



CENTER of the
AMERICAN
WEST

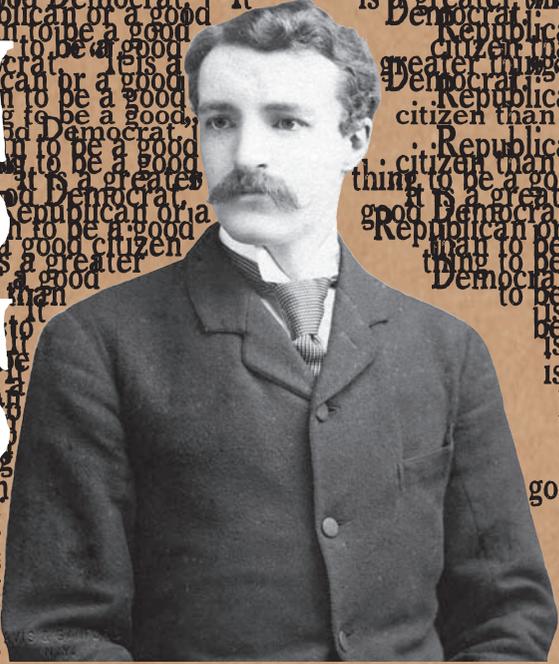
2011-2012

Annual Report

“It is a greater thing to be a good citizen than to be a good Republican or a good Democrat.”

**GOOD
CITIZEN
GOOD
REPUBLICAN
GOOD
DEMOCRAT?**

It is a greater thing to be a good citizen than to be a good Republican or a good Democrat.



Gifford Pinchot
Gifford Pinchot, 1910



CENTER^{of} the AMERICAN WEST

Turning Hindsight Into Foresight™

The Center of the American West takes as its mission the creation of forums for the respectful exchange of ideas and perspectives in the pursuit of solutions to the region's difficulties. We at the Center believe that an understanding of the historical origins of the West's problems, an emphasis on the common interests of all parties, and a dose of good humor are essential to constructive public discussion.

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“

It is a greater thing,"
Pinchot wrote in 1910,
"to be a good citizen
than to be a good
Republican or a good
Democrat."

”



A Letter from Patty

Faculty Director and Chair of the Board

Dear Center of the American West Community:

The spirit of optimism is our reliable co-worker at the Center of the American West. The conflicts and fights that preoccupy the region and the nation shake that spirit from time to time. But resilience—defined, in a rare moment of Merriam-Webster exhilaration, as “an ability to adjust easily to misfortune or change”—comes repeatedly to its rescue. (Still, I would ask the dictionary folks to consider toning down that adverb “easily”!).

We believe that the majority of Westerners are people who have an abundance of good will and a shortage of opportunities to mobilize and unleash that good will. Thus, our ongoing experiment: present more of those opportunities, and then observe closely to see if the people will RSVP “Yes” to the invitation to unleash that good will.

The approach of Election Year 2012 has provided a prime laboratory for our experimentation. The presidential election campaigns focus on negativity and attack, while the nation’s serious problems drift without serious attention. In the spirit of resilient optimism, this sorrowful situation presents a great chance for a Center of the American West Adventure.

In mid-summer of 2012, as the campaign strategists searched through their own dictionaries for accusatory, condemning, and spirit-draining words to characterize the flaws of their electoral rivals (while, according to the prevailing custom, vigorously accusing the other side of poisoning the atmosphere with negative campaigns!), the Center of the American West took another route. The young people at the Center got to work on designing colorful and appealing t-shirts featuring a glorious quotation from Theodore Roosevelt’s close friend, Gifford Pinchot.

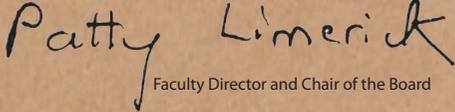
“It is a greater thing,” Pinchot wrote in 1910, “to be a good citizen than to be a good Republican or a good Democrat.”

In all our enterprises during the fiscal year 2011-2012, we have put our shoulders to the wheel of good citizenship. Our book, *A Ditch in Time: The City, the West, and Water*, experiments with the power of humor to take on a legendarily complex and tangled topic and to put the history of the Denver Water Department to work as a launching pad for a more productive, more grounded discussion of the West’s challenges in water management. Our project, initiated by Governor John Hickenlooper, to enhance the use of examples and case studies from Colorado history in public school courses, has provided the opportunity for the Center to be consistently and productively involved in the education of our youngest and most promising citizens. The arrival of our first Center of the American West Visiting Fellow, Sarah Thomas, stands as a focused example of our determination to enlist talented young people who have recently finished their Ph.D.s and who thus might be (I will say this delicately) a little more flexible than some of their elders in the profession. Continuing to build on our work in energy, we are updating our frequently-cited report on the prospects for oil shale development, and we are moving toward taking up the position of translators and mediators in what may be the most contentious environmental topic of our time, the production of natural gas. And our Center of the American West classes, both the Introduction to Western American Studies and the Capstone course, continue to offer CU students a chance to find a home, on a very big campus, at the center of the Center.

As the presidential campaigns, in the words of the *Denver Post* editorial writers, “raced to the bottom” of civic discourse, the Center raced in the opposite direction. The t-shirts are now out in the world, giving people who agree with the conviction that the shirts proclaim a chance to find each other and recognize each other’s good will. If we could find a new home for the adjective “easily,” this would be it: wear one of these t-shirts, and you easily locate the people whose company gives optimism its resilience.

The fashion tastes of professors and the fashion tastes of students are not always in perfect harmony. When I am wearing my own “Good Citizen” t-shirt, and a student whom I have never met before stops me to declare, “I like your t-shirt,” at that moment, the spirit of optimism recovers from every setback and stands ready to embrace the world.

Yours,


Faculty Director and Chair of the Board

“

We do it with the spirit
of Gifford Pinchot's
statement as our guide.

”



It is a greater thing
to be a god citizen than
to be a good Republican
or a god Democrat

A Letter from Kurt Program Director

Dear Center of the American West Community:

I have a confession to make. For the last three weeks, maybe more, I have struggled trying to write this letter. If I felt like I had a dearth of ideas, or that I lacked inspiration, I'd call it writers' block. But that wasn't the case. What I had was an embarrassment of riches.

As some of you may know, I have a tendency in our Annual Reports to connect a story – generally a charming story – to the larger thematic issues of the Annual Report. It's not so much a formula as it is simply the way I work. When an idea comes to me, I want to give it physical presence in the world. More importantly, I want to give it people who demonstrate those themes. But every time I attempted that route with this theme, I failed. I would begin to write about the students who come to us, so eager to get beyond divisive ways of viewing not only the world, but our current political circumstances; or the donors who come to us and breathe a huge sigh of relief, as if, after a long and arduous journey akin to Odysseus' trek in *The Odyssey*, they'd finally come home; or the average person on the street who comes to our events and then writes us notes saying that, while they can't give us money, they will keep us in their thoughts and prayers because we are doing 'good work.' I wrote about talking with Republican senators who sounded more like Democrats, and Democratic senators who sounded more like Republicans; about environmental activists who care about both the water in the Fraser River and the water Denver needs. In truth, the examples of citizens working outside the labels of Democrat and Republican are far too vast to capture in 700 words. No wonder this project felt so daunting.

So I did what every good writer does when they realize that their project is a failure. I went for a swim (well, okay, most writers have a drink – but I like to swim first). The only open space in the pool was a lane next to a woman who wore a pair of huge, yellow flippers, a face mask, swim cap, nose plugs, earplugs, and to top it all off, a snorkel. Three times I tried to ask if I could share her lane, but she never even noticed me. She paddled on, circling round and round, her snorkel emitting a Darth Vader like rasp. There, right in front of me, was the manifestation of monomaniacal focus that Gifford Pinchot alludes to. So I shared her lane anyway, trying not to look at her all wrapped up in her protective world, because to tell you the truth, she kind of freaked me out.

I stroked, and breathed, and breathed, and stroked. One of the things I love about swimming is it forces you to steady your breath. Finally, somewhere between lap twenty and lap thirty, after scores of steady breaths, it came to me. My stories, though sweet and charming, are simply vignettes. They cannot hold all of the implications of what it means to be a citizen – the sacrifices we make, the excitement we feel when our society coheres around a wonderful idea, the things we can do when we are willing to act not just from a political party's agenda but from a true desire to create a better world. It is not what people do – the Senators, the Students, the Activists, the Donors – it is how they do it that matters. Citizenship is an adverb carefully disguised as a noun.

I also realized that the Center of the American West is an embodiment of this adverb. When I am asked – as I often am – what the Center does, I've always responded with a list of our projects. I talk about the conference we hosted for the anniversary of the General Land Office, "The Nation Possessed: The Conflicting Claims on America's Public Lands," or I'll talk about the people we've hosted, like the fabulous Colorado author, Kent Haruf, or the astute and engaging John McPhee. Or I'll talk about the outreach we do to ensure that we involve CU students in all our endeavors. As this year's annual report reflects, I have plenty of material to draw upon. But again, it's not just what we do, it's how.

So the exercise of writing (and the quite literal exercise of swimming) solved two problems. I produced something for you to read. But perhaps more importantly, now, when I am asked by donors, students, politicians, and average people in the street, "What is it that the Center does?" I have an answer. "It's not so much what we do, it's how we do it. We do it with the spirit of Gifford Pinchot's statement as our guide. 'It is a greater thing to be a good citizen than to be a good Republican or a good Democrat.'"



Program Director

About the Center

When confronting tough issues, both regionally and nationally, the Center of the American West is known for its non-partisan stance and its ability to encourage dialogue about issues using clear and compassionate communication to get at the root of whatever predicament we face so as to find common ground. Our methods include using good humor and balanced listening to develop innovative ways to refresh old alliances and build new ones by clarifying and reconciling the wide-ranging convictions and opinions of Western citizens. We believe our greatest assets are the ability to draw on the lessons of history, to pay attention to the present moment, and to use those two forces to lay the groundwork for moving forward. That mission is evident in our motto, **"Turning Hindsight into Foresight."** It is also evident in this year's Annual Report theme. In these contentious political times, we have reached back to 1910 and the words of Gifford Pinchot to revive a sentiment that

counterbalances the vitriol that dominates much of today's political discourse. Pinchot reminds us that our roles as citizens come first and are far more important than party affiliations. When testing this idea on the average citizen – the people we run into at supermarkets, the students who visit the Center, the people who sit next to us on the bus – almost everyone has responded to this quote with a resounding, 'Yes, that's me.' Here at the Center, we know that fractiousness is not the true tenor of the majority of the people who live in the West, or throughout this country. In fact, as we've worked on a variety of issues from gas development to immigration, we have time and again witnessed people reaching across deeply held political opinions to understand another's position and to create innovative solutions. This spirit is the bedrock upon which the Center of the American West rests.

 2012 Wallace Stegner Award presented to Kent Haruf on April 25, 2012



It is a greater thing to be a good Citizen...

The Center of the American West has...

- A unique capacity for lively and disarming written and spoken communication.
- A proven ability for refereeing, umpiring, and inviting the “better angels of our nature” to emerge, even in bitter and disputed terrain.
- A substantial list of influential and often-cited publications.
- A widespread reputation for trustworthiness and credibility.
- An astonishing faculty team of experts on every imaginable Western issue.
- A stunning “rolodex” of affiliates and allies that range from federal, state, and local government agencies, to a myriad of nongovernmental organizations, to a vast array of the West’s most influential writers, scientists, artists, musicians, and thinkers.
- A dedicated and talented staff.
- A broad range of experience and knowledge provided by the Board of Directors.
- A group of screened and selected students of spirit and talent who are committed to clear, compassionate, engaged, and thoughtful communication.

“Over the past 3 years, Raissa has served the Center...from office helper to events assistant, from storage room organizer to researcher of parks and open space, and from master seamstress to resident songstress.” -Raissa Johnson



Raissa Johnson Staff Highlight

Raissa moved to Colorado from the Great State of North Dakota in August of 2009 to study Vocal Performance at CU. Shortly after, she was hired at the Center as a Student Assistant. Over the past 3 years, Raissa has served the Center in a variety of capacities ranging from office helper to events assistant, from storage room organizer to researcher of parks and open space, and from master seamstress to resident songstress. Raissa graduated from the College of Music in May of this year and intends to pursue graduate studies in music beginning in the fall of 2013. She also holds a BA in Psychology from Jamestown College in Jamestown, ND.

When away from the Center, Raissa works as a House Manager for the Dairy Center for Performing Arts and is a lead singer at Grace Lutheran Church in Boulder. She frequents local music venues to put on her dancing shoes and to support her fellow musicians. Raissa recently moved to Denver, where she enjoys neighboring City Park, spending time running, biking, reading, golfing, and knitting.

It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN...

Outreach

The Center of the American West is situated on the campus of the University of Colorado Boulder. Given our activity in a variety of arenas, from energy to land use to Native American identity—and given our extensive Rolodex—we are frequently called upon to apply our academic prestige to local issues. Fortunately for the Center and for our future, we understand both the responsibility and the opportunity our position offers us. This year, Patty appeared both locally, at

“Teaching Sustainability: Five Ways that Western American Historians Might Help”

Teaching Sustainability at CU-Boulder Workshop

Boulder, CO - August 15, 2011

A central goal of this workshop was for CU-Boulder faculty to address sustainability issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. During this two-day workshop, close to fifty Boulder faculty members spent time together, learning and exploring the complex concept of sustainability. It was a mixed group, with faculty in departments ranging from the University Program in Writing and Rhetoric to the Leeds School of Business, from the Spanish Department to Geological Sciences. Patty was there, suggesting five ways in which a historical perspective should play a key role in this interdisciplinary enterprise.

“Witnessing War: Army Wives as Undercover Observers of the Nineteenth-Century West”

The Presidio Trust Contemporary History Lecture Series

San Francisco, CA - October 13, 2011

The Presidio Trust introduced a new series featuring nationally known historians speaking at the Presidio of San Francisco. Some talks were about the Presidio, others covered larger themes in American and world history that help put the Presidio into context as a former military post and now an innovative national park. Some of the sharpest observers of the American West were the wives of Army officers. Their descriptions of Western race relations were particularly incisive. In her presentation, Patty highlighted portions of autobiographies and memoirs written by the wives of officers to provide a distinct and illuminating view of the Indian Wars. To a remarkable degree, these women showed real spirit and independence of judgment, even in the midst of tough circumstances and difficult moral dilemmas.

the Teaching Sustainability Workshop, as well as nationally, bringing the Center’s vision and expertise to a variety of audiences. Here you will find just a small sampling of the numerous talks Patty gave throughout the year, delivering both expertise and the Center’s perspective on topics ranging from sustainability to the role of art in shaping public perceptions of government, and more.

“Takes on the Changing West Series”

Denver Art Museum

Denver, CO - October 20, 2011

Patty and Denver Art Museum Curator of Photography Eric Paddock discussed the competing images of the American West and how they affect our responses to art, government policy, and the everyday challenges of living in the region. Patty addressed the lessons she learned from her experience of being at the center of a controversy surrounding the Smithsonian’s notorious 1991 “The West as America” exhibit that led members of Congress to call to cut funding for the Smithsonian. In this context, Patty and Mr. Paddock explored in particular how the work of Robert Adams challenges popular thinking about photography and the Western environment.

“Steering Knowledge: Accident-Prevention on the On-Ramps and Off-Ramps of Graduate Education”

National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals Annual Conference

Austin, TX - April 28, 2012

The National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals is the only professional organization devoted exclusively to the concerns of people working in the graduate enrollment management environment. Patty took this opportunity with the people who are on the front lines of graduate education to recruit them to the cause of creative change in graduate education with the end goal of adding to the employability of young people. The audience response was warm and affirmative.

“The American Environment in Historical Perspective”

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Teachers’ Seminar

Boulder, CO - July 24-30, 2011

For the past eight years, Patty has partnered with The Gilder Lehrman Institute, leading a week-long seminar for K-12 teachers nationwide. This year’s class, “The American Environment in Historical Perspective,” used case studies to explore the larger picture of environmental history. Much of the seminar explored the transformation of attitudes by early settlers to the recognition of the changing ‘baseline’ of global warming. This class rests on discussions & lectures, but Patty also got the teachers out into the world, hiking in Chautauqua, walking along Boulder Creek, and taking a field trip to Rocky Mountain National Park.

2011 Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Teachers’ Seminar



Academic Engagement

Student involvement gained momentum through the year as many new students made first-time connections with the Center through the program's introductory course, "The American West." This spring, Patty Limerick and her co-instructor for the course, Adrienne Kroepsch, took a novel approach with their group of 225 undergraduates and 30 senior auditors, experimenting with teaching methods seldom seen with such large groups. Traffic was heavy in the office at times, as students took Patty and Adrienne up on their offer of individualized coaching for those wishing to improve their test-taking and essay-writing skills. And many of those students returned for repeat visits, sometimes just for a friendly chat between classes. Students wrote outlines, then drafted and redrafted their papers, receiving detailed comments from Patty and Adrienne each time. The instructors' time and labor were considerable, but decidedly worthwhile, as many students expressed delight in their improved abilities to think more clearly and rationally during test-taking, and to be more articulate and effective in their written communications. And visiting speakers enhanced the course in a powerful way, evidenced in particular by students' personal and passionate thank you letters to fiction writer and Wallace Stegner Award winner Kent Haruf. As a result of their experiences in the class, many new students enrolled in our Western Studies Certificate Program, and plan to continue their involvement with the Center throughout and perhaps beyond their time at CU.

Thirteenth Annual Thompson Awards for Western American Writing

Each year, the Center of the American West awards cash prizes to talented CU students writing on Western topics. Judges select work with vibrancy and appeal to a broad, informed audience. The recognition bestowed by these awards helps to launch the careers of budding writers. This year's contest drew a record number of entries, and the May 2 awards banquet was a delightful and entertaining tribute to the prize winners, the judges, and the donors, Jeannie and Jack Thompson, whose generosity and support make this contest possible.

The winning entries for this year and for years past are posted on our website at www.centerwest.org/academics/writing-awards

Turning Hindsight Into Foresight™

Internships

The Center of the American West sponsors a variety of internships for juniors and seniors at CU-Boulder. Under the guidance of a faculty sponsor, students work for prominent non-profit organizations and governmental agencies for hands-on experience with issues facing today's West. These career-building internships offer the kind of learning opportunity that only real-life experience can provide.

During the spring 2012 semester, staff researcher Jason Hanson served as faculty sponsor to six enthusiastic interns. They interned at The Nature Conservancy, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, History Colorado, Colorado Preservation, Inc., and Colorado Oil and Gas Association. Throughout the semester, the interns shared weekly email journals with one another about their experiences. They also gave comprehensive presentations at the end of the semester, demonstrating their accomplishments and sharing insights about their career explorations and future directions.

Western Studies Certificate Program

This spring, we awarded Western Studies certificates to graduating students Karmen Lee Franklin and Sam Bock. During her time as a CU undergraduate, Karmen won first place in the Thompson Writing Awards (2009 and 2011) and wrote and published a book called *Digging the Old West: How Dams and Ditches Sculpted an American Landscape*.

Sam has several rich Center experiences under his belt, including attending the National Landscape Conservation System summit in Las Vegas with Patty and other Hoffman Scholars in 2010. Sam also assisted musician and filmmaker Don Grusin, who taught a class this spring called "Creating New Media for the Old and New West," in which students made documentaries about the Bureau of Land Management. After graduating, Sam landed a summer research position at (where else but) the Center of the American West. Sam began graduate school at the CU Department of History in Fall 2012.

Student/Faculty Gatherings

We invite our students to take their education beyond the classroom. To that end, we offer small group gatherings that feature visiting and local noteworthy Westerners (often times a pair of life-partner Westerners) to give us the inside scoop on how they ended up where they are today. Many of these gatherings are hosted by our faculty director, Patty Limerick, and her husband, Houston Kempton, in the graceful warmth of their home.

Featured guests this year included Greg Moore, editor of the *Denver Post*, and his wife, Nina Henderson Moore, independent producer and former vice president of Black Entertainment Television (BET); State House Representative Dickey Lee Hullinghorst and her husband, Boulder County Treasurer Bob Hullinghorst; CU Theatre and Dance faculty member Bud Coleman and his partner, artist and psychiatrist Rob Bein; and Charlotte and Robert Baron, director and chairman, respectively, of Fulcrum Press.

Students also attended small gatherings on campus with Modern Indian Identity visiting speakers Dan Wildcat and Bunky Echo-Hawk prior to their public appearances.

2012 Thompson Awards for Western American Writing winners. Visit www.centerwest.org for more details about the evening.



2012 Thompson Awards for Western American Writing attendees giving the Old West, New West toast, a Thompson Writing Awards tradition.





Publications

New and Forthcoming Projects from the Center

A Ditch in Time

Denver, the West, and Water

Tracing the origins and growth of the Denver Water Department, *A Ditch in Time: The City, the West, and Water* places this case study in the big picture of regional and national history. Written in a lively style, this book raises questions of consequence about the complex relationship among cities, suburbs, and rural areas, the crucial role of engineering in shaping the West, the unexpectedly entrancing workings of governmental agencies and bureaucracies, and the varying roles of contention and cooperation, litigation and negotiation in the control of the West's water. Patty Limerick and Jason Hanson seek to reconnect the people who benefit from natural resources to the processes and projects that deliver the resources for their use.

The text is enriched by nearly fifty photographs – some rarely before seen – assembled from the Denver Water archives, the work of photographers such as John Fielder, Jackie Shumaker, and Ted Wood, the Western History Collection at the Denver Public Library, and several private collections. The landscape of Denver Water is illustrated by a series of maps commissioned for this project, including an enlightening overview of the entire system created by cartographer Jim Robb.

In a world that can no longer take a supply of clean and life-supporting water for granted, *A Ditch in Time* offers an opportunity to enhance the human capacity to think about the past, present, and future with a combination of optimism and realism.

A Ditch in Time is available from Fulcrum Publishing. You can purchase a copy directly from the publisher or at your favorite bookseller.

What Every Westerner Should Know About Oil Shale

A Guide to Shale Country: Revised Edition

The Bureau of Land Management is revisiting the issues surrounding oil shale development in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, and the Center of the American West is keeping up with the changes. The new edition of *What Every Westerner Should Know About Oil Shale* will be updated, expanded, and redesigned to ensure that it retains its role as a unique and reliable resource for people seeking evenhanded information and perspective on this complex and often controversial topic. Revisions are underway and the new, redesigned website is scheduled for publication later this fall.

Mutual Benefit

Building Vibrant Communities

The future of many Western communities will be determined at the intersection where public lands and private property meet. In Mutual Benefit, the Center is launching a project designed to examine and spotlight strategies that communities can deploy to capture the energy and value created by the juxtaposition of these lands. Forward-thinking decision makers need accurate information about how open space, public lands, trail systems, and other public amenities add value to their communities. Our goal is to identify tools that Western communities can use to increase well-being, prosperity, and economic resilience. Patty Limerick, Jason Hanson, and Paul Heffron are currently conducting a literature review of more than one hundred land valuation studies and identifying open space strategies that communities can use to create a wide range of benefits for the people who call the West home.

Exploring the Interior

The United States Government and the American West

The creation of the Department of the Interior in 1849 was a direct response to the nation's acquisition of an enormous parcel of land in the Trans-Mississippi West – the northern Mexican borderlands and the Oregon Territory that had been held in joint occupation with Britain. Having originated in a rebellion against empire, the United States very soon found itself in the ironic situation of owning and governing a vast contiguous land empire of its own, populated with Indian people, the descendants of Spanish colonists, and an ever-increasing population of migrants and settlers. Agencies like the General Land Office and the Office of Indian Affairs, located in the Department of the Interior, thus bore an uncomfortable resemblance to the agencies and structures of colonial governance worldwide. Over the years, Interior acquired a host of new agencies, all of them with particular bearing on the history of the West: the US Geological Survey, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. And yet, paradoxically, the history of bureaucracies can strike even engaged and historically attuned citizens as a terminally boring subject. Patty Limerick hopes that *Exploring the Interior* will invite readers to recognize and reflect on the great significance of Interior and the people, places, and creatures whose destinies are intertwined with this vast and complicated bureaucracy. In the second decade of the twenty-first century, when antigovernment sentiments swirl around the nation, Patty is making the claim that thinking, writing, and speaking about how one of the largest units of the federal government can provide nearly as much adrenaline as the hang-gliding, extreme skiing, and high-risk rock climbing often performed on lands managed by the Department of the Interior.

Turning Hindsight Into Foresight™

Previous Publications

Reports

What Every Westerner Should Know About Oil Shale, 2009
The Power to Change the World: Energy Epicenter and the State of the Natural Gas Industry, 2009
High Energy Prices and Low-Income Americans, 2009
Climate Change in Rocky Mountain National Park, 2008
What Every Westerner Should Know About Energy Efficiency and Conservation, 2007
Climate Change and Aspen, 2006
Cleaning Up Abandoned Hardrock Mines in the West, 2006
Living with Fire, 2006
Western Futures, 2005
Ranchland Dynamics, 2005
What Every Westerner Should Know About Energy, 2003
Making the Most of Science in the American West, 2003
Boom and Bust in the American West, 2002
Facing Fire: Lessons from the Ashes, 2001

Books

An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World — Anders Halverson, 2010
Remedies for a New West: Healing Landscapes, Histories, and Cultures — Patricia Limerick, Andrew Cowell, and Sharon K. Collinge, 2009
New Geographies of the American West: Land Use and Changing Patterns of Place — William Riebsame Travis, 2007
Seeing and Being Seen: Tourism in the American West — edited by David M. Wrobel and Patrick T. Long, foreword by Earl Pomeroy, 2001
Atlas of the New West — James J. Robb; edited by William E. Riebsame and Hanna Gosnell, 1997
Thomas Hornsby Ferril and the American West — Thomas Hornsby Ferril, Robert C. Baron, Stephen J. Leonard, and Thomas J. Noel, 1996
Arrested Rivers — Chuck Forsman, Helen Mayer Harrison, and Newton Harrison, 1994
A Society to Match the Scenery: Personal Visions of the Future of the American West — edited by Gary Holthaus, and Charles F. Wilkinson, 1991

"The Center of the American West is one of the warmest, friendliest places on campus, and encourages everyone, even young people like myself, to aspire to similar ambitions." -Jordan McKean



Jordan McKean Student Highlight

I have lived in the American West for nineteen years, but I have never felt like I could connect well with the history of my homeland until taking CAMW 2001 at CU Boulder. We studied unconventional but hyper-relevant topics such as Mormon history, local Native American history, Mexican immigration, and writing by local authors. We were lucky enough to hear from many notable, inspiring guest speakers from a wide variety of backgrounds, right there in class. They had one thing in common: they all work hard to make positive changes for the future of the West. The Center of the American West is one of the warmest, friendliest places on campus, and encourages everyone, even young people like myself, to aspire to similar ambitions. CAMW 2001 provides valuable resources many students may not be able to find elsewhere. I believe we need exposure to these things in order to be conscientious citizens and residents of the West. I got so much more out of this course than I expected to get from even an exceptionally good large-lecture, lower-division class.

It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN... Page 13

Center Stage

Highlighted Events

The Center of the American West presented a range of dynamic and unique public programming over the past year. Our speakers ranged from Pulitzer Prize Winner and *The New Yorker* writer, John McPhee, who accepted our Stegner Award, to local friends and admirers who read selections from the work of Boulder poet, Reg Saner. As always, the schedule reflected our desire to engage the Front Range community with an array of speakers and topics intended both to educate and entertain. In this vein, John McPhee gave us a preview of an article he'd written for *The New Yorker* about his writing process for *Encounters with the Archdruid* and touched on the highlights of his career in an interview conducted by Patty Limerick. Long-time Center friend and nationally recognized poet and essayist Reg Saner was honored by a range of people from writers to scientists to friends reading from his elegant and engaging work. Bunky Echo-Hawk, as part of our Modern Indian Identity Series, put on a live art

performance, drawing his inspiration from the concerns of the people of Boulder County. We also featured Dan Wildcat as part of another Modern Indian Identity event in the fall, where he presented his concept of "Indigenuity," exploring how Indigenous Ingenuity could provide solutions to the problems we face in the "Age of Cybernations." In addition, we celebrated the release of Laura Pritchett's book, *Great Colorado Bear Stories*, by inviting Laura and CU Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Jeffrey Mitton, to share photos and stories about Colorado bears. And this year, we had the honor of hosting a second Stegner Award event with Colorado author and National Book Award winner, Kent Haruf. Kent entertained and moved us with stories of eastern Colorado, and descriptions of his fascinating blindfolded writing process. We thank all of our participants, our sponsors, and especially our audiences, for a remarkable year.

Modern Indian Identity: Dan Wildcat

September 29, 2011

The Center was pleased to have Dan Wildcat as our ninth guest in the Modern Indian Identity series. Dr. Daniel Wildcat, Ph.D., is a professor at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, an accomplished scholar who writes on indigenous knowledge, technology, environment, and education, and also co-director of the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center.

2011 Wallace Stegner Award Presented to John McPhee

October 27, 2011

The Center of the American West awarded John McPhee its 2011 Stegner Award. The year 2011 marked the fortieth anniversary of the publication of John McPhee's seminal work, *Encounters with the Archdruid*. Patty Limerick has long heralded this book the Center of the American West's "founding text" because of its spirit-lifting approach to fostering civil dialogue on contentious issues.

Words to Stir the Soul: Reg Saner

December 7, 2011

The Center of the American West hosted a very special Words to Stir the Soul event featuring the works of Colorado poet and essayist, Reg Saner. A number of Colorado poets, essayists, writers, and citizens honored Reg Saner and his work by reading selections from his award-winning poetry and prose works.

Modern Indian Identity: Bunky Echo-Hawk

February 16, 2012

The Center of the American West welcomed Native American artist Bunky Echo-Hawk as part of its Modern Indian Identity series. Bunky showcased his talents in a variety of media, including an art show for students during lunch, a presentation to Patty's class, and an evening art show, where audience members contributed ideas to help Bunky create a new painting.

Great Colorado Bear Stories: Laura Pritchett Book Release

April 17, 2012

Laura Pritchett, author of *Great Colorado Bear Stories*, along with Jeff Mitton, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at CU, presented stories from Pritchett's recently released book. The evening centered around lively discussion that created a portrait of human-bear interactions using images and anecdotes from the book, rich in stories of brushes with death, the experiences of the scientists who study bears, historical tales, and everything in between.

2012 Wallace Stegner Award Presented to Kent Haruf

April 25, 2012

Kent Haruf, author of four novels, including the Whiting Foundation Award for *The Tie that Binds* and the 1999 finalist for the National Book Award, *Plainsong*, received the 2012 Wallace Stegner Award. A self-proclaimed "ministry brat," Kent Haruf grew up in eastern Colorado, where his novels are set. Look for his new book, *Benediction*, due out from Knopf in the Spring of 2013.



2011 Wallace Stegner Award presented to John McPhee by Patty Limerick on October 27, 2011 in Old Main on the University of Colorado Boulder Campus. The house was so packed that overflow attendees were invited to join Patty and John on stage.





On February 16, 2012, Native American artist Bunky Echo-Hawk rocked the house as he painted with the help of audience members to create a live art experience.





◀ On April 17th, 2012, Laura Pritchett, author of *Great Colorado Bear Stories*, autographs her newly released book in the Atlas lobby on the CU Campus.

Financial Information

Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

Statement of Income and Expense

For the period ending June 30, 2012

(With Comparative Totals for 2010 and 2011)

	Jun-12	Jun-11	Jun-10	2012 Details			
				State Funded	Other Revenue	Grants	Gifts
Beginning Balance <small>(if applicable)</small>	225,614.73	191,387.05	262,712.56	(3,290.00)	6,778.98	5,760.59	216,365.16
Income <small>(Incl. Cash, Budget, Revenue)</small>	704,899.19	571,515.52	513,529.26	275,814.00	62,456.36	103,225.00	263,403.83
Salary Expense Total	484,387.27	417,887.69	409,639.17	289,309.65	-	50,715.00	144,362.62
Faculty				110,594.75	-	45,000.00	78,169.37
Officer/Exempt				37,600.05	-	-	19,399.95
Classified Staff				132,379.18	-	-	10,931.18
Students (Incl. Student Faculty)				8,735.67	-	-	-
Benefits				-	-	5,715.00	35,862.12
Operating Costs Total	131,599.14	115,650.42	175,214.48	14,613.19	30,101.04	5,071.50	81,813.41
Operating Expenses				14,613.19	25,706.74	5,071.50	70,749.77
Travel				-	2,855.57	-	11,063.64
Equipment				-	-	-	-
Indirect Costs				-	1,570.93	5,071.50	-
Other (Transfers)				-	(32.20)	-	-
Available Balance as of June 30, 2012	314,527.51	229,364.46	191,388.17	(31,398.84)	39,134.30	53,199.09	253,592.96
CUF Spendable Balance							154,242.60
Total Available Balance	468,770.11	397,300.55	330,276.17				

* Beginning balance consists of only net assets that roll forward to the next year. It does not include any budget amounts that may roll forward. Those amounts are included in the income figure because they become part of the total budget for the current year.

Statement of Assets

For the period ending June 30, 2012

	Fiscal Year 2012		Fiscal Year 2011		Fiscal Year 2010	
	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories	Asset Amount	Actual Expenses as spent from asset categories
Beginning Balance	225,614.73		191,387.05		262,712.56	
Asset Type <small>(received during the fiscal year)</small>						
State Appropriations	275,814.00	303,922.84	290,650.00	288,144.27	313,542.00	315,380.88
Grant or Contract Activities	103,225.00	55,786.50	15,974.11	15,910.38	40,000.00	39,974.00
Gifts and Donations	263,403.83	226,176.03	224,133.85	182,186.74	110,236.27	191,721.28
Endowment Earnings (Spendable)	154,242.60		167,936.09	-	138,888.00	
Royalty Income	245.35	293.85	34.23	27.80	-	31.78
Other Income (Ancillary)	62,211.01	29,807.19	40,723.33	47,268.92	49,750.99	37,745.71
Total Assets	1,084,756.52	615,986.41	930,838.66	533,538.11	915,129.82	584,853.65
Net Assets <small>(as of June 30, 2012)</small>		468,770.11		397,300.55		330,276.17

Endowment Holdings

For the period ending June 30, 2012

	2012	2011	2010
Endowment Name			
Wren and Timothy Wirth	131,341.33	140,833.36	125,858.33
Thompson Awards	253,728.05	240,957.90	190,377.28
Endowed Chair	2,226,574.21	2,332,608.50	2,044,665.48
Hoffman Scholars	98,309.36	104,317.15	92,212.00
Olson Stegner Award	109,596.93	90,227.43	76,059.81
Balance <small>(as of June 30, 2012)</small>	2,908,944.34	2,529,172.90	2,361,267.95

Acknowledgment of Contributions

The names that follow represent friends who helped make fiscal year July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012 a success. We extend our sincere thanks for your support of the Center of the American West.

Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and comprehensive listing of donors for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The Center of the American West apologizes for any incorrect listings, spellings, or omissions.

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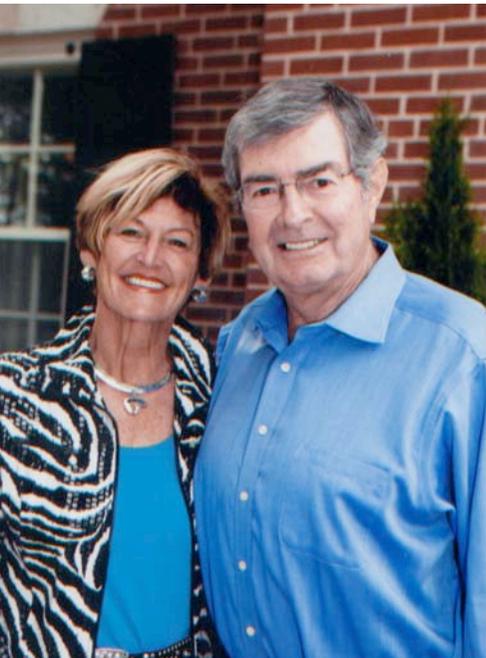
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“The Center of the American West is unique and inspirational!” -John and Barbara Quinlan



John and Barbara Quinlan

Donor Highlight

We decided to happily support the Center of the American West for several ardent reasons. Having lived in Colorado most of our lives, we want to be clearly informed about the many benefits and blessings of our beautiful state, as well as the environmental, educational, and political issues, and ever-changing challenges we share as fellow citizens. In order to be more productive citizens, we must first fully realize our global connectedness and the shared responsibilities we all have to protect, preserve, value, and improve our planet. The Center offers an array of excellent speakers, conferences, classes, and literature presenting updated information on topics relevant to our daily lives, to our culture, and to our business concerns. These important topics impact all of the West and our nation and world. This organization exemplifies the desire, motivation, and leadership to guide us in promoting forthright discourse and needed action to help maintain and improve our lifestyle in the West. The Center of the American West is unique and inspirational!

It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN... **Page 21**

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“We support the Center because it is undogmatic and inclusive...” -John and Ann Vernon



John and Ann Vernon Donor Highlight

This past May, Ann and I returned to our mountain home in Colorado after a four-month teaching assignment in London. London was exciting and diverse, as though not just British culture, but all the cultures of the world had been poured into its seemingly bottomless cup. London was also severely congested with vehicles and pedestrians. Back home, we could breathe again; we felt unshelled. We love big cities but love even more coming back to the open spaces of the West. Their power and unpredictable wildness are both liberating and humbling. Patty Limerick and the Center of the American West's faculty and staff have contributed wisely and generously to our understanding of the American West and the people who live here. We support the Center because it is undogmatic and inclusive; because it helps us to imagine the restless landscape we live in; because its ideology is to question all ideologies. And the Center of the American West is patiently at home in a world where rivers alter their course, slopes erode, boundaries shift, and politicians change their minds.

John Vernon is the author of eleven books; his latest novel is *Lucky Billy*. Ann Vernon is a painter. She recently showed her work at the Directions Gallery at Colorado State University. They live in Estes Park, CO.

It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN... Page 23

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Krista is also passionate about the American West, where she has chosen to spend most of her life, and about the Center's mission...

Krista Marks

New Board Member Highlight

Krista Marks is an entrepreneur in Boulder and is currently in the process of founding a new software startup. Previously, she was Vice President and General Manager of Disney Online's Boulder Studio. She came to Disney through its acquisition in 2008 of Kerpoof, where she was the CEO and co-founder. The tools created at Disney and Kerpoof have allowed millions of children to create, save and share artwork in safe online environments. Krista's career has spanned many different high tech fields in which she has worked as an engineer, manager, and leader. She has worked to create new Internet technology, novel cancer radiotherapy systems, instrumentation for high energy physics detectors, and leading edge network electronics. Krista was honored with the Kids at Play Interactive (KAPi) award for "Emerging Pioneer" at the 2011 International Consumer Electronics Show.

Krista is passionate about education and is on the board of several related organizations including the National Center for Women & Information Technology, the "I Have a Dream" Foundation of Boulder County, the Silicon Flatirons Center – Entrepreneurship Initiative at the University of Colorado, the ATLAS Institute and the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado. Krista is also passionate about the American West, where she has chosen to spend most of her life, and about the Center's mission to educate and serve as a forum for our most important public issues.



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John serves on many national boards and has received numerous service awards and other recognition for his leadership in the Indian law field.



John Echohawk New Board Member Highlight

John Echohawk, a member of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, was a co-founder of the Native American Rights Fund in 1970 and has been its Executive Director since 1977. The Native American Rights Fund has been involved in most of the major Indian rights litigation since 1970. John serves on many national boards and has received numerous service awards and other recognition for his leadership in the Indian law field. In 1992, he served on the Clinton-Gore transition team for the Department of the Interior and in 2008 he served on the Obama-Biden transition team for the Department of the Interior. John earned both his B.A. and J.D. from the University of New Mexico, and he is admitted to practice law in Colorado.

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Paul...led the business plan project for the Natural Fuels Company (NFC) joint venture between Xcel Energy and Colorado Interstate Gas Company...

Paul Nelson

New Board Member Highlight

Paul Nelson is the founding principal at Saoradh Energy where he currently leads projects in distributed power generation and advanced vehicle fueling & charging infrastructure. His other affiliations include Senior Advisor for CRSP, board member at the CU Deming Center for Entrepreneurship, founding board member for CClA, and advisory board member for Green Garage. Paul's career in the energy industry began in 1989 at Julander Energy Company, where he led the business plan project for the Natural Fuels Company (NFC) joint venture between Xcel Energy and Colorado Interstate Gas Company, and was lead author for the Colorado Oil & Gas Association's first Natural Gas Industry Report, among other projects. In 2000, he founded Blue Energy & Technologies LLC, raised \$10.5 million in strategic and venture capital, and purchased NFC from Xcel Energy and a similar business from TXU Energy in Dallas, Texas. Mr. Nelson holds a B.S. in Business-Finance, a B.A. in Chemistry with a minor in biochemistry, and in May 2010 received a research M.S. in Chemistry, all from the University of Colorado Boulder. He is a member of the American Chemical Society.



Lorenzo Trujillo

New Board Member Highlight

Lorenzo Trujillo is the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer at the National Association of Counsel for Children, where he oversees state and national policy and legislative initiatives, the direction of the NACC Child Welfare Law Certification Program, and directs association publications. Dr. Trujillo was the Assistant Dean of Students and Professional Programs at the University of Colorado Law School from 2004 to 2010. He has practiced law, consulted, taught, lectured, and published concerning matters in education, immigration, family law, business law, language equity, juvenile law, the arts, and public policy. Lorenzo Trujillo is also the director of the Southwest Musicians, which began as a family troupe of three generations including his aunt, Eva Nunez, father, Filbert Trujillo, son, Dr. Lorenzo Trujillo, Jr., and The Southwest Dancers, directed by his mother, Orié Trujillo. Since 1976, the group performed in numerous venues throughout the Southwestern United States. He was awarded the 1996 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, acknowledging his work as a folk violinist, guitarist, and vocalist, among his other accomplishments as a musician, ethnic dancer, folklorist, arts administrator, and culture bearer for approximately four decades.



Lorenzo Trujillo is also the director of the Southwest Musicians, which began as a family troupe of three generations...

Gary Klein graduated from CU with a degree in Accounting in 1958.

Gary Klein

New Board Member Highlight

Gary Klein graduated from CU with a degree in Accounting in 1958. He began his CPA career working for Arthur Andersen & Co. in Denver. In 1961, he was Assistant Treasurer of MFC, a bank holding company in Denver. He was introduced to the new sport of snowmobiling in 1964, and became the distributor of Bombardier Ski Doo in six western states. This company was successful and was sold in 1970. Gary was an early investor in Vail Associates; a founding member in Vicorp Restaurants (Village Inn); National Bank of the Rockies (now Vectra); and various real estate and start up companies in the Front Range. Gary has been skiing for 58 years and he's looking forward to at least another dozen years to make an even 70.



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2011-2012

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“Professor Young is currently writing a history of camping and sleeping outside that shows how the outdoors has served as a potent civic space.”



Phoebe Young

Faculty Council Highlight

Phoebe S. K. Young is associate professor in the Department of History (Ph.D. 1999, University of California, San Diego). She teaches and writes about the cultures and environments of the modern United States and the West. Professor Young is currently writing a history of camping and sleeping outside that shows how the outdoors has served as a potent civic space. From the encampments of Civil War veterans to the tents of Occupy Wall Street, camping suggests how access to nature has shaped understandings of citizenship, belonging, and public space. Along with a forthcoming book on the subject, this work can be found in the *Journal of Social History* (2009) and *Cities in Nature: Urban Environments of the American West* (Univ. of Nevada Press, 2010). Her first book, *California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place* (University of California Press, 2006) linked the remembrance of the Spanish past to regional development and race relations. With personal and intellectual roots in the West, Professor Young was thrilled to return from an Eastern sojourn to make her home in Boulder. Though raised on the beaches of Southern California, she already loves the Colorado mountains, where you will often find her hiking, skiing, and yes – camping.

It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN... Page 29

Jennifer Shannon

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He considers it his great good fortune that Patty, fascinated by the ancient historian Herodotus, asked him to take part in the Center's book group...

Peter Hunt

Faculty Council Highlight

Peter Hunt holds the rank of Professor in the Department of Classics. His publications include *Slaves, Warfare, and Ideology in the Greek Historians* (Cambridge 1998) and *War, Peace, and Alliance in Demosthenes' Athens* (Cambridge 2010). These are hardly Western topics, but his current research focuses on the Athenian "frontier" in Thrace, an area of weak non-Greek states on the borders of which the Athenians established colonies and where individual Athenians often went to make their fortunes (or not). Thrace has been described as the "wild West" of classical Athens, and Peter is investigating more thoroughly and systematically what the parallels and contrasts between the Wild West and Thrace can tell us about classical Greece—and perhaps the American West. Thus, he considers it his great good fortune that Patty, fascinated by the ancient historian Herodotus, asked him to take part in the Center's book group, especially two sessions devoted to Herodotus. He wants to continue to share his knowledge and love of Herodotus and, at the same time, to learn more about the American frontier and its study.





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It is a greater thing to be a GOOD CITIZEN...

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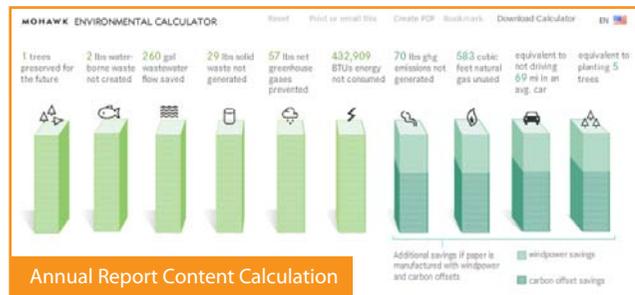
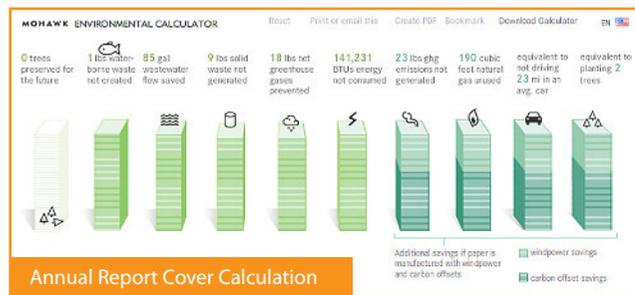
Articles contributed by: Kurt Gutjahr, Jason Hanson, Jennifer Aglio, Roni Ires, Patty Limerick, Raissa Johnson & Honey Lindburg.

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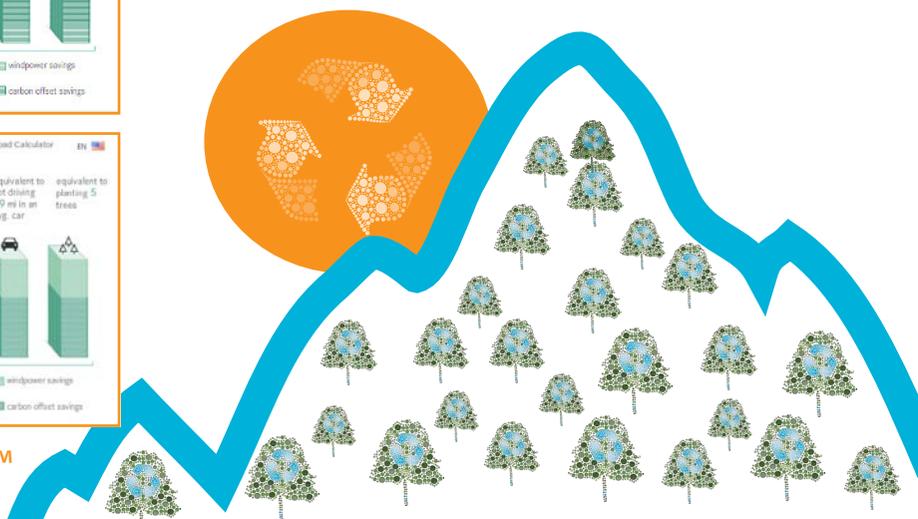
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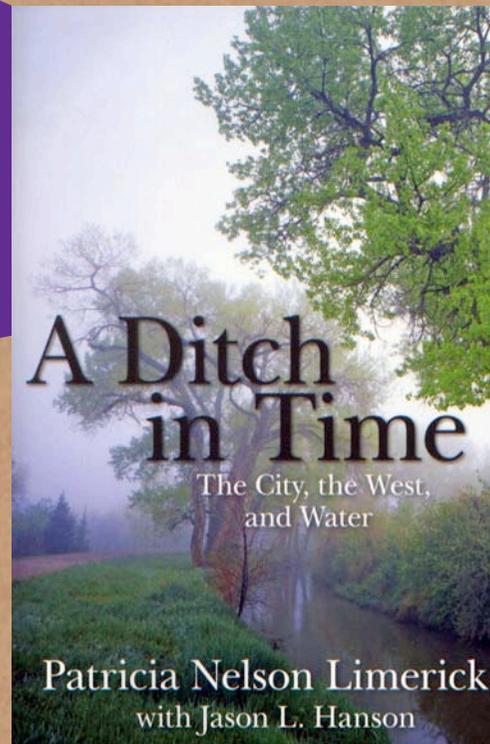
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