

The Annals of Iowa

Volume 70, Number 4
Fall 2011



A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF HISTORY

In This Issue

JAMES RODGER FLEMING, professor of science, technology, and society at Colby College, examines Iowa's entry into the space age through the early career of State University of Iowa scientist James Van Allen. Fleming's telling of the story sheds new light on Van Allen's discovery and disruption of the near space environment for scientific and military purposes and casts Van Allen in a new light.

ANGIE GUMM, an independent scholar in Wichita, Kansas, traces the emergence and persistence of the resource recovery plant in Ames, Iowa, from the 1970s to the present, setting its history in the context of environmental and technological debates during those years. Gumm argues that Iowans' commitment to farmland preservation combined with the city's acceptance of engineering efforts and goals created a unique situation that has enabled the resource recovery plant to carry on for all of these years.

Front Cover

Dr. James A. Van Allen (center), joins Dr. William H. Pickering (left) and Dr. Wernher von Braun (right), to celebrate the successful launch on January 31, 1958, of *Explorer 1*, which discovered the radiation belts that circle the Earth and were later named for Van Allen. Source: NASA JPL Image P8485, from GRIN.

Editorial Consultants

Rebecca Conard, Middle Tennessee State University
Kathleen Neils Conzen, University of Chicago
William Cronon, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Robert R. Dykstra, State University of New York at Albany

R. David Edmunds, University of Texas at Dallas
H. Roger Grant, Clemson University
William C. Pratt, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Glenda Riley, Ball State University
Malcolm J. Rohrbough, University of Iowa
Dorothy Schwieder, Iowa State University

The Annals of Iowa

Third Series, Vol. 70, No. 4

Fall 2011

Marvin Bergman, editor

Contents

- 301 Iowa Enters the Space Age:
James Van Allen, Earth's Radiation Belts,
and Experiments to Disrupt Them
James Rodger Fleming
- 325 "A Small Town with a Pretty Big Idea":
How Ames, Iowa, Came to Have the
Most Enduring Resource Recovery Plant
in the United States
Angie Gumm
- 358 Reinterpreting the Life and Art of Grant Wood:
A Review Essay
Travis E. Nygard
- 368 Book Reviews and Notices
- 393 New on the Shelves
- 399 Index
-

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF HISTORY FOUNDED IN 1863
Copyright 2010 by the State Historical Society of Iowa
ISSN 0003-4827

Review Essay

358 R. TRIPP EVANS, *Grant Wood: A Life*, by Travis E. Nygard

Book Reviews and Notices

368 CARL J. EKBERG, *A French Aristocrat in the American West: The Shattered Dreams of De Lassus de Luzières*, by Thomas J. Lappas

369 PETER J. KASTOR, *William Clark's World: Describing America in an Age of Unknowns*, by David A. Walker

371 FRITIOF M. FRYXELL, *Ferdinand Hayden: A Young Scientist in the Great West, 1853–1855*, by Michael D. Severs

372 LAWRENCE H. LARSEN AND BARBARA J. COTTRELL, *Steamboats West: The 1859 American Fur Company Missouri River Expedition*, by Paul F. Paskoff

374 STACEY M. ROBERTSON, *Hearts Beating for Liberty: Women Abolitionists in the Old Northwest*, by Barbara Ann Cutter

375 RICHARD W. ETULAIN, ED., *Lincoln Looks West: From the Mississippi to the Pacific*, by Patricia Ann Owens

377 ERIC J. MORSE, *Hinterland Dreams: The Political Economy of a Midwestern City*, by Kathleen A. Brosnan

379 BRUCE L. MOUSER, *For Labor, Race, and Liberty: George Edwin Taylor, His Historic Run for the White House, and the Making of Independent Black Politics*, by David Brodnax Sr.

381 MARK DUGAN, *The Brilliant Bandit of the Wabash: The Life of the Notorious Outlaw Frank Rande*, by John E. Hallwas

383 ROD EVANS, *Palaces on the Prairie*, by Mary Anne Beecher

384 CELIA MALONE KINGSBURY, *For Home and Country: World War I Propaganda and the Home Front*, by Barbara Jean Steinson

386 L. GORDON MCLESTER III AND LAURENCE M. HAUPTMAN, EDS., *A Nation within a Nation: Voices of the Oneidas in Wisconsin*, by Renee J. Zakhari

388 MIKE CHAPMAN, *Triumph and Tragedy: The Inspiring Stories of Four Football Legends, Fred Becker, Jack Trice, Nile Kinnick, Johnny Bright*, by Sarah Jane Eikleberry

389 Chia Youyee Vang, *Hmong America: Reconstructing Community in Diaspora*, by Joseph Andrew Orser

391 DAVID P. REDLAWSKI ET AL., *Why Iowa? How Caucuses and Sequential Elections Improve the Presidential Nominating Process*, by Norman E. Fry