



Plains Talk

Too Much, Too Little

Volume 42, Number 3 - Fall 2011

Water Theme Of History Conference October 28-29

By Bonnie T. Johnson

Water is our most valuable natural resource. It has determined where North Dakotans live, work, travel, and play for as long as people have lived here. We talk constantly about water – seeming always to have either too much or not enough, only rarely just the right amount. Droughts in the 1930s led to big irrigation and dam projects, but by the 1960s environmental issues began changing the balance of thinking about water management issues. Recently, the flooding of the Red, Missouri, and Souris rivers has made headlines nationwide. Devils Lake continues to creep higher and higher, taking homes, businesses, and farms.

This year's Governor's Conference on North Dakota History will examine the impact water has had on the history of the state. *Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota* will be held October 28-29 at the Bismarck Civic Center.

Former U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan will be the keynote speaker. His address, entitled "The Long, Tough Battle Between Mother Nature and North Dakota," will be delivered Friday night, October 28.

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Brian R. Austin, SHSND



SHSND 00351-02



These photographs reflect the "too much, too little" theme of this year's Governor's Conference on North Dakota History. (Top) Jetty Beach near Mandan on June 6, just north of the swollen confluence of the Heart and Missouri rivers. (Bottom) A truck carrying a horse travels a road during the drought years of the "Dirty Thirties."

Oral Histories Share Life Experiences

By Kathleen Davison

A young child snuggles against a parent, listening to the grown-ups tell stories of their lives or repeating stories told to them by their parents. For many generations, this was how people learned who they were and about their history. But as societies have grown larger and families smaller, the old traditions of storytelling are no longer sufficient, and new ways of passing along those stories must be found.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) has for a hundred years worked to collect the stories people tell, or what we now call oral histories.

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Army veterans of the 1864 Battle of Killdeer Mountain gather for a 1913 reunion at Fort Rice in North Dakota. The occasion was the dedication ceremony for then-Fort Rice State Park, now a State Historic Site. Many of the men are wearing ribbons or medals on their coats.

North Dakota History Conference

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The conference is sponsored by the state’s history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). It is being held at the Bismarck Civic Center due to the expansion construction at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

Dorgan served in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives for 30 years before retiring in January 2011. He has long been a leader on water issues, including flood control, water management, water conservation, and especially the development of major rural water projects throughout North Dakota.

Governor Jack Dalrymple will open the conference Friday morning. Other featured speakers during the two-day event

include former Governor Allen Olson, who will discuss his lifelong involvement with water impacts, issues, and regulations in North America; American Indian relations specialist and retired National Park Service superintendent Gerard Baker, who will speak about the impacts of too much and too little water on the Mandan and Hidatsa peoples; Adjutant General and former State Engineer David Sprynczynatyk; State Engineer Todd Sando; and State Flood Recovery Coordinator and former Assistant Attorney General Murray Sagsveen. Michael Dwyer, Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Water Users Association, will chair a panel discussion about the history of North Dakota’s water use. Panelists include North Dakota Game and Fish Department Director Terry Steinwand on recreational use, North Dakota State Water Commission (NDSWC) Water Appropriations Director Bob Shaver on industrial use, Minot Public Works Director Alan Walter on municipal use, retired NDSWC Water Appropriations Director and now a consultant with the North Dakota Irrigation Association Milton Lindvig on agricultural use, and Executive Director of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association Eric Volk and current director and past president of the Agassiz Water Users District, Gilby, Clark Cronquist on rural use.

“The whole point of the conference is to provide North

Dakotans with the historical context of water,” said Erik Holland, conference coordinator and curator of education for the SHSND. “Water is so important to the people of our state. It affects both how we live on the

land and how we use the land. It’s a very different conference this year. We are expanding our audience, voice, and concepts.”

Other featured conference speakers include North Dakota State University (NDSU) Professor of Geology Don Schwert, who will help participants understand how the surface geology of North Dakota influences water movement. NDSU Professor of His-

tory Mark Harvey, who will speak on changing attitudes about big water projects between 1935 and 1970; NDSU Associate Professor of Architecture Steve Martens will present on how water resource management programs designed for dry times in the 1930s still affect us today; University of North Dakota Associate Professor of History Kimberly Porter will discuss 19th Century business executive James J. Hill and the opening of the Red River to steamboats; *Grand Forks Herald* Editor and Publisher Mike Jacobs will speak about water’s impacts on farming and ranching communities within the Garrison Reservoir; and former Mayor of Fargo Bruce Furness (1994-2006) will talk about the paradox of water projects in the Red River Valley.

Lunchtime presenters include Arch Ellwein on Friday, portraying legendary Missouri River steamboat captain Grant Marsh, and cowboy poet Bill Lowman on Saturday, reflecting on water issues.

Conference attendees will gain a broader perspective of how too much or too little water continues to be a balancing act with mankind in the middle. They will also receive an excellent packet of material that includes historical maps, articles, and other valuable resources. A special conference souvenir is a 14-page reprint of the 1890s Missouri River Commission maps of the river from

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Photograph by Samir Valéja, FEMA

Since 1993, the level of Devils Lake has risen about 25 feet. The flooding it has caused in recent years has resulted in millions of dollars of damages to farmers, homeowners and businesses. This photograph, taken June 5, 2009, shows one of the many roads closed because of the high waters.

North Dakota Heritage Center Expansion Project

By Claudia Berg

Since 1905 the State Historical Society has been collecting materials that document and illustrate North Dakota and the history of the northern Great Plains. From humble beginnings in a few rooms in the old state capitol to the move in 1924 to the Liberty Memorial Building, collections acquisitions was from the beginning an important activity for the State Historical Society. Although state-of-the-art for its time, the Liberty Memorial Building contained rooms full of exhibited and stored items that were exposed to decades of uncontrolled light, heat, and humidity. It was not until 1980, when the state's history agency moved into the North Dakota Heritage Center, that collections received appropriate storage conditions, climate controlled galleries, and additional staff to better care for the collections, both those in storage and on exhibit.

As the agency's responsibilities grew, so did the collections; by 2000 limited storage and exhibition space was again a concern. Phase I of the Heritage Center expansion project was completed in 2007-08 with an additional 30,000 square feet for the State Archives. This provided collections storage relief for the next 20 to 25 years. Phase II, currently under construction, will provide space for an estimated 25 years of collecting three-dimensional objects. Collections storage space will be maximized by using mobile storage systems.

The new collections storage areas will house paleontological, archaeological, natural, and historical collections.

The North Dakota Geological Survey's paleontological collections, represent the fossil history and geology of the state. Specimens include a gem and mineral collection and the State Fossil Collection, containing specimens ranging in scale from multi-ton dinosaur bones to microscopic pollen samples.

The archaeological collections represent several million specimens that represent over 10,000 years of human activity. This collection includes stone and bone tools from the earliest cultures in the region to remnants of a Euro-American presence at fur trade and frontier military posts.

More than 60,000 artifacts are included in the museum collections,

which primarily focus on about the last 200 years of human and natural history. These collections include everything from buttons to a train engine, representing objects used centuries ago to disposable items of today.

Storage conditions and trained staff are crucial for the long-term care of the collections. The unseen activity of working with and caring for the collections is an everyday task for more than 17 State Historical Society and North Dakota Geological Survey employees. Curators, registrars, archivists, paleontologists, archaeologists, and historians are some of the specialists that take care of the collections in the North Dakota Heritage Center.

Every object that is accepted into the collections requires many hours of work to accession, catalogue, research, clean, and prepare for storage or exhibit. The materials and methods in handling each item has changed over the years. No longer is a cardboard box and crumpled newspaper acceptable storage materials. Acid-free materials help stabilize an object and the associated paper records that document legal ownership and history.

Professional care of each type of collection has matured over the decades, and long-term care requires different storage conditions for different types of materials. This topic will be explored in the next issue of *Plains Talk*.

For photographs of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion construction project, visit the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov and click on Heritage Center Expansion Project.



The outlined areas on this floor plan highlight the collections storage areas on the lower level of the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center. The blue areas are the museum collections storage area, tan the archaeological collections storage area, and green the paleontological collections storage area.

Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), Inc.

One of the most important oral history projects undertaken by the State Historical Society in recent years has been the North Dakota Veterans Oral History Project. This project was launched in North Dakota in July 2003, growing out of the recognition that the generation of veterans who had fought in World War II was beginning to disappear. A special effort was needed to preserve their stories for future generations. This project, however, documents not only the soldiers of World War II but also the men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces dating to World War I.

The death of Leo Callahan on July 14, 2011 underscores the importance of recording this information. Callahan supplied the first documentation for the Veterans History Project – his file is #00001. He was born in Nebraska in 1923 and joined the Army in 1942. He served in the Pacific Theater in the Philippines and was part of the post-war army of occupation in Japan. He moved to Minnesota after the war, then later to North Dakota, becoming manager of Baker Electric in Cando

state's history agency of recording the stories of North Dakota veterans. One notable effort was made in 1912, when O. G. Libby (1864-1952), Secretary of the State Historical Society, interviewed 10 Indian men, nine of whom had been scouts under the command of Custer at the Little Bighorn. The tenth man related the stories he had been told by his father, also a scout with Custer. These interviews, published in 1920 as *The Arikara Narrative of Custer's Campaign and the Battle of the Little Bighorn*, remain one of the most important primary sources about that ill-fated expedition.

Other important oral history projects that the Society has managed include the 1930s-era Historical Data Project program of the Works Progress Administration, which interviewed early settlers in the state. These interviews remain an important source of information about the territorial and early statehood period. The North Dakota Oral History Project, conducted from 1973 to 1976, contains interviews with more than 1,200 North Dakota citizens. *North Dakota History*, the journal of the Society, has

“Oral history is a valuable tool for capturing the life experiences of individuals and conveying what it was like for them to future generations. The Great Depression, World War II, or one-room schools can really come alive for students hearing it described by someone who was actually involved.”

- State Archivist Ann Jenks

in 1952. He moved to Bismarck in 1985, where he lived until his death. Because he chose to participate in this history project, future generations will learn something about his experiences in World War II.

Since that first file was opened, the project has recorded information about more than 1,600 men and women, the majority of them veterans of World War II but also including veterans of Korea, Vietnam, the two Iraq wars, and Afghanistan. While there hasn't been funding for a full-time project administrator since December 2006, State Archives staff still conduct and record interviews. As technology has advanced, some of these interviews are now made by using the telephone and Internet through programs such as Skype and Google Chat. Any veterans interested in having their experiences preserved can contact SHSND Reference Specialist Sarah Walker at smwalker@nd.gov or call 701.328.2091 about arranging an interview.

For more information about the project, including a list of all veterans who have been interviewed, visit the State Historical Society's website at www.history.nd.gov and click on Archives.

The Veterans Project is part of a long tradition by the

also published special editions over the last six years that feature extensive articles based on oral histories provided by the governors of North Dakota since John Davis, who served from 1957 to 1961.

The early days of the oil industry in North Dakota are being described in a series of oral histories now underway with some of the state's oil pioneers, sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation.

All these projects are, just like those stories told in the family circle, part of how we learn who we are and where we came from. Listening to or reading the words someone uses to describe the significant events in their life provides a direct path to the past.

The Society is sponsoring a workshop October 3 in Bismarck on conducting oral interviews. The workshop, *Oral History: From Planning to Preservation*, will be conducted by the Society of American Archivists through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Other such workshops can be scheduled if there is interest. For more information, contact State Archivist Ann Jenks at 701.328.2090 or email ajenks@nd.gov.

2012 National History Day in North Dakota

National History Day in North Dakota will be hosted again in 2012 by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland will serve as the state coordinator. The state competition will be held in Bismarck on Friday, April 13, 2012. Regional competitions leading up to the state contest are again being planned for Dickinson, Minot, Devils Lake, and Valley City.

The National History Day theme for 2012 is *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*. Each year National History Day, Inc., selects a theme to which all the projects must relate. The theme is always broad enough so students can concentrate their research on a local, state, national or world history topic. To understand

the historical importance of a topic, a student must ask questions about time and place, cause and effect, change over time, impact, and significance. They must consider why events happened and what impact the events had. What factors contributed to a **revolution**? Why was there a need to **reform** at the particular time? Why did this event cause a **reaction**?

More than simply describing what happened, students must draw conclusions, basing their opinion on evidence, about how the topic affected individuals, communities, nations, and the world. Studies should include the investigation of available primary and secondary sources, analysis of the evidence, and a clear explanation of the relationship of the topic to the theme. Primary sources are particularly important to the study of history, because they are original materials created at the time an event happened. Examples of primary sources include journals, diaries, and letters of participants in an event written at the time; records of meetings or organizations; and court or other government

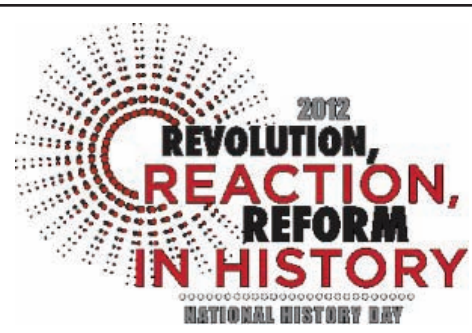


records. Even drawings, paintings, and objects can be primary sources of evidence to support an argument.

In order to encourage North Dakota students to investigate topics closer to home, the State Archives and an anonymous donor are partnering to create a fund that will be used for a scholarship for the best project at the state competition that concentrates on a North Dakota subject. Any individual or organization interested in providing

financial support for National History Day in North Dakota should contact Holland.

He will be working with North Dakota Studies Coordinator Neil Howe to conduct teacher workshops



throughout North Dakota that will encourage teachers to engage their students in National History Day projects and help those teachers with tools they can use in their classrooms.

“I see this effort as very important to the students of North Dakota,” said Holland. He described key findings from a study that looked at performance assessments, surveys, and standardized test scores in order to evaluate students’ research and writing skills, and their ability to interpret historical information. “Students learn to collaborate with team members, to talk to experts, and manage their time. Participation in National History Day projects hone critical thinking skills, making students better able to digest, analyze, and synthesize information, better preparing them for life.”

For more information about National History Day in North Dakota activities, contact Erik Holland at eholland@nd.gov or call 701.328.2792. Also visit the website at <http://nd.nhd.org>.

Brian R. Austin, SHSND



Expansion Progress

Work on the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center continues at a brisk pace. This September 1 photograph shows the newly poured concrete floors of the expanded archaeological collections storage room and offices. The concrete columns will support the floor of the Early Peoples Gallery that will be located directly above this area on the main level. The 8,122-square-foot gallery will cover the period from the end of the last Ice Age about 12,000 years ago to the creation of Dakota Territory in 1861. The 97,000-square-foot expansion addition will nearly double the current size of the facility.

New to the National Register

A high school in Williston and a drive-in restaurant in Grand Forks are the most recent North Dakota sites to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Originally designated the **Williston High School**, this building in Williams County was constructed in 1930 and 1931, according to a design by the architectural firm of Joseph Bell DeRemer and his son, Samuel Teel DeRemer. The school is a symmetrical, three-story building, constructed of primarily a concrete frame structure with a well-detailed brick exterior.

The building's architectural style is a somewhat restrained, early version of the Art Deco style, and many of the character-defining Art Deco motifs were detailed in brick. The school embodies an important transition in educational design from the 1920s to the 1930s, with increasing emphasis on a more progressive and structured, "scientific" approach to education and acknowledging the potential of high school education to influence civic values.

The **Kegs Drive-In in Grand Forks** consists of two barrel-shaped wooden structures, with a rectangular middle building that serves as the front counter for the drive-in restaurant. Originally built in 1935, each barrel was an individual two-story Barrel Root Beer Stand built by William Harry Muzzy. These barrels were built in an eclectic style of roadside buildings that fits within a category called "programmatic architecture." By 1946 both barrels were moved to this location and became known as The Kegs Drive-In.

Photograph by Michael J. Burns



Photograph by Steve Hoffbeck

(Top) Operating as a high school from 1931 to 1957, Williston High School then became Williston Junior High School, when a new high school was built. (Bottom) The Kegs Drive-in in Grand Forks is a popular stop for hungry travelers.

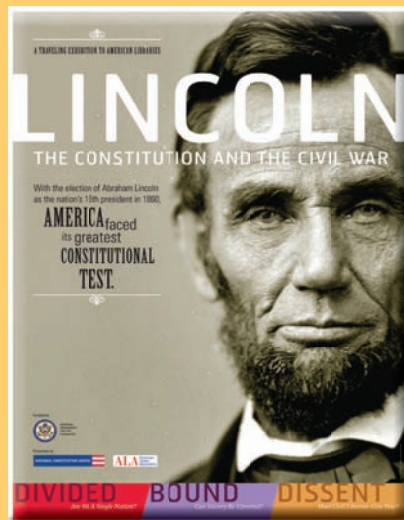
Teaching Technology Techniques



Photograph by Glenda Fautske

K-12 teachers participate in a June 23-24 workshop on technology techniques at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo. Participants learned several techniques to enhance the teaching and learning of science, mathematics, geography, and the arts. The two-day workshop was led by the North Dakota Teacher Coalition, which includes the State Historical Society of North Dakota, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, the North Dakota Forest Service, the North Dakota Geological Survey, and NDSU.

Lincoln Exhibit at the Confluence



The exhibit, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, opens October 5 at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston. The State Historical Society has partnered with the National Park Service to bring the exhibit to North Dakota. It will be at the Confluence Center through February 12, 2012. For more information, see page 13.

New Statue, Events Commemorate Sitting Bull's Return from Exile

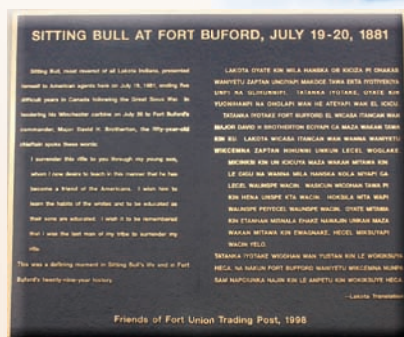
By Rick Collin

A new statue of Sitting Bull was unveiled and programs took place July 16-17, marking the 130th anniversary of the return of the Hunkpapa Lakota Sioux holy man and chieftain to the United States from exile in Canada.

Located at Williston State College, the bronze statue was unveiled during a July 16 program that featured Sitting Bull's great-grandson Ernie LaPointe, who brought a blessing to the monument, and Lakota dancer Kevin Locke. Locke is known internationally as a visionary Hoop Dancer and preeminent player of the indigenous Northern Plains flute.

LaPointe also participated in a program the next afternoon at Fort Buford State Historic Site (see photograph on page 23), where Sitting Bull ended his Canadian exile and surrendered his rifle to Major David H. Brotherton on July 20, 1881.

One of the four plaques on the base of the new statue describes the event, including Sitting Bull's oration that day. This is the text on that plaque, pictured above:



Sitting Bull, most revered of all Lakota Indians, presented himself to American agents here on July 19, 1881, ending five difficult years in Canada following the Great Sioux War. In tendering his Winchester carbine on July 20 to Fort Buford's commander, Major David H. Brotherton, the fifty-year-old chieftain spoke these words:

I surrender this rifle to you through my young son, whom I now desire to teach in this manner that he become a friend of the Americans. I wish him to learn the habits of the whites and to be educated as their sons are educated. I wish it to be remembered that I was the last man of my tribe to surrender my rifle.

This was a defining moment in Sitting Bull's life and in Fort Buford's twenty-nine-year history.

The building in which Sitting Bull surrendered still stands at the Fort Buford site located about 22 miles southwest of Williston. Fort Buford was established as a military post in 1866 to guard the trails west and served as



Photographs by Jennifer Wolf, Williston State College

The six-foot-tall statue of Sitting Bull at Williston State College was designed and sculpted by renowned western artist Michael Westergard of Plentywood, Montana. Four plaques are located around the statue's base, with inscriptions about the Hunkpapa Sioux, Fort Buford, Sitting Bull, and his surrender at the fort. (Inset) This plaque includes, in English and his native Lakota, the words Sitting Bull spoke when he laid down his rifle.

a major supply depot until its closing in 1895. In 1995 Paul Hedren, then superintendent of nearby Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, wrote an article for *North Dakota History*, the quarterly journal of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), entitled "Sitting Bull's Surrender at Fort Buford: An Episode in American History" (Vol. 62, No. 4). His research determined that the building in which Sitting Bull surrendered still existed at the site. Called the Field Officer's Quarters, where the fort's commanding officer lived, it is now a museum that explores the history of the fort. After Hedren's article appeared, several ideas were considered to commemorate the 1881 event, including erecting a "heroic-sized" statue of Sitting Bull at Fort Buford.

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Sitting Bull's Return

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The Friends of Fort Union/Fort Buford began a fundraising campaign, and a bronze plaque was struck featuring an inscription about the surrender event and the words Sitting Bull spoke that day. That plaque is shown on page 7. The statue project eventually died, and the plaque, struck in 1998, was placed in storage with the SHSND, which manages the Fort Buford site.

When a new Sitting Bull statue project was being developed by Williston State College in late 2009, it was remembered that the plaque was still in storage at the SHSND's headquarters at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. College officials expressed interest in using it, and it was transported to Williston in the summer of 2010 for use as one of the four plaques on the statue's base.

The statue was designed and created by western artist Michael Westergard of Plentywood, Montana. Westergard's award-winning bronzes have been featured in several one-man exhibitions in Germany, and his work can be found in collections throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. For more information, visit his website at www.michaelwestergard.com.

Too Much, Too Little

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the borders of South Dakota to Montana.

Also offered Friday will be an all-day workshop, "Storing and Preserving Still Photographic Materials Collections," presented by Dianna Clise, paper conservator for the Midwest Art Conservation Center (MACC) in Minneapolis. She will provide hands-on experience in the identification of various types of negatives and prints, using MACC's extensive photographic study collection. She will also discuss how to identify the causes of deterioration in photographic materials, types of damages, proper exhibition and storage materials, and digitizing photographic materials collections.

For information on the Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, email SHSND Administrative Assistant Kiri Stone at kstone@nd.gov or call at 701.328.2799. Registration is required, and fees include lunch. Registration forms are available online at www.history.nd.gov/conference, as well as through the mail. The deadline to register is Wednesday, October 19.

The theme of the 2012 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, to be held October 26-27 in Bismarck, will focus on the Inspiration Gallery element of the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center, as planning its exhibits moves forward. Innovations, industry, entrepreneurship, and expanding technologies since statehood are concepts that will be featured in the new gallery, scheduled to open in the fall of 2014.

Special Grants for Flood-Affected Properties Available

By Amy Munson

The 2011 North Dakota Legislative Assembly authorized \$504,500 to the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) for the Cultural Heritage Grant Program. As part of the program, the State Historical Society has identified up to \$120,000 to assist with recovery efforts of historic properties affected by the flooding throughout the state. The state's history agency is currently accepting applications for the first round of the special funding, with up to \$60,000 available.

Grant guidelines and application forms can be found on the SHSND website at www.history.nd.gov or available upon request. The deadline for applications to be received for this round is Friday, October 7. A second round of special funding grants will occur in February 2012.

Also available through the Cultural Heritage Fund program are Heritage Training Scholarships, the North Dakota Museum Assessment Program (NDMAP), and new for 2011, Archival Supply Purchase Grants.

Heritage Training Scholarships are available for local and county historical society staff members to participate in training opportunities. Each individual can apply for any number of scholarships throughout the biennium, with the total amount awarded not to exceed \$2,000 per

individual. Funds for the scholarship program will be awarded until the fund is exhausted.

The NDMAP grants provide county historical societies an opportunity to do an in-depth review of their organization, develop long-range plans, and complete a project. It is a \$10,000 matching grant with about half to be used to hire a peer reviewer and the other half to complete a project. The NDMAP application is also available on the SHSND's website.

Archival Supply Purchase Grants are available for local and county historical societies, museums, and archives to purchase archival supplies such as storage boxes, photograph sleeves, and environmental monitors. Qualifying organizations can apply for any number of Archival Supply Purchase grants throughout the biennium, with the total amount awarded not to exceed \$1,500 per organization. Grants will be awarded throughout the biennium until the fund is exhausted.

Applications for any of the Cultural Heritage Grant programs are available on SHSND website at www.history.nd.gov or by contacting the SHSND's Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson at 701.328.3573 or email amunson@nd.gov.



\$100,000 Gift

North Dakota Grocers Association Donates to Expansion to Honor Long-Time President

What is the best gift any association leader might receive from their membership? How about having a room named for you in the new expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center on the state capitol grounds? Sure beats the ol' gold watch.

Terrance Rockstad, chairman of the board of Dan's SuperMarkets in North Dakota, and Mike Kraft, owner of Economart in Williston,

asked their North Dakota Grocers Association members and associate members to honor long-time association president Tom Woodmansee with a \$100,000 donation to secure the naming opportunity for one of the most-used meeting rooms in the Heritage Center. Those donations have been secured.

This newly updated meeting room in the expanded facility will be named and signed: North Dakota Grocers Association - Honoring Tom Woodmansee - Meeting Room. The board plans to hold board meetings, host socials for members and legislators, and have special events in this meeting room on the capitol campus. The meeting room is public and will be used by hundreds of other groups each year.

"The North Dakota Grocers Association has a long history of working closely with the state legislature on key issues that



Tom Woodmansee (center), North Dakota Grocers Association Executive Director, is honored at the annual North Dakota Grocers Association banquet in Fargo September 12. With him are his wife, Mary, and Terrance Rockstad, chairman of the board of Dan's SuperMarkets.

have an effect on our members," said Rockstad. "We are pleased to have a base in the new North Dakota Heritage Center to keep our organization on the front lines at the capitol and also to show our appreciation to our consumer families from all across the state." Rockstad and Kraft are long-time friends of the State Historical Society and Foundation, as are many other grocery store and wholesale food vendors all across the state.

"We have hosted regional meetings for the Society and Foundation and given our customers special brochures on historic sites in our area. Now making a large contribution to this regional tourism attraction, the North Dakota Heritage Center, makes good sense in our growing state," said Kraft.

Woodmansee has been the highly-respected president of the North Dakota Grocers Association since 1984. "It was not a hard sell to get members and associate members to jump into this campaign," said Rockstad. "The

hardest part was keeping Tom in the dark until the gift was announced at our 50th anniversary celebration and convention in Fargo on September 11 and 12." Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley was the guest speaker at the convention and was able to surprise Tom and his family with this honor.

Rockstad and Kraft and association members challenge other major business groups to organize their membership to give a similar gift to the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project. The \$51.7 million project, funded by \$39.7 million in state funding and \$12 million in private funding, will create a regional icon, "the Smithsonian of the Plains," here in North Dakota.

"The Heritage Center project is for all the people of North Dakota, and the Grocers Association is proud to take a leadership role to bring private funding support," said Rockstad.



Virginia A. Nelsen,
SHSND Foundation
Executive Director



Bill Schott, leader
of the SHSND
Foundation's
Trustee membership
development



Marlo Sveen,
SHSND Foundation
Director of Development

Check it out! The SHSND Foundation's Expansion Campaign Website www.statehistoricalfoundation.com

OCTOBER

October 1-31

Artist of the Month program featuring student art work from the art and history workshop held July 18-22 at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

October 3

Oral History: From Planning to Preservation workshop, Pioneer Room, State Capitol, Bismarck. Sponsored by the State Historical Records Advisory Board. To register, call the State Archives, 701.328.2090. See story on page 1.

October 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.

October 14

State Historical Board meeting, 9 a.m., North Dakota Heritage Center.

October 14

North Dakota State Genealogical Society fall meeting, 1 to 4 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2668.

October 15

Quilting at the Confluence, 10 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.

October 22

Cemetery Walk, 7 to 9 p.m. Visit with some "ghostly" former residents of Fort Buford during an evening walk through the old fort cemetery, followed by refreshments. Tours starting every half hour. Family-friendly activity. Fort Buford State Historic Site and Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

October 27-30

Sixth Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium at Dickinson State University, *Theodore Roosevelt: In the Arena of the West*. Dickinson, North Dakota. For more, visit www.theodorerooseveltcenter.com or call 1.866.496.8797.

October 27-30

As part of the **Sixth Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium**, the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site will be open with interpreters on hand, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MT). 701.623.4355.

October 28

Halloween Grand Ball at the Mansion, 6 to 10 p.m. Must be 14 or older to attend. Anyone under the age of 16 must have a parent or guardian in attendance. Free. Costume required. Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, 701.328.9528.

October 28

Ghost Stories and Halloween Party at the Chateau. 2 p.m. Don Ehli will tell ghost stories to the children from the Billings County schools as part of a Halloween party at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 701.623.4355.

October 28

State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation annual meeting, 1 p.m., Bismarck Civic Center, 701.222.1966.

October 28-29

23rd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, *Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota*, Bismarck Civic Center. For more, call 701.328.2792 or visit the agency's website at www.history.nd.gov. See story on page 1.

October 31

Halloween Fun, children's activities and games from 2 to 4 p.m., Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

October 31

A Night in Our Museum, Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Tour starts at 6:30 p.m. (MT) in the upper Chateau parking lot and will include historic ghostly spirits. The Interpretive Center will open at 6 p.m. to register

participants for the tour and will remain open for the ghostly treats after the tour. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 701.623.4355.

NOVEMBER

November 4

Open house at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MT), in conjunction with the Medora Wildlife Feed sponsored by the Medora Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber starts serving at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 701.623.4355.

November 10

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.

November 11

Veterans Day. State offices closed in observance of Veterans Day. Pembina State Museum, North Dakota Heritage Center, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center open.

November 19

Quilting at the Confluence, 10 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.

November 20

Concert at the Confluence featuring singer/songwriter Jessie Veeder accompanied by her father, 3 p.m. Overlook the beautiful confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers while enjoying a wonderful concert, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

November 24

Thanksgiving. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

November 27

Holiday Open House, 1 to 5 p.m., Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site. Free admission. Sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the SHSND, 701.328.9528.

DECEMBER

December 2-4

Open house at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center in conjunction with *Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas*. Bob Petermann, cowboy poet and singer, performs Saturday, December 4 at 1 p.m. (MT). Refreshments all three days, 701.623.4355.

December 4

Holiday Open House, 1 to 5 p.m., Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site. Free admission. Sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the SHSND, 701.328.9528.

December 4

Christmas at the Confluence, featuring the Sunrise Brass in concert and a reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. Make a decoration for the Confluence Center Christmas tree and one to take home. Fort Buford State Historic Site and Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

December 8

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.

December 11

Holiday Open House, 2 to 4 p.m., Pembina State Museum. Free tower admission, refreshments. 701.825.6840.

December 17

Quilting at the Confluence, 10 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.

December 25

Christmas Day. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

JANUARY

January 1

New Year's Day. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

January 6

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

January 12

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.

January 14

Winter Fun Day, 1 to 4 p.m. (MT), the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Everyone is encouraged to bring their sleds, skis, snowshoes, and more and enjoy various snow activities. Hot chocolate and cookies will be available. There will also be a fire pit bonfire on the patio. All activities are free, including admission to the Chateau de Mores site and its interpretive center, 701.623.4355.

Coming Up in February

February 11

Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure, at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton. To register and for more information, contact SHSND Expansion and New Initiatives Coordinator Claudia Berg at 701.328.2724.

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

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.

Birds of North Dakota

Main Gallery
Permanent Exhibit

North Dakota is home to almost 200 species of birds. In addition, the state plays host to millions of migrating birds every year, which stop to rest and eat on their journeys along the central flyway of North America. They are attracted to the large amounts of open space and diverse habitats that provide breeding grounds, nesting areas, and ample food. *The Birds of North Dakota* exhibit has been a visitor favorite since the State Historical Society was located in the Liberty Memorial building on the state capitol grounds. It was one of the first exhibits installed, by popular demand, after the new North Dakota Heritage Center opened in 1981. Agency staff knew that an expanded Heritage Center had to have some version of the *Birds of North Dakota* exhibit, but the current display needed to be updated. Funding in the 2009-11 biennium allowed the project to move forward. Andre and Associates of Victoria, British Columbia, were selected to design and fabricate an exhibit that would not only fit in the Heritage Center's current main gallery but also be easily moved into the expanded Heritage Center. Hundreds of bird specimens are on display, including a rare example of the extinct passenger pigeon, in addition to bird-related artifacts such as hunting stamp art and decoys.

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

James E. Sperry Gallery
Through December 5

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. *How Does Your Garden Grow?* won a 2011 Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History in the special project category. See page 19.

Creating Sakakawea

James E. Sperry Gallery

Opening December 9 through September 30, 2012

More than 100 years ago, the North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs decided to recognize Sakakawea by erecting a statue in her honor on the North Dakota Capitol grounds. In 2003 a replica of this statue was placed in the National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol, in Washington D.C. as part of state's commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. For 200 years Sakakawea has fascinated the American public, becoming a symbol variously for women's suffrage, manifest destiny, and most recently American Indian cultural inclusivity. She is a blend of legend and mythology balanced on a narrow foundation of historical fact. This exhibit explores both the statue's history and what Sakakawea has meant to different people at different times in history.

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 State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Geological Survey.

The USS North Dakota and Nautical North Dakota

Hall of Honors

Permanent Exhibit

Featuring historic photographs and objects associated with the USS *North Dakota* battleship, this exhibit also includes objects and photographs of other vessels with North Dakota ties, such as the *Gurke*, named after Medal of Honor recipient Henry F. Gurke of Neche, N.D., the *Devils Lake*, the *George A. Custer*, the *Arikara*, and the recently commissioned supply ship, the *Sacagawea*.

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 April 1, 2012

Abraham Lincoln's connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many. This exhibit, which opened on the 201st anniversary of his birth, examines Lincoln's legacy in the 39th state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16th 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 stagecoach from the Marquis's Deadwood and Medora Stage and Forwarding Company.

North Dakota Remembers World War II

Through October 2012

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 (SHSND). The exhibit also features World War II-era uniforms, medals, photographs and other artifacts related to personal experiences in the war.

Great Photographs of World War II

Through October 2012

A display of photographs taken by combat photographers from the Office of War Information and all branches of the U.S. military, *Great Photographs of World War II* documents some of the experiences of veterans of World War II. They were compiled by the Folmer Graflex Corporation in Rochester, New York, manufacturer of the Graflex camera equipment used by combat photographers and in military aircraft.

Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, near Cooperstown

America's Ace in the Hole: North Dakota and the Cold War

Permanent Exhibit

The Cold War lasted nearly 50 years, and North Dakota's landscape is marked with its legacy. North Dakota's newest State Historic Site introduces visitors to the state's role in international relations and the significance of missile installations on North Dakota's history and culture. This recently opened exhibit features historic pho-

tographs, archival images, and an award-winning video. The site also received the 2010 Governor's Travel and Tourism award as the state's outstanding attraction of the year.

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

Trails, Tracks, Rivers and Roads Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center features the resources of the confluence and the transportation systems that brought people to those resources.

Life By the Bugle Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit in the Field Officer's Quarters explores the life of a frontier military officer at Fort Buford, as well as examines the role of women at an army post. Several objects original to Fort Buford's days as a military post from 1866 to 1895 are displayed.

Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans Through October 2, 2012

This 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.

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War October 5, 2011 through February 12, 2012

With the election of Abraham Lincoln as the nation's 16th President in 1860, America faced its greatest constitutional test. How could a nation founded on the belief that "all men are created equal" continue to tolerate slavery in its Constitution? This exhibit was organized by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association, and made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The State Historical Society of North Dakota has partnered with the National Park Service to bring this exhibit to the state.

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck

From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil Permanent Exhibit

Located in the site's carriage house, this exhibit illustrates the transition from horse and buggy to the automobile.

Upcoming Conferences

The **51st Annual Western History Association (WHA)** Conference will be held October 13-16 in Oakland, California. The theme is "Modern Histories of Ancient Places." For more, call the WHA at 314.516.7282, visit www.westernhistoryassociation.org or email wha@umsl.edu.

The **Mountain-Plains Museum Association (MPMA)** will hold its 57th annual conference October 17-21 in Helena, Montana. The theme is "Currents of Convergence: Making Connections in Big Sky Country." For more, call the MPMA at 303.979.9358 or visit www.mpma.net.

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)** will hold its annual National Preservation Conference October 19-22 in Buffalo, New York. The theme is "Alternating Currents." For more, call the NTHP at 1.800.944.6847, email at conference@nthp.org or visit www.preservation.org.

The **69th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference** will be held October 26-29 in Tucson, Arizona. For more, contact conference chair Dr. Maria Nieves Zedeno at 520.621.9607 or email mzedeno@email.arizona.edu

The **6th Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium** will be held October 27-30 at Dickinson State University (DSU) in Dickinson, North Dakota, in conjunction with the Theodore Roosevelt Association's 92nd Annual Meeting. The theme is "Theodore Roosevelt: In the Arena of the West." For more, call DSU at 701.483.2166, 1.866.496.8797 or visit www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org.

The **23rd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History** will be held October 28-29 at the Bismarck Civic Center, sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). The theme is "Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota." For more, call SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or email eholland@nd.gov.

The **55th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference** will be held March 1-3, 2012 in Omaha, Nebraska. For more information, contact Dr. Jeanne Reames, Program Chair, Department of History, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE 402.554.8359 or email mreames@unomaha.edu.

SHSND Exhibits

For more 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.

30th Anniversary

Heritage Volunteers Honored at Awards Banquet

By Rick Collin

The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), Governor Jack Dalrymple, and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple have honored the Society's Heritage Volunteers for donating 11,420 hours of service during the past year. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the state history agency's volunteer program. More than 200 volunteers donate their time and talent year-round to help the agency meet its mission.

The Independent Sector, a coalition for non-profit groups, values volunteer time at \$21.36 per hour. Based on that figure, their donation of time is valued at nearly \$244,000.

Several volunteers were honored at the August 9 banquet at the Municipal Country Club in Bismarck for their outstanding service to the SHSND. Governor Dalrymple presented 30-year service awards to two volunteers who have been with the program since it began in 1981. They were Shirley Lacher of Bismarck and Grace Wanttaja, who retired from her volunteer position in July to move to Minnesota with her husband. During her 30 years, Wanttaja donated 4,620 hours of service. Lacher works in the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store. During her 30 years, she has given 4,690 hours of service.

The First Lady presented awards to volunteers for their first 100 hours of service. The nine recipients were Patrick Gerhardt for his work in the Photo Archives; Lucille Goldade and her husband, Tony Goldade, for their work with the SHSND Foundation; Hallie Johnson for her work with the SHSND Foundation; Cat McClintock for her work in the Photo Archives; Tom Schmeichel for his work in the Photo Archives; Sara Thomasson for her work



Photograph by Susan Holland

Receiving the Hospitality Award was Dr. Herbert Wilson of Bismarck for his work at the North Dakota Heritage Center Information Desk. He has been a volunteer since 1996, when he joined the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion. Presenting the award are SHSND Director Merl Paaverud and SHSND Visitor Services Coordinator Beth Campbell.

with the SHSND Foundation; Tom Turck for his work as a member of the Historic Preservation Review Board; and Bill Willis for his work at the North Dakota Heritage Center Information Desk. All live in Bismarck.

The Curatorial Award, for the outstanding individual or individuals in a behind-the-scenes role, was presented to Robert Porter of Mandan, who has been a volunteer since 2007, donating 594 hours. Porter is dedicated to preserving and making available to the public images in the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. He has accomplished this in a variety of ways, including rehousing the *Mandan Pioneer* newspaper col-

Photograph by Susan Holland



Five of the SHSND Heritage Volunteers who received awards are shown here with Governor Jack Dalrymple and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple. (from left) Erllys Fardal for the Dedication Award and Special Project Award; Shirley Lacher for the 30-Year-Service Award; Hallie Johnson for her first 100 hours of service; the Dalrymples; Jeanette Radig for the 20-Year-Service Award; and Dr. Herbert Wilson for the Hospitality Award.



Receiving the Dedication Award as the volunteer who served the most hours the past year was Erlys Fardal (left) of Bismarck, who donated 494 service hours for the State Archives. She is shown here with First Lady Betsy Dalrymple. Fardal began as a volunteer in the State Archives in 2002, since donating 3,179 hours of service. She was also named recipient of the Special Project Award for her work researching state agency histories for the SHSND website, and works as a docent in the museum galleries of the North Dakota Heritage Center.

lection of more than 20,000 images that sat on a shelf for 30 years. He also transcribed an old Photograph Collections Log into a document, so that searches to trace the origins of many collections the Society received in the 1990s can be easily accomplished.

Jeanette Radig of Bismarck received the 20-year service award for her work as a docent at the North Dakota Heritage Center. She has also helped the SHSND Foundation with many events and programs. She has donated 1,293 hours of service.

The 10-year service award was given to six volunteers. They were Scott Andes, who began his work in the Paleontology Lab doing data entry and now works in the Communications and Education Division; Faye Hasche, who works in the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store; Bill Hendrickson, who works in the Photo Archives; Neil Knatterud, who died July 26 but who had most recently been working at the North Dakota Heritage Center Information Desk; Delrene Mills, who works at the North Dakota Heritage Center Information Desk; and Alice Nix, who works in the State Archives. All live in Bismarck.

Beth Campbell, the State Historical Society's visitor services coordinator, noted that since 1981 volunteers statewide have contributed more than 360,000 hours of service to the Society and its sites and museums.

For information on becoming a volunteer, contact the SHSND's visitor services coordinator Beth Campbell at 701.328.2674 or email at bcampbell@nd.gov.

Transitions

Jack Mattson retired effective September 30. The site supervisor at Fort Totten State Historic Site since 1995, he began working at the site in 1989. Mattson has worked on many projects at Fort Totten and was instrumental in opening several of the site's old buildings for public visitation. He also spent the past winter working to enhance the Visitors Center, including resurfacing the floor, repainting the new exhibit area, and helping install the new exhibit, *Encountering Fort Totten*. A native of Kenmare, North Dakota, he served in the U.S. Army from 1963 to 1983, including 12 years in West Germany.

Guinn Hinman began work September 22 as administrative assistant in the Support Services Division. She previously worked as an administrative assistant for real estate businesses in Washington and also for the Stutsman County Housing Authority in Jamestown, North Dakota. Hinman earned a master of arts degree in museology from the University of Washington in June and a bachelor of arts degree in English with a minor in history from Brevard College in North Carolina.

Craig Wilson resigned effective September 15 as site supervisor at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site to move back to Michigan. He had been site supervisor since May 19. A Michigan native, Wilson came to North Dakota from Mackinac State Historic Parks in Michigan.

Elaine Schlinger retired effective September 1. An administrative assistant with the Support Services Division, she began working at the State Historical Society in 1994. Schlinger was honored by her colleagues in 2006, when they selected her to receive the Staff Award for Excellence as the agency's outstanding staff member.

Jena Arteseros began work July 5 as administrative assistant in the Support Services Division. Before that, she was employed by Kadmas, Lee & Jackson in Bismarck, working as an administrative assistant and later as a field services coordinator/archaeological technician. She also worked as a dispatcher for Lesmeister Transportation in Bismarck. Arteseros earned a bachelor of arts degree in history from Dickinson State University, and an associate in arts degree in history from Bismarck State College.

New to the Collections

By Emily Schultz and Shane Molander

Some of the latest additions to the collections in the state archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center include:

The Honorable **Myron H. Bright**, Senior Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, recently donated to the State Historical Society his **political photographs and ephemera (MSS 11075)**. Bright was active in the Democratic-NPL Party in the late 1950s and 1960s and served as finance chairman for the Cass County Democratic-NPL Party. He worked closely with Governor William Guy, U.S. Senator Quentin Burdick, and several other Democratic politicians during their political campaigns.

Many of the photographs and other items donated by Bright are from this era in his life. One album is full of images from a 1960 birthday party for Burdick. The celebration was held at the Red River Valley fairgrounds and Civic Auditorium in Fargo. Among the attendees was 1960 presidential candidate and U.S. Senator John F. Kennedy. The collection also includes photographs of other politicians and political events attended by Bright. Some of the other notable figures featured include Lyndon Johnson, Quentin Burdick, Stuart Symington, Byron Dorgan, Kent Conrad, Earl Pomeroy, and William Guy. Several photographs are signed with personal messages to Bright. Also included are a signed letter dated June 23, 1960 from Kennedy to Bright and invitations to the 1993 inaugural ball and parade for President Bill Clinton.

On April 25, 1968, President Johnson nominated Bright to a seat on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he was the first Jewish member. Bright became the

longest-serving working judge on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in 2009, hearing over 6,000 cases since his appointment 41 years earlier. Now 92 and living in Fargo, he remains a judge, having assumed senior status in 1985.

Joseph Walter “Punk” Plunkett (MSS 11086) was born December 5, 1892 in Sheldon, North Dakota to John Walter and Eva Mae (Durgin) Plunkett. He enlisted at Fargo in the American Expeditionary Force August 11, 1917 and began basic training August 27 at Camp Kelly in San Antonio, Texas. Plunkett served as a transportation supervisor for the 116th Aero Squadron (renumbered the 637th Aero Supply Squadron in 1918) in France. On April 26, 1919, he left Marseille, France, for home. Plunkett died August 5, 1981 at 89 in Battle Creek, Michigan at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. He is buried in the Calvary Cemetery in Jamestown, North Dakota.

Plunkett’s papers consist of digital scans of correspondence, a scrapbook, a diary, newspaper clippings, publications, and a military biography. His papers were donated by Plunkett’s great-niece Mary Young of Jamestown, North Dakota.

The photographs, diary, and scrapbook provide a detailed snapshot into one soldier’s experience of World War I in France. The collection highlights the camaraderie among soldiers and the humor needed to survive the grimness and horrors of war. Destruction of French cities, weaponry of the Allied and Central Powers, air raids, politics, sickness, and furloughs are all discussed in Plunkett’s diary and the letters to his mother and sister. The photographs alone make the collection valuable, but having the documentation of Plunkett’s diary and letters help understand his experience firsthand.

JFK in Fargo, 1960

SHSND MSS 11075



(from left) Fargo lawyer Myron Bright, U.S. Presidential candidate Senator John Kennedy, and Joe Poer, an International Brotherhood of Teamsters official in Fargo, leave the fairgrounds after celebrating Burdick’s birthday. Burdick was running for the U.S. Senate in a special election held 50 days later. He defeated incumbent Governor John Davis in the second-closest U.S. Senate race in North Dakota history, surpassed only by the epic 1974 contest between U.S. Senator Milton Young and former Governor William Guy, which Young won by 186 votes out of nearly 240,000 cast.

New to the Collections

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SHSND MSS 11075

(l to r) Frances "Fritzie" Bright, her husband, Myron Bright, and U.S. Senator Quentin Burdick with President Lyndon B. Johnson at the White House in June 1968, at the time of Bright's confirmation as a judge on the U.S. Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.



SHSND MSS 11075

U.S. Representative Quentin Burdick (D-ND) speaks to the crowd at the Red River Valley fairgrounds celebrating his 52nd birthday June 19, 1960. In the front row, from left, are U.S. Senator John F. Kennedy (D-MA), U.S. Senator Stuart Symington (D-MO), Governor John Burns (D-HI), Quentin's father and former U.S. Representative Usher Burdick, and Manny Marget, a well-known Fargo radio personality and master of ceremonies.

SHSND MSS 11086

Feb. 19--Big air battle. We have to take our trenches. Boched used British signals and Britishers light up field thinking it was their own planes. Boche Bomb hell out of them, injured 5. Lt. Argusinger balls me out for singing during an air raid. Boche used their machine guns on searchlights. Fly real low over our field but our men are not allowed to fire. 8 Boche. Feb. 20--British abandon Ochey and stay with us over night. Quiet tonight.

This excerpt from Plunkett's diary was originally written in Toul, France in 1918. Several references are made about the "Boche," a derogatory French word for the Germans. His handwritten diary entries were later typed, as shown here.

SHSND MSS 11086-3701



The badly damaged village of Richecourt in northeast France in 1918 or 1919.

SHSND MSS 11086-58



A German zeppelin hangar, probably France, circa 1918.

New to the Collections

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SHSND MSS I108609.04



A group of soldiers having fun in various Allied and Central Powers uniforms in France, circa 1918.

SHSND MSS I108645.01



Fighting in the trenches in France, circa 1918. (l to r) Sergeant James E. Lavell of Freeport, Illinois (4), Sergeant Major Leroy R. McKenzie of Summerville, Oregon (1); Sergeant James J. Selvage of Minneapolis, Minnesota (3); and Sergeant Pat E. Mannix of Indianapolis, Indiana (2).

SHSND MSS I108684.05



Happy American doughboys shipping home from Europe, late April or early May 1919.

SHSND MSS I108635



Members of the 1st Air Depot in France, 1919. The "X" is over the head of Joseph Walter Plunkett.

Gardening in North Dakota Project, Germans From Russia Heritage Collection Are National Award Recipients

By Rick Collin

A project centered around the *Gardening in North Dakota* exhibit produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) has been named a national award recipient by the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH). The other North Dakota award winner is the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at North Dakota State University. The Heritage Collection is a longtime partner of the SHSND, involved in a variety of projects with the state's history agency over the years.

Gardening in North Dakota has been selected as a recipient of the AASLH's Award of Merit. The Award of Merit is presented to recognize excellence for projects, individual achievement, and organizational general excellence.

The **Germans from Russia Heritage Collection**, in addition to being named a recipient of the Award of Merit, was also selected as a WOW Award winner. The WOW Award is given to an Award of Merit winner whose nomination is, to quote the AASLH, "highly inspirational, exhibits exceptional scholarship, and/or is exceedingly entrepreneurial in terms of funding, partnerships, or collaborations, creative problem solving, or unusual project design and inclusiveness." Only three WOW Awards were given this year.

The AASLH Annual Awards Program, now in its 66th year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history.

The *Gardening in North Dakota* project started with an exhibit idea that developed into a concise history of gardening in North Dakota. The exhibit tells the story of about 900 years of gardening in what would become North Dakota, beginning when American Indians began cultivating corn, squash, sunflowers, and beans along the Missouri and other river systems in the state. Barbara Handy-Marchello, associate history professor emerita of the University of North Dakota, extensively researched the exhibit's content. SHSND staff selected artifacts, photographs, documents, and recordings from the Society's collections to interpret North Dakota gardening in various mediums. Dispersed via the web, print, and traveling exhibits, this shared story has reached a wide audience.

By the time it ends its two-year exhibition at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck December 5, about 200,000 visitors will have viewed *Gardening in North Dakota*. It's estimated that an additional 250,000 will see it as it travels around the state as part of the SHSND's popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits for North Dakota (TIES)

This is one of the vibrant Oscar H. Will Seed Company images featured in the *Gardening in North Dakota* exhibit, which ends its two-year run at the North Dakota Heritage Center December 5. This is the back cover of the 1909 catalog.



program during the next several years. After that, the exhibit panels will be repackaged as a display that can be borrowed by educational organizations such as local historical societies, libraries, and state parks.

From the State Archives came over a century's worth of Oscar H. Will and Seed Company catalogs. The scanned catalog covers were turned into a small supporting exhibit, used on original products for the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store, and highlighted in *North Dakota History*, the quarterly journal of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The Archives also provided historic gardening posters distributed by the government that were scanned and developed into a separate TIES exhibit – *Seeds of Victory: Home Gardening Posters from the World Wars*. *North Dakota History* dedicated an issue (Vol. 76 Nos. 1 & 2) to the topic, with articles about seedman George Will and North Dakota horticulturist Dr. Albert Yaeger.

The Germans from Russia Heritage Collection was cited for its exceptional work in preserving and sharing the culture of Germans from Russia on the Northern Plains. Its founding director and bibliographer is Michael Miller, who has been a librarian and faculty member at North Dakota State University since 1967. Since its inception in 1978, this specialized archives has become one of the most comprehensive collections of German-Russian resources in the world. As a North Dakota and German-Russian ambassador, Miller conducts annual Journey to the Homeland heritage tours to Ukraine and Germany. For more information about the Germans from Russia Collection, visit its website at <http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc>.

This year's winners were honored at an awards banquet September 16 during the AASLH's annual meeting in Richmond, Virginia.

New Officers for State Historical Board Elected

By Rick Collin

Gereld Gerntholz of Valley City has been elected by fellow board members as president of the State Historical Board. The board oversees the operations of the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Calvin Grinnell of New Town has been elected vice president, and Art Todd III of Jamestown has been elected secretary. Their two-year terms as board officers end June 30, 2013.

Governor Jack Dalrymple also reappointed Diane Larson. The three-year appointment was effective July 1.

Larson, a youth worker with the Bismarck police department, is a former state legislator. She has served since July 1, 1999, and previously served on the State Historical Board from March 1993 to July 1997.

The new State Historical Board officers began their duties at the Board's summer meeting July 8 at the International Peace Garden near Dunseith. Board members also were given a guided tour of the Peace Garden following its meeting at the interpretive center.

Gerntholz is a former state legislator and retired farmer. A retired colonel with the North Dakota Army National Guard, he has served on the State Historical Board since July 1, 2003, and was reappointed by then-Governor

Hoeven in 2006, and again in 2009.

Grinnell is a historian who works in the Tribal Veterans Affairs Office for the Three Affiliated Tribes in New Town. He is the cultural preservation resource specialist for the Three Affiliated Tribes, and has more than 30 years of professional experience in cultural preservation, communications, and public relations. Grinnell served several years on the North Dakota Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Advisory Committee, and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Review Board. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, he has served on the State Historical Board since July 1, 2009.

Todd, a former state senator and a supervisor at Lucas Aerospace in Jamestown before his retirement, has served since July 1, 1993. He is also active as a reenactor frontier army officer, with the rank of major in the 20th Infantry Regiment of Jamestown.

Other members of the State Historical Board are Albert Berger of Grand Forks; Sara Otte Coleman, State Tourism Director; Al Jaeger, Secretary of State; Richard Kloubec of Fargo; Chester E. Nelson, Jr., of Bismarck; Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer; Francis Zeigler, State Transportation Director; and Mark Zimmerman, State Parks and Recreation Director.

Transition

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND



The new president of the State Historical Board, Gereld Gerntholz (right) sits with outgoing board president Chester E. Nelson, Jr., during a break at the July 8 board meeting at the International Peace Garden on the Canadian border.

Summer Sights at the Sites

Photographs by Ann Jenks, SHSND



Participants on the July 30 Killdeer Mountain History Hike visited the site of the 1864 Battle of Killdeer Mountain, where U.S. Army troops attacked groups of the Dakota, Nakota, and Lakota (Sioux) nations camped there. These two images show the group climbing to the top of the Medicine Hole. American Indian oral tradition says many of the village's inhabitants escaped to safety through this opening at the top of Killdeer Mountain. (inset) Tour guide Chris Johnson, SHSND Museum Division Director, (far right) explains the story.

The summer of 2011 was a busy time at the historic sites and museums managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), as captured in these statewide snapshots:

Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND



Youngsters enjoy an old-fashioned potato sack race at the dedication ceremony for the restored Northern Pacific Railroad steam locomotive and its shelter July 9 at Camp Hancock State Historic Site in Bismarck.

Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND



The August 14 Ice Cream Social at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site in Bismarck drew a crowd that enjoyed the entertainment and refreshments, including these young fans in their stage-side seats as they watched the performance by *Midnight Noise Orchestra*. The members of the band are, from left, SHSND Research Archaeologist Timothy Reed on bass; Matt Weaver on percussion; and Derrick Mitchell on guitar and vocals. All are from Bismarck-Mandan.

Summer Sights



The 321st Strategic Missile Wing Reunion was held August 4-6. Some crew members who served in the 1980s gathered around the Command Console in the Launch Control Center at the preserved Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility, which is part of the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown, North Dakota. From left, Dave Eaton, Niceville, Florida; Philip Parnell, Grand Forks, North Dakota; Mark Turcotte, Kathleen, Georgia; David Leitch, LaGrange, Ohio; and Larry Thompkins, West Des Moines, Iowa. Part of the Grand Forks Air Force Base, the 321st Missile Wing was active from 1965 to 1997.

Photograph by Mark Sundlov, SFSND

Photograph by Delores Linn, SFSND



Girls from the Dakota Horizons Girl Scout Troop # 83152 volunteered to help in Chimney Park, part of the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site in Medora, as a way to earn one of their Girl Scout badges. The group of eight scouts and two leaders worked August 8, painting 97 of the 432 posts that needed painting.

The Mark and Maxine Delorme family of Belcourt, North Dakota read one of the new interpretive panels at the Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site near Walhalla. The family is related to Antoine Gingras through the lineage of Angelique and Joseph Delorme. Angelique was the third child of Antoine Gingras (1821-77), a prominent fur trader and Métis legislator whose holdings included trading posts in northern Dakota Territory and southern Manitoba.



Photograph by Melanie Thornberg

at the Sites

The Rhythm Riderz Singers and drum group performs at the 19th Annual Education Field Day held September 12 at Fort Totten State Historic Site. Each year, the event draws several hundred area students, who learn about frontier military life, boarding school trades, and American Indian culture.



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND



Sitting Bull's great-grandson Ernie LaPointe and his wife, Sonja, performed at Fort Buford State Historic Site July 17 in a program marking the 130th anniversary of Sitting Bull's surrender at the site.

Photograph by Kerry Finscaas, SHSND

Presenter Chuck Keller of Bismarck (far left), teaches students from Gackle-Streeter Public School, Willow Bank Colony School near Edgeley, and homeschool children how to communicate over distances with signal flags at the 12th Annual Education Field Day held August 26 at Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site in southeastern North Dakota.

SOCIETY NEWS

Flood Devastation

The flood waters of the Souris River caused extensive damage to the Ward County Historical Society's Pioneer Village buildings and collections in Minot this summer, with losses estimated to be at least \$2.5 million. Sixteen of its 17 buildings were heavily damaged, including the ones shown in this July 23 photograph. SHSND employees and personnel from other organizations nationwide have visited the grounds to determine what is salvageable. Funding sources are being identified to help the Ward County Historical Society in its efforts to recover from the flood damages. Note the brown waterlines on the buildings that reach near the top of the doorways.

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND



North Dakota Black Gold



Oil Pump Tie

\$29.95

Oil Pump T-shirts

\$19.95 (Small to XL)

\$21.95 (XXL and XXXL)

Oil Pump Coffee Mug

\$11.95

Oil Pump Cards

\$3.50

Oil Pump Magnet

\$2.95

Oil Pump Clock

\$36.95

Oil Derrick Clock

\$36.95

Available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store, visit www.history.nd.gov/museumstore, or contact Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or email at museumstore@nd.gov.

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North Dakota State Historical Board: Gereld Gerntholz, *Valley City*, President; Calvin Grinnell, *New Town*, Vice President; A. Ruric Todd III, *Jamestown*,

Secretary; Albert I. Berger, *Grand Forks*; Sara Otte Coleman, Department of Commerce, Tourism Division; Alvin A. Jaeger, Secretary of State; Richard Kloubec, *Fargo*; Diane K. Larson, *Bismarck*; Chester E. Nelson, Jr., *Bismarck*; Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer; Francis G. Ziegler, Director, Department of Transportation; Mark A. Zimmerman, Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

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