

# NDSGS Newsletter

Fall 2024 —Volume 15, Issue 3

## *Special points of interest:*

- ND Genealogical Societies Reports
- ND State Archives Reports

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## State Archives hours:

8 a.m.—4:30 p.m. M-F, except holidays

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

## Editor's Notes

### OCTOBER SPEAKER

Shane Molander, State Archivist, will be our presenter for the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. He will talk about the upcoming legislative session, new resources at the state archives, future plans and how to access the collections.

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## Query

We received this query from one of our members:

*Where do we find military records pertaining to WWII? My uncle, Archie Christian Rasmusson was a Sgt. who was inducted into the Army, January 20, 1943 at Ft Snelling; got his basic training at Drew Field, FL, then to Camp Brewder, MO where he attended school for radio operation. He went overseas, January 22, 1944, landing in Glasgow, Scotland, then to England and July 7, he went to France, Holland and Germany. He took part in 5 major battles; left Germany November 13 and sailed November 26 from Marseilles, France, arriving in the United States, December 7 at New Port News, VA and was discharged at Camp McCoy, WI, December 14th. He served with the 9th Air Force, under Dwight Eisenhower, as a radio operator, served and spent time in the palace at Versailles. There are a couple other records showing him leaving CA and Hawaii but don't know if these are the same Archie. The first information was an article in the New Rockford Transcript and thinking that would be a true reflection of where he was. He has now passed and never liked talking about his military record. I am sure he saw too much action in the end of the war in Europe.*  
Stella P.

*Answer (Continued on page 5)*

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society is Friday, October 11 at 1 pm central time in the Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck. **Shane Molander**, North Dakota State Archivist, will be the speaker.

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

# North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

July 12, 2024 Meeting was held in the State Archives Conference Room with Andrew Robinson the State Archaeologist of ND presenting on Utilizing Maps & GPS and Technology in Genealogy.

The presentation was well received by the 14 people that attended; two from Mouse River attended via Zoom. The presentation was broken up into 4 topics. 1. Using Maps and GPS Coordinates 2. Finding Older Homes 3. Land Descriptions and maps and 4. Geophysics

Mr. Robinson also used a case study of the Logan Center Cemetery in Grand Forks County using all of the topics covered to identify unidentified graves.

If you would like to view this session, please contact the NDSGS secretary for a link to the recording.

NDSGS now has two elected officers: Patrice Hartman, Treasurer and Kari Hausauer, Secretary. As we now have two filled positions, Patrice called for approval of minutes from July 9, 2021. Pat Ashley made a motion to approve, and Dan Sauerwein seconded. The motion passed. The group is still actively asking for individuals to volunteer to be president and vice president.

Treasurers Report: There is \$3,262.42 in our account. There may be a need in the future to increase the membership fee to cover the cost of printing and mailing. The current fee is \$5/ individual membership.

Discussion was held about our website and Facebook page. Kari Hausauer will help Patrice Hartman with managing the website and FB page. Discussion on speakers also occurred.

Our next meeting will be on October 11<sup>th</sup> at the State Archives. Shane Molander will be speaking on the upcoming legislative session and general information about the Archives. This meeting will also be broadcast via ZOOM.

October is American Archives Month! Daniel Sauerwein handed out a sheet with information of new materials added to the ND Archives. Daniel encouraged the group to plan activities on a weekend that may attract younger individuals to join NDSGS.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Kari Hausauer

## Citation Corner

Land records are frequently used when we are researching our ancestors. It is important to always check for these types of records when doing research. Land records can be found at the county courthouse, on microfilm or online or at the National Archives. When checking indexes for land records check for all the various members of your family as sometimes the record is indexed under an unusual name or not the one you expected to find. For example a deed might be listed by the surname of a spouse and not the original family name. Deeds might be recorded many years after the land was purchased.

Clues that you might find in the deeds are: names and relationships of the grantors, residences, occupation, property description, names of witnesses.

One example of a citation to a land deed in North Dakota is the following:

Hettinger County, North Dakota, Patent, 18: 517, U.S. to the Heirs of Rebecca E. Morgan, 24 April 1913; Recorder's Office, Mott.

This tells us that the deed was located at the Recorder's office in Mott, Hettinger County, North Dakota. Patent book 18 and page 517.

An example of a citation to a land deed in Iowa is listed below:

Harrison County, Iowa, Deed Record Book 97: 613-614, Mamie Hauer to Sarah C. Donnelson, 23 October 1902; FSL 1,509,920, Item 1.

This tells us that the deed was located on microfilm for Harrison County, Iowa from the FamilySearch Library. It gives the microfilm number and the item number and that the deed is in book 97 and pages 613 and 614.

# State Historical Society of North Dakota

## New Local Government Records & Other Acquisitions

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

During Summer 2024, the State Archives hosted an intern, Katherine Hayes, who processed and digitized genealogy and document collections. These collections consist of various certificates, land patents, diplomas, charters, deeds, ballots, biographical sketches, and family histories. The State Archives hopes to have an online portal to these materials in the next year.

### RECENT MANUSCRIPT AND PHOTO ACQUISITIONS:

**11225 Fernow Family Papers:** Consists of family history and genealogical research, a scrapbook of records created by the Mrs. Jacees (Valley City, N.D.), the personal papers of Edwin and Lydia (Anderson) Fernow, their daughter Erllys and grandson Thomas James Krom. The majority of the collection consists of Edwin's farm record books from their Enderlin (Cass County, ND) farm and photographs, covering circa 1885-2014.

### 11635 Bismarck High School Class of 1944

**Records:** General correspondence, lists of graduates, newsletters, photographs, reunion planning materials, and records from the 50th (1994), 55th (1999), 60th (2004), 62nd (2006) and 65th (2009). Reunion records include scrapbooks, photographs, audiovisual recordings, questionnaire, committee planning correspondence and documents, programs, and miscellaneous.

### 2024-P-023 Dakota Adventist Academy

**Composites Photograph Collection:** Collection consists of composite photographs of select graduating classes of Dakota Adventist Academy and predecessor institutions, Plainview Academy and Sheyenne River Academy, covering 1914-2002.

### RECENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACQUISITIONS:

42135 Benson County. Clerk of Court, Probate Case Files

42139 Ramsey County. Clerk of Court, Probate Case Files

42140 Walsh County. Clerk of Court, Divorce Case Files

### RECENT PUBLICATION ACQUISITIONS:

Elaine Booth and Lola Hovey, compilers, *Presbyterian Church, Towner, ND centennial celebration: 1893-1993* (Towner, North Dakota: Presbyterian Church, 1993).

Evelyn Lenton, *Eastside echoes: a North Dakota heritage story* (Norwich, North Dakota: E. Lenton, 1988).

*Dawson High School alumni review, 1917-1959: grand reunion, June 30-July 1, '73, Dawson, North Dakota*, (Dawson, North Dakota: Alumni Book Committee, 1973).

*Enderlin High School alumni directory, 1906-1976* (Enderlin, North Dakota: n.p., 1976).

*Leeds School reunion, 1909-1996: July 26-27-28, 1996* ([Leeds, North Dakota]: [History Book Committee], [1996]).

Marcia Nieuwsma Jelsma, *Nieuwsma family story* (Watertown, South Dakota: Marcia Jelsma, 1999).

Gary DeKrey, *Henry Clay Stotlar and his family: an American story, from Illinois to North Dakota* ([United States]: [Gary DeKrey], 2024).

Tenth Anniversary Jubilee Committee, *10th anniversary, Warsaw Society Lodge 3043 (1945-1955) [and] Diamond jubilee, Polish National Alliance (1880-1955)* (Warsaw, North Dakota: Warsaw Society Lodge, [1955?]).

Farm and Home Publishers, *Bottineau County, North Dakota 2018 plat & directory* (Belmond, Iowa: Farm and Home Publishers, [2018]).

### RECENT ADDITIONS TO ONLINE NEWSPAPER ACCESS:

[Glen Ullin Times \(1946-2022\)](#)

# North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

## Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

*by Shirley McMillan, President*

The summer solstice has passed, and the year is half over. It's time to prepare for the coming season. The Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society's summer has been busy and interesting.

Shirley and John went to the monthly meeting of the Daughters of Norway, Aasen Lodge, to present an overview of our society and to provide some assistance on doing research on Swedish ancestors and family.

Some MRLGS members traveled to Towner to visit the McHenry County Historical museum, with a lunch stop at the Bearded Moose café. The largest collection of Louis L'Amour items and memorabilia (outside of the family's) is housed at the museum. They also have framed oil painting by J.S. Kirkpatrick, a ND Western artist, on display. An interesting option was to tour local cemeteries by following a well-researched map.

The hours are limited, so visitors should check the website before going.

The September MRLGS meeting will feature Alyea Miller, site manager of the Ward County Historical Society, as the speaker. The title of her presentation is, "The Future of Preservation: Museums Past and Future."

The topic of the October meeting has not yet been determined, but the November meeting will feature our traditional ethnic potluck and holiday memories and memorabilia.

Longtime member Dwaine Kaufman died in August. He extensively researched family history and uploaded thousands of photos to the Find a Grave website.

Enjoy the coming changes of seasons.

## Red River Valley Genealogical Society

*by Keith Zeutschel*

RRVGS continues to improve its service to fellow genealogists and members. Our latest addition is a collection of books donated by Glenn E. from the estate of Alice Ellingsburg. One of Certified Genealogist Alice E.'s specialty was helping African Americans gain documentation of their ancestry with which to join Heritage Societies like the DAR and others. These are some of the resources she used to accomplish this task. A complete list of these books is in our July to December 2024 newsletter.

We are also pleased to add Ancestry Library Edition to our online resource selection for members of our society on our library computer. This has been donated by several members in memory of Chad Z, son of long-time librarian

Linda Z. This will be available now through July 2025 as a courtesy to library patrons. If you would like to donate additional funds for a continuation of this service in future years, please consider making a donation to our library. Please mark your donation for: Ancestry Library Edition.

Another project we are working on is having members and patrons write a 250-word essay in honor of the country's 250 anniversary in 2026. Essay theme should be a family story, immigration of your forefathers, struggles of your family coming to America or any other compatible story. As we say, this is only in the planning stage so do not send your essay just yet. Further details will be coming in early 2025.

## Southwest North Dakota Genealogical Society

by *Patrice Hartman*

Our regular meetings are held at the Dickinson Public Library unless otherwise noted. We usually meet on a Tuesday at 2 PM.

At our June [meeting](#) we talked about house histories and yearbooks and how to find them online. We did not meet in July. On August 13<sup>th</sup> we looked at the FamilySearch Labs which is a full text search of some land and probate records

in the US and other records in selected countries. This is still in the experimental stage but seems to work fairly well to locate people and places in these records. More records will be added as time goes by.

Please join us and bring a friend. Contact Patrice Hartman for more information.

## Minnkota Genealogical Society

by *Steve Johnson*

Greetings from the Minnkota Genealogy Society. Most of our current 32 members live in Grand Forks, ND; East Grand Forks, MN; and Crookston, MN. We meet in the evening on the first Thursday of each month at the East Grand Forks Public Library. We plan for a formal or informal program or presentations or social event each month. Members sign up to bring treats to share at the conclusion of each meeting.

Recent example programs have included a

genealogical software roundtable, online videos, presentation on historic Norwegian and Swedish naming protocols, using Google for genealogical research, open member sharing with Q & A, and a cemetery cleanup field trip with lunch following. The group holds an annual holiday potluck.

The Society maintains a Facebook presence. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

*Query (Continued from page 1)*

ANSWER: A fire on 12 January 1973 at the National Personnel Records Center, part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), destroyed most of the WWI and WWII Army and Air Force personnel records. The federal government reconstructed Official Military Personnel Files (OMPFs) from documents that the veteran or relatives sent in later. Separation documents, replacement medals and OMPFs can be ordered from NARA at <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>.

Unit Rosters were monthly records listing all personnel assigned to a unit. Morning Reports may contain strength of the unit, including name, rank, and any changes to unit strength due to discharge, reassignment, hospitalization, or other absence. They may also include morale and unit

activities. WWII era (to 1943) Morning Reports and Rosters are being digitized. See the NARA catalog at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85713825>. An index organized by reporting unit is available at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/294846987>. Once the WWII records to 1943 are digitized, NARA will proceed to digitize 1944-1946 Morning Reports and Rosters.

*Fold3* has several of NARA's WWII records at <https://www.fold3.com/collection/world-war-ii-united-states/publications>.

If anyone has further suggestions please let us know and we will publish them in the next newsletter.

**North Dakota State Genealogical Society**

**5750 104 Ave SW**

**Regent, ND 58650**

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

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

**Officers for 2023-2024:**

President:

Vice President:

Secretary: Kari Hausauer

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Editors: Pat Ashley—[pashley@ndsupernet.com](mailto:pashley@ndsupernet.com)

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**NDSGS Dues**

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

Website: <https://ndsgs.org/>



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

## Upcoming Events

21 September 2024. Montana History Conference. Great Falls. <https://mhs.mt.gov/education/index3>

11 October 2024. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting. Bismarck.

25-26 October 2024. North Star Genealogy Conference. Eagan, MN. <https://mngs.org/North-Star-2024>