



Anticipation! Excitement! Fantle Building for CWS Begins



Joining Mrs. Fantle in the initial ground-breaking was the platform party who are from left: Dr. Ralph Wagoner, Mrs. Fantle, Rob Oliver, Evan Nolte, Don Niedringhaus, Arlen Viste, Arthur Huseboe and 1999-2000 student body President Matt Jensen

April 7th, 2000, was a great day in the thirty-year history of the Center for Western Studies. A large group of people gathered at the Augustana College Chapel of Reconciliation for the service of ground breaking. The Collegiate Chorale, under the direction of Professor Lisa Grevlos, sang John Ness Beck's "Song of Exultation" to start the ground-breaking service. Church Relations Director and Campus Pastor Don Niedringhaus led the group in the order of ground breaking.

Augustana College President Ralph Wagoner spoke on behalf of the college and talked about the Center's role and relationship to Augustana. He gave a special thanks to Mrs. Sally Fantle for her gift to name the CWS building. President Wagoner intro-

Anticipation! (continued on page four)

Dakota Conference Features New Format, New Location

In keeping with the theme for this year's conference, "The Future of the Northern Plains: The Northern Plains of the Future," the Thirty-second Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology, May 25-27, 2000, will feature both a new format and new location.

All sessions, with the exception of the Friday Awards Banquet, which will be held at Theo's Downtown, in the historic Shriver's Building, will be held in Augustana College's new Madsen Center, located at 30th and Summit Avenue. In addition, the Saturday schedule calls for regular sessions to conclude in time for a Luncheon with the Authors, held in conjunction with the Thirteenth Annual Regional Authors' Autograph Party. The conference will conclude with the luncheon (box lunches) and a panel on Writing on the Northern Plains, chaired by CWS executive director Arthur R. Huseboe. The conference will conclude promptly at 12 noon, allowing attendees

to return home a few hours earlier than in past years. The move to the Madsen Center will orient the conference to the east side of the Augustana campus, where the conference will be poised to take advantage of the new Fantle Facility for the Center for Western Studies, beginning with the 2002 Dakota Conference. The pre-registration fee is \$35 (\$40 after May 12).

An important change this year also involves the purchasing of meal tickets in advance. **No meal tickets will be sold during the conference. All meal tickets must be purchased with pre-registration by May 12, 2000.** The pre-registration/registration form is included in the conference program and must be submitted by May 12, 2000. **Single-session** registrations will again be available this year at \$20. Anyone planning to attend the conference for only one of the meals must pay the \$20 fee plus the cost of the meal, listed in the conference program. Speakers at

Dakota Conference (continued on page two)

June Event to Feature “Fifteen Decades of Dance in Dakota”

It has now been eleven years since the Center’s first June fund-raiser saw the light, a dinner-theater production of Herbert Krause’s long-lost play “The Rushmore Dream,” about the fruitless efforts of Gutzon Borglum to carve a great tableau of Confederate Heroes on Stone Mountain, Georgia, followed by his flight to South Dakota, where he was later to design and complete Mount Rushmore. The director of that production was Augustana College professor Ron Robinson, and the show starred professional actors Phil Bruns and Arnie Stenseth and a supporting cast of Susan (Henkin) McGowan, Roger Allen Johnson, and Timothy Strong. Financially it was the most successful of our June events, and it set a high standard of good food, entertainment, and a dash of western history that has been followed ever since.

The Development Committee of the Center’s Board has now selected a date—June 20—for dinner-theater number eleven, an evening of fine dining and a sampling of the dance music and dance steps that were characteristic of this region of America, from the frontier era right up to the late 20th century. Writing of the historical script will be by Ron Robinson, research by Art Huseboe, music by Bill Gibson’s Big Band, and dance by Native American and folk dance representatives (yet to be selected), and Jackie Kriens (an Augustana alumna) of the Sioux Falls Dance Pavilion.

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Dakota Conference from cover story

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Over seventy presentations are scheduled in more than thirty sessions over the three days of the conference. Session topics include Writers of the Plains, Lewis and Clark, Museums, Native American Perspectives, Photographing the West, Women on the Prairie, Politics, Diversity, The Land, Promoting the Arts, Digitizing the

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Chairman Sid Goss, S.D. Humanities Council, presents ED Art Huseboe with its Distinguished Award in the Humanities at the fall seminar “Life on the Great Plains” in Rapid City.



Board and Council Members named at the Center

Mrs. Esther Bowden has rejoined the Center's Board of directors. Mrs. Bowden is from Sioux Falls and has served on the Development Committee. She has served as an officer at Sencore, Inc., for many years.

Dr. Jerry Simmons comes to the Center's Board having served as past chairperson and been involved as a member of the Development and Building Committees. Dr. Simmons is a pathologist in Sioux Falls. Dr. Simmons developed an interest in the Center through one of our early art shows.

Mr. Mike Spears is serving on our Board of Directors as a member of the Development Committee. Mr. Spears is the co-owner of the Printing Center here in Sioux Falls and, having grown up on the Lower Brule Reservation, has a particular interest in the Native American culture.

Mr. Frank Gibbs, Dr. Tom Kilian, Dr. Harriet Scott, Dr. Arlen Viste and Mrs. Mary Jo Wegner were all elected to a second three-year term on the Board.

Re-elected to serve another five-year term on the National Advisory Council were **Dr. Roscoe Dean**, Wessington Springs, SD, **Mr. Robert Lee**, Sturgis, SD, **Mr. Larry Ness**, Yankton, SD, and **Mr. Orville Waltner**, Freeman, SD.

Elected to serve, as officers for the Board of Directors for 2000 are Arlen **Viste**, Chairman; **Tom Kilian**, Vice Chairman; **Jamie Volin**, Secretary; and **Gerry Berger Law**, Deputy Recording Secretary. We welcome these people to our Board and Council and thank them for their work for the Center for Western Studies.

BOOKS FROM THE NORTHERN PLAINS

Announcing...

"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

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

by Paul N. Beck \$12.95

Anson Yeager's Stories

by Anson Yeager (2 volumes) \$28 (pre-publication price, until August 2000)

Land and People:

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)

ATwentieth-Century Life: The Memoirs of Arthur Larson,

by Arthur Larson \$16.95 (cloth)

The Geography of South Dakota, Revised Edition,

by Edward P. Hogan and Erin H. Fouberg \$25 (cloth)

Princes, Potentates, and Plain People: The Saga of the Germans from Russia, by

Reuben Goertz \$13.95

Joseph Nicolle and His Map, by Martha C. Bray \$14.95 (cloth)

Yanktonai Sioux Water Colors: Cultural Remembrances of John Saul,

by Martin Brokenleg and Herbert T. Hoover \$15.95 (cloth)

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

Literature and the Arts:

Memory Songs,

by Lydia Whirlwind Soldier \$12.95

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 and Transportation:

Fort Sisseton, by Harold Schuler \$12.95

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

Add \$3.00 postage/handling per title, \$1.00 for each additional title



The Center for Western Studies

Box 727, Augustana College

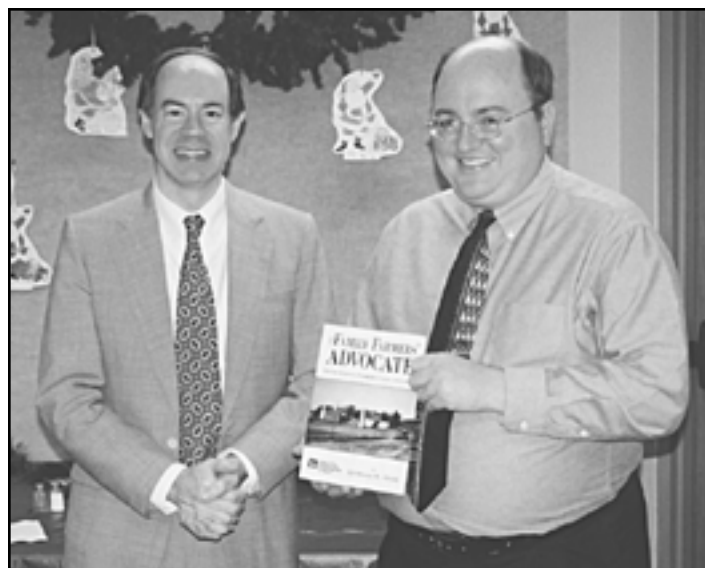
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

1-800-727-2844 (ext. 4007) or Fax 605-336-4999

Ask for a free copy of our 24-page Book & Art Catalog

Farmers Union Book Donated to State Archives

A copy of the book *"The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union, 1914-2000,"* was recently donated by the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College in Sioux Falls to the South Dakota State Historical Society's State Archives program. CWS published the comprehensive history of the farmers' organization, written by **Lynwood W. Oyos**. Several photos from the State Historical Society collection were used as illustrations in the book. State Archivist **Richard Popp**, right, accepted the book from **Harry Thompson**, director of research collections and publications at CWS and vice-president of the State Historical Society's board of trustees. (Photo courtesy South Dakota State Historical Society)



Anticipation! from cover story

duced Board of Regents Chair Rob Oliver, who thanked everyone there for his or her support in making this day the exciting occasion that it is. The 1999-2000 Augustana Student Association President, Matt Jensen, encouraged students to become more familiar with the Center and to use the wide array of resources fund there. Mr. Evan Nolte, Executive Director of the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, expressed his pleasure to the College and the Center for bringing another venue to Sioux Falls's fast-growing arts and entertainment sector. He felt this would be a great place for tourists to stop to see exhibits of the cultures of this region.

The Center for Western Studies Board Chair Arlen Viste shared the events that led

up to this special day. He too thanked the CWS building committee and recognized each of them. They are: Dr. Arthur Huseboe, CWS Executive Director, Dr. Harry Thompson, Director of Research Collections and Publications, Dean Schueler, Director of Development, Mary Jo Wegner, CWS Board, Jamie Volin, CWS Board, Ronelle Thompson, CWS Board and Director of Mikkelsen Library, Charles Brown, Vice-President, Administration and Finance, Gene Marko, Physical Plant Director, Ralph Wagoner, President, Ex-Officio, and Keith Christensen, Vice President for Advancement, Ex-Officio. Dr. Arlen Viste served as the chair of this committee.

Dr. Arthur Huseboe, Executive Director, responded on behalf of the Center. He shared a brief history of the Center and he too thanked Mrs. Fantle for her wonderful gift to make this day a reality. He also shared with the audience that Mrs. Fantle is very grateful to be able to see this groundbreaking day and anxious to see her Scandinavian collection in its new home.

The Collegiate Chorale sang a final song titled "AGaelic Blessing" and Pastor Niedringhaus invited everyone to attend the official groundbreaking. After a brief prayer, the

party of Dr. Wagoner, Mrs. Fantle, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Nolte, Dr. Viste and Dr. Huseboe turned the first shovelful of dirt for what is anticipated to be a fourteen-month building program. They were followed by members of the building committee and then by major donors to the new building. After this, everyone was invited to turn a shovel

full of dirt and then invited to a reception in the gallery of the Center for Western Studies. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and there was much excitement and anticipation about the Fantle Building for the Center for Western Studies.

The Center's staff and members of the College Advancement Staff will continue to raise funds for the completion of the

building. Jeff Hazard and Diane de Koeyer Natz of the Koch, Hazard, Baltzer architectural firm and Swift Contractors will be guiding this project to its completion. The bids that were accepted were for the building only, and later this year we will seek bids for the furniture, fixtures, and equipment. This gives us time to raise the remaining funds to complete this project with an anticipated completion date of June 2001. To paraphrase our president, Dr. Wagoner, "It was indeed a great day to be a member of the Center for Western Studies!"

Some of the donors to the Fantle Building are from the left: James & Eloise Elmen, Betty Gutch, Jerry & Gail Simmons, Roy and Dorothy Mayeske, V.R. Nelson, Robert & Rita Elmen, Richard Van Demark, Shirley King and Helen & Lou Madsen

Coming in time for summer reading...

**The CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES
2000-2001 Book & Art Catalog**

Copies will be mailed to all CWS members and friends

CWS to Publish Civil War Letters

The Center for Western Studies will publish the letters of two Wisconsin Civil War infantry soldiers in May. "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," professor of English at the University of Utah and a member of the CWS National Advisory Council, is based upon the Delbridge-Northup Collection at the Center. The Northup brothers, from Lodi, Wisconsin, served in Wisconsin infantry regiments, James, from 1861 until 1864, and Samuel, from 1862 until his death in 1863 of typhoid fever.

The letters are a rich source of information about the daily routine of Union soldiers in the Virginia and Mississippi theatres of action. James's unit, the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteers, fought at First and Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, and the Wilderness, where he was captured. Samuel's regiment, the 23rd Wisconsin Volunteers, was involved in the heavy fighting of the Vicksburg campaigns.

In addition to the details of daily life in the Union Army, the letters reveal the loneliness of young men who are hundreds of miles from their families while engaged in the horror of war, aching for home, news of loved ones,

and a return to peace and stability, all the while losing their friends to combat, wounds, and disease. The letters are, in many ways, typical of the genre, but they are also unique in their relationship to a particular place in a particular time, Lodi, Wisconsin, in the 1860s, and as such are an important resource for regional and local history written in the context of national drama.

This "reader's edition" provides a full introduction by Dr. Robert C. Steensma to the Northup brothers' letters and to the service of the brothers' regiments. Steensma's introduction also addresses the issue of the importance of these letters to Wisconsin and Northern Plains history and traces how the letters moved west with the Northup family in the years after the Civil War. Publication of the letters is made possible through a gift from Mrs. Alene Delbridge, of Sioux Falls.

The author of books on Sir William Temple and Dr. John Arbuthnot and of many articles, reviews, and professional papers, Dr. Steensma is currently working on a history of the Ninth Kansas Cavalry, under the command of Capt. Thomas P. Killen.

Copies of the book (\$14.95, paper) will be available at the Regional Authors' Autograph Party at the Dakota Conference, on Saturday, May 27.



THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL **DAKOTA CONFERENCE** ON HISTORY, LITERATURE, ART & ARCHAEOLOGY

MAY 25 - 27, 2000 ~ Augustana College

2000 Theme: "The Future of the Northern Plains: The Northern Plains of the Future"

Featured Speakers: Thomas D. Isern (North Dakota State University), John D. McDermott (Rapid City), and Lydia Whirlwind Soldier (Mission)

Continuing a five-year series (1998-2002) of papers presented at the Dakota Conference on the theme "The Lewis & Clark Expedition: Then and Now." The best papers presented in this series will be collected and published by the Center for Western Studies in 2004.

Pre-registration Fee: \$35 (through May 12) Registration Fee \$40 (after May 12)

All conference meals must be purchased with pre-registration by May 12. No meal-tickets will be available at conference time. All regular sessions will be held in the Madsen Center.

Funded in part by the South Dakota Humanities Council, the Karl E. Mundt Historical and Educational Foundation, the Van Demark Foundation, and the Mellon Foundation Fund.





Dr. Doris Huseboe is shown with our special guest, Mrs. Sally Fantle, at the December 4th Christmas Luncheon. Mrs. Fantle was presented with the table bouquet in honor of her birthday and also received her CWS Heritage Club award.



Lydia Whirlwind Soldier, who wrote the book of poems, Memory Songs, and Lynwood Oyos, who wrote The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union 1914-2000, were hosted at an autograph party at the December 4th Members and Friends Christmas Luncheon

Art and Publishing Highlights of Christmas Luncheon

As has become the tradition, the Center's celebration on the first weekend of December was the beginning of the Christmas season for many. Again, this year over 100 of our members and friends joined us for a memorable day.

The Board of Directors and the National Advisory Council of the Center held their semi-annual meeting on the morning of December 4th. Arlen Viste, Board Chairman, welcomed everyone, especially our Council members. He thanked retiring Board members Shirley King, V.R. Nelson and Lyn Oyos for their dedicated service to the Center. Art Huseboe, Harry Thompson and Dean Schueler, Center staff members, gave brief reports about their respective areas.

Jeff Hazard and Diane de Koeyer Natz, from the Koch, Hazard, Baltzer architectural firm, gave a virtual tour of what the new Fantle Building for the Center would look like. There were a number of questions from the group that Jeff and Diane answered. He announced that work was progressing and that bids would be let this spring. The meeting adjourned for the gallery talk and book signing.

Art Huseboe, Executive Director, and Arlen Viste, Board Chairman, "officially" accepted the Art Collection that was donated by Dick Culbert. Dean Schueler, Director of Development, gave a gallery talk about some of the bronze pieces and artwork that were donated by Mr. Culbert. Twelve bronze sculptures by Montana artist Harvey Rattey are the centerpiece of this collection. Also included are art works by Norm Fuegen, Mick Harrison, Robert Freeman and Andrew Standing Soldier.

The morning concluded with an autograph party featuring Dr. Lynwood Oyos and Lydia Whirlwind Soldier. Harry Thompson, Director of Research Collection and Publications at the Center, introduced our featured authors. Dr. Oyos' book, *The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union, 1914-2000*, had been in progress for a number of years. The book was commissioned by the South Dakota Farmers Union to record the history of that group. *Memory Songs* is a collection of poems by Lydia Whirlwind Soldier depicting her boarding school and family experiences. Lyn and Lydia had the opportunity to sign many books at the book signing.

The noon luncheon featured professor emeritus Ron Robinson. Executive Director Art Huseboe had earlier presented Robinson with the Western America Award. Ron visited with us about writing books about the West. The talk was very entertaining and gave us insights into Professor Robinson's writings.

A special guest at the noon luncheon was Mrs. Sally Fantle. She was presented with a table bouquet and her Heritage Club award. We also recognized Board people who had completed their terms. Board members Shirley King, V. R. Nelson and Lynwood Oyos were thanked for their service on our Board. New inductees to the Center's Heritage Club were presented with the new bronze awards for the first time. All Heritage Club members received these very nice tokens of appreciation cast by Park Rapids, MN artist Raymond Wattenhofer. Our thanks to all for a great day.

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It has now been eleven years since the Center’s first June fund-raiser saw the light, a dinner-theater production of Herbert Krause’s long-lost play “The Rushmore Dream,” about the fruitless efforts of Gutzon Borglum to carve a great tableau of Confederate Heroes on Stone Mountain, Georgia, followed by his flight to South Dakota, where he was later to design and complete Mount Rushmore. The director of that production was Augustana College professor Ron Robinson, and the show starred professional actors Phil Bruns and Arnie Stenseth and a supporting cast of Susan (Henkin) McGowan, Roger Allen Johnson, and Timothy Strong. Financially it was the most successful of our June events, and it set a high standard of good food, entertainment, and a dash of western history that has been followed ever since.

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20th Annual Art Show and Sale Sets New Records

The 20th Annual Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale set new records for attendance and art sold for the weekend. On Friday night, February 18th, the crowd was shoulder to shoulder and there was little room to move as we launched the Center's 20th annual show and sale. Over the course of the weekend over 1500 people stopped to visit with the artists. This is almost twice as many as any other show and sale. For the fifth year, we held the show and sale at the Radisson Encore Inn, and this has proven to be a great public venue for the Center. We want to thank the Radisson for again sponsoring our Premier Reception on Friday evening.

We once again hosted our popular People's Choice Best of Show awards for a painting and a three-dimensional piece. Newly appointed Art Committee Chair Frank Gibbs emceed the program for the Premier Showing. This year our Best of Show ribbons and \$50 cash prizes went to woodcarver Don Clemetson from Brandon, SD. This is Don's third award at our show. His carving entitled *The Chief* was a runaway favorite in the three-dimensional category. A young man from Watertown, SD, who is fast becoming a well-known artist in this region, won the painting Best of Show. Joshua Spies, who is 26 years old, won the Best of Show with *Sweet Dreams Too*, his second painting in this series portraying a young girl and her golden retriever. This

was Josh's first win at our show and sale. Congratulations to both of these fine artists.

Mr. Jim Whartman, from Hemingford, NE, had his painting *Wind Power* selected for this year's invitation cover. The powerful painting of a golden eagle on a windmill was selected by the Center's art committee in December. This was Jim's second year with our show after a long hiatus.



*The 20th annual Artists of the Plains Art Show and Sale premier showing provided us with an opportunity to recognize those who helped make it a success. From the left: **Frank Gibbs**, emcee and art committee chair, **Dean Schueller**, CWS Director of Development, **Joshua Spies**, whose painting, Sweet Dreams Too, was named Best of Show, **Don Clemetson**, his carving, The Chief, was named Best of Show in the 3-Dimensional category, **Shirley King**, Past Board member and Art Committee Chair, **Keith Christensen**, Vice President for Advancement and **Don Jacobs**, General Manager for Results Radio, the show's sponsor*

Vice President for Advancement Keith Christensen welcomed our audience to the show and sale on behalf of Augustana College. Thanks, Keith, for your welcome and kind words about the show and sale. Mr. Don Jacobs, General Manager of Results Radio, was present to help award the ribbons to the respective winners. Mr. Jacobs and his company were the major

sponsors of the show and sale for the fourth year. A special thanks to Results Radio for their promotion of our show and sale.

We were once again reminded by many of the artists that this is the only show and sale of its kind in our region. For twenty years the mission has been to promote regional artists and their work. To this end, we feel that this year's group indeed represented our region's "best." We determined that Raymond Wattenhofer, from Park Rapids, MN, has attended all but two of the Center's twenty events.

20th Annual (continued on page eleven)

Harold Torness (1919-1999): A Tribute From a Friend



Harold Torness (1919-1999)

For a decade the late Harold Torness was a member of the National Advisory Council for the Center for Western Studies, and in 1991 won its Western America Award for his historical studies and for his creation of the Nicollet Tower and interpretive center near Sisseton. He was an Augustana College alumnus, having served as the college's first archivist in his freshman year, 1937-38, and from 1960 to 1972 he served on its Board of Regents. He and his wife Mary are the parents of three children, all of whom attended Augustana College. (The editors)

Harold Torness was an unusual individual endowed with great enthusiasm and wide interests. About ten years ago, he began to read Joseph N. Nicollet's journal of his travels on the Coteau des Prairies in the summer of 1839 with its vivid descriptions of vegetation, rolling hills and valleys. Nicollet was also fascinated by the Dakota Indians and mixed bloods of the region and gathered information on their history, lifestyles, and place names.

Nicollet's words inspired Harold Torness to envision a great wooden observation tower on a high hill a few miles west of Sisseton as a memorial to Joseph N. Nicollet. From it, visitors would have a sweeping, panoramic view of the great Coteau des Prairies and portions of South Dakota, Minnesota, and North Dakota.

Soon, he set to work raising money and enlisted the aid of a retired architect friend to design the tower. The Joseph N. Nicollet Memorial Tower then became a reality and was dedicated in 1993. Near its base, Torness erected a small

interpretive center with murals of Nicollet's visit to the region; a copy of Nicollet's great map of the "Hydrographical Basin of the Upper Mississippi River," published by the U.S. government in 1843, and many other materials dealing with the history of the region.

Harold delighted to bring out-of-state visitors there and to have them climb the tower to see personally this sweeping vista of his beloved landscape. It was indeed a memorable event to have Harold escort you on one of his afternoon long tours of the region. Growing up in the area and much interested in its people and history, he was a fountain of knowledge about the region and delighted to share his interests and enthusiasms with others.

For a number of years, he wrote a weekly column about local persons, events, or places near Sisseton, South Dakota for the local newspaper. These items preserved valuable historical information and were a delight to read.

He collected and read many books and was a gracious host to countless numbers of visitors to his beloved Coteau des Prairies. It was my privilege to meet Harold and his lovely wife, Mary, in many places over a number of years and to enjoy their company and gracious hospitality. It is hard to believe that he is gone away from us, but his memory will linger long amongst those of us who had the opportunity to know and appreciate him. And in a real sense the Nicollet Memorial Tower is also a memorial to Harold Torness, to his vision, his enterprise and his enthusiasm.

Alan R. Woolworth

Research Fellow Emeritus

Minnesota Historical Society

(Reprinted with permission from the Sisseton Courier)

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) 336-4007, Fax: 605-336-4999, E-Mail: CWS@inst.augie.edu. Subscription is a benefit of membership in the Center.

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

The Center's gift shop, gallery, library, and offices are located in Mikkelsen Library at 29th and 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.

Buffalo Chips...

CWS member and Augustana alum **Rick Kolkman** recently donated two bronze eagles cast by Montana artist Harvey Rattey. The bronzes, titled *Landing Eagle* and *American Flier*, will join the collection of Harvey Rattey bronzes given to the Center earlier this year. Thanks for this fine donation, Rick!

The 2000 Service Awards for Augustana College were held February 23 in the college's Morrison Commons. **President Ralph Wagoner** recognized the following CWS members for their service to the college: for ten years—CWS Board member **Charles Brown** and CWS Board member **Jerome Freeman**; for fifteen years—**Elmer Smolnisky** and CWS Director of Research Collections and Publications **Harry Thompson**; for twenty years—**Maureen Diggins-Hutcheson**, **Karen Tellinghuisen** and **Sandy Jerstad**; for twenty-five years—**Martin Brokenleg** and CWS Director of Development **Dean Schueler**; for thirty years—**John Bylsma**; and for thirty-five years—**Milt Hanson**, **Sandra Looney**, and CWS Board Chairman **Arlen Viste**. Congratulations and thanks to all of them for their service to the college.

Word has just reached us of the passing of **Dr. Sig Mickelson**, author of the CWS publication *The Northern Pacific Railroad* (1993). The book, now out of print, is a chronicle of what one historian calls "The single greatest American corporate undertaking of the nineteenth century." **Mickelson**, a graduate of Augustana, went on to become the first president of CBS News and president of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. Walter Cronkite, whom he hired for CBS, called **Mickelson** "one of the pioneers of television news." The Center extends its sympathy to **Mrs. Elena Mickelson** and the family.

The biography of Executive Director **Art Huseboe** has just been published in the 54th edition of *Who's Who in America*, and he has received word that his entry will appear in the "Millennium Edition" in September 2000.

Art was recently the speaker for the opening session of the Third **John R. Milton** Writers Conference at the University of South Dakota (February 24-26). A major topic of the conference was the work of **Frederick Manfred**, Siouland novelist, about whom **Art** has written several articles, including the most recent, a lengthy study for the 1999 *Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

A good friend of Augustana College and the CWS, **Dr. Erling Haugo**, passed away in December, 1999. His strong support of the college included the funding of a significant annual scholarship for several students as well as the building and furnishing of the Haugo Room in the Chapel of Reconciliation, and he was a frequent supporter

of Center fund-raising efforts. In 1993, in light of his lifetime of philanthropy, Augustana awarded him the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters, with **Dr. Arthur Huseboe** reading the citation. **Erling's** good friend **Dr. Lloyd Svendsbye** wrote these words to be read at his funeral: "Today we bury a giant. 'Giants in the Earth' Ole Rolvaag called the people who settled in southeast South Dakota. They were 'giants' because of their courage and daring, their perseverance and faith. **Erling Haugo** was such a person."

A salute to National Advisory Council member **Bob Lee** of Sturgis, whose recollections formed a lively part of "American Ace: The Joe Foss Story," the TV special about the career of Marine pilot and South Dakota Governor **Joe Foss** that has been airing this winter on SDPTV. Of special interest was **Bob's** report of a two-hour-long late-night conversation between the World War II ace and Eddie Rickenbacker, America's most successful fighter pilot in World War I.

A new book by **Anson Yeager**, long-time editor of the Sioux Falls *Argus Leader*, is now in preparation at the Center, with an expected publication date of late summer. **Yeager** started as a reporter in 1947 and for the next 37 years "covered the waterfront" as political and legislative reporter, Sunday editor, and associate editor. After retirement in 1984, he continued as a feature writer until 1998, spanning 51 years in which his work appeared in the *Argus*. His two-volume *Anson Yeager's Stories* chronicles the lives of Dakotans and their neighbors and records their interaction with national and international events and persons, from President Harry Truman to the fall of the Soviet Union.

Praise for *The Family Farmers' Advocate: South Dakota Farmers Union, 1914-2000*, by **Lynwood E. Oyos**: "Man, this really took me down memory lane. I know so many of the people listed and referred to on a personal basis plus it is a tremendous history of the Farmers Union and related farm organizations. It's a gem. So glad you brought it to my attention."—**Alice Kundert**, former South Dakota Secretary of State and CWS National Advisory Council Member (used by permission).

The Center for Western Studies hosted a visit by two Strabane (Ireland) City Council Members, **Ignatius Murtagh** and **Eddie Turner**, on their visit to Sioux Falls for St. Patrick's Day as part of the Sister City program.

Former Reese Intern **Deb Lyon** is again working at CWS, as an Advanced Reese Intern, having returned to Sioux Falls from Lincoln, Nebraska, with her husband, David, a computer programmer with Lodgenet. Deb is working on several important collections projects, assisting CWS in getting ready for its move to the Fantle Facility.

The following artists were part of the 2000 show and sale: Mark Anderson, Sioux Falls, SD; JoAnne Bird, Brookings, SD; Bryan Bortnem and Cathy Hoss, Rutland, SD; Lynn Bueling, Wahpeton, ND; Don Clemetson, Brandon, SD; Russ Duerksen, Sioux Falls, SD; Beverly Daniel English, Sioux Falls, SD; Mick Harrison, Belle Fourche, SD; Donna Hendrickson, Flandreau, SD; Nancyjane Huehl, Vivian, SD; Lee Leuning, Pierre, and Sherri Treeby, Aberdeen, SD; Barbara McGee, Peterson, IA; Kathy Sigle, Spearfish, SD; Joshua Spies, Watertown, SD; Rita Tate, Aurora, SD; Marion Toillion, Spearfish, SD; Raymond Wattenhofer, Park Rapids, MN; and Jim Whartman, Hemingford, NE.

The Center's staff would like to thank its Board of Directors and the National Advisory Council members for their assistance as hosts, hostesses and greeters, the artists for sharing their great works of art, the Radisson Encore Inn for its hospitality, the many Sioux Falls businesses who supported the show and sale through their advertising, all of you from the public who attended this special event, and, finally, Results Radio and Don Jacobs for their support of the art show and sale.

2000 Membership Campaign Needs You

The 2000 membership campaign has gone very well to this time. Our Board and other volunteers have called and visited with many of you since last fall and you have responded to our call to assist the Center as we continue our mission of "preserving the history and cultures of the Northern Plains." While we are busy fund-raising for our new Fantle Building, we dare not forget our annual memberships. Won't you please say "yes" and join over 630 others who have already made their commitment to the Center for this year. Each of you reading this should have received a letter from our Chair, Dr. Arlen Viste asking for your continued support of the Center's mission. In the months ahead we will host the 32nd Dakota Conference and our 11th annual June fund-raising event featuring a wonderful dinner and a production of "Fifteen Decades of Dance in Dakota." If you have not renewed your membership since August 1, 1999, or have never been a member of CWS and are receiving this newsletter, won't you please complete the form below and return it to us today! **Thanks you for your consideration and your continued support of the Center!**

Name _____

Address _____
STREET CITY

State _____ Zip _____ Ph. _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift for 2000

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ Dakotan \$10,000 & up | _____ Scout \$250-\$499 |
| _____ Plainsman \$5,000-\$9,999 | _____ Partner \$100-\$249 |
| _____ Westerner \$2,500-\$4,999 | _____ Explorer \$50-\$99 |
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| _____ My gift will be matched by my employer or insurance company. Make checks payable to Augustana College/CWS. | |

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