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John Riley- Sales Director, Eastern Book Company

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Profile Encouraged

John Riley

Sales Director, Eastern Book Company
<jdriley@mail.javanet.com>

Born when and where: April 15 1950 (Aries); Fort Bragg, California on the Mendocino coast. I grew up in Ukiah and Santa Rosa.

Current Residence: Northampton, Massachusetts. In the foothills to the Berkshires on the Connecticut River.

Education: B.A. Comp. Lit. from **University of California Santa Barbara**; graduate studies in modern American literature with **Hugh Kenner**; Library Science at **University of Rhode Island**; 2 years of residence in Italy: **Liceo Galvani** and **University of Padua**.

Summary of job experience: Work-study in the Art Library at **UCSB** translating for catalogers. Opened a bookstore in Isla Vista during senior year at UCSB. Two years later opened a second bookstore in Santa Barbara. I met my wife when she came into the shop one summer while on vacation. After moving to her home state of Massachusetts we owned and operated bookstores in Amherst and Northampton. Later I worked in sales for **Peregrine Smith and Spring Publications**. I then worked for **Ambassador Book Service** as a sales representative. For the last four years I have worked as the Sales Director for **Eastern Book Company**.

Family: Married to **Patty Ferretti Riley**. She runs **Gabriel Books**, a used and rare bookshop in Northampton. The shop has had **Bob Dylan**, **Kurt Vonnegut**, **Julia Child** and **Janet Belanger** as customers. We have 2 children: **Gabriel** 22 yrs. and **Corinna** 18.

Proudest Accomplishment: Working with my wife and family to help my son **Benjamin** during his struggle with Adolescent Onset Bipolar Disorder and addiction. Though he died in June 2000, we were blessed to have had him with us for twenty years.

Fond Memory: Living with the **Guandalini** family in Bologna, Italy while on an **American Field Service** scholarship. I still speak Italian with a Bolognese accent. And returning to Italy 3 years later to study in Padua, a 30 minute train ride from Venice where student tickets to **La Fenice** opera house were only \$6.00.

Favorite Pastime & Hobbies: Golf, cooking, book collecting.

Last books read: *Laughter in the Dark* by **Nabokov**; *Papal Sins* by **Gary Wills**.

Pet Peeve: Neologisms such as: infomediary, infopreneur, info anything, p-books, ebraries, e-tc.

What in 5 years: Traveling internationally for Eastern Books.

World enough and time: Reading and writing and traveling around Ireland for a year with time off for a combination golf and distillery tour in Scotland and a detour to the Edinburgh Festival.

Advice: The organized person can be happy, even in hell. (Japanese Proverb)

Biggest surprise: When my sister **Catey** took me to the Napa Valley for a birthday dinner and instead put me in a glider. 5 minutes later we were 2,000 feet in the air. I was too blown away to be scared.

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It is the remaining three sections of Hardy's work that lend a unique flavor to *Women in*

U.S. History. Rather than being annotative in nature, these chapters discuss the past and present study of women in history. "Historiography of Women in the United States" reveals that there has been a written record of women in history since Colonial times. The integration of women's studies into the historical canon is investigated in "Women's History Theory and Methodology." This integration, however, requires much thought, discussion, and change in and about the current education system. This dilemma is considered in the final chapter, "Transcended Education."

It simply cannot go unnoted that *Women in U.S. History* contains a superbly detailed table of contents and a thorough index. Standard among Libraries Unlimited publications, these points of reference make Hardy's book reader- and researcher-friendly.

Women's history is, quite unfortunately, a sticky subject in that perceptions of its worth are often skewed. (Arguably, the same can be said for black history.) Those of us who recognize the utter importance of digesting an accurate historical record see that is impossible to do so without looking at all aspects of human civilization, be they aspects of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, or religion. In society's quest for political correctness, much lip service is paid to the significance of women's role in history. Yet our own Library of Congress does not include "Women's History," "History - Women," "Women in History," or even "History of Women" in its list of subject headings. Women's history, along with other minorities' history, needs to be in our libraries. When it is in our libraries, it can be studied by our patrons. When it is studied by our patrons, it can be added to schools' curricula. When it has been added to individual curricula, it can be integrated into the education system. Order Hardy's *Women in U.S. History* and jump-start the cycle.

Russell, David Lee. *The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2000. 0786407832. \$55.00.

Reviewed by **Debbie Vaughn**
(College of Charleston) <vaughnd@cofc.edu>

Since I am a born-and-bred South Carolinian, and also possessing a BA in history, **David Lee Russell's** *The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies* intrigued me by its title alone. Often, when an American thinks of the Revolution, he or she conjures up mental sketches of George Washington in the frigid Delaware River. Seldom do people realize the extent of war activity in the southeastern sector of this glorious country.

In his summer blockbuster "The Patriot," **Mel Gibson** gave Charleston—or Charles Town, to which it was then referred—sudden popularity for its role in the American Revolution. As is the case in many "historical fiction" productions, Mel's invented character, **Benjamin Martin**, along with most of the characters in "The Patriot," were conglomerates of sorts, based on a handful of actual Revolutionary personalities. (Go to the "Characters" section at www.thepatriot.com to learn more about the film's personages.) *The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies* gives readers a view of these personalities and the history that molded and enveloped them.

Russell begins his work with a brief yet solid background of early southern American history. Relating the slave trade, indentured servitude, and individual colony characteristics, he sets the stage for the ever-present and permeating conflict that became the

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