

the midwest SOCIOLOGIST

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SPECIAL ISSUE:

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION PACKET

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pride and satisfaction that I invite you to the 2014 meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society. The preliminary program has come together nicely and I'm sure that the quality and diversity of Midwest social science scholarship, teaching, and professional practice will be on display.

Our program theme ("Left Behind Sociology") is well represented with at least 10 sessions drawing inspiration from the thematic statement that was part of our Call For Papers.

Our program this year also has several distinctive features including;

- A free drink ticket to the first arrivals at the opening night party (Thursday April 3rd). These earlybirds will also receive a free MSS coffee mug courtesy of The University of Iowa;
- Not one but two plenary presentations by world-renowned scholars John Holmwood (President of the British Sociological Society) and J. Craig Jenkins (Professor of Sociology and Political Science at The Ohio State University). Both will explicitly focus on the "left behind" theme.
- The Commons – an area near the book display featuring information on the graduate programs in the MSS region, highlighting the work of local NGO's, and highlighting the work of local employers;
- Tours of Boys Town, the legendary boys home featured in screen and cinema, and "Magic City", the old South Omaha area that used to be the first stop for immigrants to the area;
- Teaching-and-Learning Sessions concentrated on Saturday, April 5th, so that those who wish to hone their skills and who might otherwise have trouble getting away during the week can get maximum information in a minimal amount of time.

I hope to see all of you in Omaha – it's not the middle of nowhere, it's the middle of everything!

Kevin T. Leicht, President-Elect of MSS

Kevin-leicht@uiowa.edu



KEVIN T LEICHT

This is your
MSS 2014
Annual Meeting
Advance
Registration
Packet.
Register SOON!



Photos, from left:
Omaha Children's
Museum / Joslyn
Sculpture Garden / Indoor
Rainforest, Doorly Zoo /
Blue Sushi Restaurant

All photos courtesy of
Omaha Convention &
Visitors Bureau.

General Annual Meeting Schedule

For more details, visit www.themss.org

	THURS Apr 3	FRI Apr 4	SAT Apr 5	SUN Apr 6
7:00 – 8:00		ASA Chairs Breakfast	Orientation for new MSS committee chairs, board members	
8:00 – 9:30		Session 4 <i>Nominations & Elections*</i> <i>Finance*</i>	Session 8 Breakfast meeting – MSS committee chairs and Long Range Planning Committee	Session 12 MSS board meeting 8:00 – noon.
9:30 – 10:00			TOUR #2: The Magic City, 9:30 – 11:00.	MSS business meeting 9:30 – 10:00.
9:45 – 11:15		Session 5 <i>Annual Meeting*</i> <i>Social Action*</i>	Session 9 <i>Teaching & Learning*</i> <i>Publications*</i>	
10:15 – 11:45		NEW! 10:30 – 11:30 Grad programs highlighted in Commons area.	NEW! 10:00 – 11:00 Grad programs highlighted in Commons area.	Session 13
11:30 – 1:00		Plenary Address: John Holmwood 11:30 – 12:30 Optional discussion follows.	Plenary Address: J. Craig Jenkins 11:30 – 12:30 Optional discussion follows.	
noon – 1:30	Session 1 MSS board meeting noon – 4:00.			
1:00 – 2:30	NEW! 1:00 – 2:00 Grad programs highlighted in Commons area.	Session 6 <i>Membership*</i> <i>Scholarship Development*</i> TOUR #1: Guided Tour of Boys' Town, 1:00 – 4:00.	Session 10 <i>Prof Issues & Standards*</i> <i>Student Issues*</i>	
1:45 – 3:15	Session 2			
2:45 – 4:15		Session 7 <i>Long Range Planning*</i> <i>Minority Scholars*</i>	Session 11 <i>Women in the Profession*</i> <i>Sociological Practice*</i>	
3:30 – 5:00	Session 3			
4:30 – 5:15		♦Ice cream social ♦Distinguished Book Award ♦Early Career Scholarship Award	Plenary Session ♦Student paper awards ♦Social Action awards ♦Presidential Address	
5:00 – 6:00	Welcome reception: Cash bar, free drink tickets, free coffee cups.	5:15 – 6:30 Peter Hall Lecture followed by SSSI Banquet. <i>Executive*</i>		
		5:15 MSWS Business Meeting, followed by MSWS dinner.	5:45 Presidential Reception, sponsored by Minnesota State University, Mankato.	
		Posters all day in commons area – professional & grad posters AM, undergrad PM.		

***Committee meetings [italicized above] are TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED.**

As work on the program progresses, committee meetings may be moved around a little.

Special Events at the Annual Meeting

Watch for more details at www.theMSS.org

..... Plenary Sessions

Address by John Holmwood, Professor of Social Sciences in the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of Nottingham, United Kingdom / President, British Sociological Association. *11:30 AM Friday.*

Address by J. Craig Jenkins, Professor of Sociology & Political Science / Director of the Marshon Center for International Security, The Ohio State University. *11:30 AM Saturday.*

Presidential Address

“Violence Against Women: A Disciplinary Challenge,”
MSS President Barbara Keating, Minnesota State University, Mankato.
4:30 PM Saturday, immediately followed by Presidential Reception.
Presidential Reception graciously sponsored by Minnesota State University, Mankato.

..... Social Events

Welcome Reception

A meet and greet mingling session for the early birds who arrive on Thursday.
Free drink tickets, and free MSS coffee cups for the earliest birds! *5:00 PM Thursday.*

Ice Cream Social

MSS's signature event! Take a break, meet up with old friends, make new friends, see the posters, have some ice cream! *4:30 PM Friday.*

..... Special Interests

American Sociological Association Chairs' Breakfast

Invitations will be sent to departmental chairs by ASA. *7:00 AM Friday.*

Midwest Sociologists for Women in Society [MSWS]

Business Meeting *5:15 PM Friday* Dinner follows. *[Place and time TBA]*

Peter M. Hall Lecture

Realism & Constructivism in Battles over Global Environmental Problems:
A Pragmatist Middle Way, by Robert J. Antonio, University of Kansas. *5:15 – 6:15 Friday.*

Symbolic Interactionist Banquet follows Hall lecture at Upstream Brewing Company.

Reservation required, with check, by March 4. Details www.TheMSS.org special events page.

.....**NEW!** “The Commons,” formerly known as the Exhibit Hall

Something new at MSS! Watch as the Exhibit Hall morphs into the hub of our conference, becoming a central space for socializing, networking, exploring grad programs, and more. See “An Uncommon Commons,” at right.

Commons open from noon Thursday to noon Saturday.

..... Final Program

Stay tuned to www.TheMSS.org where the final program, including all session days, times and room assignments, will be posted in mid-January.

[MSS will also send you an email notice when the final program is posted online!]

An Uncommon Commons! Updating the Exhibit Hall

By Director of Exhibits
Anne Eisenberg

Changes in the publishing industry have made the “exhibits hall” more of an “echo hall” in recent years. Responses to survey evaluations of previous meetings clearly indicated that the “Exhibits” area has been disappointing for our members. In response to this feedback as well as to address key parts of the strategic plan concerning how the MSS can become more relevant to all of our diverse members, please join us for the 2014 meetings in Omaha, Nebraska where MSS is implementing a new initiative – The Commons.

Our goal is to create a central area for activities and social networking, for members and their families, as well as to highlight the efforts of local NGOs and not-for-profits in our host city. The Commons will contain a range of exhibits – from traditional publishing companies to area NGOs - as well as highlighting groups and organizations crucial to the MSS such as graduate programs in sociology and state societies. Additionally, complementary coffee/tea breaks, some of the award presentations, the ice cream social, and local talent will also be featured in The Commons. One of the things members most treasure about the MSS is the sense of fellowship and community – The Commons intends to focus on and enhance this quality.

**Arrive a day early - or stay late -
and explore Omaha!**

Learn more at VisitOmaha.com

Optional Tours at the Annual Meeting

Purchase tours when you register in advance, using the form on page 11; or when you register online at www.theMSS.org.

TOUR #1: Guided Tour of Boys Town

ORGANIZER: Dan Hawkins, University of Nebraska - Omaha

TOUR TIME: Friday, April 4, 1:00 to 4:00 PM.

TOUR FEE: \$10.00 – includes transportation, guided tour by Boys Town guides, presentation of current applied research by Boys Town National Research Institute.



“HE AIN’T HEAVY,
FATHER,
HE’S MY BROTHER.”

Boys Town’s mission is to provide a place of support and safety for at-risk children and their families. Founded in 1917 by the renowned Father Edward Joseph Flanagan, who ministered to the homeless on the streets of Omaha, the work of the organization was profiled in a 1938 movie titled “Boys Town.” Boys Town is now one of the largest nonprofit child-care agencies in the country, providing assistance to more than 2 million people each year. Though there are locations all across the United States, the national headquarters remain in Omaha. We will tour the campus, learn about the history of the organization, and stop at several main attractions like the Father Flanagan house and museum.

In addition to its outreach programs for children and families, Boys Town also operates the Boys Town National Research Institute for Child and Family Studies. The institute’s applied research focuses on: the development and evaluation of interventions for at-risk youth and their families, understanding youth and family risk and protective factors related to child maltreatment and juvenile offending, and examining the behavioral-emotional, mental health, and educational problems of youth.

After we tour the Boys Town campus, we will meet individuals affiliated with the research institute, who will discuss current social science projects, the role of social scientists and research analysts in the organization, and the contributions made to scientific literature on topics related to child and family interventions.

For more information, see the Boys Town website: <http://www.boystown.org/>

TOUR #2: South Omaha - “Magic City”

ORGANIZER: Mary Ann Powell, University of Nebraska - Omaha

TOUR TIME: Saturday, April 5, 9:30 to 11:00 AM.

TOUR FEE: \$12.00 – includes transportation, guided tour.

The Magic City tour focuses on the growth of South Omaha, which was founded in 1884 because of the creation of the Union Stockyards. Waves of immigrants flocked to the community to carve out a new life while working in the packinghouses, breweries, smelting plants, and other businesses that grew up in the area. By 1890, South Omaha was the fastest growing city in the country, earning the nickname, “The Magic City.” South Omaha was, and continues to be, culturally diverse. Many residents are descended from the Irish, Polish, Czech, Lithuanian, Italian, and Latino immigrants who made up the original workforce in the meatpacking industry. In recent decades, South Omaha has seen an influx of Hispanic and Sudanese populations. Annexed by the City of Omaha in 1915, the community has numerous historical landmarks. Many are within the South Omaha Main Street Historic District. Today, South Omaha has been transformed into a vibrant area filled with small businesses, restaurants and art.

For more about South Omaha’s cultural sites, see links at its Wikipedia entry: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Omaha,_Nebraska



FATHER FLANAGAN’S HOUSE, BOYS TOWN



EL MUSEO LATINO, OMAHA

2014 ANNUAL MEETING REMINDERS

Especially for student MSS members

from: MSS Student Board Members
Priya Dua & Kimberly Maas

The student hospitality suite has been revitalized! Now termed “the student lounge,” the student center will be much more visible to students and will be located near the registration desk. Meeting, networking and socializing with fellow sociology students will be much easier in this open commons space. Stop in to the student lounge when you pick up your registration packet, or between sessions. We look forward to meeting you!



STUDENT DIRECTOR
KIM MAAS
AT THE 2013 MSS
ANNUAL MEETING

Your annual meeting deadlines and to-do list

- Deadlines in blue bars apply only to annual meeting session organizers and presenters.
- Deadlines in purple bars apply to everyone.
- Deadline in pink bar applies to persons attending the annual meeting, who are not participating in the annual meeting as organizers or presenters.

This	is the deadline for.....
Jan 1	-all annual meeting organizers, presenters, discussants, panelists, presiders - to review the preliminary program online and send corrections to the program chair at sociology-midwest-2014@uiowa.edu
Jan 24	-organizers to confirm session details with their presenters and report any withdrawals to program chair.
Feb 1	-all annual meeting organizers and presenters to join MSS and pre-register for the annual meeting, by mail or online. [Any organizers/participants who have not paid membership and pre-registration by this date risk being removed from the program.]
Feb 15	-applying for adjunct/contingent travel grants. [See more information on page 6.]
Mar 1	-annual meeting presenters/organizers to request special audiovisual support. [See more information on page 10.]
Mar 1	-applying for student travel grants. [See more information on page 6.]
Mar 6	-requesting childcare / disability accommodation. [See more information on page 10.]
Mar 6	-reserving your hotel room at the discount rate. Please remember that hotel rooms are offered at the discount rate until March 6 - or until they are gone - whichever comes FIRST! [See more information on page 10.]
Mar 15	-organizers to remind all your session participants of their responsibilities as well as provide them with final information about the session day, time, location, and audiovisual arrangements.
Mar 16	-non-participating meeting attendees to register in advance for the annual meeting, either by mail or online. Non-participating meeting attendees may also choose to register onsite in Omaha, but registration will cost \$20-\$40 more.

FINANCIAL AID FOR TRAVEL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Travel grants for students - deadline for application is March 1

Each year, the MSS offers 150 travel reimbursements of \$100 each to student MSS members who participate in the annual meeting.

To qualify you must:

1. Be a student, grad or undergrad; and be a current MSS member;
2. Participate in an annual meeting session as a presenter, organizer or discussant;
3. Register [and pay registration fees] for the 2014 annual meeting before Feb. 1; and
4. Submit your request for a travel grant via e-mail before midnight, March 1.

Please follow these directions to submit your request for a student travel grant:

1. Look up the number of the session in which you're participating. You will find it in the final program, which will be posted online in January at www.TheMSS.org
 2. Put "MSS Travel Award" in the email subject line.
 3. In the body of the e-mail include: your full name, your institutional affiliation, your student status [grad or undergrad], the session number(s) in which you are participating.
 4. Email your request for a travel grant before midnight, March 1, to Student Director Kim Maas at kimberly.maas@mnsu.edu
 5. If there are more than 150 eligible applicants, the 150 award winners will be randomly drawn from all applicants.
- You will be notified of your award status before the meeting, and may pick up your \$100 check at the MSS registration desk in Omaha.

Questions? Email the MSS Exec Office: mwsocsoc@centurylink.net

Travel grants for adjunct and contingent faculty - deadline is February 15

The MSS invites applications for the third year of its Contingent Faculty Travel Award which includes two nights at the conference hotel paid in full. Contingent faculty eligible for this award are men and women who teach in part-time/adjunct positions, and who are not graduate students.

Award Application Requirements:

1. Applicant must be a current MSS member in good standing at the time of application.
2. Applicant must be a participant in the MSS annual meeting by presenting a paper in a session or round table, serving as a panelist in a non-paper session/round table or serving as a member of an MSS committee.
3. Applications must be submitted via e-mail to the Contingent Faculty Travel Grant Committee Chair, Gayle Rhineberger-Dunn, at gayle.rhineberger@uni.edu by Feb. 15, 2014.
4. In your email, include the following information:
 - a. Type "MSS Contingent Faculty Travel Award" in the email subject line.
 - b. In the body of the e-mail include: your full name, your institutional affiliation, contact information and the name and contact information of your Department Head, and indicate that you will not be receiving any funding from your department/college/university for travel to the annual MSS meeting.
 - c. Attach (as a Word or rich text format document) or include in the body of the email one of the following:
 - an abstract for a traditional paper presentation session/round table;
 - a one-paragraph description of your role in a non-paper panel/round table session; OR
 - the name of the MSS committee of which you are a member and your role on the committee.

Award Criteria

Awardees will be chosen randomly from a pool of all eligible applicants.

Withdrawal

If awardee decides not to attend the meeting at all, he/she should inform MSS at once, so that the award can be offered to another applicant.

If an awardee withdraws from his/her annual meeting participation of his/her own accord, the award will be withdrawn by MSS.

Questions? Email the MSS Exec Office: mwsocsoc@centurylink.net

Nebraska: New Face of the Environmental Movement?

By Local Arrangements Co-Chair Julie A. Pelton and Jason Miller

On two September 2013 weekends, environmental activists from Nebraska and across the Midwest converged on York, NE, to help build a Renewable Energy Barn that would not only generate solar and wind power, but also serve as a learning center to educate citizens on renewable energy issues in Nebraska. The objective: to force President Obama's hand. If the Keystone XL pipeline project is approved, its construction would require tearing down a source of clean and locally produced energy. That's right: in order to make way for dirty tar sands oil, someone would have to tear down solar and wind energy. It was a stunning move. An innovative, creative, and rebellious tactic. The Build Our Energy project, organized by Bold Nebraska with support from 350.org, the Sierra Club, and individual donors, represents a departure from the past. The modern environmental movement is engaged in an epic battle against climate change deniers and it is developing an arsenal of provocative strategies to deploy in the fight.

The New Environmental Movement's Big Goals

Oddly enough, Nebraska has become the center of a movement with big goals: solve the global climate crisis by reducing CO2 emissions, ending our reliance on fossil fuels, and building more green energy. Canadian oil behemoth Trans Canada's proposed Keystone XL tar sands pipeline is especially relevant to Nebraskans, as the pipeline would cross and put at risk not only Nebraska's precious sand hills region and wildlife as well as the Ogallala aquifer (the source of much Midwestern fresh water), but threaten untold acres of Nebraska farmland and private property as well.

Stopping the Keystone XL pipeline is only one piece of the puzzle, but it's the issue with the most local and regional impact,

an issue that has prompted more and more Nebraskans from a variety of backgrounds to create a new face of the environmental movement.



RENEWABLE ENERGY BARN, YORK, NE

Nebraska: A new coalition of unlikely bedfellows?

It all started with some calls, letters, and emails sent to Jane Kleeb, founder of Bold Nebraska, a progressive action organization that had recently been involved in the push for health care reform. These calls and letters were from traditionally conservative Nebraskans. Trans Canada, a foreign energy company was using bullying tactics to push through their pipeline in Nebraska and these concerned farmers, ranchers, and citizens were getting no help from their elected officials in Nebraska or the U.S. Congress. They turned to Bold Nebraska for help.

After Bold Nebraska stepped in, a coalition of "unlikely bedfellows" started to coalesce around the shared goal of stopping the pipeline, or at least moving it away from sensitive Nebraska natural resources. Private property rights and environmental concerns were of equal importance to this unlikely new coalition.

Conservative rancher Randy Thompson became a reluctant icon and an unlikely environmental activist, complete with "Stand with Randy" T-shirts and yard signs. Those standing with Randy were not

only your expected experienced activists, college students, and professors but also Nebraska landowners, conservatives, farmers, ranchers, preachers, priests, scientists, lawyers, nurses, teachers, parents, grandparents, and children from all over the state.

This inclusiveness was not so much a strategy, but it turns out it may have been a necessity for their success thus far. This might be an old movement, but it has learned new tricks.

Beyond Marches: Old Movement, New Tricks?

Today's environmental movement is about more than marching or rallies, especially in Nebraska where the fight against Keystone XL still rages on more than three years after Jane Kleeb and Bold Nebraska entered the picture.

The actions taken by the new nationwide environmental movement led by organizations such as 350.org don't look like traditional social movement protests. There are worldwide days of action, viral videos, art installations, and cross country bike rides.

*Nebraska: Environmental Movement
CONTINUES PAGE 9*

You're going where? Omaha??????

By Local Arrangements Co-Chair Julie A. Pelton

Okay, I get it.

When you think of cool places to go, Omaha does not rise to the top of the list. It probably doesn't even make your top 20. Hey, even I was guilty of having a negative opinion—or, more accurately, no opinion—about this city before I moved here. So I'm going to do my best to convince you that you should come to Omaha in April! I'll skip the whole "the airport is close to the hotel, parking is cheap, conference costs are more affordable than in Chicago" spiel and get straight to the point:

There's lots more to this city than Warren Buffett, steaks, and Cornhuskers.

••••• Art

Omahans are proud of what we've got: all the elements for a thriving fine arts scene - great galleries; an eclectic mix of artists; a large concentration of arts patrons; and a hip downtown. The [Joslyn Art Museum](#) opened to the public in 1931 and has a collection of 11,000 works representing artists and cultures from antiquity to the present. I can't possibly list all of the highlights, so check out their website for more: www.joslyn.org. You can take the free hotel shuttle to the museum and even admission is now free thanks to a grant from the Sherwood Foundation!



JOSLYN ART MUSEUM

Art lovers might also want to check out the [Artists Cooperative Gallery](#), a non-profit, tax-exempt gallery, located in Omaha's historic Old Market area. The co-op is an artist-run gallery within walking distance of the hotel. Artists volunteer time to staff the gallery and operate all aspects of the business so you might actually meet the creator of the art on display in April, because the person at the desk is one of the artists. After visiting the Artists Co-op, walk over to the [Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts](#). The Center was founded in 1981 by Jun Kaneko, Tony Hepburn, Lorne Falk and Ree Schonlau, to support an Artist-in-Residence program that serves as a laboratory for artists to research, experiment, and take creative risks. Nearly 700 artists-in-residence have called the Bemis Center home.

Lastly, Omaha has a great public art initiative. Download the [Public Art Omaha](#) mobile app (click on the icons at www.publicartomaha.org) and you'll have a free do-it-yourself walking tour in the palm of your hand! If viewing art isn't enough, the Old Market area boasts at least six gallery spaces downtown where you can buy something to take home with you!



HENRY DOORLY ZOO

••••• Kids

If you enjoy travelling to conferences with little ones in tow, Omaha is definitely for you. Between the [Henry Doorly Zoo](#), the [Children's Museum](#), the slides on the [Gene Leahy Mall](#), and all the great activities at the [Riverfront](#), you'll find plenty to occupy those kiddos. The Zoo comes highly recommended by my son: He says you should definitely take a ride around the park on the Steam

Locomotive. You'll get a bird's eye view of all the animals and even the adults will learn something from the tour guide. Train tickets are just \$5. The MSS can organize a shuttle to the zoo if you want to go with a group. During the conference, the Omaha Children's Museum is featuring the "Things That Go" exhibit (vehicles, water, energy and more) along with their usual opportunities to learn, play and explore for kids of all ages.

"I HAD AN EXTRAVAGANT WEEKEND AND WENT TO OMAHA. SOMEBODY TOLD ME IT WAS LIKE THE PORTLAND OF THE MIDWEST, AND THAT'S A GOOD WAY TO PUT IT. IT'S VERY LAID-BACK."

—WILL FORTE, STAR OF *NEBRASKA*, CURRENTLY IN THEATERS.

COME TO OMAHA!

••••• Music & Theater & Film

Did you know that MTV ranked Omaha the second-most up and coming music city in the world? This is mostly because of its new state-of-the-art music venues like [The Slowdown](#), [Waiting Room](#), and the [Holland Center](#). The Slowdown was named the best indie-rock club in the country by Esquire a few years ago, and has a reputation for bringing great music to the city. The venue was developed by the owner/operators of Saddle Creek Records and helped kick-start the rebuilding of the north downtown area, which is now home to creative living/working spaces, cool offices in reclaimed warehouses, and a bunch of nice new restaurants. The Saddle Creek/Slowdown building also houses a number of other businesses, the [Ruth Sokolof Theater](#), and [Filmstreams](#), a not for profit cinema. Omaha bands of note include: Cursive, Bright Eyes, and the Faint. Slowdown is a block away from the conference hotel, by the way. Waiting Room is a 15 minute drive from the Hilton. Check out their webpages to see who is playing April 3-6.



SOKOLOF THEATER

••••• Food & Beer

Foodies will be more than pleasantly surprised by the restaurant scene in the city. So will beer lovers. I could write for pages and pages about all the great places to eat around town. That's probably why I went a bit overboard with the Restaurant Guide (See it at www.themss.org). Here are some highlights: Omaha is home to a number of renowned steakhouses (I count at least 30), and the Reuben was invented here too. I recommend a tour of the restaurants which claim to have the best Reuben in town: [Crescent Moon](#)—serving the original Blackstone Reuben, [The Dundee Dell](#), [Mark's Bistro](#), [Wohlner's Grocery](#), [The Drover](#), and [Barrett's Barley Corn](#) (there are 50 places that serve Reubens). You can decide which you think is the best!



Omaha also has a long history as a regional beer center, with the [Krug](#), [Storz](#), [Metz Brewery](#) and [Willow Springs Brewery](#) forming the city's "Big 4" breweries. Now, Omaha is an up-and-coming place for micro-brewing and brew pubs, boasting at least six micro breweries set to be open by April 2014. Check out my Omaha Beer Tour in the Restaurant Guide for the details.

Beer isn't your thing? The collection of single malt Scotch whiskeys at [Dundee Dell](#) may be one of the largest in the United States. No matter what you want to eat, you'll find it downtown: there are more than 30 restaurants in the Old Market area alone, and it's just a few blocks from our hotel.

Convinced? Well, then, renew your membership, register for the conference, and book your flight!! I'll see ya in Omaha.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7 *Nebraska: New Face of the Environmental Movement?*

New movements require new tools and techniques, and this is true especially in Nebraska where the "Pipeline Fighters" not only march and rally, but Tweet, post on Facebook, write letters, make phone calls, send emails, make videos, hold press conferences, file law suits, and even testify at government hearings.

One Halloween, Bold Nebraska surrounded the Nebraska governor's mansion with "No KXL" themed jack-o'-lanterns. This fall, the building of the solar and wind powered barn was their most ambitious action to date. The barn is reminiscent of the Clamshell Network's occupation of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant in 1977 or Julia "Butterfly" Hill's 738-day "tree sit" to prevent Pacific Lumber Company from cutting down giant redwoods in California. In both these cases, human beings stood physically in the way of what they were protesting.

The Green Barn places the alternative – the movement goal of more green energy – directly in the path of what it is protesting. This is new to environmentalism. There is something they want, for which they are advocating, and it is in poignant physical contrast to the thing they oppose.

Nebraska isn't usually considered to be on the cutting edge of anything, but when it comes to the new realities of environmental activism, coalition building, and creative action, the "Good Life" state might just be leading the way.

ANNUAL MEETING LOGISTICS

REGISTERING FOR THE MEETING

Receive a deep discount when you register *before March 16th* for the MSS annual meeting by using the form and envelope bound into this packet; or use a credit card to register online at www.TheMSS.org

Advance registration is required by Feb. 1 for meeting participants; and available until March 16th for non-participating attendees.

AVOID PROBLEMS: REGISTER EARLY!

March 16 is the last day to postmark by-mail registration or to register online. *It is not unusual for several hundred people to attempt to register online on the final day of the advance registration period.*

The onslaught of would-be registrants can cripple the system: If something goes wrong, you may be unable to complete your transactions in time and will be forced to register onsite at a higher cost.

AVOID problems - beat the rush!
Register WELL BEFORE March 16th!

AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT FOR MEETING PRESENTERS

All presentation rooms will have LCD [also called digital or data or PowerPoint] projectors. Please note: To use the digital projector, *you or your session organizer must bring a laptop computer to hook up to the digital projector.* NO computers will be provided. Confer with your session organizer to make arrangements. You are welcome to bring handouts to supplement your presentation or instead of using a PowerPoint.

Internet hookup is NOT available in the meeting rooms. NO other audiovisual arrangements - microphones, sound systems, DVD players - will be provided unless requested of -and approved by- the program chair BEFORE MARCH 1. NO audiovisual equipment will be provided to roundtable presenters.



About the CONFERENCE HOTEL



RESERVATIONS

The MSS Annual Meeting will take place at the Omaha Hilton, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, Nebraska, 68102; and the hotel is offering MSS attendees a generous discount. Hotel rooms are only \$119 plus applicable taxes for singles and doubles; only \$124 for three or four persons in a room. To make a reservation at the special group discount rate, please use your credit card at the 'book-a-room' link at the conference hotel web page on the MSS website.
<http://www.themss.org/annmtg2014hotel.html>

Your credit card will not be charged until you arrive.

Make your hotel reservation soon! The discount rate is available only until March 6, or until the MSS room block is full, *whichever comes first.*

Reservation-making problems or questions?

If you have any difficulty booking a room - please.....
Contact MSS by phoning 319.338.5247 during business hours; or by emailing mwsocsoc@centurylink.net

HOTEL PARKING

Valet parking fee: \$20 for hotel guests.

Onsite self-parking fee: \$12 daily with in/out privileges for hotel guests.

DIRECTIONS / MASS TRANSIT TO THE HOTEL

The Omaha Hilton offers a free airport shuttle. You can access info about getting to the hotel by using the "Maps and Transportation" link at the hotel's web site:
<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/nebraska/hilton-omaha-OMACVHH/maps-directions/index.html>

CHILDCARE / DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

MSS will help you subsidize quality childcare so you can attend sessions during the meetings. MSS will also provide reasonable accommodation for disabilities. To arrange childcare or an accommodation, please contact Local Arrangements Co-Chair Julie Pelton before March 6th, at jpelton@unomaha.edu.

CONTACT US

Questions about membership, advance registration or logistics? Contact MSS Exec Lauren Tiffany at 319.338.5247 or by email to mwsocsoc@centurylink.net.

Questions about the program or AV equipment? Contact Program Chair Kevin Leicht or his Assistant, Kim Maas, at sociology-midwest-2014@uiowa.edu

Combination Membership and/or Advance Registration Form
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting Omaha Hilton Thurs-Sun, April 3-6, 2014

MAIL this form with check or credit card numbers to: **MSS / 310 Dartmouth St / Iowa City, IA 52245-4914.**
DEADline!!!!!! Forms postmarked after March 16 will not be accepted.

PART I: Name badge preference

PRINT names & affiliation exactly as desired for your conference name badge(s).

 First name / middle initial if you use one / Last name

 School or organizational affiliation [Please write out –no acronyms.]

Include affiliation named above as part of your mailing address below?
 Please CHECK *yes* or *no*. *yes* *no*

PART II: Mailing address

If your current address is printed on the back of this form, you may skip the next four lines.

 Mailing address line 1

 Mailing address line 2 [if needed]

 City AND State

 Zip or postal code / Country if not USA

 Daytime phone with area code

 Current email address [Please PRINT CAREFULLY and double-check!]

 Print spouse/companion first name AND last name.
[No fee necessary to register your non-sociologist spouse/companion.]

PART III: Compute fees. Part C optional.

Please use the boxes below to indicate the fees you paid.

A. MEMBERSHIP DUES *SKIP to Part B if your 2014 dues already paid!*

- \$23 Student
- \$60 Regular
- \$75 Joint [2 people sharing home mailing address & publications]
- \$120 Sustaining*
- \$150 Joint & sustaining*

*A portion of your sustaining dues will be contributed to the MSS Award/Scholarship and Endowment Funds.

B. ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEES – available until Mar 16th.

- \$35 Student MSS member [Onsite registration rate will be \$55.]
- \$90 Regular MSS member [Onsite rate - \$120.]
- \$110 Nonmember rate [Onsite rate - \$150.]

C. OPTIONAL TOUR FEES** See full tour descriptions in this packet, or online at <http://www.themss.org/annmtg2014tours.html>

**If bringing a companion on tours, please purchase two tickets. Below, please indicate number of tickets desired for each tour in the first box in each line; and total ticket cost for that tour in the second box in each line.

- @ \$10 = #1 Guided Tour of Boys Town, Fri, 4/4, 1-4 pm.
- @ \$12 = #2 South Omaha – ‘Magic City’ Sat, 4/5, 9:30-11 am.
- TOTAL – ALL TOUR FEES

PART IV: ENTER TOTAL FEES HERE

\$ ENTER IN BOX AT LEFT total of all fees parts A – C, above.
Please double-check your math! 8-)

Enclose check made payable to MSS.
 OR use a credit card to complete Part V below.

Mail to: MSS, 310 Dartmouth St, Iowa City, IA 52245-4914

QUESTIONS?

- Unsure of membership status? Check the back of this packet for your membership expiration date, or email mwsocsoc@centurylink.net.
- See all conference info & updates at www.TheMSS.org

PART V: For credit card payers only.

PLEASE! Only DISCOVER or VISA or MASTERCARD.

Enter card number below. Card expiration month / year

___ / ___ / ___ / ___ ___ / ___

Street address where card is billed. Zip code where card is billed.

 Your SIGNATURE as on card.

Please remember the DEADline!!!!!!

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310 Dartmouth St
Iowa City, IA 52245-4914

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**REGISTER NOW to join your friends
and colleagues at the
2014 MSS Annual Meeting,
April 3-6, Hilton Omaha.**

***But first.....
check your membership status!***

See the address block above.
If it says '2013' or any previous year, your membership has EXPIRED. If you have 'expired,' please renew before Feb. 1 to be eligible to participate in the annual meeting, to keep your subscriptions coming, and to remain eligible for committee service, MSS awards, and MSS research grants.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP by using the form inside this packet; or use a credit card to renew online on the membership page at the MSS website, www.TheMSS.org



Omaha's Old Market Entertainment District

Just blocks from the MSS conference hotel, bounded by Harney, Jackson, 10th and 13th Streets, the Old Market District offers unique shops, boutiques, pubs, restaurants and entertainment in a historic neighborhood. Shop bookstores to bakeries, art galleries to antiques, clothing to collectibles, then dine in one of more than 30 area restaurants. Accessible.

www.oldmarket.com

All photos courtesy of Omaha Convention & Visitors Bureau.
www.visitomaha.com
