

# The Birth and Rebirth of American Labor



A TOUGH JOB FOR THE ATLAS OF THE LABOR WORLD.  
HENRY GEORGE.—If you fellows up there don't keep quiet, I shall have to drop the whole thing!

2019 Conference of Georgist Organizations  
Sheraton Station Square, Pittsburgh  
Tuesday, July 23 – Saturday, July 27

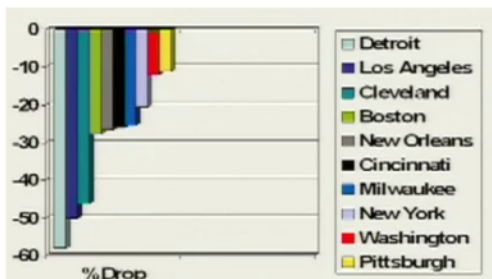
# Tuesday evening, July 23

6:30 PM – Registration

7:15 PM – **Welcoming Reception:** Meet Josie Faass, PhD, Robert Schalkenbach Foundation's new executive director. Also, **How Pittsburgh got land value tax, how we lost it, the housing bubble that followed, and what we can do to get it back.** Dan Sullivan and invited guests.



Built in 1913, just as LVT was going into effect, the Kaufmann-Baer Department Store was one of the most lavishly ornate buildings in the city, complete with a rooftop garden. It is now the Heinz 57 Center.



By 1925, the peak year of the bubble before the Great Depression, land value tax was producing over 80% of Pittsburgh's revenue. When the crash came, land values fell less in Pittsburgh than in any other major city.



**Pittsburgh's First Housing Bubble in a Century:** After abolishing its land value tax, Pittsburgh is experiencing a bubble. Will these gains be wiped out in the next crash?



George W. Guthrie, Percy Williams, Bernard McGinnis, William McNair, David L. Lawrence, Steven Cord

# Wednesday, July 24

8:30-8:50 AM – Open Mike



**9:00-10:20 – History of the Geor-gist Movement in Pennsylvania:**

Joshua Vincent on Pittsburgh and the state, and Wyn Achenbaum on Philadelphia.



**11:00 – 11:50 The Birth of American Labor:**

Terence Powderly, Samuel Gompers and Henry George: Mutual Support and Conflicts, with Ed Dodson.



Noon-1:00 – Lunch

12:40-12:55 – Open Mike in Dining Room

**1:00-1:55 – Labor Issues Then and Now:** Land Monopoly and the Right to Work; Immigration; Privatization; Economics of Dumping; Rent vs. Wages; Attacks from both Right and Left; Labor as the clear majority. Dan Sullivan and respondents.



**2:00-2:45 – Basic Income and Land Value**

**Tax:** Uniting these two campaigns with the labor movement to win true economic justice, with Steven Shafarman, author of *Basic Income Imperative*.



**3:15-4:15 – CGO Business**

**Meeting:** for delegates and affiliate members. Free time for everyone else.



Joseph and Mary Fels

# Thursday, July 25

8:30-8:50 – Open Mike



**9:00-9:45 – Assessing and taxing other kinds of monopolies:** Professor Nicolaus Tideman, Virginia Tech.



**9:50-10:20 – LVT gains in the British Parliament:** Ted Gwartney



**10:40-11:50 – Puerto Rico's Land Reform, Manufacturing Boom and Subsequent Collapse, and Other Hot Prospects for LVT in the US:** Victor Ramirez and Joshua Vincent.

Noon-1:00 – Lunch

12:40-12:55 – Open Mike in Dining Room

**1:00-2:15 – Common Ground USA's Progress in the United States:** Land value tax districts enabling act,



rent-sharing farm trust, municipal land trusts in Minnesota, with Rich Nymoen, president, Minnesota chapter; Portland State University report on the feasibility of land value tax for Oregon, with Tom Gihring of the Oregon chapter.



**2:45-4:00 – Lindy Davies Memorial Tribute:** Lisa Cooley Davies, Mike Curtis, Mark Sullivan and others honor our beloved and dedicated colleague who continued the work of Bob Clancy through the Henry George Institute.



# Friday, July 26

8:30-8:50 – Open Mike



## 9:00-10:15 – Collecting the Hidden Value of Public Transit:

Rick Rybeck, director, Just Economics: Responders: Laura Weins, Pittsburgers for Public Transit, representatives of the Amalgamated Transit Workers Union.



**10:45-11:50 – What we must do to win back labor's support.** Local labor leaders tell us how best to approach organized labor.



Noon-1:00 – Lunch

**12:40-12:55 – Open Mike in Dining Room**

**1:00-4:00 – Building relationships with Elected Officials,** Workshop with Ray Roberts of Citizen's Climate Lobby



**1:00-4:00 – Walking Tour of the Golden Triangle:** (for those not participating in the workshop)

**6:15-7:00 – Pre-Banquet Reception**



**7:00 Banquet: The Quiet Statesmanship of Bill Coyne,** with Walt Rybeck, Augie Carlino, Patrick Michael Livingston, Jamie Rooney and others who knew him well.



# Saturday July 27

8:30-8:50 – Open Mike

9:00-9:40 – Farewell Breakfast: Traditional toasts

## Our Best Hotel Ever



**Best location:** Directly across the river from Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle, **The Sheraton Station Square** is located near restaurants, shops, and two incline planes that take you to scenic Mount Washington, and also have restaurants and shops at the top.

**Best Facilities:** Our dining hall looks directly across the river to the Golden Triangle, and the sleeping rooms and our hospitality room are large and well appointed.



**A Great Deal:** This hotel is normally way beyond our price range, as it is cherished as a wedding hotel on Saturdays and Sundays and as a business hotel outside of vacation season. By leaving Saturday morning and not interfering with their wedding business, we got far better room rates than would normally be possible. Rooms are \$129 plus 14% tax per night for up to four people.

**Room Reservations:** Reserve your room by calling Sheraton Station Square 800-325-3535 **by June 25**, and note that you are attending the CGO Conference, or you will be charged a higher rate and we will not make our room minimums. Our room rate guarantee expires on June 25.

**The Hotel Shuttle's** direct number is (412) 593-8129.

The shuttle will get you to and from the Amtrak station, the Megabus and Greyhound stations, and the drop-off point for the Airport Express bus.

**From the Airport,** you can take the **28x Airport Express.**

It will take you to the Wyndham Hotel just across the river. Call the airport shuttle and they will pick you up at the Wyndham. The fare is \$2.75 each way, but free for people with ID and proof of age over 65.

You can also take the **Super Shuttle** for premium service. The fare varies according to booking, but is usually around \$25-30 for a shared ride and \$50-55 for a non-stop ride directly to the Sheraton. You can get a discount of 5-10% by booking online at

<https://www.supershuttle.com> and entering code N9G7X.

**Parking** is not provided by the hotel, but there is an adjacent parking lot. Rates are \$23 per day without in-and-out privileges, \$25 per day with privileges if you book in advance at 412.261.1993.

**Questions/Special Needs:** Notify the administrators, May and Williams, Ltd. (Scott & Sue Walton) if you have any special needs as soon as possible. by e-mail: [sns@swwalton.com](mailto:sns@swwalton.com)

**Emergency/on site cell phone Number:** 847/209-0047

**CGO Officers and Volunteers:** Dan Sullivan-President; Ted Gwartney-Vice President; Nate Blair, Secretary; Al Katzenberger-Treasurer; Nelle DeVejra, Toni Gwartney, Alan Ridley, Paul Justus, Mark Sullivan & Osamu Uehara Administrators: Sue & Scott Walton

**Special thanks** to The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, Common Ground USA, Nicholas Rosen and Polly Cleveland and others for helping fund this conference.

"The law of rent never changes, but our schedule may change without notice." – Lindy Davies

## **Lindy Davies, Oct. 9, 1957 – April 9, 2019**



Lindy was the long-time director of the Henry George Institute, continuing the work of HGI founder Bob Clancy, co-founder of Common Ground NYC, dedicated volunteer to the CGO conferences, and enthusiastic teacher and promoter of the Geogist philosophy and economics.

He was taken from us by metastasized esophageal cancer, but continued with his calling even during its final stages.

He is survived by his wife, Lisa Cooley, his son Eli and his daughter Francie. Unfortunately, he is also survived by nearly \$80,000 in medical bills that insurance did not cover. If you want to help, you can send us a check written to Lisa Cooley, or log onto [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and do a search on “Lindy Davies, Brooks ME.”

We will have a memorial tribute to Lindy at the conference on Thursday afternoon. Lisa plans to attend.