

GREETINGS! February not only celebrates Superbowl Sunday, Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras but also serves as Black History Month. It's appropriate to remind everyone that the story of the Underground Railroad did not end at the border to Canaan (Canada) and I encourage to teachers to expand regular UGRR curriculum to include what lay in store for escaped slaves and freeman north of the border. Indeed, the history of blacks in Canada began even earlier, after the American Revolution, when Canada became home to the first settlements of free blacks outside Africa. Teachers who choose to include Canada in their study of black history will discover interesting contrasts in migration patterns and *some* differences in the black social experience.

A national election was held in Canada on January 23 with the Conservative Party winning to form a minority government and Stephen Harper, the Conservative Party leader, is now the new Prime Minister of Canada. A new cabinet will be announced over the next few weeks as he takes on his new role in Canada's government. The Liberal Party that governed Canada for the past 12 years, and that was originally thought to survive recent financial scandals, will now take on the role of the Opposition in Parliament. Former Prime Minister and Liberal Party leader, Paul Martin Jr., resigned as a result of the election and the Liberals will decide on a new leader shortly. According to the CBC, it may be a while before another election is called so the new Conservative government is likely to be granted time to find its footing despite its minority standing.

There is more on Canada's government (see Item 7 and a NY Times analysis of the election in Item 11). I hope they and the many other resources suggested below prove beneficial and interesting to you. Best wishes teaching this month! Tina Storer

*PS: I encourage those of you planning to attend this year's **STUDY CANADA Summer Institute** to register soon! The deadline of April 1 is fast-approaching and spaces/scholarships are on a first-come, first-served basis.*

Should you no longer wish to receive this email, simply reply with "Please remove my name from the Canada Listserv". These resource notices and the K-12 Resource Flyer are also available on the [K-12 STUDY CANADA](#) website under K-12 News. K-12 STUDY CANADA represents shared outreach by WWU's Center for Canadian-American Studies & UW's Canadian Studies Center which jointly form the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center for Canada, funded by the USDOE (Title VI). Additional support is given by the Government of Canada.

1) [CANADA WORLD VIEW](#) - The Winter 2006 edition of *Canada World View* is now available online at www.international.gc.ca/canada-magazine. Published quarterly by Foreign Affairs Canada, the magazine provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues and highlights the Government of Canada's international initiatives and contributions. Feature articles in this issue thematically relate to Canada's role in Latin America and include "Eyes on the Americas," "Canada and the OAS," and "Finding Common Ground." You may be able to get hold of regular "hard copies" by contacting your regional Canadian Consulate.

2) [LANIER PHILLIPS TO VISIT WWU](#) - If you are a teacher in the Puget Sound area, please join us at WWU's Old Main Theater at 10am on February 15 to meet and listen to Lanier Phillips, the subject of the documentary *Dead Reckoning*, as he shares the inspiring story of how a shipwreck saved his life. Growing up fearful of whites in segregated and Klan-controlled Georgia, Phillips joined a segregated Navy as a teenager hoping for a better life than his parents had. One February night in 1942, his ship the *USS Truxton* was wrecked off the coast of Newfoundland and he was the sole African-American survivor. Four others clung to wreckage at sea and drowned rather than risk getting lynched on land. Phillips was surprised by the love and hope he found among white strangers and it empowered him to fight against racism throughout his life.

If unable to attend, listen to National Public Radio's *This American Life* broadcast of Lanier Phillips's story. You can go to <http://www.thislife.org> and, using the "Complete Archive" function, find the 23-minute audio file dated 12/7/2001, titled *Them*. Use the fast-forward button to jump to Lanier Phillips's story, which is about 30 minutes into the broadcast. It is well worth taking the time to listen to.

3) [AAAHRP 3RD ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY CONFERENCE](#) - The Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation (AAAHRP) is holding its 3rd Annual Black History Conference on Saturday, February 11, 2006, at Seattle University in Seattle. This conference, the only one of its type in the Pacific Northwest, emphasizes AAAHRP's commitment to present little-known or previously unrecorded Black History to the public. In particular, AAAHRP is striving to expand dialogue between scholars, historians, teachers, students, community activists and the general public. Please visit www.aaahrp.org for complete conference information, including registration. You can also e-mail conferences@aaahrp.org or call 206-547-5394.

4) **BLACK CANADIAN HISTORY WEBSITES** - Please take note of the following sites that offer educational information about black Canadian history and communities.

- **Blacks in Canada: A Long History** <http://www.statcan.ca/english/studies/11-008/feature/11-008-XIE20030046802.pdf> A backgrounder for the history of black migration to Canada.
- **The Underground Railroad: Finding Freedom in the Niagara Region** <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/underground> This site provides lots of information about the communities that most former slaves journeyed to on Harriet Tubman's Underground Railroad.
- **Black Loyalists: Our History, Our People** <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/blackloyalists/wireframe.htm>

This site explores an untold story of Canada's history: how it became home to the first settlements of free blacks outside Africa. The Documents section contains a number of original historical documents, including several first hand accounts of life as a Black Loyalist in Nova Scotia. There are many opportunities for teaching with DBQs: court records, official proclamations, personal letters, and a wealth of other material. A separate page describes a number of valuable secondary sources, historians, and links for further information. This site also offers sections called Our Story, People, Communities and Loyalists Now.

- **Black Community in the Prairies Website** <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/Athabasca/html/amber/index.htm> This site is devoted to the Amber Valley community.

5) **NEW COURSE FOR TEACHERS AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY** - *Canadian Connections to the Underground Railroad* (June 25-28, 2006 - Michigan State University - Lansing, MI)

This two-part course offers fieldwork in Windsor and former slave settlements and concludes with a one-day follow-up class on the MSU campus in October. During the June fieldwork stage, students will develop a unit for teaching about this final link in the Underground Railroad. Reflection, feedback, progress reports and plans for classroom implementation of the instructional materials developed in the course will be a major part of the follow up component of the class. Deferred grades (DF) will be issued at the end of Summer Session 2006. Out-of-state teachers should discuss alternatives to October class attendance with Bill Joyce (see contact info below).

The cost is approximately \$1408, which includes tuition, lodging (private room with shared bath), breakfast and parking for three nights at the University of Windsor and an activity fee that covers 2 group meals, instructional materials, admissions to historical sites and use of facilities at the University of Windsor. Other meals, travel and incidentals are not included.

For further information or a reservation form, please contact Bill Joyce, Department of Teacher Education, MSU, at bjoyce@msu.edu. Alternatively, call (517) 432-9625 or fax (517) 432-5092 (ATTN: ROSIE).

NB: You *do not* need to be a graduate student at MSU to take this TE 891 (3 Credit Graduate Course/Section 750/Summer Session). Also note that U.S. visitors to Canada are required to have a valid U.S. passport or birth certificate and photo ID.

6) **MORE EDUKITS!** - Last month I introduced many of you to *Alberta's Francophone Heritage* Edukit. Alberta's Heritage Community Foundation offers additional Internet edukits via a new site at www.edukit.ca. **Edukits.ca** is a public learning portal and dynamic gateway to multimedia web resources aimed at elementary and secondary classrooms. Each pdf packet includes lesson plans, activities, games and interactive content to capture students' imaginations and promote hands-on, interactive learning). The Alberta curriculum frameworks used are readily adaptable to most states' guidelines. Of particular interest are the edukits in the *Heritage Diversity Series* that offer global studies subtext (Black Heritage (Black migration from Oklahoma to Alberta), Latino-Canadian, Rwanda, West Balkans, and the Middle East.)

NB: A companion edukit to *Alberta's Francophone Heritage* Edukit is also available here.

7) **KNOW THE FACTS: Canada's Commitment to the War on Terrorism** - The *Connect2Canada* network at www.Connect2Canada.com offers news on Canada, including its defense and foreign policy issues. Visit the site

to sign up for their updates on topics of interest to you. (Thanks to Les Buell, New York teacher-associate, for bringing this to my attention!)

Canada is a key American ally in the War on Terrorism. Since 9/11, the Canadian Forces (CF) have deployed some 15,500 personnel and 20 warships to Afghanistan and Southwest Asia. CF personnel have also played key roles in several combat operations in Afghanistan.

The Canadian contribution to the War on Terrorism will be ramping up significantly in the next few weeks. While Canada already has 650 troops operating out of Kandahar, including a 250 member Provincial Reconstruction Team, the Canadian troop presence in Afghanistan will grow to 2,200 personnel and will be the largest Canadian military presence in a combat zone since the Korean War.

8) DID YOU KNOW? - The Golden Globe-winning and Academy Award-nominated film *Brokeback Mountain* was filmed in beautiful Alberta?

9) CANADIAN RECIPES OF THE MONTH - Planning to grill a little something for a Superbowl Party? If so, you might want to try out the following novelty recipe that livens up Canadian Grey Cup Parties! (Thanks to Boozebros.ca for the recipe.) You'll have truly North American flavors if you add Southwestern Chili and Mexican guacamole and chips to the menu. (In honor of vegetarians like Jodi Mears who don't appreciate dining on "dancing chickens", a second recipe is offered this month from <http://www.atcoblueflamekitchen.com/Recipe/RecipeList.asp>.)

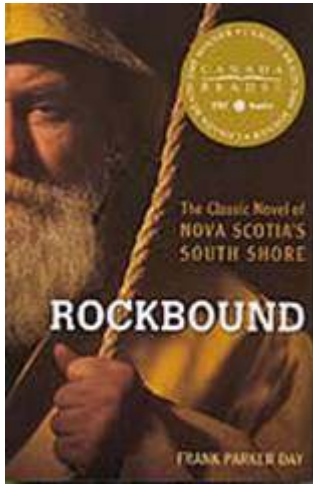
BEER CAN CHICKEN – Ingredients: 1 whole broiler chicken; 1 12-ounce can of beer, 3/4 full; 6 cloves of garlic, peeled; 2 tablespoons lemon zest; 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro; 1 teaspoon chili powder; 2 teaspoons hot sauce; olive oil; salt & pepper.

1. Remove any giblets, rinse chicken and pat dry with paper towels. Rub inside and out with a light coating of olive oil and salt and pepper.
2. Open a can of beer - it must be a *can*, not a bottle and a *Canadian brand*, of course! – I leave it to you to decide how you might best drain out 3 ounces of beer, leaving the can 3/4 full. Some recipes recommend that an upright
3. Drop garlic cloves into the can of beer. Add lemon zest, cilantro, chili powder and hot sauce. Gingerly swirl can to mix the ingredients.
4. Place large opening of chicken over the open end of beer can. The chicken drumsticks go to the bottom, so the chicken will look like it's sitting on a chair. (I love the visual! The recipe is sometimes even called *Dancing Chicken!*)
5. Pre-heat grill to medium high.
6. Place the chicken/can in a shallow metal pan or foil tray to catch drippings and place on the grill. Grill approx. 1 to 1-1/2 hours, depending on size of bird, until the thermometer registers 160-170°F in the thickest part of the breast and 175-185°F in the thigh.
7. Remove the chicken from grill and place, still upright on the can, on a platter or cutting board. Cover with foil and let stand for 15 minutes. (It's easier to carve the chicken if it is left on the beer can for carving.)

CANADIAN PUB-STYLE FONDUE - Ingredients: 1 bottle dark ale or Canadian beer; 1/2 tsp dry mustard; 1/8 tsp cayenne pepper; 1/2 tsp chicken bouillon mix; 1/8 tsp garlic powder; 1/8 tsp nutmeg; 2 tbsp cold water; 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese; 2 tbsp cornstarch; 1 cup cubed Velveeta cheese. **Go Seahawks!** Serves 4 – 6

1. Combine first 6 ingredients (dark ale through nutmeg) in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat.
2. Whisk together cold water and cornstarch until blended; stir into ale mixture. Cook until thickened and bubbly, about 2 minutes.
3. Reduce heat to low.
4. Gradually add cheddar cheese and Velveeta cheese, stirring until melted.
5. Transfer to a ceramic fondue pot. Serve warm with assorted steamed vegetables, French bread cubes or bread sticks while watching your favorite team win the Superbowl.

10) RUTH WRITER'S REVIEW OF ADULT LITERATURE - Day, Frank Parker. *Rockbound* (Toronto: Univ. of Toronto Press, 1989). ISBN 0-8020-6723-9



Although originally published in 1928, this novel set in Nova Scotia's south shore has recently been reissued. *Rockbound* is considered an enduring classic of Canadian fiction and Frank Parker Day captures well the daily life of those who lived along the Atlantic coast and on nearby islands. The regional dialect is rich with history and quite readable even though it was originally written almost eighty years ago.

Rich passages describe the herring, mackerel and albacore that were abundant in the ocean. When reading about the ways of those who fished the areas of the Maritimes, we are reminded of the reality of the decline of cod in the region in recent decades. Another central focus of *Rockbound* is the importance of the lighthouse off shore on Barren Island.

Underlying the conflict of the two central and powerful families is a love story as timeless as the fishing sites along the coast. Will the illiterate David win the heart of his teacher? This enjoyable novel is a must-read for Canadianists.

10) NEW YORK TIMES' NEWS ANALYSIS OF CANADIAN ELECTION - **Canada's Shift: To the Right, Gently** by Clifford Kraus (January 25, 2006)

TORONTO, Jan. 24 - Has Canada turned upside down in electing Stephen Harper as the next prime minister? Are conservative winds suddenly blowing through cities where gays and lesbians legally marry and the government pays everyone's health bills?

The next leader of Canada expresses skepticism about the Kyoto climate change protocol, opposes same-sex marriage and wants to make the Canadian military muscular again. He openly supported the American-led invasion of Iraq. All are positions that put Mr. Harper, 46, well to the right on the Canadian political spectrum.

By electing this free-market economist from Alberta, a conservative oil-producing province frequently likened to Texas, it may seem that the Canadian people were trying to debunk the prevailing political wisdom of recent years that their progressive-minded nation was drawing further and further away from the United States.

But many analysts and political observers here caution that it is too soon to draw too stark a conclusion from the election on Monday, in which Mr. Harper's party won a mere 36.3 percent of the popular vote. The shift in Canadian politics is likely to be far from seismic.

Mr. Harper ran a tightly orchestrated campaign focused pragmatically on the pocketbook, shirking ideology and hot-button social issues. He promised allowances to families with young children to help them pay for child care. He pledged modest cuts to the unpopular national sales tax and promised tax breaks for people using public transit. He did not make bold proposals for reforming the national health insurance system, and he made it clear that despite his support for the war in Iraq, he would not send troops there.

The election outcome, in fact, can be read as more of a rejection of Prime Minister Paul Martin's scandal-racked Liberal Party than an embrace of Mr. Harper's own modest agenda.

"It's a very slim mandate, and the party that is holding power is holding it by a thread," said Pierre Martin, a political scientist at the University of Montreal. "If you have a party system divided into four, one party can take power with a proportion of the vote in the 30's percent range. That doesn't mean the country is moving right."

Indeed, when the victorious Mr. Harper stepped to the platform early Tuesday morning before his adoring campaign supporters, he was careful not to suggest that he planned anything more than careful change.

Implicitly acknowledging that his backing was less than overwhelming, he noted that voters had "asked us to cooperate, to work together and to get on with tackling the real issues that matter to ordinary working people and their families."

Arriving in Ottawa in the afternoon, he made the briefest, and vaguest, of statements at the airport. "I know a lot of you are going to be with us now in the next few months and years ahead," he said, "as we start rebuilding this great country of ours."

Mr. Harper's modest words in part reflect a man who is shy to the point of being aloof, someone who has always been careful not to show all of his cards. He is known to have a fiery temper, and he barely disguises his distrust for reporters. His sense of humor on the campaign trail was most revealing in its self-deprecating jokes about his lack of charisma.

But the statements on Tuesday were also intended to balance two goals that will probably not always fit comfortably together.

To enact legislation and even for his government to survive, Mr. Harper must build bridges to work with three left-leaning parties that together will hold the balance of power in the lower house of Parliament, where his Conservative Party won 124 seats of 308 on Monday.

At the same time, he must offer hope to his western base that its patience during years in the political wilderness will eventually take it to a more conservative promised land.

"The westerners will have to understand they will have to make compromises and move to the center," said Michel C. Auger, a political columnist at Le Journal de Montréal. "But Harper can use the time to build a stronger power base in the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario so next time he can build a majority government and put forward their agenda."

His own background already straddles that geographic and political divide. Born and raised in Toronto, he moved to Alberta to work in the oil and gas industry in his early 20's and began his conservative tilt as he studied economics at the University of Calgary. He met his wife, Laureen, at a Reform Party convention in 1991.

In the 1990's he directed the National Citizens Coalition, a conservative advocacy group that favored free-market economics, privatizations and tax cuts, an agenda that does not necessarily resonate with most Canadians even today.

The one area where Mr. Harper may be able to make a difference is foreign affairs, even though he admits to having little expertise there. He will surely improve the tone of relations with the Bush administration, which has been downright acrimonious since the Iraq invasion, which Ottawa opposed.

Mr. Harper could serve as a bridge between the United States and countries that have signed and ratified the Kyoto protocol to find ways to cooperate on controlling climate change. He could reopen the debate on whether Canada should join the Bush administration's missile defense system, which Mr. Martin rejected with little diplomatic finesse. But even those modest goals may not be easy.

"It's a delicate balancing act," said James Blanchard, a former United States ambassador to Ottawa. "I am sure that Stephen Harper wants good relations with President Bush and the United States, but any Canadian prime minister has to keep a noticeable independence from the United States, or he loses credibility in Canada."

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