

Department of History
Western Illinois University
Summer 2021 Newsletter



INTERIM CHAIR'S MESSAGE

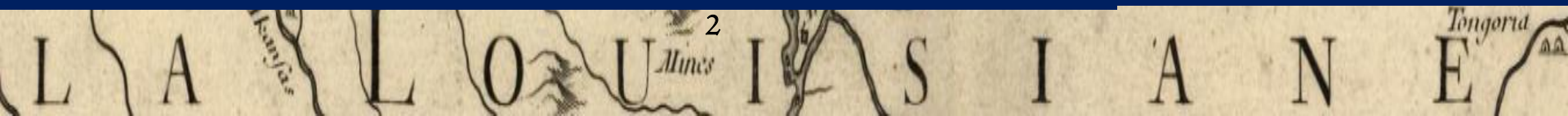
Greetings – I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and sound. What an unprecedented time the last sixteen months have been – and that's saying something, coming from an historian. What, if any, is the most similar historical moment to our own? The spring of 1861, or possibly of 1933? And don't forget the summer of 1968. History can't provide answers to today's questions, but can provide perspective on them (“You think you got problems? Let me remind you that in...”). That's a vital argument for studying the past at Western, but hardly the only one. Check out our newsletter to see what else our historians, faculty and students, are working on. And learn other news as well, including alumni updates, recent graduates, two memoria, Dr. History's column, and upcoming events at Western. Stay in touch, and do good work.

-Dr. Tim Roberts



Contents

- Faculty updates 3-8
- In memoria 9-10
- Recent graduates 11
- Featured student 12-13
- Alumni recent news 14
- Ask Dr. History 15-17
- How to support us 18
- Save the dates & stay in touch 19



Faculty updates

Professor **Lee Brice** saw two books he edited appear in 2020. *New Approaches to Greek and Roman Warfare* (Wiley) includes essays from specialists in ancient history who employ new tools and approaches to increase knowledge of ancient militaries and warfare. Connecting ancient history and modern military debates, chapter topics explore why some soldiers panic and others do not in the same battle, ancient societies' handling of combat trauma in returning veterans, the moral aspects and human elements of ancient sieges, medical care for soldiers, and the personal experience of military servicemembers and their families. Meanwhile, *People and Institutions in the Roman Empire* (Brill) illuminates the experiences of individuals within Roman state and social institutions from the end of the Republic through the Empire and into Late Antiquity. Dr. Brice's chapter studies commanders' responses to mutiny and indiscipline in the Roman military.

Dr. Brice brought his research on ancient coins into the classroom, as he described in an article, "Teaching Evidence Use and Interpretation with Coins," for the *Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia*. As Western's Distinguished Faculty Lecturer in 2020, Dr. Brice spoke on his coin research (numismatics), "The Colts of Corinth Revisited."



Professor Brice
"numismaticking"
Corinthian coins at an
archaeological museum,
Kerkyra (Corfu), Greece

Ute Chamberlin

A CULTURAL HISTORY OF WORK
IN THE AGE OF EMPIRE

Edited by Victoria E. Thompson



Associate Professor **Ute Chamberlin** published a chapter, “Work and Mobility,” in an edited collection *A Cultural History of Work in the Age of Empire* (Bloomsbury, 2020). Her essays emphasizes that migration within Europe during the long, industrializing nineteenth century was far more complex than simply rural-urban. But while imperial borders were surprisingly porous for much of the period, by World War I, states hardened their boundaries: modern rules, and debates, about who can migrate, and where, were born.

Peter Cole

This year Professor **Peter Cole** published a study of the labor organizer Ben Fletcher (1890-1949), of the Industrial Workers of the World's Marine Transport Workers Industrial Union, the most powerful interracial union of its era. *Ben Fletcher: The Life and Times of a Black Wobbly* (PM Press, 2021) sketches Fletcher's life, provides reminiscences by fellow workers who knew him, chronicles the IWW's impact on the Philadelphia where he was pivotal, and includes his writings and speeches.

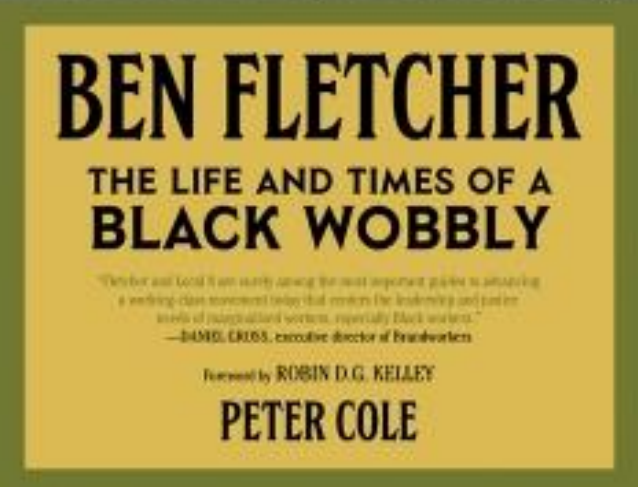
Related to his research on Fletcher, in April Dr. Cole published an op-ed in the *Washington Post*, "MLK's radical vision was rooted in a long history of Black unionism."

Two books Dr. Cole wrote previously were republished in French. *Wobblies on the Waterfront* was re-issued as "Black & White Together": *Le syndicat IWW interracial du port de Philadelphie (montée et déclin – 1913-22)* (Les nuits rouges, 2021). And *Wobblies of the World* was re-issued as *Solidarité Forever: Histoire globale du syndicat Industrial Workers of the World* (Hors d'atteinte, 2021).

Finally, Dr. Cole continues work on his award-winning public history project to commemorate the 1919 Chicago Race Riot.



REVISED AND EXPANDED 2ND EDITION





Greg Hall

Professor **Greg Hall** recently completed a book manuscript, “The Agitator: Jay Fox, Anarchism, and Writing Labor’s Emancipation.” The manuscript is under review for publication with the University of Washington Press. Fox witnessed the Haymarket tragedy in Chicago May 1886, when eight people died in a clash between striking workers and police. By the 1890s he was an anarchist. The book studies Fox’s evolution from anarchist communism to anarcho-syndicalism to membership in the Communist Party USA in the 1920s. Fox was also a member of the International Union of Timber Workers, and edited *The Agitator*, a publication of the anarchist colony of Home, in the state of Washington.



Jay Fox at work in his office in Home

Tim Roberts

This year Professor **Tim Roberts** utilized the interactive, role-play story-telling digital tool Twinery to teach Civil War history. In a story he created, “Lincoln’s Decision,” Roberts puts students in the shoes of President Abraham Lincoln in the tense fall of 1862, as he deliberates whether and how to free Americans held as slaves. Students used “Lincoln’s Decision” as a model to write their own interactive stories, including creating role-playing narratives from the perspective of fugitive slaves, POWs, and Clara Barton. Several students will join Dr. Roberts in a panel on using Twinery to learn and teach historical agency at the 2021 Illinois State History Conference.

Cartoon by Adalbert Volck, *Caricature of Lincoln writing the Emancipation Proclamation, 1864*

(E-mail Tim Roberts if you want to play “Lincoln’s Decision.”)

This summer, Dr. Roberts completed a graduate certificate program in public history and digital humanities at George Mason University.



Edward Woell

This year Professor **Ed Woell** completed a book, *Confiscating the Common Good: Small Towns and Religious Politics in the French Revolution*. It will be published by Manchester University Press in 2022 or early 2023. The book explores the previously overlooked and surprising roles of Catholicism in the Revolution: ironically, the Catholic Church's erosion weakened democratic society in small towns to such an extent that political democracy itself was precluded. Drawing on research in the enclaves of Pont-à-Mousson, Gournay-en-Bray, Vienne, Haguenau, and Is-sur-Tille, Dr. Woell shows that through the nationalization of Church property, the dissolution of religious orders, and the elimination of bishoprics, chapters, parishes, and collegial churches, the Revolution fostered social polarization and damaged communities' social capital. Perspective on the religious politics of the revolutionary small towns of France sheds surprising new light on our current democratic dilemma.



In memoriam

Dr. William L. (Bill) Combs died in his Worth County, MO home on June 1, 2021. He was 83. He is survived by his wife Colleen, sons Eric and Bryan, daughters-in-law Barbara and Julie, grandchildren Tamara, Nicole, Ross and Audrey, brothers Charley, Dick and Steve, sisters-in-law Rosie (West), Sandy (Hayden), and Vicky Dickerson, and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents Ross and Bonnie Combs and three brothers.

Bill was born on October 6, 1937, the third of the six sons of Ross and Bonnie Combs. He graduated from Grant City High School in 1955, then Northwest Missouri State University in 1959. He went on to earn a Master's degree at the University of Missouri and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. He taught history at Western Illinois University

for 42 years, retiring as full professor in 2008. His specialty area was German History, particularly the World War II period. His 1986 book [*Voice of the SS: A history of the SS Journal 'Das Schwarze Korps'*](#) (Peter Lang, 1986) remains an internationally respected book.

Bill married Raedene Eberle of Lenox, IA on January 30, 1960. To this union his sons Eric William and Bryan Andrew were born. He later married Colleen Cattrell of Moline, IL on May 27, 1977.

His hobbies included collecting antique Farmall and Oliver tractors; riding motorcycles, often on long tours through the mountains of Colorado and Montana; and playing guitar and banjo. For many years Bill was the faculty sponsor for the Western Illinois University Judo Club. He was also a formidable table tennis player. WIU students recall picnicking often on the Combs's farm.



In memoriam

Western Illinois University's former longtime student advocate the Rev. Don Daudelin, 83, passed away at his home in Bloomington Dec. 3, 2020.

Daudelin joined WIU in 1965 as the campus minister. Shortly after his hiring, Daudelin became active in campus affairs. He was outspokenly against the Vietnam War. In 1970, President John Bernhard appointed him as University ombudsman, charged with helping students. His work led the effort to create a judicial document, approved in 1974, which guaranteed student rights. As WIU's student advocate, Daudelin worked with thousands of students each year.

In 1980, Daudelin's title changed to University student advocate and assistant to the provost. In addition to his work with students and upholding student rights, Daudelin was active

on campus and in the community. He and his wife, Karen, instituted a popular Friday luncheon for faculty. As an ordained minister, he would perform weddings for students and faculty. In the 1980s, his office became the campus hotline for Black students to report issues. Daudelin retired from WIU in 2000. For many years, until 2017, he worked at Cady's Smokeshop in Macomb. Students and townspeople often referred him to as "Old Mr. Cady."

Daudelin received his bachelor's in history from Arlington (TX) State College and his divinity degree from Bright Divinity School at Texas Christian University. He earned a master's degree in history from WIU in 1972, writing a thesis, "A Study in Tactics: Braddock and Bouquet."

He is survived by his wife, Karen; three children, Tim, Doug and Kelly; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews...

Recent graduates

History Major Graduates in 2021 – Luke Hobbs, Elizabeth Swan, Adam Smolik-Valles, John Weygand, Alexia Campbell, Marcus Sweeten, Justin Yurs, Aaron Daughenbaugh, Lauren Pink, Logan Elko, Sean Ford, Trevor Chockley, Ashley Anderson, David Stice, Noah James


History Major Graduates in 2020 – Zach Sutton, Preston Bubb, Jacob Palmer, Nick Klein, Vanessa Williams, Larry Heck, Madison Sphar, Austin Riley, Jordan Monson, Willie Schubert, Katelyn Kalata, Marisa Mitchell, Leonard Shipley

M.A. Program Graduates in 2021 – Riley Gober, Ryan Lambert

M.A. Program Graduates in 2020 – Mikayla Kitchen, Harrison Schulte, Jillien Zudell



Graduates Logan Elko, the Department Scholar, and Vanessa Williams at the 2021 Spring Commencement, held at Hanson Field



Featured student: Marcus Sweeten



Marcus Sweeten is a graduate student enrolled in our BA-MA “bridge” program, in which students obtain both degrees within five years of matriculation. Marcus answered questions about his background and plans:

Why did you decide to major in history at Western?

I came to Western because of the generous scholarships that I received from WIU, which made college extremely affordable. Before coming to Western, I did not have a grasp on what major I wanted to declare. I went through a series, including Human Resource Management, Supply Chain Management, Psychology, and Anthropology, before settling as a History Education major. My second semester here, I dropped the education aspect and went all-in as a History major.

What are your most memorable undergraduate classroom moments and research projects?

The most memorable project was an Honors project in Dr. Peter Cole’s African American History class. I wrote a paper on the experiences of African American students at Western, from civil rights leader C.T. Vivian’s tenure as an undergraduate to the foundation of the Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center. The project required me to utilize the archives at the Malpass Library, in which I combed through years of the Western Courier. This was a project where I was doing original historical research, and it made me fall even more in love with the discipline.

Why are you interested in the History Department's BA-MA bridge program?

There are two big reasons why I was interested in the joint program. The first was that many upper-level librarian and archival career positions require both an MLIS (Master of Library and Information Science) and an MA in another discipline. Mine will be History. The second reason was COVID19. I initially applied for the BA-MA program in February of 2020. The general uncertainty of the world made me follow through with the application process and look at Western as a primary destination for a Master’s degree.



Marcus Sweeten (cont'd)

In your Illinois History class (fall 2020), what surprised you about history in the Land of Lincoln?

The thing that surprised me the most about the Illinois History class was the prominence of racial strife in Illinois, and how this mirrors the larger issues of race in the country. I have in mind the murder of abolitionist Elijah Lovejoy, Illinois' "Black Codes" that reflected Northern racial prejudices, the political rise of Abraham Lincoln and the debates with Stephen Douglas, the Race Riots of Chicago, Springfield, and Cairo, and the "Illinois Nazis" marching in Skokie.

You are interested in public history. Why? And what will be your MA public history project?

I remember watching a segment on Sixty Minutes about Library of Congress workers' efforts to digitize their collections. The segment also talked about restoration projects for old silent films, and "finding" lost media in archives. When I watched this as a high school student, I thought my interest in history would lead me to be a teacher. However, seeing archivists work tirelessly with historical materials made me want to look at being a professional in museums, archives, and/or libraries. I've always loved being in and around historical places. I like seeing a brown historical marker sign on the highway and taking the exit to check out the place. Elements of public history like landmarks, material culture, monuments, and public art are vehicles for education and are invaluable resources that need to be preserved and presented to the broader public. That's what I hope to do in public history. My MA project will examine Western Illinois University within the broader context of student advocacy and radicalism in the 1960s. I want to make an exhibit portraying how a rural, historically military-friendly campus like Western tackled the subjects of Vietnam, civil rights, and the "sexual revolution."

How are you preparing for your career after Western?

Currently, I am interning at the Western Illinois Museum. Interning has given me broad museum experience, from programming, non-profit administration, collections management, and broadening the digital presence of an organization.

A historical map of the Great Lakes region, showing parts of Michigan, Canada, and the St. Lawrence River. The map is partially obscured by a teal rectangular overlay containing text. The text is centered and reads "Alumni recent news".

Alumni recent news

- Dr. Irene Herold, MA 2004, was named Dean of the Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries and University Librarian.
- Jim Phillips, BA 1998, MA 2000, was named Dean of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts at Highland Community College.
- Nathan Pierce, MA 2013, Executive Director of the Macon County History Museum, was named to the advisory board of the Illinois State Historical Society.
- Luke Vander Pluym, BA 2013, a teacher at Chicago's Rickover Naval Academy, was nominated for the Gilder Lehrman Institute's History Teacher of the Year Award.
- John Weygand, History major *magna cum laude*, BA 2021, commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into the National Guard.

Please share exciting news & professional updates!

(309) 298-1053 Tm-Roberts@wiu.edu

Ask Dr. History

Dear Dr. History,

My teenager is off to college this fall. I'm concerned that she eat. Food. She says, "Dad, chill. Remember, I'll be on a really great, expensive meal plan. And when I need a late night snack, my dorm room has electricity and water. And you gave me this metal pan and a fork. Voila! Those accoutrements, plus my stash of Ramen noodles, will keep my tummy full and my brain happy. Love you!"

Dr. History, I have many questions. Like, when did college cafeteria food go gourmet? I remember when I went through the cafeteria line, I got scrambled eggs served with an ice cream scoop. But the question I'd really like the story on is, what is Ramen noodles? I thought Ray Romano's character was spelled "Raymond." And now he's started a charity food brand, like that Paul Newman guy?

Best wishes, Wistful College Dad

Dear Wistful Dad,

Chin up. Your daughter sounds like she is more than capable of managing her college diet. And that's a great question about Ramen noodles. Actually, it's not pronounced like "Ray mon," or "Ray man," but like "Rah men." Think, Texas A&M Yell Leaders.



Ask Dr. History (cont'd)

For a more thorough perspective on your question, Dr. History invited a comment by his colleague, Dr. **Febe Pamonag**, Professor of History at Western. Dr. Pamonag is an expert in Asian history and the history of gender. One of the popular and more savory courses she teaches is the History of Food.

Dr. Pamonag, the floor is yours.

“Thank you, Dr. History.

Nissin, Maruchan, Nongshim, and Indomie are names that many college students are most likely familiar with. These are popular brands of instant ramen that are available in local stores in Macomb. Also known as instant noodles or cup noodles, instant ramen are a “college staple” and a go-to-food, especially during the winter. Ramen is both affordable and convenient; a pack of twelve 3-oz. Ramen costs \$2.27 and each takes only 3 minutes to cook!

Ramen noodles have a fascinating history. In 1958, a Japanese company Nissin Foods marketed the world’s first instant noodle, Chicken ramen, which was highly popular in postwar Japan. The company’s Cup Noodles hit global shelves in 1971. By 2020, customers had consumed 116 billion servings of instant noodles of various brands worldwide.

Instant ramen was derived from a ramen noodle soup dish that has three basic ingredients: noodles (made of wheat flour), soup (from simmered meat, seafood, and vegetables), and a flavoring sauce (salt, miso or soybeans, or soy sauce).

Many people believe that ramen (the noodle soup) was originally a Japanese dish. When I was a student in Japan, my favorite food was ramen! Yet, according to one theory on the origins of ramen, migrants from Guangdong, China, who worked as cooks in restaurants in the port city of Yokohama, introduced ramen to Japan during the late nineteenth century. Initially, ramen was popular only among Chinese laborers and students in Japan. By the early twentieth century,



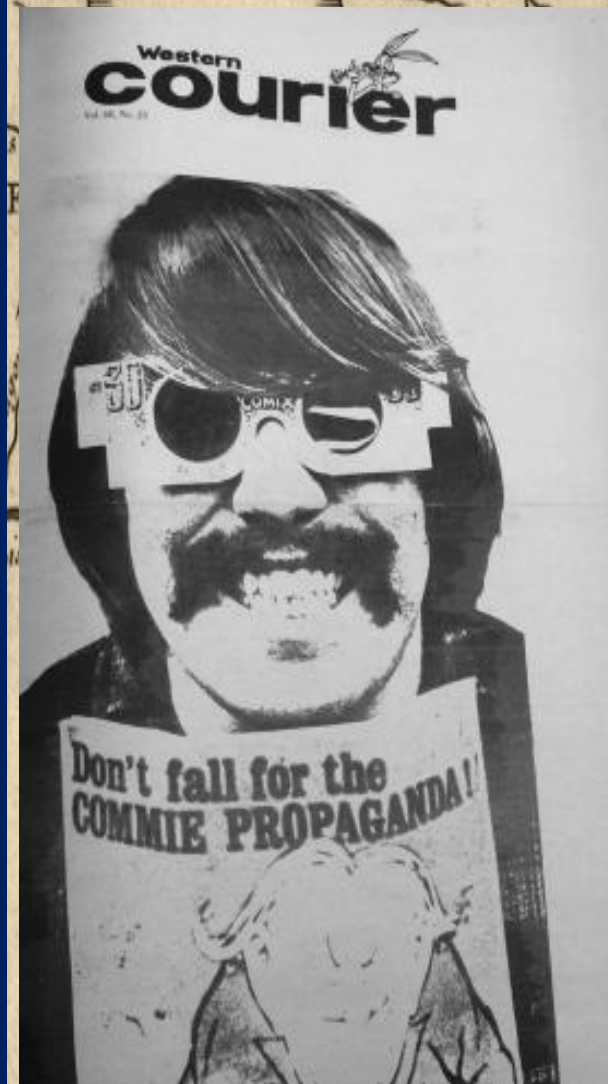
Ask Dr. History (cont'd)

Japanese restaurants adapted the dish and transformed ramen into a noodle soup that used Japanese flavors. These included roasted pork, soy sauce, and pickled bamboo shoots. The dish became popular among Japanese workers, soldiers, and students during the early twentieth century, a period of urban migration, industrialization, and empire building.

During WWII, food staples in Japan were scarce. When the war ended, the U.S. military's wheat imports to Japan (here is an example of U.S. food diplomacy in postwar Japan) resuscitated ramen production, which boosted domestic consumption. When Nissin Foods launched the first instant ramen in 1958, Japan was undergoing economic reconstruction, and speed in the preparation of food became highly valued. In the 1960s, ramen culture spread across Japan as employment in construction and heavy industry expanded. In the 1980s, trendsetting young people considered ramen a favorite, and by the 1990s, ramen was hailed as a national dish. From its roots in China to its evolution as a national food in Japan, ramen in the twenty-first century has become an affordable, youthful, and fashionable representation of Japanese food culture worldwide. Despite warnings about the high sodium content, instant noodles are popular everywhere because of their affordability and convenience. Instant noodles have now become infused with regional flavors, such as Tom Yum or Thai lemongrass soup in Thailand, lime and chili in Mexico, kimchi in South Korea, and kalamansi in the Philippines. Also, there are vegan friendly instant ramen for ramen fans and gourmands. Such devotees celebrate their favorite food in song, singing about ramen blues, ramen heaven, ramen tears, and ramen power.”

Thanks Dr. Pamonag! So, Wistful Dad, there you go. Be assured that when your beloved college daughter seeks late night succor in Ramen noodles, she's not only eating, but also participating in a truly global, go-to food culture. Until next time, that's it from Dr. History!

The Department of History appreciates your generosity. Through your giving, last year we awarded 17 student scholarships. Your donations fund student and faculty research, departmental resources, and history events. Please give and help maintain our standard of excellence. To donate, click on <http://wiu.edu/giveCAS> and select option "History," or specify a scholarship that you wish to support or establish. If you wish to write a check, make it payable to the WIU Foundation, designated History Department, and mail to the address below.



**WIU Foundation Sherman Hall 309 I University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455-1390**



Save the dates & stay in touch - follow
Leatherneck History!

Homecoming –come visit the History Department! -
October 1-2, 2021

<http://wiu.edu/alumni/homecoming.php>

Fallen Soldiers 5k - October 30, 2021

<http://www.wiu.edu/fallensoldiers/>

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