

## The Center for Western Studies Newsletter

Vol. 22 Number 1 SPRING 2002

## Lewis and Clark Discover the Dakota Conference

The culmination of a five-year project to examine both the historical and contemporary dimensions of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Thirty-fourth Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology will feature nearly twenty papers on various aspects of the explorers' errand into the wilderness. The conference will be held May 30-31, 2002, in the Center for Western Studies' Fantle Building and in additional classroom space provided by Mikkelsen Library.

Among the special presentations at the 2002 conference will be western historian Dr. Rex Myers' slide lecture "Over the Mountains: Lewis and Clark through Western Montana" and the panel discussion "After Lewis and Clark: Native American Writers and Cultural Imperialism in the West." Led by award-winning poet Allison Hedge Coke, the panel includes writers Heid E. Erdrich, Lise Erdrich, Diane Glancy, Jerome Kills Small, and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve. Dr. Myers will also be presenting a second talk, "Before the Corps: Pre-Lewis and Clark Efforts to Explore the West in Fact and Fiction."

Dr. Myers' and Ms. Coke's appearances are made possible through a major grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Other major donors include the Mellon Foundation Fund, the Karl E. Mundt Historical and Educational Foundation, and Richard and Michelle Van Demark.

The Thursday dinner talk will feature popular western historian Charles M. Robinson III of San Benito, Texas, who will speak on "Before Mother Earth Became Real Estate: Indian-white Relations on the Pre-conquest Plains." At the Friday breakfast, hosted by the Dakotah Corral of Westerners International, Lewis and Clark historian Brad Tennant, of Presentation College, will give the video presentation "Almost Heroes: A Film Comparison to Lewis and Clark."

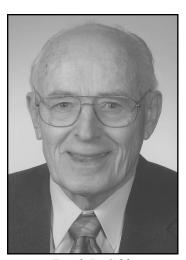
Dakota Conference director Harry F. Thompson is

especially pleased to note that two members of the United States Geological Survey will be making presentations on topics related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition: John A. Moody of the USGS office in Boulder, CO, and Brian N.

Davis of EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls. Thompson would like to recognize the efforts of John Hirschman of EROS Data Center and Minnehaha County Commissioner Robert Kolbe in making these presentations possible.

In addition to the more than eighty presenters participating, this year's conference will inaugurate a occasional series. "Readings from the Ameri-West." can in which excerpts from significant works of the American West will be read. Selected passages from the Lewis and Clark journals will be read at the awards banquet by Augustana College President Bruce Halverson, storyteller Gil Johnsson, and Spirit Mound researcher Kent Scribner.

Janet Dunlap Rathbun of Rapid City and Frank P. Gibbs of Sioux Falls are the recipients of the 2002 Award for Distinguished



Frank P. Gibbs



Janet Dunlap Rathbun
(continued on page 2)

# Lucky 13: The June Event for 2002

Each June since 1990 the Center has cooked up an event that combines a pinch of history with a dash of entertainment, topped by a gourmet meal to produce a first-rate evening's entertainment.

This year "Headliners in the Heartland: Vaudeville Comes to the Great Plains" is a production that evokes the era of vaudeville on stage in Sioux Falls and other turn-of-thecentury towns where the railroad brought the best in musical entertainment. Author-director Ron Robinson has once again put together an evening of music, wit, and nostalgia.

Plan now for a full evening of fun at this "World Premier" event: Tuesday, June 18, at 6:00 P.M. at the Oaks Hotel. Call 274-4007 for information and reservations!

# 22nd Annual Art Show and Sale Successful

Friday evening, February 22, found a capacity crowd at the Radisson Encore Hotel in Sioux Falls attending the Center for Western Studies'22nd annual Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale. The premier showing afforded an opportunity to see the artwork of eighteen of the region's artists.

The Radisson Hotel again hosted the art show and the reception for our premier showing event. This was the seventh year at the Radisson and it has proved to be a great location for both the artists and the public. Art committee chair Frank Gibbs served as the emcee and Dr. Bruce Halverson, who served double duty that evening by attending both the art show and sale and the Augustana College Booster Club Auction, brought a greeting to the group.

The public, once again, had the opportunity to make their selections for the "Best of Show" in both a painting and a three-dimensional piece. President Halverson gave the awards for "Best of Show" to the painting *Morning Reflection* by Josh Spies of Watertown; and Harvey Rattey of Glendive, Montana, had his bronze, *Valley of the Flowers*, selected as the best three-dimensional piece. Both were awarded a



Shown after the program at the 22nd annual Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale are from left: Frank Gibbs, Art committee Chair, Director of Development Dean Schueler, President Bruce Halverson, artist Josh Spies, whose painting Morning Reflection, won "Best of Show," and artist Harvey Rattey, whose bronze, Valley of the Flowers, won "Best of Show" for a three-dimensional piece.

cash prize and ribbon for their efforts. The art committee members, including Gibbs, Lynn Aspaas, and Howard Hovland, selected Sioux Falls artist Russ Duerksen's *On the Hunt* painting of a grizzly bear for the cover of the invitations.

We had a great group of artists again this year from all across the region. We thank them for sharing their talents with us. The following artists were in attendance: Mark Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD; JoAnne Bird, Brookings, SD; Arnold Bortnem, Sioux Falls, SD;



Del Iron Cloud, Rapid City, SD, works on a painting during the Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale.

Bryan Bortnem and Cathy Hoss, Rutland, SD; Bonnie Brahms, Humboldt, SD; Deb Gengler-Copple, Hubbard, NE; Russ Duerksen, Sioux Falls, SD; Mick Harrison, Belle Fourche, SD; Nancyjane Huehl, Vivian, SD; Del Iron Cloud, Rapid City, SD; Donald Montileaux, Rapid City, SD; Charles McLaughlin, Cannon Ball, ND; Harvey Rattey, Glendive, MT; Kathy Sigle, Spearfish, SD; Joshua Spies, Watertown, SD; James Star Comes Out, Pine Ridge, SD; Marion Toillion, Spearfish, SD; and Jim Whartman, Hemingford, NE. Thanks to all who purchased art from these fine artists.

The Center's staff would like to thank the Board of Directors and the National Advisory Council for their assistance as hosts and hostesses and greeters, the artists for their work and attendance, the Radisson for their hospitality, all of the Sioux Falls businesses who help to make the show and sale a success by advertising in our booklet, and everyone from the public who attended. We want to extend a sincere thanks to Don Jacobs and Results Radio for again being the major sponsor of the show and sale. It was a great weekend.

## 2002 Board and Council Elected

**Dr. Michael Mullin,** professor of history at Augustana College, was elected to the board. Specializing in Colonial History, he will serve on the publications committee.

**Mrs. Ruth Parry,** a community volunteer from Sioux Falls, has also joined the Center's board. She will serve on the development committee.

**Dr. Lynwood Oyos,** emeritus professor of history at Augustana, returns to serve on the board. He will chair the publications committee.

Dr. Loren Koepsell, Vice President for Finance and

Administration at Augustana, will serve as an administrative representative to the CWS Board.

Mr. Lynn Aspaas, Dr. Jerome Freeman, and Mr. Howard Hovland were all elected to serve a second three-year term on the Board.

Mr. Marvin Gulsrud, Spokane, WA, Dr. Herbert Hoover, Beresford, SD, and Mr. Roy Mayeske, North Oak, MN, were re-elected to serve another five-year term on the Center's National Advisory Council. We welcome each of these people to our work at the Center and thank them for their service.

### Madsen, Nelson, and Elmen Galleries Showcase CWS Art Collection

The permanent art collection at the Center has grown extensively over the past thirty years. To highlight this collection, the staff has made selections from its artwork to give visitors an over-all view of what is here at the Center.

In mid-September John Day, Dean of the College of Fine Art at the University of South Dakota, visited to view the Center's holdings. Later that month his assistant, Cory Knedler, hung the current show in the gallery. We thank them for their assistance with this exhibit.

Visitors will have an opportunity to view pieces from the *Echoes of the Little Bighorn* collection by Belva Curtis, a piece by Western artist Henry Farny, Augustana College Professor Emeritus Robert Aldern, and selected art from the wildlife collection of noted artist Roger Preuss. Bronze work by Harvey Rattey, Norm Fuegen, Alfred Ziegler, and Raymond Wattenhofer is also on display. Among the Center's treasures are a piece by South Dakota artist Harvey Dunn, *California Moonlight* by Gutzon Borglum, and *A President's Wife* by America's foremost illustrator, Norman Rockwell. We hope to share more of the Center's collection in the months ahead. We invite you to stop in and see this wonderful cross-section of American art.

Beginning on April 15, the Center will host its first vis-

iting collection in the Fantle Building. Dr. Arthur Amiotte, noted artist, author, and a member of the CWS National Advisory Council, will present his exhibit *Of Selvedge and Salvage–Images of Belief*, collages by Arthur Amiotte and photographs by John Moler. The show will run through June 10.



The Madsen family toured the Fantle building in mid-December. Weather kept them away from the dedication weekend festivities. Shown in front of the Center's artwork in the Madsen Gallery, which they sponsored, are from the left: Pamela Madsen, Vicki Madsen, Helen Madsen, and Lou Madsen.

#### BOOKS FROM THE NORTHERN PLAINS

#### Sioux Culture:

Memory Songs, by Lydia Whirlwind Soldier \$13.95

Sioux Country: A History of Indian-white Relations, by Herbert T. Hoover and Carol Goss Hoover \$49.95 (textbook)

Yanktonai Sioux Water Colors: Cultural Remembrances of John Saul, by Martin Brokenleg and Herbert T. Hoover \$15.95 (cloth)

#### Land and People:

Anson Yeager's Stories, by Anson Yeager (2 volumes) \$39.95

The Family Farmers' Advocate: The South Dakota Farmers Union, 1914-2000, by Lynwood E. Oyos \$24.95 (cloth), \$15.95 (paper)

What It Took: A History of the USGS Data Center, by Rebecca L. Johnson \$19.95 (cloth)

A Twentieth-Century Life: The Memoirs of Arthur Larson, by Arthur Larson \$16.95 (cloth)

The Geography of South Dakota, Third Edition, by Edward P. Hogan and Erin H. Fouberg \$21.95 (paper)

Natural History of the Black Hills and Badlands, by Sven Froiland \$13.95

#### Literature and the Arts:

The Lizard Speaks: Essays on the Writings of Frederick Manfred, edited by Nancy Owen Nelson \$15.95

Poems and Essays of Herbert Krause, edited by Arthur R. Huseboe \$9.95

Duke's Mixture, by Frederick Manfred \$15.95

An Illustrated History of the Arts in South Dakota, by Arthur R. Huseboe, with a section on Sioux Indian art by Arthur Amiotte \$14.95 (cloth)

#### Military:

Soldier, Settler, and Sioux: Fort Ridgely and the Minnesota River Valley, 1853-1867, by Paul N. Beck \$12.95

"Drifting to an Unknown Future": The Civil War Letters of James E. Northup and Samuel W. Northup, edited with an introduction by Robert C. Steensma \$14.95

Fort Sisseton, by Harold Schuler \$12.95

Driftwood in a Time of War, by Marie Christopherson \$10.95

The Center for Western Studies
Box 727, Augustana College
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

1-800-727-2844 (ext. 4007) or Fax 605-274-4999

Add \$3.50 postage/handling for the first title, \$1.00 for each additional title Ask for a free copy of our 24-page Book & Art Catalog

#### **Saturday Events**

Three events on Saturday highlighted the Dedication weekend. The morning began with the fall retreat for the Board and Council members. Chairman Tom Kilian recognized and thanked four Board members who were completing their terms: Charles Brown, Ann Pederson, Ronald Robinson, and Jamie Volin. New and returning Board members were welcomed: Lynn Aspaas, Jerome Freeman, Howard Hovland, Loren Koepsell, Lyn Oyos, Ruth Parry, and Michael Mullin. Returning Council members were welcomed as well: Marvin Gulsrud, Herbert Hoover, and Roy Mayeske; and five Council members were recognized as coming long distances for the dedication events—Gerald Czulewicz (Isanti, MN), Bob Sellin (Rockford, IL), Cornell Norby (Paso Robles, CA), Jane Rasmussen (Sisseton, SD) and Bob Steensma (Salt Lake City, UT).

Following reports from the staff on the activities underway at the Center, the Board and Council elected Dr. Kilian chair, Mrs. Gerry Law as vice-chair, Dr. Gary Earl as recording secretary, and Mr. Lynn Aspaas as deputy recording secretary. The group then adjourned to the Chapel of Reconciliation for the Dedication Service conducted by the Augustana

College Campus Pastor, Paul Rohde.

Speaking there on behalf of the College were President Halverson and Vance Goldammer (Board of Regents chair). Arlen Viste represented the Building committee and Geoff Wetrosky and Kristen Barnett the student body. The Center was represented by chairman Tom Kilian and Executive Director Arthur Huseboe. Music was provided by Professor Lisa Grevlos (who will once again star in a June Event to benefit the Center, this one on June 18, directed by Ron Robinson).

At noon, the Center's members and friends met for our annual Christmas Luncheon, this time a Dedication event as well. Among the 150 guests attending was Mrs. Sally Fantle, who was thanked for her gift of \$1.5 million, and Dr. Charles Balcer, the president who signed the Center into official existence in 1970. Following Dr. Tom Kilian's address—an overview of the vision that lies behind the Center's creation, with much credit given to novelist-historian Herbert Krause for his role—the luncheon concluded with recognition given to the new members of the Center's Heritage Club.



CWS Board and Council members enjoyed meeting in the Van Demark boardroom/classroom for their December retreat. Shown from the left are: Lyn Oyos, Vernell Johnson, Jane Rasmussen, Jeff Hayzlett, Mike Spears, Harry Thompson, Howard Hovland and Lynn Aspaas.



The Augustana College Collegiate Chorale, under the direction of **Dr. Lisa Grevlos**, performed at the dedication service for the Center for Western Studies' Fantle Building on December 1, 2001, in the Chapel of Reconciliation.



who have completed their terms were recog nized at the December Members and Friends Christmas luncheon. From left are Ron Robinson, Charles Brown, and Jamie Volin. Thanks to these gentle men for their dedicated service to the Center.

CWS Board members



The Center's Heritage Club continues to grow with the new additions each year. Pictured with their CWS Heritage Club mementos are from the left: Dr. Ronald Nelson, Mrs. Karyn and Dr. LaMoyne Pederson and Mrs. Mary Torness. New inductees James and Rosalyn Krause and Gil and Lillian Johnsson were unable to attend.

# CWS Dedication Weekend

### **Ribbon Cutting Officially Opens Fantle Building**

With the construction crews barely out the door on November 30, 2001, the Center hosted the Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony. A crowd of over 150 braved the November weather to share in the joy of the new Fantle Building. Mr. Dean Buckneberg, chair of Chamber's Ambassador committee served as the afternoon's emcee. Mr. Jim Schmidt, an Augustana College alum, spoke on behalf of the Ambassadors, and Ms. Julie Nelson, a CWS member, made remarks from the Diplomat committee of the Chamber. Dr. Bruce Halverson, President of

Augustana College, Dr. Tom Kilian, chair of the CWS board and Dr. Arlen Viste, chair of the CWS building committee, responded with comments. Dr. Arthur Huseboe, Executive Director of the Center, responded on behalf of Mrs. Sally Fantle and the Center's staff. Mr. Dave Stadheim, chair-elect of the Sioux Falls Area Chamber presented a plaque to Dr. Halverson and Dr. Huseboe on behalf of the Chamber and shared that "with the ribbon cutting ceremony today, we celebrate the opening of the Fantle Building and congratulate the Center for Western Studies on their continued success in the area." After the ribbon was cut, people viewed the various exhibits and art work in the gallery and enjoyed the reception sponsored by Dakota Books and Dave Strain from Rapid City. Thanks to all who shared this special event with Mrs. Fantle and the Center.



An enthusiastic group prepares officially to cut the ribbon for the Fantle Building. They are from left: Phyllis Harmsen, Deb Lyon, Dean Schueler, Lisa Hollaar, Julie Nelson, Merle Loken, Dean Buck neberg, Dave Stadheim, Bruce Halverson, Arlen Viste, Arthur Huseboe, Tom Kilian, Jim Schmidt, Harry Thompson, and seated in front with the scissors, Mrs. Sally Fantle.

#### **Donor Dinner**

The Center's Dedication weekend was also the time for recognizing the major donors to the Fantle Building and those individuals who have included the Center for Western Studies in their estate planning. A total of seventy-eight people attended the donor dinner at Minnehaha Country Club on Friday evening, November 30, all of them contributors of \$5,000 or more in cash and pledges in order to make the new facility a reality.

Executive Director Art Huseboe presided and recognized first the \$1.5 million gift of Mrs. Sally Fantle, whose contribution is expressed in the structure over all and most specifically in the Fantle Scandinavian Room. There, in a replica of the interior of a nineteenth-century Norwegian home, the articles of daily life and many items of beautifully rosemaled furniture—most of them collected by the Fantles in Scandinavia—are on display.

Dr. Huseboe then expressed the gratitude of the Center and

College and recognized by name and gift the individuals whose names would shortly appear on bronze plaques throughout the building. Special guests were Dr. Arlen Viste, chair of the CWS Building Committee, and wife Betty, and Mr. Gene Marko and wife Mary Ann. Gene represented the Augustana College maintenance staff who contributed countless hours to fine tuning the mechanical aspects of the Fantle Building.

The dinner for the evening was planned by Mrs. Gerry Law (chair), Mrs. Mary Jo Wegner, and Dr. Doris Huseboe. Table decorations were miniature shocks of grain with tiny replicas of various songbirds among them.

The program for the event consisted of reports by Directors Harry Thompson and Dean Schueler on the resources of the Building for use by scholars, students, and the general public.

the University of Michigan. Many Sioux Falls residents remember seeing this small man – at every season – early and late – with binoculars, standing among the trees in the parks, cemeteries and along the streets, looking up into the trees, looking for birds. He missed no opportunity to be out-of-doors in the woods, grass, and wetlands, searching for birds.

Krause was interested in the great forces of nature that formed the land we live on: the winds, the upheavals of the earth – the forming and recession of ancient seas, that have left us today with this immense plain of grass and ladders of rivers and the Black Hills and Badlands. For Krause, there was so much to learn and so many fascinating questions!

This was the Krause who saw the need for a means to make available to everyone the knowledge of the West – the area we live in. It would be important that such a place be easily accessible for all area people and especially for young people. Like many people who have themselves a great curiosity and interest in a given topic or field, he wanted other people to have the means to learn. He was confident that if they could have access to a source of information about this area, they would become interested and excited, too!

This was the man whose hopes and dreams became jelled and solidified and which came to have a real habitation and a name. Krause did much more than dream: like the widow in Scripture, he gave all that he had. He gave his entire library of thousands of valuable books and his entire estate, to help the idea become real.

Well, what of the Center for Western Studies today? Most of us know, at least in general, that the Center maintains a large and growing library and an archive. It has collections of art and important historic artifacts and operates a museum. It conducts large public events each year: the Dakota Conference, a large show and sale of regional art, an early summer program and dinner on an historic theme, and the Boe Forum, which brings leaders of international stature to the campus. The Center has a remarkably able and dedicated staff. It now

occupies a 3 million dollar building, made possible through the generosity of Sally Fantle and many other donors. The Center is building an endowment to insure its ability to continue to serve in the future. The Center is now an established institution, stable and strong, poised to enter a new era of service to the people of the Northern Plains.

What of Tomorrow? First, we can say that the world continues to change – sometimes rapidly as we have lately seen. Technological advance has resulted in what we now call "globalization" – the rapidly increasing interdependence of all the world's people on each other. The present unpleasantness caused by the actions of people who have been less favored should not surprise us unduly. It is a predictable outcome of the efforts to globalize.

Whatever happens in the wider world, we still live here. This is our home. We must continue to study and learn about the place where we live. That is why the Center exists: to help us do that.

We are grateful for the generous gifts and the moral support of so many that have made these achievements possible. I believe that increased capacity to serve brings increased responsibility. There is an enormous need for leadership in South Dakota and across the Northern Plains. Plains society is changing rapidly. There are huge challenges ahead.

To help define directions for the Center in the world ahead, the board of directors has agreed to the establishment of a "Committee for the Future" to develop concrete plans for ways in which the Center can work to help build a better life for this region.

As these new plans develop, you will be called on to help. There will be many opportunities for service. I hope that each of us will resolve now to continue to be a part of this work – to be more than a spectator – and to give of our own time and resources to help advance our common dreams for the Center for Western Studies!

# What the Critics Say About Our Books...

The Geography of South Dakota

by Edward Patrick Hogan and Erin Hogan Fouberg (2nd edition, 1998) \$25.00 cloth

"In this revised edition . . . the authors employ a topical method to approach the state's geography utilizing cultural, physical, and regional perspectives. The physical geography chapters describe the state's weather, soils, terrain, flora, and fauna, while the cultural geography chapters elaborate on the human use of the region's resources.

"As the narrative develops the physical and cultural geography, the state's regional geographic patterns emerge; they include the Black Hills, the Great Plains, and the Eastern agricultural interior.

"In the last chapter, the authors analyze past and present geographic patterns to project future South Dakota geographic trends. They assert that further developments will include small population increases, greater manufacturing emphasis, and continual agricultural growth.

"Abundant and comprehensive illustrations accompany the text, making the reader's geographic journey across South Dakota accessible. In closing, this book is a readable, informative reference for South Dakota geographic data."

-Richmond L. Clow, University of Montana, published in *Journal of the West* (Winter 2002):101.

#### A LOCAL HABITATION AND A NAME

### Dedication of the Fantle Building, CWS, December 1, 2001

By Tom Kilian

Today we are dedicating a new home and anticipating a new era for the Center for Western Studies. It seems appropriate to reflect for a few moments on "how we got here."

Like most organizations, the Center for Western Studies began as the convergence and merging of a variety of related interests.

So... to begin, it was just an idea. Aprinciple distiller of the idea was Herbert Krause. Krause and his associates supplied an important additional ingredient: Imagination.

Now, imagination is important. It enables people to see in their minds what not yet is. William Shakespeare described the process when he wrote, "...imagination gives to airy nothing a local habitation and a name..." Thus, the idea now has a very concrete local habitation – an idea made physical.

What inspired Krause? How did this concept arise? Krause was a small man physically of remarkable intellect. He was quiet, gentle humble man. He was most unusual. He had a wide-sweeping perception of the world around him and catholic interests and the capacity to transfuse his enthusiasms and excitement to others.

Krause is probably most widely known and remembered as a very successful writer – a novelist and poet. He produced a number of very successful novels: *Wind Without Rain, The Thresher* and *The Oxcart Trail*, as well as a book of sensitive and engaging poetry. But Krause was more than a novelist and poet: Krause was a Historian. He was greatly interested in European immigrants to this area and in the people who preceded them – the Native Americans.

He was interested in the activities of the Colonial French traders in Canada...and the English. He was interested in the early Spanish in the Southwest. He was interested in the activities of the ubiquitous Jesuit Society in Canada and the Southwest because of their presence and contacts with the people here and with the as yet unspoiled nature. Krause was fascinated by the odyssey of Cabeza de Vaca and with the evidences of the early Spanish adventures very near us here. He gathered information concerning the ill-starred military expedition of Vilaseur, whose entire command was wiped out by the Poncas just south of us here, along the Platte in Nebraska. He was a thorough student of the travels of Alexander McKenzie in western Canada. He, himself, made two trips by canoe up the Red, the Nelson and the Hayes rivers to the Hudson Bay.

Krause was a relentless scholar. His growing conviction was that our region – the northern Plains – was not settled simply as a feature of the "Westward Movement," as assumed by Eastern scholars, so much as it was a convergence of the French and English influences from the north and northeast and the Spanish from the Southwest, together with the later

movement of the immigrant wagons coming west. He collected lots of books and material relating to the concept. He wanted to develop the idea and write about it but he ran out of time.

Krause was interested in the early fur trade era and the probers in the region. They made the early discoveries. They became well acquainted with the region and helped to develop the early maps which made possible later expeditions like Lewis and Clark's. Fur traders made the first overtures to the Native Americans, lived with them, married them. They saw and could report the customs and ways of life of these people before they had been modified by white contact.

I think he became interested in history as a consequence of his research for his novels. He began by writing about the areas and the lives of the people he had known... and their surroundings... and one thing leads to another....

Krause was interested in "The West" as a major influence in the development of American culture. He spoke often of the transformation of the attitudes and outlooks of people when they came to live here: how the Plains Indians – especially the Sioux – were transformed in a short time when they moved out of the shadow of the deciduous woodlands to the East and into "Big Sky" country. Here there were few trees – only the enormous vault of heaven – one could see forever in every direction - in an endless sea of grass. The effect on people was "opening up" - a new expansiveness of the spirit - a new sense of freedom. This, together with the acquisition of horses in the West gave them a new sense of confidence and power, and they became a fearless cavalry of warriors equal to any in history. Krause suspected that the same feeling of openness and freedom found under the open sky helped to explain the phenomenon of the Cowboy, who became a legend, worldwide. It helped to explain the exploits of immigrant pioneers who came from societies of oldness and rigidity and constraint in Europe to become the rough, resourceful and self-reliant settlers of the West. He came to believe that the environment of the Plains helped to shape and form the people who lived here.

Intertwined with his interest in history, Krause was a Naturalist. He was interested in all forms of life in nature: the plants and animals of the West: the prairie grasses – big Bluestem and Switch grass and Indian grass – the shrubs and trees and above all, the birds. He became widely recognized as an ornithologist – genuinely expert in regional bird life. He published an extensive study of a rare prairie bird called the McCown's Longspur, which he discovered on the high grassy hills around Wessington Springs. He indexed the publications of the South Dakota Ornithologists Union – a prodigious task. He was, at the time, the only person who had ever scored 100% in the identification of birds at the graduate school of

#### From the Executive Director

I am to bring greetings on this Saturday morning from the National Advisory Council of the Center and from Mrs. Sally Fantle. First, on Mrs. Fantle's behalf, I want to tell you that she tells me that everything about the new building pleases her. She loves the design of the building, done by a young architect from the Koch Hazard Baltzer firm and one of her neighbors in Riverview Heights. She has known Jeff Hazard for many years and his parents as well, Bob and Mim Hazard. It was Bob who with his partners founded the Koch Hazard Baltzer firm, and as a footnote I should observe that Bob and I graduated from Washington High School together, and so I have a special pleasure in seeing the designs of Bob's son turn into a magnificent work of steel and stone on this Augustana campus.

And Mrs. Fantle tells me that she is pleased that her collection of rare antique furniture from the Scandinavian countries can now be properly housed in this new building. The colorful rosemaled pieces were gathered by Mrs. Fantle and her husband Benjamin in the 1930's and then given in 1984 to Augustana College. The college seemed to her the appropriate place for such a gift because Mrs. Fantle and her husband had many friends among the Augustana faculty, such as music professor J. Earl Lee, languages professor Helmer Blegen, English professor Herbert Krause and art professor Palmer Eide. And so Mrs. Fantle called me one day in the spring of 1997 and asked me if we would like to have a new building, and that question and my answer started us on a winding trail of planning and recruiting supporters that has brought us to this point---a completed building of 22,000 square feet. It now houses the Fantle collection of antique furniture in a replica of a Norwegian home, complete with fireplace and bed and all the rest, just as if it had been lifted from Norway in the 19th century and transported to America and then to the prairies of South Dakota.

As to my bringing a greeting from the National Advisory Council, I will only tell you that the 27 members of that august group scattered about America are committed to supporting the Center in their own unique and varying ways—I will recognize our two most senior members this morning who have been with us from the very beginning over 30 years ago:

Dr. Charles Balcer, from Sioux Falls, the past president of Augustana, who signed us into existence and whose wise council has led us on many occasions out of the darkness and into the light.

And Cornell Norby, art dealer and Augustana alumnus, from Paso Robles, CA, whose work on behalf of the Center for over a quarter of a century has brought us many invaluable collections, including rare Indian artifacts like the Flaherty Collection and a unique set of Plains Indian portraits, purchased for us by Mrs. Shirley King, that now forms the heart of our Western art collection.

It is the sage advice of counselors like Dr. Balcer that will keep the Center on an even course for all the years to come, and it is the work of Council members and others like Mr. Norby that will add valued items to every area of the Center's holdings—library, archives, art collections and artifact collections.

As the late Edith Mortenson Delman used to say to me (and she was one of our most supportive Council members)—"The Center for Western Studies someday can be the Smithsonian of the Northern Plains." With the support of those of you gathered here and other lovers of the history and the story of the Northern Plains, I believe that what Edie told me and what I hear from others is most certainly true.

Arthur R. Huseboe Given at the Dedication Service on December 1, 2001

7.

### Volunteers Needed at CWS

The old World War II poster **WE Want You** theme is now in use at the Center for Western Studies. With the move to new and larger quarters, the Center wants to expand its hours of operation. The Center's Board of Directors requested that the CWS staff pursue the idea of a docent/volunteer program to assist with weekend hours for the Center. With our professionally done exhibits and the beautiful gallery, the Center is now a destination stop for tourists and our hours must reflect this.

Using a suggestion from a board member, the Center met with Dr. Trygve Fredrickson, who directs the Augustana College Small Business Institute. After sharing what we were interested in, he suggested that his class "Seminars in Business Consulting" might be able to assist us in this effort.

Since the beginning of second semester in early February, the Center's staff has been working with three seniors from this class. Nate Fluit, Larchwood, IA, Dana Rieffenberger, Watertown, SD, and Nathan Helling, Madison, SD,

have been busy constructing a questionnaire to use with other museums and galleries in the area to determine how they implemented their volunteer programs. They also intend to contact individuals who have indicated an interest. Their goal is two-fold: they want to have a framework for a volunteer system in place and they want to determine what the responsibilities of a volunteer coordinator would be. Their goal is to have this done by May 1, 2002, in time for graduation. They have been working faithfully on this project to assist the Center.

We would like to ask that anyone who is reading this newsletter and has been considering volunteering somewhere think about helping at the Center. The hours, days, and duties will be determined by the number of volunteers in our program. If you are interested, please call or email Art Huseboe, Harry Thompson or Dean Schueler. Email addresses are art\_huseboe@augie.edu, harry\_thompson@augie.edu, or dean\_schueler@augie.edu. We really do Want You!

(Lewis & Clark Discover from cover story)

Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Plains. They will receive their awards at the Friday evening banquet.

With nearly thirty authors registered, the Regional Authors' Autograph Party, the largest annual assembly of authors of books in the Northern Plains, will also be held Thursday afternoon. This event is open to the public. Among the featured authors, in addition to those appearing on the Native American writers panel, are Bob Lee and Harry Anderson, *Gold Rush: The Black Hills Story;* Chuck Cecil, *Becoming Someplace Special: The Brookings Story;* Greg Latza, *Hometown, S.D.;* Charles M. Robinson III,

General Crook and the Western Frontier; and Thomas J. Ryan, Faith, Hope and Hilarity–A Book of Revelations. Also appearing will be several CWS authors, Edward Hogan, Herbert Hoover and Carol Goss Hoover, Arthur Huseboe, Lynwood Oyos, Robert Steensma, and Anson Yeager.

The Minnehaha County Historical Society will also be dedicating a historical marker at this year's conference, in a session preceding the Autograph Party.

The conference program with registration form and meal prices will be mailed to CWS members and Dakota Conference attendees in early April.

## Promoting CWS Through Scholarship

One of the important constituencies of the CWS is the academic world. This is fitting for an organization founded by a scholar of the highest rank, Herbert Krause, and an agency of a leading liberal arts college. There are more than twenty centers that study the Northern Plains and/or the West, most of them affiliated with academic institutions. The relationship of CWS to these other centers and to the academic world will prove of increasing significance as CWS begins formal discussions of its future programs, now that the Fantle Building has been completed.

The CWS has for years defined its relationship to academics through its publishing program, its research collections (archives and library) program, and, since 1990, the Dakota Conference. An area in which CWS has become increasingly influential is scholarship about the Northern Plains region.

In the past few years, presentations at regional and national conferences and articles by CWS staff members have begun appearing with regular frequency. CWS staff have spoken at the annual meetings of such organizations as the Western American Literature Association, Center for Great Plains Studies, Lewis and Clark Trail Foundation Heritage Society, and both the Ninth and Fourteenth Nobel Peace Prize Forums.

Articles on Northern Plains history and literature have been published by CWS staff members in Notable Native Americans, American National Biography, the Twentieth-Century American Western Writers series of the Dictionary of Literary Biography, North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains, Western American Literature, Great Plains Quarterly, Literary History of the American West, and Updating the Literary West.

Publication in scholarly journals is especially difficult. For example, an article by Harry F. Thompson on the

authority of history in the Western novel, which will appear in the spring issue of *Western American Literature*, had to pass the scrutiny of no less than four peer reviewers as well as the journal's editorial staff. According to the editor, less than 10% of the articles submitted are accepted for publication in that quarterly.

Another aspect of academic scholarship in which CWS staff members participate is reviewing books written by other scholars. Book reviews by CWS staff have been published in *South Dakota History, Montana: The Magazine of Western History, Western American Literature, Western Historical Quarterly,* and the *Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas.* 

More information about the leadership roles of the CWS staff in academics and in community affairs may be found under the new feature "Leadership Profiles" at the Center's home page: http://inst.augie.edu/CWS.

The Center for Western Studies Newsletter is published three times annually by the Center for Western Studies, Box 727, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197. Phone: (605) 274-4007, Fax: 605-274-4999, E-Mail: CWS@inst.augie.edu. Subscription is a benefit of membership in the Center.

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

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.. The Center's archives are open Monday -Friday 9 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m.