When visiting CWS, LOOK UP and take note of the new 9’ x 20’ banners that now grace the east and west corners of the Fantle Building. Large metal screens to support banners were originally designed for the building but were never put to their intended use. Donor gifts and endowment funds and a change in the city code have made it possible to install the four banners announcing the Center’s core programs. Visit the newly redesigned website at www.augie.edu/cws to see a photo of the building with the banners in place.

Published three times annually and supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

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Augustana College CWS Fantle Building
2121 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, SD
The Center’s archives are open M-F by appointment.

Gifts and Grants to CWS Total $270,000

With gifts to the membership campaign, exhibit expansion campaign, endowment, and other gifts and grants, the Center for Western Studies received financial donations totaling $270,000 during the 2013-14 fiscal year, which ended July 31. This does not include endowment distribution funds, which are also donor generated. Donor support is the bedrock of the Center’s financial integrity. Not too many years ago, some people questioned whether CWS was, in the words of the business world, “a going concern.” Now, CWS is one of the most financially secure cultural organizations in the region—thanks to those who believe in the Center’s mission to preserve and interpret the history and cultures of the Northern Plains. As its Constitution states, CWS also seeks to improve the quality of social and cultural life in the Northern Plains, achieve a better understanding of the region, its heritage, and its resources, and stimulate interest in the solution to regional problems.

Empowered by the generosity of its donors, the efficiency of its small staff, and with the support of its Board, Council, and Augustana College, the Center offers a wide range of free programming to residents and travelers. There is no admission charge to visit one of the largest and most dramatic art galleries, to view professionally designed museum exhibits (with new ones coming in 2015), or to attend the most prestigious public affairs forum and the longest-running fine arts show and sale. Even the registration fee for the Dakota Conference is modest in comparison to other conferences—and students at any high school or university are always welcome at no cost. Use of the Krause Research Library is free, and the few dollars we charge to receive personal research assistance in the archives is reasonable. The Center’s Board of Directors and staff thank all of our supporters! Please visit www.augie.edu/financial-support to view the list of contributors.

Events Calendar

September

- Saturdays at CWS: South Dakota 2014 Grand Prize artist Chris Francis speaks, 10 am
- 25 South Dakota Festival of Books Author Reception at CWS, 7:30-9:30 pm
- 26-28 CWS booth at Festival of Books
- 26 CWS author Lyn Oyos speaks about Reveille for Sioux Falls at Viking Days Honor Guard luncheon and at Festival of Books, 5:00 pm
- 27 South Dakota 2014 Art Exhibit and Sale: Observing the State’s 125th Anniversary closes

October

- 9-11 CWS participates in Northern Great Plains History Conference, Sioux Falls
- 10 Lars Westvig aerial photography exhibit opens, 4-6 pm
- 28 Boe Forum on Privacy at Risk with Microsoft executive Robbie Bach, 7:30 pm

November

- CWS 2015 Membership Campaign begins
- Fantle Gallery of Scandinavian Heritage closes for new exhibits

New Banners Announce CWS Programs

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A 22-year veteran of Microsoft, Robbie Bach took on marketing, management and business leadership roles for the software giant and served as an influential leader in the launch and expansion of Microsoft Office. In 1999, he led the creation and development of the Xbox and its eventual successor, the Xbox 360 as Microsoft’s chief Xbox officer. Ultimately, he was responsible for Microsoft’s gaming, music, video phone and retail sales businesses and was named president of the company’s entertainment and devices division.

He oversaw the creation, development and growth of Xbox Live, Microsoft’s online gaming service that currently supports almost 50 million members. Throughout all these projects, Bach and Microsoft maintained a commitment to supporting cyber security and protecting their users’ privacy.

As the president of the company, Bach regularly lobbied in Washington, D.C., and discussed policy issues with government leaders regarding Internet regulation. He has worked across the industry on such topics as the distribution of age-appropriate content, data breaches, identity security and content management.

In addition to his career at Microsoft, Bach serves on the national board of governors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and was the chairman of the board from 2009-2011. In 2013, he joined the U.S. Olympic Committee board of directors, the board of directors for Sonos Inc., and the board of advisors for Space Needle, Inc. Bach has lectured at colleges and universities across the country including at the University of North Carolina, UCLA, Seattle University, Santa Clara University, Harvey Mudd, and Boston College. He is currently writing a business and civic strategy book based on his Microsoft and Xbox experiences. Bach received an M.B.A. from Stanford University and bachelor's degree in economics from the University of North Carolina.

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Erin Castle

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Summer Work in Collections

It has been another busy summer in the CWS collections! Thanks to an unprecedented amount of help from returning intern Rebecca Sunde, new intern Lauren Evans, volunteer Reid Rasmussen—all Augustana students—and volunteer Dr. Loren Amundson, we have been able to accomplish many tasks.

Rebecca Sunde on behalf of the summer photographe the immense artifact collection received from Blue Cloud Abbey’s American Indian Culture Research Center. The purpose of the project is two-fold: to document the objects for improved collections management and to create images which can be uploaded with descriptive information to the CWS Digital Collections: Spectacular examples of Sioux pipes, tools, and gourd and beaded clothing will be freely accessible online to scholars, tribal communities, schoolchildren, and the public at large. Approximately 450 artifacts have already been photographed. More will be completed through late summer and the information will be published on-line this fall.

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Sumner Interns (l. to r.) Rebecca Sunde (Madison, SD), Reid Rasmussen (Hurley, SD), and Lauren Evans (Freeport, IL) stand below the Scandinavian Exhibit, which will be on display in November to prepare for the new museum exhibits.

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Museum Exhibit Initiative Qualifies for Matching Grant

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A World War II Army Air Forces Technical School Changes a South Dakota City
By lynwood E. Oyos

320 pages $21.95

This new, illustrated history recounts how 45,000 men and women from across the country trained at a South Dakota technical school and changed community attitudes about women and minorities, simulated home and business construction and created the city’s first modern airport.

Other publications available from the Center for Western Studies: Port Sjunkhatten and A Harvest of Words (poetry)

**CWS Partnerships**
During the summer and fall, the Center for Western Studies is partnering with several allied organizations. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLL) invited CWS to provide tours of the galleries as part of its opening meeting on August 26. The South Dakota Festival of Books, a program of the South Dakota Humanities Council, invited CWS to co-sponsor the Festival’s Author Reception in the Center’s galleries on September 25 (this is a ticketed event in support of the Festival). Both events are held in conjunction with the Center’s historic South Dakota 2014 Art Exhibit and Sale: Observing the State’s 125th Anniversary.

CWS is sponsoring a booth at the Festival of Books, September 26-28, and Lynwood Oyos, author of Revelle for Sioux Falls: A World War II Army Air Forces Technical School Changes a South Dakota City, will speak at the Festival in downtown Sioux Falls. As part of Augustana’s Viking Days also that weekend, Dr. Oyos will speak about his book at the Augustana Honor Guard luncheon.

In conjunction with the History Department at the University of South Dakota, CWS is a sponsor of the Northern Great Plains History Conference, Sioux Falls October 9-11. Collections Assistant Liz Thronde will make a presentation about digital collections. Education Assistant Kristi Thomas has arranged for a booth to display CWS educational materials, and Executive Director Harry Thompson will chair a session on World War I and other comments on the papers. CWS is also a sponsor of the West River History Conference, October 16-18, in Rapid City. This year’s theme is ‘Digging for History’s Roots in the West.’

**Use your CWS member discount to purchase this new book and other CWS publications!**

**Focusing Giving Opportunities**
Have you ever wished your support of South Dakota authors could make a special impact—maybe beyond your annual membership? With the successful conclusion of the Center’s recent endowment and exhibit expansion campaigns, we are connecting current CWS program and project needs with donor interest. Donors may now participate in the life of the Center in specific and visible ways—through Focusing Giving.

Please consider directing additional support to one of these specific areas:

**ARTISTS of THE PLAINS ART SHOW & SALE**
Awards for professional artists: $600
Awards for student artists: $500
Exhibit Hall Rental: $500-$1,000
Premiere Reception: $250-$500
Artists’ Coffee: $50

**COLLECTIONS DIGITIZATION**
Digital SLR Camera, Lens, and Scanner: $250-$1,000
Computer and Software for Image Editing: $500-$1,000
Student Internships in Digitization: $250-$1,000

**FINE ART PURCHASE FUND**
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**Northern Plains Geography, Identity, and Promise Is Conference Theme**
‘Great American Desert,’ ‘Dakota Territory,’ ‘Middle Border,’ ‘Middle West,’ ‘Midwest,’ ‘Great Plains,’ ‘High Plains,’ ‘Western Plains,’ ‘Northern Plains,’ ‘Central Plains,’ ‘Missouri River Basin,’ ‘Heyer country’—the heartland, ‘Sioxland,’ ‘the big empty,’ ‘the lost region.’ These are some of the terms writers have used to identify the central region of the United States. For its 47th annual meeting, April 24-25, 2015, the Dakota Conference will take as its theme ‘Where the West Begins’ with the intention of exploring the geography, identity, and promise of the Dakotas and the prairie-plains areas of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana.

Are the Northern Plains where the Midwest ends and the West begins? What geographical and demographic characteristics help us identify the region? In what ways are the Northern Plains changing? Do these changes bode well or ill for the region and its traditional and new inhabitants? The ‘hollowing out’ of small towns and rural areas in the plains has led to such concepts as the buffalo commons, Pleistocene rewilding, and the American Prairie Reserve. Not all rural areas, however, are declining in population—indigenous peoples are increasing in reservations. What issues confront Native American communities, and how will these communities respond to future challenges? We are seeking papers and panels that address the conference theme or other topics related to the region.

Two recent books by South Dakota authors address some of these issues but from radically different perspectives and with direct ties to the region. Two recent books by South Dakota authors address some of these issues but from radically different perspectives and with direct ties to the region. ‘Ghost Dances: Proving Up on the Great Plains’ (Little, Brown, 2012), by Jon Garrett-Davis, and ‘The Lost Region: Toward a Revival of Midwestern History’ (University of Iowa Press, 2013), by Jon K. Lauck. Both authors will be speaking at the Dakota Conference.

The Center encourages its supporters to consider submitting a proposal. Send a title, brief summary, and biographical sketch, along with name, address, phone number, and e-mail address, to ‘Dakota Conference’ at CWS or send proposal via e-mail to dakotaconference@augie.edu. Proposals (not completed papers) are due on or before February 15, 2015. Cash awards of $150 and $100 are available in academic, non-academic, student, and women’s history categories. A recent gift endowing student awards at the conference, provided by Drs. Rex Meyers and Susan Richards, of Wyoming, insures that young scholars will receive recognition for their work.

With endowment support, the Center strives to keep the Dakota Conference among the least expensive conferences in the region: $90 includes Registration ($45) and the Meal Package ($45) for both days of the conference, if attendees register by April 13, 2015. Registration is free for full-time undergraduate students of any college or university and for Augustana faculty and staff.

The Northern Plains Autograph Party will be held on Saturday, April 25, in conjunction with the conference. Authors of recent books about the Northern Plains may apply for invitation to the autograph party by contacting CWS on or before February 13, 2015.
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**The Magnificent South Dakota, 2014**

Art Exhibit and Sale: Observing the State’s 125th Anniversary celebrations on September 27. Don’t miss the opportunity to see this historic exhibit—and even purchase a piece for your own collection. *Arts Alive!* magazine, published by South Dakotans for the Arts, interviewed Executive Director Jeff Thompson about the 125th anniversary exhibit and the Center’s support of the arts over the years. See p. 6 of the print edition or visit online at www.aufs.org/artsalive.

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**Galleries Celebrate Art of Plains and Norway**

The magnificent South Dakota 2014 Art Exhibit and Sale: Observing the State’s 125th Anniversary exhibit celebrated the art of the plains and Norway in the International Nursing Student Exchange program sponsored by Telemark and Augustana. Lars is also an artist who specializes in aeriography. The Center is pleased to collaborate with Professor Pamela Schroeder in the Nursing Department and Donna Granger in International Programs to sponsor this exhibit.

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Ticket Information for CWS Members

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CWS Art Committee Chair Stan Christopherson and Education Assistant Kristi Thomas announce the winners of the People’s Choice Award of the People’s Choice Award of the People’s Choice Award of the People’s Choice Award: Beverley M. Krabbenhoft, of Argyle, for two-dimensional art; and, Shenandoah, by J. W. W. Nias, of Aberdeen, for three-dimensional art.

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Liz Thord, Collections Assistant
Erin Castle, Office Coordinator

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With gifts to the membership campaign, exhibit expansion campaign, endowment, and other gifts and grants, the Center for Western Studies received financial donations totaling $270,000 during the 2013-14 fiscal year, which ended July 31. This does not include endowment distribution funds, which are also donor generated. Donor support is the bedrock of the Center’s financial integrity. Not too many years ago, some people questioned whether CWS was, in the words of the business world, “a going concern.” Now, CWS is one of the most financially secure cultural organizations in the region—thanks to those who believe in the Center’s mission to preserve and interpret the history and cultures of the Northern Plains. As its Constitution states, CWS also seeks to improve the quality of social and cultural life in the Northern Plains, achieve a better understanding of the region, its heritage, and its resources, and stimulate interest in the solution to regional problems.

Empowered by the generosity of its donors, the efficiency of its small staff, and with the support of its Board, Council, and Augustana College, the Center offers a wide range of free programming to residents and travelers. There is no admission charge to visit one of the largest and most dramatic art galleries, to view professionally designed museum exhibits (with new ones coming in 2015), or to attend the most prestigious public affairs forum and the longest-running fine arts show and sale. Even the registration fee for the Dakota Conference is modest in comparison to other conferences—and students at any high school or university are always welcome at no cost. Use of the Krause Research Library is free, and the few dollars we charge to receive personal research assistance in the archives is reasonable. The Center’s Board of Directors and staff thank all of our supporters! Please visit www.augie.edu/financial-support to view the list of contributors.

Conceptual design for new museum exhibits.