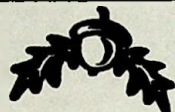


NDSGS Newsletter



Volume : 2002, Issue : Fall/Winter issue

September 2002



Special points of interest in this issue:

- North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes
- North Dakota Genealogical Societies reports.
- Workshops
- Masonic Lodge Records
- ND Homestead Records



Index

IRGC—Report	1-2
SWNDGS—Report	2
BMHGS—Report	
MRLGS—Report	
CNDGS—Report	
WCGS—Report	3
RRVGS—Report	
Thos. Kerrick — Article	
BCHGS—Report	4
NDSGS—Minutes	
Masonic Lodge — Article	5
Homesteads — Article	5-6



NDSGS President's Letter

I hope all of you took advantage of the fact that the North Dakota State Archives was open on Saturdays this past summer. Hopefully they will do this again in the future. I am continually discovering additional information and records that are available at this facility. Most of these record listings are accessible through the ODIN library database. Please note also that the workshop sponsored by the Bismarck-Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society will be held Sat. Sept. 28th. Please come early and participate in the Molecular Genealogy Research Project. Enjoy the rest of the fall and good luck on your genealogy adventures!! *Patrice Hartman*

Learn about tombstones

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society will be held Friday, September 27, 2002 at 1:00 PM in the Heritage Center on the North Dakota State Capitol Grounds. At 2:30 PM there will be a field trip to the Bismarck Marble and Granite office on 5605 East Main Avenue. David Terneest will speak about a general history of tombstones, types of stones, and preservation of tombstones. All genealogy societies in North Dakota area paid members of the NDSGS and we encourage you to send your members as well as your society's representative to our last meeting of the year.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Doings of the James River Genealogy Club—by George Baron

One interesting meeting program we had recently was put on by member Patty Hilbert, Eddy County deputy Clerk of Court and County Recorder. Her subject was on finding family information from probates. She went through the probate process and how to find the packet in the index, or court docket. She brought all kinds of samples and examples of finds she had made on her own family by using probate records. Patty continues to work on an index to the pre 1925 Eddy County marriages.

We have a new Wells County volunteer searcher in Mary Wrolstad, of Fessenden. Mary has been helping with requests for Wells County searches and is learning the ins and outs of finding things in the court house in her own home town. The club continues to have many requests for such searches in the four county search area in which we have members. Most of the initial requests for such information comes to our club by e-mail contacts, or contact with our club internet page. All of our club members who have e-mail equipment have been added to a club list to which frequent

continued from page 1

news items and information of possible interest are forwarded. The e-mail version of the NDSGS newsletter is one of the things that are forwarded to this list.

Our club has been a recent recipient of a used but workable lab top computer, donated by John Mogren. Patty Hilbert is making good use of this new tool in some of her club volunteer work.

Our cemetery crew has been at work on new cemetery information for Barnes County. The last time a cemetery book was compiled for this county was before 1974. The crew is perhaps half finished with collecting tombstone inscriptions. They are thinking that the number of burials is probably too great for one volume, and are thinking now of maybe making a second book of just the four cemeteries that are in or near Valley City. That second book may have to wait until next year. They have checked for "no stoners" in about a dozen cemeteries, but have most of the work of copying cemetery records left to do. They continue to have slow downs due to the weather being too cold, or too hot, not to mention illness, and finding free time to make the trips. Tick season is still on, and lots of activity by mosquitoes, gnats, bumble bees, and inquisitive garter snakes. One of the crew had a new experience when a big German Sheppard sunk big choppers into his rumble seat! Ah for the life of a cemetery volunteer!

SWNDGS News ~ We continue to meet on the third Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Dickinson Public Library. Work is continuing on the cemeteries in Stark County with about half of the cemeteries transcribed and available online at the Stark County website on rootsweb. Terri Godlevsky is currently working on the cemeteries in Dunn County and a portion of these are online at the Dunn County website on rootsweb. We are hoping the new Billings County history book which includes the cemeteries will be available soon for purchase. Patrice Hartman has a portion of the Slope County cemeteries transcribed but can always use more volunteers.

BMHGS to hold workshop

The **BISMARCK MANDAN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** members have been very busy preparing for our upcoming workshop to be held 28 Sep 2002 in Bismarck. Response has been quite strong as the early-news releases were mailed to News Media in North Dakota as well as a few in bordering states; Historical Societies of North Dakota and Genealogical Societies of North Dakota with the hopes of getting wider dissemination of information. Registration forms which include class schedules, times, costs and biographies of presenters, will be mailed about 15 August 2002. A \$5.00 reduction in fees is allowed for those registering-

Central North Dakota Genealogical Society

Submitted by Grace Erickson

On June 6, six members went on a research trip to Bismarck. We spent most of the day in the Heritage Center Reading Room. The staff was very helpful and willing to assist in any way. Some interesting news items were found in Harvey Herald issues from 1909 about a member's uncle returning to visit his relatives in Germany for the winter and bringing back several people. Apparently, he left his wife and family to fend for themselves during the cold North Dakota winter. We had a nice lunch in the Capital cafeteria and then back to work. Several members decided to check out the new Germans from Russia Heritage Society library and with the help of a very nice volunteer much information was found.

We did not meet the month of July, our next meeting will be August 15, 7:00 pm at the Harvey Public Library. We will get back to work on the Harvey funeral home records and get the Riverside tombstone pictures and notes cataloged.

Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society Since our last report we held a Genealogical Symposium that was fun and interesting. The focus of the workshop was on availability of North Dakota records for genealogical research. Topics included: Researching North Dakota homestead records, Constructing & Understanding Genograms and other pedigree charts, Access & Research Records at the State Historical Society of North Dakota, Preservation of photographs and family heirlooms, Oral Interviews Guidelines, Canadian Research, Norwegian Research, Internet research, LDS Family History Center research, Publishing Your Genealogy and the ABC's of Beginning Genealogy.

The Ward County Old Settlers Association has turned over their records to our group for indexing and research. Lillian Vannett has started indexing these.

We had a picnic in July and said good bye to the Flick family who have been very involved in our society.

We still meet the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 in the Minot Public Library. *John Mogren*

before 15 September. Lunch will be available.

The DNA/Molecular Genealogy Research Project, which will take place in conjunction with the workshop, is also more fully explained. A 4 generation Biological Pedigree chart is also enclosed for those wishing to participate in the research project. There is no charge of the voluntary DNA/Molecular Genealogy Research Project. For more information contact BMHGS, Box 485, Bismarck, ND 58502-0485 or email deardsmith@prodigy.net.

Many of our members have been taking genealogical research trips to find relatives, living and dead, this summer. Many stories will be told over the ensuing months. Submitted by Don Smith

WILLIAMS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY:

The Williams County Genealogical Society of Williston, ND meets the second Saturday of each month, 9:30 AM at Our Redeemers Lutheran Church. We meet Sept-May and our summers are a time dedicated to personal research and family reunions. Also this has been a time to do our A-Z rural cemetery index the past few years.

We are still working on our Williams County Cemetery Index. All cemeteries have been documented. We are now going through old newspapers, finding bits of info through obits to fill in some of the gaps left by lost or incomplete church records, etc. We also copy all of these obits and file them in notebooks at our City Library. We have quite a collection built up at this time. The library does not charge to copy these obits, so we have donated copy paper in appreciation for them letting us make these copies.

All types of Family Group Sheets, Research Forms and Research Books are made available to our group. We

met at the LDS Family History Center this spring for a presentation on research tools available and how to use the microfilm and machines. Emphasis was on Census Records. We also had a presentation by Laura Raad of Artice Studio on the Restoration and Preservation of old photos. We do a lot of "sharing" at our meetings of old photos, documents and in areas we are doing our personal researching. It was reported our Riverview & Hillside City Cemeteries have around 12,000 burials in them. The first burial was in Sept. of 1887 and the cemetery was privately owned at one time but in 1955 the City of Williston established ownership. Adrienne Stepanek works at the city cemetery office entering burial data in their new computer program. She is at the cemetery office every day from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM to answer any questions.

Submitted by, Gloria Johnson, President
Williams County Genealogical Society

The **RED RIVER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** will not be having a workshop this fall. We will have a table at the Family History Workshop held at the campus of MSU Moorhead, MN.

At present we are working on obtaining a grant to assist us in completing some projects on the Minnesota side of the Red River. We hope to be able to publish the cemetery records of Roseau County, MN. We are also working to get our Minnesota Cemetery surname index placed on our website. This will include surnames from the counties of Polk, Norman, Wilkin, and Clay counties.

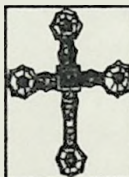
We also will place the list of our library holdings on our web-site.

In the month of July, we received a substantial donation of books from the estate of Myrtle Marler. Earlier in the year, we also received a large collection of books from Maxine Workman. These donations have enriched our collection of information available at the library. We invite all interested persons to come visit our library and use our new acquisitions.

Linda Zeuschel, RRVGS

Quote of Carol Bjorke, taken from Wells County History Vol XXXIII No.8; August 2002

"The word "Heritage has several meanings, that which comes or belongs to a person by reason of birth or that which has been inherited by legal descent or succession. "Heritage is considered a dignified or literary word indicating whatever is bequeathed to a subsequent generation or society. Our State's Heritage Center on the Capitol Grounds, Bismarck, North Dakota, contains materials bequeathed to the citizens of our state...."



CORP. KERRICK

I will share info on one of the many rural burials on homesteads that we have in our county.

THOMAS KERRICK

A lone grave rests about 18 miles north of Williston. Wild prairie grasses bend with the wind around the headstone, which is enclosed with a white wrought iron fence.

The headstone inscription reads: CORP. THOS. D. KERRICK, CO. G, 64 N.Y. CAV. (No dates). Through our research we have supplied these dates: born: 6 July 1835 in N.Y., died: 10 Aug 1906 at 71 years, married Augusta Whalon - 1863, had 7 children, a daughter, Mrs. Charles Dusell of Williston, died of blood poisoning, a civil war soldier, buried on his homestead. Info per obit found in the Williston Herald of 16 Aug 1906.

Thomas loved gambling and cockfighting. While feeding his chickens one day a jealous gamecock charged him and sank a spur into his knee at the joint. Blood poisoning set in and the old man died from it. At his request he was buried on his land. Actually two bodies are interred in the Kerrick plot. Shortly after Thomas died, his one year old grandson was killed when he fell into a bucket of water in the kitchen, in which he drowned. So Kerrick does not rest alone - his grandson Willie Dusell is buried with his grandfather.

WILLIE DUSELL

Born: Feb 1907, died: Nov 1907, at 9 month old son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dusell, died of drowning, information per obituary in the Williams County Mixer of 23 Nov 1907.

I do have a picture of this gravesite and could send it through the mail. I don't have a scanner (yet) to scan to you.

Submitted by Gloria Johnson, President
Williams County Genealogical Society

BOWMAN COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PIONEER TRAILS REGIONAL MUSEUM

Submitted by Dorothy Pearson and Clara Bliss

May brought several school tours. June and July brought 2 buses to our museum doors. One from Canada and the other California. In addition we have had several caravans from various places that were traveling through. July was family reunion time in this area and all of them stopped at the museum. June we had our tenth birthday party open house with a nice turn out. We had Christmas in July at which we served ice cream sundaes and pop floats to those present. This was followed by the traveling replica of the Vietnam Wall which was in town August 15-18. We hosted a veteran's social the afternoon of the 17. That morning we also hosted the MIND Local History Council meeting.

We have compiled and Dorothy typed and made a display of the stories and pictures of about 300 Vietnam veterans from our area.

The Paleontology Dept has had a very good summer with tours and an interesting two weeks Field School, which was well attended. The Archaeology Dept has been doing more research on the Fisk Expedition. We have had Antoine Bercovici, an undergraduate student from Paris, France helping with the Field School and research on Paleontology projects in July and August. Dean Pearson will be in France and England for Paleontology research August 8 through August 20.

The Genealogical Department has been answering queries of family history and updating files. Visitation at the museum is up from last year. Botany Dept has added trees and plants to our native gardens.

"Between 1854 and 1929, more than 100,000 children were sent, via orphan trains, to new homes in rural America."

To learn more about Orphan Trains and the American Experience, check out the PBS website:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/orphan/>

MINUTES OF N.D.S.G.S. MEETING

Minutes of the June 21, 2002 North Dakota State Genealogical Society. Meeting held at the North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, ND.

Attendance; Clara Bliss, Dorothy Pearson, Patrice Hartman, Don Smith Pat Ashley, George Barron, Beth Bauman, Dolores Vyzralek, Susan Dingle and guest, Rebecca Doll

Presentation by Becky Doll, Village Family Services adoption specialist in the Bismarck/Mandan area. She also works closely with Lutheran Social Services. The Village Family Services has 111 years of adoption history. A man from Minneapolis came and built the orphanage which was in Fargo. Also at this time (1890') the "orphan Trains" came west with all the children from the cities. Children were not always adopted for the right reasons. Many of the larger children were adopted so that they could provide free labor. In 1959 six states adopted adoption laws. In 1968 the institutional setting was abandoned. As late as the 1950's some adoptions were still being handled through the lawyers. This is no longer legal and an agency must be involved on both sides.

Each state has it's own laws governing adoption and this does not facilitate matters. They are working on making the laws more uniform but is a slow process. It takes approximately three years from start to finish to adopt. As late as the 70's girls were sent to an old maid aunt (maternity home) to have her baby and often she was told nothing about the child, not even the sex.

Who can search? There is a \$75 fee for a non-identifying search and a \$375 fee for an identifying search. The birth family can search after the child is 21. Adoptee can search at age 18. If both parents are deceased siblings can look for other siblings. If paternity was established both parents must agree to the search and seeing the child. They would like to change this in the future.

Other interesting information presented as follows. Guardianship is not meant to be long term. If the guardian is related to the child adoption can take place without an agency. Health records are available back to the grandparents. There are two maternity homes in North Dakota. They are at Minot and Fargo. Less than 5% of the babies are now available for adoption. International adoption is on the increase. There is no age limit on the age one can be adopted. AASK (stands for Adults Adopting Special Needs Kids), always is in need of adoptive parents for these children.

~\$~ Patrice called the meeting to order at 2 PM. The minutes were corrected to read that the marriage records are available at Stutsman County Court house. Motion to accept the corrected minutes.

~\$~ Treasurer's report given by Don Smith. Motion to accept as printed.

~\$~ Old Business: John Mogren has agreed to do the September newsletter. Send information to him by August.

~\$~ New Business: Article 4 Section 9 dealing with a quorum needs to be changed. Patrice will check into this.

~\$~ Marriage records are available in several places.

~\$~ Following information from Dolores: Archives are open Saturday over the summer months. 1930 census is not indexed by county/township.

~\$~ Copies of naturalization records are available from Kansas City. They are arranged by district courts.

~\$~ Interviews for the position vacated by Susan Dingle at the SHSND are being conducted.

Next meeting: September 20, 2002. (changed to September 27, 2002.)

Respectfully submitted, Clara Bliss and Dorothy Pearson

Masonic Grand Lodge of North Dakota

The Masonic Grand Lodge of North Dakota has maintained a member card for every Mason in this jurisdiction since the organization of the Grand Lodge in June 1889. The card includes name, address, date of birth, place of birth and if known, the time and place of death. Some of the earlier pioneer records also include an obituary.

Thirty-one of the lodges in present day North Dakota had been organized before 1889. Prior to that time, they were a part of the Dakota Grand Lodge. Those Territorial records are maintained at the Grand Lodge of South Dakota.



Grand Lodge

Similar records are retained for each lodge in every state in the U.S.A. and every province in Canada. Usually, the Grand Secretary will check their records for you. (A S.A.S.E. is always appreciated).

Odd Fellows Grand Lodge of North Dakota

If you are looking for a Masonic relative in North Dakota, I will gladly check the North Dakota Grand Lodge files for you. My address is: Allen Ohrt, 2812 27th Street South West, Fargo, ND 58103.

My e-mail address is: alohrt@i29.net

I am also a member of the Odd Fellows of North Dakota. Similar records are maintained at the Odd Fellows Grand Lodge. The Odd Fellows Grand Secretary is Mark Ulrich at 1107 Walnut Street, Devils Lake, ND, 58301. His e-mail is: ndioof@stellarnet.com
Submitted by Allen Ohrt

Locating your ancestor's homestead records in North Dakota.

Submitted John Mogren

1. Locate the legal description of your ancestor's homestead.
 - a. Searching anywhere for land records with Bureau of Land Management.
 - a.a. <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/search/search.asp?s=21>
 - a.b. <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/logon/logon.asp> (or)
 - b. Contact your County Register of Deeds or Recorder. (or)
 - c. If you know the North Dakota County - start at the state page and go from there.
 <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ndgenweb/>
 - a.a. Select your county
 - a.b. Click on BLM records
 - a.c. submit your request for the records on the required Form 84 by sending an e-mail message to www.inquire@nara.gov (this will just get you the form) (or)
 - d. Contact the National Archives <http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/>
 - a.a. *Regular mail:*
Archives I Textual Reference Branch (NWDT1)
National Archives and Records Administration
7th & Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20408
The telephone number is 202-501-5395.
 - a.b. Do not send money with your order.
 - e. (or) Contact your nearest Genealogical Society and ask for assistance.



Homesteading

Continued on page six

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

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

Officers for 2002

President: Patrice Hartman - patrice@pop.ccnet.com
President Elect: Cheri Bliss - blissarc@pop.ccnet.com
Secretary: John Mogren - mogren@stellarnet.com
Treasurer: Don Smith - dearsmith@prodigy.net
Editor: Jacki Keck - jkeck@dia.net

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.

Continued from Page 5 (North Dakota Homestead Records)

Requests for Land Entry Case Files must be submitted on a NAFA Form 84 to NARA. You can request up to 6 copies of this form by sending an e-mail to:

inquire@arch2.nara.gov

*In the subject line state **NAFA Form 84**. In the body of your message state the number of Form 84 (Order for Copies of Land Entry Files) forms you want and include your mailing address. You will receive the forms in about 2 weeks. This form cannot be downloaded or copied. It is a 4 part carbonized form. Each form has an individual number thus you have to use an original form for each request. Remember to give them your snail mail address so they can send you the forms.*

When you write to the National Archives with a request for a copy of the Land Entry Case File. Be sure to include the following information: State, Land Office, Transaction Type, (homestead or cash purchase) Document Number (s), Patentee's Name, and Land Description.

Additional information on land record resources in North Dakota:

Click on: STATE ARCHIVES AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH LIBRARY
<http://www.state.nd.us/hist/sal.htm>

Click on: STATE ARCHIVES/MANUSCRIPTS
<http://www.state.nd.us/hist/infcoll.htm#archives>

Click on: INFORMATION SHEETS
<http://www.state.nd.us/hist/inform.htm>

Click on: LAND RECORDS AND LAWS

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