he has planned.

**Dr. Tom Cox**, retired professor of history at San Diego State University, worked on a history of the journal *Environmental History* including its predecessors the *Journal of Forest History* and the *Journal of Forest and Conservation History*. He used the FHS archival collection.

**David Tomblin**, Ph.D. candidate in history at Virginia Tech University, studied ecological restoration work by the White Mountain Apache Tribe of Arizona. FHS holds the papers of Harold Weaver, a Bureau of Indian Affairs forester who worked with the tribe in the 1940s and 1950s.

**Dr. Ranjan Chakrabarti**, Professor of History, Coordinator of the UGC Special Assistance Programme on Environmental History at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and Secretary of the Association of South Asian Environmental Historians, conducted research for his book *The Jungle, Wildlife, and Deforestation in Colonial and Post-colonial India*. He is particularly interested in the John Richards Collection on Southeast Asia.

**OTHER VISITORS**

**Kathy Newfont**, Associate Professor of History at Mars Hill College, visited FHS twice to work on her book about the politics of resource use in western North Carolina.

**David Ashcraft**, Director of Development for the Pulp and Paper Foundation and Executive-in-Residence of the Paper Science Dept. at North Carolina State University, received an overview of FHS collections.

**David White**, forest ecologist and former USFS employee, worked on a history of the Bent Creek Experimental Forest on the Pisgah National Forest.

**Mary Montgomery**, Librarian and Curator from the Seattle Museum of History and Industry, toured the collections and reviewed the photographic database with the FHS Archivist and Librarian.

**Phung Tuu Boi**, Director, Nature Conservation and Community Development Center, Hanoi, Vietnam, visited the collections and photographs. He was on a nationwide tour speaking on “Agent Orange and the Environment: From Research to Remediation.”

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**WCEH**

First World Congress of Environmental History

*Researchers worldwide will gather to discuss their work in environmental history. Call for papers will be issued during Summer 2007.*

**August 4–8, 2009**

**Copenhagen, Denmark**

*Hosted by ICEHO—The International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations and Roskilde University*

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**Organizational Committee**

Poul Holm, Chair
Universitetsvej 1 Postboks 260
DK-4000 Roskilde
ph@ruc.dk
0045 46742065

**Program Committee**

Verena Winiwarter, Chair
Schottenfeldgasse 29
1070 Vienna
Verena.winiwarter@uni-klu.ac.at
+43-1-5224000523

**International Preparation Committee**

Steven Anderson, Chair
701 William Vickers Ave.
Durham, NC 27701 USA
stevena@duke.edu
919-682-9319