History is alive and well at the University of West Georgia. Over the past three years, since our last publication of this newsletter, a lot of exciting things have been happening. In spite of tight budgets, the department is moving ahead. We have added two new faculty members, Dr. Michael de Nie, in Modern British History, and Dr. Timothy Schroer, in Modern European History. We are now conducting searches for specialists in African-American History, the Ancient Mediterranean World, and Early American History. Our faculty members continue to be very active not only in the classroom, but also in the area of research and publication, and presentation of papers at international, national and regional conferences. Several of our faculty members hold offices in national and regional organizations. Dr. John Ferling was designated as the George Washington Distinguished Professor of History for Georgia by the National Society of the Cincinnati. Dr. Charles Clark was elected President of the South-East Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar. Dr. John Ferling also appeared on two nationally-televised programs on the History Channel discussing the Founding Fathers and the Constitution. His book, A Leap in the Dark: The Struggle to Create the American Republic, was chosen as a History Book Club selection. Dr. Ron Love has co-edited and contributed to a volume on the French Experience in Asia in the early modern period. Dr. Elaine MacKinnon has translated and edited V.A. Kozlov's book on Mass Uprisings Under Khrushchev and Brezhnev. Dr. Steve Goodson’s book, Highbrows, Hillbillies, and Hellfire, won the Georgia Historical Society’s top prize for best book on Georgia History 2002. For the past two years, one of our graduate students has won the University's Graduate Student Research Award.

The Center for Public History received several grants this past year, from the Governor’s Discretionary Fund, the Georgia Humanities Council, The Georgia Folklife Program, The Warren and Ava Sewell Foundation, the Allen Foundation and from numerous private individuals for our ongoing programs. The Music CD, “Everyone’s Tuned to the Radio,” produced by the Center, sold over 1000 copies. Two concerts and five school programs resulted from that project. For further information on the Center’s activities, see the department web site. Our relationship with the Atlanta History Center continues to enhance our Museum Studies Program.

Numbers of both graduate and undergraduate students are up again this year over last year and the year before. Some are completing our new Museum Studies Certificate Program.

The University and the Department of History completed the accreditation visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and did extremely well. This year we are preparing for the visit of the state and national accreditation associations for our secondary education program. We look forward to showing them what we are doing. Again, as I did a couple of years ago, I encourage you to visit the department, to write with your comments and suggestions about the department, and I especially urge you to complete the questionnaire included with this newsletter. We want to know what we are doing well to prepare our graduates for their post-college years and we want to know what we can do to improve the department’s programs and advising process. Please keep in touch. Also, check out our web site www.westga.edu/~history to see what we’re doing.

Dr. Charles W. “Skip” Clark
FACULTY ACTIVITIES: NEAREST PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICE

Jonathan Ablard (Latin America) has published the article “Authoritarianism, Democracy, and Psychiatric Reform in Argentina, 1946-1983” for History of Psychiatry. In addition, he has published chapters in The Confinement of the Insane and Argentina on the Couch: Psychiatry, the State, and Society in Argentina, 1880-1970. He serves as co-Director of West Georgia’s Latin American Studies Program. Rebecca Bailey (Public History) published a book review for Journal of Appalachian Studies and has one forthcoming on JHistory. She contributed to West Virginia, a textbook for elementary students, and is co-founder and listserv administrator for the Georgia Public History Consortium. She is completing an article entitled “When the Muckrakers Came to Matewan: The Role of the Contemporary Press in the Construction of the Second West Virginia Mine War Narrative” for the Journal of Appalachian Studies. Keith Bohannon (Civil War) has published chapters in four books on various aspects of the Civil War. These include The Confederate General; Inside the Confederate Nation: Essays in Honor of Emory M. Thomas; The Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862; and The Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864. Skip Clark (Medieval; Middle East) has published several book reviews and presented papers on “Islamic Influence on Medieval Western Science” and “Medieval Islamic Science.” He has spoken on the Middle East and Afghanistan to several local groups and serves on the Executive Committee of the Renaissance Society of America. Cita Cook (Women, Southern) has published several book reviews and written several articles on different aspects of the life and idealization of Winnie Davis. Already published are chapters in Searching for Their Places: Women in the South Across Four Centuries, and Mississippi Women: Portraits of Achievement. Forthcoming is a chapter in Human Tradition in the American South, Volume II. She is working on a manuscript on young women in the Natchez region from 1830 to 1910. Michael de Nie’s (Modern Britain) first book, The Eternal Paddy: Irish Identity and the British Press, 1798-1882 is due out in 2004. Also forthcoming are several encyclopedia articles and a chapter in Exploding the Canon: Writing Irishness in Nineteenth-Century Culture. He recently presented a paper on the British Press and self-government in India and Ireland in the 1880’s. John Ferling’s (Colonial America) book, A Leap in the Dark: The Struggle to Create The American Republic became a Main Selection of the History Book Club. His next project is tentatively titled Adams V Jefferson: The Tumultuous Election of 1800. Jonathan Goldstein (Asia, Judaica) has presented several papers, and is working on his next book, Enlightened Backwaters: Bangkok, Harbin, Manila, Rangoon, Singapore, and Surabaja as Reference Points for Asian ‘Port Jewish’ Identity. His 1999 book China and Israel, 1948-1998: A Fifty-Year Retrospective is being translated into Chinese for publication in China. Steve Goodson (20th Century US; Cultural) received the Georgia Historical Society’s Bell Award for the Best Book on Georgia History published in 2002 for Highbrows, Hillbillies, and Hellfire: Public Entertainment in Atlanta, 1880-1930. Ron Love (France; Early Modern Europe) has three books in print: Distant Lands and Diverse Cultures: The French Experience in Asia, 1600-1700; Dreaming Big: A History of SaskTel; and SaskTel: The Biography of a Crown Corporation and the Development of Telecommunications in Saskatchewan. He has published several articles and is the co-founder of both the West Georgia Center for Canadian Studies and the Southern Association for Canadian Studies. Aran MacKinnon (Africa) published The Making of South Africa: Culture and Politics in November 2003. He will be on research leave in Spring 2004 to work on An Introduction to Global Studies. Elaine McClarnand MacKinnon (Russia; Eastern Europe) edited and translated into English V. A. Kozlov’s Mass Uprisings Under Khrushchev and Brezhnev. Ann McCleary (Public History) has been directing a two-year project documenting regional baking traditions in the Georgia Piedmont which will include the production of a traveling exhibit in the fall of 2003. She continues to translate the exhibit “Changing Times” into a book on changes in the Georgia Piedmont over the twentieth century. Tim Schroer (Modern European) is preparing his manuscript “Race After the Master Race: Germans and African-Americans 1945-1949” for publication. Stephen Svonavec (Surveys) served as a grant reviewer and AP exam reader. He published encyclopedia articles, presented a paper on “The ‘Little Navy’ Faction: Opponents of Naval Expansion in Congress, 1913-1916,” and has a book review forthcoming.

WELCOME TO NEW FACULTY

This year the Department welcomed two new members. Dr. Michael de Nie received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and taught at Texas Christian University before coming to West Georgia, where he will teach Modern British and Irish History. His research focuses on the British press and the construction of identity. His first book will be published in 2004 and he is already working on his next project, a comparative study of reporting on Ireland and India from 1883-1924. Dr. Timothy Schroer received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and was a Teaching Fellow at George Mason University last year. His research examines the role of African-Americans in Germany immediately after World War II. His teaching interests center on Modern Germany and the history of 20th Century Europe.
REPORT OF THE MASTER’S PROGRAM

Over the past two years, the Master’s program in History has continued to grow in both numbers and quality. The latest version of the Graduate Student Handbook, available on the History Department website, [www.westga.edu/~history](http://www.westga.edu/~history), provides detailed information on the program’s requirements. It is a work in progress, and we welcome comments and feedback. We are making progress toward clarifying our expectations of graduate students and are offering more 6000 level graduate seminars. In addition, we hold an orientation for new graduate students each fall and, for even more fun, have an annual potluck for faculty, students, and families.

Students and graduates continue to shine at conferences around the region and the country. In the past several years, students have begun to participate through attending and often presenting papers or posters. Most recently, Teresa Beyer and Erin Brasfield presented papers at the Oral History Association meeting, based on their research at the Center for Public History. Others include Laura Anderson, Mick Buck, and Arden Williams at the Appalachian Studies Association meeting; Heather Bostwick, Mick Buck, Carey Tilley, and Arden Williams at the Georgia Association of Historians meeting; Mark Barron at the Vernacular Architecture Forum; and Jessica Ruckheim and Deborah Thomas at the National Association of Public History annual conference. Many of these students have taken advantage of scholarships offered by conference organizers or through UWG. Many public history students have been attending the Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries meetings through student scholarships over the past four years.

Our students have also been successful on the job market and in entering Ph.D. programs, as our “Student Achievement” section later in the newsletter illustrates. Our new Museum Studies Certificate has already paid off for many of our students, as they begin careers in museums. Others have pursued their M.A. degree while teaching full-time, including Suzanne Holland, Dackri Davis, Michael DiLeo, Patty Mills, and Scott Ragsdale.

We welcome visits and personal reports from all our graduates. Remember, you are our best recruiters. Let us know if there is anyone you think we should contact to encourage them to apply for our program. Call or email Cita Cook (770-836-4555; ccok@westga.edu) or Ann McCleary (770-838-3031; amcclear@westga.edu). Visit the Department website for more information on the graduate program, including special public history projects.

FIRST CLASS OF MUSEUM STUDENTS GRADUATES

Some people might consider museums boring, but graduate students at West Georgia consider them exciting career opportunities. Even in times of economic crisis, museums still work to preserve and interpret our history and culture.

The University of West Georgia and the Atlanta History Center graduated its first class of students to complete the new Museum Studies Certificate – Diane Erdeljac of Atlanta; Arden Williams of Sharpsburg; and Carey Tilley, of Rome. Both Williams and Tilley completed undergraduate degrees in History at West Georgia.

This new program is the first, and only, graduate program in Museum Studies in Georgia. The 15-hour program requires students to take three museum studies classes, choosing from four courses offered on administration, collections management, exhibit development, and interpretation and education. The two other courses include a seminar on methods of studying material culture and a museum internship.

The program’s goal is to provide hands-on learning for the students, using the Public History Center as a laboratory for study. The museum courses are taught at the AHC, where students take on projects such as cataloging items from the collections, developing exhibit concepts, and writing grant proposals. This practical quality of the program appeals to the students and provides better training. Williams notes, “This program has provided me with “hands-on” experience not available in a classroom setting. “I not only learned the theory I needed to pursue my goals,” adds Erdeljac, “but I also had the opportunity to practice that theory on the spot,” in a museum setting, among a variety of museum professionals!”

All three students have found jobs and are currently working in the field. Diane Erdeljac is working as the new archivist for Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, which will be celebrating its centennial in three years. Arden Williams works as an archivist at the National Archives in East Point. Williams, who is also trained in archives, hopes to be able to use her training in collections management as well as exhibit work at her position. Carey Tilley serves as the Director of the Chieftains Museum in Rome, GA.

To learn more about the Museum Studies Certificate program, contact Dr. Ann McCleary, History Department, UWG, at 770-838-3031 or by email at amcclear@westga.edu. More information can also be obtained via the internet, please check at [http://www.westga.edu/~history/museum.htm](http://www.westga.edu/~history/museum.htm).

To enter the program, students must either already hold an M.A. or be enrolled in a masters program in an academic field in which they hope to work, such as History, American Studies, Art History, or Natural History. Erdeljac adds, “not only was this an excellent learning experience, it was fun.”
In 2002-2003 the Department and University recognized outstanding performance by faculty and students with the following awards.

- **J. David Griffin Award for Superior Teaching** – Dr. Jonathan Ablard
- **Hellen J. Jackson Undergraduate Paper Award** – Megan Champion
- **Albert S. Hanser Graduate Paper Award** – Jessica Hendrickson
- **W. Cope Goodwin Memorial Scholarship Fund** – Charles David Albertson
- **Elizabeth Leonard Parker Award for Historical Writing** – Jessica Hendrickson
- **Whatley Scholarship** – Derek Wesley Stevenson
- **Abraham Baldwin Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR)**
- **American History Award** – Sandy Pollard
- **Kennedy History Graduate Award of Excellence** – Suzanne Holland
- **Theodore B. Fitz-Simons Public History Award** – Heather Bostwick
- **Herndon Award** – Sean Green
- **Bryson Prize** – Luisa Fernanda Angel
- **Graduate Student Research Award** – James Michael Buck

Over the past two years, the Center for Public History has provided an expanding opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to engage in research and community outreach projects. Begun in 2000, the mission of the Center is to research, document, preserve, and promote public discussion of the history and resources—architectural, cultural, and folklife—of West Georgia and the surrounding region. All of our projects are collaborative efforts that emphasize the importance of faculty-student research while providing hands-on public history experience for our students.

Both the operations and facilities of the Center have expanded since its inception in 2000. Located in Pafford 207/205, the Center now incorporates a work area for student staff members; an archive of primary documents, oral histories, photographs, and research products; and a small library. To date, our collection of oral histories has grown to over 700 interviews, produced by students and faculty at West Georgia as well as 8th-graders at Carrollton Junior High, with whom we coordinate an oral history project each spring.

The Center has initiated many community research projects. Through grants from the Georgia Folklore Program and the Warren P. and Ava F. Sewell Foundation, the Center has produced two CDs of traditional music from the region, produced by former graduate student Mick Buck. Both are available for sale through the Center (see advertisement in this newsletter). We are planning our third concert of regional music on January 30, 2004, featuring Alton Stitcher and friends, at the Townsend Center on the UWG campus. With a grant from the Georgia Humanities Council, the Center has partnered with the Southern Foodways Alliance to document the baking traditions of the Georgia Piedmont through oral histories and photographs and to produce a traveling exhibit that will be available for tour to schools, churches, community and senior centers and other venues throughout the region. If you would like to schedule this exhibit, please contact us.

The Center has recently become a partner for the Veterans History Project, sponsored by the Library of Congress and the American Folklife Center. We will expand our collecting projects to document more wartime stories related to the West Georgia Piedmont. A new Georgia Humanities Council will provide opportunities for at-risk youth in Carroll and Haralson Counties to record oral histories with veterans in our region.

We continue to be involved in several on-going projects, including documenting textile mill industry in the region, particularly at Banning Mill, and the university history. The Center also reaches out to help other history organizations; most recently, we have partnered with the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park to help with analysis of its oral history collection and with a local landowner to document his family’s historic farm.

If you would like information on any of our projects or if you want to volunteer to help or be interviewed, please contact either Dr. Ann McCleary at amcclear@westga.edu or Dr. Rebecca Bailey at rbailey@westga.edu. The Center is open to the public, from 9 to 5 on Monday through Thursday, from 9-2 on Friday, and by appointment, in Pafford 207. We invite you to come visit us and see what we are doing.
HISTORY CLUB EXPANDS ACTIVITIES

2003 finds the History Club busier than ever. President Erin Brasfield and VP Trey Beyer, both graduate students and employees at the Center for Public History, have arranged numerous fieldtrips, all of which have brought out both students and Department faculty. Last semester started with a potluck lunch which drew a good crowd. Mid-semester, the History Club volunteered at National Parks Day at Kennesaw Mountain National battlefield park, preserving earthworks and other historic structures. At the end of the semester, the Club gathered at film viewings organized by faculty and friends. Among the movies enjoyed were *Casablanca, Road to Perdition,* and *Zulu.*

Fall semester began with an informal meeting at the Corner Café. The History Club had a record turnout, collected dues, and discussed upcoming activities. In following months, students and faculty visited the Booth Museum, Bartow County History Center, Banning Mill, Oakland Cemetery, High Museum Folk and Photography Gallery, the Atlanta History Center, and the Carlos Museum at Emory. The semester concluded with another dinner at Locos.

All interested in joining in future activities should email Erin and Trey at uwghistoryclub@yahoo.com.

RECENT THESES AND PROJECTS

In 2002 and 2003, M.A. students completed the following theses or theses projects.

**Laura Caldwell Anderson**, “We’ve had a peaceful relationship between the races here: Formation and Early Work of the Rome (Georgia) Council on Human Relations, 1959-1963.” Dr. Cita Cook

**Mark Alan Baron**, “Re-Creating a Southern City: The New Deal and Housing Construction in Marietta, Georgia, 1938-1941.” Dr. Cita Cook

**Heather S. Bostwick**, “Take Me Out to the Ballgame: The Northwest Georgia Textile League.” Dr. Ann McCleary


**Diane Erdeljac**, “Public History: Developing a Repository as a Resource for the Identification and promotion of an Organization.” Dr. Ann McCleary


**Rodney W. Joye**, “Special Operations of the Third Reich: Land, Sea and Air.” Dr. Mel Steely

**John Wesley Moody III**, “British Prisoners of War in the American Revolution.” Dr. John Ferling

**Arden Williams**, “A Metropolitan Edifice in the Woods: The Community Identity of Banning Mill.” Dr. Ann McCleary

MICK BUCK RAKES IN AWARDS FOR HIS THESIS/PROJECT

When Mick Buck began graduate studies in history, he probably never expected to be one of the most recognized students in our program. His work on his thesis/project—a compact disk entitled “Everybody’s Tuned to the Radio: Rural Music Traditions in West Georgia, 1947-1979”—has been recognized by a number of institutions, both regional and national. In the community, the Carroll County Historical Society gave him its Preservation Award and the musicians themselves offered him a plaque in recognition of his work. On campus, his thesis won the Best Graduate Thesis award for 2002. In September, the American Association of State and Local History presented Buck and the Center for Public History with a Certificate of Commendation.

Most recently, Buck received the Educator’s Award from the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame. With all of this recognition, Mick is not resting; he has just completed production of a second CD of traditional music featuring Alton Stitcher. For more information on both of these projects or to order copies of the disks, see the advertisement at the back of this newsletter. Congratulations!
The Department’s current students and recent graduates remain active in the academy and the community. In addition to those students mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, recent highlights include

Laura Caldwell Anderson presented papers on “Gender, Sexuality, and the Rome Council on Human Relations” and “It Gave Us a New Dimension: Women and the Rome (Georgia) Council on Human Relations.” Mark Barron’s paper, “‘Adequately Re-housing Low Income Families’: A Study of Race, Class, and Gender in the Architecture of Public Housing, Marietta, Georgia, 1938-1941” will be published in Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture. Christina Edwards Bellinger, a second year medical student at Mercer University School of Medicine and member of the American Association of the History of Medicine, recently completed a two week medical mission to Peru. Teresa Beyer presented the paper “Leisure Builds Community: A Case Study of Rural Banning Mill.” Heather Bostwick is a Registrar at the Atlanta History Center. Erin Brasfield presented a paper on “Diversity Through Education: ‘A Fountain of Life’ at a College in the Country,” based on the University Oral History Project. Annie Derthick will graduate in May and move to Prague, Czech Republic, to teach English. Benita Green Duling is an Interpreter at the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Park in Kennesaw, Georgia. Emily Erwin is Director of the Capps Archive & Museum at Delta State University. Nic Fields is a Visitor Use Assistant at Haleakala National Park in Hawaii and also works with the Hawaiian Natural History Association.

Amy Grundhoeffer is Curator at the Marietta Museum of History. Karen Hamilton teaches history at West Georgia. Keith Herbert is pursuing a Ph.D at Auburn University. Rebecca Lapezynski Herbert is Records Manager for the city of Douglasville, GA. Seth Hopkins is Director of the Booth Museum of Western Art in Cartersville. Kim Kelly teaches sociology and history at Shorter College, and will be teaching history at Kennesaw State as well. Trevor Lanier served as History Club President and presented the paper “I Wasn’t Born on Hazel Creek, But I Got There as fast as I Could.” Teresa Leslie teaches history at West Georgia. Terri Lotti is an Archaeologist with the Georgia Department of Education. Michael Chris Low teaches at Avondale Middle School and will be applying for a Fulbright-Hayes Study Abroad Program to Africa. Joe Meeler is pursuing a Ph.D at Georgia State. Patty Mills was a finalist for the 2002 Georgia Teacher of the Year. Wes Moody is pursuing a Ph.D at Georgia State. Jeremy Richards is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of South Carolina, and presented a paper at a conference at the Citadel. Jessica Hendrickson Ruckheim presented a poster at the National Council on Public History Conference. Amy Story Simon is Assistant Registrar with the High Museum of Art. Shannon Sumner taught history at West Georgia. Deborah Thomas is Associate Registrar at the Atlanta History Center. Laney Watkins teaches high school history in Laramie, Wyoming. Arden Williams presented a paper on “Lives in Their Hands: The Textile Mill Community of Banning, Georgia.”

RETIREd MEMBERS REMAIN ACTIVE

Bob Claxton (Latin America; Retired 2000), chapter historian for the Casimir Pulaski Chapter of the Georgia Society of Sons of the American Revolution, remains active in the Carrollton Kiwanis Club and the Friends of the McIntosh Reserve. He completed a manuscript entitled “From ‘Parsifal’ to Peron: The History of Early Radio Broadcasting In Latin America” and wrote a book review for the H-Florida web list. Ben Kennedy (French; Retired 1999) lives in the north Georgia mountains near Hiawassee. He still hikes, plays a little golf, and gardens. He and his wife, Claudia, a UWG graduate in German and English and former teacher in Coweta County do some traveling, and went to Ireland for their fourth trip in October 2003. Dr. Kennedy recently presented papers on Jean Humbert and Lazare Hoche and taught an adult education class at Young Harris College in Spring 2003.
PRODUCTIVE PERIOD FOR GEORGIA POLITICAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

The last two years have been good for the Georgia Political Heritage Program. We added the political papers of long-time Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy and Congressman Bob Barr to our collection. They join an impressive list of state and national politicians whose papers reside with the GPHP. We hold the papers of Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and Congressman Pat Swindall, as well as those of a number of local political leaders including Representative Tracy Stallings and Senator Wayne Garner. Our list of videotaped interviews has expanded to include interviews with Congressman Barr, Governor Roy Barnes, Ambassador Andy Young, Representative Hosea Williams, Senate Majority Leader Charles Walker, House minority Leader Lynn Westmoreland, political observer and reporter Bill Shipp, and a number of local west Georgia legislators. Almost all the papers and tapes are open to the public. Our archivist, Professor Myron House, can arrange for viewing by scholars or researchers by telephone or letter at the Ingram Library, or via email at mhouse@westga.edu.

Another exciting development has been the progress of efforts to build a new building to house the ever-expanding Political Heritage Program. Alex Roush, our architect, has rendered a drawing of the building which will house the papers and tapes. We are also in the process of transferring the interviews from videotape to DVD and plan to keep up with the latest archival technology so that the priceless materials we have collected can be preserved well into the future. More students, journalists, and researchers are utilizing the archival materials and every effort is being made to make the collections and tapes user friendly.

Professor Mel Steely, founder and director of the Georgia’s Political Heritage Program, notes both the fine support the program has received from UWG officials such as President Beheruz Sethna and Vice-President Tim Hynes and a substantial grant for equipment from the Watson-Brown Foundation. Dr. Steely will be retiring in June 2003 but intends to remain involved with the GPHP. He will continue to conduct interviews and solicit papers from Georgia’s political leaders. After June he can be reached in the archives section of the Ingram Library.

COME BACK TO WEST GEORGIA FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL!

The History Department is pleased that many of our graduates have returned to West Georgia to obtain a masters degree or public history certificate. We offer many different options in the graduate program. Some full-time teachers come back to get their M.A. in History, while others return to prepare for a PhD program or to gain experience and knowledge in Public History. Some M.A. graduates elected to come back for Public History or Museum Studies Certificates. Here’s what they have to say:

Suzanne Holland (M.A. 2003; High School Social Studies Teacher) One obvious reason for a teacher to work towards a Master’s Degree is the increase in pay. Working toward an advanced degree meant more to me than the pay bonus. I have a real love for the field of history, and my undergraduate degree was the first step to enable me to share my enthusiasm with high school students. However, I found that I needed more in-depth knowledge in the field after my first year of teaching. My classes as a graduate student allowed me to explore World and U.S. History at a greater depth, and they gave me more ideas and knowledge to pass on to my students. As an added benefit, the classes I took in the Public History field were well suited to engaging students in activities within the classroom and the community.

Benita Green (M.A. expected May 2004; Interpreter, Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Historical Park) Returning to UWG for a Masters Degree was an easy choice. I enjoyed my time in the History Department the first go round and appreciated the kindness and concern professors showed for their students. The public history concentration was brand new and it was just the type of non-traditional history I was looking to study. The opportunity the school presented to do internships and gain on-the-job experience was especially attractive to me as well. Perhaps the best thing about returning to West Georgia was the fact that I was returning to people who knew me and my strengths and weaknesses as a student. My professors acknowledged my strengths, but refused to excuse my weaknesses.

Gail Smith (M.A. 1999; Public History Certificate, 2002; Acquisitions, Ingram Library): My decision to add a certificate in Public History to my Masters in History was fostered by my interest in archival work. My courses gave me an understanding and appreciation for the importance of the efforts of archivists and public historians in museums and historical sites to preserve and present history for the education and enjoyment of the public now and in the future. Though the study of history is my foremost interest, I will always appreciate the organization of archival materials, the perfect arrangement of museum displays, and the presentation and preservation of a historical site that I visit for enjoyment or research. The Certificate of Public History coursework would give any historian a better understand of how history should be presented to make it interesting and memorable for an audience.
The Center for Public History has produced two CDs of regional music that are available for sale:

“Everybody’s Tuned to the Radio:  
Rural Music Traditions in West Georgia, 1947-1979”

This unique collection of banjo and fiddle tunes, hillbilly boogies and ballads, sanctified singing, and down-home radio chatter plays tribute to the pickers, singers, and radio personalities who have helped shape, preserve, and promote rural music traditions in the West Georgia Piedmont.

“I Hear a Sweet Voice Calling: The Music of Alton Stitcher”

This new, November 2003 release features a long-time Carroll County musician performing a blend of his own songs, traditional ballads, gospel tunes, and early country music.

For more information on the CDs and the Regional Music Project — to read the liner notes or to obtain an order form — visit the Center for Public History website at

www.westga.edu/~history/center.htm

To order by mail, send $14 for each CD plus $3 shipping and handling for one CD (and $1 shipping and handling for additional CDs) to:

Center for Public History, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA 30118.

You may also purchase the CDs at the Center for Public History (Pafford 207 on the UWG campus) or at Clayworks, Horton’s Books, or Burson’s Feed and Seed on Adamson Square in Carrollton.

STATE UNIVERSITY of
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