This Week in HISTORY

March 8, 1655: A court ruling in the Virginia colony made John Casor the first legally-recognized slave and Anthony Johnson the first slave owner in what would become the United States. Both men were black. See also: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/secret/famous/johnson.html

March 11, 1847: Death of Johnny Appleseed, American pioneer agronomist and expert at keeping the doctor away (b. 1774).

March 10, 1849: Abraham Lincoln applies for a patent for a device to buoy vessels. He is the only president to have done so. His model is on display at the Smithsonian.

March 12, 1918: Moscow unseats Saint Petersburg as the capital of Russia. Saint Petersburg had been the capital for 215 years.

History News

The History Department is very pleased to announce that Dr. John (Thabiti) Willis has accepted our offer to become Carleton’s new historian of Africa.

After receiving his B.A. from Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Willis pursued a Master’s degree in African and African American Studies at Cornell University before going on to Emory University where he received his M.A. in 2004 and then PhD in African History in 2008. His dissertation, based upon over 18 months of field research and oral interviews in Nigeria as well as meticulous archival and library research, focuses on the masquerading traditions of the Yoruba people in modern Nigeria and their dynamic roles in the complex and changing political and cultural landscape of a Yorubaland between 1774-1901. Dr. Willis currently holds a post-doctoral fellowship at the esteemed Carter G. Woodson Center for African-American and African Studies at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Dr. Willis comes to Carleton with a wide range of teaching experience and has offered courses in African History at the University of Virginia, Emory University, the University of Georgia, and Clark Atlanta University. He has also been extensively involved as a mentor and instructor in the
MMUF/UNCF Summer Program at Emory University and University of Cape Town, S.A. Finally, he complements these interests and experiences with expertise in African Dance and has been an instructor and choreographer on several occasions.

He is currently deciding upon his course offerings for 2010-2011. Please stay tuned for that information.

New Podcast! History on the Web
In Our Time: Melvyn Bragg and Guests Discuss the History of Ideas
These 45-minute long podcasts feature BBC broadcaster and author Melvyn Bragg with weekly guests discussing everything from Calvinism and its impact to new research on the infant brain to 14th century Arab philosopher of history Ibn Khaldun. http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qykl

Internships, Job Opportunities, and Fellowships:

Seminar for Advanced Undergraduate, M.A., and Early Ph.D. Students:
Introduction to the International Tracing Service Collection at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies is pleased to invite nominations for the seminar Introduction to the International Tracing Service Collection at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, designed for advanced undergraduate, M.A., and early Ph.D. students. The seminar is scheduled for August 2-10, 2010 at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. This seminar is the third in a series designed to encourage the use of the recently opened archival holdings of the ITS. The objective of this seminar is to acquaint promising advanced undergraduate, M.A., and early Ph.D. students with the breadth of this rich and diverse collection. Nominations are welcome for students in all relevant academic disciplines, including history, political science, literature, Jewish studies, psychology, sociology, geography, and others.

Applications must be received no later than April 15, 2010. For the complete program announcement please see: http://wwwdev.ushmm.org/research/center/seminars/its/2010/announcement.pdf

New Summer Program, Extended Deadline:
The Department of History at Columbia University seeks talented undergraduate and graduate students for the first Hertog Global Strategy Initiative, an intensive summer program that will take place over 12 weeks from May 24 through August 13. The 2010 topic is "Nuclear Proliferation and the Future of World Power." The application deadline was recently extended to April 1, 2010.

The seminar begins with three weeks of total immersion training in nuclear strategy. Then there are eight weeks in which students conduct independent research and/or work in the field. Then the class reconvenes for one more week, so that students can present their research and produce a joint report. Students taking the course for credit will receive eight points, the equivalent of two semester long courses at Columbia.

The 2010 Initiative will be taught by Matthew Connelly, Professor of History at Columbia University, and Francis Gavin, Professor of International Affairs, University of Texas. They will be assisted in the classroom by a number of experts in the field, including world-class scholars and top government officials. Confirmed speakers include Graham Allison, Richard Betts, Hans Blix, Paul Bracken, John Lewis Gaddis, Robert Gallucci, Bonnie Jenkins, Robert Jervis, Henry Kissinger, Michael Levi, Scott Sagan, Etel Solingen, James Steinberg, Stephen Van Evera, and Philip Zelikow.

For more about the program, including the application and financial aid information, visit http://globalstrategy.columbia.edu. If you have any questions or wish to be removed from our list, please email globalstrategy@columbia.edu.
Grassroots Campaigns, Inc. is a political consulting firm and has currently joined forces with Amnesty International, Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, Repower America, Equality California, the League of Conservation Voters, Save the Children, the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) and other humanitarian organizations to build grassroots support across the country.

Grassroots Campaigns is interviewing top student leaders to join our teams as Assistant Canvass Directors. There is no better time or place to get involved and get great leadership experience. If you are interested in setting up an interview please submit your resume to:

Christine Nannicelli  
Midwest Regional Organizer  
cnannicelli@grassrootscampaigns.com

Summer Seminars offered by the Institute for Humane Studies: The seminars are a week of informative lectures and lively discussions where participants explore topics such as the rise and fall of liberalism, pivotal human rights campaigns, and the history of American education.

The 11 seminars take place on college campuses across the United States from May to August. There is no cost to attend, and housing and meals are provided. The deadline to apply is March 31, and those who apply by March 15 are eligible for a free book.

All 11 Summer Seminars consider topics from a historical perspective, and several would be particularly relevant to your students.

- Exploring Liberty: A rich exploration of the historical, economic, and philosophical foundations of a free society and the application of those ideas to contemporary issues. What kind of society is just? What is best handled by individuals and communities, versus governments? At Yale University, Jun 19-25.
- Liberty & Society: Examine sophisticated arguments for liberty in the humanities and social sciences. What historical events have determined the freedoms people enjoy today? Is economic inequality inherently immoral? At Wake Forest University, May 29-June 4, and Chapman University, June 19-25.

Discussion opportunities throughout the day encourage a rich understanding of the issues. With free time in the afternoon to enjoy the campus and evening socials, the seminars are as much a vacation as an intellectual opportunity.

More information, including the dates and locations of all 11 seminars, is available at http://www.TheIHS.org/seminar
Applications are due March 31, and students who apply by March 15 may receive a free book.

Are you a graduating senior that wants an introduction to book publishing? Farrar, Straus & Giroux in New York City is accepting applications for their fall session. To apply, send a resume, cover letter, and short nonfiction writing sample (4-6 pages) by e-mail to interns@fsgbooks.com. Please note that the internship is unpaid and that no phone calls are accepted. The deadline for the fall session is June 1.

For Internships, Career information, Alumni Volunteer connections for advice about graduate schools and career planning, please go to: https://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/history/after/

Please send your new books, photos, kudos, vitals, career, internship, grant & fellowship information, or any other newsletter worthy item to the editors at: nakamurl@carleton.edu obrienj@carleton.edu donahuea@carleton.edu zimmerm@carleton.edu or nlambert@carleton.edu.
Upcoming Campus Events:

The EthIC program and LTC would like to announce the continuation of an informal seminar and discussion group on Jewish Thought and Letters, open to faculty, staff and students of both Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges. Our meetings will take place at Headley House from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on the Carleton campus. Each meeting will have a featured article-length text and featured faculty leader. The structure of the meeting will be a short set of remarks by the faculty member (5-15 minutes) followed by an open seminar on the text. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 9, and the group will be discussing fiction by Savyon Librecht. Interested students should visit http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/ethic/events/

Get Published!

Call for Papers: Living in Interesting Times: Europe & America Since 1650

The History Dept at Mississippi State University invites interested undergraduates to submit papers for the 1st annual SHUR (Symposium for History Undergraduate Research) meeting, May 21-22 2010 on the Mississippi State Campus in Starkville, MS. The theme of the symposium is "Living in Interesting Times," and welcomes papers on this theme or any other historical topic. Preference will be given to papers that reflect the Mississippi State History Dept's strength in the history of science and technology, agricultural, rural and environmental history, history of international security/internal safety, the Civil war, gender history, African American history and civil rights. The paper should be based on the student's original research in primary sources. The symposium is open both to students who are currently enrolled in an undergraduate program and those who have just completed their studies. Interested students should submit a copy of the research paper (25 page maximum) to SHUR c/o Prof. Peter Messer, Dept. of History, P.O. Box H, Mississippi State, MS 39762 by April 1, 2010. Students whose papers have been accepted will be notified by April 15, 2010. The History Department will offset the costs of one night's lodging on the MSU campus and supply a BBQ banquet on Friday night. For more information, please go to Prof. Peter Messer's webpage: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/history/pmesser.html

WEEKLY TRIVIA

Name That Monarch:

Send your answer to zimmerm@carleton.edu or donahuea@carleton.edu and you could win a dozen chocolate chip cookies!