

NDSGS Newsletter

Summer 2015 —Volume 6, Issue 2

Special points of interest:

- ND Genealogical Societies Reports
- ND State Archives Reports

Inside this issue:

NDSGS Minutes	2
State Historical Society	3
MRLGS Report	5
JRGC Report	5
RRVGS Report	6
BMHGS Report	7
In Memorium	8
Records Access	9
Moorhead Workshop	10
History Caucus	11
Genealogical Education	11
Citation Corner	11

President's Letter

I am delighted with the results of the NDSGS workshop held at the ND State Heritage Center on April 11, 2015. Approximately 40 – 50 people attended. Our featured speaker was Dr. Igor Ovchinnikov, Associate Professor at UND. He spoke on the North Dakota Genetic Ancestry project and DNA testing. Other presenters included:

- LaDonna Allard, Standing Rock Tribal Tourism Coordinator, on Native American History.
- Greg Wysk, State Historical Society of North Dakota, on Local Government Records
- Rachel White, State Historical Society of North Dakota, on Book and Paper Preservation
- David Austin, on *Ancestry.com*.

The evaluations were positive with the majority of people feeling that the presentations on Genetic Study / DNA and *Ancestry.com* were the most helpful. Everyone felt that the presenters were very knowledgeable and that they had learned from the workshop. The consensus among the attendees was that they would like to see more workshops on more topics in the future. Many participants reported that they took advantage of the archives that day and did some research also.

Our next meeting will be in Fargo on July 10 as we explore the Red River Valley Genealogical Society Library.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at aladinsgenie07@gmail.com or email one of the other officers. Thank You.

Genie Lang

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society will be Friday, July 10 at 1 pm CDT in the Red River Genealogical Society Library, Fargo.

See the RRVGS Report on page 6 for information on parking and a small map.

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

President Genie Lang called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on April 10, 2015. The meeting was held in the Legislative Assembly Room at the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Genealogical societies/club representatives present: Patrice Hartman, Pat Ashley, SWNDGS; Al Buchholz, BMHGS; Genie Lang, Daphne Drewello, JRGC; Linda and Keith Zeuschel, RRVGS; Ron Baker, MGS; Erling Olson, Stephanie Kom, Gen Hutmacher, NDSGS; and Greg Wysk, SHSND.

Business meeting

MINUTES

Pat Ashley made a motion, which was seconded by Al Buchholz, that the minutes of the October 10, 2014 meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

Patrice Hartman gave the Treasurers Report. Motion made by Erling Olson and seconded by Al Buchholz to file the treasurers report. Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

Patrice Hartman talked about the Pre 1925 marriage index. If you are interested in volunteering for this project to work on indexing please contact Patrice or Ann Jenks.

A motion was made by Al Buchholz and seconded by Erling Olson to pay all expenses incurred for the workshop to be held tomorrow. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Al Buchholz and seconded by Gen Hutmacher to pay the workshop speakers a honorarium of \$50.00. Motion carried.

The NDSGS spring workshop will be held tomorrow Saturday, April 11, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Al Buchholz and seconded by Pat Ashley to look into the laws that govern the issuing of death and birth certificates in North Dakota and to begin working on a bill to make changes to the laws. Motion carried. Patrice Hartman will spearhead this effort with help by Pat Ashley, Genie Lang and Erling Olson.

A motion was made by Al Buchholz and seconded by Gen Hutmacher to place an ad in the Moorhead Workshop syllabus. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The RRVGS volunteered to host the July 10th, 2015 meeting of the NDSGS in Fargo. They will open their library at 11:00 for members who wish to come early and research. You are welcome to bring along your lunch. There is also a lunch room with vending machines on the main level.

The Summer Newsletter Deadline is June 10th.

Secretary
Patrice Hartman



We want to extend a hearty Welcome to our new members. Anyone who came to the workshop also received a year of membership in the NDSGS. We look forward to working with you and to hearing your stories. Please join us at our next meeting. If anyone has research questions you can contact Patrice Hartman (patrice@supernet.com) or Genie Lang (glang@midco.net).

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New Book Acquisitions

by Rachel White, Head of Technical Services SHSND

New books since February:

NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL HISTORIES:

Gillund, Rodney C. *Abstracts & index of obituaries, the Journal : Divide County, Crosby, N.D., 2010-2014*. Crosby, North Dakota: R.C. Gillund, [2015].

Great Plains Directory Service. *McLean County plat book & directory*. Jamestown, North Dakota: Great Plains Directory Service, [2014].

Gross, Placid Alois. *Little church on the prairie : the history of St. Anthony Parish*. Richardton, North Dakota: Assumption Abbey, c2014.

Jamestown Chapter United Presbyterian Men, comp. *United Presbyterian Church membership directory, Jame-*

stown, North Dakota. Jamestown, North Dakota: United Presbyterian Church, [197-?]

Notes from the Donnybrook Courier. [North Dakota: s.n., 198-?].

Weiler, Lorraine. *Trail west : the early settlers in Traill County, Dakota Territory*. Lexington, Kentucky: [s.n., 2011].

FAMILY HISTORIES:

Lauer, Margaret Thies. *The Persons family (including Bassett, Powers, Hutton, Moulton and Pope families) : colonial America to 1950*. [United States: M. and J. Lauer], c2015.

New Local Government Records

by Ann Jenks, State Archivist

May 2015 Local Government Accessions

41683 Cass County. Recorder, Wills, 1881-1934, .5ft.

41700 Eddy County. Clerk of Court, Civil Case Files, 1890-1925,

41701 Eddy County. Clerk of Court, Criminal Case Files, 1894-1925.

41702 Griggs County. Social Services. Social Services Board Meeting Minutes, 1934-2012. 1.5 ft.

41679 McLean County. Lund School District #9, Clerks Record, 1916-1918, 1v.

41684 Morton County. Auditor, Drawings and Specifications for Jail and Cell Work for a New Jail and Sheriff's Residence or a New Jail and Remodel of Sheriff's Residence and Vault Door and Shutters for New Vault in Court House for Morton County, Mandan N.D. Buechner & Orth, Architects, 1915

441056 Ransom County. Auditor. Abstract of Votes, 1900-1980, 2ft.

1054 Ransom County. Auditor, Annual Statement of Township Treasurers, 1956-1972, 1.5ft.

41089 Ransom County. Auditor, Artesian Well Report, 1921, 1v.

41082 Ransom County. Auditor. Civil Township Record, 1884-1906, 1v.

41080 Ransom County. Auditor. Mother's Pension Record, 1933-1936, 1v.

40809 Ransom County. Auditor, Real and Personal Property Assessments, 1883-1980, 48ft.

41068 Ransom County. Auditor. Tax Deed Record, 1915-1969, 4v.

41081 Ransom County. Auditor. Transfer Record, 1888-1915, 1v.

41079 Ransom County. Auditor. Tree Bounty Record, 1915-1940, 1v.

41062 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Administrator's Record, 1885-1893, 1v.

41067 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Bond and Letter Record, 1892-1896, 1v.

(Continued on page 4)

State Historical Society of North Dakota

New Local Government Records (Continued from page 3)

41083 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Certificate of Indigence for Admission to Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 1930-1960, 1ff. RESTRICTED

41084 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Certificate of Indigence for Admission to State Institution for Feeble Minded, 1907-1930, 1ff. RESTRICTED

41057 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Executor's and Guardian's Record, 1885-1896, 1v.

41060 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Inheritance Tax Record, 1913-1918, 1v.

41063 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Insanity Record, 1882-1977, 6v. and 1.5ft. RESTRICTED

41069 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Inventory and Appraisement, 1882-1894, 1v.

41681 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Judgment Record, 1955-1975, 3v.

41061 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Justice Docket – Civil and Criminal, 1883-1942, 11v.

41065 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Petition for Druggist Permit, 1890-1899, 1v.

41043 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Probate Journal, 1925-1972, 5v.; Probate Record, 1904-1947, 4v.

41053 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Record of Liquor Affidavits Issued to Druggists, 1890-1903, 1v.

41072 Ransom County. Clerk of Court. Register of Liquor Licenses Issued, 1881-1888, 1v.

41066 Ransom County. Recorder. Certificate of Sire, 1891-1898, 1v.

41680 Ransom County. Recorder. Partnership Record, 1883-1982, 1v.

41682 Ramsey County. Recorder. Wills. 1892-1944. .5 ft.

41085 Ransom County. Sheriff. Execution Record, 1885-1975, 1v.

41064 Ransom County. Sheriff. Jail Register, 1885-1965, 2v.

41087 Ransom County. Sheriff. Record of Sales on

Execution of Real Estate, 1939-1972, 1v.

41686 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Enumeration of School Children, 1903-1991, 1v.

41687 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Institute and Teachers Record, 1893, 1905, 1v.

41688 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Record of High School Examinations, 1900-1972, 3v.

41689 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Record of School Districts, 1947-1968, 1v.

41690 Ransom County Superintendent of Schools, Record of School Officers, 1904-1995, 4v.

41691 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Record of Teachers Certificates, 1887-2000, 2v.

41695 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Reorganization of School Districts, 1978-2002, 1v.

41706 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, School Census, 1913-1979, 3ft.

41692 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, School District Record, 1908-1935, 1v.

41696 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, School Officers Association, 1931-1976, 3v.

41693 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, School Township Clerks Report, 1884-1887, 1v.

41694 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Superintendents Record Book, 1883-1973, 1v.

41078 Ransom County. Superintendent of Schools, Teacher's Report, 1893-1998, 5ft.

41685 Rolette County. Auditor, Tax Lists. 1885-1990. 39 ft.

41697 Rolette County. Auditor, Abstract of Votes. 1952-2002. 3 ft.

41698 Rolette County. Fairview Township Records. 1887-1994. 1 ft.

41699 Sargent County. Clerk of Court, Marriage License Applications, Licenses and Certificates, 1885-1925, 4r. (#17060-17063).

41703 Ward County. Clerk of Court, Civil and Criminal Case Files - Justice Court, 1919, 1ft.

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society

by *Kathy Holte*

We continue to add valuable information to our archives with the addition of Ward County Township Officers for the years 1902-03, 1904, 1905 and 1910; WWI Registrants of Ward County and Sheriffs Serving North Dakota – 125 Years.

Expert Herb Schwede gave us an updated and interesting program on Find-A-Grave at our May meeting. He showed us many aspects of this valuable genealogical resource. We were encouraged to ensure that correct data is entered and upload gravestone photographs and profile pictures. Herb also touched on the Bureau of Land Management website and demonstrated how the ND Death Index works. There is always something new to learn and with several new members, it was very beneficial.

Mark Berg, author of numerous books, was our guest speaker on June 6th. He was born and raised in Minot. He trained in the liberal arts and has an MA in history (Pacific History) from the University of Hawaii. *Buffalo Wallows* is the sixth book he has published and donated to local schools and libraries in an effort to acquaint students and the reading public with local history. He talked about residents of Ward County who were interviewed in the 1930s, by several interviewers, and whose responses to questions

were placed in files. These files are available on microfilm from the State Historical Society in Bismarck. For Ward County, there are over 300 such files. The files are collected under the general heading, "Ward County Pioneers."

Upcoming programs:

August 1, 2015 - Dennis Olliney, IT, will help us understand "the cloud" and other storage options for the historical data we gather, as well as Internet safety.

September 5, 2015 – Ancestry Basics by John Mogren.

October 3, 2015 – PowerPoint presentation "*The Parker Family in Minot, ND*" by Amy Lisner composed in 2009. Amy spent about a year and a half on the project. She was very grateful for all the information she received from Lucille Parker. The program will be narrated by Kathy Holte because Ms. Lisner will not be able to attend, but wanted to share her findings.

The MRLGS meets the first Saturday of every month, except July, at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Minot Public Library in Minot. Visitors welcome!

James River Genealogical Club

by *Barb Caine*

James River Genealogy Club meets at 7:00 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month April through November alternating between Carrington & Jamestown ND. We welcome guests to attend our meetings and we gather informally at Pizza Ranch for pre-dinner dining.

Our May meeting was held in Jamestown at the Alfred Dickey Library. We viewed a video recording by Charles

Weisser presenting Gottlieb Weisser in character. He gave information about himself, his family, and the Germans from Russia on how they made it to Dakota Territory and the hardships they endured.

Our June meeting was held in Carrington and was a visit to the Foster County Museum.

North Dakota Records Online



The 1915 and 1925 North Dakota state censuses are now available on *FamilySearch* at [https://familysearch.org/search/collection/location/39?region=United States of America&englishRegion=United States of America](https://familysearch.org/search/collection/location/39?region=United+States+of+America&englishRegion=United+States+of+America).

North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Red River Valley Genealogical Society
by Linda Zeuschel

The Red River Valley Genealogical Society continues to upgrade it's library with the addition of newer computers and additional items. The library now also offers a WI-FI service for your computer while at the library. We are very grateful to member Glenn E. who has dedicated so much of his time and knowledge to making improvements to our web page. It is still a work in progress so check often to see even more changes. Be sure to like and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/redrivervalleygenealogicalsociety as well as using our web page at www.redrivergenealogy.com . Our email is rrvgs@fargocity.com

Currently Joyce B. has undertaken the task of completing an every name index for all of our cemetery books. A time consuming job but very necessary in order to make research easier. Thank you for all the time and typing skills to get the job complete. With the addition of the every name index to these books, we have also improved the outside appearance by changing the binding on them.

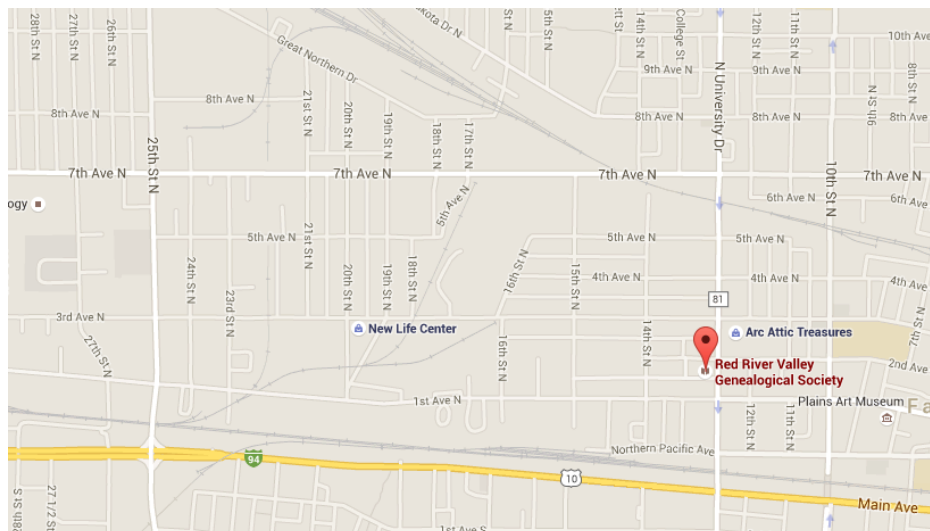
The Hallinglag of America - M. Kay Buckingham Family History Collection is also currently housed at the RRVGS Library. The Hallinglag is an organization of descendants of emigrants from the Halling Valley in central Norway to North America. The collection is available to all patrons at the RRVGS Library during regular research hours, so please stop by.

This summer will also see many members cooking and serving up those delicious brats as we do fund raising events for our library. Our first Brat sales event will be at Cashwise Foods on 13th Ave S in Fargo on July 17 - 18. The second event will be at Hornbachers in Village West on September 4th and 5th. Please stop and spend some time visiting and enjoying a brat.

In May we participated in the Lions Multidistrict 5 Convention here in Fargo by setting up a booth to promote our library and genealogical research in general. The Lions MD5 brought in Lions from South Dakota, North Dakota, and Saskatchewan Canada. We met many people interested in tracing their roots.

We are looking forward to hosting the North Dakota State Genealogical Society which is meeting in our library on Friday July 10 at 1:00 PM. Please join us and look over the many changes we have accomplished. The Library will open at 10:00 AM that Friday so you may come early to do some research and it will stay open for two hours after the meeting. We will provide a light lunch for those coming early and staying for the meeting. Our library is located at 112 North University Drive, suite L-116 in Fargo, ND. Free parking is available in the main lot behind the library or in the lot across the street to the North.

Mail inquires to: RRVGS PO Box 9284 Fargo, ND 58106



North Dakota Genealogical Society Reports

Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society

by Alfred A. Buchholz

Summer is almost here and we here at BMHGS have had several great programs this past quarter and have been working on our "Oral History Project". Excitement is in the air. Our focus this year, is to put more emphasis on **Family History** and how we can help members and others accomplish it. I think that our organization is on the right path and with the help of all members, we will succeed

March 12th we had a presentation "**What do I do now? My Family gave me all their photos!**" by Sharon Silengo, Photo Archivist.

Sharon Silengo, Photo Archivist for the State Historical Society of North Dakota shared with members and the public the secrets to successful photography preservation and research.

Sharon has worked in the North Dakota Heritage Center for many years, and is very familiar with the contents of the image collections stored there. As a Certified Archivist, Sharon shared with us the best methods for researching images online, preserving digital images, and pointed out techniques for accessing the image collections from the Heritage Center Reading Room. Sharon's great-grandfather Bissell homesteaded in North Dakota.

May 14th2015, Marcia Hansen presented a talk on researching Norwegian roots. This was well attended and very interesting. Marcia Hansen has devoted years of her life to genealogy research. She learned the "old school" methods from the "genealogy masters", including the value of walking the cemeteries, going to court houses and churches, knocking on doors, researching old records, going to the sources of the information, talking with the people, and hearing the stories!

Marcia has spent countless hours of research, and has connected with all four of her genealogical lines in America and in Norway. She feels that this has been – and continues to be – an adventure!

In June, we will have our business meeting on the 11th and on June 27th, a tour of Bismarck-theme-downtown Bismarck. The tour is free and starts at the Hancock Museum at 1pm. The walking tour takes about an hour and has room for 30 people. You must register for the tour. Call 701-462-8535.

The BMHGS has been busy this year doing oral histories of its members to form a legacy of the organization and to preserve those stories before we won't be able to get

them. Myron Senechell has been working on this and the one that he got recently was that of Don Smith. We were sad to hear of Don's passing and send out our deepest sympathy to his family. We are so thankful for all that he has done for our organization. He was a work horse, be secretary/treasurer, helping with workshops, getting the mail, doing the publication of *Homestead Newsletter* for many years, and so many other tasks that the list would go on forever. When we get the transcription of the interview done we will print it. But this brings up a critical point we have to get this oral history done and also another is we should also be writing our own stories and histories.

I want to relate a story about family history. While in church on Sunday, March 15th, we had a speaker that spoke on family history and he related a story of a boy that was out gathering hay on March 15th 1941. It was a fairly nice day and then all of a storm came up. The snow and wind started. The boy was always told by his father that the horses would find their way home if they were started. So the boy hitched the reins to the wagon and got inside the wagon and started the horses. The storm was so bad that visibility was zero. The horses finally came to a stop, up against the barn doors. The boy was safe at home. That boy turned out to be the speaker's father. The *Bismarck Tribune* had a story of this storm in the March 17th edition. It said that 75 people had lost their lives and possibly more would be found in the rural areas.

The reason I bring this up is that as he told this story, I was reminded of my father telling me about a similar story where my father was with his uncle Herman coming from town in the Crete-Stirum area of North Dakota. He said that it was a nice day and they were wearing light jackets. When the storm hit, they could not see the trail anymore, but were next to a fence line, so they started to follow the fence line. When they got to the end of the line, they knew that it was only about 300 feet to the house. They could not see anything at all. There was a dog with them and my father hung on to the dog's tail and his uncle onto him. The dog lead them to the house.

Until that speaker related his story, I had forgotten the one by my father and never had written it down for others.

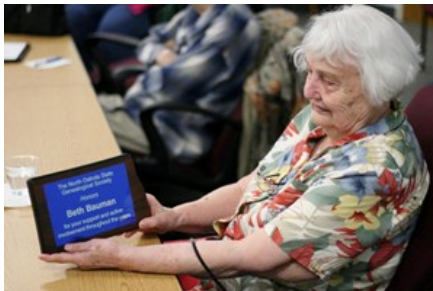
Start writing these stories down and passing them onto others.

In Memorium

Beth Bauman, 1926-2015

Beth Bauman was always interested in family history. She served as a volunteer and was the first Director of the Family History Center in Bismarck for many years and has helped many people with their family history. She spearheaded the extensive research materials collection that is available at the center.

She was a charter member of the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society and has served



in many offices within this organization. She was instrumental in many of the workshops that they have held and has taught classes and volunteered for

many other jobs within this group.

She was also a charter member of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society.

Beth was one of the principal people involved in the compilation of *Burleigh County Prairie Trails to Hi-Ways* and the *Burleigh County Book of Remembrances*. Other books and indexes include the *Mandan, ND Newspapers 1882-1924*, *Index of Marriage Records, Pre-1925 Burleigh County*, *Kennelly Funeral Home Records 1906-1953* and *St. John's Cemetery*.

She was involved with Random Act of Genealogical Kindness. Beth enjoyed teaching genealogy classes at Bismarck State College and to senior groups and at workshops. She was called to serve a mission for her church and was sent to Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho to work in the family history center there.

Beth was instrumental in the set up of the North Dakota Death Index computers at the State Archives and was on the committee that worked to place the North Dakota Death Index online.

She was involved with the State Archives when they indexed the 1885 Dakota Territory census and spent many hours researching for the compilation of the various cemetery indexes, newspaper indexes and books.

Beth got her pilot's license before her driver's license and while attending Utah State College at Logan she taught flower arranging classes (her parents were florists). During World War II she drove army trucks and was also a driver for officers.

Don Smith, 1933-2015

Don Smith enjoyed family history for many years. He was an early member of the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society and served as the Treasurer for many years. He was a member of the Publication committee, where he spent most of his time printing and researching for publications. He also worked on compiling the newsletter and did most of the copying and mailing for many years.

The copier for the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society was kept in Beth Bauman's basement and when the day care kids came home from school and saw his car parked at the house they would run in and yell "Don's home" and then go down and tell him what was happening in their lives. He always patiently listened to them.

Don was a founding member of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society and served as Treasurer for 16



years. Don also volunteered to copy and mail the newsletter three times a year. He was involved in the committee to place the North Dakota Death index online.

Don spent many hours helping the State Archives index the 1885 Dakota Territory Census.

Don was involved in many aspects of both of these organizations and has volunteered for many jobs with the workshops they have presented.

Don enjoyed being involved and worked on many of the indexing projects of the Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society over the years.

Don served in the North Dakota National Guard for 40 years and received many awards and commendations, including the Legion of Merit in 1990.

Vital Records Access

by Patricia Ashley CGsm*

At our last meeting the North Dakota State Genealogical Society voted to help promote more open access to vital records in North Dakota. During the last legislative session, a bill to further restrict birth records was passed. House bill 1116 increased from 100 years to 125 years the period of time following birth after which a birth record becomes an open record.

Legislators believe that limiting access to vital records will decrease identity theft. Genealogical websites have been blamed for causing identity theft by, for example, permitting access to the Social Security Death Index (SSDI). "Social Security numbers are rarely stolen from documents in government offices, including court houses. They are usually stolen by thieves breaking into banking and business databases or conducting Internet scams."¹

The states which have open access to vital records have not experienced a greater frequency of identity theft than the more restrictive states. As genealogists we need to educate our legislators as to the real cause of identity theft and insist they keep access to public records open.

Open access to vital records enables families to research the cause of death for cousins or other extended family members, making it possible to identify and treat inherited diseases. The U.S. Surgeon General deems it such a powerful screening tool, there is a secure tool on the website to create a family health history.²

The Records Preservation and Access Committee provides assistance to groups working on records access. Managing members of the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) are the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), National Genealogical Society (NGS) and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS). Participating members are the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), the American Society of Genealogists (ASG) and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen).

* CG is a service mark of the Board for Certification of Genealogists®, used under license by authorized associates following peer-reviewed competency evaluations.

¹ Records Preservation & Access Committee, *The Case for Open Public Records* (np.: np., 2014); digital image, *Records Preservation and Access Committee* (<http://www.fgs.org/rpac/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/RPAC-Brochure-The-Case-for-Open-Records-August-2014.pdf> : accessed 8 June 2015).

To protect against identity theft and to allow access to vital records, RPAC recommends:

1. Legislation to require the three major credit bureau agencies search the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) before any applications are approved. The social security number of the applicant should be checked against the SSDI. Also banks, courts, land registry offices and other certifying entities should be encouraged to use the SSDI
2. All states should implement a policy to link birth certificates to death certificates and add an appropriate mark to the birth certificates of deceased individuals. An inter-state linked file should be created for this purpose.
3. Marriage and divorce records should be open to the public, with the social security numbers masked from public view.
4. Birth records should be open to the public not less than 100 years after the event. Death records should be open not less than 25 years after the event. Those states with less restrictive guidelines have taken appropriate actions to protect their citizens.³

To learn more about the Records Preservation and Access Committee please visit their website at <http://www.fgs.org/rpac/>.

Individuals can get involved by signing the "Genealogist's Declaration of Rights." Sponsored by FGS, NGS and IAJGS, it advocates for open access to federal, state, and local public records, affirming America's long history of open public records. It will be shown to state and federal legislators and regulators demonstrating that genealogists support open records and that genealogists vote. You can sign under the state in which you are registered to vote at <http://bit.ly/gen-declaration>.

Retaining access to vital records takes everyone's effort. Please get involved by contacting your state legislator when there is an access issue that affects you. The basis of genealogical research is vital records. It is not just family history, but the tracing of medical family history that necessitates access to records.

² "My Family Health Portrait: A tool from the Surgeon General," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (<https://familyhistory.hhs.gov/FHH/html/index.html> : accessed 8 June 2015).

³ *Open Access to Public Records: A Genealogical Perspective* (Austin, Texas: Records Preservation and Access Committee, 2009), 6; digital image, *Records Preservation and Access Committee* (<http://www.fgs.org/rpac/publications/> : accessed 8 June 2015).



HERITAGE EDUCATION COMMISSION

A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Presents

Honoring our Past, Building our Future

40th Anniversary Family History Workshop

September 26, 2015 • 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Horizon Middle School • 3601 12th Ave S • Moorhead, MN



Easily handicap
accessible



Workshop Presentations

John Phillip Colletta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our National Archives: The Astounding Institution and How to Use it • Naturalization Records, Colonial Times to Mid-20th Century • Breaking through Brick Walls: Use your HEAD! • Rediscovering "La Famiglia": Accessing and Using the Records of Italy
Verlyn Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norwegian Research
Marlys Bratteli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring & Preserving Old Photos
Rick Crume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 15 Research Tools for Genealogy • 5 Websites to Check for your Ancestors' Court Records
Luana Gilstrap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Tree/Family Search • Discovering What Has Already Been Compiled on Your Family
Virginia Hanson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native American Research • TBD
Susan Kinkle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayflower Research
Jackie Marler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning Guide to Your Family History Journey
Daniel Sauerwein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military Research
Michael Swanson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.com
Rob Flanagan Stieglitz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNA - Beyond Genealogy: The National Geographic/TBM Genographic Project (with comparison to Family Tree and Ancestry DNA) • Irish Genealogy: The Potato Famine Immigrants
Tony Tilton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Mine Digital
TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Please pre-register on-line at www.heritageed.com for the workshop, including luncheon, by Friday, Sept. 18, 2015. The Moorhead Community Education on-line registration allows for payment with the following credit cards: Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Additional information will be available at www.heritageed.com. If you are unable to register on-line, please complete this form and mail to Moorhead Community Education.

To pre-register for the workshop, including luncheon, return this form with check/credit card information or call 218-284-3400 by Friday, September 18, 2015.

40th Anniversary Family History Workshop participants ____ [number] @ \$40 each \$ ____ total workshop fees

Special Dietary Needs _____

Please indicate ALL participant name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email(s) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Make check payable to ISD 152 for above Total and mail to: Moorhead Community Education, 2410 14th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560
or Credit Card: (circle one) Visa MasterCard Discover

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Amount Authorized: _____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Subject to change without notice

An independent, non-profit organization 5/25/15

Congressional History Caucus

An initiative by the National Coalition for History is the Congressional History Caucus seeks to provide a “forum for members of Congress to share their interest in history and to promote an awareness of the subject on Capital Hill.”

Congressmen John Larson (D-CT), Tom Cole (R-OK), Ander Crenshaw (R-FL) and Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) have circulated a “Dear Colleague” letter to their fellow representatives asking them to join the caucus.

The caucus is intended to allow members of Congress to share their interest in history and provide an

awareness of the subject on Capitol Hill.

Please ask your members of Congress to join the Congressional History Caucus. You may send them a message through their homepage. Be sure to add a link to the [2015 Congressional History Caucus Dear Colleague letter](#) in your email.

For more information on the Congressional History Caucus, please visit their website at <http://historycoalition.org/congressional-history-caucus/>.

Genealogical Educational Opportunities

There are increasing opportunities for both free and for pay classes on genealogy in a wide variety of subjects.

FamilySearch has hundreds of free online classes in their Learning Center at

<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>.

Classes range from beginner to advanced, from Argentina to the United States. Topics cover vital records, family trees, newspapers, town records, church history, court records, migration, methodology, etc. In addition, this summer they are offering free webinars on a variety of subjects. See

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Family_History_Library#Live_Online_Class_Schedule for more information. And in October, there is a free United

States Research Seminar, with 15 classes offered as webinars. See

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States_Research_Seminar for more information.

For more in-depth learning, the *Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research* offers courses for a small fee. Courses include 6 hours of interactive instruction from experts, syllabus materials and practical exercises.

There are usually four 90-minute lectures on consecutive Saturdays. Their current schedule offers courses on German church records, Native American ancestry, Revolutionary War soldiers, federal land records, and genetic genealogy. Previous courses can also be purchased. Check it out at

<http://vigrgenealogy.com/>.

Citation Corner

Tax records are a great way to follow your ancestors. In areas where the census no longer exist they can serve as a reasonable replacement. Historically most tax records are found at the county or town level, but various federal assessments have also been levied. There are several kinds of tax records, but they generally fall into three types: 1) real property, 2) personal property or 3) a combination of real and personal property.

A citation to county-level records should contain the name of the county and state, name of the tax book, page number, person of interest, and repository. An example of this would be:

Worcester County, Massachusetts, Assessors Book

Valuation, 1832, p. 1, entry for Robert Burney, 1 May 1832; FHL microfilm 935,983.

An example of a citation for tax records found on the internet would be:

“New York, Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804,” digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 18 August 2014), sheet 16, line 21, entry for Martin Bettinger, 1800, Minden, Montgomery County; citing “New York (State), Comptroller’s Office. Tax assessment rolls of real and personal estates, 1799-1804, Series B0950 (26 reels). Microfilm. Albany, New York: New York State Archives.”

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

North Dakota State Genealogical Society
PO Box 485
Bismarck, ND 58502

Officers for 2014-2015:

President: Genie Lang—glang@midco.net
Vice Presidents: Daphne Drewello—drewello@daktel.com
Erling Olson—norskieole@hotmail.com
Secretary: Patrice Hartman—patrice@ndsupernet.com
Treasurer: Patrice Hartman—patrice@ndsupernet.com
Editors: Pat Ashley—pashley@ndsupernet.com
Patrice Hartman—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/



www.facebook.com/#!/NorthDakotaStateGenealogicalSociety?fref=ts

Upcoming Events

10 July 2015. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting, 1-3pm. Red River Valley Genealogical Society Library, Fargo.

15-19 July 2015. 45th Annual Convention, Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck.

6-9 August 2015. Researching Our German Roots in Poland and the Russian Empire. German Genealogy in Eastern Europe, Gatineau, Quebec. For more info: https://www.sggee.org/convention/convention_news.html

24-26 September 2015. Montana State Genealogy Society Conference, Butte, Montana. For more info: <http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>

26 September 2015. 40th Annual Family History Workshop. Horizon Middle School, Moorhead, Minnesota. For more info: www.heritageed.com/

26-27 September 2015. Discover Your Swedish Roots. Lindsborg, Kansas. For more info: www.oldmillmuseum.org

9 October 2015. North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting, 1-3pm. Legislative Assembly Room, State Archives, Bismarck.

North Dakota State Genealogical Society

Post Office Box 485

Bismarck, ND 58502