Greetings from the Case Library for Western Historical Studies Chairman

With this newsletter, the Case Library is pleased to offer some updates on its many activities. This issue of The Black Hills Historian has been long delayed. Some time ago we announced our intentions to produce an expanded version of the Historian, which would include library news and articles on Black Hills history. Unfortunately, teaching and a multitude of other projects got in the way, and Bobbi and I could never find time to pull it all together. We, however, hope to once again produce The Black Hills Historian on a more regular basis, while gradually expanding its content. Bobbi and I still have many commitments, but this time around we anticipate help from the University’s Marketing and Communications office. Consequently, we are optimistic about the future of The Black Hills Historian.

There is no better place to start your quest into Black Hills history than at the Case Library. It contains many rare and out-of-print Black Hills books, thanks to the generosity of such supporters as Leland D. Case and Watson Parker. If you have a research topic in mind, look through some of these secondary sources to find out what other historians have said about it. The next step in historical research is to review primary source documents, and here the Case Library has many. For instance, when I did the research for “Seth Bullock: Black Hills Lawman,” I found the library’s collection of Lawrence County tax records to be an invaluable source. But there are many other great primary source collections, such as the documents on loan from the U.S. Forest Service, and the materials donated by Black Hills researchers.

These items include Bob Lee’s material on Fort Meade, Joe Douda’s railroad maps and records, and Frank Thomson’s Thoen Stone research notes, just to name a few of the many collections. And don’t forget, the Case Library is interested in adding collections; your donations are always welcome.

Local news briefs:

The West River History Conference has put out a call for papers. The conference is Sept. 22-24 at the Surbeck Center at the School of Mines in Rapid City. For more information go to the West River History Conference website at: http://wrhcsd.wordpress.com/.

The Deadwood Historic Preservation Symposium Fifty Years and Counting: Celebrating Deadwood’s Golden Anniversary as a National Historic Landmark will be held May 13-14, 2011. For more information go to: http://www.cityofdeadwood.com/.

The HARCC will hold their grand opening celebration June 16, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. The Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center is located at 150 Sherman Street Deadwood, SD. For more information go to: http://www.adamsmuseumandhouse.org/adamsevents_detail.php?id=55

Lawrence County Historical Society newsletter is now available online at: http://lawrencecountyhistory.blogspot.com/.


Featured Collection:
W. R. Cross Photograph Collection

The W.R. Cross Collection contains 542 photographic images in stereo card and single print (various sizes) formats. The collection also contains several salesmen’s sample cards. The photographs were primarily taken by W.R. Cross, but the collection also contains a few post civil war photographs taken by Cross’s, brother Daniel H. Cross, and some family photos taken after Cross’s death. The bulk of the photographs are of scenes around the Black Hills and Niobrara Nebraska as well as many images of Native Americans. The collection also contains images of the Badlands of North and South Dakota; Yellowstone National Park; Wind Cave and various...
Greetings

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Beyond working with books and documents, the Case Library also sponsors programs. For instance, we are again working with the Deadwood Historic Preservation Office, the Adams Museum & House, and the Days of ’76 Museum, to present the 9th Annual Deadwood Historic Preservation Symposium on May 13-14, 2011.

This year the symposium is titled: “Fifty Years and Counting: Celebrating Deadwood’s Golden Anniversary as a National Historic Landmark.” Speakers from across the country will talk about the significance of National Historic Landmarks, what Deadwood has accomplished in 50 years, how Deadwood compares to other National Historic Landmarks, and what Deadwood should be doing to prepare for the next 50 years.

The event will kick off with tours of recent Deadwood preservation projects, followed by a 50th anniversary celebration in the Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center on Friday evening, May 13. The presentations will be held on Saturday, May 14, in Deadwood’s Masonic Hall. Make sure and attend; it will be a great event. Watch for more information in the local newspapers.

We hope you enjoy our brief newsletter, and we look forward to hearing your suggestions and comments.

Thanks.
Dr. David A. Wolff

Featured Collection

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military groups in the Dakota Territory and South Dakota. Some of the Native Americans photographed are Sitting Bull and Spotted Tail. William Richard Cross, photographer of the Nebraska-South Dakota frontier, was born in Bennington County, Vt., in 1839. In 1871, Cross and his wife moved to Creighton, Neb., where they spent seven years. Cross took his tent gallery around Knox County photographing the area and its people. Announcements run in the Niobrara Pioneer would notify local people that he was coming to their area. On Feb. 14, 1878 Cross and his family left Creighton for the Spotted Tail Agency, which became Rosebud, in Todd County, South Dakota. There they stayed for four or more months.

Cross spent the next twelve years, beginning in July 4, 1878, in Niobrara, in northern Knox County, Neb. These were very productive years for Cross and he was held in high esteem among the local residents. Next Cross acquired a gallery that belonged to J.W. Pike in Hot Springs, SD. In November of 1900, Cross opened another studio on Minnekahta Avenue in Hot Springs, where he worked until his death. He died of pneumonia, at the age of sixty-eight, on Dec. 23, 1907. According to an article in the Hot Springs Weekly, printed on August 1904, “Mr. Cross of this city is a pioneer photographer of the Black Hills country and occupies a foremost position among business men identified with that line of work.”

For more information on the W.R. Photograph Cross Collection visit the website http://iis.bhsu.edu/lis/findingaid/wrcross.cfm

History of the Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies

In 1974 Leland D. Case, a noted historian, journalist, Black Hills native, and co-founder of the Westerners International, donated his private library of approximately 5,000 volumes, to Black Hills State University. This donation is the core of one of the most thorough western history collections in the area. Today the Case Library contains over 20,000 volumes covering all aspects of western history. The collection is especially strong in South Dakota, Black Hills, and Native American history. The formal dedication of the Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies was held April 30th, 1976.

In addition to books, the library also contains many manuscript collections, historic photographs, and maps. Some notable collections include: Father Szalay papers, Bob Lee Papers, Watson Parker papers, Wharf Bald Mountain Mining Company Records, and the Joe Douda Black Hills Railroading Collection. The Case Library is also the official repository for the Black Hills National Forest Historical Collection. This collection...
History of the Leland D. Case Library
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contains files, maps, and thousands of photographs documenting many aspects of the history of the Black Hills National Forest. This collection was the primary source for photographs in Black Hills National Forest: Harney Peak and the Historic Fire Lookout Towers by Jan Cerney and Roberta Sago (Bobbi).

The Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies continues to be interested in gifts of books, manuscripts, photographs and other primary source materials, particularly those which relate to the history of the Black Hills, South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains.

Books recently added to the Leland D. Case Library Collection:


This photo from the Black Hills National Forest Historical Collection is one of many featured in the book, “Black Hills National Forest: Harney Peak and the Historic Fire Lookout Towers” by Jan Cerney and Bobbi Sago.

Exciting News!
The Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies is now on Facebook

Be sure to follow us!

The Black Hills Historian
(The Case Library newsletter)

Contact info
Case Library is located on the second floor of the E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center on the campus of Black Hills State University.

Hours are typically 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and may vary depending on staff availability. Appointments aren’t necessary, but if you are making a special trip to campus call (605) 642-6361 to make sure we are here. You can also contact Bobbi at Roberta.Sago@BHSU.edu.

Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies:
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Spearfish, SD 57783
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Case Library web pages
www.BHSU.edu/Case

Friends of Case Library web page
www.BHSU.edu/Case
Click on Friends of Case Library on left menu

Mission:
The Leland D. Case Library preserves and promotes the history of the Black Hills, South Dakota, and the Northern Great Plains. We collect historical materials and provide professional collection care. We are service oriented and assist with the research needs of the University, the community, and the world.

The Black Hills Historian
(The Case Library newsletter)
Friends of Case Library
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Please return to:
Dr. David Wolff, Friends of Case Library
Black Hills State University
1200 University St., Unit 9059
Spearfish, SD 57799

From the Archives

Lab School
In 1907 the Training School, also called the Lab School, moved into the science building. It continued to be a center for practice teaching until 1963. The Lab School sat on the site of the E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center. There will be a lab school reunion on Friday, July 1 from 2-4 p.m., in the E.Y. Berry Library.

Teacher Doris Leberknight with students in 1959.