



Walter Reuther and Augustus Pollack
Monuments @ Wheeling's Heritage Port

Official
RPLHS4
facemasks
\$15.00!



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The First State Capitol
1413 Eoff Street
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Our Heritage Partners:

Battle of Homestead Foundation
Cassidy, Cogan, Shapell & Voegelin, L.C.
Ohio County Public Library
Walter P. Reuther Library Archives of Labor &
Urban Affairs
West Virginia Mine Wars Museum
Wheeling Heritage



WALS ~ OUR LOCATION

The WALs Foundation is based out of the First State Capitol building at 15th and Eoff streets in Wheeling, which housed the first government of West Virginia, established on June 20, 1863, with Arthur I. Boreman as governor.

WALS ~ OUR MISSION

The Wheeling Academy of Law and Science Foundation (WALS) is a non-profit established to promote educational programming in the areas of education, employment, labor history, local history, human rights, energy, and the environment; and to promote local economic opportunity, employment, and job creation in our city and region.

REUTHER-WHEELING LIBRARY & LABOR ARCHIVE

The WALs Foundation maintains a library and archives as a research and study center on the life, times, and thought of Wheeling's native son, labor leader and human rights activist, Walter P. Reuther. The archive collects, preserves, digitizes and makes accessible, material related to the life and work of Reuther and to the history of organized labor and the working class in Wheeling and the Upper Ohio Valley region.

What is the JOBS FIRST AGENDA?

One of primary initiatives of the WALs Foundation is called the "Jobs First Agenda," which seeks to create a new narrative based on fairness, not ideology; and on scientific facts, not partisan politics.

Top Ten Features of the Jobs First Agenda

- 1) Amend the U.S. Constitution to guarantee living wage jobs, free universal health care, and free public education through college.
- 2) Change state employment laws to require good faith and fair dealing in all employment relationships, and re-introduce empathy in our courts of law.
- 3) Abrogate the King's law of "employment at will" to provide job security based on the doctrine of good faith and fair dealing.
- 4) Make the government the employer of last resort, rebuilding the national Infrastructure like the Civilian Conservation Corps.
- 5) Change to a green, new energy economy in response to the existential threat of climate change, and offer more jobs in the process.
- 6) Reform tax code using incentivized rates and deductions as a reward for hiring employees at a living wage; eliminate favorable rates for corporations.
- 7) Implement a living wage through reformed collective bargaining by allowing every employee to choose or decline a labor union or professional association at the time of hiring in the private sector.
- 8) Abrogate the King's law of "Sovereign Immunity" by making the government accountable for making employment easy.
- 9) Broaden the scope of fiduciary duty laws to include avoidance of harm to the workforce, to the community, and to the environment.
- 10) Implement all future laws and policies based on the Jobs First Agenda to restore America as the leader of the free world in values.

For more visit: walswheelingcommentaries.com



and the Reuther-Wheeling Library &
Labor History Archive present:



Reuther-Pollack Labor History Symposium IV

LIVESTREAM

Sept. 5, 2020

"Solidarity Against Hate"

Part of





Pre-Symposium

Program: Sept. 1 at

Noon, in partnership with the Ohio County Public Library's Lunch With Books Livestream - *Walter Reu*

ther: The Most Dangerous Man in Detroit and the Fate of American Labor. UCSB History Professor and Center for the Study of Work, Labor, and Democracy Director **Dr. Nelson Lichtenstein** will discuss his essential biography of Wheeling's own Walter Reuther, the most imaginative and powerful trade union leader of the past half-century. **Plus: Join our Zoom birthday greeting for Walter Reuther!**

SYMPOSIUM LIVESTREAM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, September 5, 2020

Watch LIVE on WALS Facebook
Or the WALS YouTube Channel

"Solidarity Against Hate"

11 am - **Dr. Daniel Graff**

Paper: "The Key Remedy for the Nation's Economic Ills': Walter Reuther and the UAW's Forgotten Fight Against 'Excess Profits' and Economic Amnesia in the Contemporary USA"

12 pm - **Mike Stout**

Book: *Homestead Steel Mill—the Final Ten Years: US-WA Local 1397 and the Fight for Union Democracy*

1 pm - **Lunch Break:**

Reuther Birthday Video;

the Music of **Tom Breiding**,
and a Virtual Walking Tour to the
Reuther and Pollack monuments
led by **Dr. David Javersak**

2:30 pm - **Dr. Charles B. Keeney**

"Saving Blair Mountain: A Roadmap to Preservation Success"

3:30 pm - **Dr. Cicero M. Fain, III**

Book: *Black Huntington: An Appalachian Story*

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Daniel Graff has been the

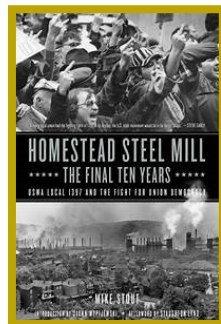
director of the Higgins Labor Program at Notre Dame University since 2014. Dedicated to encouraging the Notre Dame community to realize the centrality of "the labor question" -- Who does the work, who gets the fruits, and who makes the rules? -- to all human endeavors, Graff writes and curates original online content.

A history professor, Graff offers courses in US labor and nineteenth-century history, including "Labor & America since 1945," "US Labor History to 1945," "Food, Work, & Power in American History," and "Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Struggle against Slavery." He has written and published extensively on the histories of work, race, and citizenship in the US. His current research projects include race, labor, and citizenship in nineteenth-century St. Louis; and representations of the chronic crisis facing workers in the US since 1981. Graff earned his B.A. in history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in U.S. history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Mike Stout is known as the

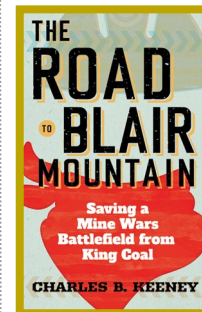
"World's Grievance Man," and he is the real deal. Mike is an internationally known, socially conscious singer songwriter and in your face take charge social activist. Taking his music to the picket lines and protest rallies, Mike leads crusades against economic and environmental injustice, calling people to action. Like his musical heroes Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger his songs urge people to unite in solidarity to fight for a better life. For more than three decades, Mike has been writing, recording and performing songs that tell the stories of the working class heroes of U.S. labor history and their struggles for peace, social justice and a decent standard of living. Mike was a blue collar steelworker and a union leader. Spanning the famous Homestead steel strike of 1892 through the century-long fight for a union and union democracy, Mike's book, *Homestead Steel Mill—the Final Ten Years* is a case history on the vitality of organized labor. It's an insider's portrait of the union at the Homestead Works, specifically the workers, activists, and insurgents that made up the radically democratic Rank and File Caucus from 1977 to 1987.



Dr. Charles B. Keeney is an assistant professor of history at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College. He served as president of Friends of Blair Mountain and was a founding member of the West Virginia Mine Wars Museum. In his talk, "Saving Blair Mountain: A Roadmap to Preservation Success"



Dr. Keeney will relate how the preservation group Friends of Blair Mountain succeeded in preventing the destruction of the Blair Mountain Battlefield by mountaintop removal. The talk is based on Dr. Keeney's newest book, *The Road to Blair Mountain: Saving a Mine Wars Battlefield from King Coal*, forthcoming from WVU Press. In 1921 Blair Mountain in southern WV was the site of the country's bloodiest armed insurrection since the Civil War, a battle pitting miners led by Frank Keeney against agents of the coal barons intent on quashing organized labor. It was the largest labor uprising in US history. Ninety years later, the site became embroiled in a second struggle, as activists came together to fight the coal industry, state government, and the military-industrial complex in a successful effort to save the battlefield from destruction by mountaintop removal mining.



Dr. Cicero M. Fain, III is professor of history at the College of Southern Maryland. Previous to that position, he worked as a professor at Niagara University in NY; assistant professor at Ohio University, Ironton, OH, and assistant professor at Marshall University, where he was the recipient of the Carter G. Woodson Fellowship. His book, *Black Huntington, An Appalachian Story*, explores how Huntington's booming economy and relatively tolerant racial climate attracted African Americans from across



Appalachia and the South. Prosperity gave these migrants political clout and spurred the formation of communities that defined black Huntington—factors that empowered blacks to confront institutionalized and industrial racism on the one hand and the white embrace of Jim Crow on the other. Fain illuminates the unique cultural identity and dynamic sense of accomplishment and purpose that transformed African American life in Huntington. Using interviews and untapped archival materials, Fain details the rise and consolidation of the black working class as it pursued, then fulfilled, its aspirations. Eye-opening and eloquent, *Black Huntington* makes visible another facet of the African American experience in Appalachia.

