

# The Saber and Scroll Newsletter

*From the Secretary*

FIRST EDITION VOL 4

SPRING, 2013

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Saber and Scroll Newsletter. This newsletter is brought to you by the Secretary and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information from around the organization.

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## FROM THE SECRETARY

Welcome to the first 2013 edition of the Saber & Scroll newsletter. There have been a lot of changes at the Saber and Scroll over the past few months. Like all young organizations, we are experiencing some growing pains, but things are changing for the better! Our president Carrie Ann Saigeon-Crunk has done an amazing job with all the amendments to the constitution approved in the past month. We continue to grow this is a wonderful thing; that means that you, the members are engaging other students and encouraging others to join our club.

Dr. Hines, our adviser, has been very busy with all the changes to the History program; from what I have seen the changes will bring our school in line with other university programs. The AHA Tuning Project is changing the way that the discipline of History is taught bringing continuity to our field.

Please take the time to engage other members on APUS social platform the Quad not everyone does Facebook (I know most of you do). We need to build our presence there.

Good luck on your classes this month!

*Kay O'Pry-Reynolds*

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

In recent weeks, there have been two major votes on changes in the constitution of the Saber and Scroll. I am proud to announce that both of these measures carried by an overwhelming margin. The first one to pass was the adoption of a code of standards that resemble the one that has been used for many years by the AHA. The officers and myself hope that this will enable our members to have more tactful and useful conversations and foster a better learning environment. We have such a wealth of knowledge at our disposal and are very proud of our members.

The second amendment that passed was a change that allows our Alumni full voting rights and the eligibility to hold a position as an officer in our organization. We hope that our alumni will step forward in the next couple of months and volunteer to move our club into the future.

Lastly, I want to welcome all of our newcomers! We are glad that you have joined us and look forward to your participation in our organization.

Carrie Ann

## CLUB NEWS

- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM Eastern. I will advise if there are any changes.
- We need volunteers to run for office in August! If you are interested in the President, Vice President, Secretary, or Editor in Chief offices, please contact us at [historyclubapus@gmail.com](mailto:historyclubapus@gmail.com)! Step up to the line and take part in the future of our club. The new changes to the constitution Alumni can run for office in the Saber and Scroll.
- The deadline line for abstracts for the next journal is April 1<sup>st</sup>. The topic is anything Medieval! The journal team tells me that they need your articles and your book reviews; book reviews do not have to be on the topic chosen for the journal.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We have had a goodly number of our members make the President's list and the Dean's list but they "failed" to send me an email "crowing" about their achievements. I cannot print it if you do not send it. Many of you were asked to join honor societies, or had your degrees conferred but we cannot brag about it or congratulate you if you do not let us know about it.

President's List:

Dean's List:

Golden Key Invitations:

Delta Epsilon Tau Invitations:

Pi Gamma Mu Invitations:

*Kay O'Dry-Reynolds*

*Lew Taylor*

*Kathleen Guler*

Congratulations to all our outstanding students!

## ADVISOR NEWS

Dr. Richard Hines has made changes to the APUS History program. Dr. Hines is participating in the AHA Tuning project. Dr. H is a very busy man! We were very lucky to have him speak about the changes in the programs at the S&S meeting in January. Those of us who attended are across the board very excited about the prospects of more change coming to APUS. Way to go Dr. H!

For more on the AHA Tuning Project: <http://blog.historians.org/news/1568/history-faculty-begin-nationwide-tuning-project>

## NEWS FROM OUR FAMILIES

Anne Midgley's daughter Kathryn will graduate from Appalachian State University with a bachelor in Creative Writing. Kathryn has also been inducted into Pi Gamma Mu, and Phi Alpha Theta. Congrats to Kathryn and to Anne and family!

## JOURNAL NEWS

### Call for Papers

The Saber and Scroll Journal is proud to announce our Spring/Summer journal topic:

#### **Medieval Period**

The Saber and Scroll Historical Journal is currently calling for articles and reviews for its Spring/Summer 2013 issue. Sponsored by APUS' Saber and Scroll Historical Club, this edition will accept works on all topics of medieval history. Short book reviews, opinion pieces and exhibition reviews should be on recent events or publications. While students are welcome to use previously submitted and corrected coursework, provided it has not been published, we encourage them to create new articles based on the journals theme. All submissions should meet high academic standards and will be peer reviewed by a group of qualified graduate and undergraduate APUS student editors.

The next issue's topic will be an open topic. Deadlines will be posted soon. So start thinking about what you can contribute!

**Abstract Deadline : April 1st, 2013 Manuscript Due Date : May 1st, 2013**

Complete submission guidelines are available at [www.saberandscroll.weebly.com/submission-guidelines.html](http://www.saberandscroll.weebly.com/submission-guidelines.html)

## MORE MEMBER NEWS

Taylor Speer-Sims worked on a project for the Aurora Historical Society and she had her BA in History confer in November 2012:

Here is a Korean P.O.W. uniform that I registered for the Aurora Historical Society.

Blue North Korean POW cap. This is sort of a mixture between a baseball cap, balmoral cap and a newsboy. The bill is 2" at the front, 5.5" wide at the cap and a total of 6.75" wide at the widest area where it end. It is dark blue with stitching that is just a shade lighter so that it is easy to see.

It is attached to a black plastic covered tape so that is what touched the person's head.

Blue North Korean POW uniform jacket. There are two  $\frac{7}{16}$ " long hooks on the left with the eyes sewn into the seam on the right side (no collar). There is a hanger hook on the inside center which is  $\frac{3}{16}$ " wide and looped so that it is 1" (2" if it were not looped).

Five  $\frac{7}{8}$ " quad hole black plastic buttons down the front separated by 3.5", starting at  $\frac{3}{16}$ " from the top, and ending  $9\frac{3}{4}$ " from the hemline, which is open. The buttons are precise so that the threads within are each horizontal.

This is a fitted jacket, with two darts running from each pocket. The first (outside) is  $8\frac{14}{18}$ " long and runs to sleeve. The other (breast dart) is 9" long, and has the thread still uncut, hanging 1.5" on right side and 2" on left side. The horizontal pocket flaps are  $6\frac{6}{16}$ " long and 2.25" high and are  $3\frac{1}{16}$ " from side seam. The pocket depth is that of jacket. Thread is still hanging from edges of the pockets 5" on the outside right of right, and 3" at the outside left of left pocket. There is also a breast pocket on the left side, which is  $4\frac{1}{8}$ " wide and is double sewn at an angle going up to the left when worn; stitching is separated by  $1\frac{1}{16}$ ". This pocket is 6" deep.

Sleeves are two pieces of material each. There is a piece on the underside 7" wide and seamed at underarm and back of arm. The upper piece is  $9\frac{7}{8}$ " at the upper arm and  $8\frac{1}{8}$ " at wrist. At the seams where they meet the jacket, they are covered by natural color cotton to deter fraying.

This piece was obviously worn. Most signs are the buttonholes where the threads are coming loose. The piece of material under buttons was sewn under only once, and is open and shows signs of wear where the threading is coming loose. Darts were uncut. Bottom of right pocket has come unstitched not only from body of jacket, but also open creating a hole  $3\frac{5}{16}$ " long.

Accession Record information:

North Korean POW uniform, Jacket and hat worn by American Prisoners. 1953 Prisoner exchange - picked up off the 519th Military Police company. Ivan (owner) was in service 1952-1954. "Guy kept the trousers."



Photo from the collection of the Aurora Historical Society.

In addition to all the things at the Saber and Scroll that keep Carrie Anne Saigeon-Crunk busy, she has found time to volunteer and become the VP of a local animal rescue society. Our president is also working toward legislation in the Mississippi area to ban gas chambers as a method of euthanization for animals in shelters. Between all of this, a job and a family one has to wonder where she finds time for school. Carrie you make us very proud!

Scott Manning has a paper accepted for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual James A. Barnes conference at Temple University, March 22-23, 2013. The paper titled "The Battle of Falkirk (1298): A Case and Method for making the Messy Historical Process More Accessible". Scott also had his BA in Military History confer Magna Cum Laude on February 15, 2013. Congratulations Scott!

Kay O'Pry Reynolds has been accepted to the Masters Humanities program at Arcadia University where she has been offered a graduate assistant position and a partial scholarship. She will start fall 2013. She was also inducted into Pi Gamma Mu, and has been asked to serve as a mentor for the Quad's History group, as well as stepping back into the position of secretary of the S&S.

Anne Midgley has graciously stepped forward and taken the reigns of the Saber and Scroll journal until the new officers are elected this August. Thanks Anne!

Kathleen Guler has been inducted into the APUS chapter of Pi Gamma Mu. Yayyyyy Kathleen!

Lew Taylor's BA conferred on February 15, 2013. Lew has also been accepted for membership in Pi Gamma Mu, and was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham County (Virginia) Historical Society in January. He has also been selected to review a couple of books for Savas-Beatie Press and McFarland Books. Way to go Lew!

Jim Dick's MA in American History was conferred on February 15, 2013. He began a doctoral program at Walden University for an Ed.D in College Teaching and Learning March 4th. Jim's third granddaughter was born Feb 6, Laila Rose Hicks; and he wants us to know "I still have not won the lottery and I'm still waiting on transcripts for a job interview for a college teaching position." Be sure to let us know when you have won that lottery we want to talk to you about an endowment for a scholarship.

Jennifer Thompson an alumni and adjunct faculty member became the secretary/treasurer and charter member of the Eliza E. George chapter auxiliary of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Congrats Jenn!

Catherine Porter and her husband Chris, welcomed their first child, Owen Christopher on January 14<sup>th</sup> weighing in at 8 lbs., 9 oz. Owen was not ready to take on the world. Cat was trying to evict him for five days. Mother and the reluctant Owen are doing fine!



TIPS AND IDEAS FROM OUR MEMBERS

DeAnna Croft-Stevens sends us her review of the Acer C7 Chromebook:

#### Acer C7 Chromebook: Life Saver or Sour Patch Kid?

As a single mom, I have only been able to afford one computer for the house. Unfortunately, my children love to play on the computer. That situation left me little to no time to use my computer for schoolwork. I needed another computer but spending \$400 or more on a laptop was not in my budget. I have a Kindle Fire but it is not conducive to typing papers or even forum postings. Handwriting every paper or forum posting was a hassle and a waste of time as I then had to type everything before I was able to submit. As a full-fledged member of the procrastination club, this simply was not a good situation. Many assignments were submitted right before the cutoff time or, sad to say, late. I needed something that I could work on when either my son or my daughter was on the computer. I did not need the full functionality of a laptop but I needed something that would function with Microsoft Office documents, specifically Word and PowerPoint. I needed something small enough to carry with me everywhere but something bigger than a tablet or Kindle Fire. I needed something with a decent battery life, the ability to connect via Wi-Fi, and large enough that typing was comfortable. Enter the Acer C7 Chromebook.

While the Acer C7 Chromebook is limited in certain areas, it is perfect for my situation. Weighing about three pounds, and not much bigger than a spiral notebook, I am able to take the Chromebook with me everywhere. It has a battery life of about four hours so it is not something that I can, or would, want to work on all day without plugging it in; however, for the time that I work on it during the day, the battery life is sufficient. During my lunch break at work, I can either drive to a store that has Wi-Fi or connect directly at my office. I can access the APU site and read forum postings, type responses, and answer any messages. While I cannot download Microsoft Office, I can use the Office Mobile Apps via Microsoft SkyDrive or use Google Docs to create documents that I can open in Word, Excel, or PowerPoint on my home computer. I would not like to try to type a whole paper on the Chromebook, but I will be able to save my paper in SkyDrive or Google Docs and work on it while I am away from my computer. In addition, at the price of \$199, the Chromebook was within my budget. Since acquiring the Chromebook, I have used it quite often and have to say that, for me, the Chromebook is a Life Saver.

Bruce Evans has reviewed for what some of who are citation format challenged is a lifesaver:

#### Review of StyleEase citation generator by Bruce K. Evans

Having completed the first phase of my studies at American Military University, I have been in the process of mentally reviewing the steps that got me here. Without a doubt one of the things that stands out is the sheer number of research papers that we generate for our classes—and this has truly been wonderful for me.

Citations, on the other hand could have proven to be my bane.

I am not English major, and did not want to commit the entirety of an ever-changing CMOS to memory. I simply wanted to research and write history. To that end, I discovered a citation and bibliography generator that helped me immensely, and I think it could benefit most writers. The StyleEase company has designed programs for all three major styles, MLA, APA, and our beloved Chicago/Turabian.

For \$35.00 or less, (they offer website specials frequently) you can download a matrix that will overlay with Word, creating an additional tab on the top menu. From there you can control the StyleEase options. The program helps you from the beginning in formatting your type of

document, title page, running headers, and section titles—and then when you are in the midst of the text; it will format your citations for you as well.

From a citation menu you choose what type of entry you are creating, click it, and a prompt screen comes up with the blanks to fill in. You just type in the data (it gives you reminders of how the data should go in) and click to place it on the page. StyleEase C/T automatically puts in the index number, the foot or endnote with matching number, and a bibliography entry. There is even an option to add a notation before the citation on the page. A simple click on a menu button and your bibliography is instantly alphabetized.

Support is a little lacking in that is only by email at this time, but they do usually respond quickly. You get free program updates for life, so that is a bonus. The only drawback I have found is that you must follow their directions on allowing the matrix permission to operate in your computer when you first set it up. All in all, I think that it was one of the best single investments that I made in my academic toolbox, and it will serve me for years to come.

A thirty-day free trial is available before committing to your purchase.

(I have no connection with the company StyleEase.com and this review is made independently at Kay's request. Your actual mileage may vary.)

We, here at the newsletter want to know about the things that are making your academic life easier! Please send your tips or reviews of new products to [sec.historyclubapus@gmail.com](mailto:sec.historyclubapus@gmail.com) for inclusion in our newsletter. Your great find might be someone's grade saver!

## THE LAST WORD

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit." Aristotle*