



# Plains Talk

North Dakota Heritage Center

Volume 40, Number 4 - Winter 2009

## Major Donors Give \$3.1 Million for Expansion Project

By Rick Collin

Two major donors' gifts this winter have brought the expansion project of the North Dakota Heritage Center nearly to the point where groundbreaking for construction can occur this summer. The 2009 Legislative Assembly authorized \$51.7 million for the expansion of the exhibits and collections spaces of the state museum. Of this, \$39.7 million in state funds was appropriated. An additional \$12 million must come from private and federal funds, with at least \$6 million of this pledged before construction can begin.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) Foundation has raised \$5.6 million in private donations to date.



Photographs SHSND Foundation

Donors and supporters pose after a December 14 news conference announcing the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' donation of \$1.3 million for the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center. (l to r) Jon McMillan, president, SHSND Foundation Board; Marlo Sveen, SHSND Foundation development director; Virginia Nelsen, SHSND Foundation executive director; Wally Beyer, SHSND Foundation Board vice president; Ron Harper, general manager and CEO of Basin Electric Power Cooperative; Al Christianson, manager of business development and North Dakota governmental affairs for Great River Energy; Dennis Hill, vice president and general manager of North Dakota's Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives; and Governor John Hoeven. Oklahoma-based Continental Resources, Inc. has donated \$1.8 million for the expansion project. At right, chairman and CEO Harold Hamm speaks at a luncheon following the January 22 news conference. Joining Hamm in making the announcement were Governor Hoeven and U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND).



### Back from Japan

## World-Famous Dinosaur Again on Exhibit

By Bonnie T. Johnson

"Dakota," the extraordinarily well-preserved dinosaur fossil, is now back on exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Scheduled to remain at the Heritage Center until at least July 2015, the hadrosaur fossil has generated intense international interest. Work has continued in recent months to expose more of the skin, bones, and tendons, after Dakota returned October 14 from spending last summer at an international dinosaur exhibition in Chiba, Japan. Sandstone encasing the fossil must be carefully removed, often grain by grain, to see how much of the hadrosaur has been preserved.



A painting of "Dakota,"  
copyright Julius T. Csotonyi  
(www.csotonyi.com)

Paleontology staff worked on the tail section in their lab

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**World-Famous Dinosaur** *continued from page 1*

after its return from Japan, resulting in more to see when it went back on display at the entrance to the main gallery in January.

“A great deal more of the tail has been exposed, and a piece of the tip of the tail has been added to the exhibit,” said Jeff Person, a paleontologist with the North Dakota Geological Survey, which is supervising work on the rare dinosaur discovered near Marmarth, North Dakota in 1999 by Tyler Lyson.

Further rock removal recently began on the nearly four-ton body block, which has recently been moved back into the paleontology lab. “We’re now working where the skull should be if it’s there,” said Person.

**Warner Receives 2009 Staff Award**

Ron Warner was awarded the 2009 Staff Award for Excellence at the agency’s annual holiday gathering, an honor given each year to a State Historical Society employee selected by colleagues as the agency’s outstanding staff member.

Warner is the administrative officer for the SHSND’s Support Services Division. He began employment with the agency July 1, 1973 as an administrative officer, when the agency’s headquarters were located in the Liberty Memorial Building. He helped move the State Historical Society headquarters from the Liberty Memorial Building to the newly constructed North Dakota Heritage Center in 1980-81. Warner has also authored several articles and book reviews for the Society’s quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*. He served on the North Dakota Humanities Council from 1991 to 1997, and was its chair from 1993 to 1994.

Other staff members were honored for years of service with the SHSND:

- 30 Years:** Lloyd Jensen, construction supervisor
- 25 Years:** David Fournier, instrument technician
- 20 Years:** Jack Mattson, Fort Totten site supervisor
- 15 Years:** Paul Picha, chief archaeologist
- Elaine Schlinger, administrative assistant
- 10 Years:** Beth Campbell, visitors services coordinator
- Kathy Davison, editor
- Larissa Harrison, archives specialist
- 5 Years:** Gene Baker, microfilm specialist
- Duane Edwards, security officer
- Dolores Linn, Chateau de Mores site supervisor



**Ron Warner, the SHSND's outstanding employee for 2009.**

Photograph by Brian Austin, SHSND

**February Fiddlin'**

Young fiddlers from throughout the state competed in the third annual Arthur A. Link Fiddling Contest February 14. Held in honor of former Governor Link (1973-81), the event drew many young musicians and spectators that included Link, 95, and his wife, Grace. They presented certificates and cash prizes to winners and enjoyed the individual and group performances that followed. Scholarships to the International Music Camp Fiddle School at the International Peace Gardens were also awarded.

The competition was divided by two age groups. The senior division was for participants in grades six through 12, and the junior division was for those in grades one through five.

The event was sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the State Historical Society of North Dakota.



Photographs by Bruce Hagen



(above) Accepting her senior division award from former Governor Link and his wife, Grace, is first-place winner Tabitha Reule of Mandan. The second place winner was Sadie Sorenson of West Fargo. (top) Shown playing her fiddle is junior division first-place winner Kamryn Hellman of Bismarck. Other junior division winners included second place: Angelana Quanbeck, Fargo; and third place: Mariah Vetter, Bismarck.

**Fort Totten Site Honored**

Fort Totten State Historic Site was selected as the outstanding host site for the 2009 Cycling Around North Dakota in Sakakawea Country (CANDISC) bike tour. Here, Site Supervisor Jack Mattson holds the award plaque. While camping inside Cavalry Square August 4-5, some 600 bicyclists enjoyed live music and catered food. One of the largest cycling tours in the Midwest, the 2009 tour had cyclists from 29 states, four Canadian provinces, and four other nations, with riders ranging in age from five to 76 years old.



Photograph by Louise Oleson, The Devils Lake Journal

## EXPANSION THE WATCHWORD

### A Challenging, Productive Year



Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director

• The State Historical Society of North Dakota enjoyed another outstanding year in 2008-09. The past year has been a challenging and productive one for Society staff as they work hard to provide the best information available to researchers, visitors, schoolchildren, and especially North Dakotans. Our mission is to investigate, interpret, preserve, and promote the heritage of the people of North Dakota.

• North Dakota is a revelation to many people who have never before visited the state. We hear time and again that newcomers find our state a wonderful place to visit, with diverse beauty and friendly people. We are now in the midst of a huge change caused by opportunities for people and companies who are now discovering us. Our work continues to document elements of North Dakota's history and provide opportunities to learn more about this great state.

• Planning has been an ongoing issue for the second phase of expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center. Staff members have worked hard, with the assistance of the architectural firm of Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), Inc., to review design concepts for the building, including staff work areas, collection areas, and public and exhibit areas. Minute details have been the focus that will ultimately make the building functional and efficient. The State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation is working very hard to raise the matching funds for this project. This is a landmark effort for North Dakota.

• We have made considerable progress toward improving our infrastructure, programming, collections, and access to information. Technology is a major consideration and will continue to be integral to providing great service to our public. Future generations will demand better access and we must be able to provide it.



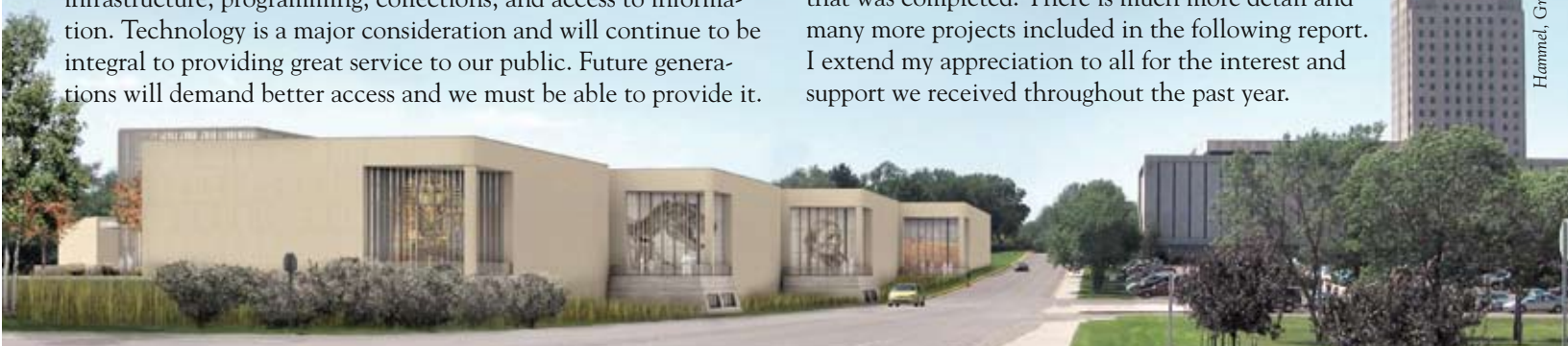
• The State Archives staff have been focusing on gathering records from county and private collections now that there is room for them. Access to records and the placement of photo collections on the web have been advanced significantly. Staff have made outstanding efforts to collect archival materials from locations around the state.

• The Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division staff continue to update records and technology to assist contractors in their searches. Cooperative efforts with other state and federal entities have increased. Research and informational presentations are focus areas for staff. Improvements at historic sites over the past three biennia have been significant, and the sites now provide better services than ever before.

• The Museum Division staff worked very hard to organize the storage facility area at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park near Mandan. Numerous items have been moved from there to our "Storage East" facility four miles east of Bismarck, providing improved quarters for many of our large museum collection items.

• The Communications and Education Division staff continue to be responsible for online educational programming and services for schools, as well as special events and programs at our historic sites and the North Dakota Heritage Center. Our publications are exceptional, and the articles and format of the *North Dakota History* journal and *Plains Talk* newsletter inspire subscribers to read every word.

• I have only briefly summarized some of the work that was completed. There is much more detail and many more projects included in the following report. I extend my appreciation to all for the interest and support we received throughout the past year.



The Phase II expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center will include four gallery windows, much like billboards, welcoming visitors and tourists to the state capitol complex with announcements of the exhibits featured in each gallery. As shown in this artist's rendering, the galleries will extend out from the original gallery, seen here at the far end. (top) This view from the east highlights the dramatic nighttime beacon of the Northern Lights Atrium, a key feature of the expansion.

## Continuing Expansion and Growth

Expansion and growth were again the watchwords in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 as the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) moved forward with the expansion project for the **North Dakota Heritage Center**, headquarters of the SHSND. A historic \$51.7 million expansion of the state museum's exhibits and collections spaces was approved by the 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly in its final hours. The May 2, 2009 vote was 71-19 in the House and 45-1 in the Senate. House Bill 1481 appropriates \$39.7 million in state funds, with an additional \$12 million to come from private and federal funds. The legislation requires that at least \$6 million of the private and federal funds be pledged before groundbreaking and construction on this second phase of expansion can begin.

**"In 2014 we will be celebrating our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood,"** said SHSND Director Merl Paaverud. "That will be the perfect time to showcase an extraordinary state museum that reflects our rich heritage and history, not only for us, but also for our children and for generations to come. It will be a wonderful gift to the people of our state."

In 2007 the North Dakota Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for conceptual designs for the 97,000 square-foot Phase II expansion approved two years later. The Phase II project also includes renovation of existing portions of the Heritage Center. In the Phase I expansion and other efforts, more than \$21 million in investments were secured from state, federal, and private sources to enhance regional state historic sites, the most recent being Fort Abercrombie near Fargo and Wahpeton, and the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center in Medora. A strong cultural heritage grant program was also approved by the Legislative Assembly.

**A recently completed \$5.7 million expansion** of the State Archives was funded mostly through a bond approved by the 2005 Legislative Assembly.

The Phase II design concepts have been detailed by the architectural firm of HGA Architects and Engineers of Minneapolis, in partnership with Lightowler Johnson Associates of Fargo.



Photograph by SHSND Foundation

**An eight-year-old dinosaur lover, Owen Piehl of Menoken, North Dakota was one of many supporters who testified March 5, 2009 before the Senate Appropriations Committee about the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project.**

Photograph by Brian Austin, SHSND



**Governor Hoeven signs the bill authorizing \$51.7 million for the Phase II expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center at a May 6, 2009 ceremony at the Heritage Center. Some of the onlookers included (l to r), Juan Thomas, KXMB-CBS television cameraman; SHSND Foundation consultant Bill Schott; Representative Lawrence Klemin (R-Bismarck) with pen; SHSND Director Merl Paaverud; Representative Karen Karls (R-Bismarck); State Treasurer and State Historical Board member Kelly Schmidt; Secretary of State and State Historical Board member Al Jaeger; and SHSND Foundation board member Dalles Schneider.**

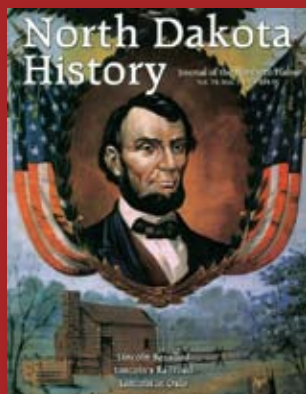


## Busy Year for Lincoln Bicentennial

The 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of one of the nation's greatest presidents, Abraham Lincoln, was observed

in North Dakota and nationwide, beginning with its official launch in Kentucky February 12, 2008 and continuing through February 12, 2010. Governor John Hoeven appointed SHSND Communications and Education Director Rick Collin in December 2005 as the state's representative to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and the SHSND continued in FY09 as the lead agency planning projects and events with other state agencies and organizations. The 2007 Legislative Assembly approved \$50,000 in 'seed money' to help fund the Lincoln Bicentennial in North Dakota. An additional \$10,000 was approved for the North Dakota Council on the Arts for Lincoln-related programming. Numerous statewide activities occurred during FY09, including:

- The original Homestead Act document, signed by President Lincoln, was on loan from the National Archives for a special exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center from May 16 through November 11, 2008. Homesteading Day at the Heritage Center September 20, 2008 sponsored by the State Historical Society, featured family activities, programs, and musical entertainment highlighting the 1862 Homestead Act and its impact on North Dakota.



Another aspect of the State Historical Society's contribution to the Bicentennial was a special edition of its quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*, that concentrates on Lincoln's legacy in the 39<sup>th</sup> state.

- During the summers of 2008 and 2009, North Dakota Humanities Council Chautauqua *Lincoln, Land and Liberty* performances were held in Bismarck, Fargo, Jamestown, Grand Forks, Bottineau, and Beulah by scholars portraying Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Walt Whitman, and William Jayne, who was the first governor of Dakota Territory, appointed by Lincoln in 1861.



Photograph by North Dakota Horizons Magazine

A group of people with ties to North Dakota traveled to Norway June 20-30, 2009 to take part in the ceremony held every year on or near July 4 at the site of the heroic-sized bust of Lincoln in Oslo's Frogner Park. The bust was a gift to Norway in 1914 from the people of North Dakota to celebrate the centennial of Norway's adoption of its constitution. The ceremony took place June 28 and featured former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale as guest speaker. An article about the bust's history is featured in the special Lincoln Bicentennial issue of *North Dakota History*.

- North Dakota native and Pulitzer Prize-winning Civil War historian Dr. James McPherson discussed his new book, *Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief*, at the Historic Fargo Theatre in a program October 16, 2008 and broadcast soon after on Prairie Public Television and Radio. Born in Valley City, McPherson's visit was sponsored by *Read North Dakota*, a statewide consortium dedicated to celebrating and promoting literature created in and about North Dakota.

- The Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra performed *Lincoln at Ease* November 15-16, 2008 written exclusively for the Bicentennial by internationally renowned composer Peter Schickele, who grew up in Fargo. The Louisville Orchestra commissioned Schickele to compose the work for the national launch of the Lincoln Bicentennial in Kentucky.

- Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday February 12, 2009 featured a performance of Herbert Mitgang's *Mister Lincoln* at the Askanase Auditorium at North Dakota State University in Fargo. This one-man show featured NDSU graduate Mark Neukom, originally from Jamestown, North Dakota, now living in the Twin Cities.

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## Lincoln Bicentennial *continued from page 5*

- During the week of February 9-13, programs commemorating the Bicentennial, *Lincoln Life Lessons*, took place at the Frances Leach High Prairie Arts and Science Complex in Bismarck. Area students participated in a variety of music, history, science, theatre, dance, and art activities. There were also presentations by historical illustrator Steve Stark of Fargo, telling the story of Lincoln bodyguard Smith Stimmel (1842-1935), later a longtime Fargo lawyer who is buried in Fargo's Riverside Cemetery.

- **Judging Lincoln as a Judge** on June 10, 2009 featured Frank J. Williams, Lincoln scholar and former Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, and Jim Getty, Lincoln impersonator, as guest speakers at the State Bar Association of North Dakota's 110<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Bismarck. The program also included a panel discussion featuring Williams, Getty, North Dakota Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle, and Margaret Moore Jackson, associate professor of law at the University of North Dakota School of Law. They discussed Lincoln's decisions and role as an acting judge on the Eighth Judicial Circuit in Illinois. Williams was also the author of "At Lincoln's Side: Smith Stimmel's Personal Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln," one of several articles featured in the Lincoln Bicentennial edition of the State Historical Society's quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*.



Photograph by Garry Redmann, ND Department of Transportation

The official state observance of Lincoln's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday was held February 12, 2009 during a joint session of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly, patterned after the Lincoln Centennial joint session program of February 12, 1909. The program included the reading of the Gettysburg Address by fourth grade students and the Memorial Address by Chautauqua scholar George Frein, shown here in character as President Lincoln. Musical entertainment featured the singing of "America," led by State Senator John Warner (D-Ryder), accompanied on piano by State Senator Carolyn Nelson (D-Fargo); and a medley of music from Lincoln's era, performed by the Fauske Fiddlers of Bottineau. Master of ceremonies was State Senator Tony Grindberg (R-Fargo), chair of the Lincoln Legislative Memorial Committee. The session was webcast live over the Internet.

## Site Developments

**F**ort Buford State Historic Site, which includes the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, drew more than 14,000 visitors during FY09. The sites hosted many free events, including activities for children, concerts, living history demonstrations, author presentations, scholarly lectures, book discussions, quilting activities, nature-based activities,



Photograph by Mark Sundlov, SHSND

**Jalan Crossland and his band from Wyoming played at a "Flag Raisin' and Foot Stompin'" concert May 10, 2009 at Fort Buford State Historic Site.**

an Easter Egg Hunt, and more. The Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Regiment Association held its 26<sup>th</sup> annual encampment August 16-17, 2008, which also featured Nebraska author Jeff Barnes discussing his new book, *Forts of the Northern Plains: Guide to Historic Military Posts of the Plains Indian Wars*, and North Dakota author Carla Kelly discussing her book, *Here's to the Ladies*, about women associated with the western frontier army. On August 23, 2008 the Confluence Center's fifth anniversary celebration drew some 200 visitors. In September 2008 the Confluence Center, in collaboration with several area groups, hosted "MonDak Veterans Stories," featuring a panel of area World War II veterans sharing their stories and experiences from their service during that war. The popular *Cemetery Walk* was held at the Fort Buford Cemetery in October 2008, with several "ghosts" telling their histories to 171 visitors.

At **Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site**, the new interpretive center, which opened in May 2008, drew nearly 10,000 visitors during FY09. Programs throughout the season were designed to showcase the history of the fort and the frontier military life. Red River flooding caused the ground to erode on the north and east sides of the fort during the year. The Army Corps of Engineers agreed to include the site in a study they are conducting of the Red River Valley, scheduled to be available in late spring 2010.

An archaeology survey of the **Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site** was conducted May

25-30, 2009 by archaeologists from the Standing Rock and Rosebud Reservations. Also represented, either doing field work or providing other support, were tribal members from Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, the Yankton Sioux, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. The Standing Rock Tribal Preservation Office led the project, with the Rosebud Tribal Preservation Office supervising the field work. The project was funded by a grant that the State Historical Society of North Dakota received from the federal American Battlefield Protection Program. In addition to the archaeology survey, a nomination of the site to the National Register of Historic Places will also be submitted. This is believed to have been the first formal archaeological survey of the site. The site also hosted its eighth annual Education Day for area school groups September 5, 2008 marking the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the last major battle between soldiers and American Indians east of the Missouri River. More than 200 students from 15 area schools participated in making pemmican, scraping a deer hide, learning about the Dakota people and the frontier military lifestyle of the 1800s, and looking at artifacts found near the site. Construction Supervisor Lloyd Jensen's crew, along with Site Supervisor Dan Dodson and Historic Sites Manager Diane Rogness, worked at cleaning up the campground at Whitestone Hill and cutting down dead trees for firewood at the site. The site drew nearly 3,000 visitors during FY09.

More than 5,200 visitors came to **Fort Clark Trading Post State Historic Site** near Washburn during the year.

**Fort Totten State Historic Site** saw major renovation work, including reroofing, repainting, and replacement of floors and porches at several of the site's buildings, as well as the planting of six new trees around the site and new grass around the adjutant's quarters. The **Totten Trail Historic Inn** continued as a popular tourist destination, with visitors able to stay overnight and enjoy breakfast in the building first used as an officers' quarters and later as apartments for Fort Totten Indian School employees. For reservations, call (701) 766-4874 or visit the website [www.tottentrailinn.com](http://www.tottentrailinn.com).

**Camp Hancock State Historic Site** in downtown Bismarck continued to see improvements throughout the year. The third annual Ice Cream Social was held July 4, 2008 with visitors stopping by to enjoy an ice cream cone on a fine summer day. In June 2009 three outdoor interpretive signs



This view at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site shows the east river bank slumping into the Red River. The northeast blockhouse, seen in the background, will be moved further from the river bank to keep it from collapsing into the river due to the extensive erosion.

Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND

were posted, describing Camp Hancock's history, as well as that of the 1909 Northern Pacific locomotive displayed at the site. It was another exciting year at the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site** in Bismarck. Two events that debuted in FY08 were again popular this year: the second annual Crafters Bee and Social and the second annual Governor Arthur A. Link Fiddle Contest. With the Crafter's Bee held in January 2009 and the international *Knit in Public Day* in June, the site continued to expand its role as both a state historic site and a community center. In addition to the social events hosted by the Society, the mansion can be rented by groups and individuals. Weddings, teas, and a hospital fundraiser were just a few of the types of rentals the mansion hosted during the year. A series of popular "high teas" hosted by former North Dakota First

Lady Grace Link returned for another summer. The holiday season at the mansion was busier than usual; in addition to its traditional Holiday Open House, the site also hosted a children's Christmas tea and opened its doors as part of the Bismarck/Mandan Symphony League's Annual Holiday Home Walk fundraising event. More than 800 people visited the site during the 2008 holidays. The mansion celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year of preservation in March 2009 with a reception. In 1959 then-State Representative Arthur Link proposed that the mansion, which was to be razed and the lot sold, instead



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND

Seen here is the May 25, 2009 camp of American Indian archaeologists working on the Whitestone Hill Battlefield site.

be preserved as a historic site. The North Dakota Legislature approved his resolution and the mansion was preserved.

Red River flooding threatened the **Pembina State Museum** in April 2009. Early crest predictions were higher than the crest reached in 1997, prompting the relocation of artifacts in the temporary exhibit gallery to the observation room and tower stairwell. When later crest predictions were lowered, relocation efforts were ended. No flooding occurred within the city's dike system. The only major outside repairs involved the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system. Museum staff hosted several events, including the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Day, Halloween Fun Day, and Holiday Open House programs. Visitation for FY09 was more than 5,200. At the nearby **Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site**, the land acquisition project that will add about 12 acres to the site continued to move forward through meetings with the North Dakota Forest Service. Updates to the 10-year master plan were completed for the site, which

hosted its popular annual *Gingras Day!* event in August 2008.

At the **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site**, programming was expanded to include year-round activities, given the site's new hours since the opening of its \$2 million interpretive center in April 2008. Site staff hosted two public programs about the Smithsonian Institution's Museums on Main Street exhibit *Between Fences*. When it was replaced by *The Art of Einar Olstad* exhibit, the

August 2008 opening ceremony featured Olstad's daughter-in-law, Pearl Olstad of Beach, North Dakota, regaling the crowd with stories of Medora when Einar Olstad (1878-1955) lived in the area. Staff also hosted more than 200 guests September 13, 2008 to help celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Theodore Roosevelt's arrival in Medora. Halloween programming and a Winter Fun Day in January were added as annual events. Repairs were completed at Chimney Park and De Mores Park. The roofs were replaced on all six picnic shelters

in Chimney Park, and Chateau staff replaced the wind-screens, painted the grills, and touched up the paint on the shelters and picnic tables. Repairs to the north sidewalk and central walkway at De Mores Park were also completed. In the spring of 2009, the Medora area was hit by three floods, damaging the outbuildings, the access road, and the septic system in Chimney Park. FEMA was called in to assist with repairs.

The Dickinson High School senior welding class constructed a new iron sign and installed it at the **Fort Dilts State Historic Site** eight miles west of Rhame in Bowman County. A new gravel road and parking area were developed, and the Bowman County Historical Society replaced a missing interpretive sign.

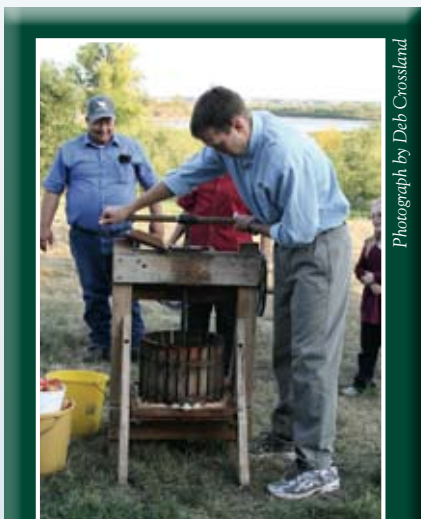
At the **Killdeer Mountain Battlefield State Historic Site**, the seventh annual Killdeer Mountain History Hike was held July 26, 2008, led by former Fort Buford site supervisor Chuck Stalnaker, who discussed the geology and flora of the area, as well as the battle that took place July 28, 1864 between the U.S. Army, led by Brigadier General Alfred Sully, and Teton, Yanktonai, and Dakota (Sioux) Indians.

This past year a walking trail, just over one-half mile long, was added to **Double Ditch State Historic Site** near Bismarck. Positioned just outside of Ditch Four, the path enables visitors to visualize how large the village once was. The trail then goes through the site, connecting with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) shelter on the west side and the existing cement sidewalk just south of the site. Interpretive signs are located adjacent to the path. The trail provides Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access to this significant Mandan Village that was occupied for nearly



Photograph by Belinda Murphy, SHSND

**Each year more than 600 area seventh grade students participate in the Fort Totten Annual Living History Field Day. At the 16<sup>th</sup> annual event held September 15, 2008. Hoop Dancer Kevin Locke of the Standing Rock Sioux Nation performed in addition to the educational programs that included frontier military life, boarding school trades, and American Indian culture.**



Photograph by Deb Crossland

**During the September 2008 Apples, Aves, and Astronomy day at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, then-Site Supervisor Mark Sundlov runs apples through an old-time apple press to make fresh cider.**



300 years before its abandonment in 1781.

Much work was done during FY09 preparing the SHSND's newest state historic site for its opening July 13, 2009. A *Save America's Treasures* grant financed a number of restorative measures at the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility, part of the new Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown. Actions taken before the site's opening included installation of fire protection and security systems. The site is named after Reagan as a result of legislation approved by the 2007 Legislative Assembly to honor the 40<sup>th</sup> President's role in ending the Cold War. The new site's supervisor is Mark Sundlov, a former missile officer

Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site Supervisor Jim Acker and U.S. Navy Reserve personnel from Fargo hold the blue field with stars while a short presentation is given about the American flag. They then demonstrated how to properly dispose of a worn flag ready for retirement by burning it. This event took place during Flag Day at the site, which served as a gateway to the Dakota frontier from 1858 until its closing in 1877.



Photograph by Rita Acker

at Minot Air Force Base and graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy who managed the Fort Buford/Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center sites before beginning his new duties June 1, 2009.

## State Archives

- Reference requests and website visits to the State Archives continued at similar levels as recent years, with some reduction in on-site visitors and an increase in email and interlibrary loan requests. More than 12,000 researchers were served directly through the reading room, mail and email, telephone requests, or interlibrary loan. More than 85 new rolls of microfilm were produced, and 189 orders for microfilm purchase were completed. Web access continued to increase as additional information on archival holdings was added and updated.
- Photo Archivist Sharon Silengo and dedicated volunteers placed more than 20,250 historic photographic prints in archival sleeves and boxes for improved protection and access. More than 2,500 photographic images were scanned and digitized for easier access and reproduction. A walk-in freezer and special cabinets were purchased for long-term preservation of photographic negatives and audiovisual materials.
- Cassandra Stangeland was the Kermit Karns intern, assisting researchers in the Reading Room. Intern Carol Wilson researched and wrote education-related stories for the week of the 2008 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, and 20 other stories for the popular daily Prairie Public radio feature, *Dakota Datebook*. Archivist interns Alyssa Gerszewski and Amy Bellefeuille travelled statewide

selecting, researching, and scanning 100 images from each of 10 local historical organizations for upload to Dakota Mosaic, an online scrapbook. Dakota Mosaic is a sub-collection of Digital Horizons, funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Head of Technical Services Rachel White, as the gatekeeper for Digital Horizons, checked all images and metadata for staff working with CONTENTdm. before they were uploaded.

- Over 9,750 images were uploaded to Digital Horizons by White, Cataloger Naomi Frantes, Gerszewski, Bellefeuille, and Emily Ergen, the William E. "Bill" Shemorry project archivist, in cooperation with the Williston State College Foundation. White uploaded and described 330 items, including photos, maps, mp3s, videos, and documents used as supplementary material for the *North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State* textbook on Digital Horizons. The agency purchased a server to store its rapidly increasing digital files. White completed moving all high-resolution scans of photograph collections from various drives and disks to the server, and removing all duplicates. Microfilm Specialist Gene Baker resized nearly 34,000 images to make them searchable for all agency staff.
- More than 2,480 publications were added to the cataloged holdings

during the year. Frantes began organizing and cataloging the map collection, greatly improving access and taking some basic repair and preservation measures as needed. Nearly 1,000 linear feet of archival records were accessioned and reboxed, and 1,146 linear feet of materials were inventoried. More than 685 sets of records' descriptions were reviewed for state and local government retention schedules.

- Patricia Jennings began working as a part-time reprographics assistant in May 2009, greatly increasing microfilming output and quality control. State Archivist Emeritus Gerald Newborg worked part-time, in cooperation with Prairie Public Television, to prioritize digitization and preservation of moving image collections.
- The State Historical Records Advisory Board was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to continue the statewide digitization project.
- The State Archives is working with the Minnesota Historical Society on the Great Rivers Network, which is consolidating digital information from the Dakotas and Minnesota for ease of searching, and also a Library of Congress National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program grant to preserve the digital records of state legislatures.

## Collections and Exhibits

One of the agency's temporary storage facilities, located four miles east of Bismarck and nicknamed "Storage East," underwent renovation in the winter of 2008-09. Several first-floor partition walls were removed, and all the electrical wiring was upgraded. This was done in order to make space for the transfer of several vehicles to Storage East from the Fort Abraham Lincoln storage facility. Several vehicles stored on the second floor of Storage East were also moved downstairs to the first floor. Objects stored at the Fort Lincoln facility that had been deaccessioned were either transferred back to their original owners or given to other institutions.

Other FY09 highlights included 30 loan agreements to other museums. Artifact loans reached 19 North Dakota communities.

A total of 74 collections were donated totally or in part to the Society, and 142 potential acquisitions were offered to the agency. There were 256 requests for museum collection access, with 171 from North Dakota residents and 85 from out-of-state residents. A total of 1,652 objects were catalogued into the collections during the year.

Temporary exhibits at the **North Dakota Heritage Center** included: *The Atomic Age Arrives: The Cold War in*

*North Dakota*, which was completed in November 2007, and *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota*, which was completed in February 2008. Work continued on a new exhibit, *How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota*, opening in November 2009 that explores the history of vegetable and fruit gardening going back some 900 years. Installation of the temporary exhibit, *Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur*, was completed in June 2008. Working in partnership with the North Dakota Geological Survey, this exhibit features the 1,700-pound tail section of a mummified duck-billed dinosaur. Plans were also made for "Dakota" to spend the summer of 2009 in Chiba, Japan, a suburb of Tokyo, as part of an international fossil exhibition, *Reviving the Dinosaurs Expo 2009*.

Exciting new displays finished the *Corridor of Time* exhibit, just inside the Heritage Center's main gallery. Split Rock Studios of St. Paul, Minnesota was hired to assist the State Historical Society and the North Dakota Geological Survey with the project. A grand opening took place January 10, 2009, with family activities highlighting a day of prehistoric fun.

Historic sites' temporary exhibits included the **Pembina State Museum's** *Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans*. An updated display, *Pembina Today*, was installed in the permanent exhibit gallery, highlighting current trends in industry, agriculture, and recreation in northeast North Dakota. A theater stage curtain dating to the early 1900s was donated to the State Historical Society by the Fort Pembina Historical Society. The curtain had hung in the St. Vincent, Minnesota town hall. The original is too fragile for long-term display, so a reproduction was fabricated by Museum Division staff and now hangs in the museum's meeting room.

The **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site's** new interpretive center featured two temporary exhibits, *Land in Her Own Name* and *The Art of Einar Olstad*. North Dakota State University sociologist Elaine Lindgren spent five

years studying 292 cases of women who homesteaded in North Dakota, and *Land in Her Own Name* is based on her research. Inspired by the people, scenery, and ranch life of the Dakota Badlands, rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955) captured the essence of the American West in his whimsical and often humorous portrayals of the Dakota cowboy.

At the **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center**, *North Dakota Remembers World War II* continued, featuring a selection of the more than 1,200 interviews collected through the North Dakota Veterans History Project coordinated by the SHSND, as well as uniforms, medals, photographs, and other artifacts.



Photograph by Chris Johnson, SHSND

**The final phase of the *Corridor of Time* exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center was completed in December 2008. It features some of North Dakota's oldest fossils (found in oil well cores), shark teeth and other marine fossils from the time when the area was covered by an inland sea, and more recent fossils. Here, work is done on the exhibit's rock formation by Lance Peterson with Split Rock Studios, as North Dakota Geological Survey Paleontologist Jeff Person and SHSND Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser look on. Gina Louise with Split Rock Studios is seen kneeling.**

SHSND 12319



Among the treasures from the SHSND's collections that are part of a major European exhibit, *Sitting Bull und seine Welt*, or *Sitting Bull and His World*, is this painting of Sitting Bull by New York artist Catherine Weldon. Weldon created the image and gave it to Sitting Bull, who hung it on the wall of one of his cabins. In the exchange of gunfire that resulted in Sitting Bull's death in 1890, seven of his followers and six American Indian police died. A policeman whose brother was killed tore the painting from the cabin wall and struck it with his rifle, causing the rip visible on the painting. Lieutenant Matthew F. Steele, who was with the U.S. Army forces that arrived after the fight, rescued the painting and purchased it from Sitting Bull's widow. Steele later became a Fargo businessman and donated the painting to the SHSND in 1953. Other exhibit items loaned from the SHSND's collections include an Indian police uniform and a large Dakota winter count by Blue Thunder (Yanktonai Dakota), covering important events from 1785 to 1932. Locations for the exhibit have included Germany, Austria and Finland. The SHSND exhibit items are scheduled for return to Bismarck in the spring of 2010.



Photograph by Mark Stumolov, SHSND

View of the Missile Combat Crew Commander's chair and console, along with the Bugs Bunny bookcase, in the underground Oscar-Zero Launch Control Center at the new Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown.

The program had 17 bookings for FY09, reaching 17 communities statewide and beyond, drawing more than 77,000 visitors, including 15,000 in Minnesota and 1,285 in Washington State. Popular with teachers for classroom use, the **Suitcase Exhibits for North Dakota (SEND) Program** had 35 bookings in 10 North Dakota communities and one in South Dakota, reaching 6,254 students in North Dakota schools and another 2,000 in schools in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Classes from the University of Mary and Dickinson State University used the 36 SEND trunks (18 topics) and the North Dakota Heritage Center's main gallery to gain first-hand teaching experience through the *Teaching in the Gallery* program, with schoolchildren coming in from area communities. Updates were made to the *Photography* SEND trunks with the addition of Abraham Lincoln photographs in conjunction with the Lincoln Bicentennial commemoration. Also produced were two copies of the new SEND trunk entitled *Dinosaurs, Sharks, and Woolly Mammoths*, done in partnership with the North Dakota Geological Survey.

At **Camp Hancock State Historic Site** in Bismarck, *The Four Seasons at Camp Hancock* and *Weather in North Dakota* continued, looking at the history of this site through the seasons, including when it served as the region's U. S. Weather Bureau Station from 1894 to 1940. *From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil*, about the history of transportation in Bismarck, continued at the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site**, and *Photo Album of Historic North Dakota*, a selection of photographs from the photo archives of the State Historical Society documenting everyday life from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, replaced *Artistic License* at **Fort Totten State Historic Site**.

The Society's popular **Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program** currently has 10 traveling exhibits for use by the general public. The newest edition, *Bridges of North Dakota*, was produced in partnership with the North Dakota Department of Transportation and is fabricated on lightweight panels that are self-supporting.

Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND



The eighth annual **Education Field Day** was held in September 2008 at **Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site** in southeastern North Dakota. Here, students and teachers view a **Suitcase Exhibits for North Dakota (SEND) trunk** about the **Dakota (Sioux)** produced by the State Historical Society.

## Other Public Programs

Interactive video teaching sessions on North Dakota history with kindergarten through eighth grade classes throughout North Dakota brought 1,743 students from outlying districts virtually to the North Dakota Heritage Center, where the interactive video classes originate.

The SHSND participated in **National History Day**, a program that encourages academic achievement for students in grades six through 12 with a series of district, state, and national competitions. The theme for History Day 2009 was "The Individual in History." Participating students developed papers, exhibits, performances, or media documentaries based on a history-related topic. Several Society staff members served as judges for the April 3, 2009 competition at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

The Society again hosted an exhibit booth at the annual Norsk Høstfest, the country's largest Scandinavian festival, held in Minot, North Dakota October 1-4, 2008. The agency also staffed booths at the state tourism annual conference in Grand Forks, the North Dakota Education Association's annual conference in Bismarck, and the United Tribes Technical College's annual pow wow in Bismarck. A National Quilting Day *Quilt 'til You Drop* event was hosted by the agency at the North Dakota Heritage Center, in partnership with area quilting groups. Other public programs developed and presented by the Society and its partners included: *Be Creative at Your Library*, launching the Bismarck-Mandan summer reading program June 1, 2009, with more than 4,000 children and adults on hand at the North Dakota Heritage Center; Halloween events at the Pembina State Museum, North Dakota Heritage Center, and Fort Buford State Historic Site; and the popular *Sensational Sundays* series from January through April 2009 at the North Dakota Heritage Center, with programming from the SHSND and the North Dakota Geological Survey. Other agency partnerships included continuing to develop, review, and assist the daily *Dakota Datebook* radio series with Prairie Public Broadcasting; helping with *Showcase North Dakota*, featuring a Christmas tree display from December through January 1 at the state capitol building and the North Dakota Heritage Center; and promoting North Dakota literature and reading through the *Read North Dakota* program, with the North Dakota Humanities Council, Prairie Public Broadcasting, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the North Dakota Library Association.

The Society also hosted its annual **Valentine's Day Social** in February 2009 and **Volunteer Recognition Banquet** in August 2008 to honor the more than 200 Heritage Volunteers statewide, ages 14 to 94, who help the agency year-round. Since 1981, volunteers statewide have contributed more than 338,000 hours of service.

Photo by Delores Linn, SHSND



Volunteer David Taylor, in character as "Skinny Wilson," discusses the history of the Medora/Deadwood Overland Stage Line, which ran from 1884 to 1886, with Sandy Baertsch of Medora and Pete Novotny and Sheila Rieman of Sentinel Butte. The occasion in September 2008 was celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Theodore Roosevelt's arrival in Medora. In the background is the *Deadwood*, an original stagecoach from the Marquis de Mores's Stage and Forwarding Company, featured at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center.



Photograph by Jeff Blanchard, SHSND

The most unique event held at the Pembina State Museum during the year involved Orlin Ostby (blue shirt) and his family from Gatzke, Minnesota, accompanied by friend Steve Reynolds. They used the museum grounds as the starting point for their mission of "Walking the Pembina Trail." In commemoration of Minnesota's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood, complete with a 2,600-pound ox named Pum, Ostby's party left the museum the morning of July 1, 2008 on their way to St. Paul via oxcart. Dressed in period clothing, they spent the night on the museum grounds and held a program before their departure.

## 2008 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History

“Lincoln Legacy: The Homestead Act” was the theme of the 2008 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History held at the North Dakota Heritage Center November 7-8. It was the second of a two-part Lincoln Bicentennial theme for the annual conference, with the Fall 2007 theme entitled “Lincoln Legacy: The Railroad.” The conference highlighted the impact of the Homestead Act on North Dakota and the region, featured several speakers, and included entertainment centered on the homesteading theme. Also presented was an all-day workshop, *After A Disaster Response: Saving and Salvaging Collection Materials and Artifacts* by **Neil Cockerline** and **Elisa Redman** from the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis.

Awards honoring individual and group achievements in history were also presented. Recipients of the State Historical Society's Excellence in Local History Award were co-winners **Keith Johnson** of Ayr, North Dakota, and **Ray Pladson** of Hatton, North Dakota. Johnson began restoring historic buildings in Ayr in 1980 as a living tribute to his son, Lonnie, who died that year. Among the buildings he has restored are the Ayr State Bank, the Ayr General Store, the town's original one-room school house, and the train depot. Pladson compiled a 333-page, spiral-bound history book entitled “Hatton's Veterans Scrapbook.” It commemorates the lives and heroics of the veterans of Traill County and was printed at the time the Hatton

Veterans Memorial was dedicated in July 2006. Receiving the 2008 Association for Excellence in Local History Award was the **Fort Ransom Sodbuster Association**. The Association entered into a partnership with the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department in 1983 to restore elements of a turn-of-the-century farmstead located in Fort Ransom State Park.

Also honored was the late **William E. “Bill” Shemorry** of Williston (1915-2004), who received the Society's 2008 Heritage Profile Honor Award. Shemorry photographed the highlights and happenings of the Williston area of northwestern North Dakota for decades, and his files include more than 25,000 negatives. He also acquired “old-time” photographs, prints, and glassplate negatives of the Williston area dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The Shemorry Collection belongs to Williston State College, which has an agreement with the State Historical Society to store the collection in the State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

The winner of the 2008 Editor's Award for best article during the preceding year in *North Dakota History*, the SHSND's quarterly journal, was **Dr. W. Raymond Wood**, well-known Northern Plains archaeologist and professor emeritus of anthropology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He was honored for his article in Volume 73.3 & 4, “The North Dakota Artwork of General Régis de Trobriand.”



Johannah (left) and Suzannah Miller, help children get ready for a potato sack race at the August 10, 2008 Annual Lawn Party at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site in Bismarck. The sisters are members of Family Folk, the Gary Miller Family of Mandan.



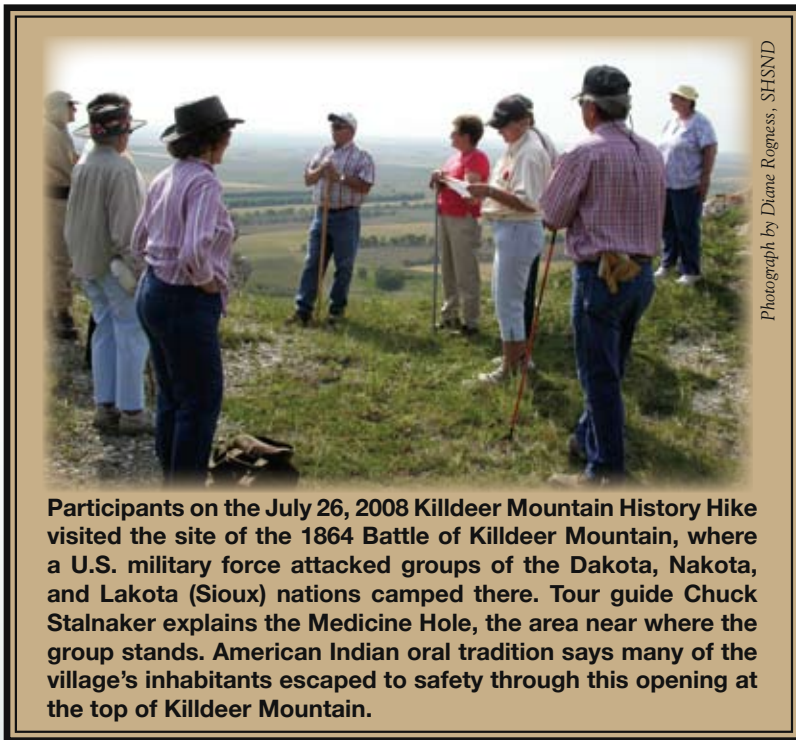
The Second Annual Crafters Bee January 31, 2009 at the Former Governors Mansion State Historic Site brought together many crafters, including these yarn spinners (left), Cheryl Visager and Anne Eliason, both of Bismarck, who are using spinning wheels to transform wool into yarn.

## State Historical Society Grant Program

Following the debut in the 2003-05 biennium of this popular grant program to help fund history-related projects statewide with a \$75,000 appropriation, the Legislative Assembly approved another increase in funding for the 2007-09 funding cycle, up from the 2005-07 figure of \$325,000 to \$375,000.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota offers the funds through three programs: **Cultural Heritage Grants**, with funding available in matching grants for 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations and subsidiaries of tribal, city, and county governments, including local historical societies; **Heritage Training Scholarships**, with funding available for recipients to attend training relevant to their historical society's operations, ranging from the Governor's Conference on North Dakota History to workshops and conferences nationwide; and **North Dakota Museum Assessment Grants**, with funding available for museums and other history-related organizations to further review and develop their operations by writing a long-range plan for completing projects.

To receive Cultural Heritage Grants, museums and historical organizations must provide at least a dollar-for-dollar match. This can be a combination of cash or in-kind services. For more information on the Cultural Heritage Grant program, contact the SHSND's Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson at (701) 328-3573 or email [amunson@nd.gov](mailto:amunson@nd.gov).



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND

Participants on the July 26, 2008 Killdeer Mountain History Hike visited the site of the 1864 Battle of Killdeer Mountain, where a U.S. military force attacked groups of the Dakota, Nakota, and Lakota (Sioux) nations camped there. Tour guide Chuck Stalnaker explains the Medicine Hole, the area near where the group stands. American Indian oral tradition says many of the village's inhabitants escaped to safety through this opening at the top of Killdeer Mountain.



A partnership between the State Historical Society and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, the *History on Call* program launched in FY09 explores the state's historic sites, parks, and attractions through short pre-recorded narratives. *History on Call* users dial 701-557-9190 and follow the prompts to enter the designated numbers or "stop numbers" assigned to each site. The program includes 34 "stops" under the categories of First People; Settlement Era; Fur-trade Era;

Military; and Wildlife Viewing, Camping, and Hiking and Biking. Select gallery sites are also included in the program.



Photograph by Jack Mattson, SHSND

Fort Totten's Building #14, which includes the site office, Fort Totten Little Theater, Plummers Mercantile Store, and a classroom display and concessions area, received a total roof replacement during FY09. The project was completed in November 2008.

## Publications

The SHSND Museum Stores reprinted a 1953 version of *The Big Book of Mother Goose*. The original edition was printed by Grosset & Dunlap Publishers of New York, and illustrated by Alice Schlesinger. It was donated to the State Historical Society of North Dakota by Mary Brown of Bismarck, North Dakota.

The agency's quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*, featured a 34-page article on former Governor Allen Olson (1981-84) and First Lady Barbara Olson, based on interviews expertly conducted and edited by then-State Archivist Gerald Newborg. " 'Never Take Politics Personally': Allen I. Olson" chronicles the life of the state's 28<sup>th</sup> chief executive.

Born in 1938 in Rolla, North Dakota, Olson grew up on a diversified farm near Sarles, North Dakota. In 1972, he was elected attorney general of North Dakota, and re-elected in 1976. In 1980, he ran for governor and narrowly won a close election against Arthur Link, who was running for a third term. Struggles with the state's economy were the central issue of his term, but other important events during Olson's administration included the Association for Retarded Citizens' lawsuit against the state, which resulted in reforms of the state's facilities for the developmentally disabled; and the deaths of two federal marshals in 1983 at the hands of North Dakota resident Gordon Kahl, which brought armed federal forces to the state. In 1984 Olson was defeated for reelection by the Democratic candidate George A. Sinner. Olson moved to Minneapolis where, in 1988, he became the head of the Community Bankers Association of Minnesota. After retirement in 2003, he was appointed by President Bush to the International Joint

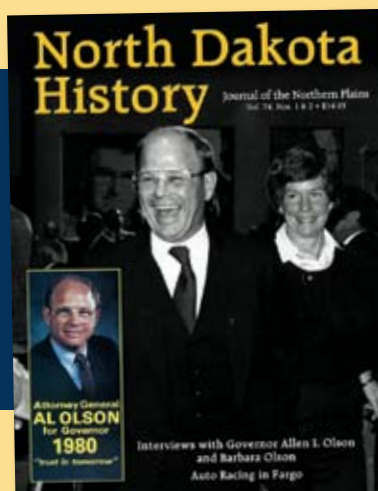
This 1953 reproduction of *The Big Book of Mother Goose* is the seventh in a series of classic reproductions of children's books by the SHSND Museum Stores. Previous classic reprints by the SHSND have included a 1946 version of *Cinderella* (2007), a 1904 version of *The Night Before Christmas* (2006), an 1897 version of *Beauty and the Beast* (2005), a 1942 *Three Little Kittens* book (2004), an 1888 version of *Red Riding Hood* (2003), and an 1896 edition of *The Night Before Christmas* (2002).



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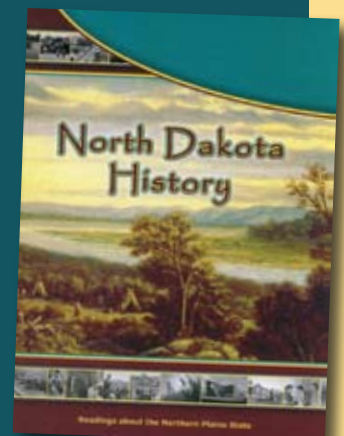
Commission, which deals with border issues between the United States and Canada.

This issue marked the fourth in an annual series of articles featuring interviews with North Dakota's most recent governors. The series began with John E. Davis (1957-61), the earliest governor whose oral history is available in the collections of the State Historical Society, and continued with William L. Guy (1961-73) and Arthur A. Link (1973-81). The idea grew out of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the opening of the North Dakota Heritage Center, which included a November 16, 2001 forum featuring all six of the state's surviving governors: William Guy, Arthur Link, Allen Olson, George Sinner, Edward Schafer, and John Hoeven.



Based on a series of interview with former Governor Allen Olson and his wife, Barbara, this issue of *North Dakota History* tells the couple's life stories in their own words.

*North Dakota History: Readings about the Northern Plains State* received two national awards during the year. The 434-page book detailing North Dakota's history from dinosaurs to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century was honored by the American Association of State and Local History and the American Library Association for its excellence. It is a collaborative publication of the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Center for Distance Education.



## Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Nine sites and one archaeological district were added to the National Register of Historic Places between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009. These sites include Coghlan Castle in Rolette County, the United Methodist Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Devils Lake, the Dickinson Carnegie Library in Dickinson, the Gunlogson Farmstead in Pembina County, the John Stern Homestead in Hettinger County, the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility in Griggs County, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site in Richland County, the Grand Forks County Fairgrounds Works Progress Administration (WPA) structures, and the Custer Military Trail Historic Archaeological District in Billings and Golden Valley counties. In addition, an amendment to the Double Ditch State Historic Site National Register nomination was submitted to the National Park Service to provide updated information based on research conducted at the site from 2002 to 2006.

Through the use of National Park Service Historic Preservation funds, the SHSND provided \$221,570 to restore, rehabilitate, and protect National Register-listed properties. These matching grants encourage private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts throughout the state. Development grants were awarded to the Bagg Bonanza Farm (Main House), the Grand Forks Historical Society (Campbell House), the Dickey County Commission (Dickey County Courthouse), Buxton in

Bloom (First State Bank), the Lake Region Heritage Center (U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Devils Lake), the Bridges Arts Council and City of Valley City (Municipal Auditorium in Valley City), the Keith and Meridee Danks Home in Grand Forks, the Hatton Museum and Historical Society, the Grand Forks County Fair and Exposition (grandstand), the Brian and Anne Hinderliter Home, and Barbara McCormick and Glen Jorde (the Devils Lake Masonic Temple). There was also a resurvey and update to the National Register nomination forms of the R.S. Blome Granitoid streets located in Grand Forks and a context development for statewide historic railroads.

The State Historical Society also administered and distributed \$81,130 in grants to the seven local governments in North Dakota that have been certified with the assistance of the Society as meeting standards for participating in federal preservation programs. These certified local governments are Pembina and Walsh counties and the cities of Dickinson, Grand Forks, Devils Lake, Fargo, and Buffalo.

The Society also contributes to North Dakota's economic development by assisting owners of historic buildings in obtaining federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation projects. Society staff members make recommendations on listing in the National Register and review rehabilitation plans to ensure they conform to federal standards.

The Society's Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division continued improving the integrity and incorporating recorded archaeological, historical, and architectural sites in North Dakota into an access database and a digital mapping format, the Geographic Information System (GIS). There are approximately 11,200 cultural resource reports in the division's manuscript collection. An ArcIMS (Internet Map Server) has been developed and allows users to view, retrieve, and interact with the information relevant to this sensitive cultural data. This has proven to be an invaluable tool to cultural resource professionals, researchers, and project planners working in North Dakota. The GIS has been undertaken in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

The division is the sole repository in the state to house and manage the cultural resource site files and cultural resource manuscript collections. These files are utilized by cultural resource professionals and SHSND staff on a daily basis. Visitors using these files this past year totaled 781.

The division also responded to 2,508 Section 106 proj-

Photograph by Steve Marréns



**The Grand Forks County Fairgrounds Works Progress Administration (WPA) Structures were built between 1936 and 1939. The five remaining structures have been recognized as historically significant, examples of the importance of county and state fairs to local culture and social history. Designed by Grand Forks architect Theodore Wells and built by the WPA, the innovative grandstand drew President Franklin D. Roosevelt to its dedication ceremonies in 1937.**



ects submitted by federal agencies or their representatives. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires consideration of historic preservation in federal actions, a process involving the federal agency and the state or tribal historic preservation officer.

In an effort to provide online forms, manuals, and documents, the division created 2009 versions of the North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey (NDCRS) site forms and manuals. The *NDCRS Site Form Training Manual* was updated and revised in 2009. Other documents published online include the 2008 version of the *Archaeological Component of the North Dakota Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation* and the 2003 *Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*.

Other documents available online on the SHSND's website at [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov) include: *Ethnic Architecture in Stark County, North Dakota*; *Nonpartisan League's Home Building Association Resources in North Dakota*; *Railroads in North Dakota, 1872-1956*; *Bonanza Farming in North Dakota*; *Episcopal Churches of North Dakota*; *German-Russian Wrought Iron Cross Sites in Central North Dakota*; *Philanthropologically Established Libraries in North Dakota*; *Ukrainian Immigrant Dwellings and Churches in North Dakota from Early Settlement Until the Depression*; *The Evolution of Van Horn and Ritterbush*; and *The Evolution of Gilbert R. Horton*.

The SHSND continued into the sixth year of a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation to accession and catalog the one million-plus artifacts belonging to the Bureau but kept in Society collections, with all materials to be bagged and boxed in acid-free containers, also including a database containing the accession and catalog records generated. The project will result in better access to the Bureau's museum property for research, education, and public use.

Photograph by Mary Kate Ryan



The Dickinson Carnegie Library in Stark County has brought the community together since 1908, when the town voted overwhelmingly to support its construction. Since then, the library has continually updated its collection of books, other media, and technology to serve the public's needs. Despite numerous additions to the building, it maintains the strong feeling of community and education that it has had for 100 years.

Courtesy of SHSND



The Westminster Presbyterian Church in Devils Lake was built in 1915 and is an important example of the expertise of one of North Dakota's earliest architects, Joseph A. Shannon. It is architecturally significant in the context of local architecture during the period known as the Second Dakota Boom, which saw some 250,000 settlers buy or homestead land in North Dakota.

Photograph by John Toso



Coghlan Castle in Rolette County is an excellent example of a regional stone masonry technique. Thomas Bowyer, a stone mason from Killarney, Canada, constructed the building for Maurice Coghlan in 1906-09. It is significant for its contribution to the understanding of the settlement patterns and economic system of the North Dakota/Manitoba, Canada borderlands, and the Coghlan family's contributions to the development of the area.

# The SHSND Foundation

The State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Foundation seeks to provide fundraising support for the expansion needs of the State Historical Society through state and other funding, as well as enhancing its membership base to encourage the growth of the state's history agency at all levels.

Highlights of FY09 included:

- The Foundation Board and staff requested that letters of support from major donors to the expansion be provided to Governor Hoeven before the beginning of the 2009 Legislative Session. Development staff worked aggressively in the field requesting major donations.
- After successful visits with oil producers at a local oil and gas conference, appointments were scheduled in Colorado and Oklahoma with major producers. SHSND Foundation Director of Development Marlo Sveen and Director of the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources Lynn Helms made calls to secure major gifts for the expansion campaign.
- In October 2008, prior to the legislative session, the Foundation and Society hosted statewide luncheons in eight major cities to showcase the final design concepts for the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center, with Trustees, legislators, media, local leaders, and historical groups attending.
- In November and December 2008, Development Director Marlo Sveen traveled statewide, visiting key legislative leaders identified by Sveen and State Historical Society Director Merl Paaverud. These informed leaders helped carry the legislation for the expansion during the 2009 Legislative Session.
- More than 300 guests attended a January 8, 2009 reception for state legislators at the North Dakota Heritage Center. The Independent Community Bankers Association helped to sponsor the event, and their board members welcomed guests throughout the evening. Additional support came from Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Dakota Media Access. Lieutenant Governor Jack Dalrymple announced a gift of \$500,000 from Kirk and Janet Lanterman in support of the Heritage Center expansion project. Kirk Lanterman, chairman



History's

Foundation

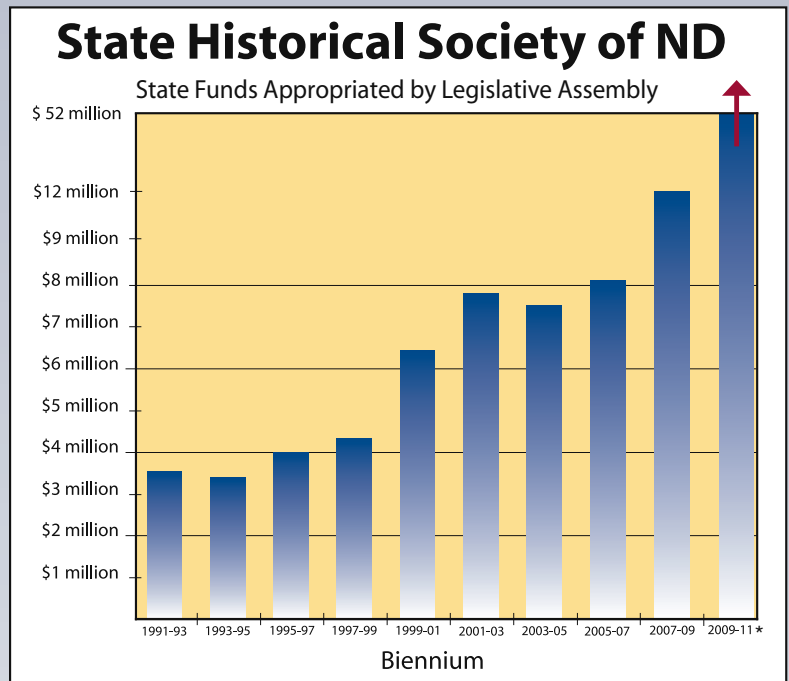
State Historical Society  
of North Dakota Foundation

emeritus of the Holland America Cruise Line, was born and raised in Bismarck/Mandan, North Dakota.

- On January 29, 2009 Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple, State Senator Robert Horne (D-Minot), and the Society and Foundation hosted a luncheon in the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capitol for major donor Kirk Lanterman. Other state officials and legislative leaders also attended.
- The Foundation staff, board members, and consultants Andrea Collin, Bill Schott, and Cordell Dick provided constant support during the 2009 Legislative Assembly to help secure full funding for the expansion. Development Director Marlo Sveen visited daily with legislators during the Session; all hearings had 20-30 supporters prepared to give testimony, with Trustees and supporters filling the hearing rooms; email updates went out to 120 Trustees and a statewide network during the session; Foundation email newsletters offered highlights of testimony and details on the expansion plans for the North Dakota Heritage Center for legislators and friends around the state; and substantial media coverage was garnered.
- Mike Gustafson, Foundation board member, testified before House and Senate committees about the History's Heroes donation strategy which would involve 530 families each giving \$10,000 to the Heritage Center expansion campaign. Legislators voiced support for this strategy that engages families statewide in the campaign. Board President Jon McMillan and board members Senator Robert Horne and Calvin Grinnell also testified at legislative hearings.
- Service club support from throughout the state was also important in the legislative negotiations. Bruce Schwartz of Bismarck testified that more than 100 Lions Clubs supported the expansion, and Don Walz of Bismarck testified that Sertoma Clubs and many other fraternal groups were gathering support for the project with help from Foundation Consultant Bill Schott.
- State Senate Appropriations Committee members Tony Grindberg (R-Fargo), Aaron Krauter (D-Regent), and Rich Wardner (R-Dickinson), work-

ing with Society and Foundation staff, rewrote House Bill 1481 to meet fundraising needs and set the stage for full funding of the Heritage Center expansion project. Senate and House Conference Committee members Senators Grindberg, Krauter and Tom Fischer (R-Fargo) and Representatives Bob Skarphol (R-Tioga), Rick Berg (R-Fargo), and Clark Williams (D-Wahpeton) engineered the bill to allow for full funding of the project, authorized by votes in both chambers on May 2, 2009.

- The third edition of the *Passport to North Dakota History* was funded by a \$25,000 grant from Tesoro and a \$20,000 grant from the USDA Forest Service for the *History on Call* program. More than 90 Tesoro retail stations and all sites listed in the passport distributed passports statewide under the program.
- The *North Dakota Heritage Family Program* now has 3,800 family histories, thanks to a partnership with the North Dakota Funeral Home Association and 12 of their members. The North Dakota Peace Officers Association has also prepared the histories of their fallen men for this memorial program.
- Direct mail and other efforts have been supported by Experience Works staff and a broad range of volunteers. Membership in the Foundation continues to grow, giving increased access to the publications and services of the State Historical Society.



\*includes \$40 million funding for North Dakota Heritage Center expansion

## SHSND Foundation Board (FY 2009)

Jon McMillan, president, Fordville  
 Wally Beyer, vice president, Bismarck  
 Barbara S. Lang, treasurer, Jamestown  
 Darrell L. Dorgan, secretary, Bismarck  
 Pat Grantier, Bismarck  
 Michael Gustafson, Kindred  
 Armen Hanson, Devils Lake  
 Robert M. Horne, Minot  
 Calvin Grinnell, New Town  
 Thomas J. Riley, Fargo  
 Dalles Schneider, Bismarck  
 SHSND liaison – Gereld Gerntholz, Valley City

## State Historical Board (FY 2009)

Albert I. Berger, president, Grand Forks  
 Chester E. Nelson, Jr., vice president, Bismarck  
 Gereld Gerntholz, secretary, Valley City  
 Marvin L. Kaiser, Williston  
 Richard Kloubec, Fargo  
 Diane K. Larson, Bismarck  
 A. Ruric Todd III, Jamestown  
 Sara Otte Coleman, Director,  
 Department of Commerce Tourism Division  
 Alvin A. Jaeger, Secretary of State  
 Douglass Prchal, Director,  
 Department of Parks and Recreation  
 Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer  
 Francis G. Zeigler, Director,  
 Department of Transportation

## Staff and Board Transitions

**J**im Davis was selected by his colleagues to receive the 2008 Staff Award for Excellence. Davis, who has been with the agency since July 1981, is the head of reference services, and a regular researcher/writer for the *Dakota Datebook* series that airs daily on Prairie Public Radio. Also honored at the Society's holiday gathering December 16, 2008 were these staff members for their years of state government service in North Dakota: 35 years: **Walter Bailey**, historic preservation planner; **Rose Klein**, administrative assistant; 30 years: **Mike Heyd**, assistant security supervisor; 25 years: **Brian Austin**, graphic services coordinator; **Betty Mertz**, administrative assistant; **Merl Paaverud**, agency director; **Tim Stock**, security supervisor; 20 years: **Len Thorson**, registrar; 10 years: **Chris Johnson**, museum director; **Blair Newton**, instrument techni-

cian; **Diane Rogness**, historic sites manager; 5 years: **Jeff Blanchard**, Pembina State Museum site supervisor; **Mike Frohlich**, multimedia developer; **Genia Hesser**, curator of exhibits; **Amy Munson**, grants and contracts officer; **Jean Turcotte**, Fort Buford assistant site supervisor; 3 years: **Lisa Steckler**, administrative assistant; **Susan Quinnell**, review and compliance coordinator.

New SHSND staff members included **Lorna Meidinger**, architectural historian; **Sarah Walker**, reference specialist; **Bryan Turnbow**, museum preparator; and **Erica Tang**, administrative assistant.

Fort Buford Site Supervisor **Mark Sundlov** was selected as site supervisor for the new Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, opening in July 2009.

**Shane Molander** was promoted to deputy state archivist; **Lisa Steck-**

**ler** was promoted to administrative assistant of the archaeology and historic preservation division.

The following staff member resigned: **Adam Bradshaw**, museum preparator.

The following staff members retired: **Lotte Bailey**, deputy state archivist; **Jean Erickson**, administrative assistant.

There were also some changes on the State Historical Board, which oversees the operations of the state's history agency, during FY09. **Diane Larson** of Bismarck and **Richard Kloubec** of Fargo were reappointed to three-year terms by Governor Hoeven, effective July 1, 2008 (the beginning date of FY09); **Calvin Grinnell** of New Town was appointed and **Gereld Gerntholz** of Valley City was reappointed to three-year terms, effective July 1, 2009 (the beginning date of FY10).



The State Historical Society of North Dakota unveiled its redesigned website in January 2009, featuring improved navigation and a new web experience for visitors. Among the new features are a site-wide search engine, podcasts, and videocasts. The redesign was done by SHSND Multimedia Developer Michael Frohlich. Visit the website at [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov).

Photograph by Chris Johnson, SHSND



In late May 2009, 16 vehicles at the agency's Fort Abraham Lincoln storage facility were moved to the renovated first floor of its Storage East facility near Bismarck. Here, a 1929 Erskine Cabriolet is moved into Storage East. Produced for only three years through 1931, this model was acquired by the State Historical Society in 1955 from Evelyn Bakke of Reynolds, North Dakota.



An October 6, 2008 news conference at the North Dakota Heritage Center announced the publication of the Olson oral history and included remarks by his predecessor, former Governor Arthur Link (1973-81, center) and his successor, former Governor George Sinner (1985-92), seen here with former Governor Olson.

Photograph by Garry Redmann, North Dakota Department of Transportation

### North Dakota Heritage Center Bismarck

In June 2009 State Historical Society museum staff were at the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile site to record all its items for the agency's collections records, also called accessioning. Here, student intern Athena Olson accessions objects from one of the site's bedrooms. The internship program has been benefiting both students and the State Historical Society since 1982 as students gain valuable hands-on experience working with staff at the state's history agency in several specialized areas.



Photograph by Mark Sundlov, SHSND

#### *Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur* Museum Entrance

One of the rarest types of dinosaur fossils was found near Marmarth, North Dakota in 1999 – a mummified duck-billed dinosaur known as a hadrosaur. Portions of this “dinomummy” are on exhibit, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved. “Dakota” will remain at the Heritage Center at least until July 2015. See page 1.

#### *How Does Your Garden Grow?* Gardening in North Dakota

James E. Sperry Gallery  
Through November 6, 2011

Short growing seasons and cold winters have always challenged North Dakota gardeners. From native Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara gardeners to the modern North Dakota State University extension offices, people have worked to produce fruit and vegetable varieties that are cold-hardy, fast-growing, and drought resistant. This exhibit follows a garden's progress from planting, to harvest, and finally preservation. Historic garden implements and original seed catalogs are featured.

#### *A Considered View:*

#### *The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson* Auditorium Gallery

Through October 10, 2010

Wayne Gudmundson has been photographing the Upper Midwest for more than 35 years, and in that time has created a body of work chronicling life on the Plains. This exhibit offers a glimpse of his perspective through 21 black-and-white photographs. *A Considered View* is organized and circulated by the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota. See page 24.

#### *Corridor of Time*

Main Gallery  
Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions of years ago. One area, completed in December 2006, explores the Late Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago) and early Paleocene (about 60 million years ago) periods – a time when the region's climate and environment resembled that of the Florida Everglades. An expanded section, which opened in December 2008, depicts life and geology of the Paleozoic Era (250 to 540 million years ago), through the Paleocene and Oligocene Eras (24 to 34 million years ago). Developed by the SHSND and the North Dakota Geological Survey.

*continued...*

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND



*Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure* ended with a roaring fire inside the earthlodge at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton. Participants at the February 21, 2009 event also enjoyed a fine feast and other activities that included hide painting, atlatl throwing lessons, and playing with ice gliders. The annual event is sponsored by the State Historical Society, North Dakota Geological Survey, and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

The State Historical Society receives many thank-you letters from students who have visited its museums and historic sites. These creative notes are from second grade students at Roosevelt Elementary School in Bismarck, following a visit to the North Dakota Heritage Center with their teacher, Donna Nestoss.



## Pembina State Museum, Pembina

### *Pembina Today* Permanent Exhibit

An updated display in the museum's permanent gallery, *Pembina Today* highlights current trends in industry, agriculture and recreation in northeast North Dakota.

### *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota* Through February 2012

Abraham Lincoln's connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many. This exhibit, which opened on the 201<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his birth, examines Lincoln's legacy in the 39<sup>th</sup> state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16<sup>th</sup> President.

## Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora

### *Rails, Ranching and Riches: The Marquis de Mores in Dakota* Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit at the site's interpretive center tells the story of the Marquis de Mores (1858-96), a French nobleman and entrepreneur who, from 1883 to 1886, ran a cutting-edge meatpacking plant and other businesses in the town he named after his wife, Medora. His family's 26-room summer home includes thousands of original artifacts. Featured is a smaller-scale refrigerator car, along with the *Deadwood*, an original stage-coach from the Marquis's Deadwood and Medora Stage and Forwarding Company.

### *The Art of Einar Olstad* Through October 17, 2010

Inspired by the people, scenery, and ranch life of the Dakota Badlands, rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955) captured the essence of the American West in his whimsical and often humorous portrayals of the Dakota cowboy. In addition to a wide selection of his evocative paintings, objects relating to ranching life in the 1930s are on display.

### *Photographs of Frank Fiske* Through October 17, 2010

Born in Dakota Territory, Frank Bennett Fiske (1883-1952) spent most of his life in the Fort Yates area. At the age of 17, he took over the post photography studio. Although Fiske is best known for his portraits of American Indians, he left behind thousands of images that document life in central and southern North Dakota during the first half of the twentieth century. On display are a select portion of photographs, focusing on daily life at Fort Yates.

## Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Fort Buford State Historic Site near Williston

### *North Dakota Remembers World War II* Through April 18, 2010

Presenting stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the armed forces and their experiences worldwide, *North Dakota Remembers World War II* features a selection of the more than 1,200 interviews collected through the North Dakota Veterans History Project coordinated by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The exhibit also features World War II-era uniforms, medals, photographs, and other artifacts related to personal experiences in the war.

### *Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans* Opening April 23, 2010

This exhibit investigates what it meant to be German in North Dakota before and after both world wars. Artifacts, photographs, and documents tell the story of who they are, how and why they emigrated, and how their culture and traditions still thrive in North Dakota.

For more information about the Calendar of Events, call (701) 328-2666 or visit [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov)

## March

**March 1-31**  
National Women's History Month.

**March 1-May 15**  
**New visiting hours for Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site.** Thursdays-Saturdays and Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time. For more about the new site, visit [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov) or call (701) 797-3691.

**March 7**  
**Sensational Sundays**, 2 p.m., featuring The Radio Stars from Fargo, North Dakota, a band that plays a variety of both modern and traditional Western-style music. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

**March 11, April 15, May 13**  
**Fort Buford History Book Club**, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, (701) 572-9034.

**March 12-13, April 9-10, May 7-8**  
**Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open**, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B, (701) 328-9528.

**March 13**  
**Fort Abercrombie Quilters**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

**March 14**  
**Concert at the Confluence**, 2 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful winter *Concert at the Confluence* while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

**March 14**  
**Sensational Sundays**, 2 p.m., featuring *Elvis Presley* impersonator Bill Schott and *Neil Diamond* impersonator Tim Persell in separate performances, North Dakota Heritage Center. Performances are free, but a ticket is required for each. Tickets will be available beginning Monday, March 1. For more information, call Marilyn Snyder at (701) 328-2792 or email [msnyder@nd.gov](mailto:msnyder@nd.gov).

**March 20, April 17**

**Confluence Quilters**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the *Confluence Quilters* for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

**March 20**

**Quilt 'til You Drop!** Quilting activities in honor of National Quilting Day. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2099.

**March 21**

**Sensational Sundays**, 2 p.m., featuring Freeway, a gospel and bluegrass band from Bismarck. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

**March 26**

**National History Day in North Dakota**, competition at the North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

**March 27**

**Easter Egg Hunt at the Confluence**, 11 a.m. at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

**March 27**

**Easter Egg Hunt**, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

**March 27**

**Searching for Planets Around Other Stars**, presented by Dr. Corinne Brevik, assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Dickinson State University, 2 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**March 28**

**Sensational Sundays**, 2 p.m., featuring Chuck Suchy of Mandan, one of North Dakota's most acclaimed singers/songwriters. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

## April

**April 4**

**Easter Egg Hunt**, 11 a.m. (MT) at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**April 4**

**Easter Sunday**. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

**April 9**

**State Historical Board meeting**, 9 a.m., **SHSND Foundation Board meeting**, 1:30 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center.

**April 11**

**Sensational Sundays**, 2 p.m., featuring the Missouri Valley Symphony Orchestra performing the *Overture to the Barber of Seville*, *Aesop's Fables Suite*, *The Sabre Dance*, and *Peter and the Wolf* with the Northern Plains Ballet. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-1476.

**April 26-28**

**2010 North Dakota Tourism Conference**, Grand International Inn, Minot. The theme is *Free to be ND: Create, Celebrate, Captivate!*, (701) 328-2525.

## May

**May 1-31**

**National Historic Preservation Month.**

**May 15-16**

**Concert at the Chateau**, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each day (MT). Country and western singer Greg Hager of Valley City, North Dakota performs on the patio of the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**May 16**

**North Dakota State Historic Sites** open for the season, through September 15.

**May 16**

**Pembina State Museum begins summer hours** through September 15, Mondays-Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 6 p.m. Central Time. **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site begins summer hours** through September 15, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily, with last tickets sold at 5:50 p.m. Mountain Time. The Chateau Interpretive Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. **The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center begins summer hours** through September 15, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Central Time. **The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site begins summer hours** through September 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Central Time. **Former Governor's Mansion State Historic Site begins summer hours** through September 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

**May 16**

**State Historical Society of North Dakota Cultural Heritage Grant workshop**, presented by SHSND Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson, who will explain how to write cultural heritage grant applications. North Dakota Heritage Center. For more, call (701) 328-3573 or email [amunson@nd.gov](mailto:amunson@nd.gov).

**May 18**

**Free admission to all State Historic Sites** to celebrate International Museum Day. **Free observation tower admission**, Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

**May 22-23**

**History Alive!** performances featuring the charming hostess of the Chateau, *Madame de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**May 22**

**Training workshop for the Country Schoolhouse Project** spearheaded by the State Historical Society of North Dakota, presented by SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger and Research Archaeologist Amy Bleier. Myra Museum, Grand Forks. Space is limited, registration required, fee \$5 per person. For more, call (701) 328-2089 or email [lbmeidinger@nd.gov](mailto:lbmeidinger@nd.gov).

**May 22**

**Rededication of the Yellowstone Masonic Lodge**, the first Masonic lodge in what became North Dakota. On exhibit at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center will be original documents about the lodge's founding at Fort Buford and related historic objects. There will also be a ceremony open to the public on the Masonic lodge site west of Fort Buford. For more, call (701) 572-9034.

**May 29-30**

**History Alive!** performances featuring Arch Ellwein as *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

**May 31**

**Memorial Day Observances**, 10:30 a.m. at Pembina State Museum, in conjunction with the Kern-Thompson American Legion Post 77, (701) 825-6840.

**May 31**

**Memorial Day Observances** at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

## SHSND Exhibits

For information about the SHSND's many exhibits, contact Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser at (701) 328-2102. For a complete listing and availability of the popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program, contact Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit at (701) 328-2794. Additional information is available at the Society's website at [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov)



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## SOCIETY NEWS

### New to the National Register

The University of North Dakota Historic District is the most recent state site to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It consists of 56 properties on campus and the neighboring streets. The district demonstrates the changes in education from the time it was built in the 1880s through the post-World War II era, yet still maintains a cohesive design.

Photograph by Michelle Demis



This is a view of the Bek/Hancock/Squires/Walsh Courtyard in the University of North Dakota Historic District recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### A Considered View

From the collections of the Plains Art Museum



This 1982 photograph, entitled "Near Flasher," is one of the many vivid images featured in *A Considered View: The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson* exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center. A native of Fargo, Gudmundson's work has been featured in museums worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Organized and circulated by the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, this traveling exhibit and catalog are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies at North Dakota State University, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, and the American Masterpieces Initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts. It will be at the state museum through October 10, 2010.

*Plains Talk* is published quarterly by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), North Dakota Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505. Telephone (701) 328-2666. Website [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov) Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director; Richard E. Collin, *Plains Talk* Editor; Deborah K. Hellman, *Plains Talk* Assistant Editor; Kathleen Davison, SHSND Editor; Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND Assistant Editor. *Plains Talk* is a benefit to members of the SHSND Foundation. Direct correspondence or requests for copies to the editor at the address listed above. This information is available in other formats. Please allow two weeks' lead time.

**North Dakota State Historical Board:** Chester E. Nelson, Jr., Bismarck, President; Gereld Gerntholz, Valley City, Vice President; Richard Kloubec,

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