

NDSGS Newsletter

Spring 2011 —Volume 2, Issue 1

Spring 2011

Special points of interest:

- ND Genealogical Societies Reports
- ND State Archives Reports

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President's Letter

The pre-1925 North Dakota marriage index is now online at <http://greatriversnetwork.org/index.php>. This includes the indexes submitted by the State Archives as well as NDSGS. To use this index put a last name in the search box and click search. When the results come up, click on the collection name, then on the people link. This should provide a list of results.

More genealogical and historical records are appearing online as well as indices to original records. Online educational opportunities are also becoming more common. I recently "attended" the *RootsTech* conference in Salt Lake City from the comfort of my home. Several lectures were streamed online for anyone to view. This was a wonderful opportunity to learn about using new technologies to advance our genealogical research.

Family Search now has over 130 free courses online and available at your convenience at <https://learning.familysearch.org/researchcourses>. Topics range from basic how to courses to solving complex research problems and are sponsored by various organizations including the Midwest Genealogical Center, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Library of Congress, the Board for Certification of Genealogists and The International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen).

With all of these online opportunities this is a great time to be involved with genealogical research. And yes, we do still need to physically access various archives, courthouses and repositories to complete our research.

Pat Ashley

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society will be Friday, April 8, 2011 at the Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Central Time.

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.

Pam Olafson Furstenau will present a DVD she produced on the Icelandic celebration at Mountain.

North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

Patrice Hartman presented the following overview of the NDSGS at the Family History Workshop in Moorhead in October. Questions from the audience were answered, but no formal meeting was held.

Who We Are:

The North Dakota State Genealogical Society (NDSGS) was organized in 1996 with the following objectives: To promote and encourage an active interest in genealogy and history, to retrieve and preserve historical and genealogical records, to foster education and training in genealogical and historical research, to improve availability and access to public records, to serve as a resource, advocate and coordinator for local genealogical and historical societies. Our repository is the State Historical Society of ND (SHSND). We encourage the donation of genealogical material pertaining to ND to the SHSND.

The society meets three times a year to share information about new projects and accomplishments. The membership is comprised of all (known) genealogical societies in the State of North Dakota, representatives of the State Historical Society of ND (SHSND) and individuals throughout the country. The NDSGS executive board is made up of representatives of each of the ND genealogical societies.

Why We Exist:

The NDSGS has printed a newsletter three times a year beginning in July of 1995. Editors: John Mogren 1995-1997; Jacki Keck 1997-2001; John Mogren 2002-2007; Jessica Rossow 2008-2009; Pat Ashley and Patrice Hartman 2010-present.

Presentations, Field Trips:

Edward Erickson, Assistant Attorney General
David Mayer, Division of Vital Statistics
Alice Ellingsberg, Accredited or Certified Genealogist
Becky Doll, Village Family Services Adoption
Field Trip to Bismarck Marble & Granite
Ed Zuern, ND State Penitentiary
Liz King, ND Veterans Home
Art Rude, San Haven Sanitarium at Dunseith.
Pamela Lee, ND Division of Vital Statistics
Dr. Brent Askvig, State School at Grafton, ND
North Dakota Veterans History Project
Valborg Zander, Norwegian diary of her father a Lutheran Pastor
Vince Gillette, Native Americans
Sharon Silengo, Photo Archivist SHSND
Mark Halvorson, Collections Curator SHSND
Lottie Bailey, Deputy Archivist SHSND
Gerald Newborg, Archivist SHSND
Ann Jenks, Archivist SHSND
Bismarck Public Library Tour

Presentation on William E. Shemorry Photograph Collection

Tour of Bismarck State College Archives.

What We Have Done:

Members have worked on the indexing of the 1885 ND state census, cemetery compilations, funeral home records, pre-1925 marriage record indexes, school census record indexes and various other projects.

One of our major undertakings was to place the North Dakota Death Index online for use by the public.

North Dakota Death Index Project

Death Index Website: <https://secure.apps.state.nd.us/doh/certificates/deathCertSearch.htm>

The NDSGS received a \$1000.00 grant from the North Dakota Community Foundation in December of 2003 to fund the setup fees for the creation of the website for the North Dakota Death Index. The website went online on 7 November 2005 after almost two years of work with the ND Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics. There were various technical difficulties that delayed the website from a start date of 1 May to 7 November 2005.

The total cost paid by the NDSGS for the setup was \$3036.24. We were able to raise \$2395.00 in matching funds from other genealogical societies and genealogists from ND and other states. All of the funds were placed in a special project fund with the expense of copies and mailing the contribution appeal letter taken out.

Where We Are Going:

Many interesting programs have been presented and valuable ideas have been exchanged over the years. We hope to continue to grow and share our statewide resources to preserve our numerous records and to expand their use by all genealogists and historians.

Our current project is to place the ND pre 1925 Marriage Index online. The NDSGS received a \$500 Honoring Our Ancestors grant in December of 2006 for this project from Megan Smolenyak. We have had a number of meetings with the SHSND and Great Rivers Network representatives to work on this project. They have encountered many technical difficulties with getting the database set up. We are still gathering marriage data from the counties for this website.

List of Past and Current Presidents:

John Mogren 1995-1997
James Stark 1998-1999
Patrice Hartman 2000-2001

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NDSGS Presentation (Continued from page 2)

Patrice Hartman 2002-2003
Clara Bliss 2004-2005

Daphne Drewello 2006-2007
Susan Dingle 2008-2009
Pat Ashley 2010-2011

“Kirke and Kyrka” our Genealogical Journey to Denmark and Sweden May 2-16, 2010

By Patrice Johnson Hartman

I went on my own “Who Do You Think You Are?” journey last spring with my daughter Kira. We traveled to the Island of Moen in Denmark and southern Sweden where my paternal ancestors came from in the 1870's. I spent many hours planning and researching the motels and sights.

We rented a car in Copenhagen and drove about a hundred miles south and east to the Island of Moen.

All of my Danish ancestors came from this small island in Denmark. I really enjoyed the island with the rural atmosphere and quiet lifestyle. We spent 4 days here at a pension which is kind of like a hostel. The main town on the island is Stege which was founded in the middle ages. Many of the majestic churches on the island were built in the 1100's. Several of the churches that my ancestors attended have frescoes painted on the ceilings. We visited each of the 6 churches and obtained booklets about their history and artwork.

I spent time at the Mons Museum in Stege with the former archivist Hans Ole Petersen who I had corresponded with in the 1990's. He is retired now but still spends time there on a regular basis. He answered many of my questions and explained what records they have at the local archives in the museum. He said that we would be unable to locate the farms where my ancestors lived because the numbering systems have changed over the years and there is no way to determine the old numbers for the farms that exist now.

On our last day on the island we decided to go to the library in Stege just to see what books or other information they might have on the history of the area. They have a local history room and Kira found a book entitled “Spejlsby historie” by Svend Skov. Once I looked at the book I knew that I needed to obtain a copy of it. It was published in 2004 so I assumed I might have a chance to still purchase it. The book did not have any publication information and only the author's name was given and it was written in Danish.

So I asked the librarian if she knew how I could get a copy of the book. She did not know but offered to see if there was a Svend Skov listed in the phone book. She found a phone number in Spejlsby and then proceeded to call him and he answered. He could only speak Danish so she interpreted for me. He offered to come to the library and meet with me and give me a copy of his book. As it turned out he also had written a book on the church in the area, Keldby Kirke which he also gave me and aerial pictures of the little village of Spejlsby. The pictures showed the land my great great grandfather Jens Poulsen owned and this land is just across the road from Svend's farm. There are stories about Jens in his book. So a series of coincidences led us to locate the farm of my ancestor. We then drove to the area and looked at the farm location. After Jens left Denmark for the US the land was purchased by the neighbor across the road.

We met Svend's son and grandson who helped with translation. It was interesting that as farmers they had some of the same concerns that we have here in North Dakota. They don't agree with the government and can barely make a living on the farm. The wives usually work in town. Most of the farms are very small and every cm of land is used. They raise many of the same crops. Svend's family has lived at Traneholm (farm name) for three generations. I hope to continue to correspond with Svend through his son by email.

We then spent some time in Copenhagen visiting the sights there. Transportation was by train and bus around the city. We toured the Christiansborg Palace and the ruins underneath of earlier castles. We had hoped to attend church at the Tarnby church which was across the street from our hotel. It just so happened that it was confirmation Sunday so there was no place to sit. We stood in the entry as the confirmands came in. The young women were dressed in white formal dresses and the young men were in dress clothes with ties. I am pretty sure it was a Lutheran

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State Historical Society of North Dakota

by Rachel White, Head of Technical Services SHSND

New since August

Books:

- *Milnor, North Dakota, 1883-2008*
- *Hebron, 1885-2010 : pioneered from the past, looking to the future*
- *Alfred, North Dakota , 1904-2004*
- *The best of towns, the best of times, 1884-2009, 125 years, Braddock, North Dakota*
- *Elgin, North Dakota centennial : celebrating the past, embracing the future, 1910-2010*
- *125th anniversary : celebrating our heritage : 1884 Napoleon ND 2009*
- *Raleigh, North Dakota jubilee, 1910-1985*
- *Raleigh, N.D. centennial, 1910-2010*
- *Pettibone centennial : celebrating 100 years, 1910-2010*
- *The misplaced American, based on the memoirs of Elsie, Karl, Henry, Marta, Mina, Lisbeth, Armin and Ursula Vogt*
- *Graduates of Stutsman County, North Dakota schools, 1926-1935, compiled by G.L. Barron*
- *Knudson family history*
- *Enoch's saga : horsepower to satellite in a single lifetime, by Enoch Thorsgard*
- *Norwegians in America, their history and record : a translated version of the 1907 and 1913 Nordmaendene I Amerika, vol. 1, by Martin Ulvestad*
- *Still standing tall : Northwood North Dakota, 125 years, 1884-2009*
- *The first 400 years : remembering four of the families (Cote, Blondeau, Bernard, Collette) of Henry Louis Bernard, Grafton, N.D.*
- *Wimbledon-Courtenay 2010 all-school reunion, 1908 to 2010*
- *The Stevens family : a genealogical survey, by Richard Stevens and Florence (Stevens) Paul*
- *From Sweden to Eglon and beyond, by Helen Greenli Swenson*

Manuscripts:

- 11066, Eslinger family papers, 1939-1950
- 11067, Harold Sorenson papers, 1898-1986
- 11069, Dean Winkjer family collection, 1886-1956 (has film footage of the 1985 Wildrose, N.D. diamond jubilee celebration)
- 21079, Early history of Lidgerwood paper, 1936
- 11070, Trinity Lutheran Church of Flasher records, 1908-2010

Courthouse Postcards

Keith Vincent has been collecting postcards of county courthouses for over 20 years out of his love for architecture and history.

Postcards, but in some cases only amateur cards are available. He has traveled to over 2100 counties in 44 states to amass his collection.

He claims to have collected over 14,000 cards, at least one from every county (or parish) in the country. The collection is primarily of professional

<http://courthousehistory.com/>

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New Local Government Records

by Ann Jenks, State Archivist

Here is a list of local records we have taken in since the last newsletter came out. Also I have added more records to the local government records pages on our website, particularly for Morton and Burleigh counties.

- 41441 Benson County. Auditor, Real and Personal Property Assessment Records. 1970-1990. 6ft.
- 41468 Burke County. City of Columbus, City Council Minutes, 1938-1999, 4v.
- 41469 Burke County. City of Columbus, Ordinances, 1927-1988, 2v.
- 41481 Burleigh County. Superintendent of Schools, Highland School District #27, Teacher's Register, 1904-1918, 2v.
- 41477 Cass County. Clerk of Court, Appealed Cases, 1980-1997, 20ft.
- 41471 Divide County, Superintendent of Schools. Annual Financial Reports. 1954-1998. 1.5 ft.
- 41474 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Class Lists. 1930-1995. 0.25 ft.
- 41393 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools, Report of the County Superintendent of Schools of the Condition of Public Schools, 1910-1916, 2ff.
- 41472 Divide County, Superintendent of Schools. School District Maps. 1906-1921. 0.2 ft.
- 41475 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Special Education Plans. 1973-1975. 0.10 ft
- 41440 Emmons County. Clerk of Court, Judgment Transcripts, 1916-1930. 1 ft.
- 41398 Emmons County. Clerk of Court, Probate Case Files, 1884-1987. 65.5 ft.
- 41478 Foster County. City of Carrington. Auditor, Audit Reports, 1988-2005, .5ft.
- 41479 Foster County. City of Carrington. Auditor, Budgets, 1985-2003, .5ft.
- 41442 Kidder County. Clerk of Court, Criminal Case Files, 1887-1925. 1.6ft.
- 41462 Logan County. City of Napoleon, Board of Equalization Minutes, 1984, 1ff.
- 41461 Logan County. City of Napoleon, City Council Minutes, 1914-1996, 1ft., 4v.
- 41464 Logan County. City of Napoleon, Park Board Minutes, 1956-1972, 1ff.
- 41463 Logan County. City of Napoleon, Sales Tax Committee Minutes, 1998-2002, 1ff.
- 41465 Logan County. City of Napoleon, Treasurer's Account Book, 1941-1946, 1v.
- 41470 McLean County, Auditor. Abstract of Votes. 1924-1998. 4.5 ft.
- 41034 McLean County. Clerk of Court, Civil and Criminal Appealed Cases, n. d., 2.5 ft.
- 40879 McLean County. Clerk of Court, Miscellaneous Files, 1905-1911, .75 ft.
- 41445 McLean County. Clerk of Court, Probate Case Files, 1884-1999, 163 ft.
- 41459 McLean County. Recorder. Birth and Death Records, 1906-1996, 34v.
- 41443 Morton County. Social Services. Social Services Board Minutes, 1945-1984.
- 41480 Nelson County. City of Lakota. Auditor, Audit Reports, 1964-2006, .5ft
- 41467 Pembina County. Bathgate Township, Treasurer's Account Book, 1901-1903, 1v.
- 41466 Pembina County. Justice of the Peace Docket, Civil and Criminal, 1884-1887, 1v.
- 41482 Sheridan County. Auditor, Audit Reports, 1989-2006, .25ft.
- 41476 Stark County. Antelope School District #7, Clerk's Record, 1915-1917, 1v.
- 41473 Stark County. Extension Agent, Records. 1933-1984, .25ft.
- 41444 Ward County. City of Minot. Commissioners Proceedings, 1887-2001, 14r.
- 41453 Wells County. Clerk of Court. 4th District Court. Civil Actions, 1923-1924, 1r.
- 41452 Wells County. Clerk of Court, 5th District Court. Civil Actions, 1890-1921, 2r.
- 41455 Wells County. Clerk of Court. Citations, 1926-1945, 1r.

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North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

James River Genealogy Club

by George Barron

While our club does not meet again until April 5, members are busy doing genealogy and working on winter projects. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7PM, from April through November, alternately at Carrington and Jamestown. The April 5 meeting will be at the Northern Plains Electric Coop in Carrington. Details of our contact people, club internet page showing services and books for sale can be found on the North Dakota State Genealogical Society internet page. Links to these can be found on the ndgenweb home page.

Our September meeting was held at the Hi Acres Nursing Home Activity Room, with the program featuring members reporting on their most serendipitous moment while searching for ancestors. There were a lot of good interesting stories.

At our October meeting in Carrington, on October 5 had a two fold program. President Cathy Paulson started the meeting showing examples of church records. Some of us brought church record samples to pass around. The main part of the program were reports from various members who had attended the 2010 Moorhead University Family History Workshop. They summarized some of the interesting sessions that they had attended.

Our last meeting for the 2010 season was held November 2nd at the Alfred Dickey Library Basement Meeting Room. We had a presentation by member Linda Mohn, on her recent genealogy trip to Norway. We had a large crowd and not once did Linda “snukka da Norsk”!

Our next club meeting will occur at 7-9 PM on April 5, 2011 at Carrington. For the program, members are to bring reports on their winter projects and tell of some unusual deaths they have found while searching their family history. (I can hardly wait!)

Our searching experts continue to help client searchers from a distance looking for family in our four county search area. We are busy furnishing page copies of various publications which are indexed and up on our usgenweb county pages. One of the interesting searches we had recently was for more information and photos of an Army soldier from Wells County who was killed during the battle of The Bulge. The searcher was a young medical student from France who is writing a book on the battle and American soldiers who had lost their lives in the process.

The current help projects being followed by this reporter include printed indexes for the Jamestown *Sun* for 2010 and an index to the 2010 burial permits turned in to the Stutsman County Recorder.

This reporter is continuing the search for unusual deaths in the Jamestown area to add to the “murder” database and index. Things are going much slower this winter as I have run out of weekly newspapers and have to search in the microfilm of the daily *Jamestown Sun*. So lots of scanning is required to get through the four films of *Suns* for the year. I have only finished six years from 1961 thru 1966, but have added 1100 more deaths beyond the 2600 we had in the last index we printed in June 2010. By far, most are car crashes, but a few are “found frozen”, and some are juicy murder stories.

Southwestern North Dakota Genealogical Society

by Patrice Hartman

We have had to cancel most of our winter meetings due to the weather. Possible topics for future meetings are reading early handwriting, writing a life history, computer software, final pension payment records.

Our regular meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Dickinson Public Li-

brary. We usually meet in one of the basement meeting rooms. We have members from Stark, Hettinger and Dunn Counties who attend the meetings. Contact Patrice Hartman for more information at patrice@ndsupernet.com.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

by Diane Stevens

We have had a long winter of cold and snow and I, for one, am looking forward to spring and warmer temperatures. Our group meets on the first Saturday of the month except in July at the Minot Public Library, Minot, ND on the lower level.

In **January** there was no meeting as the first Saturday fell on New Year's Day. The nominating committee will bring the slate of candidates to the February meeting at which time we will vote. In **February** our group toured and had our meeting at the Railroad Museum. Many years of train history and memorabilia is housed there. Interesting. They will be celebrating 30 years this summer and 100 years for the building they are in. The slate of candidates was brought and a unanimous ballot was cast. We say thank you to the 2010 officers that served; President: Diane Stevens, Vice President: Betty Schlichting, Recording Secretary: Carol Schwan, Treasurer: Sheila Guvakosky, Corresponding Secretary: Lillian Vannett, NDSGS representative: Iona Loken, Editor of the RECORD: John Mogren, Board Members: Linda Ringsaker, Lillian Vannett, Mike Bartloff and Joan Peterson.

Those serving for 2011 are President: Diane Stevens, Vice President: Carol Schwan, Recording Secretary

Geri Bierman with Nancy Bergstazer filling in when needed, Treasurer: Sheila Guvakosky, Corresponding Secretary: Lillian Vannett, NDSGS Representative: Iona Loken, Editor of the RECORD: John Mogren, and Board Members: Linda Ringsaker, Lillian Vannett, Dwaine Kauffman and Joan Peterson.

In **March** faculty member Margaret Sherve and a group of students from Minot State University will report on the study they are doing in the cemetery located just east of the dormitory next to Broadway. They have presented their study and findings several times to other groups, so it will be interesting to find out what they actually do and what they report. The research goes on during the summer months. They only do a portion of the cemetery at a time.

Each month as we meet together there are tips shared on finding information for those searching for answers and there is always a good spirit among our group.

The next issue of the RECORD is being done in Burke County, Lucy Township. Thank you to John Mogren and others that gather and provide information for those publications.

Williams County Genealogical Society

by Gloria Johnson

The Williams County Genealogical Society last met in February. Correspondence was received from Astri Publishing in Waukon, Iowa offering Norwegian books for sale: *Norwegians in American, Their History & Record, translated version of 1825 - 1907, Vol. I* and *History of Norwegian Settlements thru 1870*

Gloria shared a gift that she received for Christmas -- Genographic DNA Kit. Two DNA swab samples are taken from the cheek cells, put in glass vials and sent in for processing. These samples are sent to the Genographic Project, c/o National Geographic Society, Houston, Texas. Genetic tests performed do not tell about your health. They are designed solely to discover what migration routes your ancestors followed. It will be interesting to receive the results.

In doing newspaper research in the library, Adrienne came upon an obituary for John L. Brown, who died 16 Oct 1944 in Williston, ND and was buried in Highland/St. Michael's Cemetery in Ray, ND. This individual had not been listed in our cemetery index book, so it has to be an unknown and unmarked grave. So we ordered a death certificate to validate the death date and where this Brown is buried. We later found this burial was listed as Johnny Bond, who has a brother Frank Bond buried in Highland cemetery. The death certificate told us that John L. Brown was born 23 Feb 1910 in Rugby, ND and died 16 Oct 1944 in the hospital in Williston, ND. He was buried in Highland cemetery, Ray, ND and was a farmer married to Dolly Fant in 1931 (div.). He was 34 years old, color was Negro. Father

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North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society

by Alfred A Buchholz

Already three months of 2011 have gone by and I still am wondering what happened to 2010. We have had a great start to this year and only can see that exciting things **happening at BMHGS**.

In January we held our meeting at the Golden Corral. We had a great meal and a very informal meeting.

In February, we had LaDonna Brave Bull Allard speak. She is the director of Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Tourism. He is a member of American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Vice-President of the Alliance of Tribal Tourism Association, President of North Dakota Native Tourism Alliance, and member of North Dakota Rural Tourism Association. She graduated from the University of North Dakota with a BS in history/Indian studies. She gave such a wonderful talk on Native American culture and genealogy that everyone gained a world of information in such a short time. I would recommend that if anyone ever has a chance to listen to any of her presentations or talks that they do so. I just feel sorry for all those that missed this meeting.

On the 10th of March, we had Brian Backes speak to us on the work that he has done on cemetery research. This again was a wonderful program. The stories that he told on locating and taking pictures of grave stones was very informative. One would not believe how many cemeteries that are not taken care of or forgotten. He puts his work on findagrave.com so everyone can find family plots and have pictures of them. This is an ongoing endeavor of Mr. Backes to find the stories of these people that lived and died in North Dakota. He wonders what their life was about, how they lived, and what their expectations were?

Coming up on April 14th, Mike Knudson will talk about his new book on researching Veterans. This should be very interesting topic as most of us had ancestors that were Veterans.

May 12th, we will have Patrice Hartman give a presentation on citing sources. Patrice is the secretary for the North Dakota State Genealogical Society. She was also one of the founding members and has served as president. She is a professional gene-

alogist with her own business called HartSearch Genealogy.

June 3rd, we are going to participate the 2011 Bismarck/Mandan Summer Reading Kickoff "One World, Many Stories" program at the North Dakota Heritage Center and North Dakota State Library. We will have a table with many interesting things for those that want to do genealogy. This will be a big event with an average attendance of about 3000. This will start at 10 am and finish at 4 pm.

June 9th, we will have Don Baglien present a program on "publishing using computer programs".

In July, we have no meeting, but hope that everyone has a happy 4th of July and gets a chance to do some Historical and Genealogy research.

August 11th is our potluck picnic. The location has not yet been determined. A notice will be in the Bismarck Tribune in the calendar of events for that day.

We are still trying to get confirmation on the rest of the speakers for September, October.

November 10th, Meredith Gross will present a program on keying for the World Archives Project. Interesting topic and worthwhile project. Meredith is publisher and editor of the Dakota Homestead put out by the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society. She is also the Societies website administrator.

December 9th is our seasonal program of sharing.

We also have been having a table at the Bismarck Veterans to help get those that are interested in genealogy find answers to their questions. Jackson Bird is the one who sets this up. We do this about once a month. The library has more information as to the days that it is done.

We also have been going into some of the area schools to give young students a feel for doing family history work. Gary Zentz has been doing a great job

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North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Minnkota Genealogical Society

By Larrie Wanberg

A full-year of activities opened the year in January with Minnkota Society programs that expand in two directions:

1. Increasing membership in remote clusters for those in homes or regional communities who are unable to attend onsite meetings but can connect via the Web.
2. Greater linkages to community resources, such as libraries, museums associations or organizations, for program exchanges or interactions.

In February, Michael Swanson, archivist at Special Collections from UND Chester Fritz Library, presented a program on "Genealogical Databases for North Dakota." In March, Lenore Anderson hosted a meeting at the Grand Forks LDS Family History Center.

Coming up in the Spring quarter is "Digital Story-mapping of Place-based Stories" by Larrie Wanberg,

"Diseases of Yesteryear" by Dr. Hogarth, and "Documenting Your Story" from Curt Hanson, from Special Collections at Chester Fritz Library.

Future plans include meetings on topics of personalized family-related histories of military veterans, ethnic homesteaders, or American Indian oral traditions.

Meeting are generally held on the second Tuesday at Campbell Library in East Grand Forks, which received a grant for state-of-the-art technical equipment for meetings, both onsite and online. Explorations for how to best benefit from this resource are being considered by the Board to achieve the two objectives listed above.

Elections in November voted Larrie Wanberg as president, Michael Swanson as vice-president, Joanne Fritz as Secretary and Harold Evans as Treasurer.

WCGS Report (Continued from page 7)

Clarence Brown of Piqua, Ohio and mother was Emma Bond of Hymore, SD. Informant was Mrs. Emma Bond Perchman of Ray, ND. Colored people were found around the Williston and McKenzie County areas but we had not heard of the Ray, ND area.

In researching the family further we find grandma Emma Jane Bond came to Ray, ND with her son Frank Bond and grand-son John L. Brown in the early 1900's. Grandma Emma Jane Bond died 4 Dec 1927 in Ray, ND and we don't know where she is buried....no obit was found in Ray papers and her death certificate does not say where she is buried. We feel she also is in the Ray cemetery (so are busy visiting with some old timers in that city). Son Frank Bond died 27 Mar 1944 and is buried in Highland cemetery per documents we have. Grandson John L. Brown who died 16 Oct 1944 is buried in Highland cemetery per documents we have received

and will be added to the cemetery in place of Johnny Bond (incorrect info on cemetery records). Daughter Emma (Bond) Brown Perchman died 2 Dec 1953 in Minot, ND and is buried in Rosehill cemetery in Minot per documents we have (she is the mother of John L. Brown). Son Joseph bond died 20 Feb 1951 in Minot, ND and is buried in Rosehill cemetery in Minot, ND.

If anyone has any information on this colored BOND family in Ray or Minot, ND, please let our society know at gjohnson@dia.net. This interesting family story will be added to our cemetery notebooks in the library. So many interesting stories have come our way in continuing our obituary project on all rural cemetery burials in Williams County, ND

Our next society meeting will be held May 14th. We are hoping for good weather and perhaps a trip to the cemeteries in Ray and Tioga, ND to check further on the location of these graves.

Genealogical Journey (Continued from page 3)

church and the confirmands were probably about age 14 or so. We stayed for a couple songs and then left.

On Monday, May 10th we traveled by train from Copenhagen to Malmo, Sweden over the Oresund bridge/tunnel. We rented another car in Malmo and then drove north to Goteborg. Along the way we stopped in Halmstad and met Vage Ericsson who I had met through genealogical correspondence. He was very helpful in explaining things in Sweden and with contacting the medical clinic and pharmacist. At that point I needed to get antibiotics to fight an infection. We then went onto Trollhattan and visited the clinic and drug store there. After a visit to the Trollhattan tourist bureau we found out that the Vastra Tunhem Kyrka or church was open that afternoon. So we went to Vastra Tunhem and drove through some of the small communities surrounding it where my ancestors lived. It is also a farming community with some earning their living by mining coal or working on estates in the area.

The next day we went to Vargon to the church district office to determine if any of my ancestors buried at Vastra Tunhem had a gravestone. We did not find them in the cemetery database but Helene was able to print maps of the areas around the churches so that we could find the small communities. We then visited the Flo church and Vassanda Naglum church neither of which were open. We drove around the falls in Trollhattan and some time was spent at second hand stores as we waited to be able to pick up the antibiotics. We found a few interesting embroidery items that we purchased.

We traveled onto Jonkopping that night. This was the only hotel that did not have our reservation but they did give us a room. They had a fantastic breakfast that was included in the hotel fee. There must of been 7 different counters with everything from hot breakfast to meats and cheeses, yogurt, fruit, cereal, breads, cookies etc. We saw very few sweet pastries served for breakfast on our trip. You could buy them in grocery stores and gas stations. So we did try a few along the way.

The next day we drove to Vimmerby and stopped at the Tourist Bureau to see where the churches were located and to see if they would be open. They were not able to contact anyone that day. Since it was a holiday there (Ascension Day) some things were not open. We did go to Locknevi Kyrka and Hjorted Kyrka but neither building was open. That evening we drove to Overum and stayed at the hostel there. We

had a nice apartment with a kitchen and bathroom in the upstairs of the main building. The café was in the cellar or basement of the main building.

I decided to try to return to the churches hoping they would be open on Friday. We stopped in Vastervik at the Tourist Bureau and she tried to call but no one answered. We went to Hjorted first and found someone who opened the church for us. We obtained a brochure and a musical CD of the choir.

We then stopped at Anskarum along the lake and had a dagens lunch of fish and meatballs. We then traveled back to Locknevi but it was locked. We talked to a man along the street and he said the church would be open on Saturday and Sunday. Drove onto Norkopping and stayed at a hotel downtown with parking only on the street. It was very noisy as a party was going on. Beds were nice and the breakfast was good.

On Saturday we drove to Stockholm and tried to go to "Skansen" the worlds oldest open air museum. Kira wanted to see their textile exhibit. It was extremely busy that day and we had a hard time finding a parking place. Decided we did not have enough time to see it so traveled on to the airport and returned the car. We took a shuttle bus to the airport and had to stand as the bus was full. We got off at Terminal 5 and just walked and explored the airport. Found some soft chairs to sit in and took turns looking at the shops and the place we were staying overnight. All the shops in that area closed at 5 PM.

Because we had an early morning flight I had booked us a room at the Rest N Fly right in the airport. Rent is charged by the hour so we had to decide how long to rent the room for. The room was basically a cubicle with a bunk bed. The showers and toilets were down the hall.

All went well with our flight home through Amsterdam and Minneapolis. We had a 4 hour wait in Minneapolis so were pretty tired by the time we arrived in Bismarck at midnight. We were very glad to be home and to have nice warm showers.

We had very little trouble with languages on our trip as most people could speak English. Students there are required to take up to 6 years of English in school. The driving was a bit challenging as the roads are quite narrow and most of the vehicles are small. Our rental vehicles were a bit larger than most of the local vehicles. The instructions in the vehicles were all in Danish or Swedish so that was a bit of a problem. Overall we had a great trip with only a few minor inconveniences along the way.

Madame Jennie Ogg of Kenmare, ND

by John Mogren

It was another muggy summer evening in Kenmare and I hopped on my bike to go to Maxine's Tastee Freez for a swirl ice cream cone. I spotted Art sitting in the shade of his brightly painted house. I rode my bike over the lawn and leaned it against the house as I plopped down by him in the vacant mesh lawn chair. Art was an easy one to talk with...and despite my age of 15, and my opinion that anyone over 40 was "old", he at 70+ could capture my interest with his stories. Most often Art steered the discussion to spiritual things but on this night he made a vague remark about a killing that had happened near Kenmare years ago "on an evening much like this." His eyes seemed to be trying to look at something distant and he continued by saying "it was across the lake." Pausing, he added there was a house there then and a woman had a gambling joint and sold liquor. One night, things got out of hand and a man got shot. As suddenly as the conversation began it was over and Art began to talk about other things. So while the discussion had ended for him, it set my mind racing. It was like one of those mystery stories you are reading and even if you set the book down you continue to think about it. Who got shot I wondered? A few days later, I saw Walter and asked him if he knew anything about a place across the lake where there was gambling and drinking in the early days and someone got shot. Walt laughed and asked "where did you hear that?" He continued with a laugh and said, "they could have written a book about Jennie Ogg. When you're older..." While the conversation again ended with no specific details it would be years before my interest would peak sufficiently to seek the story of Jennie Ogg.

Jennie Ogg was born Martha Jane Guinn on 17 March 1864 in Iowa the daughter of Lawson James and Rebecca Ann (Jewell) Guinn. Her father was born in Kentucky and her mother in Ohio. They moved several times while Jennie was a child, living in Iowa and Illinois. Jennie married Carl A. Ogg on 17 October 1889 in Quincy, Illinois. His name is only known through the record of marriage and I have been unable to locate any other information on him. Jennie seems to drop from sight for many years and it is thought that she lived by an assumed name during this time. While Jennie is not listed in the 1903 Kenmare Census, in 1905, she surfaces (by herself) as

a resident in Kenmare and lives here until moving onto the Brown homestead that year (according to the Ward County Tax records).

Jennie purchased the 160 acre homestead (NE 1/4 24-160-89) of William W. & Elizabeth Brown on January 17, 1907 for the sum of \$2,500. This is interesting as the tax valuation of the property was less than \$1,000. Jennie employed George Hamacher as her hired man. He was born about December of 1865 in Michigan the son of German emigrants and had lived in Casselton and worked as a laborer prior to moving to the Kenmare area. According to the tax records Jennie also had livestock when she occupied the "resort" in Elmdale Township.

North Dakota was a "dry State" at this time and trying to enforce prohibition was a challenge for law enforcement. They found some assistance with assistant deputies and with "spotters" as well as with the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) members and supporters. The role of the "spotters" was to discover the location where the illegal alcohol was being sold and inform the law enforcement so that a raid could be coordinated. The WCTU in the Kenmare area was less aggressive but focused their energy on finding members who would pledge to be abstinent "from all harmful things." Despite efforts by the State, the making and selling of alcohol continued statewide and each community had its share of individuals who made homebrew. Some of the older emigrants had the recipe in their heads and some of the younger men learned by a trial and error method to make alcohol. In some cases the concoction was lethal. In review of the early Kenmare News and Kenmare Journal we find stories of public drunkenness, which sometimes resulted in public brawls.

"Blind pig" was the term used to identify a place where illegal alcohol was sold. Some of the drinks were imported liquor that had been smuggled into the state and if there wasn't a supply it might be necessary to find homebrew for the patrons. "Blind" referred to the old custom of drawing the blinds or covering the windows in order to carry out their business in secrecy. The person selling the liquor was commonly known as the "blind pigger." A customer would

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Jennie Ogg (Continued from page 11)

show up and if the pigger knew him the sale would go quickly, the money would be laid out and he'd be given some alcohol. While the North Dakota prohibitionists were waging war on alcohol it was a battle that was ongoing. Jennie Ogg's farmstead became a locally recognized "blind pig". Her farmstead was referred to in the local newspapers as the "Ogg Resort" and also "at the Forty." Initially this place was known as a location men played cards, gambled and on occasion had drinks. But after some time, Jennie learned there were customers who would pay for more than just liquor and so she began to hire women to come and work for her as "entertainers" for the men. Minot had an active "red light district" for many years and finding women to come to the resort for a few days didn't seem to present any difficulty. Jennie could board the train at the Kenmare Depot and be in Minot in a short time. She would then solicit women to come up to Kenmare and "entertain the coal miners and other patrons."

As early as April of 1910, Jennie Ogg and George Hamacher were arrested for "running a bawdy house outside of Kenmare." This created quite a stir in Kenmare as the people talked about the "house of ill-repute" across the lake. When the initial complaint came before Judge Davis, the State introduced evidence of three "inmates" working at the resort. The "girls" related that they had been solicited to work and once there, were not allowed to leave. They ultimately escaped during the darkness of night. The State asserted that the women were actually victims of the "White Slave Traffic." However in a strange twist, Jennie Ogg had a warrant sworn that Maggie Carter had abandoned her nine-year old daughter and the focus shifted from Jennie. A few weeks later Margaret Carter was caught at Portal and her arrest was made there. Edna Gibbs was arrested at the same time. The women were then taken to the Ward County jail, which housed the females on the ward upstairs. Margaret's daughter was "placed in the comfortable care of the sheriff's quarters." Since the third person who fled from the Ogg Resort was willing to testify against Ogg and Hamacher she was not arrested and put in jail. The court transcript mentions that the court took into consideration that Jennie was caring for her elderly mother, Rebecca Guinn at the resort. Jennie's mother Rebecca died on May 7, 1910 and was interred in the Lakeview Cemetery at Kenmare. It wasn't long and it was business as usual and Jennie received her first conviction on September 21, 1910.

Kenmare News - September 29, 1910

Jennie Ogg Is Convicted

Of Running a Bawdy House is Sentenced to 100 Days in Jail

"Two of the cases from Kenmare were disposed of in County Court the past week before Judge Kirk. The jury in the case against Jennie Ogg, who conducted the resort west of town brought in a verdict of guilty. The case was tried on an affidavit of prejudice against Judge Davis who called in Judge Kirk to sit in the case. The case against her paramour, George Hammacher who was tried on a charge of maintaining a common nuisance resulted in a disagreement of the jury, after being out eighteen hours. In the second charge as placed against these same people, Ogg and Hammacher plead guilty to the charge of conducting a disorderly house. Jennie Ogg was fined \$25.00 and costs amounting to \$25.00 and sentenced to jail for twenty-five days. On the charge of maintaining a nuisance, the Ogg woman received a sentence of one hundred days in the county jail with a fine of \$390.00 and the costs. The woman has already made an application for a new trial and intends to fight the case. Amongst the witnesses made prominent in the case were Cap Smith, Kenmare's Chief of Police and William Carney and his wife, who it is alleged by the complaining witness in the case, were frequenters of the Ogg house on the west side of the lake. The complaining witness in the case, who were former inmates of this resort, tell an awful story of the life that they lead while inmates of the house. Other charges are pending against the keepers of this notorious resort, which it is expected will be tried in district court not withstanding that there is a rumor afloat that this man "Cap" has promised to have everything fixed for these two people. The complaining witnesses have been kept a Minot for several months to appear at these cases and there is no reason why they should not be pushed. If this man "Cap" can fix the States Attorney's office and the court so the cases will be dropped it is getting high time that an exposure is made of the whole deal from Kenmare to Minot mattering not who an investigation would involve."

Things went from bad to worse. Jennie had mortgaged the "resort" in June of 1907 and on 11 November 1911, the foreclosure of her "resort" property occurred. The Sheriff's deed lists "Taxes paid and transfer entered November 16, 1912 by John H. Nelson." Despite this change in ownership, it appears

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Jennie Ogg (Continued from page 12)

she continued to operate her “resort” at the same location.

Jennie was able to keep her (liquor) business going, and by the names of the men who bailed her out from time to time, it appears she had her supporters. As some of these supporters have descendants still in the Kenmare area, the supporter’s names shall not appear in this article. Jennie seems to do her business without much interruption until January 1913.

Ward County Independent, January 2, 1913

Jennie Ogg and her bevy of damsels were arrested at Kenmare during the night and brought to Minot. Warrants were issued for eight upon complaint of Col. Scarlett, State Human Officer. It is alleged that the woman recently gathered our young Minot girls and took them to her resort by the lake at Kenmare.

Kenmare Journal, January 2, 1913

As a result of a drunken row at the Jennie Ogg ranch, George Hamacher is at the hospital having the outlines of his face and head restored to their normal positions and pristine beauty. Seems George commenced serving notice on the assembled guests that he was cock of the walk, or something to that effect, and proceeded to make his authority more impressive by flashing a gun. This did not sit well upon the orderly mind of one of the sojourners and he smote George sorely, hip and thigh, until he cried enough! But, by the eternal, they do have peace out there even if they have to fight for it!

Minot Daily Reporter, January 4, 1913, front page

WOMAN AGAIN IN SERIOUS TROUBLE - Jennie Ogg, notorious Kenmare Character, arrested and brought to Minot. Jennie Ogg, a rather notorious character who has resided west of Kenmare for a number of years and has given authorities more or less trouble having served a sentence in the Ward County jail for “pigging” was arrested today and brought to Minot this afternoon by Deputy J. J. Nedreloe. Captain Scarlett, State Humane Officers has been investigating this case for several days and it appears that the Ogg woman has made a practice of sending girls from this city (Minot) to Kenmare for immoral purposes. A young woman was arrested with Miss Ogg and the two will be given a hearing before Justice Lynch this evening.

The chief complaints in 1913 were initiated by Kenmare Attorney L. J. Palda Jr., against George Hamacher and Jennie Ogg and also Kenmare physician I. C. J. Wiig against George Hamacher. At this time, I haven’t found any information to indicate the outcome of this court action.

It is interesting to note that the *Kenmare Journal* reports on October 16, 1913, That there was another bust at a resort “on the outskirts of Kenmare” but this time Jennie Ogg’s name does not appear but rather the name of two other people along with three “female inmates.” (Names not printed in this article as there may or may not be a connection to present day descendants.) I am of the opinion this is an altogether different “resort” with this one being the “resort” on the Beagle homestead directly southeast of Kenmare. I don’t find Jennie Ogg listed in the North Dakota State Census for 1915, but in the 1915 Ward States Attorney Docket her name appears again. A complaint was filed on July 13, 1915 for keeping and maintaining a common nuisance by R. A. Nestor, Ward County States Attorney.

In December 13, 1916, an affidavit was filed at Kenmare by Walter Smith against Jennie Ogg for maintaining a common nuisance and selling liquor. The affidavit alleges that he went to the resort, known as the “Forty” and purchased beer there and during the course of the evening was robbed of an amount between \$85.00—\$100.00. This complaint was sufficient for legal action to begin as now someone who had actually been at the resort was willing to come forward and tell all. This is listed as the second offense in the court record which appears to mean that the 1913 and 1915 arrests didn’t result in convictions. This 1916 complaint was the action that ultimately ended Jennie’s days of operating the “resort.” On February 27, 1917 Jennie appeared in District Court at Minot. Some of the (male) Kenmare area residents subpoenaed to testify, refused and they were thrown in jail for ten days for contempt of court. The tide turned as past customers at the resort ultimately gave in and testified against Jennie. She was convicted that month on the second charge of the crime of keeping and maintaining a common nuisance and blind pigging (selling liquor) which was a felony offense. She was sentenced on March 26, 1917 to two years in the North Dakota State Penitentiary. She appealed the District Court’s decision and it was heard in the North Dakota Supreme Court in April 1918. The Supreme Court dismissed the appeal and notified her bondsmen to produce her to the Ward County Sheriff, for transport to the North Dakota

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Jennie Ogg (Continued from page 13)

State Penitentiary to serve a sentence of two years. Jennie Ogg was placed in the State Penitentiary on April 11, 1918. She was the first woman from Ward County to be sent to the State Penitentiary and the fourth woman in the state to be placed there. Jennie remained until her release on September 1, 1919 at which time she moved to Minot, ND to live. Because this was a felony offense, she lost her citizenship rights. She lived in Minot where on September 7, 1929 she married Henry J. Wilson, a long time Kenmare resident. Henry was born June 19, 1857 in Yorkshire, England. Henry and his wife Mary, also an English emigrant and their two sons Michael and John had homesteaded in Spencer Township, Ward County. Henry and Mary lost their two sons to death in the 1918 Spanish Influenza epidemic. He

and his wife moved off of the farm shortly after that into Kenmare and his beloved Mary died on February 11, 1924 in Kenmare. Henry was an Englishman who liked to sing but it was said after the tragedy of his family's death he no longer had a voice to sing. He resided for a time at the Sheaf Hotel in Kenmare. We can speculate that Jennie provided some comfort to him in his old age and perhaps he was a comfort to her as he provided her some security. Henry died February 4, 1937 in Kenmare and was buried by his wife Mary and their two sons in the St. Agnes Catholic Cemetery at Kenmare.

Jennie continued to make her home in Kenmare where she maintained a low profile with a few close friends. She died at Kenmare on July 24, 1943 and was laid to rest by her mother in the Lakeview Cemetery on July 28, 1943.

BMHGS Report (Continued from page 8)

on this and these students have been given an opportunity to discover their family heritage.

As you can see we have been very active and hope that others will join us. Everyone is welcome to come to our meetings. We would hope that others might want to join our organization to help us continue with this great society.

Allen County Public Library News

The Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has one of the largest genealogical research collections. They have recently launched a new website at <http://www.genealogycenter.org> which includes several online databases compiled by the library and volunteers.

The website also has other resources including full text books, digitized by Internet Archives, and the Center's Pathfinders to various research guides. The Ask a Librarian has been expanded so patrons can ask a genealogy librarian their reference questions. And an orientation video is also available to help plan a research visit.

Iowa Death Index

Substantial gaps exist in the Iowa county microfilms of deaths between 1917 and 1934. The State Historical Society of Iowa has begun indexing these state level pre-1935 deaths that are not on microfilm and are putting these indices on their website at <http://www.iowahistory.org/archives/holdings/index.html>. Records are organized by county in pdf

format with columns for birth date, birth place, death date, mother's maiden name, death certificate number and archive box. Copies may be obtained by contacting the Historical Library and Archives Reading Room to order a photocopy of the certificate and pay a basic reference fee. Or visit the Reading Room in person and pay only the photocopy fee.

Wanted : Genealogical Articles

Submit your genealogical article to Patrice Hartman (patrice@ndsupernet.com) or Pat Ashley

(pashley@ndsupernet.com) for inclusion in a future issue of this Newsletter.

New Local Government Records *(Continued from page 5)*

- 41449 Wells County. Clerk of Court, Coroner's Record, 1904-1938, 1v.
41454 Wells County. Clerk of Court. County Court. Civil Actions, 1907-1928, 3r.
41448 Wells County. Clerk of Court, County Court Journal, 1907-1923, 1v.
41458 Wells County. Clerk of Court. District Court. Justice's Civil Docket, 1890-1922, 1r.
41447 Wells County. Clerk of Court, Inheritance Tax Record, 1913-1918. 1v.
41450 Wells County. Clerk of Court, Judgment Record Books, 1894-1931, 11v.
41456 Wells County. Clerk of Court, Minute Book, 1890-1925, 1r.
41457 Wells County. Clerk of Court, Minute Book, 1923-1965, 1r.
41446 Wells County. Clerk of Court. Will Record. 1890-1916. 1v.
41451 Wells County. Recorder. Abstract of Certificate of Sire, 1891-1898, 1v.
41460 Williams County. Social Services, Social Services Board Minutes, 1942-1983, 2.25ft.

2011 Membership Dues are Due!

Our membership year is the same as the calendar year:

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Please make checks out to NDSGS and mail
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North Dakota State Genealogical Society

PO Box 485

Bismarck, ND 58502-0485

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

North Dakota State Genealogical Society
PO Box 485
Bismarck, ND 58502

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

We're on the web!

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/

Upcoming Events

26 March 2011. Workshop. 9am-4pm. RRVGS Library, Suite L116, Fargo.

8 April 2011. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting. 1-3pm in Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck.

29-30 April 2011. British Isles Family History Days, Eden Prairie, Minnesota. For more information: <http://mngs.org/>.

11-14 May 2011. National Genealogical Society Family History Conference, Charleston, South Carolina. For more information: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info.

3-5 June 2011. Roots 2011, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Will be the largest English-language genealogical conference ever held in Quebec. For more information: www.qfhs.ca.

16-19 June 2011. Icelandic Celebration, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. For reservations, please contact Dianne O'Konski at deokonski@charter.net or (952) 898-0611

15-18 September 2011. Dakota Memories Heritage Tour, south-central North Dakota. For more information: <http://www.library.ndsu.edu/grhc/dakotamemories/heritage/index.html> or call Acacia Stuckle (701) 231-6596.

22-24 September 2011. Montana State Genealogical Society Conference, Kalispell, Montana. For more information: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mtmsgs/Conferences/2011Kalispell.htm>.

1 October 2011, HEC Family History Workshop, Moorhead, Minnesota. For more information : <http://www.heritageed.org/>.

7-8 October 2011. North Star 2011 Genealogy Conference, Minnesota. For more information: <http://mngs.org/calendar.htm#northstar>.

North Dakota State Genealogical Society

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