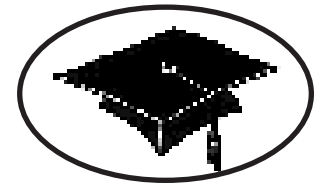


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# Berkeley Emeriti



# TI M E S

January 2004

**Robert Middlekauff,  
Preston Hotchkis Professor of History, Emeritus**

**“Mark Twain and Genteel Society”  
Saturday, January 31, 2004**

Robert Middlekauff came to Berkeley in 1962, with a Ph.D. from Yale University. As a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps he had served in Korea and Japan (1952-54). After receiving his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Washington he went to Yale for his doctoral degree. Except for a brief stint as head of the Huntington Library in Pasadena (1983-88), he taught courses in colonial American history to generations of Berkeley students until his retirement in 2000. Since his retirement, Professor Middlekauff has shifted his scholarly focus from the colonial era to 19<sup>th</sup> century America and one of its literary giants, Mark Twain. Some fragments from the rich cache of Twain letters in the Bancroft Library will be discussed at the January luncheon.

While at Berkeley he was Chair of the History Department (1978-81, 1997-98), Dean of Social Sciences (1974-77), and Provost and Dean of the College of Letters and Science (1981-83). Among his numerous awards and citations are the Berkeley Citation (1983), membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1984), the Academic Senate's Distinguished Teaching Award (1996), the Harmsworth Professorship at Oxford University (1996-97), and the Senate's Faculty Research Lectureship (1999).

Professor Middlekauff's first book (1963) was a study of secondary education in 18<sup>th</sup> century New England. A later biography: *The Mathers: three generations of Puritan intellectuals, 1596-1728* (1971), was awarded the Bancroft Prize in American History. His most widely read book, *The Glorious Cause: The American Revolution, 1763-1789* (1982), was awarded a gold medal by the Commonwealth Club of California. His latest publication is *Benjamin Franklin and His Enemies* (1996). Join us at The Faculty Club for this interesting talk.

**UCBEA Special Event  
Friday, February 13, 2004**

**Petroglyphs and Pictographs**

Petroglyphs and pictographs are engravings and paintings made on rocks by people of preliterate societies. For many years my wife and I have shared a hobby of seeking out and photographing these enigmatic markings.

Since they are found all over the world, their provenience takes us to all continents excepting Antarctica where none have yet been found. The French cave paintings perhaps attract the greatest admiration; our petroglyphs in the Bay Area are much more modest. Petroglyphs and pictographs, wherever they may occur, elicit questions: when were they made, by whom, and for what purpose? Join us for this special event. See

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**The Oral Tradition in Sacred Texts**

On Saturday, November 8, Professor Alan Dundes of the Department of Anthropology addressed the Berkeley Emeriti Association on the subject of folklore in the *Bible* and the *Qur'an*. Much of his lecture was drawn from his two recent books, *Holy Writ as Oral Lit: The Bible as folklore* (1999) and *Fables of the Ancients: Folklore in the Qur'an* (2003).

A folklorist looks at the *Bible* and *Qur'an* quite differently from a theologian or historian. Professor Dundes assured his listeners that describing sacred texts as folklore is not derogatory. The many inconsistencies between different versions of the same event in the *Bible* or *Qur'an* are not surprising to students of folklore. In fact, such different versions are clear evidence of oral tradition in which stories are told by successive generations of speakers. The differences become apparent only when the stories are written down, when they acquire an immutable form.

Numbers of persons or things are frequently inconsistent or contradictory. The number of visitors to Jesus's tomb is different in the accounts of John, Mark and Luke. The Old Testament Commandments received from God (or written by Moses) number more than 10, perhaps 11 or 12, depending on how you count them.

To those theologians who interpret the *Bible* literally such discrepancies present a problem, the seriousness of which depends on how closely they believe the *Bible* is literally the word of God. Historians have the problem of deciding which of the fables to agree upon, to use Napoleon's dismissive definition of history. The folklorist is not concerned with the accuracy or even the truth of the various accounts but seeks to reveal the presence of folklore in the texts and categorize it.

In both the *Bible* and *Qur'an* there are stories conforming to types. Folk tales have been compiled in numbered types – perhaps like the compilations made by legendary comedians who can recite jokes to each other by simply calling out numbers. A story from the *Qur'an*, discussed by our speaker, was described as Aarne-Thompson tale type 766. In this story the writer of the *Qur'an* indulges in what Professor Dundes describes as a purely folklorist discussion concerning the number of sleepers involved. The narrative voice, functioning as a folklorist, seems well aware that there are different versions of the tale and concludes that Allah best knows their number.

Analysis and criticism of the *Bible* is a well-accepted practice in the West, but Islam has severe strictures forbidding analysis and commentary on the *Qur'an*. It is not permissible to translate the *Qur'an* from Arabic, and Muslims, even in non-Arab countries, must recite the text in Arabic. However, in cultures that respect disinterested investigation, Professor Dundes's enlightening commentaries should not incur the wrath of Christian, Jew or Muslim.

Larry Waldron

**The Weather Outside is Frightful**

Perhaps now is the time to consider the AARP Driver Safety Program. A toll-free number (888/227-7669) provides information on the program. When I took the course it was held in the basement of old Herrick Hospital on Dwight Way, cost \$10, and completion resulted in a reduction in my car

**Berkeley Emeriti**

**F I M E S**



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## Extraordinary Professor

This year the Board of the Emeriti Association inaugurated an award to honor colleagues who have continued to do exceptional work as scholars, teachers and community activists since their retirement. In September, the Board bestowed this award on Professor Mark Rosenzweig of the Psychology Department. At its luncheon meeting on November 8, the Association honored Professor Eugene Hammel of the Anthropology and Demography Departments for his extraordinary record of teaching, research and service since his retirement in 1993.

During the past decade Professor Hammel has regularly taught courses in the Demography Department, chaired five doctoral dissertations, supervised seven postdoctoral fellows and served as department chair in 1996-97. [It should also be added that Gene was the founding chair of this department.] He has published some 50 papers since 1993 on a variety of topics ranging from demographic studies in the Balkans to the demographic roots of political instability world-wide. Gene has served on four national advisory committees including two which helped reshape the funding of social science within the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation. Over the last two years he has been a central contributor to the National Academy of Science's efforts to bring the nation's scientific resources to bear on countering the crisis of terrorism. He drafted large sections of the recently published reports "Discouraging Terrorism" and "Terrorism Perspectives from the Behavioral and Social Sciences" and was the single author of an overview "Dimensions of Terrorism: Actors, Actions, Consequences." Professor Hammel's high-profile work on the panel on terrorism is one of the most visible and important contributions of UC Berkeley to the national arena where science helps shape policy.

The Board salutes Gene Hammel for his outstanding record of post-retirement service.

### In Memoriam Clark Kerr (1911-2003)



Professor Kerr at his 2000 Learning in Retirement lecture, "The 60s at the University of California as I Saw Them."

## SATISFACTORY SERVICES



### New Recommendations



**Marize Almeida** (232-9045) is excellent at cleaning homes, offices and apartments and guarantees all her work. (June Cheit)

**Kirk T. Allen** of Lamorinda Electric (925/283-9473) is a good electrician who will take small jobs (Olivia Eielson).

**Frank Zincavage** (420-1559) Carpenter, Craftsman, Handyman. (Mel Webber)

### Reprise: 2003 Recommendations

**Tom at Woolery Window Washing** (925/935-2119), Dependable, flawless work, reasonable. (Beverly Portis)

**Tony at The Recovery** (843-2708), (Upholstery), Reliable craftsman, good taste. (Claude Stoller)

**Design Framing** (530-4004) Chris Lange, Artistic eye, excellent framing, reasonable. (Louise Taylor)

**Tom Cat Moving and Hauling** (864-1900, fax 864-1064) Tom Maris "Serving the entire Bay Area." (Claude Babcock)

**Bill Hubartt** (547-5896) Licensed electrician, reasonable rates, will do small jobs. (Louise Taylor)

**Appliance Sales and Services** (800/424-6783 - S.F.) Small electric appliances. Reasonable. (Claude Babcock)

**Jim's Quality Asphalt** (614-7154) Driveway repair, professional work, reliable, reasonable. (Charles Muscatine)

**California Draperies** (895-2111) Maria Furtado - Excellent work, reasonable. (Clare Cooper Marcus)

**John Agnitsch** (367-6564, agnitsch@aol.com), Licensed electrical contractor. Fast, reliable. (J.B. Neilands)

**Herta Weinstein** (845-8724) Yoga for seniors is highly recommended. (Juanita Neilands)

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## *Upcoming Campus Events*

### DEPARTMENT OF THEATER, DANCE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

#### **All's Well That Ends Well**

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Beth Hoffmann  
April 1 - 3, 2004  
Zellerbach Room 7

Shakespeare's bittersweet comedy follows the tale of Helen, a resourceful young woman, in her pursuit of impossible love.

April 1 (8 pm), April 2 (8 pm), April 3 (2 pm and 8 pm) – \$5

#### **Spring Choreography Workshop**

Directed by Christopher Dolder  
May 7, 2004  
Durham Studio Theater  
Students in the dance program present their original group works.  
May 7 (4:30 pm and 8 pm) – FREE

### BERKELEY ART MUSEUM EXHIBIT

#### **Eccentrics and Court Painters in Eighteenth-Century China**

March 3, 2004 - June 27, 2004

The fall of the native Ming dynasty in the seventeenth century carried with it not only political change, but creative upheaval as well, as artists adapted to new patronage or broke with orthodox painting traditions to better express the trauma and alienation they experienced under the Manchu regime. This Asian Galleries installation includes a number of works by those who took the latter route: innovative artists such as Chu Ta, Tao-chi, Huang Shen, and Hua Yen who were subsequently deemed "eccentric" painters (as much, perhaps, for their often irregular lifestyles as for their painting styles and