LIVE WRESTLING!
Dick Shikat
VS.
The Unknown Opponent
Live Wrestling!
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April 19, 1934 • 8 pm

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Fall & Winter 2023
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BALLYHOO!
THE ROUGHHOUSERS, CON ARTISTS, AND WILDMEN WHO INVENTED PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING
Jon Langmead

“What Langmead has done in Ballyhoo!: The Roughhousers, Con Artists, and Wildmen Who Invented Professional Wrestling is to expertly piece together a lively narrative of American wrestling's early twentieth-century history to a degree no one else has ever even legitimately attempted.”—Scott Beekman, University of Rio Grande, author of Ringside: A History of Professional Wrestling in America

Ballyhoo!: The Roughhousers, Con Artists, and Wildmen Who Invented Professional Wrestling tells the story behind the creation of professional wrestling in the United States during its formative period from roughly 1874 to 1941. During this time, the major conventions that define wrestling were perfected and codified, as it morphed from rough sport practiced on farms and at town gatherings to melodramatic mass entertainment that reliably drew large crowds in cities across the nation.

At the center of the narrative is Jack Curley, a larger-than-life former boxing promoter in whose life and career one can trace the development of professional wrestling in America from a sideshow attraction to a major and highly lucrative form of entertainment. As early as the late 1910s, Curley’s wrestling shows were selling out Madison Square Garden monthly. Ballyhoo! chronicles Curley’s competition with other promoters of his day, as well as the lives of colorful athletes like “Strangler” Ed Lewis, Frank Gotch, the “Masked Marvel,” Jim Londos, “Gorgeous George” Wagner, Martin “Farmer” Burns, and “Dynamite” Gus Sonnenberg.

Jon Langmead is a writer covering music and popular culture for a variety of outlets, including PopMatters, Aquarium Drunkard, SLAM! Wrestling, and North Carolina Indy Week. He lives in San Francisco, California.
“A very strong collection. The essays engage effectively in contemporary debates regarding media, identity, and childhood.”—Gwen Athene Tarbox, Western Michigan University, author of *Children’s and Young Adult Comics*

In her follow-up to *The Ivory Tower and Harry Potter*, Lana A. Whited has compiled a new collection of essays analyzing the books, films, and other media by J. K. Rowling. This includes pieces on the Harry Potter books and movies, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (films), *The Cursed Child* (play), *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*, as well as her writing outside the wizarding universe, such as *The Ickabog*, *The Casual Vacancy*, and the *Cormoran Strike* series. Many of the chapters connect the Harry Potter canon to European literary themes and traditions, including Classical epic, Shakespearian comedy and tragedy, and Arthurian myth. In addition to literary comparison, the volume delves into topics like political authoritarianism, distrust of the media, racial and social justice, and developments in fandom. Notably, a third of the volume focuses attention on Rowling’s works beyond the Harry Potter series. As Rowling’s readers have grown older and her reputation has wavered in the public eye, Whited and her contributors consider the complex legacy of Harry Potter and its author and explore how the perception of the series will evolve in the next twenty years.

**Lana A. Whited** is Professor of English and Director of the Boone Honors Program at Ferrum College. She is the author or editor of four books, including *Critical Insights: The Harry Potter Series* and *The Ivory Tower and Harry Potter: Perspectives on a Literary Phenomenon*. She lives in Ferrum, Virginia.
Irving Babbitt (1865–1933) and Paul Elmer More (1864–1937) were the leading lights of the New Humanism, a consequential movement of literary and social criticism in America. Through their writings on literary, educational, cultural, religious, and political topics, they influenced countless important thinkers, such as T. S. Eliot, C. S. Lewis, Russell Kirk, Benedetto Croce, Werner Jaeger, and George Will. Their work became the source of heated public debates in the 1920s and early 1930s. The belligerent criticisms of Babbitt and More—composed by such famous intellectuals as Ernest Hemmingway and H. L. Mencken—have ensured that the New Humanism has seldom been properly appreciated. With this collection Adler helps remedy the problem, by providing for the first time the extant correspondence of Babbitt and More, which gets to the heart of their intellectual project.

Eric Adler is Chair and Professor of Classics at the University of Maryland. He is the author of three books, including The Battle of the Classics: How a Nineteenth-Century Debate Can Save the Humanities Today and Classics, the Culture Wars, and Beyond. He lives in Kensington, Maryland.
“To refresh our understanding of Mark Twain as an American icon, we need to know the temperament and interests of the woman with whom he kept company for nearly forty years. It was a surprising marriage: this ‘Wild Humorist’ from everywhere and nowhere, and Olivia Langdon, a cultured young woman with frail health from an Upstate New York aristocracy. For exciting clues about what drew them together and how it all worked, Barbara Snedecor’s carefully-edited collection provides new insights into Olivia’s passions and personality.”—Bruce F. Michelson, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, author of Printer’s Devil: Mark Twain and the American Publishing Revolution

In this new volume of letters, readers are invited to meet Olivia Louise Langdon Clemens on her own terms, in her own voice—as complementary partner to her world-famous spouse, Mark Twain, and as an enduring friend to many, mother to four children, world traveler, and more. The frail woman often portrayed by scholars, biographers, and Twain himself is largely absent in these letters. Instead, Olivia (whom Twain affectionately referred to as “Gravity” in their correspondence) emerges as a resilient and energetic nineteenth-century woman, her family’s source and center of stability, and a well of private and public grace in an ever-changing landscape. Mark Twain’s biography recounted in Olivia’s letters offers new insights, and her captivating voice is certain to engage and enlighten readers.

Barbara E. Snedecor has been a Writing Lecturer, Associate Director of the Writing Program, ESL Director, and Director of the Center for Mark Twain Studies at Elmira College. In addition to editing the second edition of Mark Twain in Elmira, Snedecor has contributed pieces to the Mark Twain Annual and American Literary Realism. She lives in Burdett, New York.
Missouri is well-known for its German American heritage, yet the story of nineteenth-century German immigrant abolitionists is often neglected in discussions of the state's history. This collection of ten original essays—with a foreword by renowned Missouri historian Gary Kremer—relates what unfolded when idealistic Germans, many of whom were highly educated and devoted to the ideals of freedom and democracy, left their homeland and settled in a pre–Civil War slave state. Fleeing political persecution during the 1830s and 1840s, immigrants such as Friedrich Münch, Eduard Mühl, Heinrich Boernstein, and Arnold Krekel arrived in the area now known as the Missouri German Heritage Corridor in hopes of finding a land more congenial to their democratic ideals. When they witnessed the state of enslaved Blacks, many of them became abolitionist activists and fervent supporters of Abraham Lincoln and the Union in the emerging Civil War. Editor Sydney J. Norton and the other contributing authors to Fighting for a Free Missouri explore the Germans’ abolitionist mission, their relationships with African Americans, and their activity in the radical wing of the Republican Party.

Sydney J. Norton is an independent scholar and the director of German Language Solutions, a company that specializes in language teaching, translation, and cultural programming. Her publications include exhibition catalogs and journal articles on contemporary German art and literature, the performing and visual arts of the Weimar Republic, and German immigrants in Missouri. She lives in St. Louis, Missouri.
“Angie Leventis Lourgos interweaves the stories of women who sought abortions with the political, moral, and religious contexts of their decisions. Throughout the fifteen chapters, Lourgos explores issues including medication abortions, the realities of traveling across state lines for procedure access, religious trauma, and the heartbreaking decision to terminate wanted pregnancies. Throughout all of the chapters, Lourgos keeps these women’s humanity at the forefront, even as she engages with those who would condemn them for their actions.”—Evan Elizabeth Hart, Missouri Western State University

Even before the U.S. Supreme Court retracted the legal right to abortion when it overturned Roe v. Wade in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization in June 2022, after which roughly half of all U.S. states moved to ban or significantly curtail abortion, people across large swaths of the nation were already facing enormous obstacles to accessing the procedure. Based on interviews Lourgos personally conducted with women across the region, Life-Altering: Abortion Stories from the Midwest examines different aspects of abortion from the perspectives of those who have terminated pregnancies, illustrating how court cases, state legislation, and religious beliefs can shape the lives and reproductive choices of ordinary people. Based on pieces that originally appeared in the Chicago Tribune, each chapter imparts one person’s experience with abortion; in several cases, Lourgos followed up with her interviewees to find out how their situations and opinions have changed since her first interview and the Dobbs decision. By looking at myriad factors that influence the decision whether or not to abort a pregnancy—be they socio-economic, religious, legal, or medical—the accounts collected in this volume challenge the conventional labels of “pro-life” and “pro-choice.”

Angie Leventis Lourgos is an award-winning reporter at the Chicago Tribune.
SUDS SERIES
BASEBALL, BEER WARS, AND THE SUMMER OF ’82

J. Daniel

“This is a fun, fast ride through one of baseball’s most enjoyable seasons.”—Nathan Michael Corzine, author of Team Chemistry: The History of Drugs and Alcohol in Major League Baseball

“In Suds Series, J. Daniel takes readers on a totally awesome trip to 1982, the age of E.T., Pac-Man, Spicoli—and some of the most fascinating characters in baseball history. With meticulous research and an infectious passion for the subject, J. Daniel delivers a compelling time capsule of the wheeling and dealing that helped the Cardinals and Brewers upend the established powers of the late ’70s. Like a frosty mug overflowing with your favorite brew, Suds Series is satisfying to the last sip.”—Tyler Kepner, national baseball columnist for the New York Times

“Suds Series depicts the nuances of 162 games that are often lost to history when not alongside championship triumphs—Hal McRae’s amazing 133 RBIs at age 36; Steve Carlton’s last Cy Young Award-winning season; fans across the country watching a nationally-televised Sunday game in October instead of NFL Football; Joe Morgan’s final-day heroics for a 3rd-place team. J. Daniel offers an engrossing and vital deep dive encapsulating facts, figures, and player quotes from the days and nights of 1982 Major League Baseball.”—Dave Jordan, coauthor of Cobra: A Life of Baseball & Brotherhood

Jonathan “J.” Daniel spent twenty years working in sports, both in front of and behind the camera. He currently works for Indiana University and is the author of Phinally!: The Phillies, the Royals, and the 1980 Baseball Season That Almost Wasn’t. He lives in Brownsburg, Indiana.
2022 Choice Outstanding Academic Title

“All readers will appreciate this essential resource for sports researchers…Highly recommended.”—Choice

“White's work is the smartest volume I’ve seen on American soccer history.”—Steven A. Riess, author of Horse Racing the Chicago Way: Gambling, Politics, and Organized Crime, 1837-1911

“Edward White has carried out considerable research into and thought deeply about soccer to write what is, to my knowledge, the most comprehensive single volume work covering the entire history of men's and women's soccer in America.”—Tony Collins, author of How Football Began: A Global History of How the World’s Football Codes Were Born

“American soccer has a rich and extensive history that has unfortunately been largely forgotten. This book takes readers back in time and untangles the alphabet soup of leagues that once dominated the scene—from the ASL to the NASL to MLS—and puts into context the importance of soccer to U.S. sports culture and how far the game has come in this country.”—Clemente Lisi, author of The U.S. Women's Soccer Team: An American Success Story

G. Edward White is David and Mary Harrison Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Virginia Law School. White’s 20 published books have won numerous honors and awards. His 1996 book, Creating the National Pastime: Baseball Transforms Itself, 1903–1953, reflects his life-long participation and interest in athletics.
WRITING BLUE HIGHWAYS
THE STORY OF HOW A BOOK HAPPENED

William Least Heat-Moon

2015 Winner of the Missouri Humanities Council’s Distinguished Literary Achievement Award

“In recounting the prolonged, often painful labor that finally resulted in the birth of his beautifully alive book, Heat-Moon provides far more illuminating detail on what’s required to write (or, more exactly, to write well) than any follow-these-steps ‘practical’ manual.... And as readers of Heat-Moon’s books know, one never regrets following his lead. Although Writing BLUE HIGHWAYS takes us on a distinctly different sort of journey—through more a mental than physical landscape—Heat-Moon again proves an expert and companionable guide.”—St. Louis Post-Dispatch

“In Writing BLUE HIGHWAYS, William Least Heat-Moon offers essential lessons that go well beyond craft: the power of perseverance, the potency of story, and the singular importance of honoring intuition. Students at all levels would do well to hear Heat-Moon’s hard-earned wisdom. An instructive, affirming look at the arduous and sometimes magical process by which an idea becomes a book.”—Dinty W. Moore, author of The Mindful Writer: Nobles Truths of the Writing Life

William Trogdon, who writes under the name William Least Heat-Moon, was born of English-Irish-Osage ancestry in Kansas City, Missouri. Among his writing credits, he is the author of Blue Highways, which spent 42 weeks on the New York Times Best Sellers list in 1982–83, and O America: Discovery in a New Land. He lives and writes outside Columbia, Missouri, on an old tobacco farm he’s returning to forest.
THE UNKNOWN TRAVELS AND DUBIOUS PURSuits OF WILLIAM CLARK

Jo Ann Trogdon

“For anyone who loves historical detection, this is truly a stellar read and a worthy addition to the bookshelf for continued reference.” —Historia Obscura

“At times reading like a complex spy novel, this is an excellent book on an obscure event in the early history of the Republic.” —The NYMAS Review

“Imaginative historical detection and good writing will make this a widely read and much discussed book. Trogdon’s surprising discoveries point to Clark’s apparent involvement in a tangled web of conspiracy involving a foreign power. This thought-provoking book illustrates the potential rewards of curiosity and painstaking research in out-of-the-way places.” —William E. Foley, author of Wilderness Journey: The Life of William Clark

“Trogdon is especially generous with minute details, ranging from the effects of a yellow-fever outbreak on the street lighting in Philadelphia and the techniques of land surveying, to the array of creature comforts available in a swank Baltimore hotel.” —Gateway, the magazine of the Missouri History Museum

Jo Ann Trogdon is an attorney and historian who lives in Columbia, Missouri, the same city where the 1798–1801 journal of William Clark has been housed, virtually overlooked, in the State Historical Society of Missouri since 1928. Her articles on history have appeared in publications including Arizona Highways and We Proceeded On, a publication of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.
“Will Mari offers a fascinating reappraisal of the newsroom, that long-mythologized space where journalism is made. He shows how the newsroom, far more than merely a place for news production, is also a concept, an idea, and a set of relationships, one that helped shape American journalism in the twentieth century and will have an enduring imprint on the future of news.”
—Seth C. Lewis, coauthor of News After Trump: Journalism’s Crisis of Relevance in a Changed Media Culture

“One year into a pandemic that has sent the world ducking for cover into virtual work, virtual schooling, virtual everything, The American Newsroom is a particularly poignant reminder of the crucial role that physical and relational places have played in shaping how journalism is learned and practiced. This narrative of developing routines in the ‘industrial newsroom’ of mid-20th century newspapers is punctuated with revealing anecdotes of the characters that inhabited it—from copy boys to the rewrite desk to reporters and editors making their way through the ranks. A thoroughly documented history of shifting power dynamics, particularly focusing on gender, race, and the role of unions, it brings to life the evolution of a profession finding its identity through its workplace and the relationships forged and performed in it.”
—Giovanna Dell’Orto, author of American Journalism and International Relations: Foreign Correspondence from the Early Republic to the Digital Era

“Postell succeeds in telling what is admittedly dense and complex history. Administrative law tempts scholars into either vague abstraction (in an effort to cover a wide-range of government activities) or mind-numbing detail (in an effort to get to the core of agency decisions). Mercifully, Postell avoids both temptations, steering a middle course that is accessible and readable.”—Public Discourse

“Postell’s book shines a light on the new reality of American government: critical national policies are made, by and large, by bureaucratic agencies today, not by Congress and not even, in many cases, by the president. This new reality raises vital constitutional questions—questions which have, with just a few exceptions, been ignored in the scholarly literature. Postell’s examination of these vital questions is meticulously researched, balanced, and persuasive. Employing a unique combination of political theory, American political thought, and administrative and constitutional law, Bureaucracy in America will be an important work to scholars in all of these disciplines, and will also be of interest to citizens and policymakers alike.”—Ronald J. Pesticito, author of Woodrow Wilson and the Roots of Modern Liberalism

Joseph Postell is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Colorado. Postell is the coeditor of Rediscovering Political Economy and Toward an American Conservatism: Constitutional Conservatism during the Progressive Era. He lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
NO SACRIFICe TOO GREAT
THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II

Gregory Fontenot

“Gregory Fontenot, with a deep knowledge of World War II history, a rich, profound understanding of how armies work, and the heart of a soldier, provides an excellent study and analysis of the campaigns and battles of the 1st Infantry Division, the Big Red One, in World War II, in his book, No Sacrifice Too Great. This book is informative, well-written, dramatic, rich in insights, and deeply instructive for leaders at all levels.” — Adrian R. Lewis, retired soldier, U.S. Army Ranger, University of Kansas, author of Omaha Beach: A Flawed Victory

“Greg Fontenot’s No Sacrifice Too Great follows the First Infantry Division from the beaches of the Mediterranean and Normandy through the fields of France to the forests of Germany. Throughout, the author demonstrates that if war is a learning contest, then the ‘Big Red One’ was among its best students and had few peers in adaptation, innovation, and improvisation. The division’s fabled story, and eventual success, does much to explain the vital American contribution to Allied victory in World War II and the liberation of continental Europe, and offers a model for building highly effective organizations in the future.” — Christopher M. Rein, author of Mobilizing the South: The Thirty-First Infantry Division, Race, and World War II

Colonel Fontenot’s rare ability to combine expert analysis with compelling narrative history makes No Sacrifice Too Great an absorbing read for anyone interested in the military history of the United States.

Gregory Fontenot, a retired Colonel of the U.S. Army, is currently a consultant on threat emulation for Army experimentation. He is the author of The 1st Infantry Division and the US Army Transformed: Road to Victory in Desert Storm, 1970–1991 and Loss and Redemption at St. Vith: The 7th Armored Division in the Battle of the Bulge. He lives in Lansing, Kansas.
“Kevin Hymel proves once again that he is the best Patton historian in the business. Rightfully focusing on the all-important ground combat and eschewing post-war mythology, Patton’s War is everything military history should be: objective, authoritative, and compelling—a damn fine page-turner.”—Paul Woodadge, WW2TV host, author, and Normandy Battlefield guide

“In the second volume of his trilogy Patton’s War, acclaimed historian Kevin M. Hymel dives deep, charting the legendary general over the course of five action-packed months, from the tail end of the Normandy Campaign through the bloody Battle of the Bulge. Along the way, Hymel combines groundbreaking scholarship with a storytelling verve, revealing that even after eight decades there is much to learn about one of America’s most famous commanders.”—James M. Scott, Pulitzer Prize finalist and author of Black Snow and Rampage

“Not only has Hymel been the first to effectively analyze Patton’s original hand-written diaries, but he also has produced an authoritative, compelling, and incredibly entertaining account of how Patton became a master of the battlefield.”—James Holland, author of Brothers in Arms: One Legendary Tank Regiment’s Bloody War from D-Day to VE-Day

“The volume of work on Patton is so extensive that one might presume it a difficult task to add something meaningful to all that has been done to date. Yet Kevin Hymel has managed to do just that.”—Don M. Fox, official historian for the U.S. Army, author of Final Battles of Patton’s Vanguard

Kevin M. Hymel is a contract historian at Arlington National Cemetery and the Historian/Tour Guide of Ambrose Historical Tours, leading the “In the Footsteps of Patton” tour. He is the author of four books, including Patton’s Photographs: War as He Saw It and is the former research director of WWII History and WWII Quarterly. He lives in Arlington, Virginia.
“Disunion Among Ourselves tells an important story that has been missed or skipped over in nearly all histories of the Revolution. It has indeed, as promised, recovered ‘a whole area of the Revolution’ previously underappreciated, and for that is invaluable.”
—Richard Kreitner, writer and historian, author of *Break It Up: Secession, Division, and the Secret History of America’s Imperfect Union*

“Eli Merritt deftly explores a revolutionary America rife with divisions and driven by a fear of civil wars on multiple fronts. Deeply researched, wide-ranging, and insightful, *Disunion Among Ourselves* persuades that our national Union began from, and still depends on, fending off the many demons of disunion.”
—Alan Taylor, author of *American Revolutions: A Continental History, 1750–1804*

In this eye-opening account, Eli Merritt reveals the deep political divisions that almost tore the Union apart during the American Revolution. Instead of disbanding into separate regional confederacies, the founders managed to unite for the sake of liberty and self-preservation. In so doing, they succeeded in holding the young nation together. In addition to bringing new insights to the history of the American Revolution, *Disunion Among Ourselves* has inevitable resonances with our present era of political hyperpolarization and serves as a touchstone for contemporary politics, reminding us that the founders overcame far tougher times than our own through commitment to ethical constitutional democracy and compromise.

“Liberal Education and Citizenship in a Free Society is a tour de force of why liberal arts education is central to freedom and a roadmap of how to rebuild culture through education. Ideas have consequences. By putting together the best examples of liberal arts education with examples of how to practice it, not just educators but all Americans will benefit from reading this book. Leisure, character, and knowledge are all interwoven together masterfully throughout the chapters.” —Margarita Mooney Clayton, Princeton Theological Seminary and Scala Foundation, author of The Love of Learning: Seven Dialogues on the Liberal Arts

“A valuable volume that addresses the importance of liberal education and the challenges to it. From reflections on the classical meaning of liberal education, to the promises and perils of technology and the sciences, to curriculum issues within the modern academy, this book has something important to contribute.” —Khalil M. Habib, coeditor of The Soul of Statesmanship: Shakespeare on Nature, Virtue, and Political Wisdom

Justin Buckley Dyer is Professor of Government and Executive Director of the Civitas Institute at the University of Texas at Austin. He has authored and edited many books including Natural Law and the Antislavery Constitutional Tradition. He lives in Austin, Texas.

Constantine Christos Vassiliou, a political theorist who specializes in Enlightenment thought, is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Houston. He lives in Houston, Texas.
INAPPROPRIATION
THE CONTESTED LEGACY OF Y-INDIAN GUIDES
Paul Hillmer and Ryan Bean

“Hillmer and Bean’s sophisticated historical analysis of YMCA Indian Guides wrestles with the central problematic of progressive multiculturalism in a settler colonial nation: the desire to champion and recreate Indigenous culture while evading both the lived reality of Indigenous people as well as a formal reckoning with the white history of genocidal violence.” —Casey Ryan Kelly, author of Apocalypse Man: The Death Drive and the Rhetoric of White Masculine Victimhood

“Cultural appropriation has been an ever-present characteristic of settler colonialism in North America. In their examination of the Y-Indian Guides program, Paul Hillmer and Ryan Bean demonstrate how the program, over its 77 years of existence, appropriated Indigenous experiences and imagery in the service of strengthening family, building community, and, much more problematically, honoring Indigenous peoples and cultures. This book joins a growing and important literature examining how North American institutions have affected and been affected by settler colonialism.” —Jon Weier, George Brown College

“The narrative attends to an important chapter in our (western) histories of masculinity, colonialism, fatherhood/boyhood, and Indigeneity.” —Jason Edward Black, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, coauthor of Mascot Nation: The Controversy over Native American Representations in Sports

Paul Hillmer is Professor of History at Concordia University, St. Paul. He is the author of A People’s History of the Hmong. He lives in Burnsville, Minnesota.

Ryan Bean is the Reference and Outreach Archivist for the Kautz Family YMCA Archives at the University of Minnesota Libraries. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
“As an Osage and educator, I’m glad to see part of our history explored in Indigenous Missourians. Olson has taken steps to ensure that the Indigenous perspective remains a guiding principle throughout the historical narrative, bringing much-needed balance to the telling of our story.”—Jimmy Beason II, Haskell Indian Nation University, author of Native Americans in History: A History Book for Kids

“Greg Olson has carried out an important survey of Indigenous peoples in the land we now call Missouri, one that covers many Indigenous nations, a broad swath of time, and challenges long-held myths and stereotypes.”—Tai S. Edwards, Director of the Kansas Studies Institute at Johnson County Community College, author of Osage Women and Empire: Gender and Power

“Indigenous Missourians covers the remarkable history of Missouri. Starting 12,000 years ago and moving to the present, it pulls together numerous resources and is easy to read. From the first people living in what is now Missouri, through European contact, treaties, wars, and up to today, this book covers it all. Indigenous Missourians has been needed for a long time and is a valuable resource for Indigenous people, Missourians, historians, and those that love U.S. history and world events.”—Candace Sall, Director of the Museum of Anthropology, University of Missouri, Columbia

Greg Olson served as the Curator of Exhibits and Special Projects at the Missouri State Archives from 2000 to 2018 and is the author of six books, including The Ioway in Missouri. He lives in Columbia, Missouri.
In this stunning book, four accomplished writers and lifelong conservationists team up with keen-eyed photographers to capture the compelling history, beauty, and recreational value of Missouri’s unique state park system, one that has been ranked among the top four in the nation. The book features hundreds of photographs and includes information on all 88 state parks and historic sites, including the longest developed rails-to-trail project in the nation, homes of famous Missourians, Civil War battlefields, and other reminders of the past such as mills and covered bridges. The authors tell the complete story of the park system, from its inception in 1917 to the newest state park created in 2015, encompassing much of Missouri’s history as well as its scenic and varied landscape.

**Susan Flader** is Professor Emerita of U.S. Western, environmental, and Missouri history at the University of Missouri–Columbia.

**John A. Karel** is former president of the L-A-D Foundation and former Director of State Parks and of Tower Grove Park in St. Louis.

**B. H. Rucker** (1939–2016) devoted his career to state parks as chief of cultural resources and historic preservation.

**Oliver Schuchard** is a landscape photographer and professor emeritus of art at the University of Missouri–Columbia.

Two coauthors of the first edition are deceased: **R. Robert Pryor** (1945-1999) was Executive Director of the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, and **Charles Callison** (1913-1993) was Executive Vice President of the National Audubon Society.
Missouri’s identity has long been tied to its role as a crossroads, a land—sometimes a battleground—where east met west, and south confronted north. This borderland character has produced extraordinary personalities and enduring human stories. The same crossroads’ geography also shapes the rolling plains of the north and west, through the ancient wooded Ozark hills and hollows to the broad alluvial delta of the deep southeast, and along the corridors of the continent’s two mightiest rivers.

The state’s remarkable diversity of people and resources comes alive in the updated second edition of this guide that explores all there is to see and do in our superb state park system. In this beautifully illustrated guide, you’ll find Taum Sauk, Onondaga, and Ha Ha Tonka and learn all about Ozark mountains, caves, and springs. Mastodon State Historic Site, saved only by the refusal of four housewives to take “no” for an answer, revealed the first proof of humans in contact with mastodons 12,000 years ago, while Watkins Mill showcases a farm that added a factory and became a National Historic Landmark.

Big Lake, Big Oak Tree, and Confluence ponder the lessons of our restless big rivers, while Pershing Park in the north and Prairie in the southwest exhibit fascinating stories of landscape restored by park staff. More than a score of historic sites honor consequential Missourians—Osage Village and Towosahgy, but also Harry S. Truman, Mark Twain, and Scott Joplin. Other parks and sites preserve Civil War battlefields, bridges, mills, mines, reservoirs, and trails, each with a powerful story to tell.

Short essays for each of Missouri’s parks and historic sites treat them with insight into each place’s main attractions and what makes them special, and beautiful color photographs illuminate each place. Whether packed in your backpack or resting on your nightstand, this volume will serve as a comprehensive guide to Missouri’s park system.
It's fair to say that no other immigrant group has had a greater influence on Missouri than have the Germans. They swarmed into St. Louis and then followed the Missouri River westward in the early 1800s, finding in our rolling hills and broad valleys a beautiful country that reminded them of their beloved homeland in the Old World.

This book is your personal tour guide into that unique heritage. It includes rare archival materials as well as places you can visit today to help you explore that history or let you sample their culture with all your senses. We hope this book encourages greater appreciation of Missouri Germans’ influence upon our state's development, including their bedrock antislavery principles and support of the Union, their industrious work ethic and craftsmanship that shaped so much of our built environment, and a talent for fun that germinated so many breweries, wineries, bandstands, and other treasured aspects of our culture. We can practically guarantee your amazement at some of the legacies these German immigrants left that still surround us.

Immigration is one of the most debated political topics in our country today; it’s hard to see clearly beyond the present situation. By looking back at the surprisingly parallel situation of Missouri’s German immigrants beginning almost 200 years ago, perhaps we can better envision reaching our target of a diverse yet unified Missouri in the future.

W. Arthur Mehrhoff recently retired as the academic coordinator for the Museum of Art and Archaeology at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He taught American cultural studies at Saint Cloud State University in Minnesota and at University College of Washington University in St. Louis. He also worked as a museum educator at the Gateway Arch National Park. Dr. Mehrhoff is a longtime Missouri Life contributor and a participant in the Missouri Humanities Council’s German Heritage Corridor initiative.
This Place of Promise
A Historian’s Perspective on 200 Years of Missouri History
Gary R. Kremer
$27.95 T | P: 978-0-8262-2287-9

Left in the Midwest
St. Louis Progressive Activism in the 1960s and 1970s
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