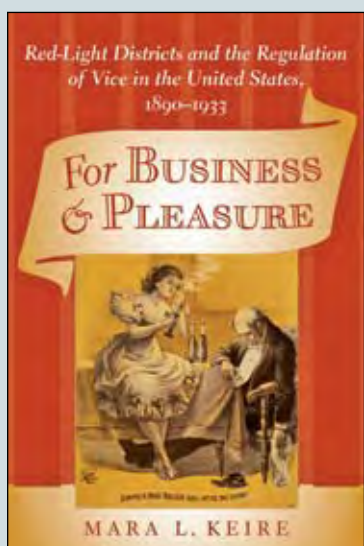
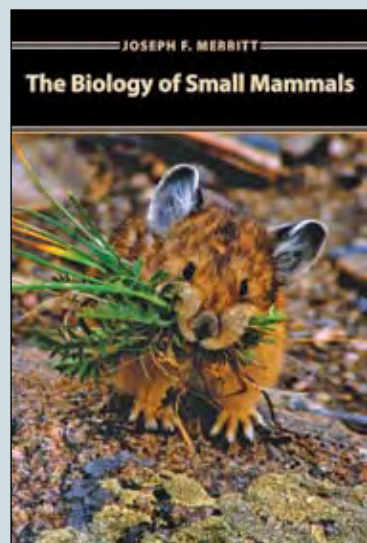


NEWS FROM THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS

In Print

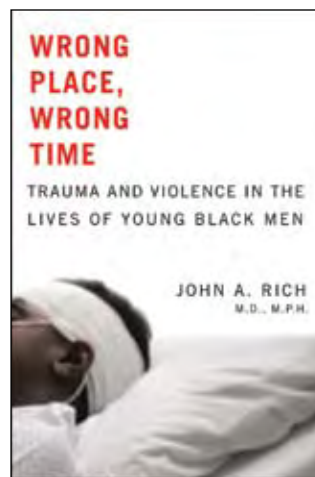


Online



Scholarly books contribute perspective and depth to the discussion of difficult, polarizing topics

Jack Holmes, JHU Press Staff



As a primary care doctor at Boston City Hospital, John Rich knew the sobering statistics all too well. Homicide was the leading cause of death for African American men between the ages of 15 and 24, occurring at a rate 19 times higher than for young white men. Among the surviving victims of a gunshot or stab wound, nearly half would have a similar injury within five years.

As a physician witnessing devastating injuries that he knew were preventable, Rich had an urgent interest in understanding the cycle of violence and trauma. As a black man who grew up in relative safety and comfort, he had deeply personal questions about his own perceptions and those of medical colleagues, the media, and society in general. He wanted to change the conversation and the stereotypes, and he wanted the victims—and the perpetrators—to be heard.

He decided to publish a serious book with a university press.

“I heard Jackie Wehmuller speak at Harvard about her work as an editor at the Press,” Rich recalls. “She spoke memorably about what makes writing compelling, and about her role coaching her authors. When I had the chance to talk with her about my work, she resonated with both the power and the challenges of writing the book I wanted to write. She got it.”

Rich’s book, *Wrong Place, Wrong Time: Trauma and Violence in the Lives of Young Black Men*, was published by the Press in 2009, and the response has been a wave of positive reviews, strong sales, and numerous invitations for talks and interviews. Marian Wright Edelman wrote on *HuffingtonPost.com* that “scholar-practitioners like Dr. John Rich are helping find the answers we urgently need to better understand the cycle of violence and save our children from being its next victims.” *Publishers Weekly* compared Rich to Rachel Carson, Michael Harrington, and Ralph Nader for “bringing attention to a pervasive social problem with a fresh perspective and warranted urgency.”

“I could tell by the way John described his writing project to me,” notes Wehmuller, “that he was inspired by the stories of the young men he had talked with, and that he wanted to write a book that would truly make a difference for them. Every word of his book counts. It’s more poetry than prose, really, and one of the most remarkable manuscripts I’ve seen in my many years at the Press. People open up to John. His peaceful presence resonates in person and in the book.”

Wrong Place, Wrong Time joins other Press books that bring depth and perspective to topics that commentators are often inclined to treat as simply controversial or polarizing. Books such as *Railroads in the African American Experience*, *Knights of the Razor*, and *The Baltimore Elite Giants* present a fuller picture of the history and politics of race in the United States. The life sciences list addresses points of conflict between science and religion with books such as *The Prism and the Rainbow: A Christian Explains Why Evolution Is Not a Threat*. Forthcoming books examine issues related to genetic testing, education reform, gender equity, and endangered species.

“Our national debate on issues of public interest is characterized by shrill posturing, unsubstantiated claims, and ad hominem accusations,” notes Johns Hopkins scholar Pier Massimo Forni, a former member of the Press’s Faculty Editorial Board and the author of several books on civility. “When they remain ideologically independent, university press books can, and often do, function as a positive corrective force by bringing clarity and fact-based arguments into the fray.”

Learn more about Friends of the Press online:

- Donor benefits
- Talks and book signings
- How your gift helps
- Bequests and planned gifts
- Event photos
- The Press and JHU

BOOKS FOR UNDERSTANDING



Commentary from JHU Press Director Kathleen Keane

In our age of tweets, blogs, and instant messages, there is still an important place for serious book-length examinations of important topics. The story on page one of this issue of *InPress* points to some recent JHU Press books that take on topics that are often addressed in sound bites and talk-show shouting matches but that greatly deserve more measured and thoughtful treatment.

Such works are the hallmark of university press publishing in general and the award-winning books available from the JHU Press in particular. Our recent titles have included works on health care reform, evolution, intelligent design, race, religion, sexuality, and political deadlock. Rather than furthering the often superficial and inflammatory public discussion of these topics, our books often succeed in redirecting or even elevating these discussions by adding the voices of scholars and researchers to the mix.

This valuable role played by works published by our press at Johns Hopkins and by those at other universities is admirably illustrated by the Books for Understanding program sponsored each year by the Association of American University Presses. For many years, the AAUP has publicized books published by university presses that bring research-based information and analysis to the public discussion of current events and important topics.

Such books by academic authors deserve the careful design, meticulous editing, and specialized publicity that the Press provides. While there is still a demand among both libraries and individuals for these serious books, it is well known that markets for some scholarly books have grown smaller and less predictable in recent years. We are very grateful, therefore, to the many Friends of the Press whose support is so important to our book publishing program. Soon we will invite Friends of the Press to support our work in our annual spring appeal. Please help us publish next year's important books.



Dean Smith Named Director of Project MUSE®



On March 10, the Press welcomed Dean Smith as the new director of Project MUSE, the flagship electronic publishing program for scholarly journals. Project MUSE is highly regarded for its innovative and collaborative approach to online publishing which offers a fair and sustainable model for both libraries and publishers. Smith will oversee an expansion to include more archival journal content on the MUSE platform and enhanced services to subscribers, content providers, and end users.

"We're delighted to welcome a highly regarded publishing professional like Dean to the Press and Project MUSE," said Press director Kathleen Keane. "We expect his thorough understanding of the digital publishing environment and of the challenges faced by scholarly publishers to be great assets in guiding MUSE's future strategic initiatives and in maintaining its strong competitive position as a premier provider of online content in the humanities and social sciences."

Smith comes to JHU Press with extensive publishing leadership experience and expertise in digital publishing initiatives, product management, technical direction, global sales and marketing, and strategic development. As director of content for the American Society for Training and Development, Smith created a digital publishing strategy for the society's periodical, book, and research publications. During a decade-plus tenure with the American Chemical Society, Smith oversaw dynamic growth in worldwide electronic access to the society's publications, designing innovative pricing models, emphasizing library customer relations, and implementing effective internal management systems. He previously spearheaded electronic publishing efforts for a variety of medical publication products at Chapman & Hall and led traditional journal publishing programs at C&H and Springer-Verlag. An accomplished writer and published poet, he holds a BA from the University of Virginia, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University.

"I have been observing the progress of Project MUSE since its inception as one of the leading initiatives in electronic scholarly publishing, and I have been greatly impressed by the expansion of content as well as the platform's enhanced web presence," said Smith. "I am both honored and excited to be joining MUSE and anticipate expanding its leadership position in the online scholarship community." —Melanie Schaffner

IN THE NEWS

Reviews | Links | Info

Recent Book Reviews

Theodore Kornweibel Jr.'s captivating book, *Railroads in the African American Experience: A Photographic Journey*, takes readers on an illustrated tour of the black railroad experience from slavery to Amtrak—and is picking up glowing reviews along the way.

Railroad History calls it "A major new work . . . destined to become a standard reference for years to come." *RAIL Magazine* declares that the book "is worth a trip to your local independent book store" and that "this inspirational masterpiece is about survival, overcoming adversity, and the triumph of the human spirit." And *Baltimore Magazine* says that "Kornweibel writes with the meticulous sweep of a historian, and hundreds of amazing photographs and related ephemera help tell the story."

—Claire McCabe Tamberino

Online Celebration of SEL's 50th Birthday

The Journals Marketing Department and the Technical Team from Project MUSE worked with editorial staff from the journal *SEL: Studies in English Literature, 1500–1900* to celebrate the journal's 50th volume in 2009–10. A virtual timeline of *SEL's* history is now available at press.jhu.edu/sel_history. The interactive website includes information on important moments in the journal's history, links to significant articles, and photos from celebrations taking place during the milestone year. Staff built the site to allow for the addition of future information to chronicle the next 50 years for *SEL*.

—Brian Shea

Awards

We're thrilled to announce several major awards recently received by JHU Press: Michael Burlingame's Lincoln bio won the 2010 Lincoln Prize; Seth Rockman's *Scraping By* took the 2010 Merle Curti Award and the 2010 Philip Taft Award; and The William H. Welch Medal went to *The Collectors of Lost Souls*, by Warwick Anderson.

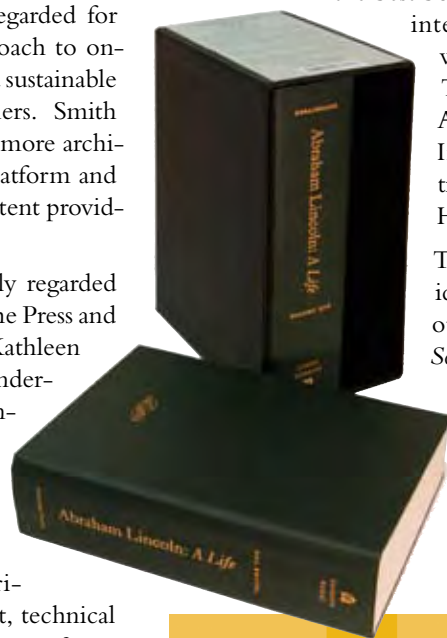
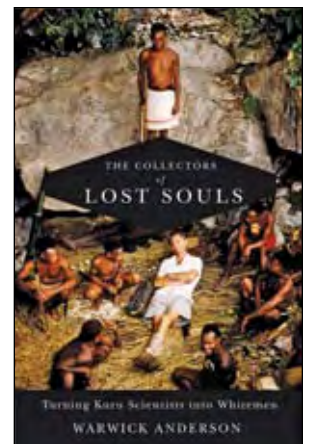
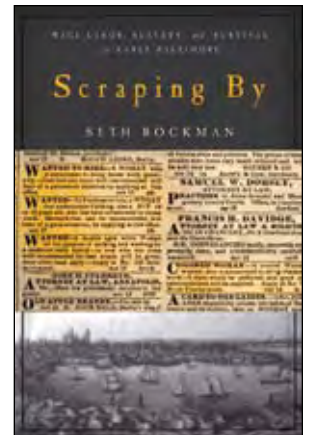
The \$50,000.00 Lincoln Prize is awarded annually by Gettysburg College and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to the finest scholarly work on Abraham Lincoln or the Civil War era. In awarding the prize, Lehrman Institute co-chair Lewis Lehrman called Burlingame's book "a landmark of American historical scholarship," and Gettysburg College president Janet Morgan said, "Though its length may be intimidating to some, Burlingame's narrative is accessible and engaging. No one who reads this powerful work will ever look at Lincoln quite the same way again."

Scraping By received the two awards at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians this past March. The book is the cowinner of the OAH's 2010 Merle Curti Award, given annually for the best book in American social and intellectual history, and the winner of the 2010 Philip Taft Labor History Book Award, offered jointly by the International Labor Relations School at Cornell University and the Working-Class History Association.

The William H. Welch Medal is given annually by the American Association for the History of Medicine for a book of outstanding scholarly merit in the field. *The Collectors of Lost Souls* earned the fifth Welch Medal for JHUP, joining titles that took the honor in 1972, 1997, 1998, and 2000.

There's plenty more awards news on our website.

—Brendan Coyne



INPRESS

SUMMER 2010 Volume 8, Number 2

INPRESS is the quarterly newsletter of the Johns Hopkins University Press.

Editorial Committee: Becky Brasington Clark, Colleen Condon, Brendan Coyne, Jack Holmes, Kathleen Keane, Melanie Schaffner, Brian Shea, Claire McCabe Tamberino

Contributors: Kathy Alexander, Vince Burke, Alicia Catlos, Christina Cheakalos, Anne Whitmore

Photography: Colleen Condon, Will Kirk

Designer: Susan Ventura

With comments or suggestions, or to add your name to our mailing list, contact:

INPRESS
Office of the Director
The Johns Hopkins University Press
2715 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

How do you support the Press?

Become a Friend / Use the envelope provided to become a Friend of the Press and help advance scholarly publishing at Johns Hopkins. Members enjoy discounts on Press books, invitations to author events, and special opportunities to learn about the art and business of publishing. From online innovations to beautifully printed works of scholarship, you'll learn what's new at America's oldest university press and support the publication of award-winning books and journals under the Johns Hopkins imprint. Read more at press.jhu.edu/friends/membership.html.



Make a connection.

Visit the Press online:
press.jhu.edu

Place an order:
Books: **1-800-537-5487**
Journals: **1-800-548-1784**

Get a discount:
InPress readers can receive a **25% discount** on books when ordering directly from the Press. By phone or online, refer to discount code **"HINP."**

Follow the Press on Twitter and Facebook:
twitter.com/jhupress
facebook.com/jhupress

Learn about Project MUSE:
muse.jhu.edu

Visit our booth at academic meetings:
press.jhu.edu/news/exhibits.html

Donate to the Press online:
press.jhu.edu/friends

Join the *InPress* mailing list or make a comment:
inpress@press.jhu.edu

For information about supporting the JHU Press, contact Jack Holmes at **410-516-6928** or jmh@jhu.edu

Consider Why Your Gift Matters / When you make a charitable gift to the Press, you help to support the publication of important and influential books that might not be published without a subsidy. Like the production of an opera or an exhibit at an art museum, many books are not fully funded by the income they generate. Some books may be landmarks in their field but may sell in relatively small numbers to specialists and professionals. Others may need subsidies to cover costs associated with special publishing needs, such as translation fees, illustrations, or unusual design and production requirements.

Join the Director's Circle / Your leadership gift to the Press of \$1,000 or more makes you a member of the Director's Circle, and your name will be among those listed in the Director's Circle Book chosen for that year. The 2010 selection is *Ocean State*, a wonderful collection of short stories by JHU's Jean McGarry. Director's Circle members will receive a signed copy of the book along with other donor benefits. Your gift must be received by July 1, 2010, to be included in *Ocean State*; gifts received after that date will be acknowledged in the 2011 selection.



Include the Press in Your Estate Plans / The Press and philanthropic friends are working to build the Press Endowment to a level that matches those of our peer presses, and donors are invited to explore opportunities to establish named publication endowments supporting books in literature, history, politics, regional interest, and other areas. For more information about the tax advantages of providing for the Press in your estate plans, contact the Press's representative in the JHU Office of Gift Planning, Kathy Shelton, at 1-800-548-1268 or 410-516-7954.

Buy a Book / Good customers help the Press do what we do best—sell great books and journals. If every JHU employee purchased just one \$20 paperback each year, the Press would earn more than \$400,000 in sales. If half of the 150,000 Johns Hopkins alumni did the same, resulting sales would top \$1,500,000. Support your Press and enjoy the award-winning books and journals we publish each year. And remember to ask for your 25% discount when you order directly from the Press—see the column at right for details.



PRESS CALENDAR

Talks

Book Signings

Events

June 8 Hopkins Club Lunch & Lecture Series

War of 1812—200th Anniversary Preview

with JHU Press authors Don Shomette and Ralph Eshelman and other guests

12:30 p.m. @ The Johns Hopkins Club

Maryland is making ambitious plans to celebrate the bicentennial of the War of 1812—and the JHU Press is doing its part with a multibook series *Johns Hopkins Books on the War of 1812*. The authors of the first two books in the series, Don Shomette (*Flotilla: The Patuxent Naval Campaign in the War of 1812*) and Ralph Eshelman (*The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake*), will lead a discussion of the notable history that Marylanders and the rest of the country are about to rediscover, and they will offer an overview of grand plans to celebrate in the Chesapeake region. Admission: \$20; Hopkins Club members contact the Club to make reservations; non-members contact Jack Holmes.

For information about attending events sponsored by the Press, contact Jack Holmes at **410-516-6928** or jmh@jhu.edu

PRESS PHOTO GALLERY

March 24, 2010

Dining on the B&O B&O Railroad Museum, Baltimore

An enthusiastic crowd of Friends of the Press, JHU Alumni, and B&O Railroad Museum members gathered in the museum's historic roundhouse for a program celebrating the Press's new book on the B&O's legendary dining service. Along with meeting the authors and touring the museum, guests enjoyed delicious food based on recipes included in the book.

1. The roundhouse was a beautiful setting for the event. **2. & 3.** Guests enjoyed sampling food, sharing recipes, and having books signed by authors Karl Spence and Tom Greco. **4.** Genie Wessel of the JHU Alumni Association shows off her copy.

See more photos at press.jhu.edu/friends/dining.html



1.



2.



3.



4.

April 14, 2010

Project MUSE Publishers Dinner The Octagon JHU's Mount Washington Center, Baltimore

The annual gathering of the Project MUSE Publishers Group included a dinner and talk by Press author Michael Olesker. The meeting brings together representatives of the 100 publishers whose journals are included in the online collection.

5. & 6. The publishers gathered for drinks and dinner after a day of meetings. **7.** Dean Smith, Kathleen Keane, and Michael Olesker. **8.** From left, Nick Lindsay of the MIT Press, Anne Marie Corrigan of University of Toronto Press, Clydette Wantland of University of Illinois Press, and Kim Steinle of Duke University Press.

See more photos at press.jhu.edu/friends/musedinner2010.html



5.



6.



7.



8.

JHU Press Renovation

The Big Dig—Spring 2010

The renovation of the Press's main building entered its most ambitious phase this spring with the excavation of the street level courtyard. The work will create a terrace for the building's lower level, bringing natural light and outdoor access to a combination of conference rooms and the staff lunch area. The renovation is expected to be completed in Fall 2010.

9. The Big Dig on the north side of the Press building got underway this spring.



9.

See more photos at press.jhu.edu/friends/renovation2.html

ENDNOTE

Vincent Burke, Senior Editor

Remembering Conservationist, Scientist, and Author John Thorbjarnarson

A few years back, scientist and conservationist John Thorbjarnarson called me to chat about his book idea, a volume dedicated to one of the rarest species in the world, the Chinese alligator. It struck me immediately as the type of book a university press should publish. I knew John slightly, but more-so knew of his conservation efforts. Among wildlife scientists, John was known as the "croc man." He traveled constantly, at least seven months of the year, in an effort to keep endangered crocodiles, alligators, and caimans from going extinct. It paid off. Through John's efforts and leadership over the past two decades, almost half of the world's species of crocodylians have dramatically increased in numbers. John took serious risks to accomplish these feats, not only by working with powerful animals, but also by traveling to far-flung, remote places. In early 2010, John contracted cerebral malaria during a conservation trip to Africa. He died a few weeks later, at the age of 52. Two months after his death, we published John's book (coauthored with Xiaoming Wang), *The Chinese Alligator: Ecology, Behavior, Conservation, and Culture*. It is a masterpiece, a continuation of John's dream to save the world's crocodylians.

