"Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there."—Will Rogers.

"I like movement, always have."—Robert Redford.

"Leonardo never outgrew his wonder years."—Leonardo DaVinci biographer Walter Isaacson.

"[M]y stories about people and places never end. I am always finding new stories and revisiting the ones I have done in the past, always wanting to tell the entire narrative behind the images, to follow them on their natural course."—Pulitzer photojournalist Lynsey Addario in Guardian.

"Books become friends that never fail..."—Dr. Will Mayo.

"The hallway of every man’s life is paced with pictures; pictures gay and pictures gloomy, all useful, for if we be wise, we can learn from them a richer and braver way to live."—Sean O’Casey.

"As I reflect back, you want to have humility and not sound arrogant, but I think our group really set the foundation for Wisconsin football and what it would become."—1994 UW Rose Bowl Champ Linebacker Chris Hein.

"Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work; you don’t give up."—Anne Lamott.

"But celebrity status never went to Weaver’s head.../With [my dad], there was always something we could have done better... Or you could have made that one you missed... I thought maybe after 40-some years, it might be a 75-foot shot. But it’s still 55."—Lamont Weaver.

"The condition of your birth doesn’t determine the outcome of your life."—Paul Ryan, Public Servant.

"[I]t’s just a big testament to the people who are around us... and the power of love."—Jason Witten College Man of 2018, UW’s D’Cota Dixon.

"Treasure your children."—John McCain.

"Treasury of America Vol. 84

TRAVELS D, A MOVING COAT
OR PEOPLE IN MOTION

Matt A Marcou’s dad has authored 169 books & many other writings & photos; David Joseph Marcou is WI’s most prolific author.

1969 UW Football Team. DvJM 2nd from Right Top Row, student manager (Crtsy. UW-Madison Athls.).

DvJM quote & pic-ID is included in: https://news.wisc.edu/black-student-strike/

Photos & Timeline by Author David Joseph Marcou (DvJM) w/Essay by Anita T. Doering

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Select Captions

All photos were taken by DvJM unless otherwise credited

Select BW Pics:

BckCvAuthID-UW'69FB Team pic (DvJM2ndfrRTRow); Nighthawks rail repair, MO, ca. 1981; UW-Madison FB Coach Paul Chryst(C), Camp Randall, 9-8-18; 2 Gorbals Boys, UK, ca. 1949 (pic Bert Hardy); 2 La Crosse Gals, tribute to BH, ca. 2013 (DvJM); 3 boys walk, also a tribute to BH’s 2 Gorbals Boys (DvJM), ca. 2010; niteview WWIIMem Fntn, DC, 2006 (picMattAMarcou); young lady w/buns, LaX, 9-3-18; bro Tom Marcou jogging down Philadelphia Art Museum steps (Rocky-like). Philly, 6-12-17; my Pentax SLR110D Smithsonian-focused camera, Bodega, 2-8-19; busy crowd, VP Joe Biden rally, UW-L, Oct. 2012; ‘Key’ Largo DC Metro, ca. 2011; Two ladies walk & reflections, LaX, 2-8-19; “Eyes on the Prize” author Juan Williams chats w/colleagues at NPR as new granddad, April 2010; Then-LPL Dir. Kelly Krieg-Sigman shakes hands with Emeritus UWL History Prof. Bruce Mouser, 10-17-10; Memories of Bruce Mouser too, LPL Governor’s Archives Award Evt., 10-17-10; Archivist Anita Doering speaking, 10-17-10; St. Mother Teresa smiling, interview, Skor, 1-27-85 (DvJM); Picture Post hero Bert Hardy w/dogs Lizzie & Kim, UK, ca.11-25-81 (DvJM4BritNPG); fountain boy, Philippines, 1986; Hispanic Wedding Party Leap, Times Square, 4-9-11; Sheila Hardy & Charles Keeble waving, Bert Hardy Darkroom, ca.2007 (pic Martin Reed); Statue of Liberty, NYC, 2000 (pic Jon Tarrant).

Select Color Pics:

Mary & Tom Pretasky, Class of ’68 50th Reunion, Freighthouse, LaX, 8-4-18 (DvJM); Casino sign at nite, 9-8-18; A young lady’s moving coat, LaX, 2-8-19; (L-R)New Pioneers Lunch Club: John Medinger, Joe Kotnour, Roger A. Grant, & David Joseph Marcou, Bodega, LaX, 2-8-19 (DvJM self-portrait; member Kerry Hruska not present); Air Force One taking off in mist, LaX, 11-1-92; Farmer’s Dancers, S Kor Folk Village Minsokchun, July 1986; Two pics in Canonbury Day Centre, London, ca. Oct. 1981; UW-Madison Ath. Dir. Barry Alvarez-R signing his new book “Don’t Flinch”, as thin Sloopy’s Alma Mater pub-owner Dave Berger & others chat, LaX, Oct. 2007; she said Errynn McNeill, waitress, Bodega, LaX, 2-8-19; Cindy McCain walking by crowd, John McCain rally, LaX Ctr., 10-8-08; Ron Dayne scores TD vs. Indiana U., Heisman Season, Homecoming, 1999; Young couple cuddle as Amtrak Train approaches, LaX, ca. 2012 (DvJM).

Timeline for 1st Recorded White Explorers in US Heartland, Joliet and Marquette

Original Research Done for SA82 Articles by DvJM

-- 1634: Frenchman Jean Nicolet reaches Green Bay as 1st white man to explore what would become state of Wisconsin.

-- June 1, 1637: Jacques Marquette, a future Jesuit priest, is born in France.

-- Sept. 21, 1645: Louis Joliet is baptized in Quebec, Canada (no date given for his birth).

-- 1671: Louis Joliet is present at Sault-St.-Marie when Saint-Lusson and Nicholas Perrot declare western territories of North America, in French control (part of New France, in other words).

-- Early 1670s: Louis Joliet, 1st famous Canada-born explorer, and Fr. Jacques Marquette, French-born Jesuit missionary, think about expedition. Joliet is asked by government official Talon to lead original North American Corps of Discovery into interior of Native American-only lands to reach Pacific Ocean. French government says it can’t pay.—Joliet funds expedition.

-- May 17, 1673: Group of seven voyageurs leave St. Ignace (Mich.) and sail to Green Bay, home of the Ho-Chunks.

-- Early June 1673: Joliet adds two Indian guides and supplies at Green Bay.

-- June 14, 1673: Joliet-Marquette portage 2 miles from Fox R. to Wisconsin R. near today’s Portage, WI. Indian guides desert, fearful of what lay ahead.

-- June 17, 1673: Joliet-Marquette team become first known whites to view Upper Mississippi River, at today’s Prairie du Chien.

-- End of June 1673: Joliet-Marquette canoe past today’s Iowa, Illinois, & north Missouri to Missouri River’s mouth. Joliet writes, “[The latter] was in full flood….I never saw anything more terrific. A tangle of entire trees from the
mouth of the Pekistanoui [Missouri] with such impetuosity that one could not attempt to cross it without great danger. They go south on Mississippi—see cat-fish, new birds, fruits, grains, bison, prairie-lands, mountains, tall trees.

-- July 16, 1673: The team’s having met Akamsea Indians, they take bearings and learn of enemy Spanish and Native Americans ahead; team turn back homeward at Arkansas River mouth. They now have proof, tho, the waterway they’d been heading for wasn’t the Pacific Ocean, but the Gulf of Mexico.

-- End of July-Sept. 1673: Joliet and Marquette become first known whites on Illinois & Des Plaines Rivers and sites of future St. Louis & Chicago, & also pass site of Milwaukee.

-- Sept. 30, 1673: Joliet and Marquette part company at De Pere, WI, near Green Bay. Fr. Marquette stays on there to convert Native Americans.

-- Winter 1673-74: Joliet writes and makes copies of his journal and map on or near today’s Mackinac Island. Heading back to Quebec, his canoe capsizes in Lachine (St.-Louis?) Rapids near Montreal; his original paperwork perishes, as do 2 voyageurs & a 10-year-old Indian protege. Later, a fire in the Jesuit cabin he’d wintered in apparently destroys Joliet’s paperwork copies. He writes to Msgr. De Laval in 1674 about the Mississippi River region: “All these native peoples, fruits, birds, and animals occupy a country more beautiful than France.”


-- 1675: Louis Joliet marries Claire-Francoise Byssot and is later appointed Hydrographer to the King and Professor at Jesuit College in Quebec.

-- 1682: King Louis XIV sends Robert LaSalle to today’s southeast United States to claim it for France.

-- Summer 1700: Louis Joliet goes missing and is presumed drowned near Anticosti, the huge Canadian island Louis XIV had gifted to him earlier.

-- 1804-1806: Lewis and Clark are commissioned to and explore the expanded Louisiana Territory, sold by Napoleon to the United States in 1803.

(DvJM)—P.S. Fairly modern map of expedition’s route is included in Color Photo Section.

Tribute to Dr. Bruce Mouser
Posted 1st on LaX Public Library site by ATD 12-30-18
(written by Anita Taylor Doering, Archives Staff)

Although Dr. Bruce Mouser was an active UWL faculty member when I arrived in La Crosse in the role of archivist in 1989, I really didn’t have much interaction with him until his retirement in 1996 when he got serious about doing more extensive research on the local African American community. This led him to eventually tell the story of two notable members of that community who called La Crosse home in their early years – George Edwin Taylor and George Coleman Poage.

Recently deceased in December 2018, Mouser taught history at UWL from 1968-1996, mainly African. But in addition to classroom teaching, his legacy locally will be his extensive ground-breaking work on the history of Black settlement in La Crosse. When I read of his death, I began to reflect on his long-term influence regarding the written history of La Crosse. Certainly his book Black La Crosse, Wisconsin, 1850-1906: Settlers, Entrepreneurs & Exodusers published in 2002 by the La Crosse County
Historical Society will continue to be a cornerstone work in this subject area. But how did a world history professor become the source for local history?

Mouser explains in the introduction to Black La Crosse that Dr. George Gilkey, then the History Department chair at UWL, suggested to Mouser that he “might want to expand [his] curiosity into local history where [Gilkey] had found numerous references to Black settlers in census records.” Of course, census record searching at that time meant hand cranking through rolls of microfilm and doing hand transcription, compared to today where we can browse online or do some sophisticated online searching in much less time. Mouser, with the aid of a grant, did a lot of preliminary research and presented the findings to several local groups within the La Crosse area. Then he put it away until his retirement.

As we got to know each other, Mouser did begin to trust me – perhaps out of necessity – to fact check and proofread his manuscript on George Edwin Taylor. Mouser “met” Taylor before my arrival when he uncovered issues of a newspaper called The Wisconsin Labor Advocate. The first La Crosse Public Library archivist Allen Kovan was instrumental in helping to connect Mouser with the only extant copies of this paper, squirreled away in a basement storage area.

Taylor was the publisher of this newspaper with financial support from La Crosse’s own Dr. Frank “White Beaver” Powell as Powell was beginning to rev up his bid into statewide politics. Taylor eventually became a presidential candidate for the National Liberty Party in 1904 and retired from political life after that election. You can read Mouser’s book on Taylor published by the University of Wisconsin Press titled For Labor, Race, and Liberty: George Edwin Taylor, his Historic Run for the White House, and the Making of Independent Black Politics if you’re interested in learning more about this man’s life.

In the same year Mouser published his book on Taylor (2010), the La Crosse Public Library Archives received a prestigious award – the Governor’s Award for Archival Achievement. Photos of Mouser were taken on the day of the ceremony October 17, 2010, as Mouser along with others from the community and UWL helped celebrate this milestone.

After completing his seminal tome on Taylor, Mouser rekindled his desire to find out more about George Poage – the first African American to win an Olympic medal in the modern games – who was raised in La Crosse. Mouser teamed up with former UWL Murphy Library Special Collections Librarian Ed Hill and former La Crosse County Historical Society executive director David Henke. The trio did as much research as was possible in the early 1980s.

When in pursuit of historical truth, Mouser was a veritable powerhouse. He left no stone unturned and used a mix of historian’s intuition, historiography and scholarly know-how to amass a large collection of articles and other primary source material over many years. Over time, he forged alliances with Poage’s family which really helped to break through major stumbling blocks. Not only has Mouser left us his narrative history on Poage’s life, but also his source documents so others can do follow up research which all historians hope will happen. Mouser’s narrative is available online here, and the La Crosse Public Library also has processed his notes and drafts on Poage in a manuscript collection.
I will fondly remember how excited and passionate Mouser could be about anything that he was researching and that was worthy of his time and attention. He also demanded not only the best of himself, but the best of everyone else. Not noted for my fiction reading, Mouser even asked for my honest comments about an historical novel he had written regarding the slave trade in the Rio Pongo. Maybe that was his way of breaking me out of my comfort zone – teachers are notorious for that. Dr. Mouser’s thoughtfully written obituary encapsulates the highlights of his accomplishments.

While I have touched upon the major topics that involved local history, Mouser touched thousands of lives, and will continue to influence La Crosse history through his investigation into and representation of the African American community both locally and nationally.

Peace, Bruce.