

# NDSGS Newsletter

Summer 2023 —Volume 14, Issue 2

## *Special points of interest:*

- ND Genealogical Societies Reports
- ND State Archives Reports

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## State Archives hours:

8 a.m.—4:30 p.m. M-F,  
except holidays

2nd Saturday of each  
month, 10 a.m.—4:30  
p.m.

## President's Letter

Greetings:

Spring is finally here thus it is hard to spend any time inside doing research.

As I was doing some changing of my decorations to Spring from snowmen, one of my old framed pictures had slipped slightly from the matting and here was another “something” peeking out from behind that picture. I immediately took the back off and what was situated as the back of this print was another print.

The current colored print in the matting was called *Homecoming* by Guy Coheleach. Just a fun picture with a horse and buggy on it which I had found in my mother-in-law's attic at one time. It was online but worth less than \$10.00. The backing picture was a pencil drawn print called *In Lover's Lane*. I then went online and it probably is a 1902 print with the number 5976 on its back by Bayard Jones and the value is \$57.95. It is a whimsical print with outfits from late 1800s to early 1900s.

I have had this print for decades, never thinking it had a backing that represented anything but a piece of cardboard. I have put the new picture in the old antique frame at the front under the glass and it is a fun picture to display.

SO, you always hear of “finds” at auctions, rummage sales, where-ever. This has been in my house for years. While it is not of high value, it was amazing to find it behind the other picture. Start checking out your frames!!!

Have a wonderful Summer.

Stella Papachek

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society is Friday, July 7 at 1 pm central time in the Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck. **Lori Nohner** will give us **a tour of the museum collections**.

All individuals who have paid their membership are welcome to attend. All genealogical societies in North Dakota who have paid their membership are encouraged to send a representative of their society.

# North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

Matthew Ely and Emily Kubischta were our speakers for the April 12, 2023 meeting. Matthew is the Photo Archivist and Emily is the Manuscript Archivist for the SHSND.

Matthew gave a PowerPoint presentation on how to preserve photographs and documents. Some of the highlights were to store photos in a dark place with a stable temperature and humidity. Prints should be stored separately from negatives. Use individual sleeves for photos and paper sleeves for negatives. Use plastic archival clips instead of paper clips. Use map folders and

drawers. Make sure all items are identified. Store items in the cloud when digitizing or on external drives. Write on photos with pencil on the edges of the back side.

Three companies to purchase supplies from are Hollinger Metal Edge, Gaylord Archival and Print File Archival Storage.

Then we went on a tour of the cold storage area and workshop where they work. If you have any questions or would like to donate items to the archives contact them for more information.

## Alice Marie (Strouse) Ellingsberg (1953-2023)



Alice died 31 May in Fargo. She was born in Lisbon. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from North Dakota State University and was then employed by the Moorhead School District until her retirement in 2015.

Alice had a passion for genealogy and was accepted into several hereditary societies. She was a member of the Red River Valley Genealogical Society and the North Dakota State Genealogical Society.

One of her greatest accomplishments was earning a Certified Genealogist credential from the Board for Certification of Genealogists in 2000.

## Citation Corner

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has changed its name to the FamilySearch Library, this name change should be recorded in your citations.

Marriage records are common sources that we cite in our research work. Elements of these citations include the name of the parties, where the record was located, name of the book and page number, date of the marriage and where it was found.

If you go to the courthouse to view a marriage record your citation would be similar to this:

Jackson County, Minnesota, Marriage Register A: 288, Austad-Hanson, 1882; County Recorder's Office, Jackson.

If you look at the marriage record on microfilm your citation would be similar to this:

Jackson County, Minnesota, Marriage Register A: 288, Austad-Hanson, 1882; FSL microfilm 1,403,137.

If you find a marriage record at a church your citation would be similar to this:

First Presbyterian Church (Bismarck, North Dakota), "The Church Register of the Presbyterian Church," Volume 1: 202, De Puy-Joslin, 1889; parish rectory, Bismarck.

When the citation details are recorded any researcher can then go back and view the records that we used to build our family tree.

# State Historical Society of North Dakota

## New Local Government Records (May 2022-February 2023)

by Lindsay K. Meidinger, Head of Collections & Information Management

We have not had any recent acquisitions for local government records at the North Dakota State Archives. So, I created a list of the recent acquisitions in our publication collection that may be beneficial for researchers related to genealogy.

### Church Histories

*Cathedral of the Holy Spirit: the first fifty years, a parish history, 1947-1997* (Bismarck, N.D. : The Cathedral, 1997)

*Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Valley City, North Dakota* (Valley City, N.D. : First Baptist Church, 1994)

Thomas E. Elliott, compiler, *Ever forward ...: the first century of the United Methodist Church in Valley City, North Dakota and the beginnings of the second century* (Valley City, N.D. : Epworth United Methodist Church, 1981)

*Jubilee 2000: St. Anthony Catholic Church, Linton, St. Katherine Catholic Church, Braddock, St. Michael Catholic Church, rural Linton, St. Paul Catholic Church, Hazelton* (Linton, N.D. : The Churches, 2000)

*Seventy-fifth anniversary, Congregational Church of Christ, Valley City, North Dakota, 1881-1956* (Valley City, N.D. : Congregational Church of Christ, 1956)

Mrs. George McTavish, compiler, *Spiritual treasures, Church of Saint Catherine, Valley City, North Dakota: diamond jubilee, 1882-1957* (Valley City, ND : St. Catherine's Parish, 1958)

*St. Luke Lutheran Church: 107 Sixth Street South, Wishek, North Dakota 58495* (Galion, Ohio : United Church Directories, 1988)

*The 100th anniversary celebration: "to God be the Glory": June 23-24, 2001* (Binford, North Dakota : Trinity Lutheran Church, 2001)

*Trinity Lutheran Church directory, 1988* (Valley City, North Dakota : Trinity Lutheran Church, 1988)

### School Histories

*Eckelson School reunion: July 2, 1979* (Eckelson, N.D. : n.p., 1979)

*Enderlin High School, 1906-1976, bicentennial EHS Bicentennial Committee* (Enderlin, North Dakota : n.p., 1976)

### Family Histories

*Adam and Katie (Koenig) Weible family history: residents of ... of Traill County, North Dakota, USA, from 1920 to 1949* (North Dakota : John Adam Ludwig, 2022)

Paul Stenshoel, *Axelson-Grødem families of Grødem, Randeberg, Rogaland, Norway and Barnes County, North Dakota, USA* (United States : Oak Mountain Publishing, 2020)

Lorraine (Leier) [Piatz], compiler, *Family history of Joseph Leier & Caroline (Grosz) Leier & Clara (Grosz) Leier* (Napoleon, N.D.: Napoleon Homestead, 1996)

Charlotte Renner Locklear, *Greener pastures: the Renner and Kopp family histories* (n.p.: CreateSpace, ©2018)

Jacob J. Dyck, *Am Trakt to America: a history and genealogy for the descendants of Jacob J. Dyck and Marie G. Harder ...* (Washington, KS : Alice Sitler Dyck, ©2000)

Marvin C. Hoffer, *Jakob Rieger & Rosina Ott: Unser Erbschaft-our heritage* by (n.p.: n.p., 1988)

*Lester DeKrey's family memories, 1922-1951* (North Dakota : Lester DeKrey, between 2017 and 2022?)

Viginia Vaplon Goerger, *Life on Bagg Farm and Valley* (Fargo, ND : Knight Printing, 2016?)

Ida A. Van Natta, *Our ethnic heritage, Degenstein and Hagel genealogy, 1618-1976* (Seattle, Wash. : Northwest Copy Co., 1976?)

Mary Lynn Axtman, *The centennial family history: ancestors-descendants of Frank Axtmann, Pierce County, North Dakota and wives, Kunigunda Kistner & Marianna Bertsch, 1899-1999* (Fargo, N.D.: M. Axtman, 1999)

Leonard Lytle, compiler, *The descendants of Joseph Triplett of Hardy County, West Virginia and Summit and Licking Counties, Ohio* (Ballycastle, N.I. : J.S. Scarlett & Son, printers, 1955)

Sister Cecelia Bartsch, *The Heilman - Kuntz family: a genealogical summary, 1830-1982* (Bruno, Sask. : C. Bartsch, 1982)

*The Solberg's* (United States : n. p. , 2004?)

Mary Lou (Leintz) Bueling, *Thomas Anderson and Helene Marie Vangsness: the Anderson and Vangsness family story* (North Dakota? : Mary Lou Bueling, 2022)

*Time, talent, treasure: the life and family history of Huberta Vaitleain Sharon Skelton Harris, ...* (United States : S.S. Harris and M. Wilson, 2022)

John A. Ludwig,,*Who was Hannah [Swenson] Ludwig's biological father?: a mystery solved, it was Oluff Svenson!: a timeline of Oluff Svenson's life, Norway to the USA* (North Dakota : published by John Adam Ludwig, 2020)

Marilyn Ridenhower and Audrey Brigl Zins ,*Women of North Dakota: celebrating their lives through*

(Continued on page 6)

# North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

## Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

*by John Mogren, President*

It has been a long tradition for the MRLGS to take a group tour in July to a destination in North Dakota. This year we are looking forward to visiting the Prairie Village Museum and tour the new Germans from Russia Heritage Center located in Rugby.

Our program chairperson, Shirley McMillian is doing an excellent job finding interesting programs/presentations for our monthly meetings.

We have been invited to participate in the Swedish Midsummer Festival at the Scandinavian Heritage Center in Minot on June 17. This celebration starts on Friday evening with bands playing and Scandinavian flags waving. It ends on Sunday with an ecumenical worship service in Gol Stave Church. Last year we had two individuals with laptops available to answer genealogical research questions. The lines were long as people patiently waited for their turn and we enjoyed meeting them and hearing their family stories. It is awesome to see

people interested in genealogy and we increased our membership at the festival.

Diane Stevens and I had the opportunity to attend the NDSGS meeting in Bismarck on April 14. Matt and Emily did an excellent presentation on their roles as manuscript archivist and photo archivist. We enjoyed the tour they provided.

I was also able to attend the (free) DNA worship in Bismarck on April 29<sup>th</sup>. It was helpful in understanding how genealogists can use DNA to trace their connection with others and backward in time to a common ancestor.

Summer is here and naturally genealogists are on the move. This is the season we make time to visit those locations where our ancestors lived. It is not unusual to see people walking through the cemetery with clip boards or visiting their local historical society to peruse their holdings. Enjoy the summer.

If you are ever in Minot on the first Saturday of the month, please join us at our meeting.

## Southwest North Dakota Genealogical Society

*by Patrice Hartman*

We have started to meet again after three years hiatus. Hopefully we can meet once a month during the summer and fall. Meetings will be at the Dickinson Public Library unless otherwise noted. We met on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2 PM. Topics covered were new online databases for research

in North Dakota and other states, probate records and what you might find in them, genealogical challenges. Please join us and bring a friend.

Contact Patrice Hartman for more information.

## War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions Project Update

The National Genealogical Society has signed a new contract with Ancestry (parent company of Fold3) and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to continue the digitization of the War of 1812 pensions.

Pension files for surnames starting with Sj to U should be completed in one year and will be available on Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/publication/761/war-of-1812-pension-files>) for free.

## Grandma Was Mean

by Mary Lou Bueling

Grandma was mean. My cousins say she was mean. And, I guess, that was true. She bit my younger cousin once. I saw her try to stab Grandpa's had with her fork when he tried to tease her out of a funk at our dinner table.

Grandma had four strokes between 1952 and 1959. Among other things, the left side of her body was paralyzed and for the last seven years of her life she basically sat in a chair, unable to do anything for herself. Grandpa was heartbroken when she died; he passed away less than a year later.

On August 1908, when Grandpa and Grandma were both 18 years old, they were married in the Basilica Church of the Assumption in their Kutschurgan village of Selz, Russia.<sup>1</sup> A month later, with the promise that he would send for her as soon as possible, Grandpa left her there while he emigrated to the United States. He started laying sewer pipe for the city of Aberdeen, South Dakota and eighteen months later he had earned enough for Grandma to join him. Grandma, who likely had never been out of Selz and was unable to read or write, made the voyage across the ocean and then across the United States all by herself. I'm assuming she didn't know anyone on the ship as I couldn't find any other Selzers on the passenger list.<sup>2</sup>

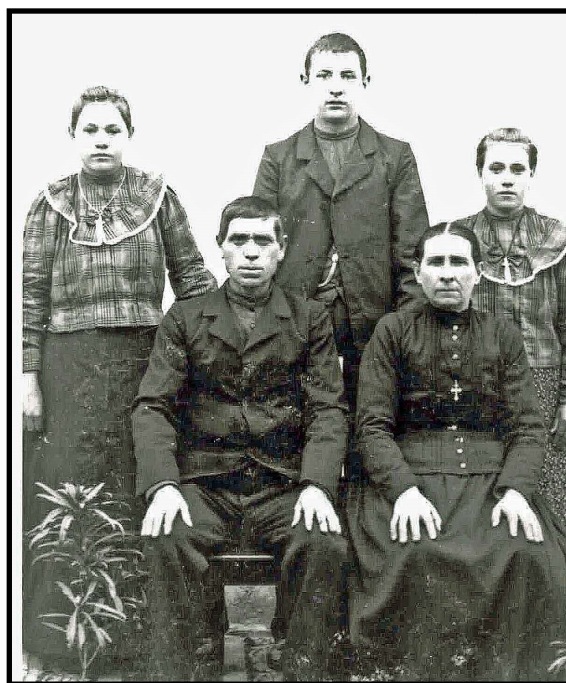


Frank and Katherine (Baumstark) Fergel married 18 August 1908 in Selz, Russia.

Did I mention Grandma lost her mother when she was a young girl?

When my grandparents first settled in Shields, North Dakota, their first home was an abandoned sod house! Grandma was housekeeping with a toddler, an infant, and one on the way. I wonder if they had time to grieve the baby girl they lost in Aberdeen.<sup>3</sup>

I've not found a death record for Grandma's father, Kasimir, but according to EWZ files completed by displaced relatives in 1944, he died in 1920. at age 65. I feel it's imperative to find a death record because of several significant events that occurred in Selz in this time period. On 4 August 1919 a gang of Bolshevik horsemen rode into the village of Selz. They raped and plundered and shot 87 unarmed men they had held in the town hall overnight.<sup>4</sup> The second event was the implementation of collective farming and the confiscation of all farm raised produce. This, along with drought in the early 1920's, were contributing factors in the mass starvation of an estimated 3 million peasants throughout Russia.<sup>5</sup>



Kasimir Baumstark Family; Back l-r, Elizabeth Baumstark Braun (1887-1910), Thomas Baumstark (1883-1938), Katherine Baumstark Fergel (1890-1959). Front l-r: Kasimir Baumstark (1855- about 1920), Marianna Keller Deibert Baumstark.

(Continued on page 7)

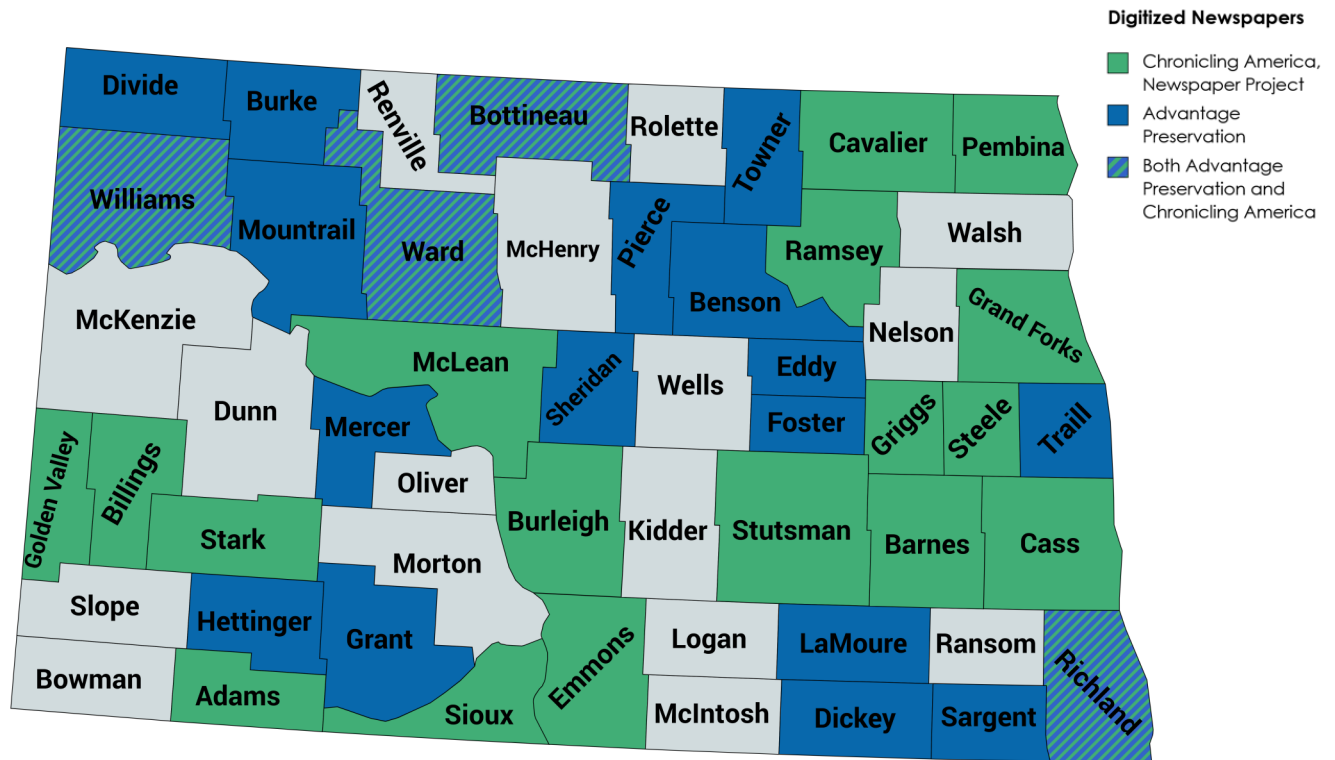


## Digitized Newspapers

North Dakota's digitized newspapers are available at no charge for the counties shown in the map. The newspapers in the Chronicling America Newspaper project are available at <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>. The newspapers at Advantage Preservation can be

found at <http://ndarchives.advantage-preservation.com/>.

A listing of US newspapers at Advantage Preservation is at [https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/100-million-historic-u-s-newspaper-pages-now-available-from-advantage-archives/?expand\\_article=1](https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/100-million-historic-u-s-newspaper-pages-now-available-from-advantage-archives/?expand_article=1).



Created with mapchart.net

### Local Records (Continued from page 3)

*primary and secondary sources: grade four* compiled (Bismarck, N.D. : North Dakota Dept. of Public Instruction, 1989)

### Local Histories

*Cass County memories* (Moorhead, Minn. : Cass County Memories)

*Diamond jubilee Hallinglag of America: June 1982 ; with Centennial history, Walcott, North Dakota, 1879-1979* (n.p.: 1982 Hallinglag Committee, 1982)

*Harvey illustrated: Harvey, North Dakota* (Harvey, N.D. : Harvey Commercial Club, 1907)

*Hope through the century: Hope, N.D., 1882-1982* (Hope, N.D. : Hope Centennial Committee, 1982)

*Litchville community, people and places*, revised edition

(n.p.: Myrna Lindstrom McGregor, between 2000-2022)

*Remembering Kathryn, a century of stories* [compiled by a committee consisting of Bradley Edin, Denise Majerus and Ann Wendel, in honor of the one hundredth anniversary of the community of Kathryn, North Dakota] (Kathryn, N.D. : publisher not identified, 2000)

Sandi Dewald, *Streeter descendants then 'til now* (United States : n.p., 2022)

*The Litchville story and Gleanings from the prairies: golden jubilee, 1900-1950* (Litchville, N.D. : publisher not identified, 1950)

*Grandma was Mean (Continued from page 5)*

In 1937-1938 the Russian secret police (pre-KGB) were arresting thousands of citizens considered subversive to their communist philosophies. Grandma's brother, Thomas, was Verschleppt/abducted, arrested, confined in NKVD (Peoples Commission of Internal Affairs) prison # 38 in Odessa, interrogated, tortured, and found guilty of trumped-up charges. After a re-examination in 1959 truths were revealed that there never was basis for a case due to a lack of evidence and to a confession of guilt that was obtained through torture. Lastly, the commission determined that Thomas did not die in prison, but was actually "shot down." Grandma would have lost all contact with her family about this time. It was a criminal act for them to correspond with family or friends from a foreign country and Thomas had been found guilty of this crime.<sup>6</sup>

Grandma's nephew, Kasimir (Thomas' son), became one of an estimated 10 million Russian citizens who were sent to forced labor camps.<sup>7</sup> Kasimir, like his father, was Verschleppt in

1937, but he was not shot. He was young and strong and so Kazimir Tomasovich Baumstark, 24, was sentenced to 10 years of hard slave labor in the Gulag Ivdellag in the Northern Ural Mountains of Siberia.<sup>8</sup> His young pregnant wife, Olga, never saw him again, and Kasimir never met his son, Viktor.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Saratov Archives Fond 365 Op.1 Delos 1283, page 794, entry # 13, Village Selz.

<sup>2</sup> S.S. *Kroonland* from Antwerp, Belgium, 19 March 1910 to New York, New York, 29 March 1910.

<sup>3</sup> South Dakota Death Index #33818, p. 378 Mary A. Ferkel, Brown County, South Dakota, 27 April 1913.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph S. Height, *Paradise on the Steppe*, 326-328.

<sup>5</sup> David McCullough, *Truman* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1992), 419.

<sup>6</sup> NKVD Arrest Record, Tomas son of Kasimir Baumstark; Archive-historical reference on materials of archive case # 10977-p of discontinued cases found of Odessa region USBU Archives, retrieved June 2011.

<sup>7</sup> McCullough, *Truman*, 419.

<sup>8</sup> NKVD Order # 72, 9 July 1937, Selz; Search Record, Interrogation Record, Charges, Sentence Record; 1/24 case # 25326/Odessa region. Retrieved records in June 2011.

<sup>9</sup> Olga Palmtag Baumstark Weichel in 1996.

## Preserve the Pensions Phase II: Veteran Bounty Lands Project

The National Genealogical Society announced an agreement with the National Archives and Records Administration to index, digitize and make publicly available Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files ca. 1800– ca. 1900 totaling over 3300 cubic feet of records.

This project is expected to run from January 2024 through December 2027. A capital fundraising campaign will be launched to raise \$2.5 million for the project.

## National Archives Genealogy Series

The 2023 National Archives Genealogy Series is now available to view anytime for free. There are presentations on civilian records in military conflicts, basic military records from the Revolutionary War to 1917, strategies for

preserving family collections, Korean War records and other topics.

Access the videos and handouts at <https://www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2023>

The Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery launched the William Bache's Silhouettes Album featuring his 1,800 cut-paper silhouettes of famous and not so famous people. His silhouette portraits were created from 1803-1812 along the

eastern seaboard. Are your ancestors included in the album? Check it out at <https://si-npg-bache.helena.myquotient.net/index>

## North Dakota State Genealogical Society

5750 104 Ave SW

Regent, ND 58650

### THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

North Dakota State Genealogical Society  
5750 104 Ave SW  
Regent, ND 58650

#### Officers for 2022-2023:

President: Stella Papachek—[psmrasmu@gondtc.com](mailto:psmrasmu@gondtc.com)

Vice President:

Secretary:

Treasurer: Patrice Hartman—[patrice@ndsupernet.com](mailto:patrice@ndsupernet.com)

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Patrice Hartman—[patrice@ndsupernet.com](mailto:patrice@ndsupernet.com)

#### NDSGS Dues

Individual	\$5.00
Supporting	\$10.00
Society (1-10 members)	\$5.00
Society (11-25 members)	\$10.00
Society (26-50 members)	\$20.00
Society (51+ members)	\$35.00

Website: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/)



[www.facebook.com/#!/NorthDakotaStateGenealogicalSociety?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/#!/NorthDakotaStateGenealogicalSociety?fref=ts)

## Upcoming Events

**7 July 2023. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting. Bismarck.**

**4-6 Aug. Deuce of August. Mountain, ND**

<https://www.theduce.org/>

**21-23 Sept. 2023. Montana State Genealogy Conference. Bozeman.** <http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>

**23 Sept. 2023. Family History Workshop. Fargo.** <https://heritageed.com/>

**13 Oct. 2023. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting. Bismarck.**

**27-28 Oct. 2023. North Star Genealogy Conference. Eagan, MN.** <https://mngs.org/north-star-2023>