

Bulletin 70



*Association of Caribbean Historians
Association des Historiens de la Caraïbe
Asociación de Historiadores del Caribe
Associatie van Caribische Historici*

**The Bulletin of the Association of
Caribbean Historians
June 01, 2009**



The scene above is located in Guadeloupe and was drawn by Karl Giradet, depicting a rural scene in 1851, just two years after the abolition of slavery.

(For the source, please visit the website containing images compiled by Jerome Handler and Michael L Tuite Jr.
<http://hitchcock.itc.virginia.edu/Slavery/index.php>)

WELCOME TO THE ACH BULLETIN JUNE 1, 2009

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2009-2010

During the Annual General Meeting held at La Plantation Hotel, Guadeloupe on May 14, 2009, the following persons were elected to the Executive Committee:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM THE OUT-GOING PRESIDENT – VERENE A. SHEPHERD

The following message was delivered by the then President of the ACH at the Opening Ceremony of the 41st annual ACH Conference held at La Plantation Resort Hotel on Sunday, May 10, 2009:

“Mme. Kacy Fely Bembuck, Representative Conseil R gional, Mons. Laurent Bernier, Mayor du St. Fran ois, other distinguished guests, members of the ACH family, bonsoir/ buenas tardes/good evening. On behalf of the membership, I wish to express heartfelt appreciation to those colleagues who form the Local Organizing Committee and who persevered with the arrangements for this Conference, despite the odds. Let us applaud Jacques Dumont, Alain Buffon, Jacques Adelaide and Gerard laFleur. I do not have to rehearse the reasons for their challenging work; what Rex Nettleford describes as the ‘CNNization’ of the world ensures that news travels around the world in real time. But I will say this: we live in a Caribbean that has not yet completed the process of decolonization. As a result, social and political tensions are going to characterize the relationship between the contending forces; for in 2009 as in the period 1791-1886 and beyond, resistance is going to be the manifestation of the search for justice and true self-determination by colonized and former-colonized peoples alike. I join others in hoping that the people of Guadeloupe will be successful in their negotiations with the policy-makers in France.

I am happy to see that ACH members were not deterred by the prospect of spending a long time here but are here showing support. Of course, that our numbers are smaller than usual is not an indication that others were afraid to attend. (And by the way, let me hasten to extend apologies for absence from EC members Rosalyn Terborg-Penn and Antonio Gaztambide and in-coming VP Bernard Moitt. Rosalyn will join us later but the others could not be here for various reasons). Several people could not attend because the economic downturn in global economies has affected travel budgets in most universities. So now, ‘fiscal restraint’ is the buzz term for academics also. One effect on the ACH is obvious: the local and regional participation exceeds that from North America and Europe.

I applaud our sponsors for their support in these difficult financial times. We will of course discuss this matter of financing ACH conferences more fully at the AGM on Thursday; but it should be obvious that the time has come for the ACH to rethink the way it funds its conferences. We will have to make tough decisions about the level of dues and the registration fees; about the budget for translation; about the production of papers as opposed to a book of abstracts or CDs; about the reasons we cannot find a way to include some of our Caribbean neighbors such as Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Kitts, Nevis - as hosts of ACH conferences – but more on those matters later.

I thank the members of the Executive Committee for their dedicated work and innovative ideas over the past year and wish best of luck to those who will

rotate off the Committee. The EC would welcome your feedback on these innovations, some of which - like the plenary by a bright, young scholar, the roundtable on a current local issue and the combining of the roles of chairs and discussants - will be obvious from the programme, as together we seek to build, renew and improve this important Association. I also call attention to those we have lost, the most recent being long-time and faithful member, Burghart Turner and past president Gail Saunders' late father, Mr. Basil North.

It has been my pleasure to be the President of the ACH over these three years. In fact, I deem it an honor to have been asked to serve. As I approach the final leg of this journey, let me thank those of you who supported my presidency, especially at rocky times when I did not confine my role to shaking hands and kissing babies. But you know me. By the way, because of the WHO warning, please note that there will be no shaking and kissing at this Conference!

I greet our honorary life members, new and old life members, all past presidents (to whom we continue to look for guidance); and those attending their first ACH Conference and ask them to stand and be recognized. I now call on the newest Life Member, Dr. Pedro Welch, to collect his certificate. I will have the chance to meet the new members at the President's Lunch for new presenters later in the week.

It is also my pleasure to announce that the winner of the Andres Ramos-Mattei/Neville Hall Best Article Prize is Bertie Mandelblatt and thank the committee that read the entries for its work

All that is left for me to do now is to thank our hosts and sponsors once more, declare this 41st ACH conference open, and wish everyone a successful conference; one that will be collegial, intellectually gripping and conceptually rich."

MESSAGE FROM THE IN-COMING PRESIDENT - FERNANDO PICÓ

As it approaches its 50th anniversary, the Association of Caribbean Historians has many reasons to celebrate. Its achievements are many, and the scope of its influence is widening.

In reaching its half-century mark the Association has three new important tasks to accomplish. The Caribbean region has undergone many changes in the last five decades, not only in its institutions and economy, but also in its cultures and the ways in which they are represented worldwide. Caribbean men and women have established communities in the principal economic centers of the North Atlantic, and these communities have become vocal and articulate participants in the discussions of a wider world. The niches that the Caribbean occupies in the global community do not guarantee permanent advantages in the planet's economy, but they provide a measure of well-being to its peoples.

This complex reality has to be understood not in terms of one island or people, but in a collective dimension, on a regional basis. How we have come to the present circumstances, and what stresses and strains this situation puts on the fabric of Caribbean unity and solidarity need to be studied and understood in a historical perspective. We have become adept at understanding the past in the light of the present, but we must also discern the patterns of the present in their relation to previous processes.

This task requires the benefit of many perspectives. The Association has always reached out to all the corners of the Caribbean to make its discussions wider and more profound. This multi-national, multi-lingual heritage must be enhanced, so that scholars, young and old, from all the Caribbean peoples take part in the discussions of the roles the Caribbean plays in the modern world. Thus the task of discussing the present requires the task of ensuring that all points of view are represented in the discussion.

The third task may seem easier. The Association has always proposed a model of straight academic discussion which is free of the usual banalities and pretentiousness of other academic congresses. We have always emphasized the need to have innovative research and tough discussions in a framework of fraternal communication. We have kept ourselves attuned to the rhythms of the host societies in whose midst we have met. We have fostered a mode of discourse which is frank, forthright and relevant. How to keep and enlarge this Caribbean way of discussing history challenges our ingenuity and inventiveness,

We hope to see all in Barbados next spring.

42nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BARBADOS, 2010

ADVANCE INFORMATION: 42ND ANNUAL ACH CONFERENCE, BARBADOS, 2010

The 42nd Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Historians is scheduled for 2010, in Barbados. No firm date is yet available, but it seems that the period being considered will be mid-May. The venue will be published in the December bulletin. Barbados is a popular tourist destination and is well served with hotels with a wide range of pricing. Most hotels have websites and an internet search should provide ACH members with some general picture of the prices on the island. The exchange rate is currently pegged at 2 Barbados dollars to the US dollar.

Following a recent agreement with the EU, with effect from June 1, 2009, no visa is required for visitors from the member countries of the EU. There is also no visa requirement for North Americans (USA, Canada). Visitors from CARICOM countries, which now include Suriname, do not require visas. The island is well served with airlines from the USA and from the UK.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The following themes have been proposed for the 41st Annual Conference of the ACH:

- Mercantile Business in the Caribbean
- Caribbean economies of the late 19th and early 20th centuries
- The impact of colonization on the flora and fauna of the Caribbean
- The impact of History on the Literature of the Caribbean
- Caribbean connections to the larger respective empires
- Commemoration and Memory
- Health Issues in Caribbean History
- The teaching of Caribbean History/Teaching methodologies
- The contribution of Walter Rodney to Caribbean History
- Race Relations in the Caribbean
- Caribbean Labor History/History of the working classes
- Haitian Politics in the early twentieth century
- Women and the Imperial Enterprise
- Historic Caribbean Townscapes/Images and Iconography of the Caribbean
- The Arts in Caribbean nationalist movements
- History of Print Media in the Caribbean
- History of Caribbean Cinema
- Modernity in the Caribbean

INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

The Executive Committee will be pleased to receive offers of papers and panels focusing on the proposed themes, *although other themes will not be excluded from consideration*. The Committee will give priority to organized panels (presenters & chair) that fit into the proposed themes, especially those that are comparative/pan-Caribbean. **Individual papers will also be considered, but they will be given a lower priority.** Please use the proposal form at the end of the Bulletin to submit your panel or paper proposals.

Persons offering to organize a panel should take note of the following:

- ❑ Specify the names of three or four confirmed participants, the titles of their papers, and the overall theme of the panel.

- ❑ Provide the Secretariat with information regarding the institutional affiliation and the full mailing and e-mail addresses of panel convenors and participants.
- ❑ Send an abstract (250-400 words) of each paper to be presented. This abstract should indicate what new information/ approaches the paper would provide, as well as the major archival resources used. **Abstracts must be submitted in Spanish French and English. Proposals that do not conform will not be considered.**
- ❑ Where a proposed panelist is not a member of the ACH, panel organizers must provide a **brief** curriculum vitae (not more than three pages) and request the person to apply for membership in the Association.
- ❑ Panel organizers will be responsible for ensuring that papers are properly integrated into the overall theme.
- ❑ If a panel is accepted, its organizers will be responsible for ensuring that panelists submit their papers in good time and that they are informed of the contents of each other's papers. A copy of each paper MUST be sent to the Panel Chair ahead of the start of the Conference.
- ❑ For each panel it accepts, the Executive Committee may nominate a chairperson to moderate the session; but proposers may also suggest their own panel chair.
- ❑ Individuals offering single papers should also send a summary of their proposed presentations as outlined above.

NB: The ACH is particularly concerned about proposers of panels and presenters who, after the approval of their presentations, are absent from conferences ***without the appropriate courtesies***. Special note will be taken of such cases and their participation in future conferences might be prejudiced.

All offers of panels and papers for the 2010 ACH Conference, along with abstracts, and CVs where relevant, should be sent via e-mail to Pedro L. V. Welch, Department of History and Philosophy, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Cave Hill, St. Michael, Barbados; e-mail: pedro.welch@cavehill.uwi.edu or pedro.welch@gmail.com. Copies should also be sent simultaneously to members of the executive committee for whom e-mails are available in the listing at the top of this bulletin The deadline for proposals is September 15, 2010.

ACH PANEL PROPOSAL FORM

**ACH PANEL PROPOSAL FORM
42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BARBADOS
2010**

(Form is available by e-mail, please contact the Secretariat at pedro.welch@gmail.com or pedro.welch@cavehill.uwi.edu)

THEME:

PANEL TITLE:

CONVENOR:

TITLE OF PAPER:

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION AND ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

SUGGESTED
CHAIR

PRESENTER 1:

TITLE OF PAPER:

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION AND ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

PRESENTER 2:

TITLE OF PAPER:

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION AND ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

PRESENTER 3:

TITLE OF PAPER:

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION AND ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

ACH INDIVIDUAL PAPER PROPOSAL FORM
42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BARBADOS
2010

(Form is available by e-mail, please contact the Secretariat at pedro.welch@gmail.com or pedro.welch@cavehill.uwi.edu)

Note: Under separate cover include:

- A **250-400** -word abstract for each paper. This abstract should indicate what new information and/or approaches the paper would provide, as well as the major archival resources used.
- A brief (no more than 3 pages CV) for each panel presenter who is presenting for the first time or who is not currently a member of the ACH.
- Panels should have no more than four presenters, including the convenor, should she or he be presenting.
- Please refer to the "Instructions to Proposers" in this Bulletin for further details.

THEME:	
PAPER TITLE:	
PRESENTER:	
INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION AND ADDRESS:	
E-MAIL:	
<p>250-400 500-word abstract of paper in FRENCH, SPANISH, AND ENGLISH indicating what new information and/or approaches the paper will provide, as well as the major archival resources used. Under separate cover, please include a brief (no more than 3 pages CV) if this is your first time presenting or if you are not currently a member of the ACH:</p>	

AGM MINUTES
Thursday May 14, 2009
Conference Room, La Plantation Hotel, Guadeloupe

AGM MINUTES

Present:

Adelaide, Augier, Blackett, Brereton, Boutin, Buffon, Cateau, Celma, Craig-MacDonald, Chambrlain, Dalby, de Barros, Doelahasori, Dumont, Eclan, Egger, Fergus, Gosse, Hoefte, Heuman, Jiménez-Muñoz, Jacobs-Browne, Johnson, Laurence, Littlefield, Livesay, MacDonald, Managan, Marshall, Mayers, Neus, Patterson, Pemberton, Pico, Reid, Saunders, Shepherd, Terborg-Penn, Taffin, Thompson, Toussaint, Welch, Wilmot.

1. The President, **Shepherd**, called the meeting to order at 3.00 pm and welcomed the members present. The first order of business was the offering of condolences to those who had lost relatives. The AGM was informed that **Doelasaori** had recently had two deaths in her family. Basil North, the father of Saunders had died. Additionally, Shepherd noted that a former member, **Burghardt Turner** had also died. The President invited **Terborg-Penn**, who had represented the ACH at Turner's funeral, to offer a special tribute. At this point, a minute's silence was called as an expression of the solidarity of the ACH with those who were grieving their loss. Special thanks were offered to **Gaztambide** for a fine job as Vice-President, and appreciation was extended to the translators and technical team who had serviced the Conference. Apologies were offered to members who had not received early notification of changes and updates to the programme, due to problems with the computer-generated e-mail list. The final updated programme would be put in the June bulletin for the information of the entire membership.
2. Apologies were received from Gaztambide, Moitt, and Bégot, **who** could not attend.
3. The Agenda was considered and adopted
4. The Minutes of the May 15, 2008, AGM in Suriname were considered and adopted
5. The Minutes of the May 15, 2008, AGM in Suriname were considered and adopted.
6. **Matters arising** At this point, **Shepherd** noted that when the AGM had honored the founding members of the ACH at the Suriname Conference, some of those members had not been present. She then invited **Adelaide** and **Buffon** to the podium to receive the Conferral of Honorary Life membership. After the certificates had been received, the Conferral of Honorary Life membership for **Carl Campbell** was also announced and the AGM was informed that his certificate would be presented at the earliest opportunity. The President also noted the contributions of the other founding members, Elsa Goveia and Neville Hall.
7. The AGM was reminded that the **Gould-Saunders** endowment fund had been announced and that further information would be given later at the AGM

The Ramos Mattei-Neville Hall Prize: **Hoefte** was invited to present the citation for the award of the prize and reported that in total 14 articles had been submitted, 11 in English

and 3 in Dutch. One journal had submitted articles; the others were submitted by the authors themselves. The winner was Bertie Mandelblatt, whose article, 'A Transatlantic Commodity: Irish Salt Beef in the French Atlantic World' had been published in *History Workshop Journal*, 63 (2007). The citation was as follows:

"This article uses the salt-beef trade to trace the interlinks between metropolitan and colonial trade in food provisioning for enslaved people. It also deals with the place of Ireland in the supply of salt beef, which the author has demonstrated was the critical food item in the diet of enslaved peoples in the French Caribbean. The author shows how the Irish supply of that commodity not only continued, by expanded exponentially, in spite of French metropolitan efforts to replace it by a similar commodity produced in France. The salt-beef trade was a lucrative business for Irish producers and their French and Irish middlemen in France who transshipped it to the colonies. The writer also emphasizes that it was the poorest quality salt beef that was destined largely for the enslaved population, though it was also used by White indentured servants and poor Whites in the colonies. The international links of this trade are used to show how the Atlantic commerce became intertwined, each area depending vitally upon the others for its development, and how even those areas and business persons that did not actually employ enslaved people nevertheless made substantial profits, directly or indirectly, from slavery. This is a fascinating study, on the cutting edge of research. The range of sources is wide, the article is very well researched, the style is elegant, and the conclusions are solid."

8. **The Elsa Goveia Prize:** Dumont reported to the AGM that the process of selection had been particularly difficult, and the report was not yet ready. The Committee would report to the ACH in December and the information would be available in the bulletin.
9. **Report of the Guadeloupe LOC:** **Shepherd** invited **Dumont** to present the report of the LOC on the Conference. **Dumont** reported that the LOC had faced a number of problems, not least of which was the uncertainty surrounding the funding for hosting the Conference. In that context, the Loc apologized for any shortcomings that might have been experienced. Special thanks were due to La Fleur, Adelaide, Buffon, and Boutin, among others, who had worked hard to ensure that the Conference was convened. He also thanked those presenters who had respected the rules of the ACH and had sent papers on time and, also, had sent timely travel information. It was hoped that the experiences of the Guadeloupe LOC would be of assistance to the LOC for the next Conference. **Shepherd** responded by acknowledging the difficulties that had faced the LOC, and expressed her thanks and that of the Executive Committee. She then extended an invitation to members at the AGM, to express their views on the Conference. **Wilmot** thanked the LOC and commended the members of that committee for the travel arrangements which led to a problem-free entry into Guadeloupe. **Dumont** acknowledged that this was largely due to the work of **Buffon**. **Heuman**, in thanking the LOC, commented that for a long time, there had been a request for a conference like this one with fewer panels. He suggested that the Guadeloupe Conference might be a model for future conferences. **Augier** applauded the work of the LOC. **Terborg-Penn** then gave a summary of the progress of the Conference. There were 8 panels, 24 papers, a roundtable discussion, and a plenary session, which was an innovation. Fourteen presenters had included abstracts. In trying to account for the missing abstracts, Shepherd surmised that some presenters might have thought that the abstracts sent at the time the first proposals were considered by the EC, were all that were required. **Dumont** noted that the LOC had wanted to produce a book of abstracts, but this had not been possible. He proposed that it might have been useful to have had a waiting list in reserve which could have been used when some presenters had withdrawn. He also noted that the idea of the plenary session had been decided on by the entire EC at its October meeting and was not a result of filling a gap left by

presenters who had withdrawn. **Shepherd** felt that such a waiting list might not necessarily have solved the problem since the EC had looked carefully at the proposals and it was not certain that the papers on such a waiting list might have been acceptable to the membership. **Terborg-Penn** observed that the international economic problem had caused significant numbers of cancellations because universities had cut funding. **MacDonald** asked **Shepherd** what had been the thinking of the EC in selecting a young scholar to deliver a plenary lecture and whether the EC's objectives had been fulfilled. He also queried how future selections would be made and how younger scholars would know that they could be selected. **Shepherd** reported that the EC thought that a new scholar might have brought fresh ideas to the conference by way of a plenary. She suggested that McDonald and others could submit names of future speakers to the EC. **Wilmot** noted that the presenter at the plenary, **Reid**, had been his student, and the standard of his work was not in question. However, in a tight agenda such as that of the ACH Conference, it might not be the best thing to privilege one paper over the possibility of having a full panel, which would broaden participation. In that context, new ideas could be presented as part of a panel selection. The chair suggested that the incoming EC could review the matter.

10. Report of the Executive Committee and Secretariat, 2008-2009: Shepherd

invited the Secretary Treasurer to present the report, which was presented as follows: For the period May 2008-May 2009, the EC had met on four occasions – May 13, 2008, September 20, and 21, 2008, and May 11, 2009. The Committee had discussed and proposed to raise at the AGM, the voting procedures used at the ACH Conference, the term limits for various members of the Executive Committee, and the question of the amendment of the Constitution. Additionally other issues on which the Committee focused its attention included: the Gould-Saunders endowment fund, the role of chairs of the various panels, and the conduct of the 41st Annual Conference. 16 new members joined during the year which brought the membership on the books to 475, but many of these have lapsed membership. There were three new life members. Two bulletins had been published on the ACH website at Geocities.com. The Secretariat regretted that it was unable to send out a final paper mail during the year, but will undertake to complete that task shortly in an attempt to regularize the status of the members who attend sporadically. The web-master has started the process of developing a dedicated website for the ACH. The Secretariat again expresses its thanks for the important contribution to its expenses made by the UWI, Cave Hill, led by the principal and ACH colleague, Professor Hilary Beckles. **Craig-MacDonald** informed the AGM that she had not received any e-mail or other notification on the Conference. She had received what news she had by way of a third party. **Welch** reported that he was aware of some problems, but he assured the AGM that he had the e-mails in a bulk mail server that had the names organized in alphabetical ranges. There had been a problem with one of the name servers. Additionally, the e-mails given to him were not always correct. At this point, **Shepherd** invited **Welch** to present the financial report.

11. The Financial Report: Welch

asked the AGM to note that the report would be amended by correcting the date at the head of the document. This report had been prepared using a documentary template for a previous report, and he had inadvertently left the previous date. The AGM accepted the amendment. **Welch** proceeded to go through the report, indicating that the current financial viability of the ACH was largely due to the donation made by the Colombian LOC some years before, and to funds given by the Barbados LOC at the UWI (Cave Hill) who made a contribution. Were it not for those contributions, and the support of the Principal of the Cave Hill campus, the situation would have been pressing. He also noted that some funds were paid in Barbados dollars and these were used largely to pay local costs and hence were reported

separately in the financial statement. The AGM was also informed that the Gould-Saunders endowment fund was kept on the ACH account pending any decision to have it placed in an interest-bearing account. Unfortunately, in sending it to the ACH through American Friends of the University of the West Indies (AFUWI), an organization based in the USA, for tax purposes, a fee of US\$5,000 had been charged, thus, the fund that was recorded in the financial report was less that amount. It was understood that representation was being made to have the sum returned. **Craig-MacDonald** queried why the travel costs for the Secretariat had exceeded the previous year's costs. **Welch** responded that it was simply that travel costs had increased significantly. At the time of booking, he was forced to travel through San Juan, Puerto Rico, since all other airlines were booked up. He also pointed out that although the costs of the Secretariat were met by the ACH, he met significant costs out of his own pocket and thus did not pass on to the ACH all of the costs. **Thompson** noted that the Gould-Saunders fund might be put into a New Jersey account, which would minimize risks and lead to revenue to the fund. The AGM recommended that this matter be considered by the incoming EC. The amended financial statement was adopted by the AGM and is recorded below:

ACH FINANCIAL REPORT, MAY 2008-MAY 2009

(Prepared by PEDRO WELCH, SEC-TREASURER)

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Balance brought forward from 2008 Conference	\$9,229.95 US	Remittance to LOC Guadeloupe	\$2,548.44 US
In Puerto Rico account	\$313.03 US	Payment to webmaster	\$ 600.00 BDS.
Dues collected during 2009 Conference up to May 13, 2009	\$,945.00 US		
Dues collected post- 2008 conf.	\$1,147.00		
TOTAL \$US	\$11,634.98 US		
Collected in Euros at 2009 Conference	€90.00		
TOTAL In Barbados account (\$ BDS.) from fees paid in Barbados dollars before 2009 Conference)	\$1,760.20 BDS.		
Fees received at 2009 Conf in Barbados dollars	\$600.00 BDS.		
Total \$BDS	\$2,360.20 BDS.		
Gould/Saunders Fund	\$45,000 US		
		EXPENSES OF SECRETARIAT	
		Fees	\$ 100.00 US
		Air Travel and costs	\$ 900.00 US (paid out of ACH funds)

		Servicing of Executive Meeting	\$ 621.44 BDS (Met by ACH) (\$500.00 BDS met by UWI, Cave Hill*)
		Expenses of the Executive Committee 2009 Conference	\$ 285.60 US
<p>Note: Members of the ACH Executive, with the exception of the treasurer, travel at their own expense to the executive meetings and meet their own accommodation costs. This is a contribution to the ACH in kind and is identified but not accounted for in this budgetary and accounting statement. *In addition, the support for the Secretariat at Cave Hill, is documented but is not calculated in the Balance of the Barbados account, since it is requested to meet expenses and is not entered into that account. Accounting for those sums is made with the UWI, Cave Hill Bursary. The ACH is grateful to the Principal of the UWI, Cave Hill for his support.</p>			
		Balance in US & PR accounts	\$ 7,800.94 US
		Gould/Saunders Fund	\$45,000 US
		Balance of \$BDS.	\$1,138.76 BDS.

12. **Shepherd** reported to the AGM that 10 new members had attended the Conference as first-time presenters, and had been invited to the President's lunch. She also invited the AGM to consider a proposal from Erica Williams-Connell for ACH collaboration in hosting an essay competition. Was the ACH willing to collaborate and sponsor one of the prizes? A vigorous discussion ensued. **Blckett** noted that an essay competition was one way to reach out to the host communities. **Thompson** objected to any collaboration before the full details were known. He noted that other territories had heroes who were considered "bigger" than Eric Williams in whose name the competition was being put forward. The incoming EC should vet the proposal carefully, and if it was considered in the interest of the ACH, the EC could act on behalf of the AGM. **Augier** felt that an essay competition in the country where an ACH conference was to be held as the way forward. The AGM recommended that the matter be taken up by the EC.

13. **Other matters, including the question of an E-Journal:** **Dumont** mooted the matter of an e-journal, suggesting that it would attract young, and new, scholars and would help to show-case the quality of the ACH work. **Toussaint** observed that the matter of what happened to the papers after the Conference was an important consideration and having an e-journal would require presenters' input on what was done with their papers. **Heuman** noted that Society for Caribbean Studies had experience in web-publishing and could be consulted on the matter of an e-journal. The AGM accepted a proposal that **Dumont and Toussaint** should research the matter and report to the EC. **Craig-MacDonald** also suggested that in the future papers could be sent by e-mail in a PDF format and placed on a website that was password protected. Monteith noted that traveling with the papers posed its own difficulties, while noting in an aside that she had not been receiving e-mails. **Welch** responded that he was aware of some difficulties, but that her name was on the bulk e-mail lists. He noted that in some cases, campus servers rejected e-mails if they were seen as Spam. Additionally, members might wish to look in their junk e-mail folders to see if some incoming e-mails were being placed there. **Shepherd** raised the question of amendments to Clause 4b of the Constitution, which did not now make sense because of the hosting of ACH Conferences in mid-May.

She suggested that the matter be discussed and then voted on at the next AGM. . After vigorous discussion, particularly with respect to the proposal to amend Clause 4(b), by deleting the phrase, "... or on the 1st of May, whichever is earlier", the AGM was guided by a comment from **Marshall, Monteith** and others and had to reverse the error in voting on the change (which some members had suggested could be done despite the President's opening instructions on the matter). It was pointed out that Clause 7 (a) and (b) provided adequate notice of the procedures to be followed, especially Clause 7(b) which required notice of proposed amendments to be given at least three months prior to the AGM. In this context, the AGM resolved to have the matter voted at the next AGM as the President had initially and correctly noted at the outset. Two suggestions from Thompson and Welch that, in the circumstances, a waiver be granted and the vote made to stand were not accepted, and were particularly vigorously opposed by Wilmot, especially as the matter of a waiver had not been raised before the ill-advised voting. The President acknowledged the errors and noted the suggestions. The proposal to amend the Constitution to impose term-limits, currently open-ended, was not accepted; neither did the AGM make any further suggestions on the voting system.

- 14. 2010/2011 Conferences:** The AGM heard that Barbados had offered to host the 2010 Conference and expressed its thanks to the Cave Hill campus. The LOC in Barbados proposed that a theme of the Conference might be the life a contribution of Walter Rodney, the late celebrated Guyanese historian and political activist. It also proposed the additional panels of History/Analysis of Working-class or Labor Organizations, and Race Relations in the Caribbean. It was hoped that a conference in a Hispanic Caribbean country, for 2011 would be a reality by the next AGM. The President also reiterated her concern that countries in the Eastern Caribbean were not benefiting as hosts of the ACH conferences.
- 15. The report of the nominating committee:** The nominating committee reported as follows: elected to serve for 2009/2010 were **Pico** (President), **Moitt** (Vice-President), **Welch** (Secretary-Treasurer), **Cateau, Dumont, Monteith, and Terborg-Penn. As per the Constitution, the out-going President would serve on the EC for a further year.**
- 16. Election of nominating committee 2009/2010:** the following were elected to serve for 2009/2010: **MacDonald** (Chair), **Wilmot**, and **Saunders. Augier suggested that the EC should select the next Best Article Prize Committee rather than invite nominees at the AGM.**
- 17. Themes for the 2010 Conference:** The themes as presented in this bulletin under the heading Call for Papers were proposed.
- 18. Presentations:** Shepherd made presentations to Fergus, and Doelahasori who were rotating off the Committee. She thanked the Executive Committee for their support during her term and welcomed the new President, inviting him and the new EC to take their positions on the podium. **Shepherd** also received a gift from the EC and her Life Certificate from the Incoming President.
- 19. Remarks from President 2009-2010 and Introduction of new EC:** **Pico** thanked the out-going President for her work during her term, introduced the new Executive Committee, and announced that the EC would be meeting that evening to consider a few matters.
- 20. The meeting ended**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**THE GOUND-SAUNDERS MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND**

The ACH takes pleasure in announcing the establishment of the Gould - Saunders Memorial Endowment Fund of the ACH, courtesy of two of our members, Virginia Gould and Gail Saunders, in memory of their late husbands, Jeffry L Gould, M.D. and Winston Saunders, CMG, respectively. The purpose of the Fund is to provide assistance for graduate students and (and in some cases junior scholars) from universities and other institutions in the Caribbean and Central America to attend the ACH conferences. At this time, preference will be given to those from Cuba, Guyana, Haiti and Suriname. The first award will be made in 2010 for attendance at the 2011 conference.

Junior Scholars must

- be a member of the ACH in good financial standing (by the time of the award)
- be in the final year of the PhD programme
- intend to present a paper at the 2010 conference
- enclose a recent CV, support letter from supervisor and paper proposal with his/her application
- submit a budget (including invoice from travel agency)

Additional note for Junior scholars who wish to apply:

Please note that Graduate students should:

- hold a permanent position in his/her Department
- be employed for 1-5 years
- be presenting a paper at the conference
- submit an Invoice from a travel agency
- submit a letter of support from the Head of his/her Dept.

Please send applications to:

Fernando Pico
University of Puerto Rico
1940 Saucó, Urb.
Santa María
San Juan
Puerto Rico

e-mail :fafpico@hotmail.com

JOINING THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN HISTORIANS

ACH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! I want to join the ACH. I enclose Annual dues as follows:

Professional \$25 Student \$10 Institutional \$50 Benefactor \$75

----- or -----

Life Membership \$250

PLEASE PRINT

Date: _____

Last Name

First Name

Address:

E-mail:

Office Phone:

Home Phone:

Fax:

New Member:

Yes No

Need Receipt:

Yes No

Members are reminded that if they have not recently paid their dues or did so during the Annual Conference, dues for 2007-2008 are past due, since our membership year runs from **April to April**.

All payments must be made in US dollars, please make checks payable to:

The Association of Caribbean Historians

Post to: Pedro L V Welch, Department of History, University of the West Indies (Cave Hill Campus), Cave Hill, St. Michael, Barbados.

OBITUARY**OBITUARY**

The ACH joins with colleagues world-wide, who mourn the loss of Philip Curtin. We express our deepest sympathies to his family and relatives. We share the sentiments of Professor Paul Lovejoy, whose message, which is extracted below, was relayed to us by Roberta Kilkenny:

"It is with great sadness that news has arrived that Professor Philip D. Curtin has passed away. Phil was a pioneer in the study of Atlantic history and the study of Africa. He assembled a team of historians and scholars from other disciplines at the University of Wisconsin that has produced more than a generation of high quality researchers and professors. His research in demography revolutionized the study of the enforced migration of African peoples. His work in comparative history, epidemiology, and economic history has become standard reference for historians and other scholars in many fields of enquiry. I am humbled to have been one of his students and to have benefited from his scholarship. He inspired people, he worked hard, and he has left a strong legacy."