

19th Annual Calumet Heritage Conference

Saturday, October 20th, 2018

Celebrating and Restoring the
Calumet's Living Landscape



PRESENTER'S BIOGRAPHIES

Brenda Barrett is the editor of the *Living Landscape Observer* a web site and monthly newsletter providing commentary on land conservation, historic preservation and sustainable communities. She is the former Director of Recreation and Conservation at the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and held positions as the National Coordinator for Heritage Areas for the National Park Service in Washington D.C. and as the Director of Historic Preservation at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. A trustee of US ICOMOS, she has been appointed to the ICOMOS Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes. She also serves on the coordinating committee of the newly formed Network for Landscape Conservation.

Michael Boos has devoted 48 years to the challenges of communications as a community organizer, public relations consultant, public relations officer, journalist, writer and publisher. He founded and serves as executive director of the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative, a not-for-profit organization that seeks to improve and enhance the bi-state Wolf Lake watershed. In doing so he wrote a book manuscript, *Over the Line*. He earned degrees in editorial journalism and mass communications, 1965 and 1969, from the University of Iowa.

Mark Bouman Ph.D. served as president of the Calumet Heritage Partnership from 2007 to 2016 and has been closely involved with several Calumet regional efforts, including the Lake Calumet Ecosystem Partnership, Calumet Stewardship Initiative, the Calumet Environmental Resource Center at Chicago State University, and the Calumet Collaborative. Mark's association with the Calumet region dates to his undergraduate days at Valparaiso University. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Minnesota. He was a Professor of Geography at Chicago State University from 1984 to 2012. Since 2012 he has been the Chicago Region Program Director for the Keller Science Action Center at The Field Museum.

Cassandra Cannon is the Founder and CEO of the 501c3 non-profit United Urban Network, Inc., from Gary, Indiana. United Urban Network Inc. is a grassroots, community, socio-educational outreach organization with many programs that serve various communities across state lines and international borders. She has been a member of CSI since 2008. She sits on the advisory board of the Center for Environmental Ethics and Law (CEEL) and has been a member of the International Union and Center for Humans and Nature (IUCN) since 2011.



The Field Museum gratefully acknowledges the following partners for their support of programs in the Calumet region:



Benjamin Cox became Friends' first Executive Director in 2004. He graduated from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis with a degree in journalism and minors in Spanish and Environmental Studies. After working as a newspaper reporter and freelance writer and designer, he served in several non-profit roles, including Director of the International Tibet Independence Movement and Facilitator for the Peace Learning Center as an AmeriCorps Member, but conservation is his real passion. As Executive Director, Benjamin leads the advocacy and policy efforts, works to bring resources to the forest preserves in Cook County and builds partnerships and coalitions to maximize our community's impact.

Rhondalyn Cox is Executive Director of Artopia Arts & Crafts Cultural Academy LLC, which encourages and builds students and young adults to think like entrepreneurs and better themselves through healing arts. She earned an AS in Computer/Graphics, BA in Organizational Management, License and Member of The Entrepreneurship program from Purdue University Calumet in Hammond, Indiana, BA degrees in Business Education and General Education, and MA credits in Youth and Family Therapy and Instructional Design. She has taught many students from Northwest Indiana and Illinois, and exchange students from around the world different forms of art techniques and entrepreneurship.

Paul Labovitz has been at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore over four years of a thirty-year National Parks Service career that started in Philadelphia. A Penn State Forester/Wildlife Biologist and Frostburg State University MBA, prior to NPS he worked as the manager of a 10000-acre private property in SW Pennsylvania. He engaged in conservation work in over 30 states as part of the NPS Rivers and Trails Program, including, Great Allegheny Passage, the Ohio and Erie Canalway National Heritage Area in NE Ohio and the Mississippi River Trail. He helped evolve the Canoemobile Program with Wilderness Inquiry that has introduced almost a quarter of a million youth to the outdoors. He has worked with sister parks and protected area in Central Europe and Central America. Park assignments include Cuyahoga Valley NP, Voyageurs NP and Pullman NM. He is currently enjoying life in LaPorte County, Indiana.

Michael Longan Ph.D. is President of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. He is a Professor of Geography at Valparaiso University where he serves as coordinator of the Urban Studies program. He earned his Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Colorado at Boulder and his Master's in geography from the University of Arizona, Tucson. In addition to research interests in the geography of cultural and environmental heritage, he also has interests in communication and media geography and is currently working on a project that explores the geography of country music.

Katherine Moore-Powell, Ph.D. is an ecohydrologist, studying how water moves through ecosystems - especially as rain patterns shift with climate change. She has experience conducting water and carbon cycling research in wetlands, forests and grasslands. As the climate change ecologist for the Field Museum she developed a climate change adaptation plan for the Indiana Dunes state and national parks and is currently working on a similar project for prairie habitats throughout the Chicago Wilderness region.

Brenda Scott-Henry is Director of Green Urbanism and Environmental Affairs with over 14 years of experience in environmental programs and services. She also serves as the Stormwater (MS4) Coordinator and is primarily responsible for the planning and implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitted program. She directs the environmental, operational, and programmatic requirements for all water, land, and air quality protection projects and planning efforts; and collaborates with City departments and organizations to increase municipal efficiency while maximizing sustainable impacts on the community. Her department strives to protect and improve the health of the environment, making it an invaluable asset utilizing environmental services and program activities to advance the City's goals for a safe, healthy and well-protected environment fostered through civic engagement to help advance a sustainable society and economy.

Tom Shepherd, a resident of Historic Pullman, is a charter member of the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Tom has an interest in local history and is a member of a number of the societies and groups in the area devoted to relating and preserving our local history. Along with a number of other academics, historians and Calumet area residents interest in the history of the Underground Railroad in the Calumet Region, Tom has helped to revive the effort to memorialize local abolitionists who served as “conductors” on the Underground Railroad, as well as those brave Freedom Seekers who journeyed through our locale on their way to liberation in Canada and eastern U.S., Tom will outline the endeavors of the group to establish a monument near the Jan Ton Farm in Beaubien Woods, and a replica “Freedom Trail” as well as other historical markers to tell this fascinating story.

Madeline Tudor is an applied cultural research manager in the Field Museum’s Keller Science Action Center. Her research interest focus on understanding people’s interaction with their environment relates to landscape and place-making, primarily in urban and postindustrial contexts. She has co-curated, developed and produced anthropologically-based materials through a variety of public engagement formats, including museum and community-based exhibitions. Current projects include the feasibility study and management plan to support the creation of a Calumet National Heritage Area, as well as leading the Calumet Curators network to develop the *Calumet Voices, National Stories* exhibit project and related programming.

Willow Walsh is a student at Valparaiso University. Since April 2017, Willow has served as a Digital Humanities Intern at The Welcome Project, interviewing faculty, staff, students, and community residents about their experiences within their community, transcribing, editing, and publishing the completed interviews on the Welcomproject.valpo.edu website. She also hosts civic reflection conversations on campus, aimed particularly round student cognizance of regional history with the city of Gary, IN. In addition to her work with The Welcome Project, Willow is Public Affairs and Communications Intern at Ingenuity-Chicago.

Julie Zasada was inducted into the NWI Society of Innovators for her plan to bring a history-based children’s museum to Cedar Lake in 2007. Her plan caught the attention of the Cedar Lake Historical Association (CLHA). She has been a board member since 2008 and Executive Director since 2015. After graduating from University of St. Francis (Joliet, IL) with a B.S. in Business Administration and working in HR and college admissions, she discovered her calling in on-profit volunteerism when she left the workforce to raise her children. She sits on five additional boards. Julie has been able to indulge her passion for historic preservation as CLHA restores the 100-year old, state and national registered Lassen’s Resort Hotel, which CLHA operated as a museum.