

NDSGS Newsletter



Volume 1 : 2008 - June



Special points of interest in this issue:

- North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes
- North Dakota Genealogical Societies reports
- State Historical Society of North Dakota, State Archives report
- Feature articles



Society Reports

Presidents letter	Page 1
BCHGS Report	Page 4
BMHGS Report	Page 2
CNDGS Report	Page 4
JRGC Report	Page 4
MKGS Report	Page 2
MRLGS Report	Page 3
RRVGS Report	Page 3
SWNDGS Report	Page 3
WCGS Report	Page 4



NDSGS President's Letter

It looks spring has finally come to North Dakota!! Flitting about town are robins and sparrows and wild turkeys—I've seen two in local yards—and some seldom-seen birds. It'll be air conditioning season in no time...

The NDSGS was treated to a tour of the North Dakota State Archives at the State Historical Society of North Dakota at the March meeting, and we got to meet the new State Archivist, Ann Jenks, in person. Moving records into the new addition and getting the heating and cooling system to operate "as advertised" will take some time. All staff in the archives are involved in planning and carrying out the move, along with their regular job responsibilities. Ms. Jenks has extensive archival experience and is sympathetic to the research and archival records interests of genealogists. Jerry Newborg, now State Archivist Emeritus, serves as a volunteer and he met with Jenks to offer continuity on archives programs and issues he was involved within his more than twenty years at the State Archives. Genealogists and the state in general are lucky in the selection of Jenks as State Archivist, we think.

The next meeting of the NDSGS is Friday, June 13, 2008. **PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL MEET FOR THIS MEETING AT THE BISMARCK VETERANS MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, 515 North Fifth Street, Bismarck.** Our meeting is in Meeting Room B. To get to the meeting room, take the stairs or elevator just inside the lobby door. Kate Waldera, Head of Reference and a sometime historical and genealogical researcher herself, will give us a tour of the genealogical resources at the Bismarck Public Library and will show us the Missouri Room, the rare book and photo collection on Bismarck history, that is in the basement of the library. Then we will return to Meeting Room B for our business meeting. If you have agenda items or questions, please let me know at suzsaid@hotmail.com.

Best wishes in your genealogical research and see you Friday, June 13, 2008, at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library at 1:00 p.m.!

Susan Dingle, President, NDSGS

Next Meeting!

The North Dakota State Genealogical Society will meet at 1:00 PM June 13, 2008 at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, in Meeting Room B. All Genealogical societies in North Dakota have paid their membership and are encouraged to send a representative of their society.

Susan



North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports



Minnkota Genealogical Society

Submitted by *George Freeman*

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~minnkota/>

March 11, 2008 Program - Skill building session: Passenger lists and Immigration records given by Lucinda LeBel. She listed several places to search for information: AAD database, Castle Garden, Ellis Island, Ancestry.com (you have to pay for this web site), www.theshipslist.com. She also uses wildcat library as a search engine for all libraries.

April 8, 2008 Program - Boyd Wright gave a presentation "Where Do Surnames Come From". Here are some of the links he made reference to:

- http://genealogy.about.com/library/glossary/bl_occupations-a.htm
- <http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/index.html>

Some Very Interesting Examples of Surnames and Their Meanings shared by Boyd:

- **Amen Man** - Parish Clerk
- **Hacker** - Wood Cutter
- **Clod Hopper** - Ploughman
- **Banker** - Digger of Drainage Ditches
- **Guinea Pig** - Roving (Freelance) worker paid a guinea a day
- **Knocker Up** - Man who awoke factory workers with a long stick - knocking on bedroom windows
- **Necessary Woman** - Servant who emptied and cleaned the chamber pot
- **Whipping Boy** - Lad who was whipped instead of Royal Person
- **Hooker** - Grain reaper
- **Dog Leech** - a Veterinarian
- **Cinder Wench** - Female who collected cinders from factories for sale door to door

May 13, 2008 Program - The program was presented by Coleen Peterson. She made a family history presentation using Microsoft Powerpoint that included embedded audio, video, and pictures. Very well done!

Virginia Tupa has finished books of all 4 cemeteries in Grand Forks under the name of the Minnkota Genealogy Society. The 4 books will be contributed to ND State Historical Society. The information is also being entered on www.findagrave.com. Virginia had a little help in the beginning but singlehandedly finished the job. Great job Virginia!!

Upcoming Meetings in 2008 - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM East Grand Forks, MN Public Library.

Bismarck Mandan Historical & Genealogical Society

<http://www.bmhgs.com/>

Submitted by *Meredith Gross*

Greetings from the BMHGS!

If you attended the 2008 Genealogy Workshop and enjoyed the day, you were not alone. Many attendees had a wonderful and fun filled day. The workshop was a great success. Thank you to all who helped and joined us to make it a great day. Everyone learned something and hopefully has begun their own Journey or continued on their Journey Into Genealogy.

At our May meeting we had a tour of the Bismarck Public Library. What a great resource for genealogy research. They have several areas of reference material, access to Ancestry.com, and the ability to request microfilm from other facilities to be viewed at the library during their operating hours, which may be more conducive to those of us who work. June 12, we will have Gary Grinaker from Photo Express talking about preserving photographs. Hope you will be able to join us at the library at 7 p.m. that evening. If you wish, you could bring a problem photo of your own and ask Gary questions.

We would be happy to have you join us each second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., at the Bismarck Public Library. You can check out our website for the schedule of upcoming programs at <http://www.bmhgs.com>



North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports



Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ndmrlgs/>

Submitted by *Linda Ringsaker*

On May 3, 2008, we had our meeting at the LDS Family History Center, 2025-9th Str. NW, Minot, ND. Joan and Gordon Peterson, who are members of our group, gave us a tour of their Family History Center. They have computers that are hooked up to sites like Ancestry.com and to the LDS church files in Utah. They had files and books that we could look at also. Volunteers are there on certain times and days to help people who would like to look up their genealogy.

We are having Louise Stark and Pat Mayer coming to our June meeting to give us a presentation on the Renville County History project. We would like to invite everyone to come and hear them. We have been very happy to have speakers with so much information. We hope to have more speakers come to share their experiences.

Red River Valley Genealogical Society

<http://www.redrivergenealogy.com/>

Submitted by *Jackie Marler*

RRVGS Library is back on its three day summer schedule. We invite any to visit the library, nominal (\$1) use fee for non members and see what over 4,000 family history resources look like & how they might help you. The Library is volunteer staffed so phone before visiting (701) 293-4129. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday 11-3, Saturday 11-3. See you there.

Our website continues to hiccup, your patience is requested, and we hope that things will soon be back to normal so we can get back to our major function of providing resources for research.

The scanning of our publications by the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) has been completed and we have received dozens of high-quality DVDs of our records. GSU plans in decades in the future to make these scans (or whatever is then the current technology) available on a website.

RRVGS is hoping to collect the headstone inscriptions of the 20 or so of the remaining uncollected cemeteries of Roseau County, Minnesota this summer. This project has been in the works a long time and once the collection work is done, and publishing begun it will be published in paper form.

The Hallinglag of America, which group houses its 500+ collection of resources at our Library will be taking part of their collection on the road to Minot, ND, 19-22 June. The annual convention is held at the Minot Holiday Inn and has as its theme "Genealogy 101" in honor of the Lag's 101st year of operation. Saturday events are a "mini" genealogical seminar featuring these speakers /topics:

- ⇒ Arland Fiske, History of Norway & Hallingdal
- ⇒ Jackie Marler, Hallinglag genealogical resources
- ⇒ Joann Winistorfer, Beginning Norwegian genealogy
- ⇒ Marcia Hansen, Making Connections

The Saturday seminar is open to the public, \$25/person, must pre-register by 13 June, info and registration call (701) 487-3312 or email: genesis@westriv.com

Happy Ancestor Hunting this Summer...

South West ND Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ndstark/>

Submitted by *Patrice Hartman*

Preservation of all your genealogy materials was the topic for our February meeting. In March we looked at internet sites for Irish research. In April we discussed the recent genealogy workshop in Bismarck and looked at early tax records in depth. In May we will discuss how to research ancestors who were deaf and where to locate information in the records.



North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports



James River Genealogy Club

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ndjrge/>

Submitted by *George Barron*

Our James River Genealogy Club held the first meeting of 2008 on April 1. The program for the meeting were reports by members on what they accomplished on their winter projects. Everyone had an interesting story, and many samples of their work were passed around.

At our May 6 meeting, we heard from new member, Marilyn Kruger of Sheyenne, with her report on attending the Bismarck family history workshop. She was very impressed with the workshop and described each learning session she attended, complete with pass around handouts. It was an interesting meeting with many members requesting to borrow parts of Marilyn's new materials.

Since several counties and cities are having 125th anniversaries, including Foster County, and Jamestown. Member homework assignments are to bring a story or pass around item relating to the history of their area to our next meeting, June 3.

(It was pointed out to me that I gave the wrong meeting dates for our club in the May NDSGS newsletter. We meet the FIRST Tuesday of the months April through November--weather permitting!) Since most of the 125th celebrations are planned for the last of June and the first of July, this will be a prelude to those celebrations.

The group is planning an August meeting in Jamestown, as possibly a dinner meeting.

A committee from the Jamestown 125th anniversary has the job of organizing the Jamestown and Stutsman County cemeteries into a plan to help celebration attendees find the grave sites of their relatives. The committee will be using our databases and three cemetery books for the county to aid people find the graves, even if the visitors don't know in which cemetery the burials exist.

Our officers are the same. President: Cathy Paulson, Carrington, Vice President: George Barron, Jamestown, Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor: Mary Kuhn, Jamestown.

Williams County Genealogical Society

Submitted by *Gloria Johnson*

The Williams County Genealogical Society has nothing to report at this time. Please read the article on page 7!

Central North Dakota Genealogical Society

The Central North Dakota Genealogical Society has nothing to report at this time.

Bowman County Historical & Genealogical Society

<http://www.ptm.org/>

Bowman County Historical and Genealogical Society has nothing to report at this time.

RootsWeb Mastheads

<http://www.rootsweb.com/>

Submitted by *Jessica Rossow*

Starting May 21, 2008, all websites hosted by RootsWeb, including our NDSGS website will have a masthead at the top which looks like this:

hosted by **rootsweb**

AN  **ancestry.com** COMMUNITY



State Historical Society of North Dakota



CONTENTdm

Submitted by *Rachel White*

The SHSND has been using a product called CONTENTdm since January 2008. It is software that provides public access to some of the Society's photo and video collections, and can be used for even more. You can have a look at our collection, and those of the NDSU Institute for Regional Studies, Concordia College, and the William E. (Bill) Shemorry Collection at the site here: <http://digitalhorizonsonline.org/>

You can browse the collection by clicking on Browse, either in the green bar across the top, or under Welcome on the main part of the page. To browse just SHSND items, choose State Historical Society of North Dakota from the drop down box at the top of the page, and click on Go. Clicking on the image or title will display individual photos and information about them. Use the Back to Results, Previous, or Next links at the top and bottom of the pages to navigate your way around the collection. If you place your mouse over the descriptive terms, any word that turns red can be clicked on and searched.

To do a search for a specific item, person, place, etc., click on the Advanced Search link in the green bar across the top of the page, or use the Advanced Search option from the home page, again at <http://digitalhorizonsonline.org/>. It is the same sort of keyword search you're familiar with from ODIN and other databases. You can select or deselect specific collections by checking or un-checking next to the institution name at the bottom of the advanced search page.

New items are added all the time, and there will be two interns in the State Archives this summer entering even more items into CONTENTdm.

The following is from Ann Jenks concerning an interesting proposal to film vital and other local government and church records from around the state:

The Genealogical Society of Utah's Manager for the northern U.S. and Canada, Allain Allard, has expressed an interest in working with the State Historical Society of North Dakota to microfilm vital records. GSU will pay for the microfilming of certain types of records. They receive a printmaster, SHSND retains the master negative and can make use copies and sell copies, and the contributing local government agency or church receives a copy. The SHSND contacts the organizations and arranges for their loan and return.

The records covered in this agreement include:

- ⇒ Local government records
- ⇒ Cemetery records to present
- ⇒ Death records to present
- ⇒ Marriages to 1950
- ⇒ Divorces to 1930
- ⇒ Wills, inventories, administrations, settlements, guardianships, etc. to 1930
- ⇒ Deeds, land patents, land grants to 1900
- ⇒ Military pensions, discharges, mother's pensions to 1930
- ⇒ Emancipations, children's homes, jail/prison, school records to 1930
- ⇒ Church records:
 - ⇒ Baptisms and marriages to 1930
 - ⇒ Deaths and interments to present

This program is not yet up and running. We have a one-person microfilm department so we will start out slowly. We have limited travel funds to pick up and return records, but we can coordinate trips with Society staff already traveling to the region where the records are located. This is a great opportunity to preserve these records and to make them widely available through interlibrary loan.



State Historical Society of North Dakota



State Historical Society of North Dakota

Submitted by *Greg Wysk*

<http://www.nd.gov/hist/>

Local government and other records and newspapers are being moved from Storage East into the new addition. Staff is working on inventorying the records, getting them placed on the shelves and entering locations into our database.

Most microfilm is being moved into the reading room and will be self serve. Some census records and manuscript collections will stay in the back but all newspapers will be in the reading room.

Work continues on all sorts of projects, including the Shemorry photos and CONTENTdm (for more information, please read the articles on page 5 and 7).

Three staff members attended and gave presentations at the BMHGS workshop Saturday, April 12.

Please note the following fee increases:

Our interlibrary rates increased on May 1. The fee is now \$2/roll for in-state loans, \$4/roll for other U.S. loans and \$8/roll for Canadian loans. This increase is the first since the 1980s.

All other terms for borrowing film remain the same - 5 at one time per patron, due back 1 month from the date they're sent with one 2-week extension possible.

We also increased some photo and microfilm reproduction fees - please check the Web site at <http://www.nd.gov/hist/sal.htm> for more information.



Books received since February 2008

Provided by *Rachel White*, technical services head

1. Records relating to personal participation in World War II: military awards and decorations / by Benjamin L. De-Whitt
2. Mercer County cemetery index and location listing / compiled by Vi (Kruckenberg) Schielke
3. The Pribbeno-Pribbenow families in the United States, 1803-1991 / Glenn Emerson Pribbeno
4. From Nanteuil de Bourzac, Dordogne, France 1560 to Olga, North Dakota 2007 : the Beauchamp family originally DesChamps 15 generations and 447 years / by Leo Beauchamp
5. The ancestral history of my three sons : their Vigen-Johnson heritage / compiled and written by Donna G. Thompson
6. Scandinavian trails : a history of Peder and Gullaug Pederson Hagen and their descendants / by Glen Hegstad
7. McAdams family history / compiled by David Palm
8. The Joseph & Irene Podolski family
9. The Anton and Mary Bruner family
10. American Legion Bullis Post #84 : the 75th anniversary history of the American Legion's service organization of Lidgerwood, North Dakota
11. Lift high the cross : Holy Cross Lutheran Church 1906-2006



State Historical Society of North Dakota



Will. Herald Mon. 3 March 2008

Business

Shemorry Historial Collection going online at Williston State

The Williston Area Chamber of Commerce along with the Williston State College Foundation will be hosting the Bill Shemorry family March 10 as the Bill Shemorry Historical Collection goes on line at the Williston State College Library.

Part of his collection was cataloged through the North Dakota Historical Society by Emily Eagen a student from the University of North Dakota and work will continue this summer on the remaining portion of the collection.

A grant from the North Star Caviar and funding from Williston State College will be used to house the Shemorry collection. The collection was a gift to Williston State College Foundation by his wife Glo Shemorry and the public will be able to access the Shemorry collection for research and personal enjoyment at the Williston State College Campus Library.

William E. (Bill) Shemorry was a well known in North Dakota as a newspaperman, commercial and aerial photographer and as a prolific writer of historical features.

Born in Williston in 1914, he became personally acquainted with many of the



Chamber column

Diane Hagen

pioneers who established the town before the turn of the century.

Except for the years during which he attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison and those spent in World War II, where his camera

recorded the action in China while he was a member of a U.S. Army photographic company, he has made his home in Williston.

Bill was the manager editor of the Williston Press - Graft when the Clarence Iverson Discovery Oil Well came in. He took his hip boots and headed for Tioga, April 4, 1951 at 7 p.m. to hook up with Roy Fuller and Blackie Davidson from Amerada and captured the unique photo that marked the big event in North Dakota's oil history.

Bill and Corinne his first wife founded the Williston Plains Reporter in 1953 and continued its publication until it was sold in 1978. They

had two daughters Gay and Jan Shemorry. Following publication of a series of illustrated features that came out of a round-the world newspaper study mission, Prof. Alvin E. Austin (then chairman of the Department of Journalism, University of North Dakota) put Bill's name in nomination for a Pulitzer Prize.

Bill as he preferred to be called worked as a newspaperman for 66 years. He ended his weekly feature for the Daily Herald in 2002 when surgery failed to placate his carpal tunnel syndrome.

In 1980, Bill married Gloria "Glo" Mahar and together they spent many hours collecting and conserving the history of this area.

His books include: The Lost Tales of Old Williston, More Tales of Old Dakota, a Centennial book, Photo 100, Williams County Centennial Memoirs, Mud, Sweat & Oil, Phil Jackson, Alexander's Old Settler's Picnic, The Curtain of Darkness Has Been Lifted, the Motor cyclists, and Their Magnificent Machines, World War II Stories, The Wild Cow Railroad, A Force for Good, plus completed research for several other books.



NORTH DAKOTA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

President Susan Dingle called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on March 7, 2008. The meeting was held at the North Dakota State Heritage Center.

ROLL CALL:

Patrice Hartman and Pat Ashley, SWNDGS; George Barron and Daphne Drewello, JRGC; Don Smith, Susan Dingle, BMHGS; Greg Wysk, SHSND; George Freeman, MGS; Iona Loken; MRLGS. Ann Jenks, guest.

BUSINESS MEETING

Iona Loken made a motion, which was seconded by Pat Ashley that the minutes of the September 7, 2007 meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

Don Smith gave the Treasurers Report. Motion made by George Freeman and seconded by Iona Loken to file the treasurers report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Pre 1925 marriage index. Indexes have been received from Dunn County, Hettinger County and Kidder County.

Heritage Quest: This website now has the U. S. Serial Set with an index. Minot Public Library has access to Heritage Quest but no other libraries in North Dakota have access. The Minot Public Library serves Region II. This includes the following counties: Ward, McHenry, McLean, Mountrail, Burke, Renville, Bottineau, Pierce. They will issue library cards to people living in those areas.

NEW BUSINESS

The next Meeting is Friday, June 13, 2008 at 1:00. It is requested that Greg check on the availability of a room for us at the Heritage Center. The meeting was adjourned.

PROGRAM:

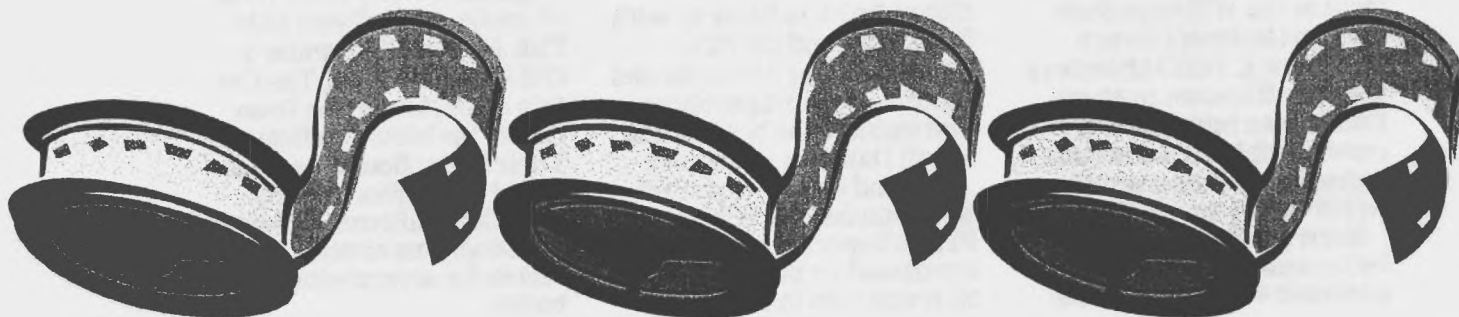
Ann Jenks, State Archivist of the State Historical Society of ND was introduced. She spoke about a few new things that are happening at the archives and then gave the group a tour of the new addition to the archives.

Bill Shemorry Collection: About 100 scans of the photographs in this collection have been processed so far. Access to these images is available at the archives.

Investigating the possibility of having the Genealogical Society of Utah microfilm records in North Dakota in cooperation with the archives.

The archives microfilm collection may eventually be self service.

Patrice Hartman, Secretary



Other Notes of Interest

REPORTS

Please consider submitting your articles of interest to our society's publication.

Dunn County Museum

Submitted by *Patrice Hartman*

Here is the website for the Dunn County Museum in Dunn Center, ND: <http://www.dunncountymuseum.org>

They also have the Dunn County Cemetery book in a draft form: "Historical Diamond of the Western Prairies"

Contact them at:

Rod Merkel - Curator

Dunn County Historical Museum

PO Box 86

Dunn Center, North Dakota 58626

(701) 548-8111

dunncountymuseum@ndsupernet.com

Flagon and Trencher Society

Submitted by *Patrice Hartman*

This is the official home web page of The Flagon and Trencher Society: Descendants of Colonial Tavern Keepers. Here we present the purpose of the Society, the membership requirements, the history and publications of the Society. You can purchase our publications or send for an application package. And members can update their address information or order insignia.

<http://www.flagonandtrencher.org/>

If you click on the Table of contents link under publications you will find a list of some of the Colonial Tavern Keepers. More information on these people is available in the published books or on microfilm through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Dakota United Methodist Historical Society

Submitted by *Jacki Keck*

Have E.U.B. or Methodist relations in your family tree? Go out on a limb! Join the Dakota United Methodist Historical Society. \$10.00 will buy you a membership and you'll receive the quarterly "News & Notes."

An up-date of the Dakotas' Conference history is in progress and inquiries / research data are welcome. The new year for DUMHS will begin this coming June at the Annual Conference in Fargo, North Dakota.

Please send name, address and e-mail address along with your check made payable to: "DUMHS - 2008/9" to:

DUMHS - Editor

703 West 7th Street

Williston ND 58801-4908

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION

SUBMITTED BY *PATRICE HARTMAN*

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY HAS THE RECORDS OF THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION, WHICH WAS IN OPERATION DURING THE CIVIL WAR PROVIDING HOSPITAL SERVICES AND MORE TO SOLDIERS.

THE LIBRARY HAS A VERY USEFUL DATABASE INDEX TO OVER 9000 INQUIRY LETTERS IN THE COLLECTION. THE LETTERS ARE NOT DIGITIZED BUT AVAILABLE. SAMPLES ARE VIEWABLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLLECTION, SEE THE GUIDE TO THE RECORDS FROM THE LINK.

[HTTP://WWW.NYPL.ORG/RESEARCH/CHSS/SPE/RBK/SOLDIERS/INDEX.HTML](http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/spe/rbk/soldiers/index.html)

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

North Dakota State Genealogical Society
Post Office Box 485
Bismarck, ND 58502

Officers for 2008

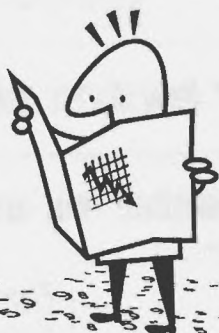
President: Susan Dingle ~ suzsaid@hotmail.com
President Elect: Pat Ashley ~ pashley@ndsupernet.com
Secretary: Patrice Hartman ~ patrice@ndsupernet.com
Treasurer: Don Smith ~ dearlsmith2019@msn.com
Editor: Jessica Rossow ~ jessicamattson@hotmail.com

www.rootsweb.com/~ndsgs/

NDSGS Dues

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

The North Dakota State Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization. The mission of the society is to encourage networking between genealogical societies and others engaged in genealogical research in North Dakota.



Electronic News-
letter Option Now
Available!!!

If you would like
to receive your
NDSGS newsletter
as a *.PDF file
instead of a paper copy,
please email me at jessi-
camattson@hotmail.com and pro-
vide me with an email address
to send the newsletter to.

You can view *.PDF files
with Adobe Reader, a free
software tool available for
download at [http://
www.adobe.com/products/
acrobat/readstep2.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)

North Dakota State Genealogical Society
Post Office Box 485
Bismarck, ND 58502

