

CONTRIBUTORS

MICHAEL BARKER {oregonortho@hotmail.com} works in orthopedic surgery as a Physician Assistant and lives with his wife and two daughters in beautiful Southern Oregon. He is a competitive mountain biker and is a lover of bow ties and non-white dress shirts. He and his two brothers are the proprietors of the Rational Faiths blog.

CLAUDIA L. BUSHMAN {claudia.bushman@gmail.com}, a lady in retirement, continues to enjoy the culture of New York City. Her next book, *Going to Boston*, will be published in 2017.

CHRISTIAN DEGN is an art student at Utah Valley University. His work has been *included in printed publications like Black Metal of The Americas, Touchstones, and Dead Wood and Rushing Water*. He has also worked alongside musicians locally and internationally to provide illustration and visual direction for a number of releases.

RONI JO DRAPER, PhD {Roni_Jo_Draper@byu.edu} is professor of teacher education in the Department of Teacher Education of the McKay School of Education at Brigham Young University. Her research interests include literacy education, multicultural education, and teacher education. In particular, much of her research has focused on the preparation of teachers for supporting the literacy development of children and youth. Her published work has appeared in the *Journal of Teacher Education*, the *Harvard Educational Review*, the *Journal of Literacy Research*, the *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, and the *American Educational Research Journal*. She is the editor and contributing author to the book *(Re) imagining Content-area Literacy Instruction*, a co-publication of Teachers College Press and the National Writing Project. She is also an editor and contributing author to the book *Arts Literacy and Education* as part of Routledge's Research in Literacy series. As a teacher educator critical of the curriculum and pedagogy used to prepare teachers, Dr. Draper's primary methodological approach to her work has been action research, content

analysis, and narrative inquiry. Recently, Dr. Draper has turned to queer pedagogical approaches to her work with teachers to help them rethink their taken-for-granted notions about teaching, learning, literacies, and the children and families they serve in schools.

NANCY TATE DREDGE {nancy@organizationsunlimited.com} was the second (1975–1981) and sixth (2000–09) editor of *Exponent II*. She was a contributor to *Mormon Sisters: Women in Early Utah* (ed. Claudia Bushman, 1976), for which she also acted as an assistant editor. She credits her experience editing *Exponent II* with the beginnings of her career in educational publishing, during which she worked as a content editor for such companies as Houghton Mifflin, Prentice Hall, and Pearson Publishing. With her business partner, Sue Booth-Forbes, she founded Editorial Associates, Inc., and acted as supervising editor for literature, grammar, history, reading, and art textbooks. Nancy lives with her anthropologist *cum* business consultant husband Paul in Arlington, Massachusetts, as do several of her five children and their families.

JUDY DUSHKU {judydushku@gmail.com} was a “founding mother” of *Exponent II* in 1974 and remained involved with the quarterly until recently, serving on the Board of *Exponent II* twice as President. She edited the “*Sisters Speak*” column. Her writings about Mormon women include: Judith Dushku, “*Feminists*,” in *Mormon Sisters*, ed. Claudia Bushman (Cambridge, Mass.: Emmeline Press, 1976); Eaton-Gadsby, Patricia Rasmussen, and Judith R. Dushku, “*Emmeline B. Wells: I have risen triumphant*,” in *Sister Saints*, ed. Vicky Burgess-Olsen (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1978). She received a BA in political science in 1964, then a MALD from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1966. She was Associate Professor of Government at Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts for forty-seven years, where she taught comparative politics, African politics, women and politics, international law, and American government. She participated in the United Nations Conferences on Women in Nairobi

(1985) and Beijing (1995). She was a Fulbright Senior Specialist, lecturing on “Politics of Post-Communist Transition.” She served as Dean of Suffolk University–Dakar (Senegal) campus from 2001 to 2003. She is the Founder and President of THRIVE-Gulu, an organization that addresses issues of child soldiers, sex slavery, and other post-conflict concerns in Uganda. Part of the work there involves collecting stories of formerly abducted women to support their healing from the trauma of war with Joseph Kony’s LRA.

D CHRISTIAN HARRISON {christian.harrison@gmail.com} After serving in the Canada Montréal Mission, Christian attended BYU, where he studied International Relations, French, Mandarin, and Danish. At the start of his junior year, Christian co-founded a software company that pioneered online shopping systems. Today, Christian works in the fields of strategic and visual communications and is active in Salt Lake City regional political circles—advocating on behalf of urban dwellers, transit users, and the homeless. When he’s not working, politicking, or preparing for his EQ lesson, he’s traveling, hosting dinner parties, or catching something at the theater. You can follow Christian’s musings on Mormonism at *By Common Consent*.

ERIC W. JEPSON and THERIC JEPSON {theric@thmazing.com} are, respectively, the editor of *Dorian: A Peculiar Edition with Annotated Text & Scholarship* and *Monsters & Mormons*, both from Peculiar Pages. They are also, off-page, the same person. As this issue goes to press, one of them is presenting at the San Diego Comic-Con International on Mormon Comics. Additional relevant scholarship, fiction, poetry, and other peccadilloes can be found by searching for and clicking on anything thmazing.

BENJAMIN KNOLL {benjamin.knoll@centre.edu} is the John Marshall Harlan Associate Professor of Politics at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. He is the author of several scholarly articles on the intersection of

race, religion, and American politics and is currently a permablogger at RationalFaiths.

SUSAN WHITAKER KOHLER {susanwkohler@gmail.com} is a retired teacher who taught elementary school for twenty years in Illinois and California. For a decade she worked in alumni relations and development at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. She lives in Midway, Utah and Provo, Utah.

JONATHAN LANGFORD {jonathan@langfordwriter.com}, a freelance writer and editor living in western Wisconsin, moderates Dawning of a Brighter Day, the blog of the Association for Mormon Letters. He is the author of *No Going Back*, a Whitney finalist novel about a gay Mormon teenager, and co-edited *Let Your Hearts and Minds Expand: Reflections on Faith, Reason, Charity, and Beauty*, by Thomas F. Rogers, published as part of the Maxwell Institute's Living Faith series in June 2016.

NEIL LONGO {neil.longo@verizon.net} was raised in southern California and graduated from Brigham Young University in 2015 with a degree in Political Science. While at BYU, he was baptized into the LDS Church, and began negotiating a synthesis between Mormonism and his native Catholic faith. After graduating, he completed an internship with Senator Orrin Hatch, then began working for the Intercollegiate Studies Institute as a Regional Director. His primary academic interests are the history of the American West, Native American tribal law, the history of conservative thought, and poetry. He hopes to attend graduate school and gain a PhD. He enjoys writing, reading, hiking, kayaking, hosting parties, taking road-trips with friends, and attending the Catholic, Orthodox Christian, and Mormon communities in West Chester, Pennsylvania, where he lives.

LAURIE F. MAFFLY-KIPP {maffly-kipp@wustl.edu} is the Archer Alexander Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities at Washington

University in St. Louis, and director of the Program in Religious Studies. Her research and teaching focus on African American religions, Mormonism, and religion on the Pacific borderlands of the Americas. Her publications include *Religion and Society in Frontier California* (Yale University Press, 1994) and *Setting Down the Sacred Past: African-American Race Histories* (Harvard University Press, 2010). Currently she is working on a survey of Mormonism in American life that will be published by Basic Books. Prof. Maffly-Kipp is a past president of the American Society of Church History and served in 2015–16 as the president of the Mormon History Association.

EUNICE McMURRAY {eunice.mcmurray@gmail.com} was born in South Korea and joined the LDS Church after immigrating to the United States with her family. While studying biology and later medicine at Harvard, she became involved in community activism and organizing, with particular focus on issues of health care and social justice. She currently lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts with her husband and daughter.

DANIEL PARKINSON, MD {danielparkinson@yahoo.com} is a psychiatrist in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been involved with the intersection of LDS and LGBT issues for several years. His primary projects have been the blog No More Strangers, the podcast Gay Mormon Stories, and the I'll Walk With You video project, which focuses on LDS parents of LGBTQ people (ldswalkwithyou.org).

DAYNA PATTERSON {daynaepatterson@gmail.com} is an MFA candidate at Western Washington University. She is Managing Editor for *Bellingham Review* and Poetry Editor for *Psaltery & Lyre*. Her poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in *North American Review*, *REAL*, and *Weave*, among others, and her chapbooks, *Loose Threads* and *Mothering*, are available from Flutter Press. She lives in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and two daughters.

LEVI S. PETERSON {althlevip@msn.com} is a retired professor of English presently living in Washington state. He is the author of many essays and stories on Mormon themes. He is the author of two collections of stories, *The Canons of Grace* and *Night Soil*; two novels, *The Backslider* and *Aspen Marooney*; a biography, *Juanita Brooks: The Life Story of a Courageous Historian of the Mountain Meadows Massacre*; and an autobiography, *A Rascal by Nature, A Christian by Yearning*.

CARREL HILTON SHELDON {carrelsheldon@gmail.com}, one of the founding mothers of *Exponent II*, brought critical business skills and huge enthusiasm and commitment to the success of the paper. She later published the group's book, *Mormon Sisters: Women in Early Utah*. Carrel worked on the paper and served on its board of directors for twenty-nine years until she left the Boston area to move to Seattle. She recently retired from the University of Washington Medical Center, where she published patient and family education materials.

BRAD J. THARPE {tharpebj@gmail.com} serves as Director of Career Services at Pitzer College in Claremont, California. He has worked in college chaplaincy at The Claremont Colleges and at DePauw University. Brad also has worked at Wake Forest University, most recently as Associate Director of the Master of Arts in Bioethics program and earlier as the Assistant Director of the *Pro Humanitate* Center, where he facilitated vocational discernment among students. Brad lives with his wife, Sara, and three energetic children.

BRIAN WHITNEY {bwmwhitney@gmail.com} earned a BA in history from Weber State University and is currently applying for graduate studies. He has interned as a research assistant with the LDS Church History Department, and has worked as a historic site interpreter and research fellow at the Joseph Smith Historic Site in Nauvoo, Illinois. He currently works as a history editor and publicist for Greg Kofford Books and is co-

editing the David O. McKay office diaries. Brian lives in Brigham City, Utah, with his wife and four children and blogs at Worlds Without End.

RONALD WILCOX {iamron2@verizon.net} was born in Holladay, Utah, in 1934. Educated at Brigham Young University, he later received a Masters Degree of Arts from Baylor University, where he studied experimental drama with theatrical innovator Paul Baker. He played the lead role in Thomas Wolfe's *Of Time and the River*. This ground-breaking, mixed-media rendition of the novel became the premiere production of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Dallas Theater Center. As a Resident Artist in the Professional Repertory Company for twenty-three years, Ron appeared in over sixty plays. Four of his own plays were produced in Dallas, San Antonio, New York City, Hollywood and Los Angeles. He designed and directed the premiere of his multi-media poetic drama, *The Tragedy of Thomas Andros*. He has published a novel, *The Rig*. He has contributed to *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought* since 1967. His latest poetic narrative, *Mormon Epic*, tells the story of Joseph Smith and the Restoration of the Gospel. *Ordinary and Profane Poems* is extracted from a book-length poetic sequence (Chapters 16 and 17) entitled *True Stories from a Fictional Life*. At eighty-two years of age, Ron continues to write lyric poetry, concentrating on the sonnet form.