

NDSGS Newsletter

Volume I, Issue I

Spring 2010

Special points of interest:

- ND State Genealogical Society Minutes
- ND Genealogical Societies reports
- ND State Archives Report

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President's Letter

I wish to thank our outgoing president, Susan Dingle, for her hard work on behalf of NDSGS. And welcome to our new and returning officers. Under Susan's leadership our meetings were held at various locations in the Bismarck area. At our last NDSGS meeting it was decided to expand on this by having two of our meetings this year in conjunction with other genealogical conferences.

It was also decided to move our March meeting to April in hopes that the weather will make travel a bit easier. This meeting will be held at the State Archives. Ann Jenks will present the outcome of the Collection Conversation meetings held last fall at various locations around the state.

Our July meeting will be at the State Archives in conjunction with the Bismarck French Heritage Convention. And our October meeting will be in Moorhead during the last session of the Family History Workshop. There will not be speakers at these meetings since the workshops will serve as our program.

As a co-editor of your newsletter I would like to extend an invitation to submit an article for publication. On a similar line, if there are items you would like to see (or not see) in the newsletter please let either me or Patrice Hartman know. Our contact information is on the last page of this newsletter

Pat Ashley

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society will be Friday, April 9, 2010 in the Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center, 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.

Our guest speaker will be Ann Jenks, State Archivist.

North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

Vice President Pat Ashley called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on September 11, 2009. The meeting was held in the Legislative Assembly Room at the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Genealogical societies/club representatives present: Patrice Hartman and Pat Ashley, SWNDGS; Don Smith, BMHGS; Greg Wysk, SHSND; Iona Loken, MRLGS; Larrie Wanberg, MGS; George Barron and Daphne Drewello, JRGC.

Business meeting

Don Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Daphne Drewello that the minutes of the June 12, 2009 meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

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

OLD BUSINESS

Pre 1925 marriage index. The Great Rivers Network is still having problems setting up the database. No marriage records have come into the SHSND Archives this summer.

Reviewed our Goals and Objectives.

Goals and Objectives for the next 5 Years **(Updated September 2009)**

Indexing Projects

a) Complete index of ND marriages online

a.1 pre 1925 ND marriage index: **(This is being worked on)**

c.2 Produce list of known missing records 10 year project: **(Work with MIND on this)**

f) Index 1915 and 1925 ND state census: **(Now on ancestry.com)**

d.1 Cemeteries not registered with health department

d.2 Compile cemetery book for every county in ND

g) Photography index of SHSND photo archives. Text database is searchable by subject, town and name.

Promote/ Communicate with people

b) Advocating to government for our goals and objectives and genealogy in general

c) Preservation/ Retention of Records

c.1 Library campaign for records

d) Cemetery records – promote ND health dept. to educate/enforce record maintenance

e) Promote communication/ interaction between genealogical societies and historical societies

h) Grant writing for projects

I) Coop with counties to obtain indexes for records at SHSND and other indexes to records: **(Some have been done)**

j) ITD record management- presentation by Becky Lingle: **(This occurred)**

k) Nominate members for awards/ recognition

l) Moorhead annual workshop and other events rent a booth-advertise

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NDSGS Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

1.1 Print meeting minutes in other newsletters

m) Obtain feedback from groups and societies/ ideas/ observations

Legislation

b.1 Review existing laws – certification of cemetery sextons: **(Send letters to Legislators)**

NEW BUSINESS

The Governor of Michigan has issued an Executive Order to close the Library of Michigan which is to take effect on October 1st. The FGS and NGS have sponsored a petition to keep the library open. Please sign the petition.

North Dakota Collection Conversations will take place across the state of ND in October. Please plan to attend one of these sessions to learn how to preserve our heritage.

Larrie Wanberg talked about the Museum without walls project in Northwood, the Center for Digital Storytelling and putting your genealogy on a wiki. He would be willing to demonstrate how a wiki works at one of our meetings. Also discussed the idea of District heritage hubs where people can bring their heirlooms to be preserved.

Newsletter: Co-editors: Pat Ashley and Patrice Hartman.

Elections:

Vice President: Greg Wysk

Iona Loken made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for all the officers, seconded by George Barron, motion carried.

Ideas to increase membership in our society:

1. Move the meetings around the state and combine them with genealogical workshops or regular local society meetings. Discussed meeting next July in Bismarck during the French Initiatives Workshop. The September meeting could be held in conjunction with the Moorhead Workshop. Decided to meet on the 2nd Friday in April instead of in March. Place to be determined.

2. Offer research assistance to local genealogical societies and members of the state society.

3. Meet with the Museums in ND group and historical societies to locate records and facilitate communication.

4. Have a help desk at booths/fairs such as the state fair or hostfest etc. Work with the SHSND.

5. Update website and perhaps add some research information.

The next Meeting is Friday, April 9, 2010 at 1:00. Place to be determined yet. The meeting was adjourned.

Patrice Hartman, Secretary

Research Assistance Needed!

Wanted: Information about the M.E. Holiness Methodist Church in the Trenton / Hardscrabble Township area for the Dakota United Methodist Historical Society newsletter. The church was later moved into Williston to the corner of 5th Avenue and 8th Street West. If anyone has information, I'd appreciate hearing from you.

Jacki Keck, Editor - DUMHS "News & Notes," 703 West 7th Street, Williston ND 58801-4908. (701) 572-7829
<jkeck@wil.midco.net>

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New Books received since August 2009

by Rachel White, Head of Technical Services SHSND

- *Two hundred and fifty years of Gackle family trails* by Rachel Gackle Pribbeno
- *Our family heritage : lineage of George Beaver Herman, Sr. and Elsie Mae (Gerig) Herman North Dakota* by Dale E. Herman
- *ND Dept. of Health cemetery listing* (2009 edition)
- *History of Denbigh and centennial celebration of Denbigh School* compiled in 2007 by Ralene J. Suchor
- *Minot First Church of the Nazarene 75th anniversary, 1912-1987*
- *Rescuing family records : a disaster planning guide* by David W. Carmicheal
- *Marriage records of Towner County, North Dakota, 1888-1949* by Mabel Jacques Hadler
- *Driscoll Lutheran Cemetery* by Ole J. Olson
- *From the Green Mountains to the Red River Valley, 1787-1948 : report on researches into the ancestral origins in America of the Harvey family line*
- *An American family, mostly Norwegian, all immigrants* by Robert J. Boyd
- *A Lehman, Layman genealogy handbook* by Earl R. Layman
- *Lehman ancestors in the Swiss Emmental before emigration*
- *Johann David Pfeiffer and Eva Marie Beck : German immigrants to Olivia, Minn.*
- *Memoirs of Frederick J. "Fritz" Conklin*
- *From the Berkshire Hills to the Red River Valley, 1660-1960 : report on researches into the ancestral origins in America of the Taylor family line*
- *Commemorating Mercer County Old Settlers' picnic, Lignite Jamboree, and 50th anniversary of the coming of the railroad, Zap, North Dakota*
- *The history of Stanton, North Dakota to 1982*
- *Norway to America : Kantrud-Baglien-Heide family history*, compiled by Donald Eugene Baglien
- *Henke family history*
- *Netzer family stories and history*
- *Perseverance in faith : a history of the Catholic Church in western North Dakota, Diocese of Bismarck, 1910-2010*
- *St. Edward's Catholic Church, Nekoma, North Dakota, 1907-2007*

Digital Horizons Update

by Rachel White, Head of Technical Services SHSND

Some of the archives collections have photos and other items uploaded to Digital Horizons. This includes the Brunsdale collection and Susan Wefald collections. Other interesting collections in Digital Horizons include the Prall family from Brantford, N.D., the Martin Stasney and Ronald Ringrud collections (World War II and Civilian Conservation Corps), some photographs from the construction of the current capitol building, some Will Seed Catalog covers, and photos from the Eaton Brothers Photograph Collection which shows life on the Custer Trail Ranch near Medora. See the Web site at <http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/index.php>.

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New Local Government Records

by Ann Jenks, State Archivist

Some of these records such as coroner's reports and birth records are restricted.

41391 Barnes County. Superintendent of Schools. School District Clerks' Annual Report, 1885-1886. 1v

41306 Burke County. Auditor. Oath of Applicant for Liquor, 1911-1913. 4v.

41314 Burke County, Auditor. Voter Registration. 1912, 1920. .75 ft

41334 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Administrator's Record, 1918-1975. 9v.

41307 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Criminal Case Files, 1910-1976. 11ft.

41328 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Druggist's Permit Record, 1910-1912. 1v.

41316 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Executor's Record, 1911-1975. 6v.

41330 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Final Account Record, 1911-1976. 15v.

41323 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Guardian and Heirship Dockets, 1910-1930. 2v.

41325 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Guardian Record Reports, 1915-1937. 1v.

41333 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Heirship Record, 1910-1974. 2v.

41327 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Inheritance Tax Record, 1913-1927. 1v.

41326 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Inventory and Appraisement, 1910-1972. 6v.

41324 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Justice of the Peace Civil Docket, 1910-1928. 1v.

41329 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Liquor Affidavits, 1910-1913. 2v.

41318 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Miscellaneous Record, Probate, 1910-1935. 4v.

41321 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Notary Public Record, 1910-1981. 2v.

41331 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Personal Property Record, 1910-1928. 1v.

41335 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Real Estate Record, 1910-1927. 2v.

41319 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Record of Coroner's Inquests, 1910-1999. 1v.

41320 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Register of Coroner's Inquests, 1911-1996. 1v.

41317 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Seed Grain Contract Record, 1911-1945. 1v.

41332 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Special Projects Record, 1934. 1v.

41315 Burke County. Clerk of Court. Will Record. 1911-1951. 1v.

41322 Burke County. Recorder. Stallion Record, 1911-1919. 1v.

41396 Burleigh County. Bismarck, Auditor. City Commissioners Special Session, McDonald Investigation. 1913

41313 Burleigh County. Christiana Township Records, 1912-1963, 4 ft.

41305 Divide County, Auditor. Abstract of Votes. 1946-1998. 3 ft.

41336 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Administrator's Record, 1911-1974. 17v.

41364 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Admission to Institute for the Feeble Minded at Grafton, 1911-1930, .1ft.

41363 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Admission to Tuberculosis Sanatorium at San Haven, 1914-1952, .3ft.

41346 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Bond Register, 1910-1960. 2v.

41392 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Burial Transit Permits

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State Historical Society of North Dakota

New government records (Continued from page 5)

- 42393 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Burial Transit Permits, 1933-2006, 1 ft.
- 41377 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Census Reports, 1930. .1ft.
- 41349 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Civil Case Files. 1911-1925. 14.5ft.
- 41365 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Coroner's Inquests, 1911-1974. .3ft
- 41372 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Courthouse Bonds, 1917. .1ft.
- 41361 Divide County. Clerk of Court, Criminal Case Files. 1911-1925, 3ft.
- 41366 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Debt Adjustment Committee Correspondence and Minutes, 1935-1941. 2ff
- 41354 Divide County. Clerk of Court. District Court Journal, 1954-1980. 1v.
- 41352 Divide County. Clerk of Court. District Court Minute Book, 1911-1983. 3v.41353
- 41344 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Druggist's Journal, 1910-1912. 1v.
- 41339 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Estate Tax in Joint Tenancy, 1959-1969. 1v.
- 41347 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Executor's Record, 1911-1971. 11v.
- 41360 Divide County. Clerk of Court. General Indexes, 1911-1931. 2v.
- 41356 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Guardian Record Reports, 1926-1936. 1v
- 41337 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Guardianship Record, 191-1972. 6v.
- 41338 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Heirship Record, 1921-1971. 3v.
- 41368 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Highway 5 Right of Way Correspondence, 1938-1943, 3ff.
- 41340 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Inheritance Tax Record, 1913-1926. 1v
- 41350 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Inventory and Appraisement, 1910-1972. 9v.
- 41374 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Jail Report, 1928-1929. .1ft.
- 41342 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Justice of the Peace Civil and Criminal Dockets, 1919-1941. 4v.
- 41373 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Licensing by State Board of Dental Examiners, 1948, 1979-1980. .1ft.
- 41345 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Liquor Affidavits Returned, 1910-1913. 1v.
- 41355 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Miscellaneous Record, 1911-1983. 1v.
- 41358 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Mortgage Record, 1917-1938. 1v.
- 41362 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Mother's Pension Files, 1915-1925. .3ft.
- 41369 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Notice of Election of Justices/Qualification of Constables, 1911-1952. .25ft.
- 41370 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Officials' Bonds and Oaths, 1910-1999. .5ft.
- 41351 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Personal Property Record, 1910-1928. 2v.
- 41343 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Real Estate Record, 1911-1954. 4v.
- 41376 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Receipts for Alcohol for Medicinal Purposes, 1935. .1ff.
- 41357 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Record of Coroner's Inquests, 1911-1961. 1v.
- 41359 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Record of Notaries' Commission, 1910-1981. 2v.
- 41348 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Reports and Accounts (Final Account Record), 1919-1972. 7v.
- 41371 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Satisfaction of Mortgage, 1912-1917. .1ft.

(Continued on page 7)

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New government records (Continued from page 6)

- 41375 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Sheriff's Inventory of Liquor Seized in Criminal Actions, 1926-1928. .1ft.
- 41367 Divide County. Clerk of Court. States Attorney Opinions, 1911-1917. .1ft.
- 41353 Divide County. Clerk of Court. Will Record, 1911-1971. 2v.
- 41304 Divide County. Recorder. Birth and Death Records. 1909-1943. 4 ft.
- 41341 Divide County. States Attorney. Court Docket, 1950-1952. 1v.
- 41311 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Assessments of Teachers' Salaries. 1914-1969. 2 ft.
- 41309 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Pupil Membership. 1921-1926. 2 ft.
- 41303 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Record of Teachers Employed. 1910-1955. 1v.
- 41394 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Report of the County Superintendent of Schools of the Condition of Public Schools, 1910-1916. 1ff.
- 41310 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. School Census. 1911-1997. 3 ft.
- 41302 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Teacher Certificate Register. 1910-1949. 1v.
- 41308 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Teacher's Final Reports. 1910-1995. 4 ft.
- 41312 Divide County. Superintendent of Schools. Teacher's Registers, 1908-1916; 1955-1970, 10v./.25ft.
- 41395 Hettinger County. Chilton Township. Township Records, 1908-1957. 2v
- 41381 Kidder County. Auditor. Board of Health. Minutes, 1903-1932. 1v
- 41380 Kidder County. Auditor. Bond Record of Township Officers, 1893-1914. 1v.
- 41382 Kidder County. Auditor. Record of Hunting Permits, 1896-1922. 3v.
- 41383 Kidder County. Auditor. Record of Liquor Affidavits Returned, 1898-1909. .5ft.
- 41384 Kidder County. Auditor. Register of Prisoners Boarded, 1890-1920. 1v.
- 41385 Kidder County. Auditor. Seed Wheat and Feed Applications, 1890. 1v.
- 41388 Kidder County. Auditor. Township Plats and Organization Proceedings, 1888-1914. 1v.
- 41378 Kidder County. Auditor. Wolf Bounty Certificates, 1897-1901. 1v.
- 41379 Kidder County. Clerk of Court. Coroner's Report, 1906-1907. 1v.
- 41389 Kidder County. Superintendent of Schools. Annual Report, 1890-1963, 1.5ft.
- 41386 Kidder County. Graf Township. Township Records, 1927-1965. 3v/1ff.
- 41387 Kidder County. Woodlawn Township. Township Records, 1885-1909. 2v.
- 41390 McIntosh County. Auditor. Assessment Books, 1887-1955. 25.5ft.
- Williams County. Clerk of District Court, Civil and Criminal Appealed Cases, 1988-1994, .75ft.

Kentucky Records

Fayette County, Kentucky, land, census and marriage records from the late 1700s to the early 1900s were recently rediscovered. Fayette was one of three original Kentucky counties formed when Kentucky County, Virginia was divided in 1780. The records are being digitized and indexed to make them available to the public. More information can be found at http://www.kentucky.com/latest_news/story/1073257.html.

State Historical Society of North Dakota

State Archives News

by Ann Jenks, State Archivist

We are beginning to add the holdings lists of county records one county at a time to the Web site at this address: <http://history.nd.gov/archives/whatstatelocal.html>. The number of finding aids or inventories on the web is increasing.

The SNAP grant is open to ten historical societies, museums, libraries who would like 100 (two-dimensional) items from their collections to be digitized and put on Digital Horizons. Applications and information are on the home page of the Web site at <http://history.nd.gov/pdf/SNAP%20project%20applicationJan2010.pdf>.

Amy Bellefeuille, the new Shemorry Project Archivist began work in January.

New Archival and manuscript collections

by Rachel White, Head of Technical Services SHSND

First Lutheran Church of Harvey records, 1896-2007	J.W. Brinton papers, 1918-1924
First Congregational Church of Harvey records, 1900-2001	John E. Rauser papers, 1940s-2007
Thomas and Gayle Clifford papers, 1986-2009	R.J. Sailer papers, 1937-1963
Plowville National Plowing Contest records, 1960-2008	Lyness family papers, 1886-1946
Ellis Agency records, 1901-1918	North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs Pioneer Mothers collection, 1929-1953
Frederick Roland papers, 1918-1974	Fred A. Baguhn papers, 1903-1963
Ellen Kilander Chaffee papers, 1970-2007	Roesler family papers, 1908-2007
William O'Loughlin papers, 1914-1978	Vivian P. Nemhauser papers, 1927-2003
C. Norman Brunsdale papers, ca. 1904-1974	Lynn W. Sperry family papers, 1890-2009
Susan Wefald papers, 1989-2009	First State Bank of Bowbells papers, 1889-1915
Eric P. Quain motion picture collection, 1930s	Dakota Northwestern Railway Company records, 1916
Abraham Lincoln statue presentation to Norway document, 1914	Burke County redistricting records, 1920-1923
Theodore Hagberg papers, 1870-1956	Ervin L. Klauss papers, 1943-1947
Susan Wefald ND Public Service Commissioner records, 1933-2008	Ernst R. Steinbrueck papers, 1904-1907
Robert Welsh memorabilia collection, 1931-1939	Alman Bland papers, 1933-1950

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Genealogical Atlases from National Geographic

This sounds like a winner for genealogy in the classroom. National Geographic's Genealogical Atlases lesson plan for students in grades 3-5 asks students to "interview their parents or other relatives about what it was like where they grew up." Students then utilize maps found online to make their own "genealogical atlases" showing their family ancestry.

Genealogical Atlases lesson plans may be found at <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/17/g35/genealogical.html>.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

James River Genealogy Club

by George Barron

While our club does not meet again until April 6, 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 6 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 ndngenweb home page.

Our September meeting was held at the Ave Maria Village Community Room, with the program featuring Katie Morehouse. She presented her 2009 History Day Project, which took her to Washington, DC. She portrayed Dr. Wink of Jamestown, the first woman doctor in the Territory. She did a super job.

At our October meeting in Carrington, we met at the Foster County Museum. After the meeting, we toured the Museum. Most of us had not been there for several years and noticed new and changing displays. It reminded us that we first met here in 1990 in July. So this year marks the 20th anniversary of the club.

Our last meeting for the 2009 season was held in November at Ave Maria, in Jamestown. We had a very large membership and extra visitors on hand to hear a presentation on the history of the funeral business, by Mike Williams, one of Eddy Funeral Home funeral directors. Mike did a great job and answered questions way past normal meeting closings. He touched on the new Crematorium here at our Highland Home Cemetery. Most were not aware that we had such a thing in Jamestown, so he had lots of questions on that.

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 usngenweb county pages. One of the interesting searches here in Stutsman County was for a woman from Mary-

land who wanted more information on her father's early life in Jamestown. In 1912 her grandfather had shot his wife, her grandmother, in Dawson, and then the wife's father. He was arrested and held in the Kidder County jail in Steele, and then lynched from there, said to be North Dakota's first lynching. After the lynching, her father had been adopted by an uncle in Jamestown.

The current help projects being followed by this reporter include printed indexes for the *Jamestown Sun* from 2006-2010, and an index to the 2009 burial permits turned in to the Stutsman County Recorder. One special winter project is to try to find if there were ever any human burials in a small piece of land in southern Jamestown, with the name "City Potters Field." Our search for the burial places for two people buried in the "Crystal Springs Leper Ground" has slowed. While we have not found the exact spot, we think we have the general location limited to a few acres left to study. At the behest of one of our Jamestown members, I was asked last spring, to see if I could find a famous murder that occurred at the ND State Hospital. Along the way, I decided to build a database on those we had found. I call it my murder file, but it contains all kinds of unusual deaths, like murder, suicide, airplane crashes, and general unusual deaths. It even includes a few who "died in church," which I thought was unusual. The first such was Levi Dalley, who homesteaded south of Windsor, and kept a 1884 diary that came to our Alfred Dick-ey Public Library. Levi belonged to the Congregational Church and had attended services that day in the morning. Then he went with a friend to the Baptist Church for evening attendance. I figured God called him home because he was "in the wrong church"! A lot of our club members have helped in the project and when we found the elusive State Hospital Murder, the article called attention to another murder that had happened there in the decade prior to 1941. So far, we have not found that, but have amassed unusual deaths numbering near 2100 in the Jamestown area. It doesn't take much to entertain old guys!

Southwestern North Dakota Genealogical Society

by Patrice Hartman

In September we watched a DVD of the Misha De-fonseca case entitled: "Forensic Genealogy Lessons For Your Own Family History" by Sharon Sergeant. In October we looked at Photo Identification. In November we spent time looking at the familysearch.org website and the family search lab site

which contains digital images of some records. No meetings were held in December or January. Our February meeting will be a presentation on the Daughters of the American Revolution new Web site offerings and educational opportunities on the Family Search Web site.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Rugby Genealogical Society

by Dallas Knudson

A wide variety of interests surfaced when the Rugby Genealogical Society scheduled weekly meetings at the Rugby Library from January to June 1st. Meetings will be held once a month during the summer months.

The weekly meetings were available to assist interested persons working on researching family trees or writing family history. Ancestry.com is available at the library. Curt Olsen has been assisting people with this research.

Programs have included sharing various ways of documenting family trees. Several software programs have been discussed. Web sites and sources of information have been shared.

In addition to family trees, many written family histories were reviewed and analyzed for type of information

included in the book. Eulogies presented at funerals were also reviewed.

The Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society in Minot was displayed as a good source of information for research in Region II counties.

One person called to request help in writing an obituary. "Our children left the state for employment after graduation. Having an obituary written in advance will be one less concern for our family."

Ideas for planning a family reunion will be presented at a future meeting.

For further information on activities, contact Dallas Knudson at Towner or call (701) 537-5541

Minnkota Genealogy Society

by Larrie Wanberg

In the New Year, Minnkota Genealogy Society began a focus on family heritage in a little different way.

In January, the program featured a talk on "Place Names" by Dr. Arne Brekke, a specialist in tracing the origins of many family names by their farm name in Norway. He described how ancestral farm names identified families and how descendent members during immigration to America often changed the name or spelling, which sometimes made tracing family genealogy difficult. After some examples of such difficulties and related solutions, he answered questions from the group about their personal places of origin in their family histories.

A native Norwegian, Dr. Brekke is a retired UND professor in Indo-European languages and Chairman of the Department of Norwegian Language. He also is founder of Brekke Tours that has operated a full-service agency specializing in Scandinavia for over 50 years.

February meeting was a group discussion of planning for

future programs. The favorite time of sharing current member-projects, problems in searching, or success stories of discovery rounded out the meeting.

March program will be "The Family Wiki," which is a collaborative family heritage website that anyone in the extended family can contribute stories or post photos across five generations on a single site. Each descendent family has opportunity to develop an interactive, multi-media posting in a story format, patterned after new social media like FaceBook or YouTube. The site can be protected by passwords to family members and managed by the family. Dr. Larrie Wanberg will illustrate the method undertaken by his family.

A highlight of future programs will be a visit to the Special Collections at UND Chester Fritz Library, where archivist Dr. Michael Swanson will guide members through the extensive resources of the library, including the "Bygdebok" collection of genealogy reference books on Norwegian families, farms and communities.

Submitted by Al Webster:

Below is a link the US Veterans Administration recently published to locate graves that have been marked with government headstone. The database works with both veterans and private cemeteries...might be useful for some folks.

http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Williams County Genealogical Society

by Gloria Johnson

The Williams County Genealogical Society met February 13th at Hardees. A business meeting was held along with a presentation by Marvin Baarstad on the Frank Wodnik Tannery, approx. 1 mile east of town. We are still selling copies of our cemetery book (over 250 have been sold) along with our 2008 updates. We continue working on our A-Z obituary index on file in our local library. We are putting in notebooks obituaries on all the burials listed in our cemetery book (if available).

Marvin Baarstad shared an old oil painting that he inherited from Charlie Nelson before he died last year. The painting was painted by Frank Wodnik in the early 1900's of his tannery building he built east of town; across the highway from the old Westland Refinery. The block building stood for many years and was eventually torn down in the 1990's to make way for an industrial

park in that area.

Frank Wodnik (born: 3 Oct 1887 in Austria, died: 2 Sep 1982 in Billings, MT at 94 years of age).

Frank came to America in 1908 from his native Austria and worked in various tanneries across the country for 15 cents an hour, 10 hours a day. He eventually came to Williston in 1914. He then started his tannery and it was operated until 1957. The tannery furnished leather for moccasins and other things made of leather. In the dirty thirties the W.P.A. rented the tannery from Mr. Wodnik and started tanning hides. This created jobs in this area. Frank was also an accomplished artist, still painting at the age of 86 years. Marvin plans to frame the oil painting and it will be put on display in the Historical James Memorial Library Building.

Icelandic Communities Association (ICA)

by George Freeman

The Icelandic Communities Association (ICA) of Mountain, ND was originally known as the Mountain Celebration Committee. The committee was established in 1899 to celebrate Icelandic heritage and to celebrate Iceland's independence. In 2003, the name was changed from the Mountain Celebration Committee to the Icelandic Communities Association.

The goal of the ICA is to celebrate our Icelandic heritage and culture and the main focus and purpose is to promote and organize the annual three-day 'Deuce of August' celebration. The celebration always takes place each year on the weekend before the first Monday in August. This is the oldest ethnic festival in the state of North Dakota and the largest Icelandic ethnic event in the United States.

The ICA also takes part in numerous events and activities throughout the year. Members of the ICA meet and greet countless Icelandic tour groups. Icelandic artists have visited area schools to share their expertise with students. The ICA is a supporter of this program in coordination with the North Dakota Council on the Arts.

Highlights of the annual celebration include the following: Parade, Heritage Program featuring speakers and dignitaries from Iceland and North America, Choir Concerts from various choirs from Iceland, Genealogy Cen-

ter, Church Luncheon at the oldest Icelandic Church in America – Vikur Lutheran Church, "Pitchfork Fondue," 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, Car Show, Old Timers Dance, Street Dance, ATV and Tractor Pulls, International Fellowship Dinner, Bingo, Souvenir Booth, Kids Games, Guided Tours of other Icelandic Churches, Cemeteries, Borg Memorial Home, homesteads, the farms of our ancestors who emigrated from Iceland, and Family and Class Reunions.

The Genealogy Center helps attendees search for ancestors from Iceland or any other location around our world. Considerable numbers of Icelandic visitors attend and the genealogy center has placed considerable emphasis on connecting the Icelandic tourists with their relatives in North America. George Freeman and Pam Furstenau, the two main researchers and representatives to the NDSGS, work throughout the year to find living relatives for the Icelandic visitors with their 'Cousins Across the Ocean' project. Many reunions and surprises have happened when visitors connect with their extended Icelandic-North American families. They meet in Mountain or at the Icelandic celebration, Islendingadagurinn, in Gimli, MB the following week. This has become a very enriching and exciting experience for all who look to the Genealogy Center for their family ties.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

by *Diane (Grubb) Stevens*

Time is quickly passing and we look forward to spring and warmer days. MRLGS continues to meet the first Saturday of each month except for July and months in the winter when weather may not permit it. We meet in the lower level of the Minot Public Library at 1:00pm.

Some highlights from the 2009 minutes are as follows:

In January, only a few brave souls ventures out because of horrible weather. The time was spent networking. In February, Lynn Luckenroth became our new webmaster and we were once again able to update our website. Terry Marcotte shared how using internet search engines can result in a windfall for genealogists. We were reminded to occasionally check for our own names. John Mogren agreed to do genealogical book reviews. Our program was a "work session" doing some indexing of the 1971 Burke County History book. In March, Joan Peterson shared information regarding census research and encouraged us to diagram the information through the decades. She showed us a chart she had done for her own census diagramming. Joan also reminded us to use the State Census as well as the Federal Census. Herb Schwede brought us up-to-date on the FIND A GRAVE website. Individuals are now assigned a number which makes it easier to put them together into family groups when using this website. Dwaine Kauffman shared information on using Mennonite records for genealogical research. He has done extensive research on the Mennonite cemeteries in our area and has been compiling obituaries on the people interred in these cemeteries. Program: John Mogren led an interactive exercise, dividing the members into small groups and assigning the task of "where do you go to if you can't find grandma's maiden name?" In April, Iona Loken, our society's representative to the ND State Genealogical Society spoke on the activities of the State Society. There is an interest in making the pre- 1925 marriage records available on-line. Mike Bartlof provided information on the Canadian Federal Census. Our program was networking. In May, Joan Peterson shared information on sorting out information to find the right name of ancestors. Mary Misk brought a family history book to others could get ideas on how to compile one. Iona Loken provided us with interesting information on the Norwegian naming pattern. Our program, led by John Mogren, was another group exercise on "where do you go to find grandpa's middle name?" Many good research ideas came out of the small (and big) group discussion. The ideas were printed in the RECORD. In June, Carol

Schwan shared information from Mark Timbrook's book, The Last Hurrah. Mike Bartlof showed us reprints of 100 year old pictures he had reproduced using an inkjet printer that turned out very well. The program was an interesting tour of the Old Soo Transportation Museum and Western History Research Center in Minot. We were truly amazed at the size of the collection of historical and genealogical resources. July had no meeting. In August, Carol Schwan donated upright metal file cabinets for our storage unit. Thank you, Carol. Again our program was networking. Also in September networking was our program. In October, Jeanne Narum did a presentation on using computers for genealogical research. Always in November we have our annual ethnic dinner and progressive auction. And in December we closed out the year with a program on the 2010 Census presented to us by Ernie Medalen.

We also want to say thank you to the following:

Linda Ringsaker, President: 2008 and 2009

Sheila Guvakosky, Treasurer: 2004 – 2009

Diane Stevens, Recording Secretary: 2008 and 2009

Lillian Vannett, Corresponding Secretary: 1997 – 2009

John Mogren, Editor: 2004 – 2009

And a special thank you goes to Iona Loken who takes care of most of our genealogical queries. Also to John Mogren who helps out in so many areas throughout the year.

New officers for 2010

President: Diane Stevens

Vice President: Betty Schlichting

Recording Secretary: Carol Schwan

Corresponding Secretary: Lillian Vannett

ND State Genealogical Representative: Iona Loken

NCNDG Record Editor: John Mogren

We look forward to another productive and informative year in helping one another out with ideas of ways to find the "holes" of missing information in our genealogical research.

Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society

Excitement! Fun! History! Learning! Heritage!

Welcome to the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society.

The BMHGS in conjunction with the IFMidwest French will be putting on a conference workshop July 9th and 10th of July 2010 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. This is going to be the EVENT OF THE YEAR!

The following is some of the program.

Bismarck French Heritage Convention Schedule

Friday, July 9:

11:00 am Registration at the entrance to the North Dakota Heritage Center.

1:00-2:00 The World Archive Project

2:00-2:30 Introduction to French heritage of North America

2:30-3:00 The Heritage Tour to Quebec City in 2009 in review

3:00-4:00 A live presentation of drums and local heritage in West African francophone countries

6:00 pm Dinner, music, and social activities are planned at the Bismarck/Mandan Elks Lodge. Please reserve your place for dinner at the Elks Lodge by July 1 by sending a check made out to UND-IFM for \$15.00, or \$10.00 for those under 18. Send to IFMidwest, Box 8198, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202-8198.

Also, all day in the main floor assembly rooms and on the second floor mezzanine of the Heritage Center displays will feature French heritage in North Dakota, educational material for teachers, parents, travelers, and business people. During the entire convention one assembly room on the main floor will be reserved for genealogy activities.

Saturday, July 10:

Topic: What is Local/Global Heritage and how does it serve the world?

Presentations, displays, workshops, discussions, and youth activities in the assembly rooms on the main floor, the auditorium, and the mezzanine of the Heritage Center, as available, all day. A special genealogy room will also be open all day. Please note: all genealogy activities (unless a tour) will be in Lecture rooms A and B.

8:00 am Registration at the entrance to the North Dakota Heritage Center. To register early, [click here](#).

8:30-9:30 am Two sessions will be going on at the same time:

Master forum in auditorium: Local Heritage: What is it? Where is it found? What is its Place in the World? This forum will present examples of where local French heritage is found in North and South Dakota and Minnesota. Following the initial presentation by panel members, attendees will divide up into groups to discuss where ethnic heritage, or local knowledge, is found in their lives.

There will be a presentation by Steve Axtman of the North Dakota State Library. He will give a general overview of Ancestry Library Edition.

9:30 am After the break and discussion, attendees will reconvene in the auditorium to interact with panel members on the significance of local heritage as a source of knowledge.

(continued on page 14)

Bismarck French Heritage Convention Schedule

(Continued from page 13)

9:45-10:45 am Anne Fechter from Ancestry.com will present "The World Archive Project" for those who could not make the Friday session.

11:00 am-12:00 pm Two sessions will be going on at the same time:

Examples of How Global Economics can be Locally Sensitive, major presentation followed by comments from the audience.

Research for beginners and building a Family Tree by searching on Ancestry.com.

12:00-12:30 pm Lunch. Box lunch charge is included with registration fee of \$25.00.

12:30-1:30 pm Two sessions will be going on at the same time:

In auditorium: How French is Working to be a Good Global and Local Partner.

Creating and Publishing an Heirloom Family History (will conclude at 1:15 pm).

1:30-2:30 pm Two sessions will be going on at the same time:

What Type of Communication Would Best Fit Your Type of Local Knowledge? Creative writers, painters, dancers, sculptors, musicians, actors, genealogists, story tellers, historians, poets, photographers, and more will each have three minutes to show/tell how he/she portrays local knowledge. Individual audience members will then have two minutes to say why they would choose a certain form of communication to transfer knowledge to the global sphere.

Family History Resources at the State Archives by Greg Wysk. Greg is a Reference Specialist with the North Dakota Heritage Center.

2:30 pm Tour of the North Dakota State Heritage Center Archive

3:00-4:15 pm North Dakota language teachers take the podium en masse to say when they are at their best in the service of knowledge. [If you plan to attend this convention, please send in names of teachers who agree to be on this panel. Send information to: ifmidwest@und.nodak.edu or call 701-777-4659.]

7:00 pm Heritage Alive! In honor of North Dakota's capital city, an evening at the Belle Mehus Theater. General admission for adults is \$12.00; those under 18 are \$5.00. [If you wish to show or sell books or art items in the atrium before the show, please let Virgil know and we will try to make room for you]

Part I. Dance Revels of Minneapolis, led by its founder, Jane Peck, presents historic dances from our past. Part II. Amoussa Koriko, playwright and professional African dancer presents an original mix of Michif and Togolese musical traditions. Part III. One other artistic group plans to top off our Bismarck convention of 2010.

For more information contact www.ifmidwest.org or www.BMHGS.com. If you are at all interested in this please register early.

Now besides all of this the BMHGS has a fun fact filled agenda planed for this year. Please visit our website for more information.

Thank You and hope to see all of you at the convention workshop in July.

Alfred A Buchholz

President BMHGS

“Ask Granny”©

Ask Granny"© is an innovative genealogical outreach program especially designed to be presented by local Genealogical Society members at assisted-living or retirement homes or other places where seniors gather, such as a Community Councils on Aging. The program can also be used as a workshop event at a Family Reunion or at a church or synagogue senior group. The program provides FREE specially formatted materials and instructions to guide the seniors as they create a simple ancestral chart for themselves and for their spouses. There are also administrative helps for societies that adopt the program. The .pdf files can be easily printed or made into slides, flyers, or posters.

Using only pencils and paper, the Grannies and Grandpas who attend the seminars record their memories of family names, dates, and places on a chart labeled “A Genealogical Gift to my Family.” When those pages are preserved in their special gift folder, later descendants will never have to wonder “why didn't we ask Granny about that?” Whether the students can remember the details of one generation or

six, they create an irreplaceable record of family history for their grandchildren and great grandchildren. At every session, even seniors who think they will remember nothing have been able to record several generations with the help of their instructors.

The program has been successfully adopted in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and in 12 states. Write to the "Ask Granny"© authors with your questions or your request for a FREE set of materials by return email. Your email should include the name of your Genealogical Society or the name and date of your upcoming Family Reunion or church/synagogue group. The only stipulation of the authors is that the students are never charged for their participation in an "Ask Granny"© Seminar or for the materials.

Judith F. Russell and Gregory L. Crane
Bogart, Georgia, USA

2010 Membership Dues are Due!

*Our membership year is the same as the calendar year:
January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010.*

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail : _____

Please check one:

NDSGS Membership Dues:

Individual (\$5.00) _____

Supporting Member (\$10.00) _____

Society Membership Dues:

(1 to 10 members = \$5.00) _____

(11-25 members = \$10.00) _____

(26-50 members = \$20.00) _____

(51+ members = \$35.00) _____

Please make checks out to NDSGS and mail your dues to the following address:

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

Officers for 2010-2012:

President: Pat Ashley—pashley@ndsupernet.com
President Elect: Greg Wysk—gwysk1@gmail.com
Secretary: Patrice Hartman—patrice@ndsupernet.com
Treasurer: Don Smith—dearlsmith2019@msn.com
Editors: Pat Ashley
Patrice Hartman

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

We're on the web!
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/

Upcoming Events

9 April 2010. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting 1pm in Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck.

28 April—1 May 2010. National Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be held at Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information: http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info.

9 July 2010. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting 11am-noon in Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck.

9—10 July 2010. Bismarck French Heritage Convention, 1pm Friday—4:30pm Saturday, North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck. For the schedule: <http://www.ifmidwest.org/en/Convention%20Schedule.htm>.

12—17 September 2010. XXIXth International Congress of the Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences 2010 will be held in Stuttgart, Germany. For more information: <http://www.congress2010.info>.

2 October 2010. Family History Workshop, 8am—4:30pm, Moorhead, Minnesota. For more information: <http://heritageed.org/>

2 October 2010. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting, 3:15pm-4:30pm in Room 227, Comstock Union, MSU, Moorhead, Minnesota

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