



Mrs. Sally Fantle

December 6, 1908 – August 12, 2002

On August 16, friends of the late Mrs. Sally Fantle met at the Center for Western Studies to bid her farewell and to honor her for her many contributions to our Sioux Falls community and to Augustana College. Dr. Arthur Huseboe presided at the event, which gave many of Sally's friends, led by President Bruce Halverson, the opportunity to pay their last respects. The obituary notice prepared for the event read as follows:

Sally Margolis was born December 6, 1908, at Larned, Kansas, to Leopold and Rose (Fox) Margolis. She attended the University of Missouri and later worked as a social worker in Chicago, Illinois.

She married Benjamin Fantle on August 1, 1932. The couple made their home at Sioux Falls, SD. Sally and Ben thoroughly enjoyed traveling throughout Europe and particularly enjoyed time spent in England. Ben, former owner of Fantle's Department Store, preceded Sally in death in 1978.

Sally's main interests were furthering the success of the Augustana Center for Western Studies and the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science. In addition to traveling, Sally enjoyed artwork and music, and was involved with book clubs and sewing groups. She was a member of P.E.O., South Dakota Symphony, and Minnehaha Country Club.

Sally is survived by many relatives including Mitzi Russick, Sioux Falls, SD, Selma Margolis, Kansas City, KS, Barbara Kay, Roslyn, Long Island, NY, David Russick and



Mrs. Sally Fantle

his wife, Sara, Minneapolis, MN, Susan Bott, Brighton, CO, Gwen Enright, San Diego, CA, a special friend, Catherine Olson, Sioux Falls, SD and nieces and nephews, Laura, Carol, Amy, David, Tom, and John. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a brother Paul Margolis and a sister, Bernice Buechler.

Memorials may be directed to the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science or the Augustana Center for Western Studies.

Christmas Events to Feature Solberg Art Collection



This year the Center's traditional weekend of Christmas Season events will reach a climax at the noon luncheon on Saturday, December 7, with a talk by David Solberg, member of the college's Board of Regents, on "Adventures in Collecting Western Art." (continued on page 2)

The Solberg family gathered for a photo in front of the six Charlie Russell original pieces of art for which the exhibit was named. Shown from the left are David Solberg, Sydney McPherson, Cate McPherson, Sandra Solberg, Troy Solberg, and Beca Solberg McPherson. The entire Solberg family enjoys art and there are a couple of drawings by aspiring artist Cate McPherson in the Center's reception area.

(Solberg Art Collection from cover story)

The weekend of activities will begin with a Friday evening reception for invited guests in honor of David and Sandra Solberg. The reception begins at 7:00 PM and ends at 9:00 PM. Guests will find the three galleries creatively decorated for the occasion by Sandra Solberg. David will give a gallery talk about the more than 60 pieces of two- and three-dimensional art, mostly oils and bronzes, that make up the collection that the Solbergs have shared with the Center and the community since early September.

On the morning of the following Saturday, the Center's Board of Directors and the National Advisory Council will

meet briefly, that meeting to be followed at 10:30 AM by an hour-long panel discussion by three art dealers and collectors of selected pieces in the Solberg collection. Participating will be Mr. L. D. Andrews (Sioux Falls), Mr. Gerald Czulewicz (Isanti, Minnesota), and Mr. Cornell Norby (Paso Robles, California). The noon luncheon will follow in the Morrison Commons next door, with David Solberg speaking.

Reservations for the luncheon should be made by December 3 by writing to the Center or by calling 605-274-4007.

CWS Publication Gifted to All 700 Libraries in SD; Study Guide Provided to 300 Teachers

A newly published book by the long-time editor of the Sioux Falls *Argus Leader* is now available to readers in every corner of South Dakota. *Anson Yeager's Stories*, a two-volume collection of essays and articles published last year by the Center, was distributed in September to all 700 libraries across the state.

A grant of \$7,500 from the South Dakota Community Foundation and a matching gift from Anson and Ada May Yeager have made it possible to provide the books at no cost, and school librarians have been requested to inform the teachers in their schools of the availability of the book as a resource for student use.

Directed by Executive Director Arthur Huseboe, the project also offers to every fourth-grade teacher the opportunity to use a study guide, "Supplementary Resources," in the teaching of South Dakota history. Each elementary school principal in the state has been asked to permit and to encourage the use of the study guide to complement the on-line nine-unit curriculum, "The Weekly South Dakotan," prepared by the State Historical Society as an aid in the teaching of South Dakota history. The subject is currently required for all fourth-grade students in the state.

Teachers and students are now able to consult a book that in its 700 pages constitutes a unique history of this region. The book is made up of the most representative writings of editor Yeager in his *Argus Leader* columns, essays, and stories about the most important events in South Dakota over a half century, from the 1950s into the late 1990s, and about his travels through all regions of the United States and key nations in Europe and Asia.

Mr. Yeager is a much-honored writer. His investigative journalism throughout the second half of the twentieth century has won him a half-dozen prestigious awards, including

awards from the William Allen White Foundation, the Inland Press Association, and the Minnesota School of Journalism. In 1978, the South Dakota Associated Press named Yeager "Newsman of the Year"; in 2001 he was presented with the Western America Award by the Center for Western Studies for the writing of *Anson Yeager's Stories*.

The compiling of the study guide was by Ms. Amber Foster, a senior elementary education major at Augustana, under the supervision of Dr. Robert Kiner, chairman of the Education Department. Ms. Foster, who hails from Fairmont, Minnesota, and who is preparing to teach middle school mathematics and kindergarten, included a course in American history and a fifth-grade practicum as part of her preparation for developing the study guide.

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Arthur R. Huseboe, Executive Director
Harry F. Thompson, Director of Research
Collections and Publications
Dean A. Schueler, Director of Development
Lisa Hollaar, Office Coordinator

The Center's gift shop, gallery, library, and offices are located in the Fantle Building at 2201 S. Summit, Sioux Falls, and are open to the public Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Center's archives are open Monday - Friday 9 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m.

From the Executive Director

By a remarkable coincidence, the Center for Western Studies has received an unlikely gift that has turned out to be of great value in interpreting an important part of the Western experience.

On the last day of October, we received as a gift the model of a 19th-century sailing ship, two feet long, and mounted in a beautiful plexiglass-and-wood case. The ship, the "Sovereign of the Seas," was brought to us by Dr. Loren Jarratt, who was representing the model maker, Ramon L. "Ray" Thomas, his golfing partner.

A word about the model first, and then about the coincidence.

Mr. Thomas is a retired Sioux Falls architect, who also enjoys building model ships. A few years ago, he obtained the plans for the sailing ship "Sovereign of the Seas" from another model-builder, Dr. Warren Jones, dean of Sioux Falls physicians. When Warren visited the Center a few days later to have a look at Ray's creation, his first words were, "It's wonderful!"

And so now the Center has in its collections this exquisitely crafted model—built from scratch, we were told—of one of America's most outstanding sailing ships. A three-masted "extreme" clipper ship, she was built on speculation by Donald McKay in East Boston in 1852. So fast was she that on one occasion she sailed 421 miles in 24 hours, an average speed of 17.54 miles per hour.

Her dimensions were 258' 2" long by 44' 7" at her beam; her tonnage was 2421 tons. Launched on June 19, 1852, during her brief career, she sailed around the world, delivering goods on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States as well as throughout the Far East.

On August 6, 1859, she was wrecked on the Pyramid Shoal in the Straits of Malacca on a voyage from Hamburg to China and was salvaged in September by the American ship "Eloisa."

And now for the coincidence that enables us at the Center to put the model of "Sovereign of the Seas" at the heart of one of our most important historical displays.

This spring, Dr. Loren Amundson of Sioux Falls put me on the track of some of my Norwegian ancestors. In doing some genealogical research on the internet, he had found

that my great grandparents, Ole and Britte, and five of their children, were listed as passengers on the Norwegian ship "Monsoon" that had sailed from Bergen to Quebec in 1866. What sort of sailing ship was the "Monsoon," I wondered. Family tradition had it that the ship's crew had run out of food on the way over and that the foresighted Husabos had fed everyone from their stock of flatbread and dried cod until the ship reached land.

Could the story be true? One of Ole and Britte's storage trunks is now a centerpiece in the Fantle Norwegian Room in the Center, tangible evidence of that 1866 voyage. So, with the arrival of the "Sovereign of the Seas" on that last day of October, the spirit of adventure descended on me, and I turned to the world-wide web in order to learn something more about the "Monsoon" and its voyage in 1866.

In only a few minutes, using the address from the print-out that Dr. Amundson had given me last spring, I discovered the "Monsoon." To my pleased amazement, an on-line picture proved that she was

identical in appearance to the "Sovereign of the Seas," a smaller version, certainly, but a three-masted clipper nonetheless, with the same lines and reputed to be a "fast sailer" like her larger cousin.

Thus, by coincidence, the Center is now able to enrich the Fantle Norwegian Room with a replica of a clipper ship like the "Monsoon" that brought the rosemaled trunk that carried the flat-

bread that rescued the passengers and crew from starvation on the high seas between Bergen and Quebec.

Or was there such a rescue? The "Monsoon," I learned from the internet, had set sail from Bergen on April 20, with a 16-man crew and 14 cabin and 352 steerage passengers. Doubtless it was a difficult trip, for there was one death on board, an infant died soon after its birth, and three adults were ill when the ship reached land on May 25th. But most certainly Ole and Britte did not rescue that many passengers and crew from starvation. It is well known that Norwegians emigrating to America were advised to take along plenty of food to last throughout the sea journey and the first days of travel in America. I suspect that the ship's food supplies did run low on the trip and that many dug into their chests, and that some—the Husabos among them—shared what they had

(continued on page 4)



The clipper ship "Sovereign of the Seas" (1852-1859)

(continued from page 3)
with others less well-supplied.

It must have been a common experience for many emigrant groups, to run low on supplies, to suffer from illness, and to lose members of their company on the difficult sea journey to America. The presence of a model of the "Sovereign of the Seas" here at the Center for Western Studies helps us to visualize more clearly some of the realities of the "America fever" that gripped so many in those days.

As a footnote to the story: The "Monsoon" had a happy-

er fate than her larger cousin. She had been built for the East India trade in Bath, Maine, in 1851. When launched, she measured 158' long with a 32' beam, and with a tonnage of 734 tons. She made many trips around the Horn and sailed throughout the Far East before her stranding in 1877, twenty-six years longer at sea than her younger cousin.

Come visit both of them at the Center for Western Studies!

Arthur R. Huseboe

End-of-Year Appeal Succeeds

Board and Council members responded last June to a special appeal by chairman Tom Kilian and vice-chair Gerry Law to assist in bringing the Center's budget into balance by the July 31 deadline. A total of \$16,345 was raised in a matter of days in this way, a welcome recognition of the member's faith in the Center's programs. Donors were in these categories:

\$1,000-2,002

Gerry Berger Law
V. R. Nelson (past Board member)
Jerry Simmons
L. M. Baylor
Dorothy and Roy Mayeske
Arthur R. Huseboe

\$200-399

Jerry Freeman
Frank Gibbs
Tom Kilian
Gary Olson
Lynwood Oyos
Ruth Parry
Vernell Johnson
Buck Moore
Robert Steensma
Orville Waltner
Alan Woolworth
Dean Schueler (staff)

\$400-999

Betty Gutch
Howard Hovland
Paul Olson
Richard Van Demark
Mary Jo Wegner
Charles Balcer
Marvin Gulsrud
Rex C. Myers
Larry Ness
Bob Sellin

\$100-199

Harriet Scott
Ronelle Thompson
Nils Aspaas
Richard Haase

*Thank you again, friends,
for your generous support!*

23rd Annual Art Show and Sale-February 21-23, 2003

2003 will mark the 23rd anniversary of the Center for Western Studies' annual Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale. This is certainly one of the longest running, if not the longest running, art shows and sales in the region. Begun in 1980 as part of the Center's mission of "preserving the history and cultures of the Northern Plains," the show and sale continue that tradition of offering unique and quality art items for viewing and for sale. Many of the region's top artists were part of the early events.

Today many of the region's top artists are part of the show and sale as well as some new and aspiring artists. We are already hearing from artists who are interested in being part of the 23rd annual event. The goal continues to be to offer quality and diversity, and over 50 artists have been invited from across the region. In early December the Center's art committee chaired by Frank Gibbs and members Lynn Aspaas and Howard Hovland, assisted by the Center's staff, will select eighteen artists to participate in the show and sale.

Don Jacobs, General Manager of Results Radio, has agreed to sponsor the show and sale for 2003. We are so pleased to have the support of this fine sponsor of so many important events in our area. Don believes that artists in our area need a venue for their work and that the Artists of the Plains Show and Sale provides that venue.

The Radisson Encore Hotel will be the location of the event for the sixth year. We will have new artists again this year along with returning artists and some who haven't been with us for a number of years.

Our traditional Premier Showing will be on Friday evening, February 21, from 7:00-10:00 PM. A new feature this year will be awards for "Best of Show" and "People's Choice." These awards will be given for a painting as well as a three-dimensional piece. A jury of three people will select "Best of Show" and our audience will select the "People's Choice" awards. The awards program will take place about 8:30 PM. The show and sale will continue on Saturday, February 22, and Sunday, February 23. This event is free and to the public and we invite you and your friends to attend.

Solberg Art Exhibit Enhances CWS Galleries

The David and Sandra Solberg art exhibit, *The Picture Man Has Spoken: Art of the American West*, has been a huge success during its stay at the Center for Western Studies. Hundreds of people have been to see the exhibit since the opening on September 13.

Augustana College student intern Brandi Hatle did the research for the exhibit booklet that accompanies the collection. It gives a brief description and color photo of each of the pieces on exhibit.

David and Sandra and their family have been extremely helpful in the success of the show. They delivered the pieces to the Center and Sandra placed each of the pieces in the exhibit. Thanks to Cory Knedler from the USD College of Fine Art, who hung the exhibit. David was gracious in agreeing to do both a radio and television interview to help promote the show in the Sioux Falls area. Our thanks to radio station KTWB and Program Director Doc Murphy for their support as the media sponsor for the exhibit.

The Solberg family involvement went beyond David and Sandra. Daughter Beca Solberg McPherson and son Troy Solberg each did a gallery talk during the Fall. Beca gave the opening talk on September 13 to over 100 people. She told how her parents made collecting art a family affair. Troy's talk on October 4, during Viking Days, focused on his interest in art and how collecting has become important to him.



Admiring two of the bronzes that are on exhibit with the collection are **Bob Goodell**, Chippewa Falls, WI, the father of Sandra Solberg, and **Jim Combs**, Great Falls, MT, a friend of the Solberg's and a collector of Charlie Russell memorabilia. They both attended the October 4 gallery talk.



Beca Solberg McPherson presented the gallery talk at the September 13 opening of the **David and Sandra Solberg** art collection **The Picture Man Has Spoken-Art of the American West**. **David and Sandra** are seen with some of the over 100 guests who attended the opening of this exhibit.

On Saturday, December 7, at the Center for Western Studies' Members and Friends Christmas luncheon, David Solberg will talk about "Adventures in Collecting Western Art." This will provide an opportunity for the audience to ask questions about the collection.

The Center for Western Studies is pleased to have had the opportunity to host this one-of-a-kind exhibit. We are grateful to the Solberg family for their generosity in sharing it with all of us. We invite everyone who has not seen the exhibit to come to the Center. The exhibit will run through December 7, 2002.



Troy Solberg is seen presenting the gallery talk for **The Picture Man Has Spoken** exhibit on October 4 during the Augustana College Viking Days Homecoming. Special guests at the reception were members of the Augustana College Class of 1952 who were being recognized at their fifty-year reunion.

Shown from the left are CWS members **Sherry Goldammer**, **Judy Erickson**, Augustana College First Lady **Nancy Halverson**, **Milt Hanson**, and **Don Erickson**. They are enjoying the art exhibits and displays that were done by **Sandra Solberg** for the opening of the exhibit.

Dakota Conference Moves to April, Theme Is the Prairie

Teacher Re-certification Credit Available

The conference theme for the 35th Annual Dakota Conference on Northern Plains History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology is "The Prairie in Transformation," the first of a series of programs to examine, over the next three years, the major geographical and cultural identities of the Northern Plains region.

The Dakota Conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 25-26, 2003. In August, the CWS board of directors voted to move the conference from May to April, so that it would be more accessible to students, faculty, and schoolteachers. Previous to 1990, when CWS assumed management of the conference from Dakota State University, it was held in April.

Of interest to schoolteachers is that the conference has been approved by DECA for one-hour of teacher re-certification credit in education, literature, and history. One-hour of academic credit at both the undergraduate and graduate levels will continue to be available to everyone.

The 2003 conference will consider the ways in which the prairie has traditionally been represented by historians and novelists, but it will also examine how the prairie is being transformed by current demographic and ecological forces.

The emphasis of the conference will be upon the forces of change and transformation on the prairie, as identified by featured speaker Dr. Joseph Amato, dean of rural and regional studies at Southwest State University and the author of

Rethinking Home: A Case for Writing Local History. Amato is especially interested in how local history deals or fails to deal with change. "Local history," said Amato at a recent event, "gives individuals an identity and lends significance to place at a time when vast national and international forces overwhelm, transform, and homogenize localities" (*Raymond News*, October 17, 2002).

Amato is also the author of *Change, Turnover, Turbulence and the Transformation of a Midwestern Country Town; Dust: A History of the Small and Invisible*, and *The Midwestern Village in American Life and Literature* (forthcoming).

Also featured at the 2003 Dakota Conference will be Dr. John Miller, professor of history at South Dakota State University and author of *Looking for History on Highway 14* and *Becoming Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Woman Behind the Legend*. Miller will speak about the literary and historical representation of the prairie in the novels of Wilder.

Additional authors will appear at the 13th Regional Authors' Autograph Party, scheduled for Saturday morning. The autograph party is free and open to the public.

The Dakota Conference is made possible with major funding from the South Dakota Humanities Council, Karl E. Mundt Historical and Educational Foundation, and Mellon Fund.

Paper proposals should be sent to Dakota Conference director Harry F. Thompson by January 17, 2003.



Made in the late 19th century, the Aspaas cast-iron stove is a "high-tech" addition to the Fantele Room. AADALSBRUG is stamped on the door of the firebox.



A gift from Nils and Faye Aspaas of Baltic, this warming stove allowed the woman of the house to heat three kettles at different distances from the fire.

Buffalo Chips...

Congratulations to **Mrs. Gerry Berger Law**, the Center's vice-chair and co-owner with husband **Robert** of Deuel County National Bank. The Laws were recognized earlier this fall with The Community Service Award, presented by the South Dakota Forensic Coaches Association for their three decades of support of various speech and debate programs at Deuel High School. In making the award to the Laws and their son Mark, teacher Jennifer Bergan pointed out that "many students have gone on to use the skills learned...to secure careers in radio, TV, and theatre."

Council member **Arthur Amiotte** has been traveling in Europe this past month on a Bush Fellowship. Arthur has been studying and collecting slides about American Indian experiences in Europe, with a special emphasis on the Buffalo Bill shows there. Welcome home, Arthur!

And congratulations to Board member **Harriet Scott**, professor of sociology at Augustana, on her recent recognition as a founder of the Helpline Center, an organization devoted to assisting in volunteer and child-care programs and as a crisis center in Sioux Falls.

The Center's Oscar Howe painting, "Dakotah Sun Dance," has just been returned from its six-month's sojourn as part of an Oscar Howe exhibit at the South Dakota Art Museum in Brookings. "Dakotah Sun Dance" was a gift from **Dr. Bill Farrell**, long-time Sioux Falls pediatrician, now living in Santa Barbara, California. Thanks once more, Bill. Your gift continues to give!

We welcome **Paul Olson** back to CWS activities after a long recuperation. Among other talents, Paul's ability as translator from the Norwegian has long been a most helpful aid in our publications and collections programs. Rett fram, Paul!

A special thanks to **Mr. Buck Moore** (Sioux Falls) for his lending the Center a water color of a mounted plains Indian, "The Lone Warrior," by the famous artist O. C. Seltzer. Buck is retiring from the National Advisory Council; we thank him for his support!

The Center recently contributed selections of its published books to two fund-raising auctions held by "fellow" non-profits: the South Dakota Hall of Fame Auction in late September and the South Dakota Symphony's Gala in early November. Among the contributions were three of our most recent publications: *Anson Yeager's Stories*, *Drifting to an Unknown Future* (by **Robert C. Steensma**), and *The Geography of South Dakota* (3rd edition) by **Ed Hogan** and daughter **Erin Hogan Foubert**.

CWS member and Director of Advancement **Mel Klein** received the Lefty Olson Award for lifetime service in athletics at the Augustana College Viking Days in October.

We have received word of the passing of the following CWS members: **Alene Delbridge**, **Ronald Neish**, **Violet Van Deest**, and **Eugene Jelliffe**. We would express our sym-

pathies to the families of these folks.

Thanks to **Coletta Smith**, Rapid City, SD for the wonderful collection of black and white photos that she added to her husband **Richard's** collection here at the Center this fall. **Dick** and **Coletta** owned Rosebud Photography in Gregory, SD, for many years.

Long-time CWS volunteer and former board member and chair **Shirley King** nears completion of her work on the **Ray Loftness** collection, donated by **Tim Loftness** on behalf of his deceased mother, **Mary**, in 2001. The collection represents the rich tradition of choral music in the Sioux Falls area.

CWS director of research collections and publications **Harry F. Thompson** was one of three presenters at a workshop for new and seasoned museum board members in October. The workshop, "Welcome to the Board! Now What?" was a program of the Association of South Dakota Museums and hosted by the Middle Border Museum and Oscar Howe Art Center in Mitchell. **Jay Vogt**, deputy director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and **Deborah Gangloff**, assistant director of the Adams Museum and House (Deadwood), were also presenters.

The Autumn 2001 issue of *Western Historical Quarterly* (p. 400) noted the article "Meriwether Lewis and His Son: The Claim of Joseph DeSomet Lewis and the Problem of History," by **Harry F. Thompson** and published in *North Dakota History* in 2000.

An article on historic preservation by former Codington County Historical Society director and former CWS intern **Tim Hoheisel** was published in the November issue of *History News*, the magazine of the American Association for State and Local History. Tim and his wife, Carol, are pursuing doctorates at Kansas State University.



Amy Benda, President of the South Dakota Association of Fundraising Professionals, is shown presenting the "Philanthropists of the Year" award to Dr. Karl and Mrs. Mary Jo Wegner at the National Philanthropy Day held September 12, 2002, in Pierre, SD. Karl and Mary Jo were recognized for their support of so many charitable organizations. Mary Jo is a current CWS Board member and a past Chair of our Board. Congratulations to these two very deserving people.

What the Critics Say About Our Books...

What It Took: A History of the USGS EROS Data Center

by Rebecca L. Johnson (1998).

“Written in an accessible and spritely style, lavishly illustrated and studded with short quotations, this is a very enjoyable history. It is, of course, a celebration and a justification of EROS, but is no less valuable for that.” – Karen De Bres, *Journal of the West* 41 (Spring 2002): 99.

“People dominate Johnson’s narrative. She tells the story [of the EROS Data Center] from the perspective of those who lived it, intersperses her text with two or three block quotations per page from those individuals, and lists the names of nearly eighteen hundred past and present employees on the front and back end sheets. The work records the center’s adaptation to changing technology in space and on the ground, makes it clear that over time political winds have been as ubiquitous and capricious as climatic ones, and gives the reader a case study in government acronyms.

“*What It Took* succeeds as chronological history. What it lacks is analysis, critical appraisal, end notes, a bibliography, and an index. A final word is due about the illustrations: beautiful. The Center for Western Studies and Sioux Printing deserve highest praise for the full-color photographs of the center and its people, as well as the maps based on satellite images. The maps alone are a testimony to twenty-five successful years at EROS Data Center.” – Rex C. Myers, *South Dakota History* 32 (Summer 2002): 177.

“Drifting to an Unknown Future”: The Civil War Letters of James E. Northup and Samuel W. Northup

by Robert C. Steensma (2000)

“I’ve always found reading books of compiled correspondence a bit of a challenge. You usually have to read a lot of words to glean a few facts out of the text. This book starts out that way, but becomes more interesting as you near the end. The book costs over \$16, but I’m a sucker when it comes to 2nd Wisconsin books.” – Gary Van Kauwenbergh, *The Fugelman* (Newsletter of the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association), 12 (January 2002): 3.

Soldier, Settler, and Sioux: Fort Ridgely and the Minnesota River Valley, 1853-1867

by Paul N. Beck (2000)

“This is the first detailed, scholarly history of Fort Ridgely, which served as a frontier vanguard during the early settlement of Minnesota. . . . Beck ably describes Fort Ridgely’s place vis-a-vis the Dakota, Indian agents, and settlers. In relating the cultural, economic, and social impact of the post, he provides much information about the Minnesota River valley frontier. Using a variety of sources including unpublished army records and manuscripts, he effectively portrays the peacetime contacts between the troops and the Indians. Likewise he covers the role of the garrison in policing the reservations as well as apprehending off-reservation liquor peddlers. His excellent discussion of supply and transportation contracts awarded to civilians helps promote understanding of the fort’s impact on the Minnesota economy.

“Regrettably, this book, which has much to offer, is marred by factual and mechanical errors that demonstrate a certain lack of knowledge about Minnesota history and, especially, its historiography. . . . Accurate citing is a vital part of any scholarly work. One might expect an infrequent error, but some in this book defy comprehension

“This study should be used with caution. Despite its limitations, however, it enhances understanding of the army’s role on the Minnesota frontier.” – William E. Lass, *Minnesota History* (Spring 2002): 60.

Boe Forum Committee to Meet

The steering committee that has the principal role in selecting speakers for the Boe Forum has been appointed. In consultation with Mr. Dennis Hampton, power of attorney for Dr. Lois Boe Hyslop, President Bruce Halverson has named to the 2002-2003 committee the following:

- Dr. Arthur Huseboe, the Executive Director of the Center for Western Studies, who will serve as convener of the committee and coordinator of the Forum
- Dr. Richard Hanson, the Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Augustana College

- Mr. Dennis Hampton
- Mr. Richard Moe, a member of the May Johnson Law Firm
- Dr. Tom Kilian, the chair of the CWS Board

These five will begin meeting shortly in order to fulfill the late Governor Nils Boe’s goal for the Forum: “That as issues of current national concern arise, they should be brought before the people of this region and discussed by knowledgeable and experienced speakers.”

Queen Noor of Jordan, was the most recent speaker in the series that included General Colin Powell, President George Bush, Sr., President Mikhail Gorbachev, Prime Minister John Major, Mrs. Barbara Bush, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. All of the speakers have appeared in the 4,000-seat Elmen Center on the Augustana campus.

New South Dakota History Underway

Historians from throughout South Dakota and from other states are at work on a new history of South Dakota, scheduled for publication in 2004, in celebration of the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Responding to the need for a fresh interpretation of South Dakota's past, the new history will emphasize the diversity of the state's cultural and geographic identities. The most recent histories of the state, by Herbert Schell, John R. Milton, and Robert Karolevitz, were published in the 1970s. Planning for the new state history began in 2001.

The new history will feature essays by nationally recognized authors as well as full-length chapters by noted scholars. The history is intended for general readers, college students, and teachers of South Dakota history. Major topics to be addressed are geography, Plains Indian history and culture, exploration, immigration, politics, the Black Hills, ranching, farming, religious, educational, and medical institutions, town-sites, urbanization, literature and the arts, and the challenge of cultural change.

Essays by Vine Deloria, Jr., professor of law at the University of Colorado, novelist Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, poet and essayist Linda Hasselstrom, and biographer Betti VanEpps-Taylor will treat such themes as Plains Indian spirituality, the tiospaye (or extended Plains Indian family),

western women, and African-Americans. A special feature of the book will be a pictorial essay interpreting the state's history through the photography and art of its residents.

Contributors to the project include Herbert Hoover, professor of history at the University of South Dakota; John Miller, professor of history at South Dakota State University; Edward Hogan, professor of geography at South Dakota State University; Rex Myers, of Lawrence University and former dean of the college of arts and science at South Dakota State University; David Wolff, assistant professor of history at Black Hills State University; Carol Goss Hoover, professor of history at Colorado Technical University; journalist and historian Bob Lee of Sturgis; Lynwood Oyos, emeritus professor of history at Augustana College; Gary Olson, professor of history at Augustana College; Michael Mullin, associate professor of history at Augustana College; Ron Robinson, emeritus professor of English at Augustana College; and Arthur Huseboe, NEH chair of regional heritage at Augustana College.

The project is under the editorial direction of the publications committee of the Center for Western Studies, Lynwood Oyos, chair, and Harry Thompson, project managing editor.

CWS Heritage Club and Memorial Packets

While the Center's mission is to "preserve the history and cultures of the Northern Plains," we must also plan for the future if we are to accomplish this mission. Established in 1991, the Center's Heritage Club has grown steadily each year. At our annual Members and Friends Christmas Luncheon in early December, we induct those people who have made plans for the Center through the gift of an insurance policy, annuity, gift of property, or other deferred gift. We will host this luncheon on Saturday, December 7, at 12:00 noon.

We do have a codicil form to wills that we can make available to your legal council and/or financial planner. If you have already made provisions for the Center and have not informed us, we would like to hear from you.

Just recently, we have developed a memorial packet that includes a sympathy card and a gift envelope for your use. We invite you to send memorials to the Center and will be happy to send you a packet at your request. We place any undesignated memorials into our endowment fund, and this helps us with future planning as well. If you would like to have a memorial packet sent to you, please feel free to call us at the Center.



Dr. Bill Krause and Executive Director Art Huseboe flank the Center's familiar bust of Herbert Krause, founder of the Center and long-time Augustana college novelist-in-residence. Dr. Krause, on the faculty of the University of Missouri Medical School, is Herb's nephew, son of Herb's brother John. At his visit to the Center last summer, Dr. Krause deposited in the archives a number of Herb's nature photos and copies of correspondence, including the letter from President Clemens Granskou that appointed Herb to the faculty and two letters of praise from poet Stephen Vincent Benét, who called Krause "one of America's essential novelists."

CWS Gift Shop Has New Items

*Our newly expanded gift shop
has recently added many items
for your Christmas shopping.*

Northland Food Products

Northland Native American Products is a Minnesota Indian-owned company, presenting products of the reservations and northern woodlands.

Items offered include:

Soup Mixes, Syrups and Pancake Mix,
Native American Herbal Tea,
and numerous honeys and jellies

Native American Crafts

Made by the Lakota Sioux, these items are available:

Horse Dance Sticks, Leather Shields,
Beaded Dolls, Hide Paintings, and
Handmade Silver Jewelry by Mitchell Zepher

New Books

Exploring with Custer -

The 1874 Black Hills Expedition

by Ernest Grafe & Paul Horsted (paper)

Sundancing-The Great Sioux Piercing Ritual

by Thomas E. Mails (paper)

Custer's Fall

by David Humphreys Miller (paper)

North Dakota-Every Town on the Map and More

by Vernell & Louise Johnson

A great selection of CWS publications, as well!

Art Work

Newly exhibited art prints and
reproduction carvings by Jim Savage
Prints by Don Schellhouse, Mick Harrison,
Charles Fritz, Russ Duerksen, and others.

November 30-December 28, 2002

**20% or more off most items
during this sale**

**The Center for Western Studies
2201 S. Summit Ave.
605-274-4007**

35th ANNUAL DAKOTA CONFERENCE

**NORTHERN PLAINS HISTORY,
LITERATURE, ART and ARCHAEOLOGY
CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Prairie in Transformation

APRIL 25-26, 2003

Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

*Papers welcome on all aspects
of the Dakotas and Northern Plains*

Paper Proposal Deadline: January 17, 2003

Registration Fee: \$35 if received by April 18, 2003
(\$40 thereafter)

Student Registration Fee: \$10
(free if presenting a paper)

*"The pervasive decline of population and quality of life on
farm and in village, accented by two successive decades,
must be fathomed. Turnover rates and demographic turbu-
lence in rural lead cities in excess of those of metropolitan
centers merit attention. The unprecedented transformation
of the contemporary countryside must be grasped."*

-Joseph Amato

Submission Requirements: Send one-page paper proposal with presenter name, address, phone number, e-mail address, biography, and paper title and abstract to Dr. Harry F. Thompson, Conference Director, Center for Western Studies. For inclusion in conference proceedings and awards consideration, papers should be submitted in both disk and printed versions (two copies) at conference time.

Featured Speakers: **Dr. Joseph Amato** and **Dr. John Miller**.

Special Events: **Readings from the West** and **Sixteenth Annual Regional Autograph Party**, Saturday, April 26, 2003. Interested authors should contact Dr. Arthur R. Huseboe, Autograph Party Coordinator, by January 17, 2003. (Authors must also participate as presenters.)

Funded in part by the South Dakota Humanities Council, Mellon Fund, Karl E. Mundt Historical and Educational Foundation, and Center for Western Studies. Individual contributions in support of the conference will be acknowledged in the printed program if received by January 17, 2003.

CWS Open on Saturdays Thanks to Volunteers

Beginning June 1, 2002, the Center for Western Studies has been open from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM every Saturday thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers. These volunteers welcome guests to the Center, provide tours when asked, assist with gift shop purchases, and help the Center Staff in other ways during their time with us.

Since early June, we have welcomed guests from 32 states and nine other countries including, Cuba, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Israel, New Zealand, Germany, Australia, and Japan. There are many comments in our guest book about the wonderful exhibits that are here at the Center.

We want to thank the following volunteers for their service: Carolyn McClain, Dick Haase, Frank Gibbs, Tom Houle, Arlen Viste, A. Richard and Bev Petersen, Shirley Savage Jones, Gary Earl, Lynn and Barbara Aspaas, Harriet Scott, Berniece Weilage, and Mary Jo Wegner. They have helped make the Fantle Building a welcome place for our visitors. **If you would be interested in volunteering, please call Dean Schueler at 605-274-4007.**

2003 Membership Campaign Is Underway

Is it right there at the top of your "things to do" list? Did it get slipped under the pile of political mail that we all got this fall? You knew it was important when you got it because the envelope read **2002-2003 Membership Renewal**. Well don't do anything until you find that membership renewal card and then sit right down and send a gift to the Center for Western Studies!

We've settled into our wonderful new facilities in the Fantle Building. We've hosted Arthur Amiotte's art collection, the Gibbs' *Art of the West* exhibit and, until December 7, the David and Sandra Solberg *The Picture Man has Spoken-Art of the American West* exhibit. The 23rd annual Artists of the Plains Show and Sale will be held in February and a move to April for the 35th annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology will hopefully allow for more student participation. We continue to publish books about this region. This past summer, with help from a private individual and a grant, we were able to place *Anson Yeager's Stories* in every library in the State. We are also anticipating our eighth Boe Forum on Public Affairs sometime this spring. What a year it's been! The Center continues to help enhance our quality of life on the Northern Plains.

This past year over **86% of you renewed your membership in the Center with an annual gift**. This is simply outstanding. This was our eighth year for over 85% renewals. This tells us that we have great support for "preserving the history and cultures of the Northern Plains."

We need your help. We have a new challenge from our Board and Council to increase our giving. They have not made this without thought. They have challenged themselves to greater giving for 2003, and together with you, we will reach those new goals. At the end of Dr. Tom Kilian's letter, he quotes Theodore Roosevelt, who said "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are!" Let's do it! Our CWS board and council members will continue to make calls seeking your support-please be generous. **Thank you.**

Name _____

Address _____
street city

State _____ Zip _____ Ph. _____

E-mail: _____



Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift for 2003

Circle One

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ Dakotan \$10,000 & up | _____ Scout \$500-\$749 |
| _____ Plainsman \$5,000-\$9,999 | _____ Partner \$250-\$499 |
| _____ Westerner \$2,500-\$4,999 | _____ Explorer \$100-\$249 |
| _____ Pioneer \$1,000-\$2,499 | _____ Contributor \$50-\$99 |
| _____ Ranger \$750-\$999 | _____ Organization/Business \$500 & up |
| _____ My gift will be matched by my employer or insurance company. | |

_____ - _____ - _____
 Card #

Expiration Date _____

Signature

**Make checks payable to
 Augustana College/CWS.**

The name of the company is _____



The Center for Western Studies

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Sioux Falls, SD 57197

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CWS Schedule of Events Fall 2002 - Winter 2003

November

20 Board of Directors meeting

December

- 6 Christmas Open House at the Center,
9:30—11:00 AM
- 6 "The Picture Man Has Spoken"—
evening reception in honor of
David and Sandra Solberg (by invitation)
- 7 Board and Council Retreat,
Art Experts' Panel on Western Art, and
Members and Friends Annual
Christmas Reception and Luncheon
- 7 Talk on Western Art by David Solberg,
12:00 noon
- 13 Opening of new art exhibit from
CWS permanent collection

January

17 CWS Dakota Conference paper deadline

21 Board of Directors meeting

February

- 21-23 Artists of the Plains Show and Sale
- 26 Board of Directors meeting

March

26 Board of Directors meeting

April

- 5-6 Board and Council Spring Retreat
- 11-12 South Dakota State Historical
Society annual meeting
- 25-26 Thirty-fifth Annual CWS Dakota Conference

May

28 Board of Directors meeting

June

- 17 June Event—dinner-theater
- 25 Board of Directors meeting