



## *The Picture Man Has Spoken: Art of the American West*

By Brandi Hatle, student intern

David Solberg, a member of the Augustana Board of Regents, and his wife, Sandra, of Billings, Montana, will exhibit several pieces of their extensive western art collection in the Fantle Building for the Center for Western Studies from September 13 through December 7, 2002. The exhibit, entitled *The Picture Man Has Spoken: Art of the American West*, will feature approximately fifty paintings and bronzes by many major classic and contemporary western artists, including pieces by Charles Russell, Maynard Dixon, Edgar S. Paxson, and William Standing. A special feature of the exhibit will be an exhibit catalog highlighting the pieces and giving short biographies on each of the artists.

The research for and writing of the catalog entries and the exhibit labels was completed by

Augustana junior Brandi Hatle, a history major from Adams, MN. Her work for the project included a trip to the Solberg home in Billings to research and view the collection. While on the trip, she also visited the C.M.



David & Sandra Solberg



*The Picture Man Has Spoken* by Charles M. Russell

Russell Museum in Great Falls, MT, where David Solberg serves as a member of the Board of Directors.

The exhibit will open with a reception and gallery talk by Beca Solberg McPherson on Friday, September 13, 2002. This will be followed by gallery talks on Friday, October 4, by Troy Solberg, and on Saturday, December 7, by David Solberg. The last event takes place during CWS's annual Christmas Open house. The Center for Western Studies is pleased to host this important exhibit and we invite all of our friends to see these one-of-a-kind pieces during the exhibition.

## *CWS Celebrates the Completion of the Fantle Building*

With the beginning of a new fiscal year, we also begin our first full year in the Fantle Building for the Center for Western Studies. It was one year ago that the staff moved the CWS operation from the lower level of the Mikkelsen Library to the Fantle Building. Construction continued through November, and on November 30 and December 1, 2001, we had the official ribbon cutting and dedication of the building. Since that time there have been small projects completed. We also continued to solicit gifts for the building and are grateful to all who helped make this building project a success. Special thanks are due to those people who have served on our building committee at various times from 1997-2001. They include our Chair, Dr. Arlen

Viste, President Bruce Halverson, Mrs. Mary Jo Wegner, Mr. Jamie Volin, Mrs. Ronelle Thompson, President Ralph Wagoner, Mr. Charles Brown, Dr. Sven Froiland, Mr. Richard Culbert, Dr. Jerry Simmons, Mrs. Esther Bowden, Mr. Gene Marko, Mr. Elmer Smolnisky, Dr. Loren Koepsell, Mr. Lynn Aspaas, Mr. Keith Christensen, and Dr. Art Huseboe. Thanks to Jeff Hazard and Tony Taylor from Koch Hazard Baltzer Architecture for their vision of the Center's building.

While there remain a few areas in the building left to fund, we now turn our efforts toward the Fantle Building endowment. One of the challenges for the CWS staff and

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*(Fantle Building from cover story)*

Board of Directors at the beginning of the project, was to raise an endowment that would assist with the operation of the new building. Through the generosity of our supporters, it appears that we will have a modest start to this endowment. Our goal will most likely be to raise \$500,000 to support the Fantle Building. We believe this is a goal that can be reached over the next two to three years. This will insure the proper maintenance of our beautiful building. We ask for your support of this project.

The Board of Directors and the staff want to thank everyone who has supported this building project. In the

short space of three years, enough money was raised to complete the building. This was done by a relatively small number of people. A building such as this one can only be built because people truly believe in the goals and mission of the organization. You have shown us that you really do care about the Center's mission of "Preserving the History and Cultures of the Northern Plains." From our humble beginnings by Dr. Herbert Krause in 1970, through today, our goal and mission have remained steadfast and clear. Celebrate with us in this wonderful accomplishment and **Thanks Again!**

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## *From the Executive Director*

What a year it has been, these 12 months since the Center took possession of its new home in the Fantle Building! From August 2001, when the Mikkelsen Library staff moved our 3,000 feet of archives and 40,000 bound volumes up to second floor, until August 2002 and the start of a new fiscal year, the Center has seen unprecedented activity in support of our mission of "preservation and interpretation."

Three art shows have come and gone in the three galleries on first floor: "Selections from the Permanent Collection" went up in September, giving visitors the opportunity to view many pieces of art previously not accessible. In April, we mounted "Of Selvedge and Salvage," a visual study of the presence and power of Christianity in the lives of Sioux Indian people, featuring a gallery talk by Arthur Amiotte in front of over 150 historians at the Dakota Conference.

Currently, we are displaying the Frank and Jan Gibbs selection of Western artists, the result of a lifetime of collecting. Next will be David and Sandra Solberg's "The Picture Man Has Spoken," a show that will include works by Charlie Russell and Maynard Dixon and other of America's best-known Western artists. Visitors to the Center have quadrupled in number since our September opening, in part because they are drawn to these excellent shows as well as to the three permanent exhibits of Scandinavian, Sioux Indian, and cowboy art.

The dedication of the new building in December brought several opportunities to thank old friends and to make new ones. The ribbon-cutting—a program arranged by the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce—was one of the best attended in recent years, or so they told us, and the donors' dinner that followed, the dedication service, and the Members and Friends luncheon talk by Chairman Tom Kilian were well attended. The new 22,000 square foot facility was characterized by Kilian as a new goal for the Center's staff and supporters. "I believe," he concluded,

"that increased capacity to serve brings increased responsibility." A wise invitation to expanded service to the college and the community.

In that spirit, the Center's Board has established a "Committee for the Future." In its three meetings to date, beginning on May 2, the committee—chaired by Dr. Kilian—has been exploring the resources and the opportunities for service that lie at hand and may lie in the future. What new directions are open to the Center because of the new facility and what opportunities for service to the region are before us as we look toward a rapidly changing state and region? A report to the Board of Directors is in the works by year's end.

Meantime, the staff and the Board are continuing on the same heady course that was set before us by Herbert Krause and the founders of CWS in 1970. There are many projects at hand as well as the obligation to continue those successful programs—such as the art show, the Boe Forum, the Dakota Conference, and the June Event—that are ongoing. There are several spaces remaining in the building to be named or supported—the Development Director's office, the elevator, the soaring staircase in the Madsen Gallery, the Augustana Academy Room, and the Krause Library among them—and there are those publications that will soon need funding. Moreover, there is a plan afoot to place in every library in the state and in the hands of every 4th-grade teacher of South Dakota history, a copy of **Anson Yeager's Stories**, that compilation of editorials and features that so very well captures the essence of life in South Dakota over the past half century.

When you visit the Center's home page (<http://augie.edu/CWS>), now being revised, you can get a good view of what the Center is about, but it is only the tip—as it were—of a very deep iceberg, whose depth has yet to be measured.

Arthur R. Huseboe  
August 6, 2002

## *CWS Now Open on Saturdays*

With the opening of the Fantle Building for the Center for Western Studies, the CWS staff and board of directors felt a need to increase the number of hours that the Center was open to encourage visitors. With this in mind, Development Director Dean Schueler visited with Professor Trygve Fredrickson from the Augustana College Business Department. He is the Director of the Small Business Institute consulting project. This project allows senior business majors to get actual hands-on experience in working with businesses. The students from SBI assigned to the Center's Volunteer Project were Dana Rieffenberger, Watertown, SD, Nathan Helling, Madison, SD, and Nate Fluit, Larchwood, IA. The students had two goals to accomplish during the Spring semester. They



*Student consultants from the Augustana College Small Business Institute who helped implement our volunteer program are Augie seniors from the left: **Nate Fluit, Nathan Helling, and Dana Rieffenberger.***

wanted to have a volunteer system in place by June and determine the responsibilities of a Volunteer Coordinator. The students met every two weeks with the Center staff and reviewed their contacts with other museums and businesses who used volunteers. The students did an excellent job of finding sources for volunteers and determining how the volunteer program would work at the Center. The CWS staff enjoyed the opportunity to work with these outstanding Augustana students. As a result of this project the Center has been able to be open from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM every Saturday this summer to greet visitors from many areas. We are currently looking at the schedule for the Fall semester. Our guest book shows that since June 1 we have had visitors from 26 states, Cuba, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Israel, and New Zealand. The following people have given generously of their time to make the Center available to tourists and other groups on weekends: Richard Haase, Frank Gibbs, Carolyn McClain, Harriet Scott, Shirley Savage Jones, Arlen Viste, Gary Earl, Berniece Weilage, Tom Houle, and Mary Jo Wegner. Thanks to these great ambassadors for the Center. We are currently scheduling for the Fall semester. We are looking for more volunteers. **If you are interested in volunteering for one or more Saturdays per month, please call Dean Schueler at 605-274-4005.**

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

*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.*

## *Deborah Lyon Leaves CWS*

Deborah Lyon resigned her position in collections at CWS in April to pursue employment opportunities elsewhere. A former Reese Intern, Deb returned to CWS in the fall of 1999 as an Advanced Reese Intern in collections, having worked for several years in archives administration at the University of Nebraska special collections department. While at CWS, Deb ably assisted the Center in processing collections, managing the archives database, and preparing collections for relocation to the Fantle Building, which took place in August 2001. Deb also assisted in hanging the first exhibit in the new galleries, a sampling of the CWS permanent art collection. The staff and board of the Center for Western Studies wish to express publicly their appreciation to Deb Lyon for her outstanding assistance during this crucial stage in the Center's development.

# *Dakota Conference Bids Farewell to Lewis and Clark and Looks Toward the Future*

Well in advance of state and national bicentennial celebrations of the Louisiana Purchase (2003) and the Lewis and Clark Expedition (2004-06), the Dakota Conference brought its five-year emphasis on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to a conclusion on May 30-31 with several special sessions. In association with the national meeting of the Word Craft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers, award-winning author Allison Hedge Coke, chair of the Word Craft Circle, assembled a panel of Native American authors for the conference's Thursday luncheon to address the topic "After Lewis and Clark: Native American Writers and Cultural Imperialism in the West." The panelists were Heid E. Erdrich, Lise Erdrich, Diane Glancy, Jerome Kills Small, and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve—all notable authors, whose books were also available later that afternoon at the Regional Authors' Autograph Party, attended by twenty-seven authors.

The conference also featured western historian Dr. Rex Myers of Lawrence University, who brought the Friday luncheon address, "Over the Mountains: Lewis and Clark through Western Montana." Myers presented a slide lecture based upon his retracing of the expedition trail. Myers also spoke on "Before the Corps: Pre-Lewis and Clark Efforts to Explore the West in Fact and Fiction." Both Coke's and Myers' participation in the Dakota Conference was made possible by a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

At this conference, more than twenty papers were presented on the expedition, which brings to over sixty the number of papers presented during the conference's five-year emphasis. The Center for Western Studies hopes to publish a selection of these papers in 2003, under the editorship of Dr. David Kvernes. Nearly seventy additional papers were presented on a variety of topics throughout the two-day conference by presenters from fourteen different states.



*The Fantle Building boardroom/classroom was packed with eager listeners at one of several sessions on the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Thirty-fourth Annual Dakota Conference in May.*



*Executive Director Arthur Huseboe (on ladder) introduced the twenty-seven authors attending the Dakota Conference. The Fantle Building accommodated well a variety of conference activities, including the autograph party, registration, refreshments, sessions, and the Of Selvedge and Salvage: Images of Belief exhibit of works by Arthur Amiotte, John Moler and Azalea Thorpe New.*

Other special events included a gallery talk by artist Arthur Amiotte on the exhibit in the Fantle Building galleries *Of Selvedge and Salvage: Images of Belief*, a historical marker dedication by the Minnehaha County Historical Society, Brad Tennant's entertaining presentation at the Westerners breakfast on the film spoof of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and readings by Gil Johnsson, Kent Scribner, and Bruce Halverson of passages from the Lewis and Clark journals, with which the conference and the five years of emphasis on the expedition concluded.

This year's conference received unprecedented media coverage, with reports on local television stations and articles in the *Argus Leader*. South Dakota Public Radio covered the conference in detail, featuring a live call-in program on South Dakota Forum in April and an interview with Texas historian and author Charles M. Robinson III during the conference.

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The Dakota Conference continues to serve as a catalyst for research on South Dakota and the Northern Plains, as demonstrated by the publication of conference papers in state and national journals and magazines. The unique blend of academic and non-academic research and writing fostered by the Dakota Conference has resulted in a rich resource of information about the region. In an attempt to ensure the

continued success of the conference by attracting younger presenters, the Center for Western Studies is considering returning the conference to its original April calendar slot, when school and college classes are still in session and when recruiting papers from students, especially, as well as their teachers and professors, is more likely. CWS welcomes comments from readers of its newsletter on this possibility.

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## *In Memoriam*

### **Dr. Paul Aspaas (1919-2002)**

Dr. Paul K. Aspaas, Dell Rapids, SD, died July 2, 2002, after a short illness. Dr. Paul was one of the real leaders during the 1980s and 1990s of the Center for Western Studies. He served on the Center's Board of Directors for over 12 years. During that time he was the chair of the Center's Board and was the leader for the "Commitment to Excellence" fundraising campaign for the Center's part of that campaign. Through his efforts the Center was able to match the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) matching grant that helped to establish the CWS endowment. He and his wife, Helen, supported the Center financially as well as donating pieces of art to its permanent collection and encouraging others to do the same. For the past ten years he has served as a member of the Center's National Advisory Council. While his leadership at the Center was obvious, his commitment to his community of Dell Rapids was incredible. He has served on most of the civic organizations and was instrumental in the development of the Dell Rapids Medical Clinic and Community Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Helen, sons, Ken and Mark, brother Nils, and sister, Belva Brende. The Center extends its sympathy to the Aspaas family.



### **Dr. Elliot Thoreson (1926-2002)**

One of the Center's founders, Dr. Elliot Thoreson, of Sioux Falls, passed away on May 2nd. His funeral was held on May 6 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Elliot was currently a member of the Center's Committee for the Future, and for many years served on the Board of Directors. His role in the formation of the Center was crucial. He was one of the small group of faculty who met with Herbert Krause in 1969 in order to consider how a center might be created.

Elliot was a valued member of the Augustana College faculty, long a chairman of the Social Science Division in the 1970s and 1980s, when Sven Froiland was chair of the Natural Sciences and Art Huseboe of the Humanities Division. This group worked closely and formed a strong friendship that has continued to the present. Elliot's passing reminds us of his valuable contributions to the academic quality of our institution, Augustana.

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*The Center's new **Fantle Building** has attracted many groups to see the new exhibits. Pictured is part of the second grade class from **Mark Twain Elementary School**, in Sioux Falls. At the far right is teacher **Sandi Fink**. The best question of the day from this group was "What is a Norwegian?" UFFDA!! Among other groups to visit were the **First Lutheran Church Women**, the youth group from **First English Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI**, **Trinity Lutheran Church "Over 55"** group from Tea, SD, a group from **EROS Data Center**, the **First Lutheran Church Men in Mission**, and the **Alta Petans** group. We are excited to have visitors see our new exhibits.*



# *Art of the West-The Frank and Jan Gibbs Collection*

The galleries in the new Fantle Building for the Center for Western Studies have allowed the Center to exhibit some of the finest art in our region. Our very first exhibit was taken from the CWS permanent collection and ran from October 1, 2001-March 15, 2002. *Of Selvedge and Salvage* by Arthur Amiotte and John Moler was exhibited from April 1, 2002- June 15, 2002. Arthur Amiotte did a gallery talk during the Dakota Conference. The newest exhibit in the CWS galleries is from the Frank and Jan Gibbs Collection. It features over 50 pieces of art by regional and nationally recognized artists. The Gibbs tell us that this is just part of their extensive collection which began in 1969 with the purchase of the first woodcarving sold by Sioux Falls artist Jim Savage. This innocent purchase turned into a major hobby for Frank and Jan, and today they have over 400 pieces in their collection. The Center hosted a gallery talk on Thursday, July 25, that attracted over 50 people to hear Frank talk about this wonderful exhibit. While their interest is in the art they collect, they also have a great interest in the people who create that art. They are close personal friends with artists from around the country and host many of these artists in their home during stays in Sioux Falls. The Center is grateful to the Gibbs for sharing this unique collection with the public. We invite you to see the show, which will run through September 2, 2002.



*CWS Board member **Frank Gibbs** is pictured during his gallery talk on July 25 at the Center for Western Studies. Over 50 people heard **Frank** talk about selected pieces from his and wife, **Jan's** collection.*

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## *The Battleship USS South Dakota Oral History Project: Status Report*

By Deb Lyon

In October 2000, the US Congress produced legislation creating the Veterans History Project. The requirements of this legislation were for the American Folklife Center in Washington, D.C., to “collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories.”

As previously reported, the Center for Western Studies received a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council and a gift from Daryl A. Ferguson to collect a series of taped interviews with former crew members of the battleship USS *South Dakota*. On July 5 – 7, 2001, three members of the Center for Western Studies staff, Art Huseboe, Harry Thompson, and Deb Lyon, and University of South Dakota history professor Herbert Hoover, conducted interviews of former sailors and marines who had gathered at the Ramkota Inn in Sioux Falls for the reunion of the ship’s crew. The *South Dakota*, commissioned in June 1941, was the most highly decorated battleship in WWII, receiving 13 battle stars (Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal) and other commendations, medals, and citations for its service in the Pacific and European theaters.

During the course of the reunion, members of the Bat-

tleship *South Dakota* oral history project conducted over twenty interviews. In addition, a video, produced with the assistance of Kevin Kjergaard, contains the comments of fifteen former members of the battleship’s crew. Later in the year, CWS project members scheduled telephone interviews with crewmen who had not attended the Sioux Falls reunion. These contacts resulted in eleven additional interviews.

The audio tapes were duplicated for distribution to the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress. A second set was delivered to the Naval History Foundation in Washington, D.C. The original tapes are held by the Center for Western Studies archives and are available for research.

Two presentations regarding the project were made at the Dakota Conference in May 2002. Drs. Arthur R. Huseboe and Harry F. Thompson reviewed the oral history project goals and results and followed their discussion with a viewing of the video. The two scholars are available to make presentations about the project to organizations and clubs in the area.

# 2002 Membership Continues Strong

The 2002 CWS annual membership campaign started in October of last year. Coming shortly after the events of September and continuing through some difficult times economically, we are pleased to tell you the membership campaign has continued to be a great source of support for the Center. Over 730 of you have once again supported us with your financial gifts. As in most recent years we have over 100 people who are new members of the Center. We thank you for your interest. The new Fantle Building has brought in many new friends. We hope you like what you saw! We have heard many good comments and with our new Saturday hours, even more people are taking advantage of the opportunity to see our exhibits and the artwork on display. We thank each of you for your continued support. The Center's programs, the Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology, the Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale, Our June event and the changing exhibits in

## **Dakotan (\$10,000 and up)**

Sally Fantle  
Lois Boe Hyslop  
Roy & Dorothy Mayeske (3M Match)

## **Pioneer (\$1,000 - \$2,400)**

William Harvey  
Jeff & Tami Hayzlett  
Dorothy Hokenstad  
Art & Doris Huseboe  
Joe Kirby  
Kevin & Peggy Kirby  
Robert & Gerry Berger Law  
Lavere & Constance Lund  
Ronald R. Nelson  
V.R. & Joyce Nelson  
Lowell & Florence Ronning (LB Match)  
Robert & Wilma Sellin  
Jerry & Gail Simmons  
Van Buskirk Companies -  
Myron & Joan Van Buskirk

## **Ranger (\$750 - \$999)**

Diocese of South Dakota  
Rick & DiAnn Kolkman (LB Match)  
Dean & Sharon Schueler

## **Scout (\$500 - \$749)**

Charles & Carol Austin  
Charles & Elizabeth Balcer  
Marlin & Jo Berkland  
Herb & Esther Bowden  
Ronald & Rebecca Brakke (LB Match)  
Donald & Cara Lee Davis  
Marv & Nora Gulsrud (LB Match)  
John & Nancy Hoskins  
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LuVerne & Helen Madsen  
Cornell Norby  
Darwin Sletten  
Mike & Diane Spears -  
The Printing Center  
Harry & Ronelle Thompson  
Blair & Linda Tremere  
Richard & Michelle Van Demark  
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## **Partner (\$250 - \$499)**

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Nils & Fayella Aspaas  
Paul & Helen Aspaas  
Gary & Mary Brendtro  
Darrell Butterwick  
Bruce & Dorothea Chamberlin  
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Jerome & Mary Freeman  
Marion C. Froiland  
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Larry & Suzanne Fuller  
Judy Gaalswyk  
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David & Elizabeth Hardy  
Curtis & Glenda Hage  
Paul Hauffe  
Dorothy Jacobsen  
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Larry & Diane Ness  
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Paul & Joyce Olson (3M Match)  
Martin & Mary Oyos  
Dr. Rodney & Ruth Parry  
Ann & Gary Pederson  
Alice Peterson  
Ronald & Martha Rossing  
Virgil Sandvig  
Gerhard & Marilyn Schmutterer  
Al Schock

the gallery were all very successful this year. We look forward to hosting another Boe Forum on Public Affairs this year as well. For the eleventh year in a row over 85% of our members have renewed with us. Thanks to the wonderful efforts of our Board of Directors and other volunteers, many of you were contacted personally for your support. We pledge to reach more of you next year! With many of our programs free to the public, the annual membership campaign is crucial to our success. **Thanks to each of you for your help with this critical area of the Center's funding. We ask that you give serious consideration to renewing and even increasing your support to the Center when the 2003 membership information comes to you in October.** We are pleased to share this list of annual donors for 2002. Please accept our apologies if we have omitted your name and let us know. **Thank you!**

Darwin Sletten - JDS Industries  
Fred & Mary Stahmann  
Lloyd & Annelotte Svendsbye  
Jerry & Nancy Teiszen (LB Match)  
Mary Torness  
Loren & Jean Tschetter  
United Church of Christ, SD Conference  
Robert & Marilyn Van Demark  
Arlen & Elizabeth Viste  
Jamie & Penney Volin  
Drs. Robert & Mary Wagner  
Orville & Audrey Waltner  
Drs. Kate & Oscar Will

## **Explorer (\$100 - \$249)**

James & Bonnie Ageton  
Robert Ahlness  
William Aisenbrey  
American Assoc of University Women  
American Indian Culture Research  
Center - Rev. Stan Maudlin  
Loren & Mavis Amundson (LB Match)  
Delores Wennblom Anderson  
Dennis & Julie Anderson  
Donald & Alice Anderson  
L.D. Andrews  
James & Peg Aplan  
John & Sherry Archer  
Dayton & Ada Armin  
John S. Arnold  
Gail & Susan Arnott  
John & Linda Barker  
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Dave & Jean Brunkow (LB Match)  
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Kathryn & Wendell Erickson  
Mary Jane Fenn  
Myron & Berdyne Floren  
Joe & Elaine Floyd  
Tom & Amy Froiland  
Dr. Arie Gaalswyk (LB Match)  
Corrine Ganske  
Kenneth & LaVonne Gaspar  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert George  
Frank & Jan Gibbs  
Robert & Mary Giebink  
Florence Goertz  
Marion Graham  
Bob & Kyle Greenfield  
Richard & Bonnie Gregerson  
(LB Match)  
Charley & Elizabeth Gutch  
Richard & Edna Haase  
Melvern Halverson (LB Match)

Jack & Judith Hamilton  
 Rich & JoAnne Hanson (LB Match)  
 Phyllis Harmsen (LB Match)  
 John & Ila Harris  
 John J. Harris  
 Mary Ann & Albert Harrison  
 Selmer & Mary Hatlestad (LB Match)  
 Steve & Sue Hauff  
 Roger Haugo (LB Match)  
 Jeff & Sheila Hazard  
 Robert & Mim Hazard  
 Ronald & Eloise Hefty  
 Marlys Henderson  
 Irving & Eula Hinderaker  
 Dean & Phyllis Hofstad  
 Edward Hogan  
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 Charles Howlin -  
     Howlin Vision Clinic, P.C.  
 Human Engineering Solutions LLC -  
     Dr. Patrick Berry  
 Bernie Hunhoff -  
     South Dakota Magazine  
 Drs. H.L. & Maureen  
     Diggins-Hutcheson  
 Harriet Hybertson  
 Gordon & Trudy Iseminger (LB Match)  
 Tilford & June Iverson  
 Charles & Karen Janssen  
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 Gene & Lucille Jelliffe  
 Sandy Jerstad  
 Rev. Arthur & Velma Johnshoy  
     (LB Match)  
 Clayton Johnson  
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 Virgil & Judith Johnson (LB Match)  
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 Gil & Lillian Johnsson  
 Merle & Shirley Jones  
 Elaine Jorgenson  
 Glen & Phyllis Jorgenson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rex Keller  
 Frances Kilen  
 James & Vicky Kilian  
 Thomas & Lorna Kilian (LB Match)  
 Shirley King  
 John & Enid Kinkead (LB Match)  
 Melvin & Carol Klein  
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 Ethel Koller (LB Match)  
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 Dr. Terrence & Julie Kullbom  
 David Kvernes  
 Frances "Peg" Lamont  
 Don & Carol Lauer  
 Karl Lee  
 Rev. Donald & Sharon Lehmann  
     (LB Match)  
 Bernice Leichtnam  
 Mary Jean Lerdal  
 James & Martha Limburg  
 Tom & Marv Looby  
 Sandra Looney  
 Faith Larson Louis (LB Match)

John & Roberta Lovold  
 Dr. R.J. & Jayne Lunn  
 Deb & Dave Lyon  
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     (AAL Match)  
 George & Jeanne Manser  
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 Duane & Irene Matz  
 Jerry & Karen May  
 Gene & Susan McGowan  
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*The Center for Western Studies is especially grateful to the numerous companies who have matching programs. If your company has a matching program, please make your Center gift a part of it. The following companies have contributed over \$7,500 this fiscal year: The 3M Foundation, Lutheran Brotherhood, Wells Fargo Foundation, Aid Association for Lutherans, Prudential Foundation, US West Foundation, Dow Agro Sciences, the Gannett Foundation, Chevron, and Xcel Energy. Thanks to these companies for their support of your philanthropy.*

# Buffalo Chips...

CWS National Advisory Council member **Jeffrey Hayzlett** has been chosen as the new President of Sales and Marketing Executives International. He has been a member of Sioux Falls SME for 16 years. His installation will be at the 67th Annual Sales and Marketing Leadership Conference in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, in September. Other CWS members who serve on the local Sioux Falls SME Board are **Bob Whitmore** and **Kent Morstad**.

The Center is sad to announce the passing of a number of members since our last newsletter. Among those we were notified of is "**Bobbi**" **Moore**, wife of CWS Advisory Council member **C.P. "Buck" Moore**. CWS members are **Eduard Kilen**, Sioux Falls, **Ann Tofteland**, Luverne, MN, **Myrtle Twedt**, Elk Point, SD, and **Mary Loftesness**, Sioux Falls, who donated her husband **Ray Loftesness's** collection to the Center. The Center extends its sympathy to family and friends.

The Oscar Howe original, *Dakotah Sun Dance*, has been lent by the Center to the South Dakota Art Museum in Brookings for their exhibit, *Oscar Howe: Dancers*. The exhibit runs through October 10, 2002, at the museum. *Dakotah Sun Dance* was one of the paintings donated to the Center for Western Studies by **Dr. and Mrs. H.W. Farrell**.

The Center would like to extend its thanks and appreciation to CWS members and Augustana College alumni **Dr. Gordon** and **Trudy Iseminger** of Grand Forks, ND, for establishing the "**Dr. Richard W. Solberg Endowed Internship for the Center for Western Studies.**" Both Gordon and Trudy were students of Dr. Solberg, who served as chair of the History Department at Augustana. The interest from the endowment will allow a student to assist us here at the Center. Thanks Gordon and Trudy!

The Center was pleased to house the artwork for the "One Room School House" art competition for Augustana art students, faculty, and alumni. The competition was sponsored by **Spitznagel, Inc.** architects and the competition was won by CWS member and emeritus art professor **Bob Aldern**.

One of the Northern Plains' most prestigious awards in the arts was granted to CWS Council member **Arthur Amiotte** this spring. The Bush Foundation announced in May that Lakota artist **Amiotte** is the recipient of one of the fifteen Artist Fellowships awarded annually by the Minneapolis-based organization. The award, for \$44,000, is for a twelve- to eighteen-month period. **Dr. Amiotte's** most recent work, along with that of photographer **John Moler** and weaver **Azalea Thorpe New**, was featured from April through June this spring at the Center for Western Studies in a show titled "Of Selvedge and Salvage."

Other awards have come to CWS Board members recently: to **Dr. Lynwood Oyos**, chairman of the CWS publications committee, the South Dakota Governor's Award for History, given in Pierre on April 13 and presented by Secretary of Education and Cultural Affairs **Ray Christensen**. The award, sponsored by the South Dakota State Historical Society, recognizes a lifetime of historical achievements and contributions. **Oyos** is professor emeritus of history at Augustana College and the author of a number of CWS-published books, the most recent the highly praised *The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union, 1914-2000*.

Also recognized for a lifetime of accomplishments in writing was emeritus professor **Ronald Robinson**, who won one of five Sioux Falls Mayor's Awards for the Arts at a late March ceremony in the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science. **Professor Robinson** recently completed a six-year term on the CWS Board and in 1999 received the Western America Award from the Center for his plays, novels, and poetry.

For many years **Robinson** has served as the principal writer and producer of June Events for the Center. At its June meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to name **Professor Robinson** the Center for Western Studies Writer-in-Residence. The title is well deserved!

Congratulations, **Ron**, and congratulations to **Drs. Amiotte** and **Oyos**!

The Fantle Scandinavian Room in the Center displays many of the fine pieces of Norwegian furniture from the Benjamin and Sally Fantle collection. When members of the South Dakota Rosemaling Association visited the Nordland Fest in late June, they also toured the Fantle Room. Thanks to **Patti Goke** and **Sunhild Muldbakken** in particular for their "detective work" in examining the rosemaling styles represented on the decorated trunks and other items in the collection and reporting to the Center's staff the several regions of Norway represented by those styles. Thanks also to **Betty Johnson** for submitting the report. The identifying labels in the exhibit can now be edited to include this new information.

Landing two triple-triple combinations in the long program, **Sarah Hughes** of the United States won a gold medal in women's figure skating at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City. In the wake of 9/11, many Americans savored this moment of national pride at the Winter Olympics. As a record of this international event in the American West, National Advisory Council member **Dr. Robert C. Steensma**, a resident of Salt Lake City, recently deposited his collection of materials about the XIX Winter Games, including special *Salt Lake Tribune* issues and commemorative programs and books.

Former Reese Intern and, for five years, executive

*(Buffalo Chips continued on page 11)*

*(Buffalo Chips continued from page 10)*

director of the Codington County Historical Society, **Tim Hoheisel**, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in history at Kansas State University. Tim left his position in June, and he and his wife, **Carol**, who is also pursuing her Ph.D. at KSU (in counseling), are now residents of Manhattan, KS. We wish Tim and Carol well in this exciting and challenging phase of their lives.

Former Reese Intern **Nichole Kranzler** is working with the South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs in Pierre.

It was good, as always, to welcome former Reese Intern **Michael Worcester**, executive director of the Cokato Museum and Ackerlund Photo Studio, back to CWS for the Dakota Conference. Mike has been a loyal supporter of CWS and the Dakota Conference.

Thanks to CWS board member **Betty Gutch** for her continuing volunteer work with the United Church of Christ-South Dakota Conference Archives. Betty is always willing to assist with reference questions on the UCC and Riggs Family Papers at CWS and prepares the annual deposit of UCC materials for the archives.

The Augustana College Granskou Award Committee announced in May that Director of Research Collections and Publications **Dr. Harry F. Thompson** was the recipient of the Granskou Award for administrators. The award is given annually to administrators and faculty whose proposed projects benefit both Augustana and their professional development. Thompson's project is to evaluate the possibility of a Northern Plains Studies program at Augustana College using the resources of the Center for Western Studies. In April, Thompson was the featured speaker at the **Codington County Historical Society's** spring membership dinner, where he discussed his research on Meriwether Lewis and the writing of history. His talk in Watertown was under the auspices of the South Dakota Humanities Council's Speakers Bureau.

Research use of the archives in the spring and summer has been brisk, both among Augustana students, who used the archives in unprecedented numbers during spring semester, and among professional writers and scholars. Among the patrons traveling specifically to CWS to use the collections were the following: an author from **Britain**, doctoral candidates from **Indiana University, Brown University**, and the **University of Nebraska**, a writer from **Seattle** working on a book about the Dakota Blizzard of 1888 (if you have a story, let us know), and a **Yale** undergraduate writing her history senior thesis.



*CWS Director of Development **Dean Schueler**, and his wife, **Sharon**, were privileged to tour the Crazy Horse memorial and have an "up close" look at the work being done near Custer, SD. Shown in the picture from left are **Robb DeWall**, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at the **Crazy Horse Memorial**, and **Sharon and Dean Schueler**. The Center presented its **Western America Award** to **Mrs. Ruth Ziolkowski** in 1996.*

***President Bruce Halverson** welcomes the CWS Board and Council to campus for their retreat. Pictured with **Dr. Halverson** are CWS Board member **Mike Spears** and Advisory Council member **Jeff Hayzlett**.*



*The Center for Western Studies annual Board and Council retreat was held at the Center on April 6-7, 2002. This marked the first meeting of the group in the new building. The weekend was spent discussing plans for the Center's future. Shown in this photo from the left are: **Tom Kilian**, Chair of the Board of Directors, **Betty Gutch**, Board member, Advisory Council members **Charles Balcer, Orville Waltner, and Vernell Johnson**, and **Howard Hovland**, Board member.*

## “Headliners” at the Oaks

On June 18, the Center for Western Studies presented for the delectation of 250 guests the thirteenth in its series of dinner-theatre productions at the Oaks Convention Center.

Beginning with a palate-pleasing menu of Chicken Tandori and Filet Mignon Forestiere, the evening reached its climax with the world premiere of Ron Robinson’s latest musical, **Headliners in the Heartland**. It was a tribute to the old-time vaudevillians who traveled America wherever the railroads could take them, including Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where the Orpheum and the Majestic Theatres awaited.

Starring as the “headliners” in Robinson’s production were soprano Lisa Grevlos (portraying superstar Nora Bayes), Kevin Brick as the MC, Calli Stenseth-Brick as the risqué Eva Tanguay, Roger Johnson and Tim Strong as the irrepressible Gallagher and Shean, Ren Fetzer as René the Magician, Mary Lou and Robert Steib as tango dancers, Mike Smith and Mike Richards as the Katzenjamers, and Gretchen Spars and Maren Anderson as the singing and dancing Alamode Sisters.



*A popular feature in “Headliners,” Gallagher and Shean appraise one of the Alamode Sisters.*



*Curtain call for “Headliners”: the cast salutes director Ron Robinson and the Art Deco Orchestra (off camera).*

who attended as well as to the cast, the musicians, and especially Professor Robinson.

In the audience on the evening of June 18th was a special group of people who had come in particular to view Robinson’s new play and to recognize him for his accomplishments over the years: representing the English Department, in which Robinson had taught for more than three decades—chairman of the department Dr. Janet Blank-Libra and faculty member Dr. Debbie Hanson; representing Robinson’s play-writing colleagues in the state Dr. Wayne Knutson, emeritus professor from the University of South Dakota; and representing the cast of the 1990 production of **The Rushmore Dream** that launched the dinner-theatre series, Susan McGowan and Phil Bruns. Bruns was particularly welcome because he had also directed Robinson’s comedy **Kitchen Dance** in the mid-eighties. With him as his guest for the evening was his niece Grace Bosey, like Phil a native of Pipestone, Minnesota.



*“Headliners” guests sign in at the Oaks: l. to r.: Hollywood actor Phil Bruns and niece Grace Bosey with Council member Dorothy Hokenstad, behind, and CWS chair Tom Kilian.*

## *New Article Examines the Authority of History in the Novel*

An article published in the spring 2002 issue of *Western American Literature*, the journal of the Western Literature Association, challenges the fundamental reliance of the western novel, but also the historical novel generally, upon the authority of history. In "History, Historicity, and the Western American Novel: Frederick Manfred's *Scarlet Plume* and the Dakota War of 1862," Dr. Harry F. Thompson, Director of Research Collections and Publications at CWS, argues that historical veracity is an unattainable goal since history, itself, embodies no incontrovertible truth. The presumed authority of history, Thompson explains, is derived, in part, from the canonical association of the past with truth and the assumption that history is a superior method for obtaining knowledge of the past.

In his article, Thompson writes, "Conventional historiography holds that access to the past and the 'truth' of the past is derived from the objective study of historical sources. History, then, constitutes a particular way of knowing the past. Suffused with this epistemological authority, history limits rather than facilitates the western novel's engagement with the past. Conflicted by its desire for the 'truth' of the past that history claims to impart and its resistance to the autonomy of history through the creative imagination, the western novel becomes the site of contesting epistemologies" (pp. 51-52). Even such New Western historians as Patricia Limerick, Donald Worcester, and Richard White have largely failed to come to terms with

the challenge posed by theory to conventional historiography, especially to the artificial boundaries separating history and literature.

Thompson uses the letters of missionary Stephen R. Riggs (on deposit in the UCC Archives at CWS) to demonstrate that Manfred's search for historical accuracy in his novel about the Dakota War of 1862 is an example of the desire by writers to attach their writing to some larger authority, such as the presumed authority of history (historicity). History, Thompson argues, might better be seen not as the uncontested authority by which to judge the accuracy of representing the past but as difference, or a multiplicity of claims and counter-claims about events and figures. Rather than accepting historicity's limiting of our knowledge of the past as a function of its truth claim, which serves to close down meaning, historians and novelists should consider writing histories and historical novels that embrace multiple viewpoints and alternative conclusions.

One of the four peer reviewers of Thompson's article commented, "Well researched and lucidly written, this interesting essay makes a compelling case for freeing the western novel from the demands of historicity. Its handling of sizeable work done on questions of authenticity and the western novel, the relationship between literature and history, and the question of mimesis and authority is necessarily limited but deft in its negotiation of them."

## *Dakota Conference Awardees*

Recipients of the 2002 Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Plains:

Janet Dunlap Rathbun, Rapid City, and Frank P. Gibbs, Sioux Falls.

Recipients of Awards for papers presented at the 2001 Dakota Conference:

Arthur I. and Wilmetta Johnson Award:

Patrick J. Collison, Yankton, SD

Herbert W. Blakely Award:

Amy Cooper, Iowa City, IA

Richard Cropp Award:

Sara Stegemann, Sioux Falls, Luverne, MN

Cedric Cummins Award:

John E. Miller, Brookings, SD

Authors of winning papers receive a cash award of either \$150 or \$100 in recognition of their scholarship.



*Frank P. Gibbs, of Sioux Falls, (l.) and Janet Dunlap Rathbun, of Rapid City, (r), recipients of the 2002 Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Plains, are shown here with Dakota Conference director Harry Thompson, following the awards banquet.*

# *CWS Special Project Donors*

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## *Memorials*

Memorials have been received at the Center for Western Studies during 2001-2002 in honor of the following people:

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Contributors to the CWS Endowment Fund during 2001-2002 were the United Church of Christ, Blair and Linda Tremere, Marjorie Catron Estate, and L.M. and Mary Baylor.

The following were inducted into the Center for Western Studies' Heritage Club in December:  
James and Rosalyn Krause, LaMoyne and Karyn Pederson, and Gil and Lillian Johnsson.

## *"Headliners in the Heartland-Vaudeville Comes to the Upper Great Plains" Contributors*

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# Review of Grants Received by CWS Since 1994

The following review of grants received by the Center for Western Studies, exclusive of gifts to the Fantle Building, complements a review published in this newsletter in 1995 in honor of the Center's Twenty-fifth Anniversary Year. As those who write grants know, many more proposals are submitted than are ever funded. So the Center for Western Studies would like to take this opportunity to recognize the following granting agencies for their support of CWS programs over the past nine years.

<b>American Express Foundation</b>	1994: \$825	<i>Driftwood</i> by Marie Christopherson
1998: \$600 for computer station for student interns	1995: \$1,000	1998: \$2,000 for publication of <i>What It Took: A History of the USGS EROS Data Center</i>
<b>Mary Chilton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Foundation</b>	1996: \$1,000	<b>Sioux Falls Development Foundation</b>
1994: \$10,000 for publication of <i>The Geography of South Dakota</i> , by Edward Hogan	1997: \$1,000	1998: \$2,000 for publication of <i>What It Took: A History of the USGS Data Center</i> , by Rebecca L. Johnson
1998: \$6,995 for publication of <i>The Geography of South Dakota</i> (Revised Edition)	1998: \$1,000	<b>South Dakota Humanities Council:</b>
1999: \$4,925 for publication of <i>Soldier, Settler, and Sioux: Fort Ridgely and the Minnesota River Valley, 1853-67</i> , by Paul N. Beck	1999: \$1,000	Funding for the Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology
<b>Elmen Family Foundation</b>	2000: \$1,000	1994: \$5,000
1998: \$2,000 for publication of <i>The Geography of South Dakota</i> (Revised Edition)	2001: \$1,000	1995: \$4,993
1998: \$1,000 for publication of <i>What It Took: A History of the USGS Data Center</i> , by Rebecca L. Johnson	2002: \$1,000 for publication of "Nutrition on the Lewis and Clark Expedition," by Elaine N. McIntosh	1996: \$4,997
<b>Farmers Educational Foundation, with assistance from Harvest States Foundation</b>	<b>Karl E. Mundt Historical and Educational Foundation</b>	1997: \$4,963
1999: \$39,000 for publication of <i>The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union 1914- 2000</i> , by Lynwood E. Oyo	Funding for the Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology	1998: \$4,974
<b>IDS</b>	1994: \$400	1999: \$5,266
1994: \$2,500 to sponsor the Artists of the Plains Show and Sale	1995: \$400	2000: \$5,667
<b>Lannan Foundation</b>	1996: \$400	2001: \$5,485
1999: \$2,500 for publication of <i>Memory Songs</i> , by Lydia Whirlwind Soldier	1997: \$400	" <i>Driftwood</i> in a Time of War"
<b>Mellon Foundation Fund</b>	1998: \$400	1994: \$950
Funding for the Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology	1999: \$400	<i>Memory Songs</i> , by Lydia Whirlwind Soldier
	2000: \$400	1999: \$589
	2001: \$400	Battleship USS <i>South Dakota</i>
	<b>Sheldon F. Reese Foundation</b>	2000: \$2,100
	1998: \$10,000 for the Center for Western Studies Internship Program	<b>Van Demark Foundation</b>
	<b>Schock Family Foundation</b>	Funding for the Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology
	1998: \$1,000 for publication of <i>What It Took: A History of the USGS Data Center</i> , by Rebecca L. Johnson	1995: \$1,000
	1998: \$3,390 for publication of <i>The Lizard Speaks: Essays on the Writings of Frederick Manfred</i> , edited by Nancy Nelson	1996: \$1,000
	<b>Sioux Falls Area Foundation</b>	1997: \$1,000
	1994: \$3,000 for publication of	1998: \$1,000
		1999: \$1,000
		2000: \$1,000

## Donors to CWS Collections ~ (August 2001-July 2002)

American Indian Culture Research Center/Blue Cloud Abbey (Fr. Stan Maudlin)	Norman D. Eitrheim	Bob Lee	David and Sandra Solberg
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## The Center for Western Studies

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### CWS Schedule of Events Summer 2002 - Winter 2003

#### August

28 Board of Directors meeting

#### September

4 Classes Begin at Augustana College

13 Opening of *The Picture Man Has Spoken*,  
Dave and Sandra Solberg art collection,  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Gallery talk by Beca Solberg McPherson,  
7:00 p.m.

20-22 Spirit of the West - Western Heritage Festival

25 Board of Directors Meeting

#### October

4 *The Picture Man Has Spoken*,  
Reception 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
Gallery talk by Troy Solberg, 4:00 p.m.

28 Board of Directors meeting

#### November

20 Board of Directors meeting

#### December

7 Board and Council Retreat and  
Members and Friends Christmas  
reception and luncheon

7 Talk on Western art by David Solberg,  
12 Noon

#### January

17 Dakota Conference paper deadline

22 Board of Directors meeting

#### February

21-23 Artists of the Plains Show and Sale

26 Board of Directors meeting