

COMMENTS ABOUT THE CENTER

“I want to congratulate you and Emporia State University for developing a program that should have such a positive impact on at least the Central Plains region. This is the type of thing that I believe institutions of higher education should do—study what you know best and where you can make the greatest impact. It might be well for Emporia State to study Asia or Africa, but you have shown good sense to promote special studies of your own region where you have an opportunity to make a clear and measurable contribution.”
Gilbert Fite, Richard B. Russell Professor of American History, The University of Georgia

05/09/02 e-mail from Cheryl Collins—“Jim, I was very pleased to get the Great Plains Newsletter today and read about the celebration in honor of the Center’s 25th anniversary. The Center has brought some very interesting programs and classes to Kansas, has done a great deal to promote plains scholarship, and it sounds like more interesting things are on the horizon. Pat O’Brien had a great idea, best wishes for 25 more years.”

“Congratulations to the Center for Great Plains Studies! I have appreciated the Center’s work for some time through its publications.” Keith A. Sculle, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

“I am a student at the University of Florence and am preparing my dissertation on Wright Morris’ fiction... To complete my research I need information in the article found in your publication [*Heritage of the Great Plains*]... I am unable to find this article in Italy.... Thank you.”

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank you [Pat O’Brien] from the deepest part of my heart for the very factual and informative session which you presented to our Leadership Kansas program...” Jeffrey J. Holmes, S’inflower Bancshares

“Many people were ... pleased to learn of the Center and its many offerings. What a great service to the people of Kansas!” Karen Graves

“Your radio spots on the history of the Great Plains are being aired by KANS radio here in Larned. They are very good!” Bill Pitts, Santa Fe Trail Center

“The Great Plains project is a winner. ...I view this Great Plains proposition as one of the most successful and innovative tools in image building for ESU they have engaged in for quite a spell. ... Might I suggest that this fine series put together by you [Pat O’Brien] and your associates is making us common lay citizens do some thinking – and isn’t that what continuing education is all about? ...I just want to wish you all every success as you carry forward the Great Plains theme.” Ed J. McKernan, Jr.

“I thought you’d like to know you had a fan in the world. I tend to spend summers in Western Kansas at a small ranch where I worked when i was younger; and this summer as we built fences, a raft for the pond, and a porch for my cabin we always looked ahead to the times on the portable radio when the Great Plains Studies Spots would come on. We liked the funny ones best—but we liked them all. Keep it up.” Robert Day, author of *The Last Cattle Drive*

“The program...seems attractive to me first because it reflects imaginative utilization of existing resources, second because it encourages intellectual growth in an era which other sorts of growth are increasingly difficult to attain, third because it fosters collegueship and a sense of academic community.” Stuart Levine, University of Kansas

“I appreciate the diversity of the panel. This is the best I’ve been to [Tallgrass Writing Workshop].”