Greetings, once again! One of those moments that I will savor and celebrate all my days occurred recently. At our great university’s Commencement Weekend, Michael Majerczyk and I were honored to receive the plaque for Chapter of the Year. Since the plaque lists each year’s recipient, it is to remain with the university. As I tried to hand it back to Dr. Powell, she told me to take it back to the table and we could figure it out later. Michael and I were going to take some extra photos of it after the ceremony, but a staff member hurried to us to retrieve it. It was quite funny at the time, as a look of panic splashed across the staff member’s face with the thought the award would find its way to either Alabama or Michigan.
The Alumni Rally was a roaring success. Our table had the best goodies, including flashing beads (!) and was easily one of the most popular. I guess everyone loves History! While at the Rally, we engaged with fellow chapters to increase the concept of one university. I encourage you all to reach out to any chapter of interest and explore what they have to offer. Our annual meeting was a great success despite them allowing me to speak. Lew Taylor and Dr. Richard Hines were the highlight of the meeting we shared with our friends in the Historical Studies Honor Society. Commencement weekend was another great success.

Speaking of success, you should all be proud that we have achieved Gold Status for this year. It is your efforts which have made this Society the incredible success it is. But, that does not mean we slow down. We do not perform community service and historical awareness projects for points. We do it out of a love for our communities and a desire to make the world around us better and more informed. I encourage each of you to continue with your hard work and reach out to your communities and local historical societies. Who knows, they may need some help in an area in which you excel. Giving back is in our blood and our members are our life’s blood.

Let’s continue to submit to the journal and maintain its high status as a source of exemplary works of History and invaluable book reviews. As we approach Summer, stay safe and if you are able, go tour the History wherever you roam. Many of us will be on vacations soon and I promise you that no matter your location, something amazing happened there. Even if the impact never crossed the county lines, it changed lives and charted the course of events that followed. I like to state, history isn’t about the one event, but the little actions that build up to it. Go forth and find those actions and enjoy the events that follow.

Enjoy!
Mat Hudson
The Journal received an exceptional response at the Alumni Rally. I talked with many new to the publishing/peer review process and tried to alleviate their fears. I believe the Saber & Scroll Journal has a well-founded reputation for lunching publishing careers. I made this clear. I want to thank Bucky Lawson and Jeff Ballard for helping Mat and I answer peoples’ question. The interest the Saber & Scroll received was such that at one point the four of us could not keep up. This is why I hope members that are walking next year consider lending a hand at the Saber & Scroll table.

Call For Papers

The Journal currently has two Calls for Papers, the Spring-Summer Issue with a focus on immigration due out in September, and the Fall Issue due out in December with a focus on WWI. There is still plenty of time for research, so if you wish to publish your work in either issue, please submit your abstract.

**Immigrants and American Society.** From the various peoples who settled Colonial America, the Alien and Sedition Acts of the late eighteenth century, the Know-Nothings and immigrants of the nineteenth century, and the shifting immigration trends of the twentieth century—peoples fleeing war, famine, poverty, and oppression shaped the United States. Papers selected for this issue will address the civil, social, cultural, and military effects brought on by immigration to America. Abstracts are due by August 1, 2017. If selected for the upcoming issue, manuscripts will be due September 1, 2017. Please note that while the journal accepts abstracts and manuscripts on a continuing basis, the journal may defer those received after these dates to the next issue. [Submit your work here.](#)

**World War I.** The current interest in WWI within the historical community prompted the Saber and Scroll to feature articles associated with this time period for the fall issue. The early call for papers will give plenty of time for research throughout the spring and summer months. Topics of interest include Woodrow Wilson’s 14 points, specific battles, tactics and weapons, the effect the war had on the European political map, the influenza epidemic, The League of Nations, navy and air power and the effect of the war on the home front, art and culture.

Abstracts are due by October 1, 2017. If selected for the upcoming issue, manuscripts will be due November 1, 2017. Please note that while the journal accepts abstracts and manuscripts on a continuing basis regardless of topic, the journal may defer those received after these dates to the next issue. [Submit your work here.](#)
Molly Fischer, managing editor at APUS ePress and the repository administrator for DigitalCommons@APUS, provided these statistics from the Digital Commons.

**All-time most-downloaded articles**

- “Social and Political Roles of Women in Athens and Sparta” by Kay O’Pry-Reynolds (53,168)
- “The Effect of Nazi Propaganda on Ordinary Germans” by Judy Monhollen (15,065)
- “Men and Women as Represented in Medieval Literature and Society” by Kay O’Pry-Reynolds (7,808)
- “Railroads and their Effect on American Society, 1840-1890” by Greg Balliet (4,893)
- The Black Death and Persecution of the Jews” by Catherine M. Porter (4,638)
- “Eleanor of Aquitaine: Not Your Average Medieval Woman” by Laura Goodman (2,513)
- “The Historiography of the Late Roman Republic” by Guy Williams (1,846)
- “William Wallace: The Man Behind the Legend” by DeAnna Stevens (1,839)
- “Einhard: The Lasting Influence of The Life of Charlemagne and Other Works” by Aida Dias (1,711)

**Most downloaded, past 90 days**

- “Social and Political Roles of Women in Athens and Sparta” by Kay O’Pry –Reynolds (10,220)
- “The Effect of Nazi Propaganda on Ordinary Germans” by Judy Monhollen (5,414)
- “Men and Women as Represented in Medieval Literature and Society” by Kay O’Pry-Reynolds (1,984)
- “Railroads and their Effect on American Society, 1840-1890” by Greg Balliet (1,446)
- “The Black Death and Persecution of the Jews” by Catherine M. Porter (1,187)
- “American Women in the 1950s: The Years Between the War and Liberation” by Corinne Fox (455)
- “The Historiography of the Late Roman Republic” by Guy Williams (441)
- “Einhard: The Lasting Influence of The Life of Charlemagne and Other Works” by Aida Dias (355)
- “Plague, Papacy and Power: The Effect of the Black Plague on the Avignon Papacy” by Heather Para (310)

**Geographical Statistics (All-time)**

Besides the United States (100,504 downloads), the countries from which most Saber and Scroll downloads have come are:

- United Kingdom (9,301)
- Australia (6,870)
- Canada (5,425)
- Germany (1,615)
- Russian Federation (1,428)
- France (1,095)
- China (911)
- India (882)
- Philippines (797)
Other stats

- “Social and Political Roles of Women in Athens and Sparta” by Kay O’Pry-Reynolds remains the most-downloaded article in the Classics Discipline across the entire greater Digital Commons Network. This discipline currently contains over 3,600 articles.
- “Railroads And Their Effect On American Society, 1840-1890” by Greg Balliet remains the #5 most-downloaded article in the American History Discipline across the entire greater Digital Commons Network. This discipline currently contains over 31,000 articles.

**Service Project: Historical Marker Cleanup Project**

Thank you to all the members who participated in the 2017 Historical Marker Clean-up Project. Pictured here, clockwise, beginning to the top left: Michael Majerczyk, Stan Lee, Viki Ruiz, Anne Midgley (with father Jim Leithauser), and the efforts of Greg Drummond at Kennesaw Mountain.

Members: If you have not yet posted your Historical Marker pictures to the Saber and Scroll Facebook site, please do so to share your great work!
A big thank you to all the Saber and Scroll Members who responded to our recent survey!

We want to congratulate the following members for their 2017 accomplishments:

**Accepted Chapter of the Year Award on behalf of Saber and Scroll:** President Mat Hudson

**MA:** Mojisola "Aesher" Ogunleye-Johnson, Richard P. Wade, Timothy Carey, Francine Price, Chris Parmenter, Nestor Rave, Charlie Knight, Todd Johnson, Seth Arthur, Billy Cunningham, Jeff Ballard, Michael Ray Dickerson, William (Bucky) Lawson

**BA:** Deanna Simmons, Gina Pittington, Lisa Childers-Hernandez, Bryan Roddy, Steven McDonald, Thomas P. Buck, and John Cunnally

**Presidents List:** Michael R. Vanatta, Timothy Carey, Charlie Knight, Todd Johnson

**Deans List:** Deanna Simmons, Kelcie Duesterhoeft, Anita Kay O’Pry-Reynolds (Concordia University—Doctor of Education Program), Curt Boerner, Daniel Henderson, John Cunnally, Todd Johnson, Leigh Buehler-Rappold, Seth Arthur, Jeff Ballard

**Professional Accomplishments**

**Began New Career:** Guy Williams, Elizabeth D. Young, Timothy Carey, Charlie Knight, Ronald Fox, Aneesah Akbar-Uqdah, Jeff Ballard

**Job Promotion:** Jonathan Norvell, Seth Arthur

**Other:** APUS named Lew Taylor Director of the APUS Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans Oral History Project. He has also been elected to the Board of Directors of the Cape Cod Academy For Life Long Learning and appointed Chair of the Curriculum Committee; Appointed to the Town of Dennis (Massachusetts) Library Board.

**Publications:**

Richard P. Wade published a book. He reviews for *Pen and Sword Publishing, Second World War*, and has the second and third texts of his Fortress Series in final stages for publication.


Robert L. Wheeler, Jr. began work on a Civil War monograph.

Daniel D. Staats published a book.

2017 *Saber and Scroll Journal* authors include: Robert G. Smith, PhD, Cam Rea, Anne Midgley, Greg Drummond, Jeff Ballard, Lewis A. Taylor II, Michael Majerczyk, and Stan Prager.
Other publications: Janet Rozick, Christopher Booth, and Jeff Ballard published a feature article or book review in an academic journal other than *Saber and Scroll*.

**Life Events**

**Married:** Mojisola "Aesher" Ogunleye-Johnson, John Cunnally, and Billy Cunningham

**Retired:** Francis Hoeflinger, John Cunnally

**Welcomed a Grandchild:** Francis Hoeflinger, Anthony Everett

**Other:**
Deanna Simmons and her husband relocated with their two girls to North Carolina and bought their first home!

Ken Oziah is still fighting end stage kidney disease, but his lab numbers are improving and he is going to St. Louis for a transplant evaluation

Chris Hilmer is “just keeping grinding”

Anne Midgley launched the AMU & APU Newman Center, Catholic Campus Ministry, together with Academic Advisors, Dr. Mark Bowles, Dr. Cynthia Nolan, and Dr. Robert Smith.

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**2017 Saber and Scroll Field Trip**

Under the leadership of Joe Cook and Bucky Lawson, planning is underway for the Saber and Scroll field trip to Gettysburg National Battlefield this fall. If you wish further information, please contact either Joe or Bucky. The Saber and Scroll website contains additional details of the trip on the Field Trip 2017 page.
Jeffrey Ballard received his MA in Military History (with Honors) from AMU in 2015. He became interested in military history at an early age. As a young boy, he watched his father, Richard Ballard, a graduate student at Cal, fight what HG Wells called “Little Wars,” on a sand table in a neighbor’s study. Richard’s library was as large and varied as the lead soldiers he painted, encompassing ancient to modern military history. At age fourteen, Jeff discovered his father’s first edition of Samuel Eliot Morison’s *History of the United States Naval Operations in World War II*. Fascinated by the fearsome night surface actions in the South Pacific, he read selected volumes over and over. Those who are familiar with the struggle for Guadalcanal would agree that the Battle of Savo Island (9 Aug 1942), the US Navy’s worst defeat at sea in its history, cannot be beaten for drama and the courage of men under fire.

Not surprisingly, the period between August 1942 and November 1943 became the focal point of his historical research and writing. His Master’s thesis, “Firing Point: The Evolution of U.S. Navy Torpedo Attack Doctrine During OPERATION WATCHTOWER,” discussed the Navy’s efforts to overcome this defeat and become an expert night fighting force by troubleshooting the problematic Mk 15 torpedo, purging South Pacific commands of timid peacetime officers, and developing an effective surface torpedo attack doctrine for its destroyers.

Jeff is a dedicated lifelong learner having earned his AA, BA, and MA online, after the age of forty. Anyone who asks about his experience at AMU will quickly learn that he is an evangelist, not only for his alma mater, but also for distance learning. “Going back to school and getting my degree is the most important thing that I have done in my life; except getting married and becoming a father,” he quickly adds.

He descends from a long line of scholars, engineers, and military officers. His father earned his PhD in Physics and taught at UC Irvine before becoming the Chief Scientist for President Reagan’s Star Wars missile defense system. His uncle Robert Ballard, also a PhD (Geology), is the famed National Geographic explorer-in-residence, who among other accomplishments discovered HMS *Titanic*. Bob now heads the Ocean Exploration Trust, which operates the Exploration Vessel *Nautilus*. Jeff’s paternal grandfather was a true Cold Warrior. He became the Chief Engineer for Guidance and Delivery on the Minuteman I ICBM after years as a flight test engineer for North American Aviation during the war. His maternal grandfather and great-uncle were 8th USAAF officers, piloting a A-20 Havoc light attack bomber and navigating a B-17 Flying Fortress respectively.

Most recently, Jeff published his article, “Cape Esperance: The Misunderstood Victory of Admiral Norman Scott” in Vol 6, Issue 1 of the *Saber & Scroll Journal*. Jeff published other articles on naval history, the War in the Pacific, and maritime archeology in *Strategy & Tactics* “Discovering PT-109” and *World at War* “Naval Battle of the Komandorski: 26 March 1943,” “Retaking the Aleutians” and “USS *Herbert J. Thomas*: One of a Kind” –
July/Aug 2017 magazines. Jeff is a member of the US Naval Institute, National Maritime Historical Society, Saber & Scroll Historical Society, and the APUS Historical Studies Honor Society. Having sailed aboard the E/V Nautilus as part of the expedition crew, Jeff is a regular contributor to the Ocean Exploration Trust.

Last August, he was aboard the Nautilus when she sailed with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, to explore parts of the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Jeff dove on the wreck of the SS Dorothy Wintermote, which sank September 20, 1938. The expedition was primarily a scientific one and since the NOAA marine biologists knew the date of the sinking, they were able to calculate the growth rates of the various species of sponges, coral and anemone living on the hull. Loaded with a cargo of lumber, general merchandise and coffee, she ran aground on Fish Rock, California, within site of the Point Arena Lighthouse. The ship did not sink immediately sink. This allowed the crew of the Coast Guard vessel Shoshone to rescue the entire crew from the ship. After three days, the Wintermote’s owners tried to tow her back to San Francisco. The salvers found her much easier to float because the locals had rowed out to the ship, thrown the lumber overboard, and “rescued” the coffee and housewares. The patch on the 15-foot gash in her hull did not hold, and she sank while under tow, in eighty-eight meters of water. Not every shipwreck is a disaster—it’s a good day when even the ship’s cat gets rescued! [http://www.nautiluslive.org/video/2016/08/20/wreck-ss-dorothy-wintermote](http://www.nautiluslive.org/video/2016/08/20/wreck-ss-dorothy-wintermote)

Jeff Lives in Huntington Beach, California with his wife Carol, twelve-year-old son Andrew and Chihuahua/Min-Pin Taco Bell. Although he works as a contractor in the aerospace and high technology manufacturing during the day, he is devoting increasingly more time to writing, research, and educational pursuits. When not at home, Jeff often visits local coffee shops or America Legion Halls where he interviews Navy vets about their experiences and lives at sea. Jeff shares some of these stories on his naval history blog located at [www.jeffballardonline.org](http://www.jeffballardonline.org)

“[A Veteran Of The Pacific Coast Service Strikes Rocks And Goes To The Bottom.”](http://farallones.noaa.gov/heritage/media/wintermote/)

Multibeam sonar image processed by Gary Fabian of the shipwreck Dorothy Wintermote. Fugro Pelagos conducted the survey in 2007 off the F/N Pacific Star for the Seafloor Mapping Lab at California Monterey Bay. Later, the NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey received the processed sonar data. Credit: Fugro Pelagos & NOAA. [http://farallones.noaa.gov/heritage/media/wintermote/](http://farallones.noaa.gov/heritage/media/wintermote/)
The E/V Nautilus will stream the Dorothy Winternote shipwreck survey live to the public through the website nautiluslive.org. Photo: Robert V. Schwemmer NOAA. http://farallones.noaa.gov/heritage/media/wintermote/