



Becoming America's Best

HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

“... and the best is History.”

Issue III

November 2007

This Month in History

- King Henry VIII became the head of the Church of England (1534)
- The Articles of Confederation were adopted (1777)
- The First Opium War began (1839)
- Russian Bolsheviks overthrew the government of Alexander Kerensky (1917)
- Kristallnacht (1938)
- Vietnamese Pres. Ngo Dinh Diem was assassinated (1963)

Ankeney Appointed to Assessment Review Panel (ARP)

The California Department of Education has invited curriculum leader Kirk Ankeney to join the Assessment Review Panel (ARP) that oversees development of the California Standards Test (CST) for history-social science. Ankeney served for many years on an earlier committee that oversaw testing issues at grades 8, 10, and 11 (the Content Review Panel (CRP)). He and resource teacher Matt Hayes are available to share insights relating to CST data and assessments with middle and high school colleagues throughout the district. Contact mhayes@sandi.net if you would like to schedule a presentation.



USS Midway Partnership



The San Diego Unified School District will soon embark on a new partnership with one of our city's most impressive historical/cultural attractions, the USS Midway Museum. Standards-based lessons for elementary- and secondary-level

classes are being developed to prepare our young people for field trips aboard the vessel, and this unique aircraft carrier museum will undoubtedly bring history alive for students. We appreciate the enthusiastic welcome we have received from educators from the USS Midway education department, and their gracious offer to help underwrite field trips for our students in 2008. Contact resource teacher Lucy Laudate at llaudate@sandi.net for more information.

History-Social Science Department Colleagues Will Present at NCSS

Lucy Laudate will facilitate a presentation on art history with educators from Colonial Williamsburg on Thursday, Nov 29, from 1:30-2:30 pm; Kirk Ankeney will participate in a presentation entitled "No Citizen Left Behind: American History for Alternative Education," on Saturday Dec 1, 11:45-12:45; and, Matt Hayes will facilitate a presentation featuring Point Loma High School teacher Patrick McElhaney and his students entitled, "Students Doing Social Studies" on Saturday, Dec 1, 4:15-5:00 pm.

Summer Scholar Professional Development Opportunities

Teachers of history-social science have a host of remarkable scholarly endeavors available to them in summer 2008. Two programs—the Gilder Lehrman Summer Seminars, and the National Endowment Summer Institutes--are among the best content-based PD available in the nation, and each includes generous grants/stipends for teachers. Peruse the offerings at: <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/teachers/seminars1.htm> and <http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-school.html>, respectively.

NOTE: Mark your calendars for a special workshop to be held in the library at Clairemont High School from 3:30-4:30 pm on 12 December 2007. Several past participants of the programs will share their experiences and their recommendations for successfully pursuing an award. RSVP your attendance to Margaret Wilson at (619) 725-7335.

Upcoming Events

- **National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference:** November 30- December 2. San Diego area teachers receive a registration discount.. For more information visit www.socialstudies.org/conference/
- **CSPAN Classroom Workshop:** November 27 from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM at the Mission Bay Training Center. For more information, contact Matt Hayes at mhayes@sandi.net
- **Distinguished Lecture:** Presidential Historian Robert Dallek, December 5 from 3:30-5:00 at Marston Middle School.
- **Summer Scholar Professional Development:** Prepare to apply for summer seminars hosted by Gilder Lehrman or the NEH at Clairemont High's library on December 12 from 3:30-4:30. RSVP to Margaret Wilson at (619) 725-7335.

Mission Statement

To provide the curriculum, tools, resources, and professional development for history-social science teachers and students to succeed in the classroom.