

Presenter & WASAH Staff Backgrounds 2009 Summer Institute

Brett Barker, *UW-Marathon Assistant Professor of History*, was the first year Campus Coordinator for WASAH project activities (April 2008 through April 2009). Dr. Barker has taught at UW-MC since 2002, and received his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001. His research interests include the northern home front during the U.S. Civil War. The University of Wisconsin Press has published his book, *Exploring Civil War Wisconsin: A Survival Guide for Researchers* in 2003. For the past five years, he has managed the K-8 Marathon County History Teaching Alliance, and has conducted seminars for K-12 teachers on the Civil War and on the use of primary sources in the classroom. Dr. Barker was assistant director of the Wausau School District and UW-Marathon County's *Teaching American History* grant project from 2001-04, and he frequently presented at sessions for the TASAH program from 2004-06.

James Coates is currently an associate professor in UW-Green Bay's Professional Program of Education. He lectures frequently around the country on the topic of sports, leisure and recreation history, including topics such as *Fun and Humor in Negro League Baseball*, and *Sport and the Construction of Identities: Ethnic Self-Determination from the Ethnic Point of View*. He has written several books on African American themes and persons within sports. Professor Coates received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland -- College Park.

Mike Derr of CESA 6 is the K-12 Coordinator for the WASAH Project. Mr. Derr served as the K-12 Coordinator for the Teachers Academy for the Study of American History (TASAH) TAH-funded grant project administered by CESA 6 and UW-Oshkosh from 2003 through June 2007. Mr. Derr has also served as a grant writer and educational program specialist with CESA 6 since 1999, where he has assisted school districts with program planning and securing grant funds for professional development, at-risk, technology, reading and literacy and other programming. Prior to his employment with CESA 6, Mr. Derr managed federal juvenile justice and state gang diversion funds for the State of Wisconsin.

Don Dingleline is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. With the goal of encouraging students to contemplate the work literary texts perform in their historical moments, he has created a course on Literature and History and has taught literature seminars on such subjects as American slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Great Depression. Editor of Rebecca Harding Davis's Civil War novel *Waiting for the Verdict*, his essays and reviews have appeared in *PMLA*, *Women's Studies*, *Legacy*, *Journal of Southern History*, and *Studies in American Fiction*. He has also contributed essays to *Back to Peace: Reconciliation and Retribution in the Postwar Period* (U of Notre Dame P, 2007), *Reading America: New Perspectives on the American Novel* (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008), and *The Exquisite Corpse: Chance and Collaboration in Surrealism's Parlor Game* (U of Nebraska P, forthcoming).

Jim Feldman teaches Environmental Studies and History at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. His research focuses primarily on American ideas of wilderness. His book, *A Storied Wilderness: Nature, History, and the Rewilding of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore*, will be published in the Spring 2010. Jim has previously presented at several different TASAH institutes and workshops in Oshkosh.

James Grossman is Vice President for Research and Education at the Newberry Library, and Senior Research Associate in the Department of History at the University of Chicago. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, and has taught at the University of California, San Diego. He is the author of *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (1989) and *A Chance to Make Good: African-Americans, 1900-1929* (1997). He was project director and co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of Chicago* (2004), and co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of Chicago Online* (www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/). He also is the editor of *The Frontier in American Culture* (1994) and co-editor of the Univ. of Chicago Press series "Historical Studies of Urban America" (22 vols. 1992-). His articles and short essays have focused on various aspects of American urban history, African American history, American ethnicity, and higher education. His book reviews have appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* and *New York Newsday* in addition to various academic journals. *Land of Hope* received prizes from the Gustavus Myers Center for Human Rights and the Illinois State Historical Society. *A Chance to Make Good* won awards from the New York Public Library and the National Council for the Social Studies. Professional service has included elected offices in the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians, ethics committees for the AHA and the OAH, and Advisory Boards for the AHA, Center for New Deal Studies at Roosevelt University, Illinois Historical Society, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and Chicago Public Library.

Glen Jeansonne has taught history for 30 years at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. His teaching career also includes stints at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Williams College, and the University of Michigan. Dr. Jeansonne earned his Ph.D. at Florida State, where his dissertation focused on the life of “Judge” Leander H. Perez, a militant Louisiana segregationist, Dixiecrat and political ally of Huey Long. His books include a biography of Long entitled *Messiah of the Masses: Huey P. Long and the Great Depression, Transformation and Reaction: America, 1921-45*, which interprets the interwar period as an era in dynamic tension between change and resistance to change, and *A Time of Paradox: America Since 1890*, which interprets the epoch as a time of an unprecedented velocity of change and a period of contradiction and irony.

Jonathan Kasperek is assistant professor of history at the University of Wisconsin Waukesha, where he teaches courses in American and Wisconsin history. His award-winning biography of Philip F. La Follette, *Fighting Son*, was published in 2006 and based on his doctoral dissertation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is currently working on a history of the American Midwest and volunteers at Ten Chimneys national historic site in Genesee Depot.

Stephen Kercher is an associate professor of history at UW Oshkosh and the author of *Revel With a Cause: Liberal Satire in Postwar America*. Before directing the Black Thursday Oral History Project, he co-founded and co-directed TASA (Teachers Academy for the Study of America), a TAH grant-funded project administered jointly by UW Oshkosh and CESA 6. Professor Kercher's research interests include: Modern American wit and satire; post-war American intellectual and cultural life; and the history of American advertising. Dr. Kercher is currently working on a history of the United States during the mid 1970s.

Andrew Kersten has taught at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay since 1997 after graduating with a Ph.D. in American history from the University of Cincinnati. He is a U.S. labor historian interested in the relationships between average workers and the federal government. In his courses, he emphasizes themes such as daily life and labor, immigration, politics, and economic change, and also rigorously teaches historical methods and skills. Kersten's research and writing have centered on the experiences of workers in the 20th Century. His first book, *Race, Jobs, and the War* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000) was an investigation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC). Kersten's two newest books are: *Labor's Home Front: The American Federation of Labor and World War II* (New York: New York University Press, 2006); and *A. Philip Randolph: A Life in the Vanguard* (Landham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007). The first explores the neglected history of the AFL during the 1940s, and the second is a short biography with documents intended for college classrooms. Currently he is writing a biography of the famous American lawyer, Clarence S. Darrow.

Michelle Kuhl, an assistant professor of history at the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, received her doctorate in U.S. History from the State University of New York Binghamton. She teaches courses in 19th century U.S. History, Women's History, and African American history. Currently, she is writing a book on the anti-lynching movement.

James (Vince) Lowery was born and raised in eastern Virginia. He earned his Master's in History at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where he produced a master's thesis on the cultural legacy of Stanley Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964). Leaving behind the Cold War and the Upper South, Lowery traveled to Oxford, Mississippi, where he pursued a doctoral degree in the Department of History at the University of Mississippi. He specialized in the history of the South, memory, and race relations in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. While completing his Ph.D., Lowery spent one summer working for the Wilmington Race Riot Commission, where produced supplementary essays for the report and participated in commission meetings. He joined the Department of History at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte as an instructor in Summer 2006. In May 2008, Lowery completed his dissertation, "Reconstructing the Reign of Terror: Popular Memories of the Ku Klux Klan, 1877-1915." He is currently revising my dissertation for publication and working on a number of other projects, including a study of one of the suspected conspirators responsible for the riot. Lowery is excited to be joining the Departments of Humanistic Studies and History at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay this fall.

Barbara McGowan has been a member of the Ripon College History Department since 1981. She is also director of the college's Women and Gender Studies program. She earned her M.A. and Ph. D. in American Culture from University of Michigan. Courses Dr. McGowan has taught include: Women in American History, Gender Roles in American History, Film and American History, Gender and Film, Women's Lives, Constructing American Lives, Recent America, Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies, and American History Survey. This past semester she was on leave researching the history of white women in Hawaii and developing a new course on contemporary American history.

Ed O'Donnell earned his doctorate in American History from Columbia University (1995) and currently is Assoc. Professor of History at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. He is the author of several books, including *Ship Ablaze: The Tragedy of the Steamboat General Slocum* (Random House, 2003) and the forthcoming *Talisman of a Lost Hope: Henry George and Gilded Age America* (Columbia University Press). His scholarly articles have appeared in the *Public Historian*, *Journal of Urban History*, and the *Journal of the Gilded Age and progressive Era*. This July he will publish (as co-author) a new U.S. History college-level textbook, *Visions of America: A History of the United States* (Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009). O'Donnell is also active in the field of public history. He has curated several major museum exhibits on American history and appeared in several historical documentaries. He has provided historical insight and commentary for PBS, the Discovery Channel, and National Public Radio. Since 2002 O'Donnell has made scores of teacher professional development presentations, including content lectures, pedagogy workshops, and walking tours, for Teaching American History grant programs in New York, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Virginia, and Florida.

Jane M. Pederson, Ph.D., Professor of History at UW Eau Claire, has research interests in gender history, the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, immigration and community building. Pederson is author of *Between Memory and Reality: Family and Community in Rural Wisconsin, 1870-1970*, and is writing a book tentatively titled, *Pardonable Offenses: Gender Ethnicity and Justice in the Rural Midwest*. She appeared as a presenter at the TASA program's "Wisconsin Symposium" in 1986.

Jeffrey Pickron has served as a full time lecturer with the UW Oshkosh's Department of History since 2004. He was a frequent presenter at several summer institute and school year workshops funded through the TASA program, and he currently serves as co-director of the WASAH Program. His research interests include: modern American social and political history; postwar social movements; American labor history. He earned his A.B.D. at Binghamton University in 2002, and he is pursuing his Ph.D. ... Contact Information: 920/424-1409 (work); pickronj@uwosh.edu.

Jerald Podair is Associate Professor of History and the Robert S. French Professor of American Studies at Lawrence University. He is the author of *The Strike That Changed New York: Blacks, Whites, and the Ocean Hill-Brownsville Crisis* (Yale University Press), which was a finalist for the Organization of American Historians' Liberty Legacy Foundation Award for the best book on the struggle for civil rights in the United States, and an honorable mention for the Urban History Association's Book Award in North American urban history. His most recent book is *Bayard Rustin: American Dreamer*, published in 2009 by Rowman & Littlefield. He is the recipient of the Allan Nevins Prize, awarded by the Society of American Historians for "literary distinction in the writing of history," and a Fellow of the New York Academy of History. In 2008 he was appointed by Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle to serve on the state's Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. Podair presented twice at summer institutes sponsored by the TASA grant project.

Lisa Poupart is an Associate Professor and Chair of First Nations Studies at UW Green Bay. Dr. Poupart is Ojibwe or Anishinabe, enrolled with the Wisconsin Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe Indians at Lac du Flambeau in Wisconsin. She holds a Ph.D. in Justice Studies with a concentration in federal Indian policy, from Arizona State University. Dr. Poupart presented during WASAH's March 2009 spring workshop held in Green Bay.

Troy Reeves has, since June 2007, led the oral history program at UW—Madison. Before that he directed the Idaho Oral History Center from 1999-2006. In both of those positions, Reeves managed the various facets of an oral history program—gathering, preserving, and providing access to recorded interviews, as well as educating interested individuals about the art and science of oral history. Reeves also has collaborated with groups interested in working on oral history projects, including environmental, cultural, and political topics. He has convened the first two Wisconsin Oral History Days in the spring of 2008 and 2009, an event designed to bring people from the state and region together for one day of oral history discussions and community building. He also has served in leadership roles for the Northwest Oral History Association and the newly formed Midwest Oral Historians. On top of these responsibilities, Reeves has published on oral history topics, led workshops for state historical societies and university libraries, and served on OHA taskforces, most recently a group brought together to revise the organization's standards and best practices.

Ken Ristow has served as a social studies teacher for thirty years in the Sheboygan area. He has been a coach, advisor, and a district curriculum leader. In this last capacity, he attended more committee meetings than any sane person should be asked to endure. He graduated from Carroll College, earned his teaching license at UW- Green Bay and received his master's degree from Cardinal Stritch University with an emphasis on staff development. He is currently the Social Studies Chairperson at Sheboygan South High School. He has the honor of serving at South with three of his brothers on the faculty. He also teaches a course on *Understanding by Design* at UW-Green Bay.

Thomas Rowland is a senior lecturer in the history department of the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh. He obtained his Ph.D. at The George Washington University in 1992. His research interests lie primarily in 19th century U.S. History, with an emphasis in the Civil War era, as well as in immigration and ethnic historical issues in the late 1800s and early 1900s. He is the author of *In the Shadows of Grant and Sherman: George B. McClellan and Civil War History* (1998). He also has researched the motivations of Wisconsin Volunteers in the Civil War.

Stanley K. Schultz is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He holds degrees from Occidental College (B.A., 1960), the University of Kansas (M.A., 1963), and the University of Chicago (Ph.D. 1970). His first book, *The Culture Factory: Boston Public Schools, 1789-1860*, was runner-up for the Frederick Jackson Turner Prize (1973). His book *Constructing Urban Culture: American Cities and City Planning, 1800-1920* won (1990) the Abel Woolman Award, given jointly by the Public Works Historical Society and the American Public Works Association. His articles and essay-reviews on a wide range of subjects have appeared in the *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Urban History*, *South Atlantic Quarterly*, *The Progressive*, *Harvard Educational Review*, *Reviews in American History*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, *Dictionary of American Biography*, *Readers' Companion to American History*, among others. His other books include *Upton Sinclair's for a Clean Peace and the Internation*, *Cities in American History* (with Kenneth T. Jackson), and, most recently (2005) *The Great Depression*, published in Great Britain and the United States and intended for a youth audience ages 10-14; and (2006) as co-author with Jon Stewart of *The Daily Show* in the revised version of the enormously popular 2004 book *America (The Book)*--the best-selling "textbook" on American History in the nation--now titled *America (The Book) Teacher's Edition* in which Schultz corrected all the historical inaccuracies, gross distortions, and complete fabrications contained in the earlier volume. He has appeared on the CBS *Evening News*, CBS *News Nightwatch*, *Newsweek Magazine On-the-Air*, and has broadcast his urban history courses over the Wisconsin Public Radio Network. Schultz's companion multimedia Web site, (<http://us.history.wisc.edu/hist102/>), has won national and international awards.

James D. Schmidt received his Ph.D. from Rice University in 1992. His first book, *Free to Work* (Georgia, 1998), examined the relationship between labor law and the meanings of freedom during the age of emancipation. His forthcoming book, *Industrial Violence and the Legal Origins of Modern Childhood* (Cambridge, 2010), explores how young workers and their families sought to forge a usable industrial childhood and how industrial violence mediated by the legal process forestalled that vision. At Northern Illinois University, he teaches classes on the nineteenth century United States, on legal history, and on the history of childhood.

Greg Summers is currently an Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and also a Professor of History. He is author of *Consuming Nature: Environmentalism in the Fox River Valley, 1850-1950* (2006), and he is working on a second book entitled *The Comforts of Nature: A Natural History of the American Home*. He received his Ph.D. in History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001. Professor Summers was a presenter at several workshops and sessions sponsored by the TASA program.

David Voelker (Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is one of the three lead historians for the WASAH project and is an assistant professor of Humanistic Studies and History at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, where he has been teaching since 2003. He has written on Orestes Brownson, Thomas Paine, and religion and reform in the early United States. He is also active in the scholarship of teaching and learning. Voelker presented at several workshops and sessions sponsored by the TASA program.