



THE CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES OF AUGUSTANA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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FALL 2011

President of Ireland to Address World Hunger and Poverty

The Boe Forum Committee of the Center for Western Studies Board of Directors has selected former President of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson as the speaker in the 16th Boe Forum on Public Affairs, November 9. In choosing the speaker, the committee was mindful of a request by the Co-curriculum Council to address this year's campus theme of "World Hunger and Poverty." President Oliver made the public announcement at Opening Convocation on September 7.

President Mary Robinson has the acute ability to focus the global spotlight on highly important humanitarian issues. With compassion at the forefront of her politics, she has led the world with a strong ethical vision for the future.



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CWS Endowment Campaign Reaches 90% of Goal!

Executive Director Harry Thompson announced in August that the CWS Endowment Campaign had reached \$1.36 of its \$1.5 million goal. "At 90% of its campaign goal, the Center for Western Studies has been enhanced immeasurably by the profound generosity of those who believe in its mission to the Northern Plains region," Thompson remarked.

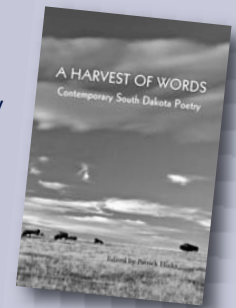
Special recognition for moving the campaign to this level of success in its first three years goes to the following major donors: Lyndon and Shirley King Trust (\$250,000+), L.M. Baylor, Anne King, and Ada May Yeager (\$100,000+), Hazel Lyon and Jerry and Gail Simmons (\$50,000+), Ronald R. Nelson, Larry

Ness, Merle Pflueger Estate, and Darwin Sletten (\$20,000+), and Loren and Mavis Amundson, Tom and Ann Garry, John McIntyre, and Lynwood Oyos (\$10,000+). When pledges are completed and additional gifts received, between now and the deadline of July 31, 2013, many other donors will have advanced to higher categories. "All donors, whatever their giving level," Thompson emphasized, "are of immense importance to the campaign." The long-term goal of the campaign is to bring other CWS-designated program endowments into line with the Boe endowment, for a total of \$8 million.

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CWS Publication Named High Plains Book Award Finalist

The Center's collection of contemporary South Dakota poetry, *A Harvest of Words*, edited by Patrick Hicks, has been named



a finalist for the High Plains Book Award, sponsored by the Parnly Billings Library. Books by the following authors are past recipients of this prestigious award: Linda Hasselstrom, Kent Meyers, Louise Erdrich, Craig Arnold, and Peter Hassrick.

Augustana Writer-in-Residence and Associate Professor of English Patrick Hicks will travel to the High Plains Book Festival in Montana in October to read from the collection. The book was published with the financial assistance of Dakota Bank, an anonymous donor, and the National Endowment for the Humanities and in honor of CWS founder and Augustana's first writer-in-residence Herbert Krause. Copies are available at the CWS Gift Shop, Barnes & Noble, Zandbroz and online at amazon.com.

In the Madsen/Nelsen/Elmen Galleries...

September 8 – November 26

Musings: The Art of Jennifer Stone



Stone, *Coneflower Study*

Jennifer Stone is an acclaimed artist from Watertown, South Dakota. She has been painting professionally for more than ten years, drawing inspiration from everyday beauty and experiences. Her style is unique and interesting, and as captivating as the artist herself.

“An artist needs to paint with intention,” she says. “But after a while, you just need to let your brush dance, and it

becomes a painting that invites the viewer to be a participant, not just a spectator.”

Whether it is through a whimsical adaptation of vibrantly colored shapes, or a peaceful study of delicately muted blossoms, Jennifer finds a way to share her passion for life through her art.

Jennifer’s painting, *Coneflower Study*, won the Best of Show award at the Artists of the Plains Art Show in February 2011.

An exhibit reception is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. with a gallery talk by Jennifer at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

December 7, 2011 – February 26, 2012

Crossing the Threshold:
Paintings and Prose

Paintings by Sheila Agee and
Prose by Ann Pederson



Where are we? The exhibit is a response to this question by an artist, Sheila Agee, and a writer, Ann Pederson. This exhibition is intended to be a window for reflection on our place in the world. Places are like icons—the spiritual windows from which God looks

into our world. Art is like that as well—revelations of the places we inhabit. During the development of this project, the artists felt like they were on a treasure hunt or a backpack. They wandered through the places Sheila has painted, even lingering in some for a while. Sometimes they stayed in the most unanticipated settings. And so Sheila and Ann wrote about these places to help us interpret the world around us. The paintings and prose in this exhibit are the spiritual icons of the places in our lives where we have crossed the threshold into the sacred.

Augustana College students from the fall 2011 section of Religion 332 will also contribute to this exhibit through artwork and writing.

An exhibit reception is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Gallery talk at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.



CWS Holds Chamber Mixer

On April 5, Augustana College hosted a Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce business mixer. More than 300 business leaders enjoyed camaraderie and hors d’oeuvres in the Madsen/Nelson/Elmen Galleries of the Center’s Fantle Building. Chamber board chair Michael Bender, chair of the Chamber Diplomat Committee Jack Dyvig, Augustana College President Rob Oliver, and CWS Executive Director Harry Thompson brought greetings and addressed the audience.

Dakota Conference Observes Civil War 150th Anniversary

More than 270 attended the 43rd Annual Dakota Conference on the Northern Plains, April 29-30. The event featured over 80 presenters and offered opportunities for collaboration with several allied organizations. William Hoskins,

Director of Siouxland Heritage Museums, provided the Friday luncheon address on "Civil War Veterans in Minnehaha County." Clarissa Thompson, Siouxland Museums Interpreter, spoke about veteran Edwin McCook.

In a panel session assembled by independent scholar Dr. Jon Lauck, the conference debuted the South Dakota State Historical Society's newest publication, *Principle over Party: The Farmers' Alliance and Populism in South Dakota, 1880-1900*, by Dr. R. Alton Lee. Minnehaha County Historical Society President Bob Kolbe gave a presentation on photos taken in the Dakotas during the war era. Two sessions were devoted to archaeological research: Dr. Adrien Hannus, Director of the Augustana Archeology Lab, assembled a panel on Fort James, and Richard Rothaus, of Trefoil Cultural, on the U.S.-Dakota War. Katherine Bahr, of the Mari Sandoz Heritage Center at Chadron State College, spoke at the closing luncheon.



A Civil War-era uniform from the private collection of Professor Joseph Dondelinger and a selection of books about Abraham Lincoln from the Miles Browne Collection at the Center were featured in an exhibit in the Elmen Gallery.



Two CWS interns presented papers about manuscript collections with which they had worked: Kady Wittman, a Mildred White Scholarship recipient, and Rachel Carsrud, a Julius and Dorothy Jacobsen Scholarship (SFACF) recipient. Rachel was also the recipient of two summer scholarships, the Dr. Richard Solberg Scholarship, supported by Dr. Gordon and Trudy Iseminger, and the Doris E. Huseboe Scholarship (SFACF).



Dr. Gary D. Olson, Professor Emeritus of History, received the award for Distinguished Contribution to the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of South Dakota and the Northern Plains, presented by CWS Board Chair Martin Oyos and Executive Director Harry Thompson.



Six students from Dr. Thompson's class "Finding the Great Plains" presented their final papers: Garrett Shearer, Kara Lhotzky, Josie Thomsen, Kayla Nichols, and Brian Knight. Not pictured, Kat Anderberg.

Seeking Funding to Reprint Fort Sisseton History

The Publications Committee has selected Harold Schuler's *Fort Sisseton* as the Center's next book publication. Long out of print, this is considered the standard history of Fort Sisseton, which was established in 1864 along a main trade route of the Dakota Sioux. The Publications Committee is seeking \$5,000 in gifts to match earnings from the Publications Endowment to return this comprehensive account to print. The book was originally published by CWS in 1996.

Following the success of *A Harvest of Words*, this military history will provide opportunity to develop a relationship with the Fort Sisseton Commission, which sponsors the Fort Sisseton Historic Festival each June. If you would like to assist in this publication project, please contact Executive Director Harry Thompson.



Amanda Jenson presents on her grandfather at the Dakota Conference.

Awards presented at the 2011 Dakota Conference

Arthur I. and Willmeta Johnson Award (\$150)—amateur category

Lillian Johnsson, "She Chose Her Own Path, Nellie Z. Willhite"

Herbert W. Blakely Award (\$150)—professional category

Mary Isaacson, "The Four Winds and the Lakota Adolescent Journey"

Cedric Cummins Award (\$150)—student category

Kate Schleusener, "A White Man's Letter from an Episcopal Indian Mission, Dec. 18, 1873"

Richard Cropp Award (\$100)—amateur category

John Timm, "Margaret 'Wylie' Mellette, South Dakota's First, First Lady"

Ernest M. Teagarden Award (\$100)—professional category

Brad Tennant, "The Arikara: Roadblock to the American Fur Trade on the Upper Missouri"

Carol Martin Mashek Award in Women's History (\$100)

Adam Bockelman, "Alice Chapman to Mrs. Grigsby, March 12, 1906"

Ardyce Samp Award (\$100)

Grant K. Anderson, "The First South Dakota Volunteer Regiment as Political Pawns"



Tim Hobeisel presents the first annual Ardyce Samp Award to Grant K. Anderson of Le Center, Minnesota. Grant has attended and presented at all forty-three Dakota Conferences.



Tim Hobeisel presents the Herbert W. Blakely Award to Augustana College nursing professor Dr. Mary Isaacson.

News from Collections

Collections Assistant Amanda Jenson, following a long-held dream to practice law, has been admitted to the University of South Dakota School of Law and ended her employment at CWS on August 12. An archives intern at CWS in 2009, Amanda was selected as the first CWS Collections Assistant in February 2010, with responsibilities for archives, library, artifacts, and art. Among Amanda's major accomplishments are completing the art inventory in the collections management database, overseeing the conversion of stationary archives shelving to a compact shelving system (see photos at www.augie.edu/cws), processing numerous manuscript collections, supervising interns, and assisting Marketing

and Communications with both the *Augustana at 150* publication and *The Spark* event. We wish Amanda well in her legal career!

We welcome Elizabeth "Liz" Thron, former archives intern and history major, who has accepted the position of Collections Assistant. Not only is Liz familiar with the collections database and processing standards, but she brings extraordinary customer service skills to the position, having been the lead bookseller at the Sioux Falls Barnes & Noble for the past five years. Liz notes that she is looking forward to returning to the academic community of Augustana College and putting her history degree to work.

Song and Poetry of the Great Plains Entertains Audience in June



The June 14 evening dedicated to the song and poetry of the Great Plains began with lemonade punch and proceeded to a fabulous barbecue buffet. Jami Lynn, recording artist, entertained the audience with selections from her recordings, including her new release, *Sodbuster*, which provides a woman's moving perspective on homesteading. She also spoke on the topic "Folk Music Tradition of the Great Plains." Patrick Hicks (pictured top left), Augustana Writer-in-Residence and author of *Finding the Gossamer* (2008) and *This London* (2010), read selections from the fourteen poets represented in the CWS publication *A Harvest of Words* and spoke about how the book he edited came into being.



Anne King spoke about her dedication to the Center for Western Studies upon receiving the **Friend of the Center Award** from Chair Martin Oyos and Executive Director Harry Thompson.

Robert and Gerry Law, of Clear Lake, sponsored this year's June fundraising event. The Laws are recipients of both the CWS Friends of the Center Award and the Augustana College Tuve Award. Gerry Law is a past member of the CWS Board of Directors.

Hoheisel Evaluates South Dakota Humanities Council Teachers' Workshop

The Burke-Herrick-Lucas chapter of the Gregory County Historical Society worked with the Augustana College education department to conduct a teacher's workshop in south central South Dakota in July. Historian and CWS Director of Outreach and Promotion Tim Hoheisel was invited by the Gregory County Historical Society to be the independent outside evaluator of the program. The workshop, entitled "Lakota Life Today and as History," focused on Lakota history and culture with an emphasis on experiential learning. The group of twenty teachers attended presentations by South Dakota Humanities Council scholars and traveled to Lakota historic sites. Marty Watson was the instructor of the class room portion of the workshop. CWS members Bill and Barb White were the program coordinators. The workshop also featured a presentation by long-time CWS member Bob Kolbe. Lydia Whirlwind Soldier was also a participant in the workshop. The Center published her first book of poetry in 1999, *Memory Songs*. Overall the workshop was a success and Hoheisel recommended that it be conducted again next year.



A reception was held for the first graduating class of *Civitas* honors students in the Fantle Building in May. Dr. Jeffrey Miller, *Civitas* Director and Chair of the Department of English, presented the gold honors stole to each of the seniors in a program attended by parents, faculty, and administrators.

President of Ireland continued from cover

As the first woman President of Ireland, she elevated the country to a new level of international status by fighting for controversial changes and bridging religious, social, and economic groups. President Robinson's campaign for worldwide democracy continues today with her work as president of the Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice, a center for thought leadership, education, and advocacy on the struggle for global justice. With the belief that there is a seat at the table for businesses when it comes to solving human rights, justice, and environmental issues, President Robinson is also a member of the Club of Madrid.

A courageous defender of fundamental respect for human life, President Robinson was the first woman to chair the United Nations Commission for Human Rights and is the founder of The Ethical Globalization Initiative. She tirelessly advocates for the integration of human rights, gender sensitivity, and enhanced accountability in politics. She is also on the Council of Elders (along with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President

Jimmy Carter, and Gro Harlem Brundtland), the honorary president of Oxfam International, and Chair of the Board of the Institute of Human Rights and Business.

In 2005, President Robinson was deemed a hero and an icon and was listed as one of *Time's* top 100 men and women whose "power, talent, or moral example is transforming the world." In 2009, President Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the highest civilian honor—for her significant global contributions.

Working to leave the world in better condition than how she found it, President Robinson continues to lead by example, acting as a bold, determined catalyst for change.

In addition to working with the Co-curriculum Council, Dr. Thompson has invited faculty who teach Irish Studies to develop questions for President Robinson in consultation with their students. Robinson will also meet with local high school journalists, Augustana journalism students, and *Civitas* honors students.

CWS Endowment continued from cover

To date, the campaign has earned \$270,000 of \$300,000 in available matching funds from a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant, awarded in December of 2008. "In this time of partisan debate over the proper use of taxpayers' money," observed Thompson, "this challenge grant demonstrates to supporters of the Center for Western Studies the value of a national grant program that advances the humanities for the people of the region." Programs supported by the NEH are Archives and Library, Dakota Conference on the Northern Plains, Art and Educational Exhibits, Book Publications, and the Fantle Building.

The goal over the next two years is to raise \$150,000 to \$200,000 to earn the remaining NEH match and to meet and even surpass the \$1.5 million goal. Contact Harry Thompson at (605) 274-4007 or harry.thompson@augie.edu to help build the CWS endowment.



Boe Forum Ticket Information

Current members of the Center for Western Studies may receive two Priority Tickets to the 16th Boe Forum featuring President Mary Robinson on November 9, 2011, at the Elmen Center. Priority seating is immediately behind VIP seating (rows 1-6).

Tickets may be reserved online at augietickets.com, by phone, or in person at the Center for Western Studies or the Augustana Box Office. Reserved tickets may be picked up in advance Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., or at "Will Call" in the Elmen Center Lobby beginning at 5:30 p.m. the night of the event. All tickets are free, but a \$3.50 shipping/handling fee will be charged for tickets sent via U.S. Mail.

All seating is general admission by section, so please arrive early and identify yourself to the ushers as a CWS member. The deadline for guaranteed floor seating for CWS members is October 3. After this date, tickets will be available to the general public.

Questions?

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Please call CWS at
(605) 274-4007.

You may pick up your tickets in person at these locations:

The Center for Western Studies
Fantle Building, 2121 S. Summit Ave.
(605) 274-4007

The Augustana Box Office
Humanities Building, 30th St. & S. Grange Ave.
(605) 274-5320

Executive Director Takes CWS Nationwide



In June Executive Director Harry Thompson brought CWS to Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island. At the International Cather Seminar in Northampton, Massachusetts, he presented his research on Great Plains author Willa Cather's famous novel about immigrant settlement, *My Ántonia*. The conference was sponsored by Smith College and the Willa Cather Foundation. Thompson is revising the paper for publication in *Cather Studies*.

He also visited with the director of the Upstate Institute at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, to learn about the university's new regional studies program and to share about the work of CWS. On the weekend, he met with the director of the Newport, Rhode Island, home of Doris Duke, where he discussed the interpretive program that is employed at this historic site and the funding arrangement with the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Travel costs were underwritten in part by the Carole Bland Cultivating Excellence in Teaching Award.

In September, he will serve as a panelist at the Northern Great Plains History Conference, to be held at Minnesota State University-Mankato, to discuss the new book *The Big Empty: The Great Plains in the Twentieth Century*, by R. Douglas Hurt.

CWS Receives Badger Clark Poem

Jean Margaret (Pearson) Haug, of Castlewood, South Dakota, recently donated a poem in manuscript written by Black Hills poet Badger Clark.

"Friendship Trail" was given in honor of Margaret Vaughn Norris Pearson and Adrian D. Pearson (formerly of Hartford, South Dakota) by their children. You can see a facsimile of the original letter, safely housed in the archives, on display in the Nelson Gallery of the Fantle Building and read the remarkable story of how Badger Clark came to write this poem. Jean's husband is Michael Haug, a professor of English at SDSU and a member of the CWS Board of Directors. Professor Haug has delighted in sharing the poem with his classes over the years. Visit the Center for Western Studies to see other manuscript collections on display in cases highlighting the treasures in the CWS archives.

Friendship Trail

By: Badger Clark
South Dakota Poet Laureate

Two must travel on it always,
Two with willing, equal strides.
If in deep and shadowy canyons
Or on sunny, high divides.
Rare it is, and few may find it.
But the lucky ones inhale
Sweeter air than common mortals
When they travel Friendship Trail.

Long and life-long it may lead us,
Longer yet one's hopes will say,
When the lonely hands grope vainly,
And the light has died away.
For the darkest hours are shortest,
Soon the rising dawn will pale,
And eternal day will broaden
Farther yet on Friendship Trail.

By request: Badger Clark, January, 1936

In Memoriam: Ronald R. Nelson

Friends and associates of Dr. Ronald R. Nelson gathered in the Fantle Building on June 24 to pay tribute to this gentle and generous supporter of causes important to him. Having dedicated a major portion of his life to reducing the threat posed by



Ted Muenster reflects on Nelson's life.

biological weapons, Ron has shared his financial resources with the Nature Conservancy, USD Foundation, and the Center for Western Studies.

Working with Dr. Rodney Parry, Dean of the USD School of Medicine, Executive Director Harry Thompson made arrangements for the memorial service honoring Dr. Nelson in the Fantle Building. Dr. Parry called upon former USD Foundation President Ted Muenster, cousin Tom Boysen, and Harry Thompson to speak. Thompson brought the welcome and reminded the audience of nearly 100 of Ron's support of CWS through membership on its National Advisory Council and endowment campaign. Ron also served as editor of *Birding in the Northern Plains*, a collection of writings by Herbert Krause, published by CWS in 2008. A selection of classical music was performed by the USD Rawlins Piano Trio.

The *Center for Western Studies Newsletter* is published three times annually by the Center for Western Studies, Augustana College

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Tim Hoheisel, Director of Outreach
and Promotion
Liz Thron, Collections Assistant
Kristi Thomas, Secretary

The Center's gift shop, galleries, library, and offices are located in the Fantle Building at 2121 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, SD

HOURS:

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. & **Sat:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Center's archives are open Monday-Friday by appointment.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Jennifer Stone exhibit reception
- 29 Augustana Library Associates, speaker
Eric Dregni

OCTOBER

- 7-9 South Dakota Book Festival, Deadwood, SD
- 10 Native American Day
- 14-16 Augustana Viking Days
- 19 CWS Board meeting

NOVEMBER

- 9 16th Boe Forum on Public Affairs
- 24 Thanksgiving
- 24-27 CWS Closed

DECEMBER

- 7 Board Meeting and Sheila Agee/Ann Pederson
exhibit reception
- 25 Christmas
- 23-26 CWS Closed
- 29-31 CWS Closed

JANUARY

- 1 CWS Closed

Please visit the CWS website at www.augie.edu/cws to view a complete list of gifts received during the past year.
Thank you to all of our supporters!

Look for
CWS books
near the
Humanities
Council table.

Register at:
SDBOOKFESTIVAL.COM

Your E-mail Address

If you would like to receive e-mail updates from the Center, please contact Tim Hoheisel, Director of Outreach and Promotion at tim.hoheisel@augie.edu or call 605.274.4005.