

The Shakespeare Oxford Fellowship

*Fall 2021 Annual Conference:
A Zoom Symposium*

Friday-Saturday, October 8-9, 2021

Full Schedule

and

Speaker Notes and Biographies
(in alphabetical order)

OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2021

Session One — 7:00–9:00 pm Eastern (4:00–6:00 pm Pacific)

Hosted by Bob Meyers
from Washington, D.C.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

Session Two — 12:00–3:00 pm Eastern (9:00 am–12:00 pm Pacific)

Hosted by Cheryl Eagan-
Donovan from Boston,
Massachusetts

Session Three — 4:00–7:15 pm Eastern (1:00–4:15 pm Pacific)

Hosted by Professor Don
Rubin from Toronto,
Ontario, Canada

SCHEDULE

(all times below U.S. Eastern)

Session One: Friday, October 8, 7:00–9:00pm

7:00 — Bob Meyers (new SOF President) hosts from Washington, D.C. — Welcome and Symposium Opening Remarks by John Hamill (SOF President, 2013–14 and 2018–21)

7:10 — Video: Tom Regnier, “Did Shakespeare Really Write Shakespeare?”

8:00 — John M. Shahan, founder, Shakespeare Authorship Coalition (SAC): “The Declaration of Reasonable Doubt”

8:15 — Video: Keir Cutler, “Why Was I Never Told This?”

8:25 — Open Q & A via “chat” with John M. Shahan and Bob Meyers

8:30 — Bob Meyers: an introduction to books, websites, videos, and podcasts on Oxfordian studies

8:50 — Closing Remarks

Session Two: Saturday, October 9, 12:00–3:00 pm

12:00 — Cheryl Eagan-Donovan hosts from Boston — Welcome

12:05 — Ben August: “Oxford’s 1565 Volume by Herodotus on the Greek and Persian Wars, *Delle Guerre de Greci et de Persi*”

12:20 — Dr. Earl Showerman: “Classical Mythopoetic Profusion in *The Lamentable Tragedy of Titus Andronicus*”

12:50 — Katherine Chiljan: “A Newly Discovered Portrait of Oxford’s Sister, Lady Mary Vere”

1:20 — Professor Roger Stritmatter: “A Kingdom for a Mirth: Shakespeare’s Fatal Cleopatra and the Authorship Question”

1:50 — Showings of Some Previous Video Contest Winners

2:00 — Dr. Elisabeth P. Waugaman: “French Academics and Shakespeare”

2:30 — James A. Warren: “The Greatest Deception in Literary History? A Contrarian’s View of 1623”

2:50 — Closing Remarks

Session Three: Saturday, October 9, 4:00–7:15 pm

4:00 — Professor Don Rubin hosts from Toronto — Welcome

4:05 — Professor Michael Delahoyde: “Epiphanies Whilst Editing an Oxfordian *Twelfth Night*”

4:35 — Prof. Richard M. Waugaman: “Oxford Translated Boccaccio’s *Decameron*”

5:05 — Screening of the 2021 Third and Second Place Video Contest Winners

5:15 — Michael Dudley: “Stratfordian Epistemology and the Ethics of Belief”

5:45 — Panel Discussion: “Thomas North and Edward de Vere” — moderated by Bob Meyers
Panelists: Michael Blanding, Dennis McCarthy, and Professor Bryan H. Wildenthal

6:55 — Julie Sandys Bianchi: Announcement and screening of the 2021 First Place Video Contest Winner

7:00 — Professor Roger Stritmatter (2013 Oxfordian of the Year): Announcement of the Tom Regnier Veritas Award

7:05 — Cheryl Eagan-Donovan (2019 Oxfordian of the Year) and James A. Warren (2020 Oxfordian of the Year): Announcement of the 2021 Oxfordian of the Year

7:15 — Conclusion of the Conference

Please go to next page for Speaker Notes and Biographies (in alphabetical order).

Ben August

(Oct. 9, 12:05 pm)



Presentation: “Oxford’s 1565 Volume by Herodotus on the Greek and Persian Wars, *Delle Guerre de Greci et de Persi*”

Abstract: Ben August is the proud owner of Edward de Vere’s personal copy of a 1565 volume by Herodotus on the Greek and Persian Wars — *Delle Guerre de Greci et de Persi*. He will be showing this volume during his presentation and will provide a brief history of it as a prelude to Dr. Earl Showerman’s presentation, “Classical Mythopoetic Profusion in *The Lamentable Tragedy of Titus Andronicus*,” which references material in the work by Herodotus.

Biography: Ben August became an active supporter of Oxfordian activities after reading Mark Anderson’s “*Shakespeare*” *By Another Name*, after which he removed the traditional Shakespeare bust from his library shelf, intending to replace it with one of Edward de Vere. Unable to find a bust of de Vere, he resolved to have one made and commissioned American sculptor Paula Slater to create it. He also made sure one of the originals was placed at Castle Hedingham in England. An associate producer of Cheryl Eagan-Donovan’s authorship film *Nothing Is Truer Than Truth*, Ben is also part-owner of a Napa wine estate which produces premium wines under the label “Earl 17.” A Trustee of the SOF, he is an active member of the Membership and Fundraising, Finance, and Video Contest Committees. He is based in Houston and Napa.

Julie Sandys Bianchi

(Oct. 9, 6:55 pm)



Presentation: Announcement of the 2021 Video Contest First Place Winner

Biography: Julie Sandys Bianchi, a retired scenic artist, has an M.A. in Drama. A Trustee of the SOF, she serves as chair of the Video Contest Committee. Her research interests include drama and poetry, British genealogy, card-play in Renaissance art, and hidden meanings in Shakespeare monuments, portraits, and the First Folio.

Michael Blanding

(Oct. 9, 5:45 pm)



Panelist: Discussing his recent book, *North by Shakespeare*, about Dennis McCarthy’s research on Sir Thomas North, and its relevance to Oxford and the Shakespeare authorship question

Biography: Michael Blanding is an investigative journalist whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Slate*, *WIRED*, the *Boston Globe Magazine*, and other publications. He is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller, *The Map Thief: The Gripping Story of an Esteemed Rare-Map Dealer Who Made Millions Stealing Priceless Maps* (Gotham, 2014), and *North by Shakespeare: A Rogue Scholar’s Quest for the Truth Behind the Bard’s Work* (Hachette, 2021), among other books.

Katherine Chiljan

(Oct. 9, 12:50 pm)



Presentation: “A Newly Discovered Portrait of Oxford’s sister, Lady Mary Vere”

Abstract: A 16th-century portrait of a young lady, inscribed 1567, was recently acquired by an English museum. Although identified as someone else, the portrait’s provenance and the lady’s resemblance to Vere family members strongly suggests that she is Lady Mary Vere, sister of Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford. If so, it would be her first known portrait. The paper also includes possible references to Lady Mary in the Shakespeare plays, including *Love’s Labour’s Lost* and *Twelfth Night*.

Biography: Katherine Chiljan is an independent scholar who has studied the Shakespeare authorship question for over three decades. In 2011, she published *Shakespeare Suppressed: The Uncensored Truth About Shakespeare and His Works*, which earned her an award for distinguished scholarship from Concordia University in Oregon. She has debated the authorship question with English professors at the Smithsonian Institution, at Concordia University, and at the Mechanics’ Institute in San Francisco, and has written numerous articles on the topic. A frequent guest on podcasts, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Shakespeare Authorship Coalition.

Keir Cutler

(Oct. 8, 8:15 pm)



Video: “Why Was I Never Told This?”

Biography: A well-known actor from Montreal, Keir Cutler holds a Ph.D. in Theatre and has been complaining for many years about the fact that he was never told anything about the Shakespeare authorship question while studying for his various degrees. A member of the Board of Directors of the Shakespeare Authorship Coalition, he has toured widely with his one-man show “Is Shakespeare Dead?” based on Mark Twain’s book on the authorship question.

Professor Michael Delahoyde

(Oct. 9, 4:05 pm)



Presentation: “Epiphanies Whilst Editing an Oxfordian Edition of *Twelfth Night*”

Abstract: Dr. Delahoyde recounts the alchemical process of editing *Twelfth Night* from an Oxfordian perspective and the discoveries made during that microscopically detailed endeavor. He will explicate the significance of select details, from the enigmatic initials “M.O.A.I.” in the letter gulling Malvolio (a letter that has always baffled scholars), to the deceptively dismissive phrase, “that’s all one.” He will argue that believing only academics are able to edit scholarly editions is essentially rubbish and that all it takes is focus, a commitment to sleuthing, and time spent joyously knowing that one is doing something of immense value.

Biography: Michael Delahoyde has B.A.’s in both English and Music from Vassar College, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Michigan. He has taught at Washington State University for more than 30 years, where he has offered courses on Shakespeare, Chaucer, and Popular Culture. He was awarded grants by the SOF to research de Vere’s time in Italy. A regular presenter at SOF conferences, he is also an outstanding pianist. His autobiographical song is available online (<https://michaeldelahoyde.org/about>).

Michael Dudley

(Oct. 9, 5:15 pm)



Presentation: “Stratfordian Epistemology and the Ethics of Belief”

Abstract: What does it mean to say that the orthodox position on Shakespeare’s authorship is a belief (*doxa*) as opposed to a search for knowledge (*episteme*), and what are the implications of that belief? Is this belief maintained and defended in a manner conducive to discovering truth? Can it be asserted in an ethical manner? To the extent that this belief has consequences for others, can it then be said to be an ethical one? To answer these questions, the presentation first establishes a “Stratfordian epistemology” — the ontological and epistemological assumptions characteristic of mainstream Shakespeare biography — and then reviews the literature on the Ethics of Belief, starting with the writings of William Kingdon Clifford (1845–79) and William James (1842–1910), before considering more recent perspectives and theories in belief ethics. A 12-point synthesis describing the conditions associated with ethical or praiseworthy belief formation will then be applied to the propositional and ancillary beliefs associated with Stratfordianism drawn from the literature. The analysis concludes with observations regarding the ethicality of this mainstream belief, the implications for the future of the authorship question, and for the academy in general.

Biography: Michael Dudley is an academic librarian at the University of Winnipeg with collection and instruction responsibilities in history, theatre, and film. He has written extensively on the epistemology of the Shakespeare authorship question. He holds master’s degrees in both Library Science and City Planning and was the editor of the 2012 volume from the American Library Association, *Public Libraries and Resilient Cities*. The author of articles in *The Oxfordian* and *Brief Chronicle*, his talks on the authorship question have been featured on the YouTube channels of the SOF, TEDx, and the Heterodox Academy. He is currently working with Professor Don Rubin on a collection of new authorship essays under the working title “The Shakespeare Question and the History of Knowledge.”

Cheryl Eagan-Donovan

(Oct. 9, 12:00–3:00 & 7:05 pm)



Host: Symposium Session Two, and announcement of the 2021 Oxfordian of the Year during Symposium Session Three

Biography: Cheryl Eagan-Donovan is a teacher, writer, director, and producer whose documentary *Nothing Is Truer Than Truth* premiered at the Independent Film Festival Boston in 2018, is now available on Amazon Prime in the U.S. and Canada, and is being released in Europe and the rest of the world as *Shakespeare: The Man Behind the Name*. The 2019 Oxfordian of the Year, Cheryl has served as an SOF Trustee and on the Boards of Directors of the Next Door Theater and of Women in Film and Video New England. Cheryl teaches writing, film, and literature at Lesley University, Northeastern University, and Grub Street Center for Creative Writing, and is currently working on a book for screenwriters, *Shakespeare Auteur: Creating Authentic Characters for the Screen*, and a book about de Vere's bisexuality and *Shakespeare's Sonnets*, in collaboration with John Hamill.

John Hamill

(Oct. 8, 7:00 pm)



Opening Remarks: Symposium Session One

Biography: John Hamill retired in 2010 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco, where he worked as Coordinator of U.S.-Mexico Border Issues and Manager for Military Base Cleanups. He earned a master's degree in historical geography, *summa cum laude*, at California State University, and attended graduate school at the University of California at Davis. An independent scholar, he has written frequently for *The Oxfordian* and the *Shakespeare Oxford Newsletter* and has lectured at Shakespeare authorship conferences nationwide. John served as President of the Shakespeare Oxford Society before its 2013 merger with the Shakespeare Fellowship to form the SOF. John became the first President of the SOF in 2013–14 and served again in that position from 2018 to this year.

Dennis McCarthy

(Oct. 9, 5:45 pm)

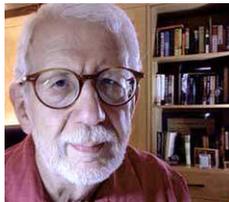


Panelist: Discussing his research on Sir Thomas North presented in the recent Michael Blanding book, *North by Shakespeare*, and its relevance to Oxford and the Shakespeare authorship question

Biography: Dennis McCarthy is an independent researcher, co-author (with Professor June Schlueter) of *Thomas North's 1555 Travel Journal: From Italy to Shakespeare* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2021), and author of *Here Be Dragons: How the Study of Animal and Plant Distributions Revolutionized Our Views of Life and Earth* (Oxford University Press, 2009), among other books.

Bob Meyers

(Oct. 8, 7:00–9:00 pm & Oct. 9, 5:45 pm)



Host: Symposium Session One

Moderator: Panel discussion on the recent Michael Blanding book, *North by Shakespeare*, about Dennis McCarthy's research on Sir Thomas North, and its relevance to Oxford and the Shakespeare authorship question

Biography: A respected journalist at the *San Diego Union* and the *Washington Post*, Bob served for 19 years as president and chief operating officer of the National Press Foundation. He retired in 2014 with the title of President Emeritus. At the *Washington Post*, he was part of the paper's Pulitzer Prize-winning Watergate investigation. He later served as director of the Harvard Journalism Fellowship for Advanced Studies in Public Health. As a freelance writer, his work has appeared in *Newsweek*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Columbia Journalism Review*, among others. He is the author of two books, one of which won the American Medical Writers Association Award for Excellence in Biomedical Writing. A member of the SOF Board of Trustees, he edits the popular "How I Became an Oxfordian" essay series on the SOF website. A former member of the Editorial Board of *The Oxfordian*, he is the new President of the SOF.

Tom Regnier

(Oct. 8, 7:10 pm)



Video: “Did Shakespeare Really Write Shakespeare?”

Biography: The late Tom Regnier was President of the SOF from 2014 to 2018. A lawyer, his many presentations on Shakespearean subjects, especially those connected to the law, were regular highlights of SOF conferences. He was also an enthusiastic thespian, performing frequently with local community theatres in Florida and at SOF conferences. He died of Covid in April 2020. His video on the Shakespeare authorship question shown during this conference remains one of the most popular videos of all time on the SOF YouTube channel. In 2021, the SOF created the Tom Regnier Veritas Award in his honor.

Professor Don Rubin

(Oct. 9, 4:00–7:10 pm)



Host: Symposium Session Three

Biography: Professor Emeritus of Theatre at Toronto’s York University, Don Rubin is the series editor of UNESCO’s *World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre* project, published in six volumes by Routledge. A trained professional actor, he was a theatre critic for more than five decades for newspapers such as the *New Haven Register* and the *Toronto Star*, and for CBC Radio for some five years, two of them working with a young host named Alex Trebek. Founder and editor for eight years of the quarterly journal *Canadian Theatre Review*, his book, *Canadian Theatre: Selected Readings*, was published by Playwrights Canada Press and became a standard volume on the subject. For four consecutive years before his retirement from teaching at York in 2018, he offered exceedingly popular senior level courses on the Shakespeare authorship question. An SOF Trustee with a break of only one year since 2014, he is also currently the President of the Shakespeare Authorship Coalition, the organization behind the Declaration of Reasonable Doubt. He is chair of this year’s SOF Conference Committee.

John M. Shahan

(Oct. 8, 8:00 & 8:25 pm)



Presentation: “The Declaration of Reasonable Doubt”

Abstract: Why is it important for every authorship doubter to read and sign the Shakespeare Authorship Coalition’s declaration (at <https://doubtaboutwill.org/declaration>)? The prime mover behind that document, Shahan will explain its importance as an introduction to the entire authorship question and as a logical starting place for anyone new to it. If, as Stratfordians claim, there is no room for doubt about who the author of Shakespeare’s plays and poems was, then there is no legitimate reason, they claim, to consider anyone else. That view is the cornerstone of the Stratfordian strategy and explains their desire to suppress the issue in both academia and the media. The SAC and its Declaration of Reasonable Doubt try to confront this false claim head-on.

Biography: John M. Shahan is founder, chairman, and CEO of the Shakespeare Authorship Coalition (SAC) and the principal author of its “Declaration of Reasonable Doubt About the Identity of William Shakespeare.” An independent scholar with a background in behavioral science and health services research, his main work in the authorship debate is in planning and advocacy, how paradigm shifts take place, and the nature of creativity and genius. A former Vice President of the Shakespeare Oxford Society, he has served on the editorial board of *The Oxfordian*. He was honored as the 2012 Oxfordian of the Year after organizing the rebuttal to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust’s 2011 attack on the authorship question and authorship doubters (“60 Minutes With Shakespeare”). That work led directly to his co-editing (with Alexander Waugh) the 2013 book, *Shakespeare Beyond Doubt? Exposing an Industry in Denial*, a response to the similarly titled 2013 book edited by Paul Edmondson and Professor Stanley Wells.

Dr. Earl Showerman

(Oct. 9, 12:20 pm)



Presentation: “Classical Mythopoetic Profusion in *The Lamentable Tragedy of Titus Andronicus*”

Abstract: Scholars have identified an array of classical Latin sources in *Titus Andronicus*, Shakespeare’s tragedy of blood. Sir Jonathan Bate has called *Titus* “one of the dramatist’s most inventive plays, a complex and self-conscious improvisation upon classical sources” such as Ovid, Seneca, Terence, Virgil, Horace, and the historians Livy and Herodotus. Not so much attention has been paid, however, to the Greek sources of *Titus*, despite the fact that George Stevens, J.A.K. Thompson, and Emrys Jones have all argued that it is indebted to Euripides’ *Hecuba* and Sophocles’ *Ajax*. More recently, Jane Grogan has argued that there is another non-Roman intertext working in the play — one from ancient Persia, mediated through allusions to Book I of the *Histories* by Herodotus. “Shakespeare’s play evokes a well-known set of narratives centered on the figure of Cyrus the Great, founder of the Persian Empire.” This presentation will briefly review the numerous Roman sources of *Titus* and then proceed to a fuller explication of the relevance of Greek drama, and specifically Herodotus’s *Histories* in our understanding of Shakespeare’s nuanced mythopoetic vision.

Biography: Earl Showerman, M.D., is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Michigan Medical School and practiced emergency medicine in Oregon for over thirty years. A longtime patron of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, after retiring from active medical practice he enrolled at Southern Oregon University (SOU) to study Shakespeare and research the authorship question. He now teaches adult learning courses at SOU on the authorship question. Over the past 15 years he has regularly presented at SOF conferences and published on the topic of Shakespeare’s Greek dramatic sources. He also contributed a chapter on Shakespeare’s medical knowledge to the 2013 book, *Shakespeare Beyond Doubt? Exposing an Industry in Denial*. An Associate of the U.K.’s Shakespearean Authorship Trust, he is a former President of the Shakespeare Fellowship, one of the SOF’s predecessor organizations.

Professor Roger Stritmatter

(Oct. 9, 1:20 & 7:00 pm)



Presentations: “A Kingdom for a Mirth: Shakespeare’s Fatal Cleopatra and the Authorship Question” and announcement of the second recipient of the Tom Regnier Veritas Award

Abstract: *Antony and Cleopatra* is among the late plays of Shakespeare that have long confounded the expectations of traditional critics adhering to the Stratfordian premise. In his influential Riverside introduction, Frank Kermode finds a plot exhibiting numerous “moralistic analogues and contrasts” that “strengthen the argument for *Antony and Cleopatra* as basically a play of simple ethical design,” but also one “endlessly modified by the complex figurations of poetry, to a degree that makes all explication desperately partial.” This conflict between complex use of literary figures and supposedly “simple ethical design” has long haunted the play’s reception, leaving a gap between what is acknowledged to exist in the play and what scholars can explain. This problem becomes especially acute in the play’s tragicomic final scene and apotheosis, where Cleopatra kills herself with a poisonous asp. As Robert Ornstein explains, the scene “would be less difficult if it were more obviously solemn and serious ... now and then we may wish that Cleopatra had a more sober view of her own catastrophe, which she treats as a marriage feast (not where she eats, but where she is eaten), a tender domestic scene, an apotheosis, and a practical joke on the universal landlord.” To reconcile this contradiction and help explain the comic dimensions of this scene, this presentation will call on three related factors: (1) the play’s emphasis on metamorphosis and metempsychosis; (2) the history of puns in Shakespeare; and (3) Richard Whalen’s 1998 Shakespeare Oxford Society essay “‘The Queen’s Worm’ in *Antony and Cleopatra*: Does Another of Shakespeare/Oxford’s Word Games Clarify an Enigmatic Scene?”

Biography: Roger Stritmatter is Associate Professor of Humanities and Literature at Coppin State University with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals of literary studies, psychoanalysis, anthropology, and forensic studies. His 2001 University of Massachusetts Ph.D. dissertation on the de Vere Geneva Bible (owned by the Folger Shakespeare library) was featured in a 2002 *New York Times* article by William S. Nieder Korn. He was honored in 2013 as Oxfordian of the Year. James A. Warren’s fourth edition of the *Index to Oxfordian Publications* (2017) identifies 116 articles by him, more than twenty in peer-reviewed academic journals, including *The Shakespeare Yearbook*, *Review of English Studies*, *Notes and Queries*, and the *Scandinavian Psychoanalytic Review*. He is the co-author (with award-winning young adult novelist Lynne Kositsky) of *On the Date, Sources, and Design of Shakespeare’s The Tempest* (McFarland, 2013) and, with Alexander Waugh, *A New Shakespeare Allusion Book: Literary Allusions to Shakespeare, 1584-1786 from Historical Principles* (forthcoming). He has appeared in two Shakespeare authorship documentaries, *Last Will & Testament* (2012) and *Nothing Is Truer Than Truth* (2018). His research interests include Ben

Jonson and the 1623 Shakespeare First Folio, early modern esoteric and memory traditions, and Shakespeare and the Bible.

James A. Warren

(Oct. 9, 2:30 & 7:05 pm)



Presentations: “The Greatest Deception in Literary History? A Contrarian’s View of 1623” and announcement of the 2021 Oxfordian of the Year

Abstract: For centuries orthodox scholars have cited items created in or around 1623 — the prefatory material in the First Folio, the monument in Trinity Church, and portraits said to be of Shakespeare — as establishing that William Shaksper of Stratford-upon-Avon was the writer known as “William Shakespeare.” Oxfordian scholars have cited the same items as evidence of a deception or hoax designed to hide the identity of the real author, Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford. I have come to believe both sets of scholars are mistaken and will explain why.

Biography: James A. Warren is a retired diplomat and the 2020 Oxfordian of the Year. He recently published *Shakespeare Revolutionized*, a history of the first hundred years of the Oxfordian movement, and is the editor of the Centenary Edition of J. Thomas Looney’s “*Shakespeare*” *Identified* and also of “*Shakespeare*” *Revealed*, a collection of more than fifty of Looney’s shorter works. He is also the creator and editor of *An Index to Oxfordian Publications* and the author of *Summer Storm: A Novel of Ideas*, in which a professor and his students wrestle with how we know what we know, especially about the authorship of “Shakespeare’s” works.

Dr. Elisabeth P. Waugaman

(Oct. 9, 2:00 pm)



Presentation: “French Academics and Shakespeare”

Abstract: Beginning in the late 19th century, French academics maintained that Shaksper, the merchant, could not have written the plays published under the name “Shakespeare.” For the most

part, their scholarship has been ignored by English-speaking Shakespeare scholars. What did French scholars actually have to say on the subject and why was it ignored? Dr. Waugaman will present an overview of Abel Lefranc's 1918 and Georges Lambin's 1962 studies of Shakespeare.

Biography: Elisabeth P. Waugaman has a Ph.D. in medieval French literature. She has published articles on William the Conqueror, Edward de Vere, and psychology in *The Psychoanalytic Inquiry* and *Psychology Today Online*. She is the author of two books: the award winning children's book, *Follow Your Dreams: The Story of Alberto Santos-Dumont*, and *Women, Their Names, and the Stories They Tell*. She is a member of the New Directions Writing Program of the Washington-Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis. Her interest in the Shakespeare authorship controversy centers on ignored French academic studies of the 19th and 20th centuries which address the question.

Professor Richard M. Waugaman

(Oct. 9, 4:35 pm)



Presentation: "Oxford Translated Boccaccio's *Decameron*"

Abstract: Several lines of evidence indicate that Oxford (with the help of Anthony Munday) wrote the anonymous and first complete English translation of Boccaccio's *The Decameron*, published in 1620. There are many problems with the traditional attribution of this translation to John Florio. However, many phrases from this translation appear in the works of Shakespeare. For example, the translator used the lively trope of "*his haire stode upright like Porcupines quills,*" while in *Hamlet* (I.v) the Ghost says: "I could a tale unfold whose lightest word / Would harrow up thy soul ... *And [make] each particular hair to stand on end / Like quills upon the fretful porcupine.*" This complex phrase appears nowhere else in EEBO. Another example: In *The Decameron* we find: "There shall we heare the *sweete Birds sing.*" That italicized phrase occurs in *The Rape of Lucrece*. We also find "where late the *sweet birds sang*" in Sonnet 73, as well as "*the sweet birds, O, how they sing!*" in *The Winter's Tale*. The only other example of "sweet birds sing" in EEBO before 1620 is in an Ignoto poem in *England's Helicon*.

Biography: Richard M. Waugaman, M.D., is a physician, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Georgetown University, and Training and Supervising Analyst Emeritus at the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute. His more than 200 publications include 100 on Shakespeare. His two e-books are *Newly Discovered Works by 'William Shake-Speare': a.k.a. Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford*, and *It's Time to Re-Vere the Works of 'Shake-Speare': A Psychoanalyst Reads the Works of Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford*. It was Professor Roger Stritmatter's research on Edward de Vere's Geneva Bible which first interested Dr. Waugaman in Oxfordian research. Professor Waugaman has two websites (<http://www.oxfreudian.com> and <https://gufaculty360.georgetown.edu/s/contact/00336000014RkZiAAK/richard-waugaman>). The full text of most of his Shakespearean publications are accessible on the latter.

Professor Bryan H. Wildenthal

(Oct. 9, 5:45 pm)



Panelist: Discussing the recent Michael Blanding book, *North by Shakespeare*, about Dennis McCarthy’s research on Sir Thomas North, and its relevance to Oxford and the Shakespeare authorship question

Biography: Bryan H. Wildenthal, J.D., is Professor of Law Emeritus, Thomas Jefferson School of Law (San Diego), and taught recently as a Visiting Professor at the University of San Diego School of Law. An expert on American constitutional history, he is the author of *Native American Sovereignty on Trial* (a 2003 textbook on law and history) and has published widely in leading law reviews, including a study of constitutional history cited favorably by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2010 and 2019. An active Oxfordian since 2012, he is the author of the book *Early Shakespeare Authorship Doubts* (2019). He has served the SOF as Trustee, Secretary, First Vice President, and Website Content Editor. In 2020, along with many SOF colleagues, he played a leading role in organizing the Oxfordian Centennial at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., celebrating the original publication of J. Thomas Looney’s groundbreaking book, “*Shakespeare*” Identified in *Edward de Vere the Seventeenth Earl of Oxford*.

*Special thanks from the SOF Board to the members
of the 2021 Conference Organizing Committee:*

Professor Don Rubin (committee chair)

Bonner Miller Cutting and Cheryl Eagan-Donovan (program co-chairs)

John Hamill, Richard Joyrich, Bob Meyers, and Dr. Earl Showerman (committee members)

*And a very special thanks to our Website Design
and Technology Editor and Zoom master:
Jennifer Newton*