

THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST

Newsletter of the Association for Humanist Sociology

Fall, 2014

Message from the *Humanist Sociologist* Editor Saher Selod, Simmons College

I am excited to share with you the Fall 2014 AHS Newsletter. There is a lot for you to check out in this issue. You will find a message from our President, Stephen Adair, about the upcoming conference in Cleveland. You will also find a preliminary program of the conference as well as some information about the Activist Café and our distinguished luncheon speakers. Several AHS members were kind enough to write pieces for this issue. Melissa Weiner and Woody Doane wrote a wonderful piece about the Black Europe Summer School they attended. Gina Petonito wrote a beautiful article honoring the memory of Don Goodman and be sure to check out Brian Sherman's personal historical account of Cleveland and poetry. You will also find the latest news on your fellow AHS members and a report on the elections by Rebecca Hensley. As always, it's a pleasure to work on these newsletters. Enjoy the conference in Cleveland and remember to take lots of pictures!

Message from the AHS President Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University

The AHS Annual conference in Cleveland is just a few weeks away. The preliminary program is complete, guest speakers have been lined up, pre-registrations and hotel reservations have been pouring in, evening receptions are being planned, and publishers are boxing books for the exhibit. You can read more about the interesting list of invited presenters and activists elsewhere in this newsletter.

The conference program is jam packed with four sessions running at all meeting times from Thursday noon until Saturday afternoon. Most of the panel sessions have four presenters. It is still too early for a final tally, but we expect about 140 to 150 total attendees with 125 or so paid registrations, and many new members and first-time attendees. I think, hope, and expect that you will find the conference rich in insight and instructive on avenues for political action.

The conference title and theme, "Injustice, Exploitation, Racism and the Activist Foundations of Sociology," pervades the sessions and panels, perhaps, because people directed their submissions to address it, or – and this is probably more likely – because the theme creates a broad canopy that resonates easily

with those and we want to call attention to the many false promises and illusions that saturate our public discourse.

I anticipate that you will find the sessions of such interest that you will not be able to pull yourself away from the conference, but if you must venture out, you might want to check out the museums at University Circle, which is about 3 miles east of the hotel. The Cleveland Museum of Art is especially noteworthy, but there is also a museum of natural history, a botanical garden and other area attractions. On the west side of the river, you might want to visit the Westend market and then stroll over to the Great Lakes brewery and pick up a growler. And, of course, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is about a mile/mile and a half from the hotel – easy walking distance on a nice day.

There are many eateries and fine restaurants within easy access of the hotel. A local dining guide will be available at the registration desk, but there is a restaurant row with lots of choices a few blocks away hotel at the intersection of Euclid and Fourth – the Wyndam is at Euclid and Twelfth. You might also want to take public transportation (Red Line) to Shaker Square and visit Edwins, the upscale restaurant run by Brandon Chrostowski, our featured speaker at the activist café, who staffs his restaurant with formerly incarcerated adults.

The hospitality suite will be open each night starting on Wednesday at 9:00pm. It is located in the Presidential suite on the top floor. The Wyndham is not a big hotel. We will be filling up nearly all of their public meeting space over the weekend. The hotel provides free wireless internet connections from your room and all the public spaces.

If this is your first AHS meeting, I encourage you to attend the Newcomer's breakfast, the member's business meeting, and to make this your first of many meetings to come.

I and all AHS members and meeting attendees are indebted to Mary Erdmans, the Program Chair, who has contributed so much time and effort into putting this all together and who has kept track of hundreds of details and specific requests. Mary has also been greatly aided by a graduate assistant at Case Western, Alicia Smith, and the Sociology department secretary, Kimberly Racut, who are more than deserving of our appreciation and gratitude.

If you have not yet reserved hotel space, you should do so immediately as we have already filled our room reserves, the Wyndham is no longer holding rooms for us, and the Browns are playing at home on Sunday.

See you soon.

Stephen Adair

JEFFREY PERRY AHS Luncheon Speaker

At the Cleveland meeting, the Saturday luncheon will include a presentation by Jeffrey Perry.

Jeffrey B. Perry is an independent, working-class scholar formally educated at Princeton, Harvard, Rutgers, and Columbia. His work focuses on the role of white supremacy as a retardant to progressive social change and on the centrality of struggle against white supremacy to progressive social change.

For forty years Perry has been active in the working class movement as a rank-and-file worker and as a union shop steward, officer, editor, and retiree. He has also been involved in domestic and international social justice issues including affirmative action, union democracy, anti-apartheid, anti-war, and anti-imperialist work.

Perry was influenced toward serious study of matters of race and class in America through personal experiences and readings and through the work of an independent scholar and close personal friend, the late Theodore William Allen (1919-2005), author of *The Invention of the White Race*, (2 vols., Verso Books, 1994, 1997, new edition 2012) and "Summary of the Argument of 'The Invention of the White Race'". Allen was an anti-white-supremacist, proletarian intellectual and an autodidact whose research and writings on the role of white supremacy in United States history and on the centrality of the struggle against white supremacy disposed Perry to be receptive to the life and work of Hubert H. Harrison (1883-1927), another independent, autodidactic, anti-white-supremacist, working class intellectual. Perry considers Harrison and Allen to be two of the twentieth century's most important writers on race and class in America.

Dr. Perry preserved and inventoried the "Hubert H. Harrison Papers" and helped to place them at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University and to develop the "Hubert H. Harrison Papers, 1893-1927: Finding Aid." He is the editor of *A Hubert Harrison Reader* (Wesleyan University Press, 2001) and the forthcoming "Writings of Hubert Harrison." He is also the author of *Hubert Harrison: The Voice of Harlem Radicalism, 1883-1918* (Columbia University Press, 2008) and other writings on Harrison. He is currently working on Vol. 2 of the Hubert Harrison biography.

Perry is also chronicler of the life of Theodore William Allen, whose Papers he is preserving and inventorying. He edited and introduced Allen's *Class Struggle and the Origin of Racial Slavery: The Invention of the White Race* (1975; Center for the Study of Working Class Life, State University of New York, Stony Brook, 2006) and he has authored numerous other pieces on Allen including "The Developing Conjuncture and Some Insights From Hubert Harrison and Theodore W. Allen on the Centrality of the Fight Against White Supremacy" (*Cultural Logic*, July 2010). Most recently he contributed new introduc-

tions, back matter, internal study guides, and expanded indexes for the new (Verso Books, November 2012) expanded edition of Allen's two-volume *The Invention of the White Race*. (Vol. 1: *Racial Oppression and Social Control* and Vol. 2: *The Origin of Racial Oppression in Anglo-America*.)

Writings by Dr. Perry have appeared in *African Globe*, *AlterNet*, *CounterPunch*, *Truthout*, *Black Past.org*, *Black Agenda Report*, *Black Commentator*, *Z Net*, *Cultural Logic*, *Souls*, *Communist History*, *Local 2627 AFSCME*, *History News Network*, *Amsterdam News*, *Socialism and Democracy*, *Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture*, *Pambazuka News*, *Hartford Guardian*, *Claridad*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Pan-African Studies*, *Journal of American History*, *New Labor Forum*, *Local 300 Mail Handlers News*, *The Mail Handler*, *Mail Handler Voice*, *Your Union News*, *Labor Notes*, *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance*, *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*, *Lies of Our Times*, and various other publications.

In efforts at public outreach Dr. Perry has spoken on radio as well as television and delivered presentations at hundreds of domestic and international venues including colleges, universities, unions, libraries, bookstores, museums, conferences, conventions, community and educational forums, and high schools.

AHS ELECTION RESULTS by Rebecca Hensley

The new online electoral process implemented last spring appeared to work well. Emails went out successfully to 111 individual paid members with a link to the ballot and randomly selected numbers to authenticate their ballot without identifying the member. Forty-two completed ballots were returned (39% of the possible total). This was a marked improvement over past elections through the mail and the results were as follows.

Chuck Koeber was confirmed as AHS President-Elect (2016).

Susan Machum was elected Vice President of Publications.

Johnny Williams was elected to continue serving as Vice President of Membership.

Bhoomi Thakore and Kasey Henricks were elected to the Nominations Committee.

All four of the resolutions discussed and formulated at last year's annual meeting were approved. They included: (1) a new dues structure (to increase AHS financial base to better cover expenses); (2) the creation of a new Distinguished Service Award (to recognize long-standing commitment to AHS); (3) the creation of a new Humanity & Society Distinguished Paper Award (to encourage submissions and recognize notable work); (4) AHS support – as an organization – of a call for the release of Albert Woodfox (who has been held in solitary confinement for more than four decades because of his work organizing the first Black Panther Party prison chapter in the early 1970s).

Article on the Activists Café

The Activist Café and Breakout Sessions with local activists will be organized a bit differently this year with an extraordinary group of local people doing extraordinary work. At the lunch on Friday, the keynote speaker will be **Brandon Chrostowski**. His



talk entitled, “Make it Happen,” will describe his mission to change the face of re-entry in the United States. In 2007, he founded EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute. His approach is simple: arm those re-entering society with a skill set and a smile. The idea for EDWINS was born “from a break” that Chrostowski received early in life and has grown into a six-month program conducted at EDWINS

restaurant in Cleveland, Ohio as well as in prison. The program provides training in Culinary Arts and the Hospitality Industry. Individuals are not only equipped with basic culinary skills, but also are assisted with finding employment, have the opportunity to utilize free housing, basic medical care, clothing, job coaching, and literacy programs. The talk will encompass the journey on starting EDWINS, along with where we are and where we are headed. The title, “Make it happen,” is from a short phrase Charlie Trotter said to me as a young apprentice that has now become a way of life.

At the lunch, several local activists will be briefly introduced, but each has important examples of work that will be shared in some depth in breakout sessions after the lunch. These will include:

Gwendolyn Garth, who considers herself The Harriet Tubman of the Arts. (I want to carry others with me) Breaking through barriers and going places others won't go. My non-profit is a collaboration of Artists of all disciplines with a special focus on artists from the re-entry sector: presently and/or formerly incarcerated. I have 2 penitentiary numbers and 16 years in recovery from alcohol & drug addiction. For me art has been and is . . . a healer. Art is the vehicle through which I use as I work



in my community. In my recovery/discovery process I discovered that 'art' is in the middle of my last name, which said to me that I was born to do art and I have no plan B.

Jan Thrope, the author of *Inner Visions; Grassroots Stories of Truth and Hope* and the Executive Director of Inner Visions of Cleveland, which is dedicated to supporting neighborhood community improvement projects conceived, initiated, and driven by the residents of Cleveland and East Cleveland.

Glenn Clayton Odenbrett, the director of GLISTEN, the Great Lakes Innovative Stewardship Through Education Network, with the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement. Through GLISTEN, he promotes restoration and stewardship of the Great Lakes ecosystem incorporated into environmental service-learning components of undergraduate STEM coursework at higher education institutions in the 8 Great Lakes states.

Mansfield Frazier from Neighbor Solutions, Inc. Mansfield is author and advocate who creates opportunities for formerly incarcerated persons. His talk is entitled, “Utilizing urban agriculture to provide second chances for formerly incarcerated individuals” will include discussion of his vineyard that he has created in an abandoned inner city block.

About Cleveland and Poetry in 1968, in Anticipation of AHS 2014

by Brian Sherman,

Albany State University of Georgia, (retired)

Here's a quote from Cleveland, 1967:

“And this is the strange phenomenon: a city so frightened and inhibited and immobile does have a cadre of writers unknown or notorious, who continue to crank the mimeograph and record their vision – sometimes paranoid, sometimes diaphanous. But they see; they write; they care.”

The quote is on the first page of *A Cleveland Sampler: For James Russell Lowell & d. a. levy*. (levy always insisted his name be in lower case). The writer of the quote was Ray Miklethun representing one of the two sponsoring organizations of a benefit for Lowell, owner of the Asphodel Bookshop in downtown Cleveland, and levy, the most prolific of the “mimeograph revolution” poets in Cleveland. Ray is still progressive; we – two septuagenarians now – are among the regular comrades “on the corner” of the weekly Stand for Peace held every Friday in midtown Atlanta since 2002.

The benefit for Lowell and levy was on February 10, 1967 in the Schmitt Lecture Hall of Western Reserve University (just before the official merger of Case and Western Reserve later that year). Lowell and levy had been arrested by the Cleveland police for distributing and reading “obscene” poetry, especially to “minors.” The two sponsoring organizations of the benefit were the University Christian Movement and the University Circle Teach-In Committee.

Cleveland had already achieved some attention in the developing counterculture of the late 1960s due to the plethora of poetry and other pamphlets self-published there. The publications were sold in “underground” bookshops in places like San Francisco and New York City. After finishing my graduate school coursework, I had moved to New York's East Village in 1967 to enjoy its low-rent avant-garde ambiance. I intended to do my dissertation on “poets, dancers, jazz musicians, and people who do happenings.” I purchased a lot of the poetry on sale in the underground bookshops including several dozen items from Cleveland of various sizes and formats. I observed that other than San Francisco and New York, no other city seemed to be producing as much D-I-Y poetry and related materials as Cleveland.

One of the most monumental of the works I bought in 1967 was a copy of the d. a. levy tribute anthology with the wonderful one-word title UKANHAVYRFUCKINCITIBAK. The anthology contains a lot of levy's poetry and collages plus statements and poems by other Cleveland poets and some other mimeo revolutionary poets from other places in the U.S. The anthology also includes photocopies of more than a dozen articles from the mainstream press about levy's and Lowell's harassment by the Cleveland police.

As an artist, levy had a paradigmatic love/frustration relationship with Cleveland. Many of his poems are about Cleveland. One of his guiding themes seems to have been, “Cleveland, I'm offering you love in my poems, why can't you accept it and become the better place I think you can be.” Bohemian-related poets in more hospitable urban scenes who knew about levy wondered why he didn't leave Cleveland and join them in, say, the East Village. But levy persisted in Cleveland.

The one and only time I'd been to Cleveland prior to AHS in 2014 was in 1968 for a graduate school friend's wedding. My partner at the time (Marge Theeman, like me a grad student in sociology focusing on the arts and social change) and I stayed three nights in the apartment of two central participants in the Cleveland underground scene – sandi and rjs (that's how he wanted his name written). We slept in the room with the much-used mimeograph machine.

One day levy visited and we discussed materials he needed for his collages. I promised I would gather a lot of used postage stamps for him, but I never got to send him the stamps. Alas, a few weeks after meeting levy in Cleveland, rjs phoned me to say d a levy had suicided, something reportedly he had been threatening to do for several years.

For some years after 1968 I sent money to rjs periodically and he sent me in reply packages of the most recent chapbooks and other items he and sandi had published on their mimeo machine. Here's the complete text of a poem by rjs. Each word is on a separate page. “My / brain / is / bleeding / like / Niagara.” Blood is not my favorite topic, but I do think in an idiosyncratic way this very brief poem in its own chapbook is indeed in Ray Miklethun's words, “diaphanous.”

I eventually wrote my dissertation, *The East Village: The Social Structure of an Alternative Community*, as a community study on the East Village where I covered both the artists' net-

works and the hippie counterculture. Marge Theeman wrote a wonderful dissertation about her fieldwork along the networks of body movement activists in the U.S. Her coverage included avant-garde dancers, dance and other body movement therapists, and loci of non-western body practices (yoga, meditation, and the like).

In conversation with d. a. levy he was enthusiastic when talking about future projects, but a couple of times he was down about the harassment by police and other authorities. I, a proto-academic, thought it was encouraging to say to him some day scholars would be writing Ph. D. dissertations about him.

I don't recall the exact address of the apartment of sandi and rjs but I do remember it was on Euclid Avenue in East Cleveland, somewhat east of what became Case Western Reserve University, also east of 100 Street but not as far east as the countercultural scene around 115 Street and Euclid where a lot of the poetry readings took place.

I fantasize the new Cleveland has somehow honored its mimeo revolution poets, and that if I take the Healthline bus out from the AHS hotel to 115 Street I find will find art and monuments, or at least an historical plaque honoring them. But at least with the web, levy, Lowell, and the others are part of our cultural memory. And there is at least one real book about levy, *The Buddhist Third Class Junkmail Oracle: The Art and Poetry of d. a. levy*. It's by Mike Golden, and was published in 1999 by Seven Stories Press.

You can also search engine the internet for d. a. levy and for the Asphodel bookshop. You'll see archivists and scholars are at work on the Cleveland scene of the late 1960s. You can read for examples, “The Epic of d. a. levy” from Cleveland Magazine.com, November 2007 and “The Cleveland Manifesto of Poetry, the Asphodel Bookshop and the Future of Bookstores,” dated June 19, 2002.

Lastly, here is a taste of d. a. levy in his own words. This is the beginning of CLEVELAND: THE RECTAL EYE VISIONS. I think this selection fits Ray Miklethun's observation “ . . . sometimes paranoid, sometimes diaphanous. But they see; they write; they care.

delivered on time to persons with city and state line bearing
only the words DEATH CITY - I suppose there is present
in the city a speed carrying living cartoons toward death
& an anxiety that pushed one over the edge of the ocean
sooner than necessary - i have seen people falling, under
New York's strange wheels of time
..... but there are worse places
there is AMERICA THE HOME OF THE VOID - 2500 miles of apathy &
lack of communication. . . cities like cleveland and it leaves
an uneasy feeling to think of justice
..... peace
..... love and then find oneself
lost in a city of war monuments;
in the morning the sun rises in the east & the
trumpets blare as wheelbarrows of \$ \$ are rolled
down EUCLID AVENUE &
the children are dressed in rags
and bow down in reverence

AHS MEMBERS NEWS

Henry H. Brownstein is Professor and Director of the Center for Public Policy, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Sylvia Mignon has been promoted to full professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is the director of the MS in Human Services program and the Forensic Services Graduate Certificate program. Her new book published this summer is *Substance Abuse Treatment: Options, Challenges, and Effectiveness* (Springer Publishing).

Melissa Weiner, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the College of the Holy Cross, had an incredibly productive year and published several articles last year.

Melissa F. Weiner. 2014. "(E)Racing Slavery: Racial Neoliberalism, Social Forgetting and Scientific Colonialism in Dutch Primary School History Textbooks." *DuBois Review* 11(2). Forthcoming in print. Published online at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1742058X14000149>

Melissa F. Weiner. 2014. "The Ideologically Colonized Metropole: Dutch Racism and Racist Denial." *Sociology Compass* 8(6): 731-744.

Eric Mielants and Melissa F. Weiner. 2014. "Fortress Europe in the Field: Academics, Immigrants, and Methodological Considerations for Educational Studies." *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education* (authors listed alphabetically). Forthcoming in print. Published online at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09518398.2014.916010#>.U3ugtLZBw7A

Melissa F. Weiner. 2014. "Whitening a Dutch Classroom: White Cultural Discourses in a Diverse Amsterdam Primary School." *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Forthcoming in print. Published online at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01419870.2014.894200#>.U3uhBrZBw7A

Anthony Ladd, Professor of Sociology at Loyola University New Orleans, published several articles.

Ladd, Anthony E. 2014. "Environmental Disputes and Opportunity-Threat Impacts Surrounding Natural Gas Fracking in Louisiana." *Social Currents* 1(3): 209-228.

Ladd, Anthony E. 2014. Review of "Uprising at Bowling Green: How the Quiet Fifties Became the Political Sixties" by Norbert Wiley, Joseph B. Perry, Jr., and Arthur G. Neal. *International Review of Modern Sociology* 40(1): 85-88.

Peter Seybold, Associate Professor of Sociology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, was the recipient of the Liberals Arts Student Council Award at IUPUI for the Outstanding Faculty Mentor and Motivator.

Jason Smith, PhD candidate in Sociology at George Mason University, successfully advanced to PhD Candidacy this past summer. His dissertation will focus on media policy discussions at the Federal Communications Commission in regard to diversity and its role within civil society. He also recently published an article.

Randy Abreu and Jason Smith. 2014. "Public or Industry Interest? Debating the UHF Discount." *International Journal of Media & Cultural Politics*, 10(1).

Saher Selod, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Simmons College, recently published two articles that are available online. These are part of a special issue she co-edited with Steve Garner on Islamophobia and the Racialization of Muslims that will come out in *Critical Sociology* in 2015.

Garner, Steve and Saher Selod. 2014. "The Racialization of Muslims: Empirical Studies of Islamophobia." Available online in *Critical Sociology* (in print 2015).

Selod, Saher. 2014. "Citizenship Denied: Racialization of Muslim American Men and Women Post 9/11." Available online in *Critical Sociology* (in print 2015).

Don Goodman: A Personal Memory and Tribute by Gina Petonito

For many of us, AHS is an organization where we cut our academic eyeteeth. AHS represents a safe place where we can flourish and grow as public academics, hoping to use our skills to effect positive change. Back in 1995, when I first joined AHS, Don Goodman impressed me as a person from whom I could gain the nourishment I needed. Tall, silver-haired, Don was an unassuming, quiet and gentle person. I met him and his wife Margo, also a fixture at our meetings, in the various humanism and drama workshops that I eagerly attended. Finding ways to incorporate the arts into our academic work always intrigued me and Don and Margo provided the knowledge and inspiration. Soon, I would look forward to seeing Don at each meeting and I would gravitate toward his sessions and informal conversations later. I remember it was just such a conversation, walking down a Madison, Wisconsin street in 2002 that Don asked me to be program chair.

As soon as the work of building the program was underway, Don revealed that his "keynote" was going to be a play, one that he was writing and shopping in various writing venues. I begged him for a part, and I got one—a jailed Puerto Rican freedom fighter! The play was set in a jail and revolved around the interactions between the main character, loosely based upon the life of a political prisoner, played by Margo and her cellmate, the freedom fighter. As the play progressed, we were visited by a rabbi, played by Shalom Endelman and the prison guard played by Jerry Starr. In the end, the gibbous moon gifts the main character with hope and transcendence, even though she could barely see it from her cell window. The play was received with a standing ovation. Rather than lecturing about the inhumanity of prison life, Don allows prisoners to tell the story of their dehumanization. Don bestowed upon each viewer a voice to access the play and its concomitant lesson through one's retelling, as I did here.

Encouraging people to find their voice was how Don operated as a mentor. He never scolded or pushed, but suggested and validated. Although we never discussed it directly, Don's bold move, to craft a play as a keynote address, emboldened me to create my own play when I became AHS president in 2007. To honor his

contribution, I asked him to introduce me to the audience prior to my “keynote.” Inspired by the work of Dwight Conquergood, I fashioned interview data into a three act play. I recounted AHS history from its origins at a kitchen table peopled by Alfred McClung and Betty Lee and two “forgotten” founders, Chuck Flynn and Ann Davis, to a consideration of AHS’s future.¹ During the second act, I invited audience members to participate, creating a reader’s theater. To solidify the linking of past to future, I positioned all the presidents in a semicircle from the earliest, Jerry Starr to the incoming president, Corey Dolgon at the play’s conclusion. Don was standing in that semi-circle, as was Frank Lindenfeld. Several years prior, Alan Spector had acquired a Ghanaian kente stole for the AHS president and I brought it to presidential address. I placed the kente cloth on Jerry’s neck, and each president placed it on the successor’s neck, until it reached Corey’s.² AHS beheld its future.

That meeting marked the last one we would share with Jerry and Frank but Don remained with us. The last time I saw Don was at the Chicago meetings in 2011. Diabetes had stolen his easy mobility, but his gentle spirit was intact. We communicated via email several times after that. I needed his help with a lecture on criminal justice theories and his comment was that “you do have all the answers... you really do.” This validation and encouragement I will take from Don as I press on with my life and career.

Don Goodman, one of our revered AHS elders, died on July 21, 2014. Farewell.³

Endnotes

¹ Gina Petonito. 2008. “Nourishing Our Roots: Voices From AHS’s First Five Years,” *Humanity & Society*, 32: 104-128. Don’s play, sadly, was never published in *Humanity & Society*.

² The past, present and future presidents in the semicircle were: Jerry Starr, Kathryn Gaianguest, Tony Ladd, Frank Lindenfeld, Kathy Tiemann, Woody Doane, Steve McGuire, Don Goodman, Greta Pennell, Chris Dale, Wick Griswold, myself and Corey Dolgon. Please forgive any failure of my memory, if I forgot you.

³ Don’s obituary is posted at:
<http://www.newsday.com/long-island/obituaries/donald-goodman-longtime-professor-and-anti-violence-advocate-1.9077168>

The Black Europe Summer School: Academic Decolonization by Melissa Weiner (with Woody Doane)

“Emancipate yourself from mental slavery
None but yourself can free your mind.”

- Bob Marley

Redemption Song, by Bob Marley, has become a rallying cry in the NL for those interested in decolonial history in The Netherlands and its current and former colonies.

While enslavement is not part of the national narrative, the legacy runs deep and is seeing increased attention from local and international scholars.

Keti Koti translates to “the breaking of the chains” in Sranan-Tongo, the creole language of Suriname and celebrates legal emancipation from enslavement in the Dutch colonies on July 1, 1863. The holiday originated in Suriname and now celebrated in the Netherlands. This year was the 150th anniversary but many, including myself wore buttons with 1873 highlighting that true emancipation didn’t arrive in Suriname and other Dutch colonies until then due to the time needed to financially compensate Dutch master enslavers, although the Dutch at the time argued this time was necessary for the enslaved to learn what freedom meant. The celebration centers on the Keti Koti Monument in Amsterdam. Built in 2002, after long demands from Surinamese and Afro-Dutch communities, controversy has surrounded the monument since its beginning, reflecting the continued racial Europeanization (or the burying of history) of Dutch enslavement in the national history. During the opening ceremony, the Dutch police barred Surinamese and Antilleans from attending with black plastic covered fences. However, like the Slavery Monument located far outside Amsterdam’s city center, the story of slavery in Dutch history remains far from the center of the nation’s past, particularly the Dutch Golden Age.

Along with the monument, the Dutch government established, NiNSee, The National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and Its Legacy to “document and discuss the legacy of slavery and commemorate the victims of the trans-Atlantic slavery trade and slavery” (Nimako 2012: 48). However, NiNSee was unceremoniously defunded beginning January 2013 due to, allegedly, austerity measures. Therefore, politicians’ speeches at Keti Koti ring hollow given the lack of intellectual backing for this memorial.

And in so many ways, the chains of enslavement remain unbroken and true emancipation has not occurred in The Netherlands. This is especially seen in the ways in which enslavement has been excised from the national history and, along with it, the ability to discuss race and racism in Dutch society. With the king and queen in attendance at this year’s Keti Koti, there were many hoping that the day would be proclaimed a national holiday so that kids and families can attend when it falls during the week. That did not happen.

Instead, slavery, though central to the Dutch Golden Age remains locked outside the nation’s history. However, looking closely, we can see visual evidence of it throughout The Netherlands. For example, the golden royal carriage that members of the Dutch monarchy, up until this year, Queen Beatrix and as of recently, King Willem and Queen Maxima, use to ride to official ceremonies, features loyal enslaved Africans worshipping at the Queen’s feet and graciously handing over the fruits of their labor. Recently the king took it to deliver his first royal address in which he proclaimed the Dutch Welfare State dead and now people have to help themselves. This, like so much of Dutch history is precisely what is meant by David Theo Goldberg when he discusses racial neoliberalism in the context of racial Europeanization. There, racial neoliberalism operates by focusing on the state while ignoring the extent to which the state benefitted

for centuries from the exploited labor of the enslaved and colonized. Ironically, the King and Queen rode to their address where they proclaimed a new era of neoliberalism in the Netherlands in this chariot thereby reminding many of us the extent to which the monarchy has been upheld and supported through historical enslavement and how little that figures in to the current policies that basically tell the descendants of those featured that we owe you nothing.

Another way that we continue to see the colonization of history and holidays in the Netherlands is the continued use of Zwarte Piet, Santa's black slave/servant/helper who wears the shoes of an enslaved page boy, speaks in a Surinamese accent, and is ubiquitous in schools, advertising, toys, trinkets, candy, cakes, movies, and TV in the weeks leading up to Sinterklaas (Blakely 1993; Helsloot 2012; Hondius 2009; Lindsay 2008). They also hung by ropes from the ceiling (with presents) by the dozen in the racially diverse elementary school where one of the authors did ethnographic fieldwork. He is unavoidable. On Sinterklaas (December 5th), Saint Nicolas arrives to The Netherlands by boat, surrounded by dozens of blackfaced white men and women dressed as Zwarte Piet, reminiscent of slavery when multiple enslaved Africans served a master enslaver. The Dutch get very angry when anyone suggests that maybe this is a racist character, especially given the Surinamese accent they affect, the Afro wig, the enslaved pageboy shoes they tend to wear, and the minstrel costume. But no, they say, his face is only black because of the chimney soot. They have no explanation for why there is no soot on their clothes. The Dutch deny any links to enslavement in Dutch history while people who critique the character are described as "too sensitive." Although many Dutch claim this is an "important tradition," significant activism, led by Quinsy Gario, has arisen around this figure and has led to, most recently, a United Nations investigation into whether Zwarte Piet is racist. A survey following the UN investigation announcement finds 91% of the Dutch population committed to retaining Zwarte Piet.

Just as enslavement and really anything addressing colonial racial oppression is expunged from the national history, so too are academics studying these phenomena. Most universities in The Netherlands are state institutions and since the state says racism doesn't exist, there are no faculty who study racism in the NL or classes on it. But more importantly, those seeking to do so are pushed out. For nearly twenty years, since the Center for Race and Ethnic Studies, addressing these issues was shut down and filled with those focusing on migrants, particularly the culture of migrants that make them unassimilable into Dutch culture, scholars examining racism must operate at the very margins of academia (Essed & Nimako 2006). Many have founded their own research organizations to be independent scholars to simply never discussing their research or putting it on their CVs, or discuss race in whispers and hushed tones behind closed doors. This is the same thing that occurs in many universities across Europe, except for Britain, where anything related to enslavement or Blackness has been expunged from the national narrative and public discourse.

Emancipation from Mental Slavery – The Black Europe Summer School operates as a welcome alternative to the Eurocentric colonialism of many universities and, in many ways, offers scholars the opportunity to break the academic chains that reign so many scholars in from examining these critical issues. BESS was organized by Kwame Nimako, the former Director of NiNsee, and Stephen Small who addresses collective national memories of enslavement in the UK and US. The two week intensive program features the best and the brightest engaging critical race and decolonial theories (particularly those of Fanon, Marley, Mamdani, Mignolo, Quijano, Wallerstein) to study Europe and formerly colonized nations. Regular faculty include, Philomena Essed, David Theo Goldberg, Dienke Hondius, Ramon Grosfoguel, Gloria Wekker. Melissa attended as a student in 2012 and is now a returning faculty member while Woody attended as a student in 2013 and will be returning as faculty in 2015. Students include undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty from all academic areas as well as activists addressing anti-Black racism, journalists, political analysts, and lawyers.

Perhaps the most gratifying aspect of the BESS is the intense camaraderie of a community of similarly interested scholars. The Summer School offers a free space to address issues without enduring quizzical looks or stares, or outright disagreement, something of great necessity for activists and scholars in Europe where even discussing racism can bring about ridicule and dismissal. This environment also fosters superb networking opportunities, where junior scholars can receive critical feedback from respected and well-known members of this intellectual community, both current participants and faculty and alumni who respond quickly to email when mentioning the BESS. Melissa found the BESS to be the most intense intellectual experience of her life, complete with a level of support that surpassed anything she experienced to date. There is no territorialism at the BESS, just love.

In its short lifetime, the BESS has already resulted in a number of local and national efforts not only to challenge racism, but also to more deeply include Afro-European history within European history within the city.

One of the graduates of the BESS, Quinsy Gario, started the Zwarte Piet is Racisme project to challenge the racism of the character. At Sinterklaas's arrival in Dordrecht in 2011, Gario was arrested for wearing a t-shirt bearing the above words and thereby drawing national and international attention when the video of him being abused by the police went viral on the web. Gario has continued to speak out about this issue including on his weekly radio show and blog, Roet in Het Eten, and persistent legal challenges to Zwart Piet throughout Dutch society, most recently at the Amsterdam City Council, along with 2013 alumnus Patricia Schor.

Summer 2012 alumni, Jennifer Tosch and Lianne Leonora founded Black Heritage Amsterdam upon realizing that not a single existing walking or canal tour of Amsterdam addresses Dutch colonial history. As students of history themselves, with familial roots in the current and former Dutch colonies of Curacao and

Suriname, Jennifer Tosch and Lianne Leonora set out to correct this touristic absence. Alongside scholars from the BESS, they created an outline of important places throughout Amsterdam that represent Dutch colonial history, used city and national archives to document the histories of these places and peoples who once lived in them (including many prominent Amsterdam politicians and businessmen and women who owned plantations in the Dutch West Indies and enslaved Africans and their descendants), chartered a canal boat and developed a tour route. Tosch, along with Summer School faculty member Dienke Hondius, and three other scholars recently published the *Amsterdam Slavery Heritage Guide*, a comprehensive book documenting sites throughout the Netherlands, as well as in New York, Curacao, and Suriname, related to Dutch enslavement of Africans.

[Woody's Commentary] I found BESS to be a *transformational* experience—for all the reasons that Melissa has described so eloquently above. When I first decided to attend in 2013, I was hoping to continue the project of expanding my horizons beyond the “U.S. bubble” that so dominates the study of race and ethnicity. I was also attracted by the opportunity for intensive interaction with critical race scholars such as Philomena Essed, David Theo Goldberg, and Stephen Small whose work I had read and admired. But BESS was so much more. The program is housed at the International Institute for Research and Education, a progressive organization that works to promote emancipation and social justice and which is located in a neighborhood of Amsterdam that is away from the “tourist zone.” In addition to the scholars with whose work I was familiar, I also had the opportunity to interact with and learn from other scholars such as Gloria Wekker, Dienke Hondius, Ramon Grosfoguel, and Marta Araujo. During the “middle weekend” BESS hosts a two day symposium on a related topic that provides exposure to even more scholars. And the seminar is supplemented by several educational/cultural outings. In 2013 we attended the opening event for a new exhibition at the Scheepvaartmuseum (Maritime Museum) on the role of the Dutch East and West India Companies in the slave trade, participated in the first year of Jennifer Tosch and Lianne Leonora's Black Heritage Amsterdam Tour, and had the incredibly moving experience of participating in the Ketj Koti march celebrating the “150th” anniversary of the abolition of slavery in Dutch colonies (see Melissa's comment above about the “1873 buttons” that we wore). But for me, the most memorable event was the opportunity to meet and learn from BESS co-founder, director, and guiding force Kwame Nimako—a global scholar whose breadth and depth is truly impressive.

It has been more than a year since I attended BESS and I am still trying to assimilate everything that I was exposed to. Perhaps the first indication was visiting Amsterdam's famed Rijksmuseum and seeing not “Dutch Masters” (including the “Night Watch”) and the arts and crafts of the “Golden Age,” but cultural artifacts and colonial plunder made possible by colonization and enslavement (a counter narrative which is not evident in the museum). My post-BESS teaching and research have become more global,

comparative, and contextual. My race course now more clearly grounds the U.S. experience in the larger European colonial project. And I continually seek out new opportunities to build upon the BESS experience. But the greatest takeaway from BESS has been the opportunity to be part of an ongoing community. I have had direct contact with several BESS colleagues and the BESS Facebook page regularly contains news about the wonderful scholarship and activism emanating from the group. I completely agree with Melissa's observation about this being the “most intense intellectual experience” of my academic life.

More information about the Black Europe Summer School can be found online at: <http://www.dialogoglobal.com/amsterdam/> Or feel free to contact either Woody (doane@hartford.edu) or Melissa (mfweiner@holycross.edu).

For information on Black Heritage Amsterdam Tours (strongly recommended for anyone visiting Amsterdam), see <http://www.blackheritagetours.com/>

Two core readings:

1. *Black Europe and the African Diaspora*, D. Hine, T. Keaton, and S. Small eds. University of Illinois Press, 2009.
2. *The Dutch Atlantic: Slavery, Abolition and Emancipation*, K. Nimako and G. Willemsen. Pluto Press, 2011.

Additional References:

- Blakely, Allison. 1993. *Blacks in the Dutch World: The Evolution of Racial Imagery in the Modern Society*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.
- Essed, Philomena and Kwame Nimako. 2006. “Designs and (Co)Incidents: Cultures of Scholarship and Public Policy on Immigrants/Minorities in The Netherlands.” *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, 47 (3–4): 281–312 .
- Helsloot, John. 2012. “Zwarte Piet and Cultural Aphasia in The Netherlands.” *Quotidian: Dutch Journal for the Study of Everyday Life*, 3(1). <<http://www.quotidian.nl/vol03/nr01/a01>>
- Hondius, Dienke. 2009. “Race and the Dutch: On the Uneasiness Surrounding Racial Issues in The Netherlands.” Pp. 39-57 in *Paradoxes of Cultural Recognition: Perspectives from Northern Europe*, Sharam Alghasi, Thomas Hyland Eriksen, and Halleh Ghorashi, Eds. Farnham, UK: Ashgate.
- Lindsay, Daryl. 2008. “Holland's Politically Incorrect Christmas: Santa's Little (Slave) Helper.” *Spiegel Online*, December 5. <www.spiegel.de/international/europe/0,1518,594674,00.html>
- Nimako, Kwame. 2012. “About Them, But Without Them: Race and Ethnic Relations Studies in Dutch Universities.” *Human Architecture*, 10(1): 45–52.

2014 Association of Humanist Sociology Conference

Injustice, Exploitation, Racism and the Activist Foundations of Sociology

Cleveland, Ohio

Wednesday, October 8, 2014

9:00 PM Hospitality Suite Opens

Presenters:

Looking Backward, Looking Forward: The Past, Present and Future of Humanist Sociology, **Woody Doane**, University of Hartford

Seeking the Celebratory: Finding Some Sociological Solace in a Screwed Up World, **James R. Pennell**, University of Indianapolis

Twenty-Five Years of Humanist Sociology's Challenges to Oppression/Depression, **Estelle Record-Stanley**, Worker-Ownership Resources of Boston

Thursday, October 9, 2014

8:30 – 5:00 REGISTRATION

9:00 – 11:00 BOARD MEETING—*Open to all AHS members*

12:30 – 5:30 REGULAR SESSIONS

5:30 – 6:30 WELCOMING RECEPTION HAPPY HOUR

9:00 PM HOSPITALITY SUITE OPENS

3. Education: Challenging Institutionalized Practices

Facilitator: Jerry Lembcke, College of the Holy Cross

Presenters:

Don't Leave Saul Alinsky out of Community Engagement, **Charles Norman**, Indiana State University

Rethinking Our Work: Refashioning Our Tools, **Stuart Parker**, Kingsborough Community College - CUNY

The Militarization of U.S. Education, **Hal Pepinsky**, Worthington, OH (retired)

Criminal Justice and Social Justice: Thoughts on a Critical Humanistic Reader, **S. Hooshang Pazaki** and **Ray Muller**, East Stroudsburg University

9:00 – 11:00 AM

Board Meeting—*Open to all AHS members*

12:30 – 2:00 Sessions

1. Knowing Cities/Knowing a City: A Demonstration: Esfahan

Facilitator: **Brian Sherman**, Albany State College of Georgia (retired)

This is a demonstration of the sociological performance art piece created after Sherman explored Esfahan, Iran's third largest city, for a few days in 2013. Esfahan is the twentieth city Sherman has come to know this way since codifying the method in 2007. While exploring a city he constructed a circuit consisting of several dozen spots and a circular pedestrian route to connect them. The spots are sites of sociological and esthetic interest Sherman wants to remember. He converted the circuit to a performance art piece using conventional avant-garde art techniques. This method of knowing cities is a further development of the "knowing cities / knowing a city" "walking workshops" which he conducted annually at AHS meetings from 1998 through 2008.

2. AHS and Humanist Sociological Practices

Facilitator: **Kathleen Fitzgerald**, University of New Orleans

4. Film Screening "Shell Shocked"

Organizer: **Rebecca Hensley**, Southeastern Louisiana University

New Orleans, Louisiana, has one of the highest per capita murder rates in the U.S., with 80% of its victims adolescent Black males. This 52-minute film lets the youth of New Orleans, their families and friends, share their own painful stories and feelings of helplessness, and then follows up by visiting activists who are committed to changing children's lives, even in the middle of the madness. The film, produced, written, and directed by John Richie, has won seven awards since it came out in 2013, including the top honor at Chicago's International Social Change Film Festival.

2:15 - 3:45 Sessions

5. Video Viewing “Cute L’il Corpsie

Organizer: **Steve McGuire**, Muskingum University

McGuire is developing imagery for personifying the corporate form. Like Buttsie, the smiling cigarette fellow in Trudeau’s Doonesbury, He intends for Corpsie to come off as a bit folksy, but also dark and menacing. This in some way fits into his long-term ongoing video project on the corporation.

6. Developing Sociological Thinking: Challenges, Strategies, & Outcomes

Organizer/Facilitator: **Greta Eleen Pennell**, University of Indianapolis

Presenters:

Methods for Teaching Undergraduate Research Methods, **Bhoomi K. Thakore**, Northwestern University

Teaching Peace, **Greta Eleen Pennell**, University of Indianapolis

Feminist Pedagogy, **Rebecca West**, Loyola University-Chicago

Learning and Serving Globally: Teaching Hope in the Democratic Republic of Congo, **Faustin N’Tala**, Waza Alliance for Quality Education

7. Activism I: Organizing Strategies

Facilitator: **Estelle Record-Stanley**, Worker-Ownership Resources of Boston

Presenters:

Masked Assumptions: The Debate on (Non)violence at Occupy Oakland, **Emily Brissette**, SUNY Oneonta

Environmental Activism For Whom? The Common Problem for the Problem of the Commons, **Daina Cheyenne Harvey** and **Andrew Varuzzo**, College of the Holy Cross

Affordable Housing: Resident and Organizational Efforts to Preserve Housing in Chicago, **Cameron Williams**, Loyola University Chicago

Town of Greece, **James Wolfe**, University of Indianapolis

8. Environmental Sustainability in the 21st Century

Facilitator: **Kathy Tiemann**, Merrimack College

Presenters:

Meet the New Boss, Same as the Old Boss: The Growing Hegemony of Fossil Fuels and Hydraulic Fracking in the Third Carbon Era, **Anthony E. Ladd**, Loyola University New Orleans

The Sociology of an Eco-Friendly Disaster Recovery Effort: An Update from Greensburg, Kansas, **Chuck Koeber**, Wichita State University

Small-Scale Farming: The Experience and Meaning, **Jeff Torlina** and **Matthew Hilbert**, Utah Valley University

The River: A Good Place to Dump a Dead Body, or a Magical Ecosystem Teeming with Life, **Wick Griswold**, University of Hartford, **Jacqueline Talbot**, Connecticut River Watershed Council, **Tony Roy**, Connecticut River Academy, **Bill Yule**, Connecticut River Museum

4:00 – 5:30 Sessions

9. Media, pop culture and gaming

Facilitator: **Lori L. Fazzino**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presenters:

From Pestilence to Folk Hero: Narratives of Transformation in the Life of the Mystery Monkey of Tampa Bay, **Contessa Damien**, University of South Florida

Viewing Distance: Three Levels of the Gaze in Reality Television, **Kathryn E. Kuhn** and **Christina LaFon**, Saint Louis University

Military Recruiting in the 21st Century, **William Lugo**, Eastern Connecticut State University

Laugh-able?: Comedians with Disabilities in a Politically Correct World, **Shawn Bingham** and **Sara Green**, University of South Florida

10. Author Meets Critic Session: “Social Insecurity: 401(k)s and the Retirement Crisis” by Jim Russell

Organizer: **Timothy Black**, Case Western Reserve University
Facilitator: **Stephen Adair**, Central Connecticut State University

Critics:
Joe White, Case Western Reserve University
Timothy Owens, Kent State University
Brian Gran, Case Western Reserve University

11. Disaster Capitalism

Facilitator: **Daina Cheyenne Harvey**, College of the Holy Cross

Presenters:
Can Horizontal and Vertical Anticapitalism be Reconciled? **John O’Connor**, Central Connecticut State University

Rich Team, Poor Town: The Hegemony of Stadium Construction in a Rust Belt City, **Timothy J. Jurkovic**, BGSU Firelands

The Deepening of Social Inequalities under Neoliberal Regimes: Challenges From the Global South, **Ligaya Lindio McGovern**, Indiana University Kokomo

12. Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities

Organizer: **David Tabachnick**, Muskingum University

Tabachnick will present research on the success of a class he has taught that helps students with learning disabilities prepare academically and socially for their first year of college. The students spent two weeks on a college campus in the summer before classes started. Among other activities, they took a video diary class that required students to learn to photograph and edit a video and present the completed work to classmates in two weeks. This presentation includes portions of the video.

7:00 PM Book Talk: Jim Russell will be talking about his book “Social Insecurity: 401(k)s and the Retirement Crisis,” at Mac’s Backs-Books 1820 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights, 44118

Sign up sheet available at registration desk for those who would like to attend this talk and need a ride. There are also great places to eat on Coventry. Tommy’s Restaurant next door to Mac’s Backs-Books is very vegan friendly.

9:00 PM Hospitality Suite Opens

New to an AHS conference? The Hospitality Suite is one of the highlights of our annual meeting, where AHS members gather to renew old friendships and make new ones. Please join us!

Friday, October 10, 2014

8:45 – 5:00 REGISTRATION
7:45 -- 8:45 BREAKFAST COMMITTEE MEETINGS
9:00 –12:15 REGULAR SESSIONS
12:30 –1:45 LUNCHEON PLENARY
2:00 – 3:30 REGULAR SESSIONS
4:00 – 5:30 AHS BUSINESS MEETING
5:30 -- 6:30 RECEPTION: THE HAPPIER HOUR

*** Note: All breakfast meetings will take place in the Wyndom Hotel restaurant located on the first floor**

7:45 – 8:45 AM First-Timers Breakfast
All first-time attendees at the conference are encouraged to attend

7:45 - 8:45 AM Nominations Committee Breakfast

7:45 - 8:45 AM Humanity and Society Editorial Board Breakfast

9:00-10:30 Sessions

13. Workshop: Twitter for Humanist Sociologists: Using Twitter to Build a Social Justice Network

Facilitator: **Mary Chayko**, Rutgers University

In this workshop, Mary Chayko will review some of the affordances, opportunities, and consequences of Twitter for professionals and educators, and will demonstrate techniques for building and expanding humanist/social justice networks. Strategies, policies, and best practices for the safe, productive, effective use of Twitter will be discussed. Participants are invited to bring a laptop to the workshop (though this is not required), and need not be Twitter users.

14. Author Meets Critic Session: "Integration Interrupted: Tracking, Black Students & Acting White after Brown" by Karolyn Tyson

Organizer/Facilitator: **W. Carson Byrd**, University of Louisville

Critics:

Sarah Ovink, Virginia Tech

Ellington Graves, Virginia Tech

Debbie Warnock, University of Louisville

15. Marriage and the Family

Facilitator: **Sandra E. Schroer**, Muskingum University

Presenters:

Just You Wait Until Your Heavenly Father Gets Home!" Serving Single Mothers at Two Faith-Based Mentorship Programs, **Danielle Docka-Filipek** and **Samuel Oakley**, Otterbein University

Aren't You A Lesbian? And You're Against Gay Marriage? **Emma Bailey**, Western New Mexico University

Whoa Nellie! The Socio-Historic Study Of The Life Of Nellie C., Free Lover-Circa 1880s, **Sandra E. Schroer**, Muskingum University

Unjust and Exploitative Life of Women in Benefit Dependent Families in Turkey/Eskisehir, **Fatime Güneş**, Anadolu University, Eskisehir/ Turkey

16. New Ways of Telling Sociological Stories

Facilitator: **Bradley Powell**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters:

Sociology Through the Senses, **Tim Maher**, University of Indianapolis

Lens Me Your Ears, **Maggie Kush**, Case Western Reserve University

Would my Research Garner Respect if I was a Christian Male?: Reflections from a Female Atheist Activist and Scholar, **Lori L. Fazzino**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

10:45-12:15 Sessions

17. Race, Ethnicity, and Alienated Consciousness

Organizer and Presider: **David G. Embrick**, Loyola University-Chicago

Presenters:

Alienation and Compartmentalization at the Curricular Margins: Multiculturalism, Tolerance, and Immigrants in Dutch Primary School History Textbooks, **Melissa Weiner**, College of the Holy Cross,

"Where'd All You White People Come From": Alienation through Aid in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the Federal Levee Failures, **Daina Cheyenne Harvey**, College of the Holy Cross

No Taxation without Representation: The Racial Interconnectedness of the Three-Fifths Clause, Taxation, and Alienation, **Kasey Henricks**, Loyola University- Chicago

The New Racial Contract? Race, Alienation and Social Change, **Woody Doane**, University of Hartford

18. Class Inequality: Forgotten and Misclassified

Facilitator: **Timothy Black**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters:

The Costs and Consequences of Worker Misclassification, **Alicia Smith** and **Timothy Black**, Case Western Reserve University

Reflections on Social Inequality in America, **John Dalphin**, Merrimack College

"The Poor Kids' Table:" Liberal Arts Students Organizing Around a Stigmatized Identity in Flux, **Debbie Warnock**, University of Louisville

Social Class: The Forgotten Variable, **Jeff Torlina**, Utah Valley University

19. Global Gender Issues, Violence Against Women

Facilitator: **Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl**, Coastal Carolina University

Presenters:

The Saving Graces: Responses to Youth in a Sex Economy in The U.S., **Laurie Schaffner**, University Of Illinois at Chicago

Human Trafficking: An Analysis of the U.S. Department Of State's Trafficking in Persons Report, **Brian K. Polk**, Case Western Reserve University

Intersections of Oppression in Immigrant Detention Debates: Women Becoming Victims to Escape Victimization, **Dawn Tawwater**, Rowan College

20. White Privilege and Superiority

Facilitator: **Rebecca Hensley**, Southeastern Louisiana University

Presenters:

The Political Crisis of Whiteness: Understanding White Racial Anxiety in a Darkening America, **Marcus Bell**, Syracuse University

"I too, am Harvard." Twitter, Racial Microaggressions and the Pervasiveness of Whiteness on U.S. Campuses **Mathilde Ippolito**, University of South Florida

Interrogating the Invisibility of White Privilege, **Kathleen Fitzgerald**, University of New Orleans

Complex Superiority: A Comparative Analysis of White Alienation in the United Kingdom, United States, and Norway, **Matthew W. Hughey**, University of Connecticut

12:30 – 1:40 PM Activist Café:

Keynote Speaker at the Café: Brandon Chrostowski. "Make it Happen."

Brandon is on a mission to change the face of re-entry in the United States. In 2007, he founded EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute. His approach is simple: arm those re-entering society with a skill set and a smile. The idea for EDWINS was born "from a break" that Chrostowski received early in life and has grown into a six-month program conducted at EDWINS restaurant in Cleveland, Ohio as well as in prison. The program provides training in Culinary Arts and the Hospitality Industry. Individuals are not only equipped with basic culinary skills, but also are assisted with finding employment, have the opportunity to utilize free housing, basic medical care, clothing, job coaching, and literacy programs. The talk will encompass the journey on starting EDWINS, along with where we are and where we are headed. It is called, "Make it happen," a short phrase Charlie Trotter said to me as a young apprentice that has now become a way of life.

1:50-2:45 Breakout sessions with local activists

Session 1: Gwendolyn Garth, considers herself The Harriet Tubman of the Arts...(I want to carry others with me) Breaking through barriers and going places others won't go. My non-profit is a collaboration of Artists of all disciplines with a special focus on artists from the re-entry sector: presently and/or formerly incarcerated. I have 2 penitentiary numbers and 16 years in recovery from alcohol & drug addiction. For me art has been and is...a healer. Art is the vehicle through which I use as I work in my community. In my recovery/discovery process I discovered that 'art' is in the middle of my last name, which said to me that I was born to do art and I have no plan B.

Session 2: Jan Thrope, Jan Thrope is the author of Inner Visions; Grassroots Stories of Truth and Hope and the Executive Director of Inner Visions of Cleveland, which is dedicated to supporting neighborhood community improvement projects conceived, initiated, and driven by the residents of Cleveland and East Cleveland.

Session 3: Glenn Clayton Odenbrett is the director of GLISTEN, the Great Lakes Innovative Stewardship Through Education Network, with the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement. Through GLISTEN, he promotes restoration and stewardship of the Great Lakes ecosystem incorporated into environmental service-learning components of undergraduate STEM coursework at higher education institutions in the 8 Great Lakes states.

Session 4: Mansfield Frazier, of Neighbor Solutions, advocates and creates opportunities for formerly incarcerated persons. His talk is entitled, "Utilizing urban agriculture to provide second chances for formerly incarcerated individuals."

3:00 – 4:00 Sessions

21. Workshops:

21. A Demonstration/Performance of "Honk! A Politically Necessary Band"

Organizer/Facilitator: **Brian Sherman**, Albany State College of Georgia (retired)

Honk! performances are opportunities for musical fun while sharing serious progressive political information. Honk! is an "anyone can band" which means any person can perform with us without any musical training, skills, practice, rehearsal or prior knowledge of the performance situation. All session attendees are invited to participate. Honkers take turns citing examples with collective improvisation with the soundmakers as background.

21. B. Racism as Accessory: How Capitalism and Consumerism Made Cultural Co-optation the Norm

Organizer/ Facilitator: **Stephanie Baran**, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Racism is an institutional structure that is ever-present. Society as a whole is socialized to believe that racism is only interpersonal. Yet, racism is also apparent in our clothes, accessories and productions. This analysis will cover indigenous designs, fashion spreads, musical productions, the use of people as accessories and the overall exoticification of an 'other' by white culture. The workshop will function as an open discussion of cultural appropriation, how racism and appropriation are related and how capitalism works to facilitate that relationship.

22. The Normlessness of War

Facilitator: **Brian Barry**, Rochester Institute of Technology

The standard explanation of the atrocities at My Lai during the Viet Nam War was that they were an aberration carried out by a weakly led, grief stricken American unit. Barry will analyze the special circumstances that prevailed in Vietnam and the inherent role conflict between advancing the short term interests of his comrades and behaving in a way that will bring shame to himself and his country afterwards. It will be accompanied by a PBS video called "Under Order, Under Fire."

23. Rural Sociology

Facilitator: **Lou Bonavita**, Hillsborough Community College

Presenters:

Policy in Practice: The Misrepresentation of the Day-to-Day Dynamics of Rural People's Lives, **Susan Machum**, St. Thomas University

How Capitalism Underdeveloped Appalachia, **Rebecca Hensley**, Southeastern Louisiana University

24. India Today

Facilitator: **Rod Carveth**, Morgan State University

Presenters:

India's 'New' Ruling Party and What it Portends For the Future, **Kasturi Das Gupta**, Georgian Court University

Caste, Religion and Tribe: Racisms in India Today, **Alan Spector**, Purdue University Calumet

4:00 – 5:30 AHS Business Meeting

5:15 – 6:15 Reception: The Happier Hour

6:15 – 7:30 Special Plenary with Mississippi Charles: A performance, a talk, and a concert on race, music, and American traditions.

9:00 Hospitality Suite Opens:

In addition to our regular singing, playing, eating, drinking and other festivities, this evening will be a time for us to share our memories of Don Goodman, a long-time AHS member who recently died. Please bring along your stories, anecdotes, fond or funny AHS memories, and whatever you want to contribute to the community as we honor this quintessential humanist.

Saturday, October 11, 2014

7:45-8:45 BREAKFAST MEETINGS
8:30 – 12:30 REGISTRATION
9:00 – 12:15 REGULAR SESSIONS
12:30 – 1:45 LUNCH PLENARY/ACTIVIST CAFE
2:00 -- 5:15 REGULAR SESSION
5:30 – 6:30 RECEPTION: HAPPIEST HOUR
6:30 -- 7:30 PRESIDENT'S PLENARY SESSION
9:30 PM HOSPITALITY SUITE OPENS

*** Note: All breakfast meetings will take place in the Wyndom Hotel restaurant located on the first floor**

7:45 – 8:45 AM Women's Breakfast

7:45 - 8:45 AM Nominations Committee Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 Regular Sessions

25. Workshop: Issues Facing Women and Minorities in Academia

Facilitator: **Bhoomi K. Thakore**, Northwestern University

This workshop invites all participants who wish to discuss those unique issues and challenges faced among underrepresented group in academia. We will discuss our challenges, and develop potential strategies for how to improve our experiences in our respective programs and positions. Members at all levels (graduate students/faculty/emerita) are welcome to attend.

26. Issues in Higher Education

Facilitator: **Elizabeth Nalepa**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters:

Untold Story: What Happened to Equality of Opportunity? **Mitra Das**, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Learning the Labor: Workers Colleges and Labor Education in the U.S. and Canada, **Rueben Roth**, Laurentian University and **Corey Dolgon**, Stonchill College

Succession Developments in Departments, **Kathy Tiemann**, Merrimack College

27. Activism II: People as Change Agents

Facilitator: **Susan Hinze**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters:

Political Activism: The Case of Alvin W. Gouldner, **James Chriss**, Cleveland State University

Resistance by the Powerful and the Subordinated: Approaching a Complete Conception of Everyday Political Action, **Brian Rossana**, Western Michigan University

Generational Transmissions of an Activist Consciousness: What Happens when Parents Protest? **Jamie Puglin**, Stony Brook University

28. Being Black in a Racist Society

Facilitator: **Rebecca Hensley**, Southeastern Louisiana University

Presenters:

Race Matters: Understanding Epithets and Slurs in Post-Civil Rights America, **David G. Embrick**, Loyola University Chicago, **Kasey Henricks**, Loyola University Chicago and American Bar Foundation Fellow

The Causes and Consequences of "Shopping While Black" **Rod Carveth**, Morgan State University

Newspaper Reporting of Violent Crime, **Margaret Boyd**, Stonchill College

Overexposed: The Case of Black Americans and Fast Food, **Jeannette Wade**, The University of Akron

Changing Perspectives in the War on Drugs- Teaching the New Jim Crow, **Gloria Vaquera**, **Richard D. Clark**, and **Kayla Shelley**, John Carroll University

Convicted: A Penalty for Life, **Tiffanie Reed**, Cuyahoga Community College

31. Activism Through (Campus) Social Justice Centers

Facilitator: **Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl**, Coastal Carolina University

Panelists:

Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl, Coastal Carolina University
Deborah Perkins, Coastal Carolina University

Larry Bresler, Organize Ohio

Misty Luminais, Voicing & Action Project, Case Western Reserve University

Faustin N'Tala, Waza Alliance for Quality Education

10:45-12:15 Sessions

29. Film Screening "Fire in Babylon: Film and Discussion"

Organizer: **Joti Sekhon**, Winston-Salem State University

The film tells the story of the West Indies cricket team as it emerged as a dominant force in world cricket against the backdrop of the struggles against colonialism and racism during the 1970s and 80s. With archival footage and interviews with West Indian cricketers and others associated with West Indies cricket, the film focuses on how a team of young men from various West Indian islands came together to forge a national identity and subvert the colonial project through sport and beat the masters at their own game: cricket.

30. Mass Incarceration

Facilitator: **Tiffanie Reed**, Cuyahoga Community College

Presenters:

Personal Memories and their Public Foundations: How Formerly Incarcerated African American Men and Women Construct the Collective Memories of the War on Drugs and Mass Incarceration, **Vanessa Lynn**, Stony Brook University

32. Color Blind Racism

Facilitator: **Jason Smith**, George Mason University

Presenters:

Resisting Resistance: Class and Stigma in Black Youth's Constructions of Racial Knowledge

Alfred DeFreece, Roosevelt University

Racialized Classroom Practices in a Diverse Amsterdam Primary School: The Silencing Disparagement, and Discipline of Students of Color

Melissa F. Weiner, College of the Holy Cross

Racial Ideology vs. Racial Narrative: Refining our Tools in the Age of Color Blindness

Stuart Parker, Kingsborough Community College – CUNY

"Not in My Backyard:" Color-Blind Diversity and the Reproduction of White Habitus, **Laurie Cooper Stoll**,

University of Wisconsin – La Crosse and

Megan Klein, Loyola University Chicago

12:30 – 1:45 Lunch Plenary Session

Plenary Speaker: Jeffrey B. Perry

“Theodore W. Allen on ‘White Skin Privilege’ and The Invention of the White Race” -- A slide presentation/talk by Dr. Jeffrey B. Perry.

The autodidactic, anti-white-supremacist, working class intellectual Theodore W. Allen (1919-2005) pioneered his “white skin privilege” analysis in 1965 and over the next forty years produced seminal writings on the topic including *White Blindspot* (1967), “Can White Workers Radicals Be Radicalized?” (1969), *Class Struggle and the Origin of Racial Slavery: The Invention of the White Race* (1975; 2007) and *The Invention of the White Race* (1994 and 1997; 2012). Allen’s class struggle approach to history; his thesis on the origin and nature of the “white race”; and his analysis of “white race” privilege, racial oppression, and social control contain the root of a new and radical approach to United States history, one that challenges master narratives, speaks to people today who strive for change worldwide, and will continue to grow in the twenty-first century.

Dr. Jeffrey B. Perry is an independent, working class scholar whose work focuses on the centrality of struggle against white supremacy to progressive social change efforts. He has preserved and inventoried the Papers of Hubert H. Harrison and Theodore W. Allen, authored *Hubert Harrison: The Voice of Harlem Radicalism* (Columbia University Press), edited *A Hubert Harrison Reader* (Wesleyan University Press), and wrote introductions and back matter to the new edition of Allen’s *The Invention of the White Race* (Verso Books).

2:00 -3:30 Sessions

33. Education as a vehicle for social and community transformation

Facilitator/Organizer:
Timothy Goler, Case Western Reserve University

Panelists:
David Whitaker, Cleveland-based Family Therapist and Attorney
Richard Serpe, Kent State University
Mittie Davis Jones, Cleveland State University

34. The Struggle for Democracy: Progress Reports from the Heartland

Facilitator: **Werner Lange**, University of Akron

Presenters:

Harriet Applegate, Executive Secretary of North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor
The Rise and Fall of SB 5 in Ohio

Greg Coleridge, Director of the NE Ohio American Friends Service Committee regional office
Move to Amend to End Corporate Rule

Werner Lange, University of Akron
Referendum Rights Violated and Validated

35. Culture And HIV/AIDS Prevention: From Origins To Absence

Facilitator:

Bradley Powell, Case Western Reserve University

Panelists:

Tammie Jones, HIV/AIDS Project Coordinator, Cleveland Department of Public Health

Bob Bucklew, Outreach Coordinator, Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals AIDS Clinical Trials Unit

Phyllis Harris, Executive Director, The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center of Greater Cleveland

Miquel Brazil, Director of Prevention Programming, AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland

Robert Uhoda, Outreach Specialist, Project SAFE, Cleveland Treatment Centers

36. Author Meets Critic Session: “The White Savior Film: Content, Critics, and Consumption” by Matthew W. Hughey, University of Connecticut

Facilitator: **David G. Embrick**, Loyola University-Chicago

Critics:

Kathleen Fitzgerald, University of New Orleans

W. Carson Byrd, University of Louisville

Bhoomi K. Thakore, Northwestern University

3:45-5:15 Sessions

37. Meet the AHS 2014 Book Award Winners:

Seth Holmes: *Fresh Fruit, Broken Migrants: Indigenous Mexican Farmworkers in the United States*

Shannon Elizabeth Bell: *Our Roots Run Deep as Ironweed: Appalachian Women and the Fight for Environmental Justice*

Facilitators: **Bhoomi K. Thakore**, Northwestern University; **Damien Contessa**, University of South Florida

In this session, our 2014 Book Award co-winners will discuss their book, and have an opportunity to hear from some of the 2014 Book Award Committee. Audience members will also have an opportunity to ask questions of the book award winners.

38. Grab Bag: New Areas of Study and Old Sites revisited

Facilitator: **Michael Slone**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters:

Vampires, Witches and Things, that Go Bump in the Night: The Social Creation of the Witch Craze that Began with Pope Pious VIII in 1484 and Lasted Just Past the Salem Witch Trials of 1692. A Study in the Social Bases of Incivility, Intolerance, and Persecution,
Arnold Kraft Sherman, Retired

Volunteer Tourism in Cambodia, a Case study, **Hugh Jones**, University of Mississippi

Contemporary Immigration and Religious Participation: Changing Perspectives on Assimilation Theory,
Elizabeth Nalepa, Case Western Reserve University

Gender Differences in Age-Related Stigma among Qatari College Students
Abdallah Badahdah, University of North Dakota

39. For Public Sociology? Past, Present and Future

Facilitator: **Corey Dolgon**, Stonehill College
Organizer: **Vicky MacLean**, Middle Tennessee State University

Presenters:

Recovering a Paradigm Lost: Settlement Sociology, the Neighborly Relation, and Public Sociology Today,
Joyce Williams, Texas Woman's University,
Vicky MacLean, Middle Tennessee State University

Engaging Students – Past, Present, and Future: Thoughts on Teaching, Engagement and Activism,
Carmen Veloria, Suffolk University

Real Knowledge in Real Time: Community Based Research, Youth Organizing, and a New Civil Rights Movement, **Matt Attaya** and **Corey Dolgon**, Stonehill College

40. Author Meets Critic Session: “PTSD: Diagnosis and Identity in Post-Empire America” by Jerry Lembcke

Organizer/Facilitator: **Timothy Black**, Case Western Reserve University

Critics:

Jonathan Sadowski, Case Western Reserve University
Kaitlyn Barnes, Case Western Reserve University
Richard Adams, Kent State University

5:30 – 6:30

President's Reception: The Happiest Hour

6:30-7:30

Presentation of awards and the President's Plenary Address

Presidential Address by 2014 AHS President, Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University

The Activist Foundation of Sociology

9:30 Hospitality Suite Opens

Sunday, October 12, 2014

9:00-11:00 AHS Board Meeting

Open to all AHS members. AHS wants to hear from old-timers and new members to continue the work of promoting peace and social justice, and to strengthen our vision and organization.

Saher Selod
Assistant Professor
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THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST



ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Who Are We The Association for Humanist Sociology

Our Past: The Association arose out of growing disenchantment with conventional sociology and a need for a more clearly value committed emphasis in sociological work. We came together in 1976, not out of shared politics or similar "schools" of sociology, which were, and still are, richly varied, but out of a common concern for "real life" problems of peace, equality, and social justice.

Our Philosophy: Humanists view people not merely as products of social forces but also as shapers of social life, capable of creating social orders in which everyone's potential can unfold.

Our Purpose: Accordingly, humanist sociologists study life with a value commitment to advance that possibility through scholarship and practice. We intend to be an active support network for sociologists committed to humanist values, as they practice sociology in institutions often hostile to such an approach. To this end, we produce a quarterly journal, *Humanity & Society*, as well as a newsletter, *The Humanist Sociologist*; we organize national meetings and have sessions at regional sociology conferences.