

# Speaking of Kansas

## Washburn Center for Kansas Studies



## Kansas Studies Newsletter

Fall 2014

### Kansas Studies Courses Spring Semester 2013

- EN 190A** *Film Appreciation: KS in the Movies* 1-3:40 T, Averill  
**EN 390A** *Aspects of Film: KS in the Movies* 1-3:40 T, Averill  
**GL 103C** *Historical Geology* 5:30-6:45 MW, Gilliland  
**HI 322** *Kansas History* 11-12:15 TR, Mactavish  
**HI 397** *Internship in History Agencies*, Goosen  
**IS 340** *Kansas Studies* 5:30-8 T, multiple Washburn professors  
**PO 307** *Internship in State & Local Government*, Beatty  
**PO 309** *Kansas Legislative Experience*, R, Beatty  
**PO 371** *Kansas Legislative Experience*, R, Beatty

## New Kansas Studies course: IS 340

Class will be lead by multiple Washburn professors

A new Kansas Studies course, simply called **Kansas Studies (IS 340)**, was approved at the General Faculty meeting on Monday, November 17. Over a year in the making, the course originated from suggestions made by the Kansas Studies Review Committee in the fall of 2013 as a way to increase minors in Kansas Studies. The course might be described as the ultimate multi-disciplinary course at Washburn as it will be taught by eleven Washburn faculty members, most of whom teach Kansas Studies courses. Fields of study include the **arts, anthropology, archaeology, history, geology, geography, literature, politics, religion** and **urbanization**. It is scheduled to be taught on Tuesday evenings in the spring semester. An advantage of the course is that it has received general education approval and so is particularly supportive of junior and senior students who still need a general education course.

For information on the course, contact the Director of the Center for Kansas Studies, **Tom Schmiedeler**, via email: [tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu](mailto:tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu) or by phone, **670-1559**.



**Spring 2015**  
New Course Offering:  
**"Kansas Studies"**  
IS 340 — **Tuesdays, 5:30-8:00 PM**  
Approved as a  
General Education  
Course

The ultimate **multi-disciplinary** course, "Kansas Studies" will be taught by **eleven Washburn faculty** who will instruct students in a **variety of topics** pertaining to Kansas.

- Topics include:
- the arts
  - anthropology
  - archaeology
  - history
  - geology
  - geography
  - literature
  - politics
  - religion
  - urbanization

For information about the course and the Kansas Studies minor please contact:  
Dr. Schmiedeler at [tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu](mailto:tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu) or stop by his office at Henderson, 225.

Tom Schmiedeler, Director  
785-670-1559  
[tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu](mailto:tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu)

Deborah Altus, Human Services  
Tom Averill, English  
Bob Beatty, Political Science  
Patti Bender, Health  
Roy Bird, KHC Speaker  
Marcia Cebulska, Playwright  
Jeannie Chinn, KSHS  
Charles Cranston, Mass Media  
Virgil Dean, KSHS  
Tambra Eifert, Geology  
Kelly Erby, History  
William Gilliland, Geology  
Rachel Goossen, History  
Chris Hamilton, Political Science  
Robert Hull, Finance  
Reinhild Janzen, Art  
Jim Kelly, KTWU  
David Kendall, KTWU  
Gabrielle Lunte, Modern Languages  
Bruce Mactavish, History  
Judith McConnell-Farmer, Education  
Eric McHenry, English  
Linsey Modellmog, Political Science  
Marguerite Perret, Art  
Mark Peterson, Political Science  
J. Karen Ray, English  
Leslie Reynard, Communication  
William Roach, Business  
Tom Schmiedeler, Geography  
Robin Shrimplin, History  
Bradley Siebert, English  
Sarah Smarsh, English  
Margaret Stewart, English  
Marydorsey Wanless, Art  
David Winchester, Mabee Library  
Margaret Wood, Soc./Anthropology  
Carol Yoho, SCHS

Center for Kansas Studies  
[www.washburn.edu/cks](http://www.washburn.edu/cks)

# The Mulvane Art Museum presents Cabinet of Curiosities: 150 Years of Washburn University

The Mulvane Art Museum is currently holding Cabinet of Curiosities: 150 Years of Washburn University in honor of the 150th anniversary of Washburn University and the 90th anniversary of the Mulvane Art Museum. The exhibition will run through Saturday, December 20, 2014.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries European aristocrats collected scientific and ethnographic artifacts, and works of art and antiquities, which they displayed in rooms called “cabinets of curiosities.” This exhibition revives the spirit of those rooms by presenting art and artifacts from Washburn’s past.



Carnegie Reading Room with the Parthenon replicas.

The exhibition is divided into a number of thematic areas. It begins with the campus before the 1966 Topeka tornado. This section includes a stained



Various Ichabod oddities.

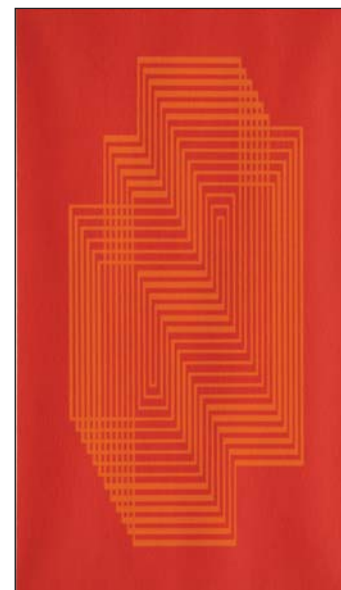
glass window from some early unknown building. If someone knows from which building the window originated, please con-

tact the Mulvane staff. Also on display are plaster replicas of the frieze from the Parthenon in Athens. They hung over the bookcases in Carnegie Library and also in the art department.

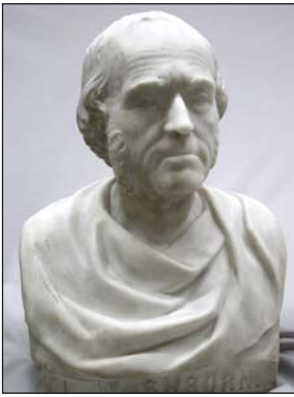
The next section showcases the aftermath of the tornado, including some odd decorations made out of wood from destroyed buildings. After the tornado the bells from the tower on Thomas Gymnasium were reinstalled in 1971 in the new Kuehne Bell Tower, a model of which is displayed in this section. Rosemary Yoho’s beautiful drawing of Kuehne Bell Tower can also be seen here.

The Ichabod mascot takes center stage in the exhibition. Here the viewer can see 1934 alum Bradbury Thompson’s original 1938 design for the Ichabod, as well as many subsequent variations. This includes an Ichabod hardhat now being used in the Morgan Hall renovation and a folk art Ichabod whirligig discovered at Topeka’s Wheatland Antiques Mall.

The founding of the Mulvane is commemorated by Topeka’s Robert Merrell Gage’s bronze relief of Frances Davis Whittemore, the founder of the Art Department at Washburn and the first director of the Mulvane. When Gage was studying art with Whittemore, she encouraged him to be a sculptor. This section also includes his portrait bust of Beethoven.



Albers’ “Ascension” from the Washburn Bible.



Benjamin Kinney's bust of Ichabod Washburn

Campus life is the theme of the next section, which includes sports memorabilia such as the game baseball from Coach Steve Anson's 500th win and the helmet of Ichabod Glen Millice, who caught the first forward pass thrown in college football. Freshman beanies, ritual fraternity paddles and senior law school canes point out the pecking order that seems to exist at every university.

The final section is devoted to the Washburn Bible, designed by Bradbury Thompson. Joseph Albers' original screenprint frontispieces to the three-

volume Bible are here, as is the Bible itself.

From this exhibition, you can learn much about the history of Washburn, an important Kansas institution.



Stained glass window which Theatre professor Tony Naylor rescued, from the basement prop room in Garvey, as university surplus.

Article submitted by **Julia R. Myers**, Visiting Curator, [julie.myers1@washburn.edu](mailto:julie.myers1@washburn.edu)

Readers are invited to visit the Mulvane's website: <http://www.washburn.edu/mulvane/>

## Memoirs of Life in Western Kansas CKS 2015 Kansas Day Presenter: More About Julene Bair

**Julene Bair** is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the Iowa Nonfiction Writing Program. She has won awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Wyoming Arts Council. Her essay collection, *One Degree West*, won Women Writing the West's WILLA award and was a finalist for the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award. She has taught at the University of Wyoming and the University of Iowa, and currently lives in Longmont, Colorado. Julene has published editorials on the Ogallala Aquifer, most notably for *USA Today* and *The New York Times*.

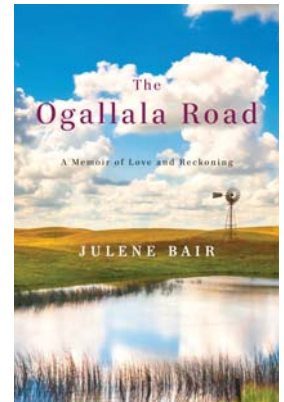


In ***The Ogallala Road: A Memoir of Love and Reckoning*** (Viking; March 10th, 2014; 978-0-670-78604-6; \$26.95), Julene Bair's father has recently died, leaving her part owner of a large family farm operation that irrigates out of the Ogallala Aquifer, the vast groundwater reserves underlying the plains from South Dakota to Texas. Julene wants to honor her father's wish that the farm stay in the family, but she hates wasting the "precious" water,

which she grew up thinking was "the best-in-the-world," on soybeans and corn. Government subsidies and ethanol policy encourage these crops, even though they are depleting the aquifer.

Worried that irrigation is causing plains' creeks and rivers, along which Indians used to camp and pioneers first settled, to run dry, Julene travels home to explore the watershed. While there, she meets Ward, a rancher from Kansas' beautiful Smoky Valley. As their relationship develops, he seems ready to step in and become the father that her son longs for. She hopes that he will also help her find a way to hang onto both her family's land and her principles.

Julene struggles to reconcile her conflicted loyalties to her family, on the one hand, and the health of her family's land on the other. The result is a unique and timely American saga—a page-turning story by a gifted writer about land-based identity, romantic and family love, and an environmental crisis, the dimensions of which are only now becoming apparent.



# Thomas Fox Averill: “Garden Plots” web adventure



<http://www.washburn.edu/cas/english/taverill/garden/gardengatesection.html>

**G**arden Plots is a bontanica of short stories, poems, rants, meditations, and other short pieces about gardens, gardeners, plants, garden design, and the human relationship to nature.

The “Garden Plots” web site is accessible from Thomas Fox Averill’s English department web page. Tom has planned and posted about ninety of his “Garden Plots” choices over the past several months.

A variety of publishers for Averill’s work are listed on the site’s “Publication Credits” page, and Tom has provided numerous links on the web site to access his creative writing. One method is to use illustrations done by artist Clint Ricketts. Clint’s credits are shared as another part of this article.

Tom has organized his work into fifteen specific garden plots. Each garden can be accessed

from the large gardens illustration that opens the web site or by sub-sites.

## The garden plots include:

- Garden Gate
- British Gardens
- American Gardens
- Poetry Fountains
- Design Garden
- Garden Images
- Family Gardens
- Garden Relationships
- Whimsical Gardens
- Oriental Gardens
- Garden of Plants
- Gardeners
- Memorial Gardens
- French Gardens
- 4 separate Reality Checks
- Epilogue



# Thomas Fox Averill: “Garden Plots” web adventure

Garden entries can also be accessed alphabetically by the name of each work, by garden section, by publication credit or by places of inspiration. To find work by exploring the garden illustration:

1. Move your cursor over the **main map** to find the sections; once inside a section find the icons that lead to the individual garden plots.
2. In the Garden Gate Section, click on **Garden Plots by Section**, to find a listing of sections and plots.
3. In the Garden Gate Section, click on **Garden Plots, Alphabetical** to see all stories.
4. Simply go from page to page discovering sections and stories within sections by moving your cursor until the story title appears.

All icons in each section are on the right side of each story in that section, in case you miss one.

Tom’s Garden Plots are grouped together in the same way a landscape architect might design a garden—the literary pieces have unities of theme, time frame, tone, form, and subject in the same way a garden has water plants, perennials, grasses, climbers, and particular species to feature. The plots are in sections, just as a garden might have an area of **Oriental Gardens**, of fountains, of topiary, all separated by border plants, hedges, and walls. Once “inside” the garden, please visit in the same way you might a garden, moving first toward what interests you most, given your time and taste.

## Tom states:

“When I visit gardens, I am often exhausted by the richness of what I am seeing, not to mention the variety and the walking it takes to see all the variety. Gardens are best visited over time, through seasons, with different expectations and interests in what they have to offer. The same might be true of these plots: visiting the **Whimsical Gardens** section will be quite different from visiting the **Memorial Gardens** section; the **Poetry Fountains** will look and feel different from visits to the historically oriented **British Gardens** and **American Gardens**.

“As you visit, you will be traversing the land-

scape of this literary collection, but you will also be visiting all that I visited as inspiration for these pieces. Some of them are places: the National Botanical Garden of Wales, Wordsworth’s Rydal Mount, the Shofuso House in Fairmount Park in Philadelphia, the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Other inspirations come from reading, from conversations, and from research; readers often travel to those places with writers, as well. This collection is not exhaustive, but like most gardens, it shows the interests of the gardener. Join me in my exploration of plants, gardens, garden design, and the human relationship with Nature.”

## Samples of “Garden Plots” —

### Garden Bully

My Italian grandfather spent more time abusing his basil and tomato plants than he spent eating their savory leaves or their bright red fruit. Each morning of my yearly two-week summer visit to Southeast Kansas he would pull me from sweet bed sheets to work alongside him in his substantial garden. He’d stand, arms crossed, in front of a caged tomato. “You have to discourage them,” he explained. “Re-direct their energy. If I gave a tomato plant a chance to vine, that’s all it would do. And basil?” He’d point an accusing finger at one of his small bushes. “What a lazy plant!” He’d bend, helping me to see how quickly basil wants to push up that finger of flowers, to produce thinner and thinner leaves and then go to seed. “Tomatoes meander,” he’d say. “Basil practically suicides. So you bully them!”

He showed me the tiny new leaves in the crotch of the tomato vine. “You be the one who decides the tomato’s future,” he would say, pinching off the hopeful growth. Soon, our fingers would be stained a pungent green. Then we’d feel the stiff basil shaft beginning to lift toward flowers and we’d cut each one, not at the shaft, but two or more twin leaves down the stem. My grandfather was relentless, ruthless, and expected the same of me, pinching and cutting each morning. But his basil bushes formed into broad-leafed green globes. No tiny white flowers were allowed, no icecaps on the north poles of his plants. And his

# Thomas Fox Averill: “Garden Plots” web adventure

tomatoes filled their cages, squat and dense, with perfect red fruit. “You have to be the boss,” he would remind me. “You have to be smarter than your garden.”

When he finally harvested tomato and basil, he would bring them tenderly into his kitchen and mix them with fresh mozzarella, splashes of olive oil and balsamic vinegar, then sprinkle them with salt and pepper. He would sit before them at the table, reverent, eyes nearly full of tears, for they were beautiful. He would take a bite, savor the taste, finally swallow. “God,” he would say, “I worship those plants. You know I do.”

“Garden Bully” first appeared in *Little Balkans Review*

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## The Grass Garden

They hired Timothy because of his reputation as an innovator in landscape architecture. And, because they could well afford him: the extremely generous grant from the Morton family assured that the open land just south of downtown could be a showcase of natural beauty. Timothy was said to be influenced by the classic sweeping borders of “Capability” Brown, that giant in English gardening history. Timothy might snake a hedge along winding pathways. Maybe a labyrinth, or a circular path festooned with a rainbow of color. Though the climate was dry, the endowment could afford irrigation, a sprinkler system, fresh mulches each year to hold moisture and release nutrients not always present in Central Kansas soils.

Nobody was prepared for Timothy’s grass garden. Eighteen species, one for each incorporated town in the county. Grasses to wave, to shoot up plumes, to head, to droop with the weight of seeds. Bluestem, switch, dropseed, Indian, wheatgrass and tufted hair. “I’ve fallen in love with the names alone,” reported Timothy to the planning committee. “Remember, humans first became human, two-legged creatures in grasslands. Imagine how people will feel being drawn into grass. The subtle shades of green, the rusts, browns, siennas of fall, the heads poking up through winter snow.”

Hands shot up. No flowers, bushes, trees? No scents of lavender, lilac, magnolia or rose?

“Imagine texture,” Timothy said. “The shapely thin reed grass next to the flat broad leaves of Indian grass. Watch what your abundance of wind can do to such eager stalks.”

They refused to imagine. In their wisdom they cut their losses, paid Timothy for his trouble, and hired a horticulturist from the junior college, who lived up to their expectations.

Today, only the grasses in the ditches wave to passersby, trying to help them feel at home in a landscape so dominated by sky. Wild oats bow their heads on the road to the Morton Botanical Garden, where visitors will see expensive beauty, primped and poised. Expensively designed and maintained. As travelers leave, the heads of bluestem at the side of the road nod, as though acknowledging their passing.


“The Grass Garden” first appeared in *seveneight-five*

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## About the Illustrator:

Clint Ricketts is a printmaker, painter, and teacher currently living in Lawrence, Kansas. He received his MFA from the University of Kansas in 2010, and has



taught design and printmaking courses at Emporia State University, Washburn University and Missouri Western State University. Clint’s art has been exhibited locally at galleries including The Wonder Fair, The H and R Block Art Space, The Kansas City Art Institute, The Invisible Hand Gallery and the Kansas City Collection. Clint’s work has also been seen nationally and internationally in the publication *New American Paintings* and in galleries including the International Print Center of New York, OK Mountain of Austin, Texas, the Coyne Gallery of The University of Syracuse and Hongik University in Seoul, Korea. 

## Prairie Heritage Book Award to Ron Parks for *The Darkest Period: The Kanza Indians and Their Last Homeland, 1846-1873*

At the Junction City Commission meeting on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Junction City Commissioner and Prairie Heritage president Jim Sands presented **Ronald D. Parks** with the Prairie Heritage Book Award for 2014. The award, given for the best book of the year on the culture of the Great Plains, comes with a cash prize of \$1000. Parks' book, entitled ***The Darkest Period: The Kanza Indians and Their Last Homeland, 1846-1873***, published by the University of Oklahoma Press in May, describes the experience of the Kanza (or Kaw) people during their last years in Kansas, before their removal to Oklahoma. Parks, a fifth generation Kansan who grew up in Minneapolis and now lives in Manhattan, was for 20 years the director of the Kaw Mission State Historic Site in Council Grove.

"There is a beautiful spirit that comes through the writing in this book," said Delilah Hamilton, Prairie Heritage secretary and book-award selection committee member. "When you finish one chapter you can't wait to begin the next."

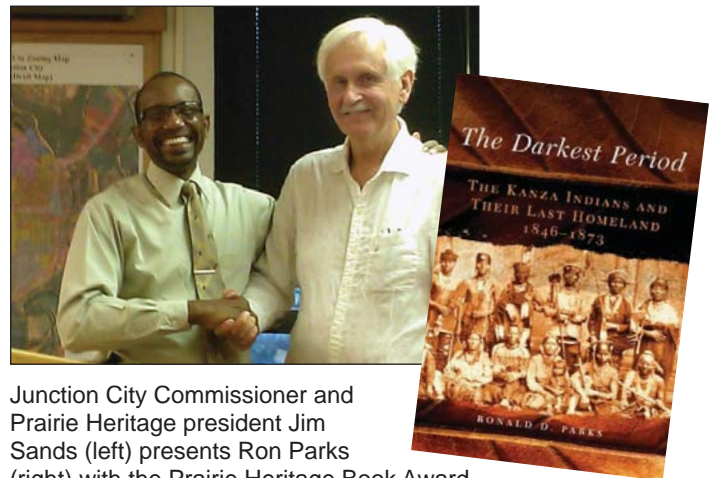
Award events included a book-signing in late September at Valerie's Books and Such, 211 W. Main St., in Council Grove.

That weekend the pageant "Voices of the Wind People" was enacted by members of the Kaw Nation and residents of Council Grove in the out-

door amphitheater in Council Grove. Ron Parks is also the author of the script for the pageant.

"Ron Parks' pageant and now his book are both very moving and enlightening," said Prairie Heritage board member Margy Stewart. "They help us understand what it means to be a Kansan."

**Prairie Heritage, Inc.**, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation of the prairie and its stories. The book award was endowed by a bequest from Kansas conservationist **Jan Garton (1949-2009)**. For more information, contact **Margy Stewart**, [zzstew@flinthills.com](mailto:zzstew@flinthills.com), **785.539.5592**.



Junction City Commissioner and Prairie Heritage president Jim Sands (left) presents Ron Parks (right) with the Prairie Heritage Book Award at the Junction City Commission meeting Sept. 2.

## Reading Opens for 2015 Prairie Heritage Book Award

In 2015 the Jan Garton **Prairie Heritage Book Award** will be given to the best book of the year that illuminates the heritage of America's mid-continental prairies, whether of the tall-grass, mid-grass, or short-grass regions. Authors' first books receive extra consideration. Books may be in any genre, and topics may include but are not limited to social or natural history; prairie culture of the past or in-the-making; and interactions between society and ecology. From its founding, Prairie Heritage Institute, Inc. has had a special focus on the African-American settlements of the Flint Hills of Kansas; therefore, books revealing non-European prairie heritage are especially welcome. Also encouraged are books that confront the question of prairie ways of life—how denizens of the prairie, human and non-human, have lived

or can live together without the destruction and exterminations that have characterized the past.

If submissions are inadequate in a given year, Prairie Heritage reserves the right to make no award.

The Prairie Heritage Book Award comes with a cash prize of \$1000 and a sponsored book-signing. Books published in 2014 through May 15, 2015, are eligible for the 2015 book award. There is no application fee. Books may be nominated by publishers, authors, or readers by sending two copies to: **Prairie Heritage Book Award, Bird Runner Wildlife Refuge, 11003 Lower McDowell Rd., Junction City, Kansas 66441**

Reading begins immediately and closes on May 15, 2015. For complete details visit:

<http://www.prairieheritage.org/news.cfm?id=15>

# Washburn University's Carnegie Building: The First 110 Years

The Carnegie building on the Washburn University campus is celebrating its 110th anniversary. As professors in the Department of Education at Washburn University we are conducting research focusing on the history of the five remaining Carnegie Libraries built during the years 1900-1906 on Kansas college campuses. One of them is located at Washburn and is the home of the Department of Education. This research project is funded by a Washburn University's Small Research Grant award for 2014-2015.

by **Judith Lynne McConnell-Farmer, Ed.D.**  
and **Gloria A. Dye, Ph.D.**

## Andrew Carnegie

During the progressive era Kansas benefited from the philanthropic endeavors and efforts of Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919). Carnegie was a philanthropist who said that "the man who dies rich dies disgraced". Although he is perhaps best known for his role in the expansion of the steel industry, later in life he also provided the resources to build 2,509 public libraries as well as financial support for institutions of higher learning throughout the United States and worldwide. (PBS Online/WGBH, 1999).

Among Carnegie's salient traits were a strong work ethic, resourcefulness and philanthropy. He was born in Dunfermline, Scotland, on November 25, 1835. His father, William, was a handloom weaver who lost his job when the power looms were automated and his mother, Margaret, mended shoes and owned a grocery store. He had one younger brother, Thomas. Carnegie's early beginnings were at best quite modest. He wrote, "I began to learn what poverty meant. It was burnt into my heart then that my father had to beg for work. And then and there came the resolve that I would cure that when I got to be a man." (Bass, M. 2014)

In Scotland during the 1840s there was a general economic crisis. For many families, like the Carnegies, the advent of the automated power loom resulted in unemployment and poverty. In 1848 Carnegie's mother borrowed money for the family to immigrate to a Scottish community in the U.S.A. They moved to Allegheny City on the north side of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Carmichael, E., 2014).

Carnegie only had five years of formal schooling when he took a job as a bobbin boy in a textile mill. As a bobbin boy he changed spools of thread in the Blackstock Cotton Mill for 12 hours a day, 6 days a week. He earned a weekly wage of \$1.20. Lat-

er Carnegie became a messenger boy for the Atlantic & Ohio Telegraph Company and earned \$2.50 per week. His delivery job permitted him to enter theaters without having to pay for tickets. While he was making late-night deliveries to the theaters, he was able to watch performances by

notable playwrights. During this time he was introduced to Colonel James Anderson, whose personal library he opened to any young worker with an interest in reading and learning. Carnegie took advantage of this opportunity and so began a life-long interest and investment in learning for his own sake and for the benefit of others. At that time there were few free public libraries.

At age eighteen he became the Superintendent of the Pittsburgh Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and soon was noticed by Thomas A. Scott, who helped him with some of his first investments. During his lifetime Carnegie became the second richest man in the history of the U.S.A., behind only John D. Rockefeller. Carnegie was an industrialist, businessman, entrepreneur, steel magnate and philanthropist. He died on August 11, 1919, in Lenox, Massachusetts and is buried at the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in North Tarrytown, New York. (Developing Super Leaders, 2014).

## Washburn University's Carnegie Building

The cornerstone of the Carnegie Building at Washburn University, which was built as a Carnegie Library, was laid on March 10, 1904, with money donated by Andrew Carnegie. This Carnegie Library was nominated and selected for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. It shares a legacy with other Carnegie Libraries worldwide. In the U.S.A. 1,689 libraries were built with others built in such countries as Australia, Canada, Fiji, Great Britain, Mauritius, New Zealand and Serbia.

The intent of this research project is three-fold focusing on the following aspects:

1. The history of the Carnegie building on the Washburn University campus is investigated from its original use as a library for the university, to its use as a law library and finally to its current use as the home of the Department of Education.
2. The significance of the architectural design and structure of Washburn University's Carnegie building is discussed in detail.
3. The remaining college libraries located in Kansas are examined.



## Carnegie Building —cont.

This project has timely significance. While we are acknowledging the Carnegie building's first 110 years, the university is also preparing to celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2015.

During the spring of 2015 we will be traveling to the sites of the four remaining Carnegie Libraries located on other college campuses. Originally, there were seven academic or college Carnegie Libraries in Kansas. Unfortunately, the Carnegie Library at Bethany College in Lindsborg, which was completed for \$20,000, and Fairmount College's Carnegie Library in Wichita, which was completed for \$40,000, are no longer standing. Both had been dedicated for use within the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

We will compare the structure, history and current use of each of the remaining four college Carnegie libraries, located in the cities of Atchison, Baldwin City, Emporia, and McPherson, to our Carnegie building at Washburn University.

Atchison's Stephen Gromatzky, the Library Director at Benedictine College, said in a personal communication, "Midland Lutheran College received a \$15,000 grant in 1906 and a library was built on the campus. Midland moved its campus to Fremont, Nebraska, in 1919, and it is now Midland University. In subsequent years the property was acquired by the Benedictine monks and has become the home of, first, Maur Hill and, now, Maur Hill-Mount Academy High School. The original Carnegie building is still in use as The John Flynn Athletic Center."

Baker University is located in Baldwin City. On March 12, 1906, \$37,000 was appropriated to build

the Carnegie Library located at 604 Eighth Street. The building is currently named Cage Hall and it houses offices and classrooms.

The Carnegie Library of Emporia College in Emporia is now part of Emporia State University. Funding of \$30,000 was appropriated to build the library at 1300 W Twelfth Street on January 3, 1900. Currently, the building is vacant.


McPherson College's Carnegie Library was built in McPherson beginning on April 18, 1905, and opened in 1907 at a cost of \$13,500. In 1972 the building was renamed Beeghly Hall.

At each site we will investigate and photograph the architectural structure of the building and its history and current use. We will also interview and videotape cur-

rent personnel and those people who previously worked in the buildings. The information we glean from these visits will be compared to the history, architectural design and current use of our Carnegie building at Washburn University. (Carnegie Corporation of New York, 2014)

### Conclusion

In conclusion, it should be noted that, "Carnegie spent over \$55 million of his wealth on libraries alone and he is often referred to as the "Patron Saint of Libraries." (Peace Palace Library, 2014).

The people of Kansas have benefitted from the philanthropic endeavors of individuals like Andrew Carnegie. Countless students and community members across Kansas have developed a thirst for learning because of the resources made available at their colleges' Carnegie Libraries. 



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Carnegie Library photo is from the "Washburn First 150 Years" video, available online at the WU website.

# The Mulvane Art Museum presents **Drift and Drag: Reflections on Water**

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**Water scarcity is an important problem** today in Kansas, the Great Plains and worldwide, and it is being investigated by state governments and many scientists. Because their discussion is largely in the language of science and speaks of quantifiable evidence and data, the magnitude of the problem is often unclear to the general public. That is where art comes in. Drift and Drag will present fourteen projects illuminating these water issues from a humanities perspective, addressing the practical, spiritual, historical, philosophical, and political import of this essential fluid. The exhibition will include an installation, a dance, a participatory game, photographs, videos and a public collaboration project. Interacting with these presentations will increase awareness and understanding of the many meanings of water for Kansans.

**The exhibition will run from January 16 to March 14, 2015.**

## **Related events are:**

**Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 PM:** Screening of the film *Tambien La Lluvia* [*Even the Rain*]. The movie is a fictional account of an American film crew in Bolivia that is making a film about the Spanish Conquest. By hiring Cochabamba Indians as extras, the Americans become involved in the Cochabambas' battle against a multinational water company, which is charging exorbitant prices for a resource that the indigenous peoples feel should belong to all.



<http://www.eventherainmovie.com/synopsis.html>

**Thursday, January 29, 4:00 PM:** Kansas Day speaker Julene Blair, author of *The Ogallala*



*Road*, will speak. The lecture will be followed by a reception and book-signing. Books will be available at the Mulvane Gift Shop. This event is sponsored by the Center for Kansas Studies. [www.juleneblair.com](http://www.juleneblair.com)

**Wednesday, February 4, 4:00 PM:** Artist's Talk by Marguerite Perret, Associate Professor of Art, Washburn University. Perret is the curator of Drift and Drag. The exhibition also includes two works by Perret in collaboration with other artists (see below).

**Friday, February 6, 5:30-7:30 PM:** Reception during Topeka's First Friday ArtWalk. During the reception, Ellie Goudie-Averill will perform her dance piece *Ladies of the Lake*.

**Friday, February 20, 10:00-4:00 PM:** A symposium on Kansas water issues will mix scientists and artists in an exploration of necessity and significance of water. Keynote speaker will be Rex Buchanan, Interim Director of the Kansas Geological Survey. Other participants will be announced later.

**March 6, 6:00 PM:** Screening of the film *The Cherokee Word for Water*, which tells the true story of the struggle of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma to bring clean running water to their community. While building a twenty mile waterline, they reawakened the traditional concept of "gadugi," that is working together to solve a problem. This proved to be inspirational to others in Indian country, starting a new self-help movement. [www.cw4w.com/synopsis](http://www.cw4w.com/synopsis)

**All events are at the Mulvane Art Museum and are free and open to the public.**

## **Artist Projects Represented in This Exhibition**

**Marin Abell:** A video outlining the research behind the in-progress project H.M.S. Hydra which explores how Eurasian Milfoil, an

## Drift and Drag —cont.

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invasive aquatic plant species is threatening the health of Lake Shawnee and other lakes across the country.

**Reuben Aaronson + Steven Lerner:** A film *When the Well Runs Dry* documents the conflict over water rights in Florence, Marion County, KS.

**Michelle Casey:** *Geo-mapping the Deep Time Waters of Kansas*, an audio slide show that looks at the deep-time history of water in Kansas and the similarities between the Permian extinction, when 95% of all life was extinguished, and current climate change.

**Teresita Gonzáles:** *Basurita (Little Trash)* is a short video that documents water pollution in the Blue Lake of Ypacarai, Paraguay's once iconic lake, which is located a few miles from the capital city Asuncion.

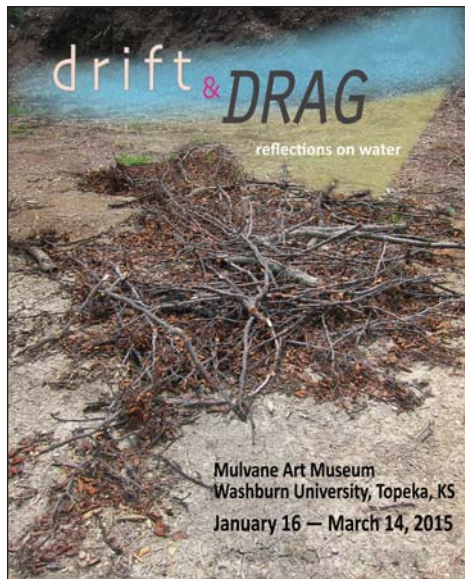
**Ellie Goudie-Averill + Natasha Taylor:** *Ladies of the Lakes: Sirens of Climate Change* is a movement and sound-based project exploring the embodied nature of our lakes and waterways. Produced and commissioned by Marguerite Perret and Bruce Scherting.

**Basia Irland:** Water films, seven short documentaries on rivers.

**Robin Lasser + Marguerite Perret:** The *Pure Dirty Water* video describes the purification process at a wastewater treatment plant in Snowmass Colorado. Gregorian-style chant serves as the sound track. <http://puredirtywater.weebly.com/index.html>

**Dave Loewenstein:** *Water is Political* will engage Washburn students in the politics of water in Kansas. This will result in a poster campaign.

**Felicia Mitchell:** *Water is Life* treats the thirty-year water-rights struggle of the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas.



**Marguerite Perret + Bruce Scherting:** A multimedia project, *Washed Up: From the Permian Sea to Interior Port* explores the role of water in the Great Plains through deep time history into our current era and beyond. Contributions from WU students Maddie Shrock and Shawn Rooks.

**Emmy Rice:** *Making Waves* is a motion interactive project in which visitors can create water ripples on the screen triggered by a touch sensor. The generated images are then recorded and indexed.

**Larry Schwarm:** *Kansas Land Use*, photos commissioned by the Biofuels and Climate Change: Farmers' Land Use Decisions research project at KU and K-State.

**Sarah Smarsh:** Interviews with farmers and ranchers who are addressing the impact that water availability has on their lives.

**Elizabeth Stevenson and Kent Thomas Williams:** A video *An Amateur's Rain Dance while Swimming* explores the history of Waconda Springs in Mitchell County, Kansas. A site sacred to both the Pawnee and Kanza tribes, it later became a health resort.

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**The Mulvane Art Museum** is located at Seventeenth and Jewell streets on the campus of Washburn University. The hours of the Museum, ArtLab, and Gift Shop are Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday-Friday 10-5, Saturday 1-4. Admission to the Museum and ArtLab is free and open to the public. Free parking is conveniently located to the west of the Mulvane.

For more information, visit the website at [www.washburn.edu/mulvane](http://www.washburn.edu/mulvane) or contact **Julie Myers**, Curator, at [julie.myers1@washburn.edu](mailto:julie.myers1@washburn.edu) or at 785-670-2425. Questions about the Kansas Day speaker can be sent to [tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu](mailto:tom.schmiedeler@washburn.edu)

Images from the exhibition are also available.



# CKS Meeting Summaries

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September 4, 2014

**T**he Center for Kansas Studies held its first fall meeting on Thursday at 12:30 in the Vogel Room of the Washburn Union. Attending the meeting were Debra Mikulka, Tara Gregg, Tom Averill, Rachel Goossen, Will Gilliland, Marguerite Perret, Julie Myers, Eric McHenry, Carol Yoho, Connie Gibbons, Marcia Cebulka, Sarah Smarsh, Dave Kendall and Tom Schmiedeler. The Director of the Center, Tom Schmiedeler, spoke briefly about the budget and the progress on the application for the new Kansas Studies course, currently under review. It will be listed as IS 307 and will be a general education course taught by at least ten Kansas Studies faculty. Tom is issuing a call for nominations for Kansas Day speakers and for items for the fall *Speaking of Kansas* Newsletter.

Debra Mikulka and Tara Gregg of the Office of Sponsored Projects were guest presenters at the meeting. They discussed how they can assist in every stage of grant writing for either large or small grants, including writing, review, and finding sources of funding. They were instrumental in helping the Mulvane procure a Kansas Humanities Council Grant recently. Debra and Tara encourage Fellows to meet with them to review opportunities for funding from outside sources.

Rachel Goossen announced that the History Department regularly offers HI 397, "Internships in Historical Agencies," with placement at the Kansas State Historical Society and other area agencies. Students typically have opportunities to work with archivists, historic preservationists, archeologists, education specialists, and they may apply this 3-hour upper division credit toward their minor in Kansas Studies. Faculty are encouraged to have interested students talk with Rachel Goossen about their preferences at least one semester before enrolling in the course.

Sarah Smarsh reported that following a spring soft launch of the website for Free State Media, a civic journalism platform connecting personal stories to public issues in Kansas, the long-term, multimedia project is under development for its official launch down the road. Her upcoming national publications involving Kansas include a feature on civics education at *Guernica Magazine* (Sept. 15, [www.guernicamag.com](http://www.guernicamag.com)) and a memoir essay on the relationship between family and place in *The Common* (October, Issue 8, [www.thecommononline.org](http://www.thecommononline.org)).

Connie Gibbons and Julie Myers spoke of two current exhibitions at the Mulvane, Old Walks and New and Spirit of the Walk, which have works in them by Kansas artists. These exhibitions will close on September 27. On Tuesday,

9/16 at 4:30, Julie Myers will give a gallery talk on Kansas artists in Old Walks and New. The current Washburn University Art Department Alumni Exhibition includes works by many Kansas artists, such as Carol Yoho. In January 2015, the Mulvane will present an exhibition titled *Drift and Drag: Reflections on Water*, curated by Marguerite Perret, which will look at water issues in Kansas and the Great Plains. We are also working with Kansas Crop Artist Stan Herd, who, pending funding, will create an earthwork/urban garden in Topeka in the spring/summer of 2016.

Tom Averill mentioned that the Map of Kansas Literature on the Center web site continues to add resources. He also mentioned that he continues to add stories to his "Garden Plots" section of his web site [www.washburn.edu/cas/english/taverill/garden/](http://www.washburn.edu/cas/english/taverill/garden/). He also requested funding for two projects. Mabee Library and the Thomas Fox Averill Kansas Studies Collection wish to acquire the James R. Mead Family Books Collection, now in possession of the Schuyler Mead Jones, longtime curator of the Pitt River Museum in Oxford, England, and a great grandson of Mead. Mead was a plainsman, Kansas pioneer, state legislator and one of the founders of Wichita. His memoirs were published in *Hunting and Trading on the Great Plains, 1859-1875*. Tom requested \$1,000 from the Center's Agency Account to acquire, catalog and shelve the collection of over four hundred volumes. Additional funding is to be supplied by the Washburn History Department and Mabee Library. Fellows approved the funding request.

A second funding request by Tom involves one of his short stories, "The Musical Genius of Moscow, Kansas." Chris Blunk of *Through a Glass Productions* finished a script on the short story and filmed at two locations in Topeka. Tom requested \$1,000 to cover expenses of a final, third shot and for editing and promotion of the short film. Fellows approved funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the project.

Bob Beatty requested in absentia \$300 to pay Carol Yoho to update and work on the Kansas Institute for Politics web site [www.washburn.edu/reference/cks/politics/](http://www.washburn.edu/reference/cks/politics/). As Bob noted because it is an election year "we'll have a number of tasks for her to do, including adding all the Kansas political TV ads to the web site. I have already gathered over twenty ads to be added and it is only August!" Fellows approved the funding request.

Carol Yoho announced the History Program on "Building Topeka" on Sunday, September 14 at the Capitol City Iron Works. The program is hosted by Shawnee County Historical Society,

## CKS Meeting Summaries —cont.

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Topeka High Historical Society and Topeka History Geeks. Owners of the Iron Works, Dave and Renee Stevens will showcase many of the original documents discovered in the building's safe, some of which bear the signature of the company's and Topeka's founder, Cyrus K. Holliday.

Playwright Marcia Cebulka reported that she is writing a novel. Dave Kendall of KTWU spoke on the fall lineup at KTWU including new programming for Sunflower Journeys and several election related programs.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.

—Minutes submitted by **Tom Schmiedeler**

### November 13, 2014

**F**ellows of the Center for Kansas Studies held a breakfast meeting at the Lincoln Room of the Washburn Union beginning at 7:30. In attendance were Will Gilliland, Tom Averill, Rachel Goossen, Marguerite Perret, Bradley Siebert, Julie Myers, Carol Yoho, Judy McConnell-Farmer and Tom Schmiedeler.

Center Director, Tom Schmiedeler, briefly discussed the Center budget and the Kansas Day presenter. He announced that former Senator Nancy Kassebaum Baker, the top vote getter among nominees for the Kansas Day presenter, sent her regrets that she would be unable to speak on Kansas Day. The next highest recipient of votes, Julene Bair, author of *The Ogallala Road*, has agreed to give a presentation based on her book. <http://www.julenebair.com/> Tom also reminded fellows that the deadline for submission to the newsletter, *Speaking of Kansas*, is December 1. He also gave an update on the Kansas Studies course, which will be presented for final approval at the General Faculty meeting on Monday, November 17.

Marguerite Perret submitted a funding request of \$500 for the installation and performance of "Ladies of the Lakes: Sirens of Climate Change." The project blends myth, pop culture and environmental science to examine water security and conservation through the lenses of feminist discourse, social justice, health policy, literature, film studies, dance and visual arts. The requested funding specifically will be for sonification, voice impressions of sirens, and for a sound technician. Fellows approved the expenditure.

Julie Myers, Curator of the Mulvane Art Museum, requested funding of \$500 for an honorarium for the writing of an essay of approximately 2,000 words on the issue of water in Kansas today published in a brochure that will be part of the exhibition *Drift and Drag: Reflections on Water*. The brochure will be

available not only for those who attend the exhibition, but also for those who will attend a gallery talk by Marguerite Perret, a film series of two movies and the one-day symposium, which will bring together artists, humanities scholars, scientists, and water-management professionals. Fellows approved the request.

Tom Averill noted that he is a consultant on "Talking Water," a film about water issues in the state. He also mentioned that the Map of Kansas Literature project continues to add entries and that "Leaving Midland Kansas," a postcard exhibit has been placed in Mabee near the Kansas Collection. He also announced a publication "Flying Over Fly Over Country" in *Kansas Magazine*. [http://issuu.com/kansasmag/docs/kml14w\\_teaser](http://issuu.com/kansasmag/docs/kml14w_teaser)

Brad Siebert announced that he will teach a new course in the spring semester, "Literature and Film: Folk and Fairy Tales." Students can enroll in English 192. Carol Yoho will continue to accept contributions to *Speaking of Kansas* Newsletter until December 1. She also is continuing her work with Bob Beatty with many new campaign ads to place online under the Kansas Politics web site. She also mentioned that the Kansas Authors Club will have their convention in Topeka next year. Judy McConnell Farmer is working with Gloria Dye on a history of Carnegie libraries in Kansas. Her research has taken her around the state to the various Carnegie buildings, some of which are still used as libraries.

Rachel Goossen reported that her husband, Duane Goossen, has been writing a Kansas budget blog which can be read at [www.kansasbudget.com/](http://www.kansasbudget.com/) The web site mentions that Duane Goossen served as the Kansas Budget Director for 12 years in the administrations of three governors—Republican Bill Graves and Democrats Kathleen Sebelius and Mark Parkinson. Goossen is also a former 7-term member of the Kansas House of Representatives (1983-1997). Goossen currently writes and speaks with news reporters, civic organizations and other Kansans on issues related to the Kansas budget. He welcomes your inquiries: [duanegoossen@gmail.com](mailto:duanegoossen@gmail.com)

Rachel also stated that she received a faculty research grant to research John Howard Yoder, a theologian with a lofty legacy but he was an abuser of women nearly everywhere he served. She has an article forthcoming in *Mennonite Quarterly* on the topic.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50.

—Minutes submitted by **Tom Schmiedeler**

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Department: Geography

**Center for Kansas Studies**

*Speaking of Kansas*

**Fall 2014**

## 2014 Kansas Day Celebration “Our Fateful Journey Down the Ogallala Road”

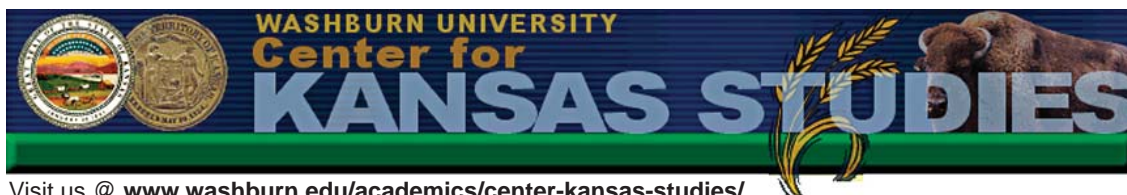
*Mark Your Calendar!*

*More about Bair on p. 3*

In this year's **Kansas Day Talk**, author **Julene Bair**, whose Kansas memoir, *The Ogallala Road*, was released to much critical praise last year, will explore the implications of draining the Ogallala Aquifer. These implications extend beyond the short-term Kansas economy to the long-term health of the state's land and water, and even to the world's ability to eat in the future. Bair will describe watching her own family's dry-land wheat farm and sheep ranch convert to an irrigated operation that drew, on average, 200 million gallons out of the aquifer each year. While offering practical solutions to the aquifer's depletion, Bair also argues that the aquifer can be saved only by broadening the conversation to include the source of farm families' identity, in a nature-dependent way of life.



**Thurs., Jan. 29, Mulvane Gallery, Washburn U., 4:00 PM**



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