



Becoming America's Best

HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Margaret Wilson
October 31, 1945 – January 9, 2008

“... and the best is History.”

Issue V

January 2008

This Month in History

Ivan the Terrible crowned as the first Czar of Russia (1547)
King Louis XVI was guillotined (1793)
Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation (1863)
The start of the Zulu War (1879)
Qn. Liliuokalani forced to abdicate her throne in Hawaii (1895)
The UN met for the first time (1945)
Indira Gandhi was elected prime minister of India (1966)
The Shah fled Iran (1979)

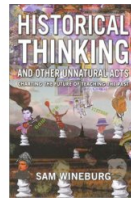
The History/Social Studies Department Says Goodbye to One of Its Own

Margaret Wilson passed away on January 9 at her home in El Cajon. Her sudden, unexpected, and thus far inexplicable death has left an incredible void in the lives of her family members and in the lives of her friends and colleagues here in the San Diego Unified School District. Lucy, Matt, and Kirk have so appreciated her friendship and support, her innumerable quips, asides and opinions (on all matter of things), and what one teacher aptly termed, “her gentle soul.” Margaret has been the administrative aide and the “voice” for the history-social studies department in San Diego for many, many years, and she will be sorely missed.

Ye Olde Colonial Williamsburg Sampler for 5th Grade Teachers

On Tuesday, March 4, SDUSD History department is hosting a special Colonial Williamsburg Sampler. The sampler will be from 4:00-7:00 PM at the Mission Bay Staff Development Center. Fifth grade teachers will have a chance to renew, refine and refresh their colonial curriculum through demonstrations given by teachers who attended the 2007 Teacher Institute in Colonial Williamsburg Virginia. You will be treated to colonial games, a colonial fashion show given by students, information on organizing a colonial day at your school and much more! You will also be entertained by a special performance of an authentic costumed character that is being flown in from Williamsburg. Vendors with colonial materials will be present, along with raffle prizes, and a light dinner will complete the sampler. Participating teachers will also be paid three hours of workshop pay to attend! Contact Lucy Laudate, for details or for Reservations at llaudate@sandi.net or call 619-725-7222.

Wineburg to Present to SDUSD Teachers



Stanford University's Sam Wineburg will be presenting to SDUSD teachers on Tuesday, January 29 at Marston Middle School. Dr. Wineburg is the author of *Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts*. He is one of the leading researchers in the field of teaching history and argues that “historical thinking is neither a natural process nor something that springs automatically from psychological development.” To RSVP contact Matt Hayes mhayes@sandi.net

Teaching About the Judicial System

For teachers of eleventh and twelfth grade history/social studies courses looking for a real world opportunity to teach their students about the justice system have the perfect opportunity by participating in the San Diego Teen Court program. As part of this program, students participate in trials in which juvenile offenders have agreed to take responsibility for their actions and to accept the legally binding sentences of teen court. Students can act as jurors, defense attorneys, and prosecutors. Additionally, members of the San Diego Bar Association conduct extensive training for students. Interested teachers can contact Teen Court through its website at www.sdteencourt.org

Up Coming Events

- **Distinguished Lecture:** Professor Sam Wineburg, author of *Historically Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts*, will be presenting to SDUSD teachers from 3:30-5:00 on Tuesday, January 29 at Marston Middle School's Little Theater. Contact mhayes@sandi.net
- **Colonial Williamsburg Convocation:** Tuesday, March 4, for 5th grade teachers. Mission Bay Staff Development Center, 4:00-7:00. Teachers will be paid 3 hours staff development stipend. Applications for Williamsburg are due by April 4. Contact llaudate@sandi.net
- **MyVote:** High School students will have a chance to cast their vote in a mock election on Monday, January 29 and Tuesday, January 30. To see if your school is registered go to the following link: http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/student_mock_election/report_participating_schools.pdf For more information go to <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection.htm>

Mission Statement

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