



**The 34th Annual
North American Labor History Conference**

*Suppose they
should walk
out from under?
African +
Asian
Colonialism
and
Latin Amer.
The Superstructure
Lenin's "Imperialism"*

Insurgency and Resistance

October 18-20, 2012

McGregor Conference Center

**WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Maris

Conference Notes

Extended Research Hours at the Reuther Library

Monday, October 15, 2012, 11:00-6:45

Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 11:00-6:45

Wednesday, October 17, 2012, 9:00-6:45

Thursday, October 18, 2012, 9:00-4:45

Friday, October 19, 2012, 9:00-4:45

Saturday, October 20, 2012, 10:00-2:00

Book Display

Books on labor history and related topics will be open throughout the conference in Room A of the McGregor Center, located on the first floor.

Parking

Parking for the conference is available in the structure on the corner of Cass Avenue and Palmer Street, just north of the conference center. Participants who have difficulty walking may park in the surface lot just north of the WSU Law Library, which is one building north of the McGregor Center.

Cover Art

"Suppose they should walk out from under?" by Pablo Davis.

Conference Sponsorship

The North American Labor History Conference is sponsored by the Department of History and the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University. Additional support is provided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Labor@Wayne, Wayne State University. Support for the Bernath Lecture is provided by the WSU Library System.

Thursday, October 18, 2012

Registration

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., McGregor Lobby

Book Talk: *Detroit: A Biography*

Author: Scott Martelle, Journalist, Chapman University

9:00-10:30 a.m., McGregor B/C

Chair: Beth Myers, Director, Walter Reuther Library, Wayne State University

Commentators: Steve Babson, Wayne State University
Tracy Neumann, Wayne State University

Break

10:30-10:45 a.m.

Rivera Mural Tour (Pre-Registration Required)

10:45 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Tour Guide: Steve Babson, Wayne State University

Lunch (On your own)

12:00-1:00 p.m.

(Those on the Rivera Tour may choose to stay at the DIA for lunch)

Book Talk: *The Making of Black Detroit in the Age of Henry Ford*

Author: Beth Bates, Wayne State University

1:00-2:30 p.m., McGregor B/C

Chair: Tom Klug, Marygrove College

Commentators: General Baker, Labor Activist
Stephen Ward, University of Michigan

Workers Organizing in the 1930's and 1940's

1:00-2:30 p.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Michael Goldfield, Wayne State University

The Communist Party from the Ground Up

Joshua Morris, Independent Scholar

Chinese Laundry Workers in the 1930's

Joel Wendland, Grand Valley State University

Cigarettes, Strikes, and the CIO During WWII

Greg Wood, Frostburg State University

Working Class Cultures of Resistance

1:00-2:30 p.m., McGregor F/G

Co-Sponsored by *Critical Sociology* and WSU Department of Sociology

Chair: Graham Cassano, Oakland University

Melodies of Struggle in Working Class Music: Hazel Dickens and Violetta Parra

Romina Green-Rioja, University of California, Irvine

Free From Every Thrall: Commemorating Labor Day

Jeffrey Johnson, Providence College

Countering Consumer Capitalism at Church

George Sanders, Oakland University

Writing as Popular Resistance Among Finnish-Canadian Immigrants

Kirsti Salmi-Niklander, University of Helsinki

Commentator: Peter Rachleff, Macalester College

Break

2:30-2:45 p.m.

Book Talk: *The Broken Table: The Detroit Newspaper Strike and the State of American Labor*

Author: Chris Rhomberg, Fordham University

2:45 - 4:30 p.m., McGregor J

Co-Sponsored by WSU Department of Communication Journalism Program

Chair: Jack Lessenbery, Wayne State University

Commentators: Barb Ingalls, Newspaper Worker
Scott Martelle, Journalist, Chapman University

Roundtable: League of Revolutionary Black Workers

2:45-4:30 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: David Goldberg, Wayne State University

Participants: Dan Georgakas, Author/Journalist
Elizabeth Kai Hinton, Columbia University
Dara Walker, Rutgers University

Commentator: General Baker, Labor Activist

Detroit Workers from the 20's to the 70's

2:45-4:30 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-sponsored by LAWCHA

Chair and Commentator: Lisa Fine, Michigan State University

Illegal Detroiters: Undocumented Europeans and Unions in America's Motor City, 1924-1942

Ashley Johnson, Northwestern

The 67 Day Detroit Cigar Factory Sit-Down

Martha Grevatt, UAW

Beyond the Dreams of Loneliness: Film, Unionism, and Working Class Community Formation in Detroit

Ryan Pettengill, Mountain View College

Killing Floors: Workplace Violence in Detroit and Windsor Auto Plants During the 1970's

Jeremy Milloy, Simon Fraser University

Keynote Address

4:30-6:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by WSU Departments of Criminal Justice and Urban Studies & Planning

Introduction: Eric Lambert, Wayne State University

Urban and Labor Affairs in a Time of Mass Incarceration

Heather Thompson, Temple University

Reception- Sponsored by Walter Ruther Library

6:00-7:15 p.m., McGregor Lobby

The Workers Compensation Section of the Michigan State Bar and Wayne State University Law School, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Worker's Compensation in Michigan, presents a premiere of the documentary film, "1913 Massacre"

7:30 p.m., WSU Law School Auditorium

Filmmakers: Ken Ross & Louis Galdieri

Commentator: Prof. Larry Lankton, Michigan Tech

Friday, October 19, 2012

Registration

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., McGregor Lobby

Race & Resistance

8:30-10:15 a.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by *Critical Sociology*, WSU Department of Sociology, and LAWCHA

Chair: Ronald Brown, Wayne State University

Intercolonial Crossings and Interracial Convergences in the San Francisco 1934 Maritime & General Strikes

Elizabeth Sine, University of California, San Diego

Working Class Self-Fashioning in Swing Time

Graham Cassano, Oakland University

Detroit Black Farmers and Urban Agriculture as Resistance

Monica White, University of Wisconsin

Commentator: David Roediger, University of Illinois

Miners and Their Communities of Resistance

8:30-10:15 a.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Jonathan Rees, Colorado State University

From Terrorists to Heroes: The Transformative Memory of the Molly Maguires

Jess Lumsden, Norte Dame University

Radical Miners, Mother Jones and the Occupying Tradition

Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University

City of Certainty: The Making of the Town of Crosby, Minnesota, 1910-1913

John Byczynski, Western Michigan University

Resistance and Remembrance: Struggles for Worker's Rights in the Coal Patch of Smock, PA

Marc Henshaw, Michigan Tech

Roundtable: Rethinking Resistance

8:30-10:15 a.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: Jennifer Hart, Wayne State University

Panelists: Jose Cuello, Wayne State University
Janine Lanza, Wayne State University
Alex Lichtenstein, Indiana University
Jason McGraw, Indiana University

Michigan State Bar (Session 1)

9:00-10:15 a.m., Wayne State University Law School Auditorium

Introduction: Kevin Elsenheimer, WCA Director

Wage Workers' Remedy
Morgan E. Dowling, Esq.

View Above the Bridge and Below the Ground
Prof. Larry Lankton, Michigan Tech University

Break

10:15-10:30 a.m.

Book Talk: *A Philip Randolph and the Struggle for Civil Rights*

Author: Cornelius Bynum, Purdue

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by WSU Department of Africana Studies

Chair: Melba Joyce Boyd, Wayne State University

Commentators: Beth Bates, Wayne State University
Anita Dawson, UAW and President, A. Philip Randolph Institute of Michigan

Anarchism and the Historiography of Race and Immigration

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Maia Ramnath, New York University

The Bastards of All Nations: Anarchism, Immigration, and the American Nation

Kenyon Zimmer, University of Texas, Arlington

Did Johann Most Advocate an Anarchist Insurgency?

Tom Goyens, Salisbury University

The Black Freedom Struggle and the Two Souls of Contemporary Anarchism

Andrew Cornell, University of Stendhal, France

Anarchist History and Subjects: Reinterpreting Race Through Affinity in Early 20th Century Los Angeles

David Struthers, University of Copenhagen

Battered Women: Public Sector Union Bashing and Gender Discrimination

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: Caroline Merithew, University of Dayton

Triple Jeopardy: Women Lose Public Sector Services, Jobs, and Union Rights

Mimi Abramovitz, Hunter College, CUNY

We Don't Want Any Unions: Defining and Imagining the 99%

Shawn Cassiman, University of Dayton

The Obstacle Course: Women, Equality, and the Public Sector

Jane LaTour, Public Employee Press

Commentator: Elisabeth Faue, Wayne State University

Organizing for a Living Wage through Food Fights

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., McGregor E

Co-sponsored by LAWCHA

Chair and Commentator: Ann Folino White, Michigan State University

The Jewish Bakers Union and the Jewish Food Chain

Caroline Luce, University of California, Los Angeles

Gendering Food Fights: Mary Zuk and the 1935 Meat Boycott

Emily E. LaBarbera Twarog, University of Illinois

Freedom Farmers, Collectives, and Co-ops

Monica White, University of Wisconsin

Michigan State Bar (Session 2)

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Wayne State University Law School Auditorium

Business/Insurance Perspective

Thomas E. Hoeg, President and CEO of Agency Business Solutions, LLC, an Affiliate of Amerisure Mutual Holdings, Inc.

What Might Have Been

Edward Welch, Dean of Michigan Workers' Compensation

Millenials and the Next Generation of Workers' Compensation

Jennifer Wolfe, IAIABC Executive Director

Luncheon Address

(Pre-Registration Required)

12:00-1:30 p.m., McGregor L/M

Co-Sponsored by WSU Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies and Labor@Wayne

Introduction: Jorge Chinaa, Director, Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies, WSU

Migrants and Immigrants: The New Faces of Working America

Baldemar Velasquez, Farm Labor Organizing Committee

Michigan State Bar (Session 3)

1:30-3:15 p.m., Wayne State University Law School Auditorium

Moderator: Dr. H. Alan Hunt, Upjohn Institute

Professor John Burton, Rutgers University

Gregory Krohm, IAIABC Executive Director Emeritus

Book Talk: *Collision Course: Ronald Reagan, the Air Traffic Controllers, and the Strike that Changed America*

Author: Joseph McCartin, Georgetown

1:30-3:15 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by Labor@Wayne

Chair: Marick Masters, Wayne State University

Commentators: Jane Slaughter, Labor Notes
Kevin Boyle, Ohio State

Malcom X, NOI, and Black Internationalism

1:30-3:15 p.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Ahmad Rahman, University of Michigan, Dearborn

Society's Bitter Fruit: C. Eric Lincoln and the Making of the Black Muslims
Garrett Felber, University of Michigan

Detroit 1963: Malcom X and the Grassroots Leadership Conference
Stephen Ward, University of Michigan

Forging Black Internationalism From Below: Malcom X, the NOI, and the Seeds of Black Anti-War Activism
Robyn Spencer, Lehman College, CUNY

Roundtable: Mediterranean Insurgencies

1:30-3:15 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: May Seikaly, Wayne State University

Panelists: Abdullah Al-Arian, Wayne State University (Egypt)
Dan Georgakas, Author/Journalist (Greece)
David Porter, SUNY Empire State (Algeria)
Marina Sitrin, CUNY Grad Center (Spain)

Break

3:15-3:30 p.m.

Women, Labor, and Politics in Comparative Perspective

3:30-5:15 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by WSU Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

Chair: Anne Duggan, Wayne State University

The Challenges of Cross-Class Alliances: India, the U.S. and the Politics of Globalization

Leela Fernandes, University of Michigan

Commentators: Elizabeth Dorn Lublin, Wayne State University

Caroline Merithew, University of Dayton

Forced and Free Labor from the American Revolution through Reconstruction

3:30-5:15 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: Kidada Williams, Wayne State University

Resisting Press Gangs: The Radicalism of the American Revolution Reconsidered

Christopher Magra, University of Tennessee

Africa-American Indentured Servants and Resistance in 19th Century Rural Midwest

Jennifer Stinson, Saginaw Valley University

The Labor System Will Be Demoralized: Black Workers and Reconstruction Election Violence in Kentucky

Shannon Smith Bennett, Indiana University

Commentator: Gerald Horne, University of Houston

Labor and Politics in the Caribbean

3:30-5:15 p.m., McGregor E

Chair: Sharon Lean, Wayne State University

Slave Labor in 18th Century Puerto Rico

David Stark, Grand Valley State University

The Transition from Slave to Free Labor in Mid 19th Century Puerto Rico

Jorge Chinae, Wayne State University

Marronage and Labor in the Caribbean

William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University

Labor and Revolutionary Politics in the Anglophone Caribbean

Perry Mars, Wayne State University

Black Insurgents in the Long Sixties

3:30-5:15 p.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Gloria House, University of Michigan, Dearborn

Arthur Fletcher and the Philadelphia Plan, 1969-1971

David Golland, Governors State University

Black Women and the Struggle for a Household Wage

Laura Martin, University of California, Santa Cruz

Last and Least on the Job: The Black Panthers, Trade Unionism, and the Revolutionary Working Class

Eric Petenbrink, Indiana University

Keynote Address

The Gerald J., Myrna F., and Stuart L. Bernath Lecture Series
for the Support and Discussion of American History, Diplomacy, and Foreign Affairs
5:15-6:45 p.m., McGregor B/C

Welcome: Dean Sandra Yee, WSU Libraries
Introduction: Marc Kruman, Chair, Department of History, WSU

Rethinking a "Revolution:" Slavery, the Origins of the U.S., and Implications for the International Working Class

Gerald Horne, University of Houston

NALHC Reception

6:45 – 8:00 p.m., McGregor Lobby

Cash Bar

Spoken Word/Music Event

The 22nd Annual Bernard Firestone Labor Arts Tribute
8:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Featuring:

Lolita Hernandez, Fiction Writer
Melba Joyce Boyd, Poet
The RJ Spangler Quartet with Detroit Jazz Sax Legend Larry Smith
Blue Pontiac, Roots Trio
David Rovics, Legendary Working Class Singer-Songwriter

Hosted by M.L. Liebler, Poet and WSU English Department

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Registration

8:30-10:30 a.m., McGregor Lobby

Book Talk: *Labor and the American Left*

Author: Mel Van Elteren, University of Tilburg

9:00-10:30 a.m., McGregor B/C

Chair: Bryan McCann, Wayne State University

Commentators: Amy Bromsen, Wayne State University
Francis Shor, Wayne State University

The Legacy of the Ludlow Massacre

9:00-10:30 a.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University

The Battle at Ludlow Hour by Hour

Anthony DeStefanis, Otterbein University

You Say Outside Agitator; I Say Community Supporter

Scott Martelle, Journalist, Chapman University

Stories Unions Tell: The Historiography of the Ludlow Massacre

Jonathan Rees, Colorado State University

Labor in East Asia

9:00-10:30 a.m., McGregor E

Chair and Commentator: Alex Day, Wayne State University

The Morality of Counterrevolution: Narratives of Nationalist Soldiers in 1930's China

Maggie Clinton, Middlebury College

Transition vs. Translation: Communist Defection and Cultural Crisis in 1930's Japan

Max Ward, Middlebury College

To Keep the Waters Troubled: Organizing Opposition

9:00-10:30 a.m., McGregor F/G

Chair and Commentator: Daniel A. Graff, University of Notre Dame

The Role of White Collar Public Sector Workers at the U of Puerto Rico and Their Trade Unions
Gerrie Casey, Indiana University

Insurgents and the Limits of Reform in Organized Labor: In Their Own Words
Jane La Tour, Public Employee Press

Class and Resistance on the Port of New York, 1945-1960
William Mello, Indiana University

Break

10:30-10:45 a.m.

International Insurgents

10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McGregor B/C

Chair and Commentator: Ron Aronson, Wayne State University

Tom Barker and the Syndicalism of the Sea: The Underground Influence of the IWW
Paula DeAngelis, University of Adelaide

South Africa's Rebellion of the Poor in Historical Perspective
Peter Alexander, University of Johannesburg

Sowing the Seeds of Continental Resistance: Three Mexican Workers' Insurgencies of 2006
Richard Roman, York University, and Edur Velasco Arregui, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico City

Labor Insurgency and Policing in Chicago

10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McGregor J

Chair and Commentator: Richard Schneirov, Indiana State

Labor Disorder and the Fracturing of Independent Ethnic Militias, 1850-1879

Mimi Cowan, Boston College

Haymarket, the Police and the US Army: How Labor Disorder Drove the Development of State Institutions

Sam Mitrani, College of DuPage

Marginal Workers and the Free Labor Order in Progressive Era Chicago

Joel Black, University of Oregon

Disorderly Conduct: The Rise of the Chicago Police Rank and File in the Late 20th Century

Megan Adams, University of California, Berkeley

Public Sector Workers Against the State

10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair and Commentator: Shelton Stromquist, Iowa University

Militant Mail: North American Postal Workers Challenge the State

Peter McInnis, St. Francis Xavier, NS

Forged in the Fire of Community: The 1974 Hortonville, WI Teachers Strike and the Rise of Modern Conservatism

Adam Mertz, University of Illinois, Chicago

Resistance and Subversive Tactics of Power Plant Operators in an Australian Power Station, 1975-1989

Barbara Webster, CQU of Australia

Skilled and Migrant Workers in a Globalized World

10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McGregor E

Chair: Ollie Johnson, Wayne State University

African Experts at Work: Modernization and Tanzanian Repair Garages

Joshua Grace, Michigan State University

Labor Unions, Entrepreneurs, and the Politics of Driving in 20th Century Ghana

Jennifer Hart, Wayne State University

Foreign Craftsmen and the Furniture Industry in Grand Rapids, MI

Scott Martin, Wayne State University

**Luncheon Address
(Pre-registration Required)**

12:30-2:00 p.m., McGregor L/M

Co-Sponsored by Labor and Working-Class History Association

Why the Most Trusted Profession Can Help Heal America: Union Nurses on the Front Lines of History

Donna Smith, National Nurses United

Roundtable: Labor and Occupy

2:00-3:45 p.m., McGregor B/C

Co-Sponsored by *Critical Sociology, Working USA and WSU Department of Sociology*

Chair and Commentator: Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College

Panelists: Konstantin Kilibarda, York University
Paul C. Mishler, Indiana University
Marina Sitrin, CUNY Grad Center
Jackie Smith, University of Pittsburgh
Chris Michalakis, President, Metro Detroit AFL-CIO

Labor History Tour (Pre-registration required with the Michigan Labor History Society)

4:00 p.m. (Meet in front of Ruther Library)

Acknowledgements

2012 NALHC Co-Sponsors

Special thanks to the following individuals and institutions for providing helpful resources which facilitated programming for the 2012 NALHC:

Robert Ackerman, Dean, Law School, WSU.

John Beck, Associate Director, Labor and Industrial Relations, Michigan State U.

Melba Joyce Boyd, Chair, Department of Africana Studies, WSU.

Robin Boyle, Chair, Department of Urban Studies & Planning, WSU.

Graham Cassano, Department of Sociology, Oakland U.

Jorge Chinae, Director, Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies, WSU.

Heather Dillaway, Interim Chair, Department of Sociology, WSU.

Anne Duggan, Director of Gender, Sexuality, and Women' Studies Program, WSU.

Walter Edwards, Director, Humanities Center, WSU.

David Fasenfest, Editor, *Critical Sociology*

Atiim Funchess and John Gibson, Detroit Public Library

Tom Klug, Department of History & Detroit Studies, Marygrove College

Cynthia Krolikowski, Library and Bernath Fund, WSU

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M. L. Liebler, English, WSU

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Beth Myers, Director, Walter Ruther Library, WSU

Jack Nolish, Deputy Director, Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency

Shel Stromquist, Eileen Boris, Dennis Deslippe, & Monica Perales, Labor and Working Class

History Association (LAWCHA)

Rebecca Tubbs, Detroit Institute of Arts

2012 NALHC Committee

Francis Shor, NALHC Coordinator and Chair, Marc Kruman, Chair of the Department of History,

Amy Bromsen, Jose Cuello, Alex Day, Liz Faue, David Goldberg, Heidi Gottfried, Jennifer Hart,

Janine Lanza, M.L. Liebler, Marick Masters, Tracy Neumann, Aaron Retish, and Elizabeth Ryan

2012 NALHC Webpage and Facebook

Jennifer Hart, Kate Hutchens, Tracy Neumann, Aaron Retish, and Francis Shor

Book Display

Jamie Jones, Wayne State University Press

Michael John, Marwil's Bookstore

Logistics

Gayle McCreedy

Stephanie Jearlds

Andrew Hnatow

CALL FOR PAPERS

GEOGRAPHIES OF LABOR

35th Annual North American Labor History Conference
October 24-26, 2013
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan

The Program Committee of the North American Labor History Conference invites proposals for sessions, papers, and roundtables on “Geographies of Labor” for our thirty-fifth annual meeting.

Over the last several centuries, transformations in technology and in economic, social, political, and cultural practices have created new spatial regimes within and across geographic boundaries. Whether negotiating the changes around them or taking advantage of new possibilities to shape alternatives, workers have been central to remapping this emergent environment.

Inspired by the “spatial turn” in the social sciences, this conference will explore the myriad ways in which workers have interacted with a variety of geographic categories. We welcome projects that seek to understand these interactions through a number of lenses, including, but not limited to: empire, globalization, uneven development, mobility, and migration/immigration at the transnational, national and/or local level. We invite proposals from a wide variety of disciplines, especially history, geography, sociology, anthropology, economics, political science, industrial relations, working class studies, and cultural studies.

Submissions of proposals for papers, panels, and roundtables should include a one paragraph abstract and a brief biographical statement per each participant by **March 29, 2013** to:

Professor Francis Shor, Coordinator
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