Dear Friends,

As we are all aware, the last three to four years saw major economic crises and issues. A temporary casualty of that crisis was the Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series in the fall of 2011. The return on the endowment was not enough to fund this year’s lecture. While the market has recovered and enough funds are expected to be available next year, some issues still remain. Costs have gone up as, once again, we are all aware. For the lecture series that means that a balance that earned sufficient funds to produce a quality lecture series is less likely to do so in the future.

The scholarship and department foundation funds have also seen decreases in the available income. The economy appears to be recovering though the recovery is predicted to be long and slow. At the same time the UW system has taken significant cuts in the last months. Both of these factors suggest that the future will be challenging. Given the current situation, you will not be surprised that the department is asking for your support.

Your support enables the department to continue quality programming such as the Peterson Lecture series which brings to campus nationally known experts on twentieth century history. These lectures enrich the educational experience of our students, help the department reach out to the community, and fulfill the department’s mission to make history an active part of people’s lives. Your support also helps history majors pursue their educations just as the support of earlier alumni helped many of you in your educations.

The department thanks you for your support in the past and for continuing to do so. Please, as you are able, consider making a contribution to the department’s program, scholarship and/or endowment funds.

By phone or online ► Toll Free 877-258-6647 (877-ALUMNIRF) ► Online at https://www.uwrfgiving.com/

(Remember to specify a fund listed on page 6 of this newsletter.)

We are most grateful!

—Kurt Leichtle, Chair
Stephen Feinstein Collection now available to the public

Dr. Stephen Feinstein’s vast personal book collection is now available to the public.

We are most grateful to Dr. Feinstein’s family who generously chose to donate this amazing collection.

The Stephen Feinstein Collection concentrates on Russian, European and Middle Eastern history and art, as well as genocide and the holocaust.

Dr. Feinstein was professor of European history at UWRF for 30 years until 1999. From then until his death in 2008, Dr. Feinstein was the director of the University of Minnesota’s Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Most books in this collection can be sent to individuals who are unaffiliated with UWRF through regular interlibrary loan channels. If interested, contact your local library.

Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 10

Be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2012. Watch for further details in email, Facebook, Twitter and www.uwrf/hist.

The purpose of the Series is to honor the memory of Ed Peterson and to address the vital issues of our time. The goal is to hold the Series annually on the UWRF campus.

The lecturer is to be an established scholar or thinker addressing a topic related to arenas that were the focus of Dr. Peterson’s academic career: war and peace, abuses and limits of power, or the struggle for democracy in the twentieth century.

The funds establishing and maintaining the Series are generated by donations from alumni, faculty, students and friends.

Our sincere thanks to all of you who have contributed to the Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series Foundation fund and the History Department Special Project Fund. We are most grateful for your generosity in making this Series possible.

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Office staff news

We are fortunate that last year’s competent student support team returned for 2011-12 including Ashley Cress, Stephanie Ladas, Megan Szymik, Nick Sertich and Xander Tofness.

Sue Voelker (1985). My time is still divided between History/Philosophy and Journalism/Marketing Communications where I plan, publicize and coordinate events in addition to handling daily operations.

2011 was made stressful by the political climate and the wage reduction. The cuts are especially demeaning given the degree to which we were already understaffed and therefore over-stressed. It is disconcerting that our state and federal government could veer so quickly and drastically away from democracy and from a sense of respect for public (and ultimately all) workers.

On the positive side, in March, sons Karl, Jack and I attended a taping of one of our favorite radio shows, NPR’s Whad’Ya Know (Madison, WI) during which Karl was chosen as a contestant and won the “motherlode” prize package! Great fun! Of course we also spent time at the capitol.

In July, Karl announced that he was leaving grad school (UW-Madison) to join the workforce and was soon busy interviewing with major tech companies in Seattle and San Francisco Bay area. He chose to work with Lab 126 (division of Amazon) as a software engineer in user interface on the Kindle Touch, in Silicon Valley (Cupertino, CA). He is loving work and California life!

I visited him for a long weekend in November and enjoyed a whirlwind tour of the SF Bay area, including awesome scenery and amazing restaurants. Can’t wait to return!

Jack began his second year at St. Cloud State University, studying history and planning to add a political science minor. He enjoys suite-style housing this year and is doing very well academically and works in the sociology department office there. In summer, Jack volunteered at the Pierce County Democratic Party Office.

I am finding more time to work on photography and other creative projects.
Faculty news

Betty Bergland (since 1990).
The past year has been rich and event-filled for me: two events stand out. Perhaps most gratifying was the publication of the book with Lori Ann Lahlum (Minnesota State University, Mankato) entitled, Norwegian American Women: Migration, Communities, and Identities (Minnesota Historical Society Press). We began discussing this project in Oslo during the summer of 2003, when we were both in Norway for conferences and study. We hoped that this work would address a significant gap in migration history of Norwegians. The intense collaboration of seven years resulted in the collection of essays, international and interdisciplinary, that we edited, contributed to, and shepherded through three revisions. We have since given a number of presentations on the book, including a Roundtable at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa this past summer.

The second major event for me this year was the October Russian Study Tour to Moscow and St. Petersburg. Led by University of Minnesota Regents Professor Elaine May and organized by People to People (formed in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower,) the ten-day, professional tour included meetings with Moscow State University; the Russian Academy of Sciences, Historical Division; and in St. Petersburg, the National Museum of Political History (founded originally in 1917 as the Museum of the Revolution). These sessions with Russian historians permitted memorable exchanges and meaningful insights on shared history. In addition, we visited the Kremlin, Red Square and numerous museums, including the Armory and the Heritage. My interest in Russian history is longstanding, but the rationale for this trip was my teaching twentieth century U.S. history, especially the cold war, in which U.S./Soviet relations remain so central. I trust my students will also benefit from this marvelous Historical Studies Tour.

I continue to teach the U.S. history classes and this year developed a new course on Social Movements in U.S. History. Also, I have returned now to the book project on immigrant/Indian relations.

Kurt Leichtle (since 1986). The last year has been active and interesting. The Crusade against Slavery, the Coles book, is still selling copies. My research has moved on from Coles. I am still thinking about the Ridgely family in Maryland, which I have mentioned other years. But I have become more involved with the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. So in the last years I have worked on several exhibits for them including one for the centennial of Boy Scouts. I have begun a series of research projects on the history and the effect of the scouting movement in the United States and the Midwest. Intriguingly very little analysis has been done on what most people consider a major American institution. Thus far, I have presented on paper, last year at Northern Great Plains History Conference and as working on a exhibit on scouting and the environment. From that research, I have learned that Roosevelt envisaged the CCC from his experiences with the Boy Scouts in New York. I am keeping busy.

My family is well. Karen continues to work with special education in the River Falls School District. Kyle has found a niche in the web design industry in the Twin Cities. He seems launched on his career. So those of you who remember his visits to my classes can feel properly old. Kee has graduated from high school and is working on finding a career.

In 2013 the department along with Stout, Eau Claire, and the Colleges will sponsor the Northern Great Plains meeting in Hudson, WI. In addition to the usual opportunities to listen to college professors and public historians, an extension of the conference through Saturday will focus on teaching history for k-12 teachers. I hope many of you can come and look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, I have continued to move into technology and will offer 402/602 History and Film this summer online. The topic will be films about the Civil War and how we can understand the effect the war and its ideas have had on American culture. Should be a lot of fun.

Imtiaz Moosa (since 1989). The main aspect of the year just gone by is its ordinariness and lack of pace, thrilling events or dramatic changes. Yes, I had that magnificent three week canoe trip, with a friend, up north in Yukon in Canada (see the blog ‘Yukon Blind Dream’). But, one adventure does not make for an eventful, fast-paced and dramatic year. And my sweet and noble mother passed away just a couple of months ago. But she had had cancer for two years, and this happened in the most natural and smooth way possible. I confess my life is not externally exciting, nor is it meant to be. I am a somewhat queer sort of fellow. I love a simple and uncomplicated life. I love a life with many empty spaces in between. I love a life that makes no demands on me, that requires nothing that I would not want to do anyway. And, in this respect I am fortunate, despite my devastated eyesight. I love reading and doing philosophy, and I enjoy (most of the time) talking philosophy to students. And I get paid for this. And this is the main demand life makes on me. What more could I ask?

Imi on one of many campsite islands during his 21 day Yukon River Adventure. Photo by travel companion Howard Fairbank.

Recent faculty publications


Norwegian American Women: Migration, Communities, and Identities, Betty A. Bergland and Lori Ann Lahlum, eds., Minnesota Historical Society Press, May 2011. This collection of essays explores the vital role of women in the creation of Norwegian American communities — from farm to factory and as caregivers, educators, and writers. Also available in paperback and Kindle format from Amazon.com.

Faculty news (continued)

Kirl Petkov (since 2004). 2011? An ordinary year. Launched an on-line version of my HIST 333: Silk, Spice, and Silver, after much labor and fretting. Ran it, to find out that online learning is a tricky thing. Learned my lesson, updated, ready to run again, learn again, update again, etc. Had a great time teaching, especially HIST 485, my favorite subject and most students’ (only kidding).

Edited two books, wrote a few articles and book reviews.

Most important event: joined the Union—that’s right, joined the Union.

Other than that, this reaches you from Venice, where I am working on a new course and a book project, sitting in the state archives and leafing through 700-year old parchment pieces. Pure delight. “

—Kirl Petkov

Zhiguo Yang (since 2001). Lao Zi, founder of Daoism, told us that we should accomplish things without doing them. Well, in the vibrant academic world, Lao Zi’s teaching may never be realistic: we keep ourselves busy doing this or that but are not certain if we have got much done. In the meantime, time passes by us relentlessly. Still, at the end of another year or the beginning of still another, I want to share with all of our friends those events in my public and personal life that have made 2011 memorable.

One such event is our son’s graduation from Carleton College in June. While a landmark moment for all of us, for my son it is a major turning point in his life and he has to seriously consider how he would draw his “road map” for the future. So far, he has no intention to follow his father’s footprints and become a history educator. Instead, he joined Teach For America, went to San Antonio, and has been teaching math at a high school there since September 2011.

In spring semester of 2011, I offered a new course called Hist 336: Traditional East Asia, Prehistory-1800. Having taught modern East Asian history for so long, this course enables my students and myself to distance ourselves from globalization, industrialization, imperialism, wars and other issues/events that dominate the coverage of modern history, and devote our attention to religions, philosophies, arts and cultivation of rice and millet—things that define a civilization and sustain it. It is a fresh breeze in our Asian history curriculum.

In 2011, we added Glacier National Part to the list of national/state parks we want to visit. Although “glacier” will soon be a word describing a “paradise lost” as the snow is melting away rapidly (see the picture), other natural wonders, such as mountains, lakes and canyons, will be eternal, and it is comforting to think of that aspect of the “Glacier Park.”

Together with a group of UWRF students, I spent part of the last day of 2011 visiting the Temple of Heaven in Beijing. While touring that huge imperial temple where the ancient rulers of China prayed to Heaven for good harvest, we saw hundreds of bicycles in the compound (see the picture). When asked, the temple staff told us that all these bikes were connected with a motor and on New Year’s Eve volunteers from all walks of life would pedal them at the same time to generate electricity to illuminate the temple. Clean energy, produced in Chinese way, and good for 2011 to be wrapped up this way.

According to Chinese lunar calendar 2012 is a year of dragon, and many young couples in China and elsewhere who plan to have babies will do so in the next twelve months so their babies would be “dragon sons” or “dragon daughters.” We will come back at the same time next year to find out whether or not this would lead to a “dragon boom.”
Faculty emeriti news

**Clyde Curry Smith** (at UWRF 25 years through 1990) and Ellen. We were not away from River Falls during the entire year. We remained in touch with each of our families by phone with a relative frequency, and with many other friends worldwide mainly by old-fashioned snail mail! Our daughter’s two daughters came out to River Falls in July in time for “River Falls Days”. The elder, now twenty and in college in New Jersey found many old friends from the era before that family moved east in 2002; the younger made a remarkable chaperone! Our son and his whole family of three children were here at the end of July and beginning of August, having vacationed first in Chicago, and found this residence a comfortable environment just for relaxation before requisite need to return to Massachussetts and either school or work.

Christmas greetings came in from our former colleagues: **John Buschen**, Herb and wife Alice Cederberg, Chun-Shu and wife Shelly Chang (of Ann Arbor, MI), **Gary and Sally Shellman** (of Glendale, WI), and the usual post-season letter from **Noble and wife Ronnie Stockton** (of Arlington, VA). Our former colleague of the Geography department, **Ruth Hale**, is now reported to be in a nursing home in Red Wing, MN.

Ellen completed sixteen years of service as plan commission member for the City of River Falls and resigned therefrom at the end of the year, while I continue to function as board member and secretary of the River Falls Library Foundation. I also maintain duties as treasurer for the Greenridge Homeowners Association wherein we have completed nearly fourteen years of enjoyable retirement life.

We were visited by former students **Mary D’Andrea** and **Wayne Funk** (with wife Pat) on several occasions. Cards and greetings, or other kinds of contacts over the year, also came in from these other former students (so many now retired):

- Armitage, Jeanne Quilling of Sawyer, MI.
- Cargo, Alice Youngren and husband Dick of Oscoda, MI.
- Christopher, Mark and wife Sue, near Spring Valley, WI.
- Higgins, Michael of Rothschild, WI.
- Idsvoog, Philip and wife Elaine of Plover, WI.
- Jones (Witthun), Bonnie and husband Dick, of rural River Falls.
- Kettner (-Peter), Carol and husband John of Rice Lake, WI.
- Nyberg, Curt and wife Karen of Deer Park, WI.
- Olson, David, near Spring Valley, WI.
- Parker, Lois of Columbia Heights, MN; husband Keith died on 16 September, and we felt and shared the loss.
- Poff, Janet of Lake Elmo, MN; she had travelled to Egypt in time for the "Arab Spring"!
- Rapp, Jim and Alice of Eau Claire, WI.
- Trafford, Kevin and wife Pat of Shirley, Croydon, England.
- (Waldraff-) Kringle, Roxy and husband Rich of Bethlehem, PA.
- C. Noble Stockton—aka Noble Stockton (at UWRF 23 years through 1989) and Ronnie. Ronnie and I are still living in this old folks’ home in Arlington, VA, not far from the Pentagon where our son Paul is Assistant Secretary of Defense. Ronnie’s on a cane, I’m now (at age 86) hobbling around on a walker. It’s great for going through D.C. museums, for it features an upholstered seat—more comfortable than a hard museum bench—and it lifts up to reveal a basket where I store all my junk.

I sing in two choirs. The one at my senior residence is really bad. We’ve four guys “singing” bass: one of them always sings the soprano part but lower, one is a little senile and sings notes at random, one is an experienced musician but is very old and too blind to read the music and too deaf to sing in tune—and me. But my church choir is rehearsing “Dona Nobis Pacem” by Vaughan-Williams with words mostly from Walt Whitman’s Civil War poems, surprisingly militant until we come to the part where he stoops to kiss, ever so gently, the lips of a dead soldier. I’m thinking there must be a Latin (or Greek) euphemism for people who like to do that. ! ?

I love friendly voices from long ago and can be interfaced on Facebook but I prefer cnstockon@sbcglobal.net. WILL SOMEBODY EXPLAIN GOVERNOR WALKER TO ME?

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**LIKE** us on Facebook!

- **Google us:** “Facebook UWRF History” OR
- **Direct link:** [http://www.facebook.com/pages/UWRF-History-Philosophy-Department/145990355434357](http://www.facebook.com/pages/UWRF-History-Philosophy-Department/145990355434357) OR
- **Visit our department home page:** [http://www.uwrf.edu/hist](http://www.uwrf.edu/hist) and click on

Click on “LIKE”—to receive event notices and other news! Also feel free to join in or start a discussion!

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Click on “FOLLOW”—to receive event notices and other news!
History and Philosophy Newsletter

2011 contributors

Our sincere thanks to the following for their 2011 contributions to support history scholarships, the Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series and/or the History Department Foundation:

Clark E. Anderson
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History scholarships

Dr. Stephen C. Feinstein Memorial Scholarship. Must have attained freshman status; Must show aptitude and interest in continuing the study of history with consideration being given to applicants who are pursuing a degree with a major in History; Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; Preference given to a student with financial need; Preference given to students, who like Dr. Feinstein, had an interest in WWII Holocaust study and Russian history. Based on the criteria, applicants must write an essay detailing qualifications for the scholarship.

History Scholarship. Awarded to outstanding History students. This award was created as a memorial to George and Phyllis Garlid.

Margaret and Colonel H. G. Jones Memorial Scholarship. Awarded to a student in History who has completed 22 credits of university work.

Moeser Historical Scholarship. Awarded to a History major who will be a junior or senior with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA and is a resident of Wisconsin or Minnesota.

Dr. Edward N. Peterson Scholarship. Student must have attained freshman status, show aptitude and interest in continuing the study of history with consideration being given to applicants who are pursuing a degree with a major in History, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Demonstrated financial need may be a factor in the scholarship committee’s decision.

Walker D. & Helen Bryant Wyman Scholarship. Based upon academic excellence in the major, awarded to a student who has completed at least one full year of study at UWRF. Potential for success and financial need may also be factors.

Foundation funds

The Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series
The purpose of the Lecture Series is in the Memorandum of Endowment Purpose: “...to provide a sum of money annually to be used for a history lecture for the University community to honor the memory, teaching and research of Edward N. Peterson.”

To all of you who have contributed to the History Department Special Project Funds over the last years, we thank you for your generosity that has made this Series possible. Contributions may be added to the fund over time.

History and Philosophy Department Foundation
Contributions to this account may be used to help fund events, correspondence and activities for History and Philosophy alumni.

2012 scholarship awards

Recipient names will be posted online in the coming weeks.
(To be awarded April 2012 for 2012-13 academic year)

Send us your news!

We invite you to email your news to:
history@uwrf.edu

so we can include your update in next year’s newsletter.
Ways to give

The Foundation (Alumni) Office accepts gifts by: check, credit card and “Planned Giving.”

Ways to give: Be sure to specify a scholarship or fund (from the list at left) under “Additional instructions for directing your gift.” Full details at http://www.uwrf.edu/HIST/Giving.cfm

Questions and more info:
877-258-6647
715-425-3505
foundation@uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls Foundation
310 South Hall
410 South 3rd Street
River Falls WI 54022

Please join faculty, alumni, colleagues, students & friends for our annual History & Philosophy Banquet

Friday, April 20, 2012
University Center Ballroom

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Joe Fitzharris, professor emeritus, University of St. Thomas

Topic: Going to War with the 25th Wisconsin—in Minnesota!
Post-Dakota Uprising Service in 1862

5:30 p.m. Appetizers & cash bar
6:30 p.m. Dinner & program

Signature Buffet: Beef bourguignon and herbed salmon, wild rice pilaf, Dauphinoise potatoes, fresh broccoli florets and fresh zucchini with garlic and basil. Served with gourmet field greens salad, artisan rolls, and tiramisu. Also fresh-brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee, tea and ice water.

Reservations
$25 • $15 UWRF students
Paid reservations must be received by Friday, April 13
If you have dietary restrictions, please call us at 715-425-3164.

Please mail your check, Payable to UWRF Foundation, to: Sue Voelker
History Dept., UW–River Falls, 410 S 3rd St, River Falls WI 54022.
Sorry no telephone or e-mail reservations.

Our 2012 Newsletter is online at: www.uwrf.edu/HIST/deptnews.cfm

To receive a printed newsletter, please write to us at: Newsletter, History & Philosophy, UW–River Falls, 410 S 3rd St, River Falls WI 54022 or call us at 715-425-3164.

Sponsored by UWRF
History and Philosophy Department
History Department Foundation
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Sincere gratitude for your support!

The History and Philosophy Department is truly grateful to all who support our scholarship and other foundation funds. In these times of severe funding cuts, each gift—large or small, from supporters like you—is especially welcome and cherished.

Please also know that the many students who have received scholarships to help defray the cost of their education are especially thankful for your gifts and for your confidence in their potential!
In Ed’s words (2005)

Partly because we in education must save money, whereas those in waging wars have money to burn, we have gone on the net with our Newsletter.

We will send a card to all alumni about the opportunity. Anyone not on the Net would need only to tell us and we would send the printed copy. Further it will be available to anyone on the Net all during the year. Not the least of the reasons would be the savings of the postage and the staff needed to stuff envelopes.

Nearly all alumni will find us one way or the other.

— E. N. Peterson, 2005

Photos by Sue Voelker

Founder of this publication, Dr. Edward N. Peterson, 1925-2005. Photo by Jens Gunelson

UWRF in fall color . . . Visit our photostream—including events and UWRF scenery—at http://www.flickr.com/photos/uwrfhistory