



# Plains Talk

## North Dakota Heritage Center

### Expansion Exhibit Firms Hired

By Bonnie T. Johnson

The State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) has hired Great Plains Exhibit Development Joint Venture to assist Society staff in designing, developing, and installing exhibits in the new galleries now under construction as part of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project. The exhibit contract was signed November 14, followed by a week of exhibit visioning workshops by Great Plains, SHSND staff, and volunteers.

The **Heritage Center expansion** is expected to be structurally complete in the spring of 2013, and construction is now about 23 percent complete. The 2009 Legislative Assembly authorized \$51.7 million for the project. Of this, \$39.7 million in state funds was appropriated. The remaining funds are being raised by the SHSND Foundation. The amount includes up to \$7.7 million for exhibit construction, which covers 33,093 square feet of exhibit space.

Gallery openings will be staggered, with *The*  
*continued on page 2*

Volume 42, Number 4 - Winter 2011



Photographs by Brian R. Austin, SHSND



Work on the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center continues on schedule. (left) A construction crew stands ready in the early morning of December 7 to install horizontal steel beams, the framework for the *Early Peoples Gallery*, which will tell the story from the end of the last Ice Age about 12,000 years ago to the creation of Dakota Territory in 1861. Looming in the background is the 19-story state capitol tower. (right) As the morning sky brightens, the crew begins installing the horizontal beams.

## \$60,000 for Flood Recovery

### \$223,000 in Grants Awarded by State Historical Society

By Amy Munson

Twenty-seven organizations and homeowners throughout North Dakota are the recipients of \$223,000 in cultural heritage grants and special funding grants from the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Included in this amount is \$60,000 in flood relief grants, which

have been designated as special funding grants. A total of 50 organizations and homeowners statewide applied for the grants from the state's history agency, requesting a total of \$517,000.

Under the guidelines, a maximum of \$15,000 is available per grant, with a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. That match may be either cash or

in-kind services. Funding for these grants was approved by the 2011 Legislative Assembly.

The following are the organizations awarded grants, the amounts they received, and a brief description of their projects:

*continued on page 5*

## Expansion Exhibit

continued from page 1

*Geologic Time Gallery* opening first in the spring of 2013, *The Early Peoples Gallery* later that summer, followed by *The Inspiration Gallery*, which will be finished in phases over several months. A fourth gallery, *The Governors Gallery*, will be primarily for large temporary exhibits and is not included in the exhibit contract. The expansion's completion date is scheduled for North Dakota's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of statehood on November 2, 2014.

**Great Plains Exhibit Development** consists of three well-known exhibit firms: Lord Cultural Resources, Taylor Studios, and Xibitz, Inc. The firms have previously collaborated on projects ranging from the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas to the Army Museum of Singapore and the National Archaeological Museum of Aruba.

Lord Cultural Resources is the world's largest and oldest museum planning firm, with major offices in Toronto, New York, and Paris. They have worked with some of the world's most prestigious museums, including the Louvre in Paris, the Tate Modern in London, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Maria Piacente, vice president of exhibitions with Lord, will be Great Plains Exhibit Development's lead project

manager for the new Heritage Center exhibit galleries. Piacente is completing work as the project manager on the Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza, which, when completed in 2013, will be the largest museum in Egypt. Lord will mainly focus on concept development and overall project management for the Heritage Center project. Taylor Studios and Xibitz will do additional design development as well as the fabrication and installation of the project.

Taylor Studios of Rantoul, Illinois, recently worked on both the Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site Interpretive Center exhibits near Fargo (completed in 2008) and the Fort Totten State Historic Site Interpretive Center exhibits near Devils Lake (completed in 2011) with State Historical Society staff. Taylor is especially well known in the museum world for its natural history and scenic projects, including the diorama accompanying the recently restored Cyclorama at Gettysburg National Military Park.

**Xibitz, Inc., of Grand Rapids, Michigan**, specializes in finely-finished exhibit components for museums and other public-use settings. Xibitz's recent projects in the Midwest include the Swedish-American Heritage Center in Rockford, Illinois; The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan; the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa; and the National Czech and Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, working with Lord on several of these. Xibitz and Taylor Studios have a long history of working together on

## The Four Exhibit Galleries

Three new galleries are being constructed in the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center, and the current Main Gallery is being redesigned.

These galleries are:

- **The Geologic Time Gallery** will feature more than 500 million years of North Dakota history illustrating the earliest life forms up to the last glaciation, about 10,000 years ago. These exhibits, which will feature a Magic Globe theater, several dinosaur fossils and much more, will set the stage for the fossil-fuel stories of North Dakota's oil and coal industries. They will explain the landscape and soils that would shape the state's agricultural future.
- **The Early Peoples Gallery** will cover more than 10,000 years of the earliest human history in what is now North Dakota. When the Giza pyramids in Egypt and pre-Columbian civilizations of South America flourished, so did American Indian civilizations in North Dakota. The gallery will highlight early occupation and exploration up to the establishment of Dakota Territory in 1861.
- **The Inspiration Gallery** is the current Main Gallery, and will present the last 150 years of the state's history. It will investigate opportunities, innovations, decisions, and outcomes through captivating stories about North Dakota's resources, industries, events, and peoples.
- **The Governors Gallery** will host temporary and traveling exhibits, creating regional and world-class blockbuster events.

This gallery will provide an opportunity to bring the world to North Dakota and share the state with other museums throughout the nation and world.

The exhibit galleries will feature the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, new media kiosks, learning labs, and hands-on activities that offer all visitors – school groups, families, and tourists – exciting and authentic experiences.



Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND

*Members of the Great Plains Exhibit Development Joint Venture team take a break during the November 16 visioning workshop held with State Historical Society staff at the North Dakota Heritage Center. (l to r) James Bruer, exhibit designer, Lord Cultural Resources; Erich Zuern, production manager, Xibitz, Inc.; and Catherine Molineux, exhibit planner; Yvonne Tang, exhibit planner; and Maria Piacente, project manager, all with Lord Cultural Resources. Not pictured is Jason Cox, art director, Taylor Studios.*



many diverse projects and will be working closely on the actual exhibit fabrication for the Heritage Center galleries. Team members from all three companies recently completed working together on the National Archaeological Museum of Aruba, which is located in the Caribbean.

**“This is not a client-consultant relationship, but a team approach. We will be sharing the responsibility of the project, and together we will be able to provide a complete experience for the visitor.”**

— Maria Piacente, project manager,  
Great Plains Exhibit Development Venture

“We know how important this is to North Dakota, and are privileged to have been selected to work on this project,” said Piacente. “This is not a client-consultant relationship, but a team approach. We will be sharing the responsibility of the project, and together we will be able to provide a complete experience for the visitor.”

Representatives of Great Plains Development Joint Venture have already been working with SHSND staff and volunteers in visioning workshops.

“The purpose of the intense week of meetings in mid-November was to develop the overall interpretive plan for the three main galleries,” said SHSND Museums Director Chris Johnson, “and then we’ll work on more specific plans for each gallery.” Johnson is Piacente’s counterpart as the lead project manager for the State Historical Society. The November 15-18 workshops included time spent looking at national and international trends in museum exhibition, historical context, usage, and aesthetics of objects currently in the collections of the SHSND, as well as the best ways to tell the stories in each of the three galleries.

Other Great Plains representatives at the workshops were Erich Zuern of Xibitz, Jason Cox of Taylor, and James Bruer, Yvonne Tang, and Catherine Molineux, all of Lord.

“The ideas that were generated during the week of visioning are exciting and so creative,” said Piacente.

A specific challenge that generated excitement during the workshops is the last phase of the project, according to Johnson. “We’ll be telling stories dealing with the start of World War II to the present time that really haven’t been discussed in our museum before.”

Sometime this winter or early spring, the Joint Venture and SHSND team will begin taking conceptual plans on the road throughout North Dakota for public comment. Johnson expects that by summertime they will have developed more detailed plans for each gallery.

## Legislative Tour

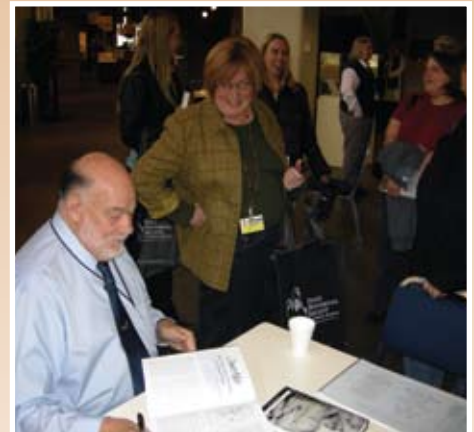


Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

North Dakota legislators were given a tour of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project November 9. They are in the area that will be the future archaeology collections storage space. Back row, l to r: Senator Lonnie Laffen (R-Grand Forks), SHSND Foundation Development Director Marlo Sveen, Comstock Construction Site Superintendent Shawn O’Leary, Comstock Construction Project Manager Jason Flack, North Dakota Facility Management Director John Boyle, and SHSND Director Merl Paaverud. Front row, l to r: SHSND Expansion and New Initiatives Coordinator Claudia Berg, Representative Karen Karls (R-Bismarck), newest member of the State Historical Board Margaret (Peggy) Puetz of Bismarck, Senator Judy Lee (R-West Fargo), and Joan Von Rueden of Bismarck.

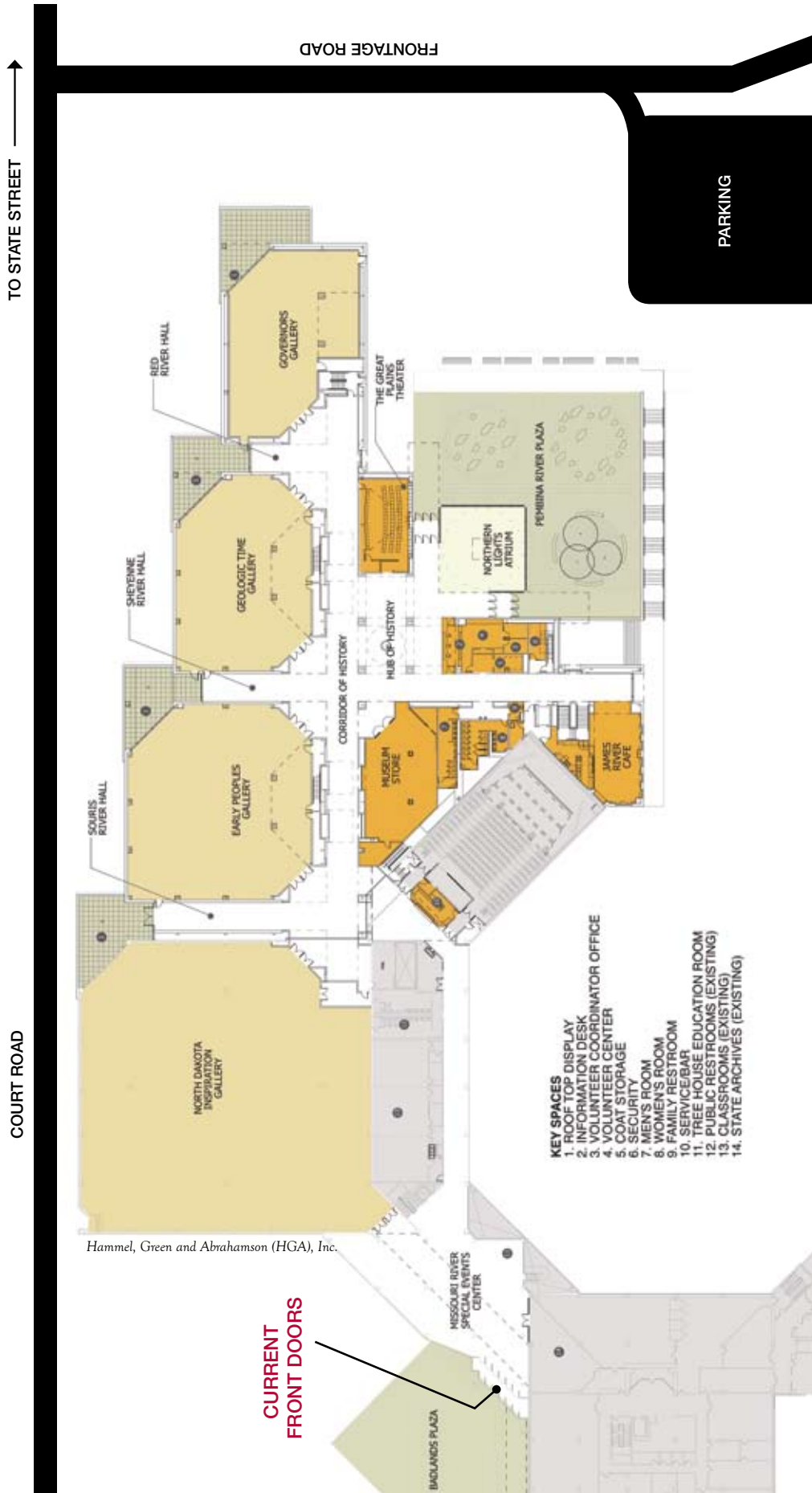
## Wood Program, Booksigning

Eminent scholar and author W. Raymond Wood, who has spent his professional life studying the archaeology and history of the central and northern Plains, presented a *Sensational Sundays* program hosted by the State Historical Society at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Here he signs his recent article on fur trader



James Kipp in *North Dakota History* for Kathy Davison, editor of the Society’s quarterly journal. Wood’s November 13 program focused on the Letter Books of the American Fur Company and their value to new investigations of the fur trade on the Northern Plains. Letter Books exist for three Upper Missouri fur trading posts: Forts Tecumseh, Pierre Chouteau, and Union, spanning most of the period 1830 to 1850. The books consist of copies of letters written by the bourgeois of the posts to their officers and subordinates. Wood also signed copies of his latest books, *Fort Clark and its Indian Neighbors: A Trading Post on the Upper Missouri*, and *A White-Bearded Plainsman: The Memoirs of Archaeologist W. Raymond Wood*.

# North Dakota Heritage Center Expansion Floor Plan



Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), Inc.

This map details the layout of the public level for the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion, including the four galleries.



## Grants Awarded

continued from page 1

- **Bagg Bonanza Farm Historic Preservation Society, Wahpeton** - Stabilization of the main house - \$14,000
- **Dakota Buttes Historical Society, Hettinger** - Phase II: Installation of dehumidifier, sump pump, and other interior weatherization - \$10,000
- **Fargo Park District, Fargo** - 2012 Celtic Festival - \$2,000
- **Goose River Heritage Center, Mayville** - Lighting upgrades to museum - \$4,890
- **Gorges Arts Council, Walhalla** - Phase II: Reroofing of the Walhalla Theater - \$10,700
- **Grand Forks County Historical Society, Grand Forks** - Myra Museum exhibit planning - \$6,000
- **Grant County Historical Society, Carson** - Rehabilitation of barbershop building - \$1,120
- **Griggs County Historical Society, Cooperstown** - Restoration of the 1915 CASE steam engine - \$2,200
- **Historic Alderman School Association, Valley City** - Shingling school building - \$2,135
- **LaMoure County Summer Musical Theatre, LaMoure** - Phase II: Repairs to the LaMoure County Summer Musical Theatre - \$20,000
- **New Salem Historical Society, New Salem** - Documenting Daily Life in North Dakota - \$5,000
- **Oliver County Historical Society, Center** - Rehabilitation of buildings for exhibits - \$10,000
- **Preservation North Dakota, Fargo** - Prairie Places Festival - \$3,000
- **Save Coghlan Castle, Rolla** - Stone restoration and tuck pointing - \$10,000
- **Steele County Historical Society** - Baldwin Arcade exterior painting - \$4,635
- **Three Tribes Museum, New Town** - Mandan Language and Oral History Preservation Project - \$8,700
- **Touchstones, Inc., Bottineau** - Restoration of the Stone Bank - \$15,000
- **Tri County Tourism Alliance, Emmons, Logan and McIntosh Counties** - Developing a Germans from Russia Cookbook - \$5,000
- **Wells County Fairgrounds, Fessenden** - Phase III: Large grandstand rehabilitation painting - \$12,000
- **Owners of 102 9<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Minot** - Electrical, sheetrock, painting of exterior - \$9,300
- **Owners of 122 9<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Minot** - Replace hardwood floor and trim - \$9,300
- **Owners of 213 7<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Minot** - Boiler installation - \$4,095
- **Owners of 426 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Minot** - Rewire basement, insulation, drywall, paint exterior, and replace woodwork - \$9,300
- **Owners of 911 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE, Minot** - Home rehabilitation - \$9,300
- **Berean Baptist Church, Minot** - Heating, basement windows, ceiling, lights water heater, sheetrock - \$9,300
- **St. Peter Church and St. Mary Church, Minot** - Rehabilitation - \$9,300

This is the first of two grant rounds for the 2011-13 biennium. In the second round, about \$160,000 in cultural heritage grants and \$60,000 in special funding grants to assist flood damaged historic properties will be available. The application announcement for that second round will be made in February 2012.

For more information, contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota's Grants and Contracts Officer, Amy Munson, at 701.328.3573 or email at [amunson@nd.gov](mailto:amunson@nd.gov).

## Billboards Beckon Travelers



Two new designs are now featured on billboards promoting the North Dakota Heritage Center, encouraging travelers to visit the state's history museum in Bismarck to learn about attractions statewide. The four billboards are located along Highway 83 near Minot and Interstate 94 near Dickinson, Jamestown, and Mapleton in North Dakota. Funding for the billboards was approved by the 2011 Legislative Assembly. They will be up through the 2011-13 biennium, and perhaps beyond, depending on future funding.

With the record-breaking flooding throughout the state this spring and summer, the SHSND also set aside from the Cultural Heritage Grant program \$120,000 in special grants that are specifically designated to assist with recovery efforts of historic properties affected by the flooding throughout the state. The first round to award up to \$60,000 was held in August 2011, and the following grants were awarded:

The Collections

# North Dakota Heritage Center Expansion Project

By Claudia Berg

What makes a museum visit different from other interesting and entertaining experiences? It is the collections – the pieces of history that represent real North Dakota stories and people. A museum is not only a place to exhibit and interpret these real things; it is a place that takes care of these items for generations to come.

Many of the items in the collections, much like people, do not respond well to being exposed to extreme heat, cold, humidity, or sunshine. A dress, photograph, or plant specimen, if damaged, is permanently changed. Part of the State Historical Society's mission, and the responsibility of several of its staff, is to care for the collections that represent a wide variety of materials. Some of these materials require very different storage conditions.

The ideal method to care for many items in our collections is to keep them in secure, dark, temperature- and humidity-controlled rooms. The collections storage areas in the North Dakota Heritage Center were designed to create such state-of-the-art conditions.

Moving picture film, such as 8 or 16mm film, becomes unstable with age. Once transferred to a digital format, the original is frozen for long-term preservation. Newspapers become brittle over time and easily damaged with repeated handling. They are microfilmed and made available

to hundreds of researchers across the state and country. Tipi covers and quilts are often rolled on large tubes and suspended to prevent the weight of the material from causing creases and permanent folds. Metal objects should be handled with gloves to prevent the acid residue left from fingerprints etch-

**The importance of preserving objects for future generations is evident in this comment:**

*“Thank you for letting us come to the Heritage Center. I really liked to see the dinosaur bones. I liked them because I never saw a dinosaur. From Mandie.”*

—A first grader from Prairie Rose Elementary School, Bismarck Public Schools District.

ing into the metal. Reconstructed pottery, hundreds of years old, or reconstructed, fossilized animal skeletons require specialized methods and materials to support these rare and delicate specimens in storage and on exhibit.

Keeping everything in storage is not realistic. Items were accepted into the collections for preservation but also for interpretation, and that includes exhibition. Objects are used in exhibits at the Heritage Center and at 10 state historic sites, loaned to other

institutions, and photographed for illustrations in publications worldwide.

Providing the best care will ensure their longevity. To ensure loaned objects are properly cared for by other institutions, a stringent set of requirements must be agreed to. These conditions, which include climate-controlled environments, insurance, trained staff, and proper exhibition techniques, are also the best practices that the State Historical Society follows when exhibiting collections within its facilities. Because of extensive security systems, environmental controls, and trained staff, the Heritage Center is also a federal repository for North Dakota; it is the only facility of its kind in the state.

**For photographs of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion construction project, visit the SHSND's website at [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov) and click on Heritage Center Expansion Project.**

SHSND 86.139.1-3



A specialized armature was handcrafted to support the pottery pieces of a clay pot. The exhibit technique is used to help the visitor visualize the original shape and size of this clay vessel that is more than 600 years old.



Photographs by Claudia Berg, SHSND



The popular gun vault at the North Dakota Heritage Center, made of thick concrete walls, holds all the firearms and ammunition in the State Historical Society's collections in isolation. The Heritage Center's new exhibits will feature an impressive selection of these firearms.



Mobile storage systems allow for best use of space and are designed to accommodate different types of collections. The rows of boxed archaeological specimens are 10 feet tall and 32 feet long; each row may weigh up to 35,000 pounds. Floor load engineering includes the ability to carry in concentrated areas very heavy loads to store paper records, archaeological specimens of stone, bone, and metal, or geological collections of fossilized bone.

**The power of an object can influence a child for a lifetime. Many visitors continue to share their fond memories of visiting the State Historical Society's museum at the North Dakota Heritage Center:**

*"Growing up in rural North Dakota in the 1960s was completely different from today, with much more limited sources of information (no cable television, cell phones, or internet). On rare occasions, my family made a trip to Bismarck where the highlight of the trip for me was a visit to the museum at the Capitol.*

*At the museum, we saw glimpses of the past, and even seemingly saw into part of the future when one of the Gemini capsules was on display on the Capitol grounds. These experiences helped awaken a thirst for learning, with expanded horizons, and an awareness of how the history of North Dakota fit in with the rest of the world.*

*The expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center will look deeper into the past, and open our minds up to the future, and continue to educate and inspire the residents and visitors of North Dakota."*

— Jerrold N. Mayer grew up in rural Stutsman County and has lived in Colorado since 1979. He maintains his ties to the museum through his SHSND Foundation membership and as a major contributor to the expansion project.

## Awards Honor History Achievements

By Rick Collin

Awards honoring individual and group achievements in history were presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History October 28 in Bismarck. The conference was sponsored by the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

The 2011 recipient of the State Historical Society's Excellence in Local History Award was **Merle Clark** of Marmarth. This award is given to those whose activity in local and regional history serves as a role model of excellence to others.

Clark serves on the Bowman County Historical Society board and the Genealogical Society board and is active as well with the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame. He came back to settle in Marmarth in southwestern North Dakota after continuing a family tradition of being a world-class rodeo bronc rider. He helps with paleontological digs and has opened some of his land to digs. He is an active supporter of the Pioneer Trails Regional Museum in Bowman, including loaning some of his historical artifacts for exhibit, helping staff the museum, and donating his time as an auctioneer.

Receiving the 2011 Association for Excellence in Local History Award were the **Griggs County Historical Society** and **The Friends of Fort Union/Fort Buford**. This award is given to the as-

sociation/organization whose activity in local and regional history serves as a role model of excellence to others.

The Griggs County Historical Society in Cooperstown is a model of excellence for historic and cultural organizations. When the State Historical Society of North Dakota opened its new Cold War missile site near Cooperstown in July 2009, the Griggs County Historical Society's first major initiative was the development of the Northern Plains Cold War Interpretive Center. They envisioned a center that would tell a more complete history of North Dakota's role in the Cold War, as well as supporting the scope of the newly-opened Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site. The Griggs County Historical Society purchased a building adjacent to their Griggs County Museum building.

**Then, through fundraising** and grants, they quickly transformed the building into a professional-level museum facility complete with an environmental control system and other necessary features. They created exhibits by using discarded materials from other museums, developing new interpretive panels, and investing in interactive technologies. They also recognized the importance of increasing the professionalism of their operations and developing a plan for the future. To begin that process, they enrolled in "StEPs," or Standards and Excellence

Program for History Organizations. This is a voluntary, national assessment program for small and mid-sized history organizations administered by the American Association of State and Local History to encourage awareness and achievement of professional museum standards. The Griggs County Historical Society and Griggs County Museum led the way as the first museum in the state to enroll in the program.

**Established in 1984**, The Friends of Fort Union/Fort Buford have consistently been stalwart champions of these two nationally important historic sites in northwest North Dakota, located near the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers. The Friends' initial project was to work to launch the reconstruction of Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site. They served as the catalyst and local engine to tell the significance of this site. Building on local interests and communicating the story on a grander scale, they soon convinced a national audience of the importance of Fort Union. The Friends not only told the story, they personally and collectively donated and raised funds to assure the success of this \$4.5 million reconstruction project, which began in 1985 and was completed in 1991. A second significant project was the \$2.2 million construction of the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center and \$800,000 reconstruction of the frontier army barracks at Fort Buford



(From l to r) Griggs County Historical Society Board President Orville Tranby of Cooperstown (l) and Friends of Fort Union/Fort Buford Board Chairman Greg Hennessy of Williston (r) accept the Association for Excellence in Local History Award from Secretary of State and State Historical Board member Al Jaeger. Gail and Allan Lynch of Dunn Center accept the National Historic Landmark Award for the Lynch Quarry Site in Dunn County from SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger.

Photographs by Susan Holland



State Historic Site. Again this group communicated the story, the need, and the significance of this state historic site. The Friends worked hard to complement and share the work of the State Historical Society of North Dakota and many other partners. A fundraising effort was again successfully undertaken to assure a significant local contribution to these two projects. These projects were completed in time for the commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, with the Confluence Center opening in August 2003 and the Fort Buford army barracks opening in May 2004.

Receiving the 2011 Heritage Profile Honor Award was the late **Theodore Jelliff** of Grand Forks (1936-2010). This award is given to those who have made a significant contribution in preserving, interpreting, promoting, researching, or otherwise extending the knowledge and understanding of the history of North Dakota.

Jelliff lived through the Great Depression and the war years, and came of age during the 1950s, witnessing the personal and political changes that the Cold War brought to North Dakota. He dedicated his professional life to helping others understand how these events affected the lives of the people of North Dakota. Jelliff graduated from Grand Forks Central High School and the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where he earned two degrees in political science. He began teaching in Niagara, North Dakota, then went back to his alma mater, Grand Forks Central High, where he taught U.S. government. He joined the faculty of Red River High School in 1967.

**Thousands of students learned** from Jelliff's passion for politics and history, many going on to college inspired by his enthusiasm in the classroom. Following his retirement in 1993, Jelliff joined the Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission, serving until 2010, and was also director of the Grand Forks County Historical Society.

During the 1997 flood and recovery period in Grand Forks, Jelliff's voice was in the thick of the many wrenching architectural heritage decisions the city encountered. He put a personal face on

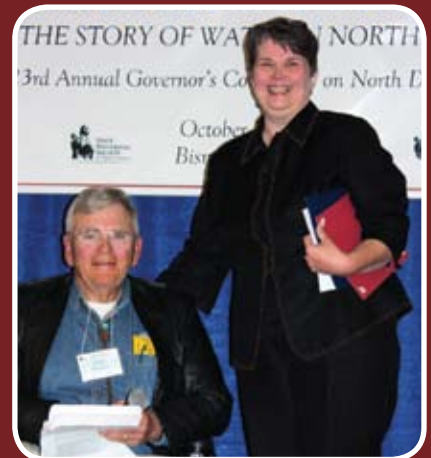
the city's history and his humor lightened many a long meeting. Reminders of his commitment to history are everywhere in Grand Forks. He developed historical exhibits on the Metropolitan Opera House and many other buildings, businesses, and sports. Jelliff also authored several books on North Dakota history, including *North Dakota: A Heritage of a People*, co-authored with University of North Dakota Professor of History D. Jerome Tweton in 1976; *North Dakota: A Living Legacy* in 1983; *North Dakota Legendary*, co-authored with North Dakota Studies Coordinator Neil Howe in 2007; and *The First 100 Years: Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra* in 2009.

**The National Register Award** was presented to the owners of North Dakota properties listed between October 2010 and September 2011 in the National Register of Historic Places, which is the federal government's list of properties it considers worthy of recognition and preservation. Listing in the National Register offers such benefits as eligibility for restoration and stabilization funding, and historic rehabilitation tax credits for commercial buildings. The 2011 recipients were the **Depression Era Work Relief Construction Features at Menoken Indian Village State Historic Site** in Burleigh County; the **Alkabo School** in Alkabo; the **Crystal Springs Fountain** in Kidder County; the **Amphitheater and Fieldstone Works Progress Administration Features at Valley City Pioneer Park** in Valley City; the **Williston High School** in Williston; the **Kegs Drive-In** in Grand Forks; and the **Lower Souris National Wildlife Refuge Airplane Hangar** in McHenry County.

A National Historic Landmark Award was also presented for the **Lynch Quarry Site** in Dunn County. It is the location of the largest flint quarry site in North America. Quarried for more than 11,000 years by American Indians, Knife River flint was used for tools, weapons, and barter. National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because



Merle Clark receives the Excellence in Local History Award from SHSND Director Merl Paaverud.



Peg O'Leary of Grand Forks accepts the Heritage Profile Honor Award, given to the late Theodore Jelliff, from State Historical Board member Chester E. Nelson, Jr.

they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Less than 2,500 historic places have this national distinction.

The winner of the 2011 Editor's Award for best article during the preceding year in *North Dakota History*, the State Historical Society's quarterly journal, were Drs. David B. Danbom and Karen R. Danbom. David Danbom recently retired as professor emeritus of history at North Dakota State University in Fargo. Karen Danbom is professor emerita of early childhood education at Minnesota State University Moorhead. The Danboms were honored for their article "Survival through Adaptation: The Fargo Nursery School, 1933-1965," which appeared in Volume 76.3 & 4 of *North Dakota History*.



By the SHSND

# 1890s Missouri River Map Republished

By Kathleen Davison

*“Beginning at the mouth of the Missouri, you will take careful observations of latitude & longitude, at all remarkable points on the river.”*

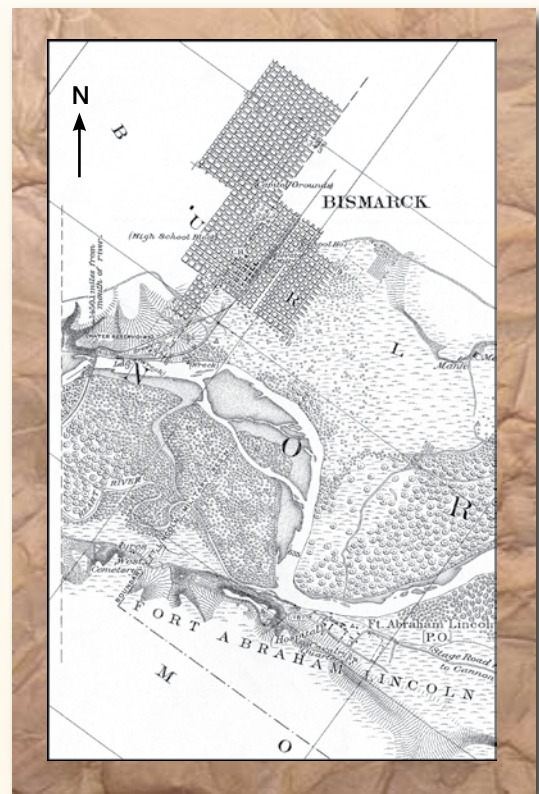
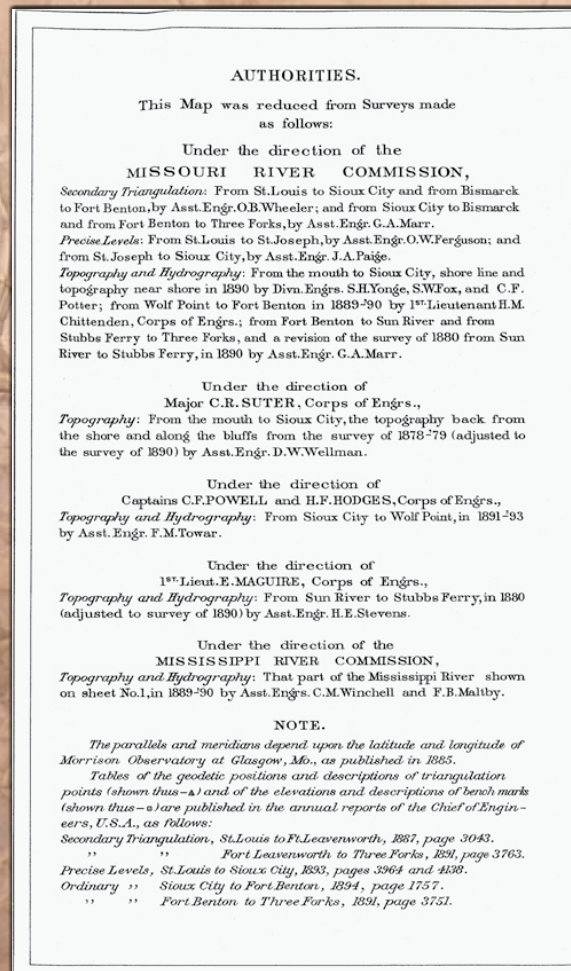
– President Thomas Jefferson to Meriwether Lewis, 1804.

The importance of the Missouri River to transportation and commerce was recognized by the United States as soon as the region became U.S. territory, as shown by President Jefferson’s instructions to Meriwether Lewis. The Corps of Discovery’s mapmaker, William Clark, surveyed not just the location of significant points on the river, but noted snags, sandbars, and other navigational difficulties. Later U.S. expeditions, such as the Atkinson-O’Fallon Expedition of 1825-26, also mapped the river and its surroundings. It was under the auspices of the Missouri River Commission, however, that detailed maps of the Missouri River and its valley were published in 1892 to 1895. In all a total of 84 map sheets were created, with 15 sheets covering the Missouri in North Dakota. These 15 plats were surveyed between June 1891 and November 1892.

Along with water depth soundings, these topographical maps record elevation above the river’s mouth and the exact river mileage, and pinpoint sandbars and currents and even some sunken riverboats. They provide exacting maps of the natural environment, including the surrounding floodplain, as well as the tributary rivers and creeks joining the Missouri and the bluffs defining the limits of the river valley. The maps also mark the cultural landscape of farms, roads, and villages and towns bordering the river. Done on a scale of one inch to one mile (the present state road map is one inch to 15 miles), they provide one of the most complete and detailed descriptions of the Missouri River in North Dakota as it existed shortly after statehood.

The Missouri River Commission was created in 1884 to encourage navigation on the Missouri River, at a time when steamboat navigation was already yielding to the railroads. In an attempt to reverse this shift, the commission, until it was dissolved in 1902, oversaw efforts by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to remove snags and other navigation impediments and create safe harbors from winter ice. The Commission’s most lasting accomplishment, however, was the creation of detailed maps of the Missouri River.

The maps of the North Dakota section of the Missouri have been used for a number of purposes over the years. Orin G. Libby (1864-1952), secretary of the State Historical Society of North Dakota from 1905 to 1945, used the survey maps as a basis for such projects as Sitting Rabbit’s map of Mandan and Hidatsa village sites, featured in the most recent issue of *North Dakota History*. Early horticulturalist and archaeologist





# MAP OF THE MISSOURI RIVER

From its mouth to Three Forks, Montana,

IN EIGHTY-FOUR SHEETS

Scale, one inch to one mile [63,360]

AND

NINE INDEX SHEETS

Scale, one inch to eight miles [506,880]

Published in 1892-1895

By the

## MISSOURI RIVER COMMISSION

Created by Act of Congress July 5, 1884.

### COMMISSIONERS:

<b>A. MACKENZIE,</b> LT. COL. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., TO JULY 11, 1895.	<b>C. R. SUTER,</b> COL. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., PRESIDENT.	<b>O. H. ERNST,</b> MAJ. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., TO JAN. 8, 1894.
<b>W. J. BROATCH,</b> TO MARCH 3, 1891.	<b>G. C. BROADHEAD,</b> CIVIL ENGINEER.	<b>R. S. BERLIN,</b> FROM MARCH 13, 1891.
<b>C. J. ALLEN,</b> MAJ. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., FROM JAN. 30, 1894.	<b>W. R. KING,</b> LT. COL. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., FROM JULY 11, 1895.	

### SECRETARIES IN CHARGE OF SURVEYS:

<b>W. L. FISK,</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> LIEUT. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., TO AUG. 29, 1885.	<b>T. A. BINGHAM,</b> CAPT. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., FROM AUG. 29, 1885, TO JAN. 9, 1890.
<b>J. C. SANFORD,</b> CAPT. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., MARCH 31, 1880, TO JUNE 9, 1894, & R. SEPT. 27, 1894.	<b>J. F. M<sup>o</sup>INDOE,</b> ADJ. 2 <sup>nd</sup> LIEUT. OF ENGRS., U.S.A., FROM JUNE 20 TO SEPT. 27, 1894.

38624

The Topographical and Hydrographical surveys were made as follows:

LOCALITY	DATE OF SURVEY	NO. OF SHEETS
<b>THREE FORKS TO FORT BENTON:</b>		
Three Forks to Stubbs Ferry	July to Sept., 1890.	83-84
Stubbs Ferry to Sun River	April & May, 1890.	81-77
Sun River to Fort Benton	Nov. & Dec., 1890.	77-76
<b>FORT BENTON TO SIOUX CITY:</b>		
Fort Benton to Coal Banks	May to Sept., 1888.	75-74
Coal Banks to Wolf Point	June to Oct., 1890.	74-63
Wolf Point to Grinnells Ldg.	June to Oct., 1891.	63-57
Grinnells Ldg. to Cannon Ball River	June to Nov., 1891.	57-48
Cannon Ball River to 20 miles above Chamberlain	Sept. to Nov., 1892.	48-38
20 miles above Chamberlain to Chamberlain	July, 1893.	37
Chamberlain to Big Sioux River	Sept. to Nov., 1892.	37-28
<b>BIG SIOUX RIVER TO MOUTH:</b> <i>(Below line and Topography near above)</i>		
Big Sioux River to Florence	Oct. & Nov., 1890.	27-23
Florence to Omaha	Dec., 1889, & Jan., 1890.	23
Omaha to Jones Point	Nov., 1890.	23-22
Jones Point to St. Joseph	Oct. to Dec., 1891.	22-18
St. Joseph to Beverly Junction	Nov., 1890.	17-15
Beverly Junction to Kaw Bend	Dec., 1890, & Jan., 1891.	15-14
Kaw Bend to Randolph	Oct. & Nov., 1890.	14
Randolph to Wellington	June, 1890.	14-13
Wellington to 3 miles above Boonville	Oct. to Dec., 1890.	13-9
3 miles above Boonville to Franklin Island	June, 1890.	9-8
Franklin Island to Osage River	Oct. to Dec., 1890.	8-6
Osage River to Kiwaneyers Ldg.	Nov., 1890.	6-4
Kiwaneyers Ldg. to Patton's Point	June, 1890.	4
Patton's Point to mouth	Nov. & Dec., 1890.	4-1
<i>(Topography back from above)</i>		
Big Sioux River to Weston	1879.	27-16
Weston to Boonville	Sept. to Dec., 1878.	15-9
Boonville to mouth	Apr. & May, 1878.	8-1
<b>Under the MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION:</b>		
Mississippi River above Alton	Aug., 1890.	1
" " below "	Nov. & Dec., 1889.	1

The stage of water is shown on each sheet in tenths of the interval between standard low and standard high water.

### CONVENTIONAL SIGNS.

Triangulation Station (secondary) ▲	Bench Mark □
Saw Mill ★	Church ⚓
Cemetery	Section Corner
Road	Railway
Fence	County & Resn. Line
Levee	State Line
Bench	Dike
Orchard	Cultivated
Forest (deciduous)	Sand Bar
Forest (evergreen)	Grass
Bushes	Lake & Marsh
Willows	Bluffs

Drawn by A.N. Darrow.

(Above) Although the original collection of Missouri River survey plats totaled 84 map sheets, this compilation includes only the 15 sheets recording the river in North Dakota. Copies are available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store or by visiting the museum store's website. (left) This closeup of one of the maps shows the area around Bismarck and Fort Abraham Lincoln, which operated as a military post from 1872 to 1891.

George Will used the survey maps as a base for his mapping of village sites. The maps are also relied upon as a detailed historical description of the river landscape. They were used by the various archaeological and historical surveys recording the river before its inundation by Lake Sakakawea.

Another significant use of the maps is in the determination of surface and mineral ownership. It has long been established that the land below navigable rivers is owned by the state. Mostly, that ownership follows the path of the river, so that if the river shifts, so does the ownership. However there are certain exceptions to this rule, especially on a river like the Missouri, which has been extensively modified by the dams along its course. In litigation involving surface and mineral titles along the Missouri, historical information about the river's movements may be vital in determining ownership, and maps like these are

used to explain the geomorphology of the land in dispute. As oil development dramatically expands in North Dakota, the question of mineral ownership has taken on greater intensity, and the survey maps may now have an economic significance never anticipated by their makers.

Each registrant to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History at the Bismarck Civic Center October 28-29 received a spiral-bound copy of the 15 sheets covering the Missouri River in North Dakota, published by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Copies are also available for \$14.95 plus \$4.95 for shipping and handling, plus tax for North Dakota residents. They are available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store in Bismarck, and on the website: [www.history.nd.gov/museumstore](http://www.history.nd.gov/museumstore); or contact Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822, email [museumstore@nd.gov](mailto:museumstore@nd.gov).

## To Fund Dakota Kids Tree House Hollis Nappen Honors His Wife with \$400,000 Expansion Gift

A lifelong engineer whose family was among the first residents in the Walsh County town of Lankin in northeastern North Dakota has given a \$400,000 gift to the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation.

Hollis Nappen, 93, now of Bismarck, gave the gift to establish the Hollis and Theodora Nappen Dakota Kids Tree House education area in the mezzanine of the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center. Theodora is his late wife, a Velva, North Dakota native who was a longtime teacher and an accomplished musician.

For four years following his high school graduation in 1936, Nappen worked in road construction for Walsh County. He then enrolled in the North Dakota School of Science in Wahpeton for two years, before transferring to the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. He graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in 1943.

**From 1943 to 1945, Nappen worked** for the Tennessee Eastman Company at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, on a phase of uranium enhancement for the atomic bomb, as part of the Manhattan Project. He then served in the U.S. Army for two years, and was stationed in the Phillipines immediately following the end of World War II.

Returning to North Dakota, Nappen was employed by Westland Oil Company in Minot as the construction foreman from 1947 to 1968. Theodora and Hollis were married in 1965, and had a daughter who died in infancy.

**In 1968, they moved to Oxnard, California,** where they operated coin laundries and acquired business properties until retiring in 1982. They lived in Montevideo, Minnesota, until 2006, when they moved to Mandan to be closer to Bill Schott and his late wife, Leah, and their family. Leah and Theodora were sisters; Theodora died in February 2007 and Leah passed away in March 2008. Schott is the SHSND Foundation's trustee development consultant.

**He has long had an interest in history,** having served on the board of the Chippewa County Historical Society while living in Montevideo, and being a Trustee of the SHSND Foundation. "Now that I am in my later years, I realize that history can be lost with each passing generation, it can be lost forever, and we need to do all within our power to preserve it."

In Bismarck, Nappen is active in the Lions Club and Sons of Norway.

He said he decided on his gift to establish the "Dakota Kids Tree House" to honor Theodora. "She loved kids, and this gift is an opportunity to help youngsters appreciate history and to know that there is a past. It's fitting that we leave something to remind people that we were here."



Hollis Nappen and his wife, Theodora, in 1976.

**"Now that I am in my later years, I realize that history can be lost with each passing generation, it can be lost forever, and we need to do all within our power to preserve it."**

— Hollis Nappen, 2011



Hollis Nappen in 2010.



## 'The Unconventional Play' May 4 - SHSND Foundation Donor Recognition and Thank You Event

The last 10 years for the State Historical Society and SHSND Foundation have been extraordinary – and it is time to celebrate and thank major donors, legislators, Trustees, and key supporters. A special Foundation dinner is being planned at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck on Friday, May 4, 2012 – *save the date*.

Anyone who has been close to the expansion efforts will agree that the process of seeking funding for the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center has been “unconventional.” Legislative support took four sessions to put into place – with many factions expecting that the project would not garner state support. But it did. Others were skeptical that the Foundation could find private sector support. But it did. And the “unconventional play” in the North Dakota Bakken oil fields was the unexpected turn of events that has made much of this possible.

Harold Hamm, chairman and CEO of Continental Resources, Inc., one of the first major oil firms to support the project, will be honored at this event. The term “unconventional play” has been associated with his methods for horizontal drilling that cracked open the Bakken oil fields – creating a rush to North Dakota for oil exploration and drilling. Other donors, legislators and supporters will also be honored. Join us to celebrate North Dakota and the “unconventional” iconic State Museum – the “Smithsonian of the Plains” – that will attract international, national, and regional visitors to our state to learn the successes and struggles of our people and our industries.



The concrete skeleton of the new SHSND Foundation offices located on the southeast lower level of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion is shown in this November 7 photograph.



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



Harold Hamm,  
Chairman and  
CEO of Continen-  
tal Resources, Inc.

### \$400,000 Gift from Nappens for Expansion

Hollis Nappen is a quick-witted, bright and energetic 93 years old, who gives credit for his success to never have smoked a cigarette. “I attribute my financial success to being too tight to smoke. Clear back when I was a youngster, I always had money in my pocket,” he told Merl Paaverud, director of the State Historical Society and Virginia Nelsen, executive director of the SHSND Foundation when he signed the pledge for his \$400,000 gift. Hollis and his late wife, Theodora Nappen, chose the Dakota Kids Tree House educational area on the North Dakota Heritage Center mezzanine as their naming opportunity. To read more about Hollis and his family, see the article on page 12. Hollis is the brother-in-law of Bill Schott, Trustee consultant to the Foundation. Hollis has been an active partner with Bill and the Foundation, supporting our outreach efforts for years as a Trustee donor and a History's Hero donor to the expansion – and then was moved to give a major expansion gift. “We are very grateful for his support,” said Marlo Sveen, SHSND Foundation Development Director, who worked with Nappen to secure his donation.

### Foundation Office in Expansion Looking Good

The new Foundation office has taken form in the construction of the North Dakota Heritage Center as shown by the photograph on this page. The lower level space is on the southeast corner of the new facility and will have easy elevator access from the front entrance on the main level. This will be a welcoming space for members, volunteers, Trustees and donors, board members, and staff. The space should be completed in about 12 to 18 months.

Check it out! The SHSND Foundation's Expansion Campaign Website [www.statehistoricalfoundation.com](http://www.statehistoricalfoundation.com)

# Halloween Hauntings and Happenings!

Several of the sites managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota hosted Halloween happenings at the end of October.

Photograph by Kristin Limwere Baxter



Fort Buford near Williston hosted its popular *Cemetery Walk* October 22, as “ghostly” former fort residents led tours through the old fort cemetery. Shown here is Charlette Small (below) in her role as Margaret Littlejohn, a fort laundress who died from complications from an abortion. Standing, from left, are Steven Reidburn, Arch Ellwein, Rod Lassey, Ken Anderson, Charlette Small, and Jim Ryen.

Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND



The Former Governors’ Mansion in Bismarck was the site for the Halloween Grand Ball at the Mansion October 28. Among those enjoying the dance here are Cathy Carlson of Bismarck (in black costume) and (r) SHSND Curator of Collections Management Jenny Yearous.



Photograph by Kristin Limwere Baxter

Photographs by Brian R. Austin, SHSND



State Historical Society staff provided plenty of treats for the children of staff who came through the North Dakota Heritage Center Halloween afternoon. Shown here, from left, are SHSND Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson with her daughter, Abby; SHSND Foundation Executive Secretary Kris Hockett and her granddaughter, Finley; SHSND Archives Specialist Emily Schulz and her son, John; and Joe Miller, husband of SHSND Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser, and their daughter, Isabel.



## 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 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 13

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

## January 13-14

**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.

## January 14

**Winter Program,** 2 p.m. (MT), Eric Brevik, associate professor of geology and soils at Dickinson State University, presents "The Geology of Southwestern North Dakota." Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

## January 15

**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.

## January 15

**Concert at the Confluence,** 3 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.

## January 21

**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.

## January 28

**Crafters Bee and Social,** 12 to 4 p.m., Work on crafts, share information, and socialize with like-minded crafters. Former Governors' Mansion State Historic, 701.328.9528.

## FEBRUARY

## February 1-29

Black History Month.

## February 4-5

**Sixth Annual Governor Arthur A. Link Fiddle Festival** at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck. Sponsored by the Society for Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the SHSND. For more, call 701.328.9528.

## February 9

**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.

## February 10-11

**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.

## 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 Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or email [eholland@nd.gov](mailto:eholland@nd.gov).

## February 11

**Winter Program,** 2 p.m. (MT), Corine Brevik, associate professor of physics at Dickinson State University, will present "Comets and Asteroids: Will They Hit Earth?" Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

## February 18

**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.

## February 19

**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

## 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 site, visit [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov) or call 701.797.3691.

## March 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.

## March 9-10

**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 12-13

**Security in Archives and Manuscript Repositories Workshop** at North Dakota State University in Fargo. Sponsored by the State Historical Records Advisory Board. To register and for more information, contact SHSND State Archivist Ann Jenks, 701.328.2090 or email [ajenks@nd.gov](mailto:ajenks@nd.gov).

## March 17

**Winter Program,** 2 p.m. (MT), Bowman County Emergency Manager Dean Pearson presents "The History of Fort Dilts." Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

## March 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 18

**Concert at the Confluence,** 3 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful winter *Concert at the Confluence* while overlooking one of North Dakota's most

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS/CONFERENCES

beautiful natural sights. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

March 31

**Easter Egg Hunt**, 2 to 4 p.m. Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

March 31

**Easter Egg Hunt at the Confluence**, 11 a.m., weather permitting, at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

## APRIL

April 6

**Exhibit Opening, *How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota***, 2 p.m., Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

April 8

**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 8

**Easter Egg Hunt**, 11 a.m. (MT) at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 701.623.4355.

April 12

**Fort Buford History Book Club**, 7:30 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.

April 13

**National History Day in North Dakota** competition at the Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy. The theme is *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*. For more, call SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792, email [eholland@nd.gov](mailto:eholland@nd.gov) or visit [nd.nhd.org](http://nd.nhd.org).

April 13

**North Dakota Genealogical Society meeting**, 1 to 4 p.m., State Archives, North Dakota Heritage Center. For more, contact SHSND Reference Specialist Greg Wysk at 701.328.2541 or email [gwysk@nd.gov](mailto:gwysk@nd.gov).

April 13

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

April 13-14

**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.

April 15

**Concert at the Confluence**, 3 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.

April 21

**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.

April 23-25

**2012 North Dakota Tourism Conference**, Radisson Hotel, Bismarck. The theme is *Building Towards the Future*, 701.328.2525.

## TIES

(Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service)

### Winter Memories

Through January 7, 2012

James Memorial Art Center in Williston

### Seeds of Victory

Through January 22, 2012

Pioneer Museum of McKenzie County

March 14 through June 20, 2012  
Historical and Cultural Society  
of Clay County, Minnesota

### Land in Her Own Name

April 1 through April 30, 2012

Dakota College at Bottineau, North Dakota

## Upcoming Conferences

**The 55<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mreames@unomaha.edu).

**The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archeology** will be held April 27-28, 2012 at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The theme, presented by the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College, is "Wounded Knee 1973: Forty Years Later." For more information, contact Outreach and Promotion Director Tim Hoheisel, Center for Western Studies, 2001 S. Summit Avenue, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197, call 605.274.4005 or email [cws.@augie.edu](mailto:cws.@augie.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 Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792.

Additional information is available at the Society's website at [www.history.nd.gov](http://www.history.nd.gov).



## 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, each year the state plays host to millions of migrating birds, 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, was 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.

### ***Creating Sakakawea***

*James E. Sperry Gallery*

*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 more than 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. See story on pages 24 and 25.

### ***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 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.

### ***How Does Your Garden Grow?***

***Gardening in North Dakota***

*April 6, 2012 through February 2013*

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 cata-

logs 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 22.

## 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 meat-packing 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. 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 photographs, 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

### ***The Art of Einar Olstad***

*February 15, 2012 through April 2014*

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.

### ***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 and also 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.

### ***Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War***

*Through February 12, 2012*

With the election of Abraham Lincoln as the nation's 16<sup>th</sup> 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.



## Transitions

**Rick Collin** resigned effective January 7 to accept a position as deputy state director for U.S. Representative Rick Berg (R-ND). Communications and Education Director since July 1, 2007, he began work at the State Historical Society as Communications Director in September 1995. Governor John Hoeven appointed Collin in December 2005 as the state's representative to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. The SHSND served as the lead agency, planning Lincoln-related projects and events with other state agencies and organizations. Highlights included bringing the original Homestead Act document, signed by Lincoln, on loan from the National Archives to the North Dakota Heritage Center for a special six-month exhibit in 2008, and the SHSND organizing a special joint session of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly honoring Lincoln on the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth on February 12, 2009.

**Scott Schaffnit** retired effective December 15. As outreach programs coordinator since April 2001, he was involved with and developed several programs. He managed the popular Suitcase Exhibits for North Dakota (SEND) and Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) programs. Working with the curator of education, Schaffnit pioneered the creation of an online virtual world classroom course on homesteading. The web-based program allows elementary and secondary students to learn how to live the life of 19<sup>th</sup> Century homesteaders by using avatars to select homesteads, build homes, plant and harvest crops, fight natural disasters, and more.

**Andrew Kerr** began work December 8 as assistant preparator. He previously worked as assistant multimedia manager/webmaster in the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division since September 2010. Before that he was a web design intern with the division from March to September 2010. A native of Mandan, North Dakota, Kerr earned a bachelor of fine arts in graphic design from Minnesota State University Moorhead.

**Nick Gronseth** began work December 1 as site supervisor at Fort Totten State Historic Site. Gronseth comes to North Dakota from Emporia, Kansas, where he had been site administrator for the William Allen White House State His-

toric Site since July 2007. He holds a master of arts degree in American history from Emporia State University in Kansas and a bachelor of arts degree in history from Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas.

**Donna Schaffnit** resigned effective December 1 as sales associate for the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store. She had worked in the position since August 2004, and before that, as a customer service representative at the Heritage Center's information desk beginning in December 2002.

**Jason Wentz** resigned effective November 23 as a security officer at the North Dakota Heritage Center to move to Wisconsin. He had worked in the position since January 2011.

**Nancy Eley** began work November 1 as administrative assistant in the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division, after working as a temporary archaeology collections assistant and data entry clerk since 2001. Previously, she was a cattle programs assistant for MoorMan's Inc., in North Platte, Nebraska, where she was responsible for keeping track of up to 40,000 head of cattle in some 70 feedyards throughout the Midwest. Eley has studied business at San Antonio College in San Antonio, Texas and computers at Mid Plains Vocational College in North Platte, Nebraska.

**Naomi Frantes** resigned effective November 1 as librarian/cataloguer to take a position as the head of access and branch services at the Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. She had been employed with the State Historical Society since November 2007.

**Pamela Schonert** began work October 17 as administrative assistant in the Support Services Division. She had worked since 2006 as an administrative assistant for state procurement in the North Dakota Office of Management and Budget, and from 1998 to 2005 as a waiting-list technician for the Burleigh County Housing Authority. She also worked in the Burleigh County Clerk of Court Department, Q & R Clinic/MedCenter One, and Bank Center One in Bismarck. Schonert graduated from St. Mary's High School in Bismarck.

**Jena Arteseros** resigned effective October 6 as administrative assistant in the Support Services Division to return to work with her previous employer, the engineering, surveying, and planning firm of Kadrmass, Lee & Jackson in Bismarck.

## Hoganson Honored

State Paleontologist Dr. John Hoganson (right) was awarded the Arthur Gray Leonard Medal in an October 21 ceremony at the University of North Dakota (UND) in Grand Forks. The medal, conferred by the UND Department of Geology and Geological Engineering, recognizes outstanding achievement in the geosciences in research, technical studies, and projects applied to society needs, teaching, educational development, or leadership in the conservation of Earth's resources and environment. In 1991 Hoganson established a cooperative relationship between the North Dakota Geological Survey and the State Historical Society of North Dakota, housing the state paleontology program and state fossils in the North Dakota Heritage Center. Over the years, he has spoken to thousands of students, encouraging their interest in geology as he built the paleontology program into a nationally recognized program. He also initiated and supervises a public fossil dig program in North Dakota that has grown to four digs a year and attracts participants nationwide and overseas as well. Presenting the medal to Hoganson is department chairman and professor of geology Dr. John Hartman.



Photograph by Erik Holland, SHSND

## New to the Collections

By Emily Schultz

Alexander McKenzie (1850-1922) is regarded as a key figure in the development of Dakota Territory and the State of North Dakota. He was a politically influential figure who largely worked behind the scenes and became known as the “Political Boss of North Dakota.”

**Born in Ontario, Canada,** McKenzie arrived in Fargo in 1872 as an employee of the Northern Pacific Railroad as they were laying track west across Dakota Territory. By 1873 he found himself at the end of the line at Edwinton, which was soon renamed Bismarck, after the German chancellor Otto von Bismarck, in an effort to attract German investment. McKenzie pursued real estate and other business ventures and was appointed sheriff of Burleigh County in late 1874, holding the position until 1886. During this time he was also a political agent for the Northern Pacific and was a strong influence in the legislature in relocating the territorial capitol from Yankton to Bismarck in 1883.

New Alexander McKenzie material was recently added to the collections of the State Archives. The majority of the **Alexander McKenzie Family Papers (Manuscript Collection 11100)** consists of correspondence from Alexander McKenzie to Elva McKenzie, his second wife who died in 1922, a month before McKenzie. Alexander and Elva were most likely married in 1890 and had three children: Jeannette Elva, Thomas Oakes, and Alexander Jr. The papers also contain miscellaneous correspondence to Alexander, Elva, and their children, as well as personal files, financial material, legal documents, newspaper clip-



pings, and photographs.

**The collection contains 335 letters** from Alexander to Elva dating from 1889 to 1917. This correspondence is one of the most valuable parts of the collection because it provides insight into McKenzie’s personal and business life. Although business matters are often generalized in the letters and the letters contain references to conversations the couple had about business dealings, their correspondence tells much about McKenzie’s travels and activities for a fairly long period of time, from 1889 to 1917. Since no datebook of McKenzie’s is known to exist, these letters are perhaps the only means to track his whereabouts during this period.

In addition to being a record of McKenzie’s business and travels, the correspondence details McKenzie the human being. The ups and downs of his married life, concern for his children and family’s welfare, legal dealings, children of his first marriage, politics, sickness and health, legal issues, and friends are discussed honestly and with varying emotion. Although the letters often are short and follow a typical pattern: telling Elva where he is, where he will be, explaining if and when he can visit, discussing finances, and hoping that she and the children are well, not every letter follows this pattern.

Another valuable aspect of this volume of correspondence is that gaps in dates and events in Alexander’s life can be examined.

**McKenzie stands in the lobby of the Northwest Hotel in downtown Bismarck, circa April 1896.**



SHSND MSS 0070-041





SHSND A2072

(left) Isaac P. Baker, General Hugh L. Scott, and Alexander McKenzie stand outside the McKenzie Hotel in Bismarck September 23, 1919.

(Above, right) In this letter to his wife, Elva, in early April 1901, McKenzie writes that "... I expect to get out of hear (sic) inside of thirty - days I have powerful friends at work and they are standing by me..." McKenzie was serving a one-year sentence in California for contempt. He had been appointed the receiver of lucrative gold mines in Nome, Alaska, that already had owners. The case was taken to court and McKenzie was sentenced for refusing to return the gold to the rightful owners. (right) In this letter to Elva, dated April 11, 1901, Alexander describes how his "friends" have appealed to President William McKinley, and that he should be pardoned and released by the first of May, 1901.

With them now you see the reason  
 stay there or Philadelphia so long  
 as you are out of the State of  
 N.Y. of course those matters take  
 time I expect to get out of hear  
 inside of thirty-days I have powerful  
 friends at work and they are standing  
 by me it would never be for you

SHSND MSS 11100.0131

SHSND MSS 11100.0131

April 11 1901  
 My dear Elva  
 I thought I would drop you a  
 line and let you know how I am  
 getting on. My friends have made application  
 to the President for a pardon the papers had  
 to be sent to this Court. Then they will go  
 back to Washington and they will be  
 acted upon I have no doubt as to the  
 final out come I will be out  
 about the first of May when the papers  
 get around they are speaking of on  
 the grounds of my health no do not  
 worry about me I am all right and  
 will be treated in every way I need  
 attention to newspaper reports they are  
 exaggerated my health is as good  
 as it was when I came here



SHSND A2279

A studio portrait of the "political boss of North Dakota" Alexander McKenzie, circa 1880.

Sources surrounding his life like newspaper accounts, biographies, census records, and even legal documents often have discrepancies.

Perhaps the most historically significant span of correspondence is from about 1900 to 1902, when McKenzie was in Nome, Alaska, then imprisoned for contempt in Oakland, California, and finally released after being pardoned by President William McKinley. This might be the most glaring example of McKenzie's ability to pull political strings behind the scenes. When juxtaposing his firsthand accounts of the events with newspaper reports of the time about such issues as his treatment and health while in the jail, the legal maneuvering, and the process that it took to gain a pardon, it becomes clear that the newspapers did not always have the full story. Sources beyond newspaper reports are needed for a truly dynamic historical record.



## National Award Recipients

Photograph by AASLH, 2011, Dementi Studio



(left) A project centered around the *Gardening in North Dakota* exhibit produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) was named a national award recipient by the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH). Here, SHSND Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser accepts an Award of Merit from AASLH Chair D. Stephen Elliott and AASLH President and CEO Terry Davis at the awards banquet September 16 during the annual meeting in Richmond, Virginia.

(right) This year's other North Dakota AASLH award winner is the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at North Dakota State University (NDSU). In addition to receiving the Award of Merit, it was also selected as a WOW Award winner. The WOW Award is given to an Award of Merit winner whose nomination is also, to quote the AASLH, "highly inspirational." Only three WOW Awards were given this year.

The two awards were accepted in a special ceremony in Bismarck following the monthly meeting of the Tri-County Heritage Tourism Alliance, which is working on developing German-Russian heritage tourism in south central North Dakota. From left: North Dakota Tourism Development Manager Dean Ihla; North Dakota Tourism Group Travel Marketing Manager Deanne Felchle; Tri-County Heritage Tourism Alliance Vice President and Logan County Economic Development Coordinator Athena Dunn; Germans From Russia Heritage Collection Director and Bibliographer Michael Miller, holding the WOW Award; Germans From Russia Heritage Collection Special Collections Associate Acacia Stuckle, holding the Certificate of Merit; Tri-County Heritage Tourism Alliance President and NDSU Logan County Extension Agent Carmen Rath-Wald; Editor of *The Hazelton Newsletter* Verda Seeklander; and SHSND Expansion and New Initiatives Coordinator Claudia Berg.



Photograph by Susan Holland

## Davison Receives Award

State Historical Society of North Dakota Editor Kathy Davison receives the Larry Rowen Remele Award from History Professor William E. Lass of Minnesota State University, Mankato, at the Northern Great Plains History (NGPH) Conference in Mankato September 23. She was selected for her outstanding work over the years as a member of the NGPH Conference Council and as program coordinator for the annual conference. The award was established to honor the memory of Larry Remele, longtime editor of *North Dakota History*, the quarterly journal of the State Historical Society. It has been given annually since 1989.



Photograph by Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND



# \$140,000 in Preservation Grants Awarded

By Amy Munson

The SHSND's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) recently approved applications for the State Historic Preservation Program's annual grants for Fiscal Year 2011. Grants were awarded for development projects and Certified Local Government programs.

In all, \$140,000 in grant monies was awarded. When combined with matching funds, it will result in \$294,000 worth of preservation work in North Dakota.

**Development Projects** are for improvements to properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. These projects are developed and submitted by property owners. At least half of the total project cost must be raised by the owners. For this grant cycle, the SHPO received applications requesting more than \$102,000. A total of \$57,700 was awarded:

- The owners of 28 Conklin Avenue located in the Grand Forks Riverside Neighborhood Historic District were awarded \$9,250 for work to the exterior masonry and rehabilitation of the two back porches and two windows.
- The owners of 808 Belmont Road in Grand Forks near Southside Historic District were awarded \$2,500 for rehabilitation work to the front porch.
- The Dickey County Courthouse in Ellendale was awarded \$9,500 for the planning of the basement slab replacement and moisture mitigation.

- The Emmons County Courthouse in Linton was awarded \$15,000 for the rehabilitation of sandstone stairs and window sills.
- The Masonic Temple in Devils Lake was awarded \$6,459 for the replacement of the exterior doors.
- The Phi Beta Phi House located in the Grand Forks University of North Dakota Historic District was awarded \$15,000 for tuck-pointing and reroofing.

**Certified Local Government** (CLG) grants are awarded to North Dakota counties and cities that have qualified to participate as preservation partners with the SHPO. Recipients must provide a minimum match of 40 percent of the total project cost. A total of \$82,000 was awarded:

- The City of Buffalo CLG: \$20,250 for administrative expenses and education opportunities, hosting the 2011 CLG workshop, and work on a capital improvement project with the Buffalo High School.

- The City of Devils Lake CLG: \$2,300 for a project with the Sheriff's House Museum.
- The City of Dickinson CLG: \$2,670 for education opportunities and to produce a brochure.
- The City of Fargo CLG: \$10,115 for administrative expenses and the Historic Preservation Expo.
- The City of Grand Forks CLG: \$29,020 for administration, a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and a brochure on the University of North Dakota Historic District.
- Pembina County CLG: \$9,062 for administration, education opportunities, and strategic planning.
- Walsh County CLG: \$8,800 for administration, education opportunities, and strategic planning.

For more about these programs, contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota's grants and contracts officer, Amy Munson, at 701.328.3573 or email at [amunson@nd.gov](mailto:amunson@nd.gov).

---

*In all, \$140,000 in grant monies was awarded. When combined with matching funds, it will result in \$294,000 worth of preservation work in North Dakota.*

---

## Creating Sakakawea Exhibit Reopens

Photograph by Sharon Silengo, SHSND



Basking in the golden sunlight, this photograph of the Bismarck statue was taken in 2001.

By Kathleen Davison

The exhibit *Creating Sakakawea* reopened December 9 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. It describes how this young woman became, next to Pocahontas, the best-known American Indian woman in the nation and a symbol of North Dakota. First displayed at the Heritage Center from October 2010 to April 2011, the exhibit briefly moved into storage during the initial construction work on the expanded Heritage Center.

The exhibit explores what Sakakawea has meant to different people at different times in history, and how North Dakota's Sakakawea statue exemplifies some of these different meanings. *Creating Sakakawea* is produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND).

As women struggled to gain legal and political equality, the Lewis and Clark Centennial of 1903-06 brought Sakakawea to the public's notice, and she quickly became a symbol of what women could accomplish. The North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs decided that Sakakawea should be recognized and spearheaded the effort to raise money for a statue honoring her. The SHSND worked with the Women's Clubs to create as "accurate" and "authentic" a statue as possible – considering that no portrait or good physical description of Sakakawea existed. The Mandan and Hidatsa people of Fort Berthold were consulted as to the proper attire for a young woman of their people; Sakakawea's granddaughter, Hannah Lev-

ings, also known as Mink, was chosen as the model, and Leonard Crunelle (1872-1944), a renowned Chicago artist, was chosen as sculptor. It took five years to raise the money and complete the statue.

On October 13, 1910, a large crowd gathered on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck to celebrate the unveiling of an eight-foot-tall, 875-pound bronze statue of Sakakawea and her baby son, Jean Baptiste. The symbolism of this statue was made clear during the ceremony, when the president of the University of North Dakota, Frank McVey, said that it was not to Sakakawea "as Indian" that the memorial was erected, but rather to Sakakawea as "a type of woman universal" who "rose to her opportunity and accomplished a noble service."

Featured in the exhibit are the dress, leggings, belt, and awl case worn by Hannah Levings when she modeled for the statue in the early 1900s. These pieces were created by Hannah Levings and Charlotte Hoffman, wife of the superintendent of the Fort Berthold agency, who relied on the recollections of elderly Hidatsa women to design the pieces in traditional Hidatsa style, using material and techniques that might have been available in Sakakawea's time. In 2010, they were sent for conservation to the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota



State Archives D02851

The historic figure of Sakakawea served as a role model for young women. Here, former First Lady Lou Hoover (left) stands near the statue with an unidentified companion on May 17, 1937. As the national president of the Girl Scouts, Hoover was a guest speaker at that year's regional conference held in Bismarck.



so that for the first time in a half-century these rare pieces could be on display.

A second Sakakawea statue also grew out of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, this time the 2003-06 bicentennial commemoration of that journey. National Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol offers space for two statues from each state featuring illustrious or distinguished citizens. North Dakota had only one statue, and as the bicentennial of the expedition approached, Sakakawea was selected to be an appropriate representative of the state to add to the Hall. The original statue was conserved, a mold made, and a replica statue was created.

On October 16, 2003, this second Sakakawea statue was unveiled in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. At the dedication ceremony, thanks were extended by Three Affiliated Tribes Chairman Tex Hall, “for this honor of one of our own, a Hidatsa woman, Sakakawea.” This 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sakakawea has been emphatically claimed by her own people and hailed by others as a symbol of American Indian cultural inclusivity. This Sakakawea has become a symbol of the assistance provided by Indian people that made the expedition’s success possible, and, in her early death, a reminder of the losses that followed the rapid U.S. expansion after the expedition.

Visitors to the *Creating Sakakawea* exhibit will be able to explore both the history of the state Sakakawea statue and what a young Indian woman has meant to the American people over the past 200 years. She is a blend of legend and mythology balanced on a narrow foundation of historical fact, who remains fascinating to all. The exhibit will be at the North Dakota Heritage Center through September 30, 2012.



State Archives A4419

Hannah Levings, also known as Mink, is shown wearing the buckskin dress, belt, leggings, moccasins, and awl case she created and wore when she modeled for the original Sakakawea statue. This 1906 photograph is included in the upcoming exhibit, *Creating Sakakawea*.



Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SFSND

Sakakawea’s granddaughter, Hannah Levings, also known as Mink, was chosen as the model for the statue, and Leonard Crunelle (1872-1944), a renowned Chicago artist, was selected as its sculptor. The secretary of the State Historical Society, Orin G. Libby (1864-1952), accompanied Crunelle to the Fort Berthold Reservation to consult with Mandans and Hidatsas about the statue. He also traveled to Crunelle’s Chicago studio with Mandan and Hidatsa representatives to inspect the statue and ensure its accuracy. Here, visitors in October 2010 view the dress, leggings, belt, and awl case worn by Levings when she modeled.

# New to the National Register

Properties in Barnes, Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, and McHenry counties are the most recent North Dakota sites to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Photograph by Kara Burre



Florence Lake School #3 in Burleigh County was originally built as Sterling School #2 in 1917 but was moved to Florence Lake Township in 1937 after the earlier school burned. This small prairie schoolhouse has unusual architectural details that recall the Classical Style.



Green Consolidated School #99 near Valley City in Barnes County is the best preserved open country consolidated school in North Dakota. It had students from 1916 until 1974 and since then has been used as a community center.



Photograph by Susan Quimell, SFSND

Photograph by Michelle Dennis



The Lower Souris National Wildlife Refuge Airplane Hangar at J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge near Upham in McHenry County is a rounded-arch, pre-fabricated metal built in 1947. It was the only one built at a wildlife refuge in North Dakota and housed the airplane used for conservation management activities throughout the state and neighboring states.







Photograph by Steve Martens

The Fargo Oak Grove Residential Neighborhood Historic District in Cass County is focused around North and South Terrace, bounded on the east by Short Street North and on the west by Elm Street North. Historically, it is one of the few identifiable, small-scaled residential neighborhoods close to downtown Fargo. This range of middle-income houses and related facilities was built from 1895 to 1952. The predominance of working-class, gable-fronted mechanics' cottages and vernacular bungalows is a reflection of consumer tastes during this time period.



Photograph by Steve Martens

The B'nai Israel Synagogue's meticulous care and that of the Montefiore Cemetery demonstrate the commitment of the Hebrew community to their faith and to the city of Grand Forks. The synagogue exemplifies the Art Deco work that Grand Forks master architect Joseph Bell DeRemer and his son, Samuel Teel DeRemer, designed in the 1930s, while the cemetery is locally distinct for the customs and burial traditions of the Jewish population. It also holds the remains of several prominent citizens.

## Final in Series of SHSND Reproductions *Fairy Tale Pictures*

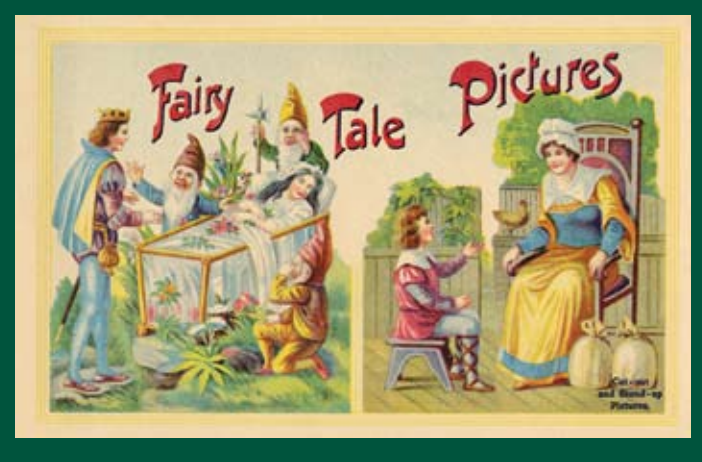
By Deborah K. Hellman

*Fairy Tale Pictures* is the 10<sup>th</sup> and final edition in of the State Historical Society of North Dakota's series of children's books reproduced from the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. This lovely book includes four fairy tales, *Jack and the Bean-stalk*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Frog Prince*, and *Little Snow-White*, with paper dolls to match each story. The original paper dolls were cut for easy removal by delighted youngsters; this reproduction does not include the perforations, encouraging readers to leave this historic book intact.

The Saalfield Publishing Company of Akron, Ohio, originally published this book in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In business from 1900 to 1977, it was one of the largest publishers of children's materials in the world. It published books by authors such as Louisa May Alcott, Horatio Alger, Herman Melville, Dr. Seuss, Shirley Temple, and Mark Twain.

*Fairy Tale Pictures* was donated by M. Victor Johnson, of Grano, North Dakota.

If you are interested in being notified as soon as this book is available, call or e-mail the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store to give your contact information at [museumstore@nd.gov](mailto:museumstore@nd.gov) or 701.328.2822.



SHSND 1974.65.3

This early 20<sup>th</sup> Century reproduction of *Fairy Tale Pictures* is the 10<sup>th</sup> and final in a series of children's books reproduced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota.



STATE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Heritage Center  
612 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #170  
BISMARCK, ND  
58501

## SOCIETY NEWS

### Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure

Adventure seekers take note: the *Heritage Outbound Winter Adventure* is Saturday, February 11. Spend the day exploring the history and culture of the Mandans, Hidatsas, and Arikaras, as well as the geology, archaeology, and natural history of the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton, North Dakota. Join other hardy adventure seekers as you snowshoe to the village where Sakakawea and Charbonneau lived, try your hand at a traditional craft, learn to use an atlatl, and enjoy a traditional buffalo dinner, storytelling, and flute music, around a roaring fire in an earthlodge. The optional snowshoeing experience at Fort Clark State Historic Site begins the morning, and all participants will gather for a noon lunch at the Knife River Indian Heritage Foundation building located just north of Stanton.

*Heritage Outbound* is sponsored by Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), and the North Dakota Geological Survey. Registration is \$60 and includes two meals, the use of snowshoes, and all other materials.

Pre-registration is required. Contact SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or email [eholland@nd.gov](mailto:eholland@nd.gov) to book your adventure!



*Heritage Outbound* participants investigate how difficult it might be to hunt bison, or even mastodons, using an atlatl. Atlatls were used for thousands of years before the bow and arrow to throw long, arrow-like darts.

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND



### 2011-2013 Blue Book Available

With information not readily available in any other publication, the *2011-2013 North Dakota Blue Book* and accompanying CD features profiles of North Dakota's executive, legislative, and judicial branches; information about tribal governments; descriptions of the state's symbols and official awards; as well as population, election, agriculture, and education data; and useful charts and maps. The featured section of this 650-page 2011-2013 edition highlights North Dakota's fossil resources and was

written by State Paleontologist Dr. John Hoganson.

The *2011-2013 North Dakota Blue Book* costs \$20 plus \$4.95 shipping and handling, plus tax for North Dakota residents.

It is available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store in Bismarck, and on the website: [www.history.nd.gov/museumstore](http://www.history.nd.gov/museumstore); or contact Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822, email [museumstore@nd.gov](mailto:museumstore@nd.gov).

*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:** 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; Diane K. Larson, *Bismarck*; Chester E. Nelson, Jr., *Bismarck*; Margaret Puetz, *Bismarck*; Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer; Francis G. Ziegler, Director, Department of Transportation; Mark A. Zimmerman, Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

**SHSND Foundation Board:** Jon McMillan, *Fordville*, President; Wally Beyer, *Bismarck*, Vice President; Barbara S. Lang, *Jamestown*, Treasurer; Darrell L. Dorgan, *Bismarck*, Secretary; Pat Grantier, *Bismarck*; Mike Gustafson, *Kindred*; Armen Hanson, *Devils Lake*; Robert M. Horne, *Minot*; Paul H. Olson, *Fargo*; Thomas J. Riley, *Fargo*; Dalles Schneider, *Bismarck*; Calvin Grinnell, *New Town*, State Historical Board Liaison.