

Dakota Discussions

Exploring the history and consequences
of the Dakota War in Dakota Territory

Reading and discussing the path-breaking
new book,

Columns of Vengeance
Soldiers, Sioux, and the
Punitive Expeditions, 1863-64

Discussion Sites & Dates	
Ellendale Opera House	2pm Sunday, 27 October 2013
Sitting Bull College	2pm Sunday, 10 November 2013

Humanities Scholars Leading Discussions	
LaDonna Allard	Tom Isern
Richard Rothaus	Tamara St. John



Dakota Discussions funded
by the North Dakota
Humanities Council

Programs organized by the
Center for Heritage
Renewal, North Dakota
State University



Book Discussions Led by Humanities Scholars

LaDonna Brave Bull Allard is Director of Tourism for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. She is a frequent lecturer on history and genealogy and leader of historic tours of Standing Rock. She was the lead historical researcher for establishment of the Standing Rock Scenic Byway and is an assiduous researcher of the Dakota-Lakota-Nakota people of Standing Rock.

Richard Rothaus is CEO of Trefoil Cultural & Environmental, a successful cultural resource management firm. He holds a PhD in Classics from Ohio State University and currently is lead researcher for three Dakota War projects of the American Battlefield Protection Program.

Tamara St. John is the archivist for the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, and a genealogical specialist with unique knowledge about participants in the US-Dakota War. Her focused research on the Dakota Scouts, who following their service in the Dakota War settled on Lake Traverse Reservation, is well-known and much-cited.

Tom Isern is Professor of History & University Distinguished Professor at North Dakota State University. A specialist in the history of the Great Plains, Isern is author or co-author of six books and of the weekly public radio feature, *Plains Folk*.

Columns of Vengeance
Soldiers, Sioux, and the
Punitive Expeditions, 1863-64

By Paul N. Beck

Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2013

Paul N. Beck, Professor of History at Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, is already well-known to students of the Dakota War for his biography, *Inkpaduta: Dakota Leader*. In *Columns of Vengeance* he brings to bear the same exhaustive research, critical judgment, and lucid writing evident in his earlier work. This new book prompts us to ask,

- What do we know about the Dakota War?
- What remains to be discovered and discussed about this formative, destructive chapter in American history?
- What does this mean to us as people of the northern plains?

“. . . what sets *Columns of Vengeance* apart is the manuscript research. . . . With its unprecedented integration of firsthand accounts written by those who fought in the ranks, *Columns of Vengeance* is a uniquely valuable addition to the 1862-65 Dakota War literature.—*Civil War Books & Authors*

“. . . the best book yet covering the Dakota War in Dakota Territory.”—Tom Isern, *Plains Folk*

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How the Project Works

Public discussions of Beck's *Columns of Vengeance* are organized by the Center for Heritage Renewal (heritagerenewal.org), North Dakota State University, and funded by the North Dakota Humanities Council (ndhumanities.org).

Project director: Tom Isern, isern@plainsfolk.com, 701-799-2942

Discussion site in Ellendale: Ellendale Opera House, contact Jeanette Robb-Ruenz, jrbuenz@drtel.net, 701-535-0442

Discussion site in Fort Yates: Sitting Bull College, contact Mark Holman, markh@sbc.edu, 701-854-8024

Check out books (free loan, please return) from Ellendale Public Library, or from Sitting Bull College Library, or contact Dr. Isern

For more program details and discussion questions, contact any of the individuals named above, or go to

heritagerenewal.org/dakotawar



Dakota War Dialog

Facebook Group
Public Discussion

Online discussions here

facebook.com/groups/dakotawardialog

Also look for discussion threads on *Columns of Vengeance* established in goodreads.com.