

University of Nebraska Press Newsletter

IN THE SPRING 2013 ISSU	JE:
Behind the Book: David George Surdam	3
Behind the Book: Joy Castro	4
Commitment to E books	5
Director's View	7
Introducing Derek Krissoft and Martyn Beeny	f 8
In the news	10
Select awards and honors	12
Thanks to our supporters	16
Press personnel	19
Friends of the Press membership form	20

21

Et cetera

## "Nothing More Important than Books"



## A CONVERSATION WITH CAROL GENDLER

by Neelee Glasco, UNP development intern

Carol Gendler's passion and enthusiasm for books shone as she talked recently about her experience as an inaugural member of the University of Nebraska Press Advisory Council. Serving on the Advisory Council appealed to her even though she had little personal experience with university presses and didn't know what to expect when she joined in 2010. She was impressed by the efforts to publish scholarly books targeting an academic audience as well as those

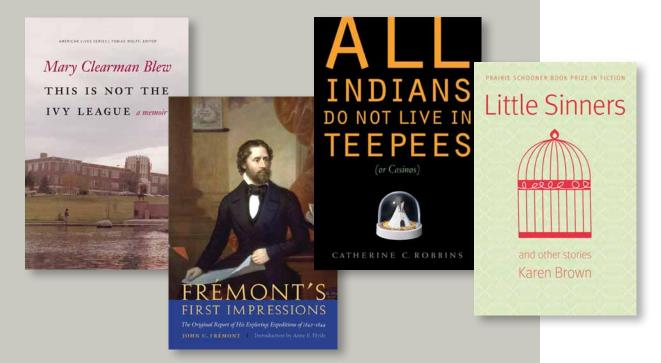
works with the potential for mass appeal. In a few short years, Gendler has proven to be a great advocate for the press.

Gendler's community activism means that she attends many meetings; however, she eagerly looks forward to those for the press. "What could be better than getting together and talking about books?" Gendler said. For instance, she was "fascinated" by the talk given by Gary E. Moulton, editor of the monumental thirteen-volume *Journals of Lewis and Clark*, which the press published earlier this decade. Gendler said she "could have listened for hours" as Moulton offered personal details and intriguing stories of the two men and their famous journey, fleshing out the historical figures and making them human.

Gendler did not realize she could support specific books—what publishers call "title subvention"—until she joined the Advisory Council. She has supported a wide range of projects—from short stories and a memoir to historical journals and journalistic nonfiction. Gendler explained that she chooses books that she connects to on a personal level and that she herself wants to read, but she does not follow any preset guidelines.

The fifth book to benefit from Gendler's support is the forthcoming *Painting from the Collection of the Sheldon Museum of Art*, which is the latest in the series American Transnationalism: Perspectives from the Sheldon Museum of Art. As an art lover, she appreciates the artis-





tic nature of the series and likes the idea of showcasing a Nebraska art museum. Her decision was further motivated by the "stunning" design and quality of a previous book in the Sheldon series, *The Geometric Unconscious*.

Gendler believes that "Nebraska is very lucky to have the press" because of the quality of books that it produces and the recognition that it receives, nationally and globally.

The University of Nebraska Press appreciates all of the ways that Gendler supports its mission and hopes that this relationship continues for many years. If you are interested in serving on the Press Advisory Council, contact Donna Shear at dshear2@unl.edu.

#### **Books Supported by Carol Gendler**

This Is Not the Ivy League by Mary Clearman Blew (Fall 2011)

All Indians Do Not Live in Teepees (or Casinos) by Catherine C. Robbins (Fall 2011)

Frémont's First Impressions by John C. Frémont (Fall 2012)

Little Sinners by Karen Brown (Fall 2012)

Painting from the Collection of the Sheldon Museum of Art by Brandon K. Ruud and Gregory Nosan (forthcoming—Spring 2014)

### EHIND THE BOOK

#### With author David George Surdam and editor Rob Taylor

David George Surdam is an associate professor of economics at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author of Wins, Losses, and Empty Seats (Nebraska 2011), The Postwar Yankees: Baseball's Golden Age Revisited (Nebraska 2008), and Northern Naval Superiority and the Economics of the American Civil War.



HOW BASEBALL OUTLASTED

THE GREAT DEPRESSION BY

As a writer, I've been fortunate to have transformed my childhood interests—Civil War and baseball into books and to do it from the perspective of an economist. My interest in baseball history was sparked by Harold Seymour's Baseball. As a teenager, I played Strat-O-Matic Baseball and later wrote a senior thesis on baseball run production for my undergraduate degree.

In refocusing my professional research early in my career away from the Civil War, I turned to my love of baseball. I was aware of congressional hearings on organized baseball held in 1951 and 1957. These hearings contained a trove of financial data

for the 1946–56 period, as well as less detailed information dating back to 1920. I was not aware of any baseball history using economic theory to analyze these financial figures—aside from James Quirk and Rodney Fort's Pay Dirt—so I thought there would be a market for books about baseball history presented from an economic theorist's point of view.

Sometimes I got lucky because other people gave me great ideas. While completing my book The Postwar Yankees, I was selecting photos at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum when reference librarian Claudette Burke suggested that I examine some New York Yankees financial data from 1914-45. As I skimmed through the microfilm, I could see there was sufficient data complementing the information in the congressional hearings to compose a book on baseball during the Great Depression. George Rugg, curator of the Joyce Sports Collection at Notre Dame University, provided access to Baseball Magazine and suggested using team scorecards and programs.

Wins, Losses, and Empty Seats provides a general examination of the economic and business aspects of Major League Baseball during the Great Depression. During the Depression, Americans' incomes fell by onefourth, and so did prices. So I wondered: How did the owners respond to such radical upheavals in the economy? Did they slash player salaries? Did they change ticket prices or innovate with electrical lighting

and radio broadcasts? What did they do to sustain weaker teams? Did revenue sharing succor weaker teams?

And how did the players fare? While even the best players, such as Babe Ruth, were forced to take pay cuts, most players continued to earn the same pay in terms of purchasing power, so playing baseball was a great career choice during the Depression.

Readers of Wins, Losses, and Empty Seats will get glimpses of how baseball owners operated the sport during the 1930s. Remarkably, during the economic



### BEHIND THE BOOK

#### With author Joy Castro and editor Kristen Elias Rowley

**Joy Castro** is the editor of a new book the University of Nebraska Press will publish in the fall called *Family Trouble*. In it, memoirists grapple with writing about family: what to put in, what to leave out, whom to show the manuscript to, all the dilemmas of laying bare your family secrets. Here, Castro talks about the book and about her own memoir, *The Truth Book*, which UNP reissued as a paperback in 2012 when it published her book of essays, *Island of Bones*.



All writers wrestle with the challenges, obligations, and consequences of including autobiographical material in their work. Which material is legitimately theirs to include, and whose stories should be discreetly omitted? How do their friends and families react when the work appears? For writers who publish memoir, these dilemmas are particularly acute.

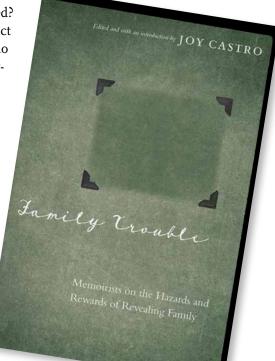
"In fiction," observes Ariel Gore in her essay "The Part I Can't Tell You," "there are certain prices we do not have to pay." When publishing memoir, though, writers pay the price of transparency, and the

cost can become particularly dear when they write about family. "Nonfiction has no cloak of make-believe to hide behind," as Bich Minh Nguyen acknowledges in her essay "The Bad Asian Daughter." There is "no semantic scrim between narrator and author, speaker and author."

As the self-disclosing genre of our reality-hungry era, memoir offers few layers between the writer's private life and the words on the page. During drafting, writers make multiple determinations about which material is theirs to explore and which should be respectfully left out. Which stories—intersecting with their own—constitute legitimate territory and which would be gratuitous to make public?

In writing my own memoir, *The Truth Book*, I knew far more about my family's private lives than I included. Two fundamental questions drove the writing of the book, urgent questions that baffled and hurt me: Why had my father killed himself? And why would a perfect stranger say that I had no personality? My hunch was that the two problems were inextricably linked, involving issues of self-erasure due to trauma, yet when I began to draft, I couldn't be sure that my explorations of the past would end in illumination. "Good writing must do two things," contends Vivian Gornick in *The Situation and the Story: The Art of Personal Narrative* (2001). "It must be alive on the page, and it must persuade the reader that the writer is on a voyage of discovery." Writing *The Truth Book*, I truly was on a genuine voyage of discovery, and these two driving questions helped shape the memoir, guiding my choices about what to disclose and what to omit. If an incident, detail, or family story contributed in some way to the answering of one or both of those questions, then it went onto the page. If it didn't. I didn't even draft it.

continued on page 6



## Friends of UNP Makes Major Commitment to E-Books

## Pledges \$100,000 (\$25,000 per Year over the Next Four Years) to Support E-Book Conversions

In today's publishing marketplace, the only book format that is consistently seeing growth is the electronic one. Across the industry, sales of hardcover and paperback books are declining, while e-book sales are on the rise. Thus, like physical books, e-books have become an important source of income for UNP as it pursues its nonprofit mission.

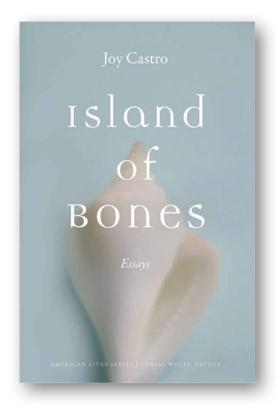
Whenever possible, our new books are made into electronic editions at the same time we publish the physical copies. And many of our backlist books have been converted into e-books by Amazon (for Kindle) and Barnes and Noble (for NOOK). But when these companies do the conversion, we don't own the files. We have no say over their physical look. (Have you ever downloaded an e-book and wondered how an e-book can look so funny—not at all like the physical book? It's the result of poor digital conversion.) Also, in this scenario, these companies take a larger percentage of the sales than if we were to provide them with the digital files.

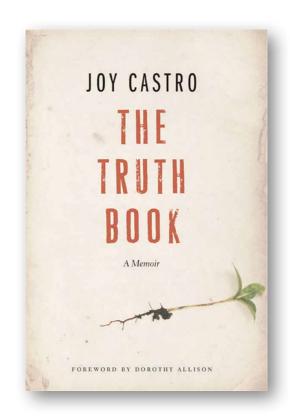
Many of our older books have never been converted to digital form. With this significant pledge from our Friends group, we'll be able to convert hundreds of books into e-books—and we'll have control over the look of the e-book and get a larger slice of the revenue. Most important, our books will be available to a wider audience.

To help in this important effort, our Friends group will once again participate in Give to Lincoln Day on May 16. Funds raised through this twenty-four-hour drive will go toward the digitization project. Every donation made on Give to Lincoln Day will help the Friends even more because we will also receive a proportional share of a \$200,000 challenge match pool. For example, if the donations for unp Friends account for 2 percent of the day's total giving, we will receive an additional \$4,000 from the Lincoln Community Foundation.

We are grateful for the ongoing support by the members of our Friends group. Their contributions allow us to invest in important books and in new technologies—helping to make UNP books available widely and far into the future.

DONATE NOW





"With undeniably strong prose, Castro is equally uncompromising in her anger, intelligence, empathy, and confusion, each essay turning and enriching the one before without repetition or break in rhythm."

### —Publishers Weekly starred review of Island of Bones

How do family members respond to seeing their lives in print? What I've experienced is that people will largely continue to be themselves, just more intensely. Warm alliances will be strengthened, angry people will lash out, relationships that weren't really functional will fall quietly away. But the publication of a family memoir can offer relatives a chance to move, grow, and communicate in new ways—to understand their family histories from a fresh perspective—and many of the essayists in *Family Trouble* have experienced this gift of change. —**Joy Castro** 

Castro's editor, **Kristen Elias Rowley**, who acquires all of our literary memoirs, weighs in with her thoughts:

Writers often ask me for guidance when writing about their families: Should they change names? Combine family mem-

bers into composite characters to protect their identities? Should they write about their children or does such disclosure infringe on their right to privacy? How will their children feel when they are old enough to read what they've written about them?

Ultimately, I tell authors that it's a personal choice. I've had writers scrap whole manuscripts for the sake of family members, while others forged ahead—consequences be damned—because what they were writing was crucial to the story they were telling. In all my years publishing memoir and personal narrative, though, I've never had an author come back to me with regrets about the choices they made in this respect. And I've had quite a few share stories of the surprisingly positive reactions and reconnections that have come as a result.



#### By Donna A. Shear, UNP director

In book publishing, we tend to work six months to two years ahead, so looking backward is not something we do very often. That is what is nice about stopping once in a while to put together a newsletter. It forces us to take a look at what's gone on at the press in the past year. And what a year it has been for us!

Among the more significant events has been the welcoming of two key people: our new editor in chief, Derek Krissoff, and our new marketing manager, Martyn Beeny. Both bring fresh perspectives to nav-

Outside the Bible

Ancient Jewish Writings Related to Scripture

Edited by Louis H. Feldman, James L. Kogel, and Lawrence H. Schiffman

Topological States of the Scripture of the Schiffman of t

igating in this challenging environment. Derek, who came to us from the University of Georgia Press, has a deep appreciation for the importance of scholarly publishing. His intent: to make sure we remain a top-five publisher in the fields we publish in. To that end, he's set some impressive goals for his acquisitions team. Concurring in his efforts, as well as bringing an expertise in regional marketing, Martyn Beeny joins us from the South Dakota Historical Press. He is making sure we remain the premier publisher in the Great Plains region as well as in our other unique and important markets.

Just over a year ago, UNP entered into a collaborative arrangement with the Jewish Publication Society (JPS) to edit, publish, market, and distribute JPS books. It's been an exciting year for the UNP staff as we learn about JPS books and gain a greater appreciation for Bible scholarship. We look forward to the publication in a few months of the three-volume *Outside the Bible*, which looks at the extra-biblical texts that compose ancient Israel's excluded scriptures. From the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Septuagint, Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Josephus, and Philo, this anthology brings together the texts that transformed Jews and Christians at the turn of the first millennium. What an honor it is for UNP to be a partner in publishing this once-in-a-century scholarship.

Recently, UNP acquired Potomac Books, a Virginia-based publisher of military history and current affairs. With the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's commitment to defense research, and with UNP's strength and depth in history, we think this is an excellent fit. The Potomac imprint will continue under the auspices of its publisher, Sam Dorrance.

In these pages, you'll see that UNP continues to garner important awards, validation of the excellent work of its staff. You'll also get to meet two of our authors and get some insights into their writing processes.

Finally, scholarly and independent publishing would not be possible without the ongoing support of individuals such as those who serve on our Press Advisory Council. We thank you for your continued financial support. Without it, many of our award-winning books would not see the light of day.

# introducing:

## Derek Krissoff, UNP's New Editor in Chief



I knew I wanted to be an editor the first time I stepped into the book exhibit at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association. At that point I was a grad student reading four or five scholarly books every week and spending too much time lingering over the acknowledgments. Here, in the exhibit hall, everything clicked. I eavesdropped on the conversations between authors and editors—the very people thanking and being thanked in those acknowledgments—and it all seemed impossibly glamorous and exciting.

A couple of months later—and almost exactly fifteen years ago—I quit writing my dissertation and took a job as an editorial assistant, hoping that eventually I'd be able to acquire books of my own. I consider myself very lucky not only to have had that opportunity but also, as of last summer, to have assumed a leadership position at one of the largest and most prestigious university presses in the United States.

## Martyn Beeny, UNP's New Marketing Manager



Despite talking with a strange accent, using funny words such as "boot" for "trunk" and saying "schedule" and "garage" in a manner that always elicits chuckles, I consider myself a citizen of the Great Plains. South Dakota and now Nebraska have been my American homes, and I feel at ease among the wonderful people that inhabit this region of the country.

Having spent seven years up north, I have moved south and taken the role of marketing manager at the press, and I couldn't be more pleased. I've been welcomed into this great team of experienced and knowledgeable publishing professionals, and even though I've been here only a short time I already feel as though this is home.

Moving from a small, regional press to the grand institution that is the University of Nebraska Press is a challenge that I am excited to take on. The marketing department is replete with skilled and talented individuals who form a team that takes

upheavals of the Depression none of the sixteen Major League Baseball teams folded or moved. The owners generally proved cautious and conservative. Given the scarcity of financial capital, their attitudes were understandable. The owners were not always admirable or appealing, but they did love baseball.

While it might seem tedious to some, I greatly enjoyed mining the New York Yankees' financial data, as well as the trove of information in the team scorecards and congressional hearings. I am extremely fortunate to combine my interest in baseball with my interest in economics.

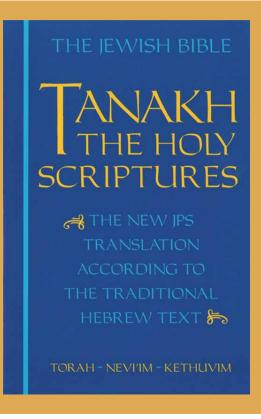
#### —David George Surdam

Surdam's editor, **Rob Taylor**, acquires all our sports books, and he lends his insight into *Wins, Losses, and Empty Seats*:

They don't often show up on the front page of the sports section—unless the topic is an athlete's salary—but economic numbers have long shaped the history of sports. Just as win/loss records and player stats tell a tale of how a team fared on the field of play, so will the numbers in the team's balance sheets—its payroll, game attendance, and all it does to try to maximize profits. Dave Surdam offers much to the study of sports history by turning his economist's eye to

team records and financial numbers—as well as the larger economy and societal forces. He shows how the numbers shape sports in ways not always apparent to both the serious and the casual sports fan. As a result, those fans will see sports in an entirely new light, grasping the larger story behind wins and losses.

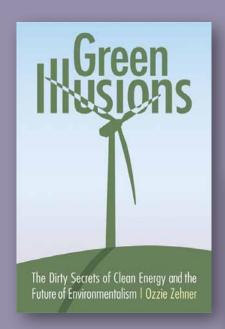
"With the American economy struggling, major-league baseball attendance falling for the fourth consecutive year and the Los Angeles Dodgers in bankruptcy, David George Surdam's Wins, Losses, and Empty Seats about the game's Depression-era troubles is certainly timely. Mr. Surdam, comes to his task armed with a fan's enthusiasm, an economist's tool kit and a certain dissatisfaction with previous analyses—including my own—of the evolution of the baseball business."—Henry D. Fetter, Wall Street Journal

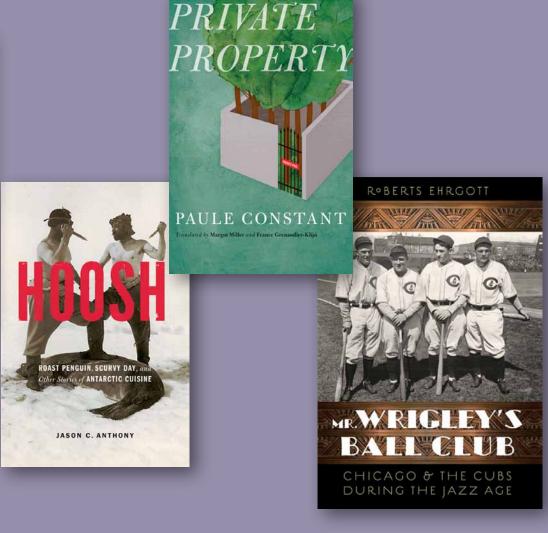


The press is pleased to respond to community requests when possible. In the following note, **Rabbi Ralph Dalin** of San Diego, California, expresses his thanks for a recent donation of books that were no longer suitable to sell:

I want to thank [the University of Nebraska Press] for the donation of 30 copies of **TANAKH**.... I have already distributed them to local jails and other institutions which do not have budgets for such materials but that have Jews who need the spiritual sustenance they provide.

The generosity of UNP and the Jewish Publication Society are greatly appreciated. ??





## in the news:

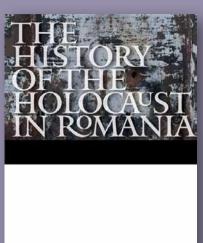
Books from the University of Nebraska Press continue to draw attention from major national and regional publications. Here is a small sampling of recent reviews.

The Huffington Post got excited by Ozzie Zehner's "provocatively titled" Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism, noting that "if his goal was to capture attention by tweaking the nose of clean-energy enthusiasts everywhere, Ozzie Zehner might well have succeeded."

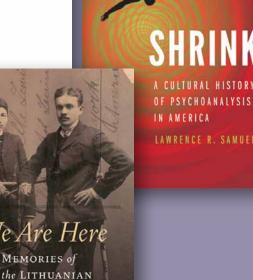
Antarctic cuisine, fascinated the *New York Times*. In a long article about the book, reviewer Rebecca P. Sinkler commented that "Anthony is a fine, visceral writer and a witty observer. He paints his cast of questers with a Monty-Pythonesque brush, but balances the telling with a refusal to sneer or giggle. He demonstrates genuine respect, compassion, and a kind of hopeless love for his quixotic subjects and their grandiose, miserable hungers."

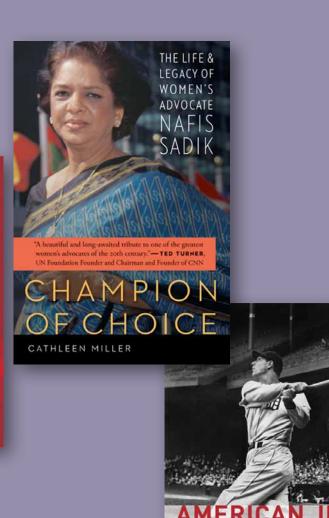
"Constant's portrait of a little girl lost, someone who would be happier to camouflage herself in the furniture than to take the spotlight, will loom large in the mind," declared NPR Books about Paule Constant's **Private Property**, which focuses on a young girl's struggle to deal with dislocation, torment, and racism..

Kirkus was short and sweet with its summation of Roberts Ehrgott's fascinating look at the Chicago Cubs in the 1920s. **Mr. Wrigley's Ball Club** is "an absolute must for any baseball fan's library," the starred review raved.



Jean Ancel





The Jewish Book Council found both Ellen Cassedy's **We Are Here** and Jean Ancel's **The History of the Holocaust in Romania** worthy of significant attention. Although the two books are vastly different, the council's praise was equally strong. According to the reviewers, Cassedy's book is "brilliantly balanced, totally engaging, and constantly penetrating," while Ancel's "monumental work is a scholarly witnessing to be admired. It may even prove to be definitive."

HOLOCAUST Ellen Cassedy

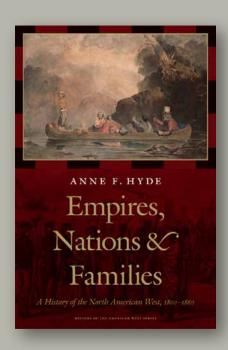
Lawrence Samuel's **Shrink** was reviewed in *Publishers Weekly*. The industry magazine wrote that "Samuel... takes psychoanalysis off the couch in this fascinating history of the growth of Freud's brainchild."

**Champion of Choice**, Cathleen Miller's biography of the inspirational and indefatigable Nafis Sadik received a starred review in *Booklist*. "Miller's engrossing biography," wrote reviewer Carol Haggas, "illuminates Sadik's formidable passion for [various] issues."

In a review of **American Jews and America's Game**, *Kirkus* praised author Larry Ruttman: "This long-time attorney remains a gentle, always enthusiastic questioner, interested in his subjects' love for the game, their experiences with anti-Semitism and their connection to their faith."

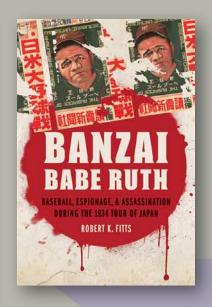
LARRY RUTTMAN FOREWORD BY BUD SELIG

## C: SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS DURING



Empires, Nations, and Families: A History of the North American West, 1800—1860 by Anne F. Hyde won the 2012 Bancroft Prize, awarded each year by the trustees of Columbia University for books about diplomacy or the history of the Americas. The prize is widely considered to be among the most prestigious in the field of American history writing. This is the second time in three years a UNP book has taken home the Bancroft Prize.

In addition to its Bancroft win, *Empires, Nations, and Families* was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in history, and it earned the Western Historical Association's 2012 Caughey Book Prize as the most distinguished book on the history of the American West.



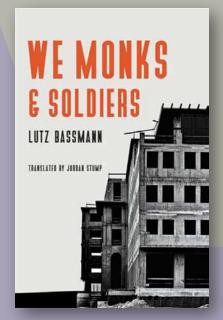
Robert K. Fitts's **Banzai Babe Ruth** won the 2013 Dr. Harold and Dorothy Seymour Medal, which honors the best book of baseball history or biography, given annually by the Society for American Baseball Research. "Banzai Babe Ruth is far more than just a sports story," declared Fore-Word Reviews. "No one could have told this incredible story better than Robert K. Fitts." Banzai Babe Ruth also captured the silver medal in the sports/fitness/recreation category for the 2012 Independent Publisher Book Awards, conducted to recognize the year's best independently published titles.



The WHA also honored **Finding Oil** by Bryan Frehner with its 2012 Hal K. Rothman Book Award, given annually for the best book in western environmental history.

Terese Svoboda, author of **Tin God** and **Bohemian Girl**, among other works, received a 2013 Guggenheim fellowship. She is among 175 artists, scientists, and scholars selected this year by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation from nearly 3,000 applicants across the United States and Canada. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of impressive achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishment.

### THE PAST YEAR

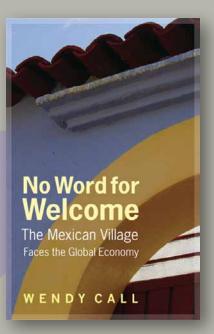


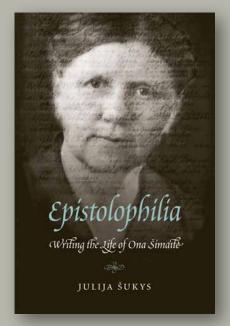
We Monks and Soldiers by Lutz Bassmann, translated by Jordan Stump, has been named one of five fiction finalists for the French-American Foundation 2013 Translation Prize. The winner will be announced on June 5. The French-American Foundation says, "This remarkable work offers readers a thrilling entry into Bassmann's numinous world."

We Are Here

MEMORIES of
the LITHUANIAN
HOLOCAUST
Ellen Cassedy

The International Latino Book Awards, awarded each year by Latino Literacy Now, granted first place to **No Word for Welcome** by Wendy Call in the category of best history/political book in English.





Julija Sukys's **Epistolophilia** was short-listed for the 2012 Mavis Gallant Award, conveyed annually by the Quebec Writers' Federation. The book also made the long list for the 2013 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Nonfiction.

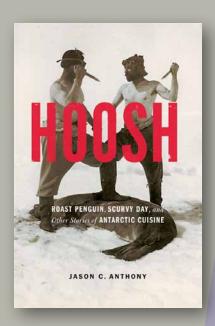
**The History of the Holocaust in Romania** by Jean Ancel, translated by Yaffah Murciano, edited by Leon Volovici, with the assistance of Miriam Caloianu, took home the 2012 National Jewish Book Award in the category of writing based on archival material.

We Are Here: Memories of the Lithuanian Holocaust by Ellen Cassedy won the 2013 Grub Street Prize and the 2013 Prakhin International Literary Foundation Award. We Are Here was also a finalist in the history category in the 2012 Fore-Word Book of the Year competition. "Cassedy's quest is brilliantly balanced, totally engaging, and constantly penetrating," wrote Philip K. Jason in Jewish Book World.



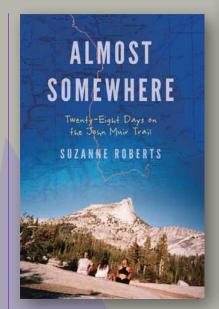
Jean Ancel

## C: SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS DURING



ForeWord honored another UNP title in its 2012 Book of the Year contest.

Hoosh: Roast Penguin, Scurvy
Day, and Other Stories of Antarctic Cuisine by Jason C. Anthony was named a finalist in the travel essays category. Hoosh also garnered the Special Commendation in the 2012
André Simon Food and Drink Book Awards.



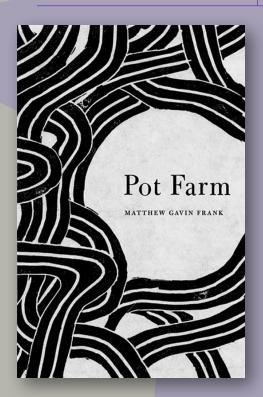
Almost Somewhere by Suzanne Roberts received the 2012 National Outdoor Book Award in the literature category. The judges described Roberts's book as an "introspective and no-holds-barred account of that journey and the interactions between the three women. What emerges is a revealing and insightful coming-of-age portrait of women of the post baby boom generation."



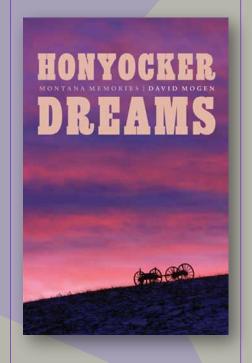
Light on the Prairie
Solomon D. Butcher, Photographer of
Nebraska's Pioneer Days NANGY PLAIN

Light on the Prairie: Solomon D.
Butcher, Photographer of
Nebraska's Pioneer Days by
Nancy Plain captured the 2013 Spur
Award for best western juvenile nonfiction.

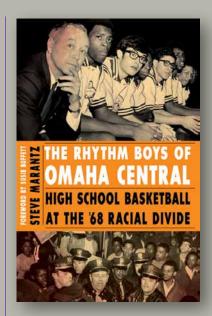
**Honyocker Dreams** by David Mogen was a finalist in the nonfiction category for the 2012 High Plains Book Award.



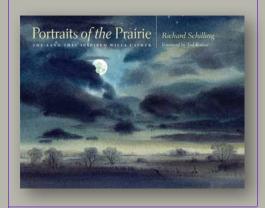
**Pot Farm** by Matthew Gavin Frank, described as "a simultaneously beautiful, dark and life-affirming story" by John Warner in *Inside Higher Ed*, won the Grand Prize at the New York Book Festival in 2012. The judges were swayed by this "compelling tale of the strange, sublime and sometimes dangerous goings-on at a medical marijuana farm" because of "Frank's keen eye for detail and the engaging cast of characters he brings to life in his work."



### THE PAST YEAR

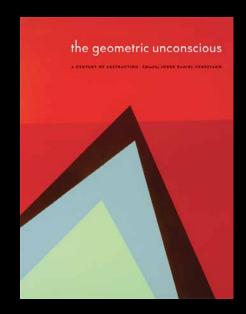


Two UNP books garnered 2012 Nebraska Book Awards. **The Rhythm Boys of Omaha Central** by Steve Marantz won in the nonfiction history category, while **Portraits of the Prairie** by Richard Schilling triumphed in the nonfiction Nebraska-as-place category.



**My Ruby Slippers** by Tracy Seeley was named to the 2012 Kansas Notable Books list, and Tracy Crow's **Eyes Right** earned a bronze medal in the 2012 Florida Book Awards.

Of Duty Well and Faithfully Done by Clayton R. Newell and Charles R. Shrader received the 2013 Distinguished Book Award for Reference from the Society for Military History. Andrew Waggenhoffer of Civil War Books and Authors commended Newell and Shrader for having "created the literature's best one stop resource for the Regular Army in the Civil War."

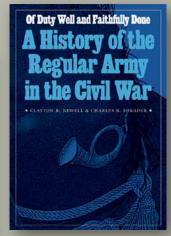


UNP designer Nathan Putens's work on **Geometric Unconscious**, edited by Jorge Daniel Veneciano, earned a place in the 2013 AAUP Book, Jacket and Journal Show in the trade illustrated category.

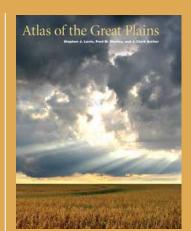






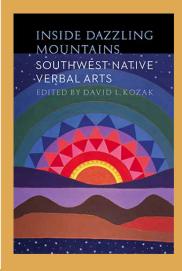


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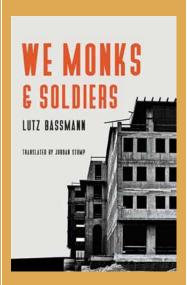


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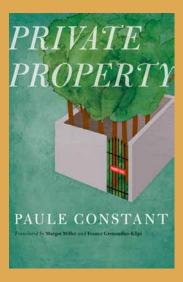


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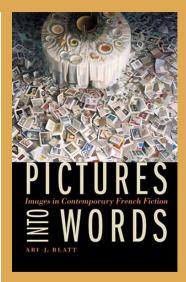


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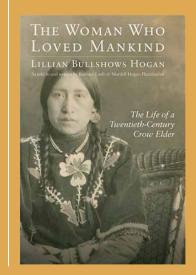


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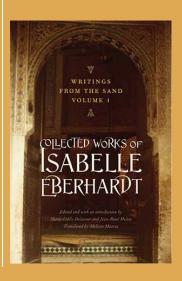
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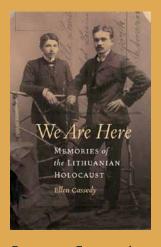


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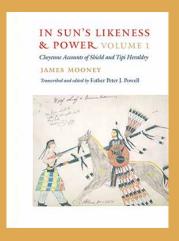


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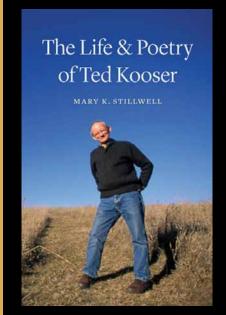


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#### **Friends of UNP Supports Books**

Each season, the Friends of UNP group directly underwrites publication costs of several books. In fall 2012 and spring 2013, the Friends group supported nine titles for general readers in subjects ranging from energy resources to Great Plains photography. Fall 2013 features another great lineup of Friends-supported books, including *The Life and Poetry of Ted Kooser* by Mary K. Stillwell. All new and renewing Friends members in the next year will receive a copy of this book as their thankyou gift for membership. Join today and support great reading from Nebraska!

There are many, many good things about being editor in chief at the University of Nebraska Press, but the best part is working with and learning from the acquiring editors. Bridget Barry and Matt Bokovoy oversee our award-winning list in history and Native American studies; Alicia Christensen and Kristen Elias Rowley acquire provocative and beautifully crafted titles in literary nonfiction, cultural criticism, and food and environment; Tom Swanson provides insight about western Americana and keeps an eye on the backlist; and Rob Taylor is one of the best sports editors in the business. Like so many at UNL, in the wider Lincoln community, and across Nebraska, they are genuine book people. That's why they're here, and I look forward to working with them to continue publishing superlative books.

our authors' books and shows them to the wider world with alacrity and innovation. Polishing this gem of a group into even more brilliance is going to be fun rather than onerous, stimulating rather than arduous.

I grew up in Oliver Cromwell's country, in a small town outside Cambridge, England. Love of a beautiful woman (my wife, Hilary) brought me to sunny South Dakota—she was born and raised in the state—and good fortune directed me into the book-publishing world as I completed my PhD in history. I am a huge sports fan; pretty much anything involving a ball works as far as I am concerned, although soccer (football to me) is still number one. My wife and I are keen sailors, like to travel, and enjoy walks with our husky.

Thanks for welcoming me to Lincoln. I look forward to meeting you someday soon.

### A BISON IN THE CITY

Benny the Bison is a new member of the UNP team, representing the tradition of our Bison Books imprint. He made his first trip to New York in May to show off our Fall/Winter 2013 catalog.





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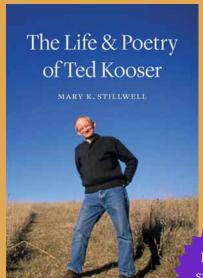
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Humanities editor Kristen Elias Rowley and author Cathleen Miller at AWP, Boston, 2013.

