



Dr. William S. Belko (Steve) is the Executive Director of the Missouri Humanities Council. From 2005 to January of 2015, Belko was Associate Professor of History, Director of the graduate program in Early American Studies, and Director of the graduate certificate program in Historic Preservation at the University of West Florida. He taught courses on Jacksonian America (1815-1850), the Early Republic (1763-1815), the Southern Frontier (1660-1860), U. S. Constitutional History (to 1877), and Historic and Heritage Preservation. Belko has published several monographs: *The Invincible Duff Green: Whig of the West* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2006), *America's Hundred Years' War: U. S. Expansion to the Gulf Coast and the Fate of the Seminole, 1763-1858* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2011), *The Triumph of the Antebellum Free Trade Movement* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2012), which won the 2013 Phi Alpha Theta Best Subsequent Book Award, and *Philip Pendleton Barbour in Jacksonian America: An Old Republican in King Andrew's Court* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2016). He has also published numerous award-winning articles on various subjects of early 19th century American history. Belko received his Ph.D. in history from Mississippi State University, and was a research historian for MSU's Social Science Research Center. Immediately upon earning his Ph.D., he served from 2001 to 2005 as the Director of the Michigan Lighthouse Project, a government-nonprofit partnership created to preserve and transfer ownership of America's historic lighthouses under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000. Prior to obtaining his Doctorate, Belko was a Regional Director for the Missouri Secretary of State from 1993 to 1996, campaign manager for the Democratic candidate in Missouri's 7th Congressional District in 1996, and a Missouri Regional Coordinator for the 1992 Clinton/Gore and Missouri statewide Democratic coordinated campaign. He earned a Master's degree in history from Southwest Missouri State University (now Missouri State University) and a Bachelor's degree, with a double major in history and political science, from Drury College (now Drury University), both institutions located in Springfield, Missouri. Belko was born in Keokuk, Iowa, a small town on the Mississippi River, raised in White Hall, Illinois, and Aurora, Nebraska, and graduated from Quincy High School, in Quincy, Illinois, also located on the Mississippi River. His parents were born and raised in Kirkwood, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis, and he comes from a long line of families that settled in Missouri during its territorial and early statehood period, and that became prominent in the development of the St. Louis area. Belko and his wife, Mindy, who was born and raised in Lake Orion, Michigan, have a daughter, thirteen-year old Savannah, and a son, ten-year old AJ.

Books

Philip Pendleton Barbour, 1783-1841: An Old Republican in King Andrew's Court, Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2016

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Articles & Chapters

"A Tax on the Many, to Enrich a Few": Jacksonian Democracy vs. the Protective Tariff, 1816-1846." *Journal of the History of Economic Thought* 37(2)(June 2015): 277-290.

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Other

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