

# NDSGS Newsletter

Summer 2019 —Volume 10, Issue 2

## President's Letter

Greetings:

There are many societies and organizations that may have information of value to your genealogical research. There are several such societies in the United States and Canada as well as in Germany. You may find it helpful to join one of these societies and support their efforts.

I have joined the Germans from Russia History and Genealogy Face book Group. I have noticed that various members have posed question about their ancestors and have either gotten responses from others as to where to find the information or have gotten the information from others.

In my last article in the fall issue, I will have more information about these.

Our next meeting is at 1:00 pm July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Heritage Center. If at all possible, please attend. The speakers give useful information, in an easy to understand manner. Remember election of officers will be done at our October meeting. Consider taking an office for the next two years. You will find it a rewarding experience.

Erling Olson, NDSGS President

## Next Meeting

Mary Hill will speak at the next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society, Friday, July 12 at 1 pm central time in the Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck. Mary 's presentation will be "Federal Land: Obtaining a Case File and Learning About Deeds."

Mary E.V. Hill, MLS, AG, was born in Norwalk, Connecticut and spent her teenage years living in São Paulo, Brazil. Mary served a LDS mission in Brazil, married Keith K. Hill and is the mother of nine children. After raising her family she returned to BYU and obtained a BA in Family and Community History and a Master of Library Science. From 1989 to 1992 she was a history and genealogy reference consultant at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University. Mary became an instructor at BYU in family history and genealogical research in 1992. In 1995 she joined the staff of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City where she was on the United States/Canada reference team and was in charge of teaching and Collection Management. Mary is accredited in the Mid-Atlantic States and was accredited in Southern States research and was a Certified Lineage Specialist with BCG. She is author of *Saga of a Southern Loyalist: William Riddle of Virginia and North Carolina*, the *Family Roots Organizer Video Series*, and *Angel Children*. She has lectured in several states at genealogy fairs and conferences. She was the coordinator for the week-long Mid-South Track of the UGA Institute in January, 2005. She is currently the Director of the Dickinson Family History Center.

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.

### Special points of interest:

- ND Genealogical Societies Reports
- ND State Archives Reports

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# North Dakota State Genealogical Society Minutes

Treasurer Patrice Hartman called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on April 26, 2019. The meeting was held in the Legislative Assembly Room at the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Genealogical societies/club representatives present: Pat Ashley, Patrice Hartman, SWNDGS; Vicki Hoffart, MRLGS; Dalles Schneider, NDSGS.

Business meeting

## MINUTES

Vicki Hoffart made a motion, which was seconded by Dalles Schneider, that the minutes of the October 12, 2018 meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

## TREASURERS REPORT

Patrice Hartman gave the Treasurers Report. Motion made by Pat Ashley and seconded by Vicki Hoffart to file the treasurers report. Motion carried

## OLD BUSINESS

Patrice Hartman talked about the Pre 1925 marriage index. Work is proceeding on this project with only three counties still to be microfilmed. The remaining counties are Mercer, Oliver and Stark.

Please check out the NDSGS website and send any updates to Patrice Hartman.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Moorhead workshop will be held on September 28, 2019. The speaker is Alice Hoyt Veen who specializes in Iowa and Midwestern Research.

A motion was made to place an ad in the workshop brochure, fee is \$25.00. Motion made by Pat Ashley and seconded by Dalles Schneider. Motion carried.

Officer Elections will be held at the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please consider taking one of the offices. Terms are for two years.

Discussion was held on what new projects might be pursued by the society. Working on vital records access with the legislature was mentioned as well as promoting preservation of newspapers and other records that might be at risk in our state. Please let the SHSND archives know if you find records that need to be archived or preserved.

Next Meeting will be July 12, 2019.

The Summer Newsletter Deadline is June 1, 2019.

Shane Molander, Deputy State Archivist talked about the Advantage Preservation Project to digitize North Dakota Newspapers.

He mentioned the Chronicling America website and that the archives had received funding for a fourth round of newspapers and was able to add more issues for the Bismarck Tribune up to about 1937 and more of the Fargo Forum from 1903-1918. These additional pages are not all available yet but will be coming. The archives has applied for a fifth round of the grant for this project.

The archives was approached by Advantage Preservation to work in partnership with them to digitize North Dakota newspapers. There are several newspapers online already with this company. Divide County newspaper, Hillsboro and Flasher papers. The funding for these projects has come from various sources such as individual donations, grants, city block grants, mill levies and fundraising. Some sponsors have been local historical societies, libraries and museums. Costs are approximately \$130.00 per roll of microfilm and a one time fee of \$650.00 to set up the website.

The ND Newspaper Association encourages and supports this project. The archives supplies the master negative to ensure the quality of the images.

Advantage Preservation does the digitization and sets up and maintains the website.

At this time you have to search each newspaper individually but eventually there will be one site where you can search all the newspapers or several different newspapers at one time. Searches can be made on names or places, dates.

Each entity that had newspapers done has its own website where you just search those titles. However, you can search across all titles in this project at <http://ndarchives.advantage-preservation.com/>. As more newspapers are done, they will be added to this site.

The ND State Genealogical Society encourages all communities in North Dakota to preserve their newspapers for future generations and to encourage the study of history by working to get their local newspapers digitized.

Patrice Hartman, Acting Secretary

# State Historical Society of North Dakota

## New Local Government Records

by Ann B. Jenks, State Archivist

41867 Cass County. Clerk of Court, Burial Transit Permits, 2000-2018, 4CF

41872 Divide County. Clerk of Court, Probate Case Files, 1911-1961, 42CF

41864 McLean County. Malcolm School District #38, Treasurer's Annual Report, 1932-1959, 1ff.

41870 Morton County. Recorder, Burial Transit Permits, 1990-2017, 3CF

41871 Morton County. Recorder, Wills for Safekeeping, 1915-1945, .25CF

41866 Ramsey County. Recorder, Marriage Records, 1884-1925, 4,028DF

41868 Walsh County. City of Grafton. Auditor, Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Improvements, 1973-1974, 3LF

41865 Walsh County. Park River School District #8, Records, 2006-2008, 7DF

41869 County and Municipal Blueprints and Drawings, 1883-1980, 9LF

## Citation Corner

Most of us have photographs in our collections. Photographs are a wonderful glimpse into the past and if we are fortunate they record names and dates for the subject. A photograph found in an archives would be cited something like this:

“2:30 pace June 15 races, Bowbells, N.D.,” 1910, online image, *Digital Horizons* (<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/digital/> : accessed 31 May 2019); citing item no. 00170-04, Martin O. Helseth Photograph Collection, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck.

Citing photographs in family collections requires the addition of a statement of provenance, or chain of title by which it passed from the original owner to the current owner. The information on provenance may be incomplete so record what is known. An example is:

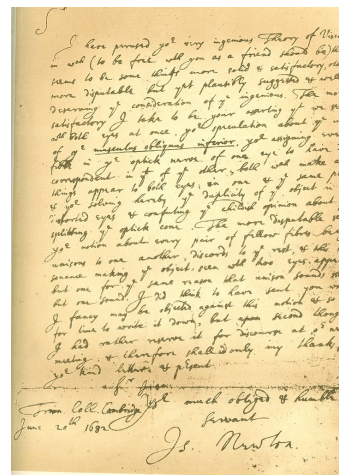
Frank Wolaver, Ina Wolaver, Rachel Sprague, Mrs. Ford Wolaver, four generations, photograph, 1889; privately held by Patricia Ashley, Dickinson, North Dakota, 2019. Passed from Ina (Wolaver) Gieske Gough Baumann (1880-1967) to her nephew's widow, from whom current owner inherited it.

## Where to Find Personal Papers in Genealogy Searches

by Dick Eastman, *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* (<https://blog.eogn.com/>)

Sometimes, the documents we seek as genealogists go beyond government-generated paperwork like vital records, federal and state censuses and military records. Sometimes, we need private documents — letters, business records and diaries or journals — to confirm dates or relationships. Those aren't the kinds of things you usually find at the National Archives or your state's archives.

Daniel Klein has published an interesting article in *The Jersey Journal* that offers suggestions for finding these personal documents, wherever they may be stored. The article may be found at: <http://bit.ly/2Ja1FTy>.



# North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

## Red River Valley Genealogical Society

by Keith Zeuschel

The Red River Valley Genealogical Society continues to expand. Recently we acquired additional books, newsletters and other bits of information for searching your ancestors. We have also created a new web page. Glenn has been working on moving all of the information from our old site to this new web page. The new address is [www.rrvgs.org](http://www.rrvgs.org). Click on our new link and discover the items available there. It is still a work in progress so please bear with us as we complete the transition. Our mailing address remains the same: RRVGS PO Box 9284 Fargo, ND 58106-9284 and we are still located in the Bonanzaville entrance. We are located at 1351 W. Main Ave West Fargo, ND.

Currently our summer hours are Thursday and Friday 1:00 - 4:00 PM and on Saturday from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Please call ahead as we are a volunteer organization and some days we may not have someone attending the library. We also have two new certificates available for sale. First is a Phoenix Certificate for those who lived in North Dakota anytime during the 1930's (The Dirty Thirties). The second certificate is a Homesteader Certificate for those families who proved up a Federal Homestead from any date in North Dakota history. Unfortunately the application is not available online yet as that portion of our new site is still under construction. You may request a paper copy of the

## Civil War Facial Recognition

by Dick Eastman, *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* (<https://blog.eogn.com/>)

Photography was a new technology at the time of the U.S. Civil War. An estimated 40 million photos were taken during the Civil war – although only four million are believed to remain today. Many have been treated as heirloom photos by families ever since. Still others are valuable for their historical value. One problem is that many of the people shown in the old photographs have never been identified, until now.

In a marriage of the latest technology and 150-year-old technology, computerized facial recognition techniques are now identifying many of the people in the old photographs. Computer scientist and history buff Kurt Luther created a free-to-use website, called [Civil War Photo Sleuth](#), that uses facial recognition technology to cross-reference vintage photographs with a database and hopefully assign a name to unknown subjects.

Anyone may upload their own photographs or select from the many photographs that are already available online,

such as photos from the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration's web site. The software in the Civil War Photo Sleuth web site then maps as many as 27 "facial landmarks" on each photograph. Once it finishes cross-referencing, the site will serve up a slate of closely similar photographs that already have names attached.

For any one photo, the web site often identifies a number of potential candidates, rather than just one. In that case, humans have to compare the photographs of potential candidates to identify the correct person, if possible.

A lot more information about the Civil War Photo Sleuth may be found in an article by Annie Palmer in the *Daily Mail* web site at <https://dailym.ai/2S6gUwy> while the Civil War Photo Sleuth web site may be found

at: <https://www.civilwarphotosleuth.com>.



## Family History Workshop's Annual Family History Awards

Have you completed a project that preserves your family history, adds to the body of historical knowledge for a certain locale, or that helps others with their research? The Commission annually presents awards for the best examples submitted in the following categories:

- [Family History Book Award](#)
- [Regional History Book Award](#)
- [Historical Preservation Award](#)
- [Advancing Genealogical Skills Award](#)
- [Creating Genealogical Sources Award](#)
- [Family History Youth Award \(under age 19\)](#)

Each Award has unique requirements outlined on the separate pages linked above. The requirements and policies applicable to all submissions include:

1. By September 1, entries must be received by HEC with a completed entry form. (See the link at the bottom of this page.) The entry form clarifies copyright ownership issues and defines the terms and conditions under which a winning entry is donated to the HEC. Address: Heritage Education Commission, PO Box 292, Moorhead, MN 56561-0292

2. Submissions will be considered when the author is from our region or the material is pertinent to our region. "Our region" includes the states of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the Province of Manitoba.

3. Winners are announced during the luncheon at the annual all-day HEC

Workshop at the end of September. Winners are not required to be present.

4. You are agreeing to donate a copy of your work to HEC. [Do not submit your only copy.] Winners' items are displayed during the annual Workshop and then are placed in the Archives of the Northwest Minnesota Historical Center at Minnesota State University at Moorhead (MSUM) and possibly on the HEC web site.

5. Only one award is given per category. Judges may also award honorable mentions for submissions of high quality and place those items in the Archives so they can be used by other researchers.

6. All sources/data must be carefully documented. All copyrighted

material must include a statement indicating copyright owner's permission to

republish. If there are any questions, please contact [info@heritageed.com](mailto:info@heritageed.com).

7. Judges reserve the right to withhold an award for any particular year.

For more information and obtain an entry form visit the Heritage Education Commission website at [www.heritageed.com](http://www.heritageed.com)

### Country School House Project

Kathy Wilner, also known as "The School Lady," has compiled information on over 500 country schools. In honor of her efforts she was awarded the Heritage Profile Honor Award in 2017.

Hard copies of the information are available from County Historical Societies. Digital copies are available on the State Historical Society of North Dakota website at <http://history.nd.gov/hp/schools/>.





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

North Dakota State Genealogical Society  
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**Officers for 2018-2019:**

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Patrice Hartman—[patrice@ndsupernet.com](mailto:patrice@ndsupernet.com)

**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: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ndsgs/)



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

## Upcoming Events

**12 July 2019. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting, 1-3pm, State Archives, Bismarck.**

31 July—3 August 2019. Germans from Russia Heritage Society Convention. Fargo, North Dakota. <http://grhs.org/>

2-4 August 2019. Deuce of August Icelandic Celebration. Mountain, North Dakota. <http://thedeuce.org/>

16-18 August 2019. Find German Ancestors in Poland & Volhynia. Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe. Winnipeg. <https://www.sggee.org/>

19-21 September 2019. Montana State Genealogical Society Conference. Helena, Montana. <http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>

28 September 2019. Family History Workshop. Moorhead, Minnesota. <http://www.heritageed.com/>

28-29 September 2019. Discover Your Swedish Roots. Lindsborg, Kansas. [oldmillmuseum.org](http://oldmillmuseum.org)

7-8 October 2019. Minnesota Association of Museums. Fargo, ND and Moorhead, MN. <http://www.minnesotamuseums.org/events>

12-14 June 2020. Manitoba Genealogical Society conference. Winnipeg. <http://conference.mbgenealogy.com/>

### North Dakota State Genealogical Society

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