

# SOCIETY FOR HISTORIANS OF THE EARLY AMERICAN REPUBLIC

*Office of the President*

SHEAR Distinguished Service Award

for

**Constance E. Schulz**

Connie Schulz earned her BA degree from the College of Wooster and her MA and PhD from the University of Cincinnati. The first notch on her vita came from the “Documentary History of the First Federal Congress” an NHPRC project at George Washington University. She bounced around the Washington area for a number of years before moving to the University of South Carolina, where she has been Professor of History, Co-Director of the Public History Program, and managing editor of the Papers of Henry Laurens.

Connie has served two Fulbrights and won at least ten grants, some with 6-figure tags! She is the author of some seventeen book chapters, another dozen articles and review essays, two major project reports, and dozens of professional presentations at home and abroad. The range of topics represented in her publications is daunting, and when you read them in context you can see a career mapped out as much by the work that needed doing as by Connie’s own career agenda. In fact, the most impressive aspect of her vita may be her extraordinary record of service to the institutions that preserve our sources, to public educators of all sorts, to her students, and to academic organizations that promote and protect our enterprise.

Public history has always been central to Connie’s professional vision—documentary editing, museum exhibits, historic houses, historic performances, records and archives. She created at South Carolina one of the nation’s premier public history programs, contributed early to the work of the National Council on Public History, and promoted (with the other hand) women’s history and opportunities for women in the history profession. She was present in 1979, at the infamous “pajamafest” in Annapolis, where Ed Pessen serenaded our huddled founders during the midnight fire drill.

It is Connie we have to thank for the SHEAR tradition of seeking links to public history institutions and opportunities wherever we gather for our conferences. (Mud Island, Conner Prairie, Gunston Hall, the Hermitage, Monticello—the list goes on.) I believe she was the one who wrangled Charlie Joyner into singing “Cindy Cindy” for us at Toronto, one of several music events we have enjoyed over the years.

For keeping it fun, for reminding us that there are “real people” invested in historical study, and for setting the highest standards of inquiry, service, outreach, and integrity since SHEAR began, we hereby recognize Constance E. Schulz with the SHEAR Distinguished Service Award.



John Lauritz Larson, President

July 19, 2014