

UPDATES FROM MCHE

FEBRUARY 2020

Hi MCHE Members & Friends,

We apologize for not distributing the monthly “MCHE E-Notes” recently. Both professional and personal challenges have temporarily suspended its publication. In an effort to ‘bridge the gap’ in info on upcoming events, resources and programs, this special “UPDATE” has been compiled for your use. Due to time constraints, many of the regular features of the E-Notes are not included. However, we do call your attention to the Local History Conference set for Fri.-Sat., March 27-28, in Sterling Heights. Sponsored by the Historical Society of Michigan with details and registration available at www.hsmichigan.org. The program flyer is attached. Check out the many great speakers and be aware that luncheon events sell out swiftly. We hope you enjoy the “Presidential Trivia” and the information on the new election/voting procedures in Michigan.

Are you interested?

MCHE is seeking a teacher interested in learning about the many programs and learning experiences available to educators in Michigan and across the Nation. A MCHE E-Notes Associate Editor Jim McConnell is “stepping down” after more than 40 years editing/compiling info for Michigan’s history/social studies teachers. If interested, email Jim at jam1776@sbcglobal.net

Attachments

1. Updates from MCHE as a pdf
2. Local History Conference program, March 27-28

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1. See you at the Local History Conference, Fri.-Sat., March 27-28, in Sterling Heights
Nearly 60 years ago as a new history teacher at Schafer High School in the Heintzen School District (Southgate), I attended the Local History Conference at the McGregor Center on the Wayne State University campus. Finding this program interesting and educational, I attended several more over the next 30 years. About 1990, I began helping Dr. Phil Mason organize the event. Now, 30 years later, I still consider this gathering to be very worthwhile. Now coordinated by the Historical Society of Michigan led by Executive Director Larry Wagenaar, the event has been held for the past few years at the Sterling Inn in Sterling Heights. Details will be posted by mid-January at www.hsmichigan.org. Plan now to join us at this event.

2. Presidential Trivia (3 Questions)

For answers, email Jim McConnell at jam17762sbcglobal.net

(A) In a discussion of who the Democrats might consider as their most electable candidate in 2020, an NPR analyst noted that the most recent three Democrats actually elected were fairly young and not extremely well-known when they launched their campaigns for the presidency. Name the 3 individuals.

(B) Who were the two United States Presidents who actually ran against each other in a congressional district election?

(C) Living Former U.S. Presidents Trivia

Oa recent Mitch Album program (5-7 p.m., WJR 760 AM) Kenny Brown asked who was the most recent U.S. President to be serving WITHOUT at least one former living U.S. President. He said this happened within his lifetime, causing me to ponder who that President might have been.

That led me to wonder how many U.S. Presidents served at least part of their terms without a living former U.S. President.

How many Presidents have had that experience? Who were they?

3. Midwest History Conference set for May 12-13 in Grand Rapids

The Sixth Annual Midwestern History Conference will be held on Tues.-Wed., May 12-13, pm the Grand Rapids of Grand Valley State University. The event is co-sponsored by the Midwest History Association and the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at GVSU. For more info, email Jakob

Bigardat at bigardja@gvsu.edu or visit <https://www.gvsu.edu/hc/midwest-history-call-for-proposals-377.htm>

4. Hauenstein Center, GVSU, offers series of great programs

For many years, Annette and I drove from Livonia to attend several high quality events presented by the Hauenstein Center. Check out the upcoming events and be certain to register if you plan to attend.

(A) CLIMATE CHANGE HAPPENS. NOW WHAT? DEBATING THE GREEN NEW DEAL, February 18, 2020 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

(B) AMITY SHLAES: THE GREAT SOCIETY AND ITS ENEMIES, March 3, 2020 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

(C) BRING IT TO THE TABLE, March 11, 2020 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

For more info or to register, visit <https://www.gvsu.edu/hc/>

5. Please volunteer to judge student entries in Michigan History Day

The Historical Society of Michigan is looking for individuals with an interest in history and education to serve as judges for the 2020 Michigan History Day® State Finals. Judges help inspire a younger generation by evaluating entries, conducting brief interviews, and providing feedback to students. The most important

quality for a judge to possess is an enthusiasm for interacting with students. Judges should have a lively interest in history but do not need a professional history background. HSM provides training for how to judge History Day entries. New judges will be placed on teams with seasoned veteran judges to evaluate participants' entries and provide constructive feedback to students. The 2020 Michigan History Day® State Finals will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Central Michigan University from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. To register, call (517) 324-1828 or visit www.hsmichigan.org or e-mail hsm@hsmichigan.org

6 Apply Now to Be Member of Michigan Redistricting Commission

The process to select the 13-member Michigan commission responsible for redrawing the state's voting district lines has officially begun. Michiganders who are registered voters can apply to be on the commission from now until the end of May 2020. History teachers would really be doing a public service if they apply to be considered. Details at https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_91141---,00.html

Application posted at https://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Michigan_Independent_Citizens_Redistricting_Commission_

7. Do you read "Bridge"? You should!

For eight years, "Bridge" has been published by the Center for Michigan to help Michigan citizens become informed on many key issues facing our state.

This e-newsletter has grown from a two-person, twice-weekly newsletter to a near-daily online publication with a staff of nine editors and reporters. Their reporting provide the facts on Michigan's most pressing issues, including education, no-fault insurance, our crumbling infrastructure, and more. I encourage you to subscribe to Bridge and to learn about the Center for Michigan's public programs at <https://thecenterformichigan.net/>

8. "Founding Rivals" by Chris DeRose weaves amazing dual biography

For more than 30 years, I have been seeking the answer to the question of the role of Baptists in the election of James Madison to the First Congress in 1788. Madison defeated James Monroe in a congressional district 'gerrymandered' by Patrick Henry, who wanted Monroe to defeat Madison. Recently hearing that Chris DeRose, with Adam Verner, had written "Founding Rivals: Madison vs. Monroe, the Bill of Rights, and the Election That Saved a Nation," I purchased an audio copy to listen to on a bus ride to/from Branson MO with Rybicki Tours,. The scholarship and writing of the book made the time spent on the bus worthwhile. "Founding Rivals" brilliantly tells the biographies of both Madison and Monroe while also interpreting the complicated political setting during the drafting and ratification of the U.S. Constitution. Even some Lutherans helped Madison defeat Monroe. In the First Congress, Madison drafted proposals that became the Bill of Rights. This action laid the foundation of public acceptance of the new government and "Saved the Nation." Truly a great Read!

9. Freep offers FREE "Election" Newsletter

To subscribe to a free "Elections" email newsletter . Visit <https://profile.freep.com/newsletters/elections/> You can keep current on Michigan's political world by reading articles from skilled journalists

10. Visit a Michigan District Court to honor the Bill of Rights

Help your students learn about how the district court system functions across Michigan. For Constitution Day on September 17, 2019, the 18th District courtroom of the Hon. Mark A. McConnell as he discussed the Constitution, the structure of the 18th District Court, and heard several actual cases. The program was taped at Franklin Middle School in the Wayne-Westland School District. To view, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTJl_b1sFKk&t=138s and move the program to about 58 minute, 30 seconds. The student Q&A at close of session is especially informative. Total length: about 50 minutes. Read!

11. U.S. Census Bureau & Others offer Resources for Educators in 2020

(A) 2020 Census...info also below Resources for Teaching about the 2020 Census

The U.S. Census Bureau's Statistics in Schools (SIS) program provides free activities and resources for teachers to help bring statistics to life in the classroom and prepare students for a data-driven world. This upcoming school year, SIS activities will be more topical than ever. They will teach students and their parents why everyone should respond to the 2020 Census and how it will help shape the future of their communities for the next 10 years. Visit <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2019/09/2020-census-in-the-classroom.html>

(B) Census Resources from the NEA at <http://neatoday.org/2019/11/13/2020census/>

"SharetheLesson" website, <https://sharemylesson.com/collections/census-2020> offers teaching strategies

(C) National Coalition for Literacy website offers listing of many census resources. Visit <https://national-coalition-literacy.org/research/the-2020-census/census-2020-resource-links/>

12. MCSS to meet in Traverse City

The Michigan Council for the social Studies is now accepting registrations for the Annual MCSS Conference. The event takes place at the Grand traverse Resort and Spa, north of Traverse city, on Fri.-Sat., April 17-18. For details and to register, visit <https://www.mcssmi.org>

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14. "The Presidents", a new book by C-Span & Public Affairs. ‘

For details, visit <https://www.c-span.org/thePresidents/> The website includes info on the President Ranking survey, noted presidential historians, events, press releases, a quiz, a "Buy Book" webpage, and info on more resources. Note: Contemporary presidents are not included in the survey until they leave office.

15. Student-Teacher Team Chosen to Study World War II in Hawaii

Caleb Nimee, a student at Superior Central School in Eben Junction, Michigan, and his teacher, Mr. Brenton Fitzpatrick, make up one of only 16 student-teacher teams from across the United States selected to participate in the second annual Sacrifice for Freedom: World War II in the Pacific Student & Teacher Institute. The program, coordinated through National History Day, is sponsored by Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum, the USS Missouri Memorial Association, and Pacific Historic Parks. For info on this exciting opportunity in the future, [visithttps://www.nhd.org/twelve-teams-selected-study-world-war-ii-hawaii](https://www.nhd.org/twelve-teams-selected-study-world-war-ii-hawaii)

16. Jack Lessenberry now has a new podcast, Jack Lessenberry: Politics and Prejudices, available from Apple Podcast and also on his website, Lessenberryink.com. Visit the website to click on the buttons to subscribe to both his writing and podcasts. The cost is just right -- free!

17. Historical Commemorations in 2020

- (A) 480 B.C.E. Death of Siddhārtha Gautama/Buddha (2,500th anniversary)
 - (B) 1520—Pope Leo X excommunicates Martin Luther (500th anniversary)
 - (C) 1620—November 21 [November 11, Old Style] (400th anniversary)
 - (D) 1870—Michigan State Woman Suffragae Association formed; Legislature passes woman suffrage amendment but bill vetoed by governor.
 - (E) 1920—William Potts, a Detroit policeman and Nardin Park Methodist Church Sunday school teacher, invents an electric traffic light with red, yellow green colors. Installed at the intersection of Michigan and Woodward, the light is now on display in the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn.
 - (F) 1920—League of Nations founded
 - (G) 1920 (August 18)— Passed by Congress June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920, the 19th amendment granted women the right to vote. (See National Archives at <https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/amendment-19>)
 - (H) 1970 (April 10)—Beatles announce breakup. (Don't worry, also in 1970 the Mary Tyler Moore Show began its seven year run on CBS.)
 - (I) 1970 (April 22)—First Earth Day commemoration
- SOURCES: Grun, Bernard, "The Timetables of History." New York: Simon & Schuster, 1975, and Poremba, David Lee, Detroit in Its World Setting: A Three Hundred Year Chronology. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2001.

18. Nominees sought for Gilder Lehrman & Annette & Jim McConnell History Educator Awards
Each Spring history teachers can be nominated for both the Gilder Lehrman National American History Teacher and the MCHS Annette & Jim McConnell History Educator Awards. Criteria and application details are posted at <https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org>

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!