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DROUGHT
in the Life, Cultures, and Landscapes of the Great Plains

April 2-4, 2014 | Lincoln, Neb.

40th Annual
Center for Great Plains Studies Symposium

A collaboration of the Center for Great Plains Studies, the National Drought Mitigation Center and the Daugherty Water for Food Institute

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proposals that consider the relationship between the West and the world. What forces have connected the North American West with other peoples? For example, the international links forged by catastrophic events such as the fur and hide trade of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; the mining extravaganzas ranging from the California gold rush to the Klondike; the detonation of atomic and hydrogen bombs; the end of the Cold War, which allowed indigenous Alaskans and Siberians to reestablish contact; the tsunami of 2011; and the climate change now known as global warming. All these events have reinforced ties between peoples of the West and their counterparts around the globe. The Program Committee also invites proposals drawing on vibrant comparative indigenous and borderlands scholarship that explores similarities and differences between the North American West and similar regions (other “Wests”) across the planet. As we gather in Newport Beach, California, on the eastern shore of the Pacific Rim, we are reminded that the West isn’t always geographically west, yet we also find ourselves asking, “What makes it a particular place? What sets it apart as a unique region?” The Program Committee strongly encourages full panel submissions and will consider single papers only when they can reasonably be matched with other panels or papers. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract (250 words) that outlines the purpose of the session. The designated contact person should submit the proposal. Each paper proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one-paragraph abstract and a one-page curriculum vita for each participant (with address, phone, and e-mail). Indicate equipment needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Electronic submissions are required and should be sent, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to wha2014call4papers@gmail.com. The submission deadline is September 1, 2013. Additional proposals that consider the relationship between the West and the world. What forces have connected the North American West with other peoples? For example, the international links forged by catastrophic events such as the fur and hide trade of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; the mining extravaganzas ranging from the California gold rush to the Klondike; the detonation of atomic and hydrogen bombs; the end of the Cold War, which allowed indigenous Alaskans and Siberians to reestablish contact; the tsunami of 2011; and the climate change now known as global warming. All these events have reinforced ties between peoples of the West and their counterparts around the globe. The Program Committee also invites proposals drawing on vibrant comparative indigenous and borderlands scholarship that explores similarities and differences between the North American West and similar regions (other “Wests”) across the planet. As we gather in Newport Beach, California, on the eastern shore of the Pacific Rim, we are reminded that the West isn’t always geographically west, yet we also find ourselves asking, “What makes it a particular place? What sets it apart as a unique region?” The Program Committee strongly encourages full panel submissions and will consider single papers only when they can reasonably be matched with other panels or papers. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract (250 words) that outlines the purpose of the session. The designated contact person should submit the proposal. Each paper proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one-paragraph abstract and a one-page curriculum vita for each participant (with address, phone, and e-mail). Indicate equipment needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Electronic submissions are required and should be sent, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to wha2014call4papers@gmail.com. The submission deadline is September 1, 2013. Additional
information can be found at http://www.western
historyassociation.wildapricot.org/.

FREDERICK C. LUEBKE AWARD

We are pleased to announce that the 2013 Fred-
erick C. Luebke Award for outstanding regional
scholarship has been awarded to Harvey Mar-
kowitz, Washington and Lee University, for his
essay “Converting the Rosebud: Sicangu Lakota
Catholicism in the Late Nineteenth and Early
Twentieth Centuries” (Winter 2012, Vol. 32,
No. 1). The prize, named for the founder of the
Great Plains Quarterly, is given each year for the
best article published in the quarterly. The Fred-
erick C. Luebke Award includes a cash stipend of
$250. Harvey Markowitz is an assistant professor
of anthropology at Washington and Lee Univer-
sity. He served as community liaison/fieldworker
for the Smithsonian Institution’s National Mu-
seum of the American Indian, working closely
with the Florida Seminoles, Eastern Cherokees,
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Blackfeet Indian
Tribe, the Chiricahua Apaches, and the Tohono
O’odham Nation. He lived twelve years on the
Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota
where he was on the faculty of Sinte Gleska Uni-
versity. He has a PhD in American church history
from the Divinity School, University of Chicago.
NEW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS

My Ántonia
A Bison Books Classic
WILLA CATHER
Illustrated by W. T. Benda
Hailed by reviewers and readers for its originality, vitality, and truth, this novel secured Willa Cather a place in the first rank of American writers. Cather drew deeply on her childhood days in frontier Nebraska for her fourth novel, published in 1918.
$18.95 paperback

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O Pioneers!
A Bison Books Classic
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Cather’s O Pioneers! is the sentimental and somewhat controversial story of the Bergsons, a family of Swedish pioneers that settles for life on the American prairie. A novel surprisingly ahead of its time, this protofeminist work touches on a wide range of enduring themes, including love, marriage, temptation, and isolation.
$18.95 paperback

The Song of the Lark
A Bison Books Classic
WILLA CATHER
Willa Cather’s third novel, The Song of the Lark, depicts the growth of an artist, singer Thea Kronborg, a character inspired by the Swedish-born immigrant and renowned Wagnerian soprano Olive Fremstad. Thea’s early life, however, has much in common with Cather’s own. Set from 1885 to 1909, the novel traces Thea’s long journey from her fictional hometown of Moonstone, Colorado, to her source of inspiration in the Southwest, and to New York and the Metropolitan Opera House.
$23.95 paperback

Breathing in the Fullness of Time
WILLIAM KLOEFKORN
The fourth and final installment in William Kloefkorn’s reflections, Breathing in the Fullness of Time departs from the elements ruling the other volumes—water, fire, and earth—and floats its insights and observations, its memories and anecdotes on the now wild, now whispering element of air.
$16.95 paperback
The 40th annual Center for Great Plains Studies symposium is a collaboration with the National Drought Mitigation Center and the Robert B. Dougherty Water for Food Institute.

2011 and 2012 witnessed two of the worst Great Plains droughts in recent memory, a tragic counterpoint to the damaging floods of 2011 and a return to the stressful times of 1998-2006. Drought is a recurring pattern in this semi-arid region, with severe droughts in the 1890s, 1930s, 1950s and 1980s. Indeed, using tree ring, lake sediment, and dune records, scientists have documented the periodic return of severe droughts. Based on such evidence, some scientists have observed that drought was the dominant feature of climate rather than the exception. Drought has been and will continue to be a normal part of the climate of the Great Plains and may increase in frequency and severity in the future as a result of projected changes in climate.

Drought or the ever-present threat of it has had a pervasive effect on the region and its people. It molded the region’s settlement patterns, agriculture and commerce, stimulated innovation, aroused conflict between agriculturalists and environmentalists, and fueled litigation between states. Drought shaped how the people of the Great Plains think of themselves and their region and influenced their culture, literature, and art. Today it raises concern about whether the region will have sufficient water for its future.

Scientists and scholars from across the full spectrum of disciplines are invited to share their expertise and perspectives as the symposium explores all aspects, causes, impacts, projections, social and cultural consequences, and ramifications of drought.

FOR PAPERS: Please submit your proposal/abstract of 150-200 words with a brief résumé by Nov. 1, 2013.

SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY: Use the abstract submission form at the website: www.unl.edu/plains

SYMPOSIUM CHAIRS: Donald Wilhite and Michael Hayes

TOPICS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:
- Global context for drought
- The Dust Bowl and drought history
- Impacts on human physical and mental health
- Influence and impacts in the Canadian Prairies
- Ecosystem health
- Agriculture and livestock impacts
- Drought in literature and art
- Changing climate and weather
- Native American impacts
- Settlements, migration impacts

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HUMOR OF THE AMERICAN WEST

There is the romantic and idealized West, and then there is the real West. The fact that these artists knew how to present the daily humdrums as amusements validated their identity as real westerners. It proved that this was their West; this was a West they understood. And you can’t kid a kidder.

“A Saturday Afternoon Bath, Sabin Canyon” Vic Donahue

MARCH 2013 – MARCH 2014

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