THE CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES
OF AUGUSTANA COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER

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2012 CWS Membership Campaign

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Dakota Conference to Consider Legacy of Wounded Knee

For the Forty-fourth Annual Dakota Conference, April 27-28, the Center for Western Studies will observe the fortieth anniversary of the 71-day occupation of Wounded Knee, South Dakota, in 1973. We will do so in the larger context of the massacre at Wounded Knee by the US Seventh Calvary on December 29, 1890.

Among those speaking at the conference will be the FBI agent in charge when the occupation took place (Joseph Trimbach), the producer of the film *The Spirit of Crazy Horse*, which documents the Oglalas' struggle for self-determination (Kevin McKiernan), and two assistant US attorneys who prosecuted AIM leaders (David Gienapp and James McMahon). Also scheduled to speak is Oglala Lakota activist Russell Means. Many of the seventy-four presentations will address topics other than Wounded Knee (program available at *www.augie.edu/cws*).

Authors of fourteen books, including several books on Wounded Knee, will be present at the autograph party on Saturday. Two new books about the Great Plains will be featured in panel sessions: *Remaking the Heartland: Middle America in the 1950s*, by Robert Wuthnow, and *The Plains Political Tradition: Essays on South Dakota Political Culture*, edited by Jon Lauck, John Miller, and Donald Simmons.

The Dakota Conference will join with the Augustana Symposium and Civitas Iverson Lecture series during the first Augustana Academic Festival, April 14-28. Participating in the festival will be students from Executive Director Harry Thompson's January-term course and independent study course, who will present papers based on their research in the archives.

THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL
DAKOTA CONFERENCE
A National Conference
on the Northern Plains
History | Literature | Art | Archeology

Wounded Knee 1973: Forty Years Later

The Center for Western Studies
Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
April 27-28, 2012

Strategic Plan Affirmed by the CWS Board

The CWS Board of Directors voted in January to affirm a three-phase, ten-year strategic plan as proposed by Executive Director Harry Thompson. The plan has six goals and includes a timetable outlining a series of initiatives to achieve these goals.

1. Insure financial stability. Raise $200,000+ for annual operations through memberships, gifts, grants, and program revenue and work with the Development Office to continue to build endowment.

2. Enhance and expand core programs supported by the NEH Challenge Grant—Archives and Library, Art Program and Educational Exhibits, Dakota Conference, Publications, and Fantle Building. Develop initiatives that address these programs, such as Native American, Art

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Strategic Plan Affirmed…
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Collection, Archives Digitization, Online Magazine Publication, and Exhibit Expansion.

3. Add value to the educational experience of Augustana students and faculty. Integrate programmatic and financial resources into the curriculum, such as the Northern Plains Studies minor, new course offerings, scholarship-based internships, Civitas (honors) collaboration, faculty publishing projects, faculty research award, and student and faculty participation in the Dakota Conference, Art Show, and Boe Forum on Public Affairs.

4. Provide cultural leadership in the region. Explore current issues relating to the Northern Plains in their historical and cultural contexts through the Dakota Conference, art and museum exhibits, and book publications; examine the impact of national and international events on the region through the Boe Forum on Public Affairs.

5. Engage with the larger regional studies arena. Contribute research and perspective to regional and national conferences and symposia and promote collaboration with other regional centers.

6. Grow programs through innovation and experimentation. Coordinate Board meetings with events, replace events that have lost their purpose, and redirect Board focus to support and vision.

Artists of the Plains Art Show Winners

Nice weather and great art contributed to the large crowds at the 32nd Annual Artists of the Plains Art Show & Sale. Twenty-three artists showed and sold their artwork. Award winners for the 2012 show were, left to right in the picture to the right: CWS Executive Director Harry Thompson, Best of Show 2-D 1st Place Gisele Robinson, Best of Show 3-D 1st Place Nelda Schrupp, Best of Show 3-D 2nd Place Genevieve Echols, Best of Show 2-D 2nd Place Jerry Fogg, and CWS Director of Outreach and Promotion and art show coordinator Tim Hoheisel.

In 2011, the Center began including Augustana College students in the Artists of the Plains Art Show & Sale. This year, the Center gave an award for Best of Show Student Art. The award went to sophomore art major Jennie Yu, pictured here below with her award winning art. *Congratulations to all award winners!*

Endowment Campaign Nears Goal

Thanks to the generosity of those who have contributed to the $1.5 million CWS Endowment Campaign, the Center qualified for an additional $60,107 in federal matching funds last fall. We have now received **$271,187 (or 90%)** of the challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The next certification of gifts and performance reports are due to the NEH in July 2012. If you have been thinking about making a gift to earn the NEH match (on a 4-to-1 basis), now is the time to do so. Please contact Executive Director Harry Thompson at 605.274.4007 or *harry.thompson@augie.edu*.

CWS Board and Council Leadership

At the reception for the *Crossing the Threshold* exhibit in December, the Center thanked the following members of the CWS Board of Directors who completed their terms in 2011: Lynn Aspaas (chair, 2007-2010), Sandy Jerstad, David Johnson, and Martin Oyos (chair, 2011). New Board members are Tony Haga (Edgerton, MN), Patrick Hicks (Sioux Falls), Gerry Berger Law (Clear Lake, SD), and Arlen Viste (Sioux Falls).

National Advisory Council members who have completed terms over the past two years are James Aplan, Roy and Dorothy Mayeske, Ronald Nelson (deceased), Jane Rasmussen, Bob Sellin, Orville Waltner, and Alan Woolworth. We are grateful to these councilors for their years of service and look forward to welcoming the following new Council members: Christel Gollnick (Kansas City, MO), Jeffrey Johnson (Providence, RI), and Jonathan Lauck (Sioux Falls).

In the Madsen/Nelson/Elmen Galleries

JUNE 7 - AUGUST 25, 2012
Gibbs Collection of Western Art:
A Tribute Exhibition & Sale

Frank Gibbs, a long time chair of the CWS art committee, and his wife Jan spent years collecting Western American art. As a recognition of and tribute to their work with the art community, the Center is exhibiting their collection in the Madsen/Nelson/Elmen Galleries during the summer of 2012. Frank and Jan, who no longer live in the area, want to share their art collection with the community—every piece on display will be for sale. For more information about this and other events please visit *www.augie.edu/cws*.

Et cetera

Dr. Robert Steensma, professor emeritus of English at the University of Utah and CWS National Advisory Council member, is the co-designer of the new Lutheran monument on the Walk of Pioneer Faiths at Salt Lake City's *This Is the Place Park*. His co-designer is Dr. Paul Mogren of the Special Collections department at the university's J. Willard Marriott Library. Dedicated by Catholic Bishop John C. Webster of the Salt Lake Diocese, the walk contains historical information honoring ten Utah pioneer religious groups: Baptist, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal, Greek Orthodox, Jewish, Latter-day Saint, Lutheran, Methodist, and Presbyterian. Drs. Steensma and Mogren are members of Salt Lake's Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), founded in 1882.

Seven members of a delegation from India participating in the **International Visitor Leadership Program**, along with several representatives from South Dakota, met at CWS on March 21.

Students Matt Garred, Cory Sugden, George Ford, and Sebastian Forbush (l. to r.) and Jordan Dobrowski (foreground), examine original copies of the letters they are transcribing in the course **"The Search for Authenticity,"** taught by Executive Director Harry Thompson during January-term 2012.

CWS Executive Director **Harry Thompson** chaired a session on Dakota Territory political culture at the **Great Plains Symposium**, sponsored by the Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in April.

CWS Director of Outreach and Promotion **Tim Hoheisel** has been productive: he recently had a solicited book review published in *North Dakota History*, vol. 77, nos. 1 & 2; in January the Sioux Falls Arts Council invited him to join the board of directors; he had an article proposal accepted for publication into the forthcoming two-volume "Academic Museums: Campus and Community" to be published in July 2012 by MuseumsEtc. of Edinburgh, UK; he was awarded a Mid-Career Professional Network Fellowship to attend the American Association of Museums annual meeting in Minneapolis in May; and he is also presenting a paper at the Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting in Manhattan, Kansas, in June.

Many Tour the CWS Galleries

The Madsen/Nelson/Elmen Galleries have been popular with visitors recently. Many tour groups have come to see the current exhibition, *Interpretations of Wounded Knee 1890 and 1973*. A high school art class recently came from Tyler, Minnesota, and a group of Lincoln High School students from Germany also toured the galleries. Augustana College professors are taking advantage of the exhibition to teach about topics related to the art. Education professor Dr. Julie Ashworth brought her class to discuss social justice issues. Dr. Nancy Dickenson

used the exhibit to teach her English 110 students how to write a critique. Each student chose a piece of art and wrote about it.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April
19-20 Library Associates Books & More Sale
27-28 44th Annual Dakota Conference
28 Northern Plains Autograph Party
28 Board & Council Retreat

May
19 Augustana Commencement

June
12 June Event

Augustana is an affirmative action, Title IX, equal opportunity institution.

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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 8am-5pm & Sat 10am-2pm

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

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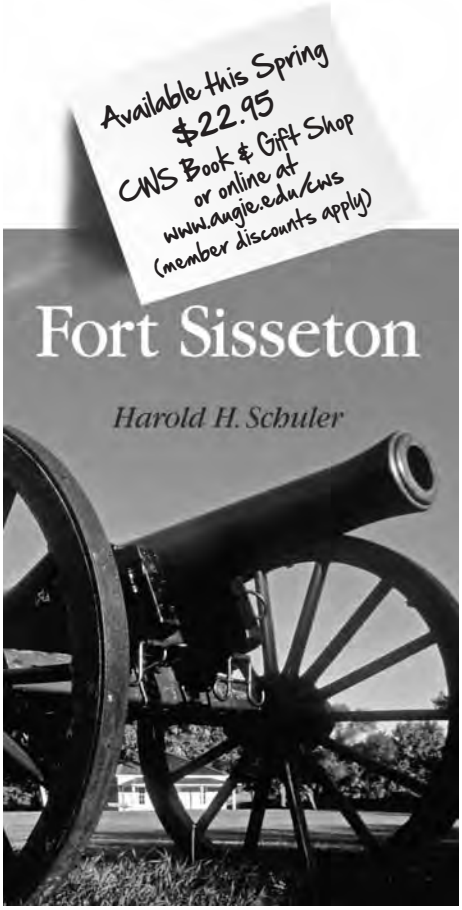

Norwegian Genealogical Records

CWS recently received a large collection of materials belonging to a family of Norwegian immigrants who first homesteaded near Renner, SD, in 1870. Orrin Volden of Sioux Falls donated several artifacts and family records including a large, mid-nineteenth century wooden desk, to be put on display in the Scandinavian Room. Collections Assistant Liz Throng wrote that the donation includes 96 handwritten Norwegian journals which tell the history of the Volden and Lassesen families, tracing their heritage back to 1660. They were written over the course of several decades by Orrin's great-grandfather, Erik Lassesen of Meraker, Norway, and Orrin's grandfather, Erick E. Lassesen of South Dakota. Orrin's niece, Rebecca Friedman, of Los Angeles, also donated an 18-page illustrated history of the Volden and Lassesen families and the family homestead. CWS thanks Orrin Volden and Rebecca Friedman for these items and acknowledges former CWS Board member Les Miller for his work with Orrin Volden in facilitating the donation.