



Plains Talk

Going back 900 years

Exhibit to Explore History of Gardening in North Dakota

By Kathleen Davison

Gardens have been a part of life in what is now North Dakota for hundreds of years. The fruits and vegetables produced in those gardens often have been the key to surviving the long winters of the Northern Plains. They are also the source of many of the pleasures of summer – including sun-ripened tomatoes and fresh corn on the cob – along with aching backs and sunburns.

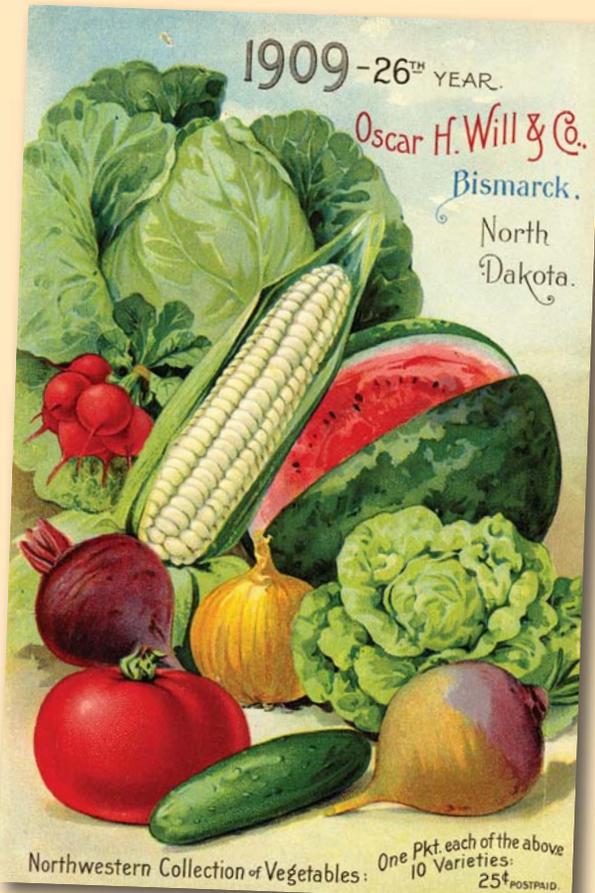
A new temporary exhibit, *How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota*, opens November 20 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. It will explore the history of vegetable gardening in North Dakota, using photographs, colorful images from seed catalogs and posters, heirloom seeds, gardening tools, and preserving utensils. All are from the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), which is producing the exhibit.

The exhibit will tell the story of about 900 years of gardening in what would become North Dakota, beginning when American Indians began cultivating corn, squash, sunflowers, and beans along the Missouri and other river systems in the state. All these required careful, patient cultivation by generations of Indian farmers, primarily women, to develop varieties that would flourish in the extreme climate of the Northern Plains. Lewis and Clark and other early visitors were astonished by the productivity of these pioneer horticulturalists. Gardens

were also essential for the survival of frontier soldiers

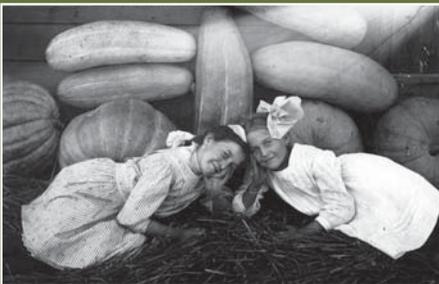
continued on page 2

Volume 40, Number 2 - Summer 2009



This is one of the colorful Oscar H. Will & Co. images featured in the gardening exhibit opening this fall at the North Dakota Heritage Center. This is the back cover of the 1909 catalog.

SHSND Manuscript Collection 10/190



Also from the upcoming exhibit, these delighted girls enjoy the bounty of squash and pumpkins that attest to the rich soils of North Dakota. The William H. Brown Land Company of Chicago, with offices in North Dakota, used photography to extol the fertility of the lands available for purchase in the southwestern part of the state. This photograph was taken at the Morton County Fair, circa 1905.

SAHRL 0090-0152

Education Theme

North Dakota History Conference September 25-26

By Bonnie T. Johnson

The 3 Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1870 to 1950, the 21st annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, will be held Friday, September 25 and Saturday, September 26 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. The conference highlights the impact of public education on the state and region and also begins a project intended to survey and record potential historic school sites throughout the state.

continued on page 4

History of Gardening in North Dakota

continued from page 1

sent to remote outposts in the 1860s and 1870s. Fresh supplies had to be shipped hundreds of miles from supply depots, and were always at the mercy of the weather. Growing produce in military post gardens was necessary to bridge the gap between shipments and stave off scurvy and other health problems.

When American pioneers arrived in the new territory, gardens quickly appeared on these new homesteads. Women from the eastern United States, Norway, Germany, Russia, and other parts of Europe brought new vegetables to add to the garden staples developed by their Indian and military predecessors. Gardens remained an essential part of life on the farm, and often in town as well. For many people whether or not a garden would survive during the drought years of the 1930s was of critical importance; during the two world wars, a flourishing garden was a patriotic imperative. Gardening would also become almost a competitive sport, with agricultural fairs beginning in the 1870s that awarded prizes for the finest vegetables; such contests are still part of the North Dakota State Fair.

Over the centuries many of the issues faced by gardeners have remained the same. These continuing problems, and the varying solutions gardeners have found, will be included in the exhibit. For instance, while the need to break the soil and remove weeds is always present, the tools used for gardening, from a buffalo scapula hoe to a rototiller, have changed. In the same way the means of protecting a garden against pests, from small boys with bows and arrows to steel traps and pesticides, have also changed. Once the produce is safely gathered, various means of preserving the bounty, from drying to canning and now freezing, have been used. All these changes in technology will be illustrated with objects from the Society's collections. Images of early Indian gardens and photographs of military and pioneer gardens also will show how the work of gardening has changed over the years, but also how the essentials remain the same. Colorful posters urging the planting of Victory Gardens as a means of winning two world wars, as well as prizes from various agricultural fairs, will illustrate some of the reasons, besides dinner, for doing all that work.

A special exhibit highlight will be the many beautiful catalogs dating back to the turn of the 20th Century, created by the Oscar H. Will & Co. These catalogs vividly illustrate that the January dream of the perfect summer garden has been an affliction of gardeners, to the benefit of seed companies, for many years. Later Will seed company covers, also to be part of the exhibit, are perhaps unique in their emphasis on the American Indian gardeners whose seeds were the basis of many of the items, such as the Great Northern Bean, popularized by Will and sold in the catalogs.

Throughout the exhibit, it will be clear how necessity and pleasure, and ingenuity and hard work, have been part of the story of gardening through the centuries.

Society Grant Funds Available

By Amy Munson

The 2009 North Dakota Legislative Assembly authorized \$504,500 to the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) for the Cultural Heritage Grant Program. This popular grant program has been administered by the SHSND since it was first created by the 2003 Legislative Assembly and provides funding for local museums and historical societies.

Cultural Heritage Grants provide funding for exhibits, a special project or event, education activities, collections, and capital improvements. The 2009-11 biennium will have two grant rounds, one in 2009 and a second round in 2010. The SHSND designated up to \$300,000 for the first grant round. The application deadline for those funds was August 14. The 2010 announcement of available funds will be made in February 2010. Interested eligible organizations that have a project they wish to be considered for an award should thoroughly read the guidelines and submit an application to the SHSND.

Also available through the Cultural Heritage Fund program are Heritage Training Scholarships and the North Dakota Museum Assessment Program (NDMAP).

The SHSND has designated \$30,000 to the Heritage Training Scholarship Program for the biennium. Heritage Training Scholarships are available for local and county historical society staff members to participate in training opportunities, and will be awarded until the fund is exhausted.

The NDMAP grants provide county historical societies an opportunity to do an in-depth review of their organization, develop long-range plans, and complete a project. For the 2009-11 biennium, the SHSND will award up to four organizations a \$10,000 grant each. The deadline for the 2009-11 NDMAP applications is Friday, September 4.

The Cultural Heritage Grant application is available on the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov or by contacting Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson at (701) 328-3573 or email amunson@nd.gov.

Correction



This photograph was misidentified in the Spring 2009 issue as a console at the November-33 missile site. It is located at the Oscar-Zero site.

New Cold War Historic Site Opens

The State Historical Society of North Dakota's newest state historic site celebrated its grand opening July 31 and August 1 with a series of programs and activities. Directly on the front lines of the Cold War, the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown preserves and interprets the story of the Minuteman missile system as well as the people working in and living around the missile sites.

The site is named after the late President as a result of legislation approved by the 2007 Legislative Assembly to honor Reagan's role in ending the Cold War.

The new state historic site consists of two sites – the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility and the nearby November-33 Launch Facility.

The site opened to the public July 13, and more than 2,000 visitors toured the site during its first month of operation, including more than 500 the grand opening weekend. Among the visitors have been several former missileers stationed at this and similar missile sites around the world, including at least one Cold War veteran from the old Soviet Union.

The site is open daily through September 15, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is an admission fee for tours of Oscar-Zero. For more information, visit the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov or contact Site Supervisor Mark Sundlov at (701) 797-3691 or email msundlov@nd.gov.

Top: State Historical Board members and other site supporters helped cut the ribbon officially opening the agency's newest state historic site near Cooperstown July 31.

Middle: Site Supervisor Mark Sundlov stands at a door leading into the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility as he prepares to give a tour to a group of State Historical Society staff and volunteers at the grand opening. Oscar-Zero is located about four miles north of Cooperstown on N.D. Highway 45. **Bottom:** State Historical Society staff, volunteers, and others visit the nearby November-33 Launch Facility. The site is located about six miles from Oscar-Zero, about two miles east of Cooperstown on N.D. Highway 200.



Photographs by Beth Campbell, SHSND



North Dakota History Conference

continued from page 1

The 3 Rs in North Dakota is the first in a two-part theme for the annual history conference. The Fall 2010 conference will concentrate on education in North Dakota from 1951 to the present.

The conference is sponsored by the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND).

Participants in the conference are invited to help preserve the history of the state's schools by recording information about the buildings themselves and about the people who taught and learned in those buildings. This year's Governor's Conference on North Dakota History marks the beginning of a multi-year effort to document the state's school buildings. Several of the workshops scheduled for the conference will teach participants how to photograph and document the sites, including a field-trip demonstration of the process. If you are interested in this historic preservation project but unable to attend the conference, contact SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger at (701) 328-2089 or email lbmeidinger@nd.gov.

Conference workshops include a full-day presentation Friday, September 25 by Neil Cockerline of the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis on "Preserving Native American Artifacts in Museum and Historical Society Collections." Friday's programs also include Sharon Silengo, SHSND photo archivist, speaking on "Preserving Historical Buildings with Photography;" John Bye, Archivist and Director of the Institute of Regional Studies and University Archives at North Dakota State University, presenting "Dakota Mosaic: Web Access to Images from Across the State;" Amy Bleier, SHSND Research Archaeologist, and Lorna Meidinger presenting "One-Room Schoolhouses: Recording Historic Buildings in North Dakota;" and Marilyn Snyder, SHSND Curator of Education, and Scott Schaffnit, SHSND Outreach Programs Coordi-

nator, speaking on "Voices of Today Relating the History of Yesteryear." On Friday evening there will be supper in the North Dakota Heritage Center lobby with the annual awards presentation beginning at 7:15 in the auditorium.

Programs Saturday, September 26 will include "Coal Caddies, Computers, and Cohorts: An Illustrated Lecture on One-Room Schools of the Past and Present" by Kathleen Gershman, professor and chair of the Educational Foundations and Research Department at the University of North Dakota; Warren Henke, retired professor of history, Bismarck State College, on "The 3 Rs: Curriculum and How the Students Survived or Thrived;" Susan Quinnell, SHSND Review and Compliance Coordinator, presenting "North Dakota Rural Schools: Architecture and Function;" Walter Bailey, SHSND Historic Preservation Planner, explaining "Brass Bugles and School Bells;" Carole Barrett, associate professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Mary, and Marilyn Hudson, a Hidatsa and Mandan descendent and director of the Three Affiliated Tribes Museum, presenting "To Keep the Schools Filled With Indian Pupils;" and Jeannette Radig of Bismarck, Ruth Johnson of Belfield, and Howard and Linda Ridenhower of Beach speaking on "Just What Was (Is) It Like In Those One-Room Schools?" in a panel discussion moderated by SHSND Communications and Education Director Rick Collin.

Participants may also take an exam students in North Dakota were required to pass before they graduated from eighth grade. "The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction used this test from the 1880s until 1954," said Marilyn Snyder, SHSND Curator of Education and conference coordinator.

For more information, contact Snyder at (701) 328-2792 or email msnyder@nd.gov or SHSND Administrative Assistant Kiri Stone at (701) 328-2799 or email kstone@nd.gov. Pre-registration is required, and fees include lunch. Student rates are available. The registration form and schedule, along with online registration (credit card only) are available at www.history.nd.gov.

Photograph by Jack Mattson, SHSND



Bike Rodeo

There were many happy children at Fort Totten State Historic Site near Devils Lake, thanks to a "Bike Rodeo" sponsored by St. Stephens Catholic Church of Bloomington, Minnesota. The church had 60 bicycles donated to them, and as part of their outreach efforts, brought the bikes to Fort Totten to give away to children during a drawing July 23. All the bikes were refurbished by a mechanic, who worked with each child to make sure their bike fit for comfortable riding.

Heritage Volunteers Honored at Awards Banquet

By Rick Collin

Honors and accolades were plentiful during the 28th annual banquet for the State Historical Society's Heritage Volunteers, held at the Municipal Country Club in Bismarck. The banquet honored the more than 200 volunteers, ages 14 to 95, who help the state's history agency year-round by donating their time and talents.

Among the honors presented was the Hospitality Award for exceptional service to visitors, given to **Mavis Anderson** of Bismarck. Anderson works at the North Dakota Heritage Center Information Desk. She has been a volunteer since 2003.

The Curatorial Award, for the outstanding individual or individuals in a behind-the-scenes role, was presented to **Beverly Kay** of Beach. She has many years of experience as an events planner, and has been a volunteer at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site since 2008.

The Dedication Award for the most hours the past year also went to **Beverly Kay**, who donated 600 hours of service as a volunteer at the Chateau de Mores site.

The Special Project Award was presented to **David Taylor**, formerly of Watford City, who developed the living history character of "Skinny Wallace," a frontier stagecoach driver, for the Chateau de Mores site, where he interpreted the Medora/Deadwood Stage Line. Taylor



Photograph by Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND

Eleven of the SHSND Heritage Volunteers receiving awards at the August 11 banquet are shown here, from left to right: **Harriet Heaton**, for 2,870 hours; **Erlly Fardal** for 2,325 hours; **Verlyn Larson** for 10 years of service; **Doris Elness** for 3,838 hours; **Foster Leiss** for the Youth Award; **Mavis Anderson** for the Hospitality Award; **Rita Acker** for her first 100 hours of service; **Adam Schweitzer** for 1,429 hours; **Lawrence Thompson** for his first 100 hours of service; and **Janice Hunt** and **Ileen Schwengler**, both for their first 100 hours of service.

recently moved to Sierra Vista, Arizona.

The Youth Award for exceptional assistance to staff by a volunteer under the age of 18 went to **Foster Leiss** of Dickinson, who started as a youth guide for the Children's Day living history tours of the Chateau de Mores in the summer of 2007. He worked as a guide again in 2008, also helping with other program and exhibit development at the site.

Two volunteers received 20-year service awards. They were **Joan Severin** and **Cleo Moore**, both of Bismarck. Severin worked for many years as a docent in the Heritage Center's main gallery, and is now serving on the State Historic Preservation Review Board. Moore works in the Museum Division, assisting the curatorial staff with a variety of projects. Two volunteers received 10-year service awards. They were **Verlyn Larson** and **Sarah Luithle**, both of Bismarck. Larson started in the State Archives, and is now a fixture in the Hall of Honors at the Heritage Center, working with the SHSND Foundation's funeral home program. Luithle works in the State Archives, where her ability and help in translating German papers has been a valuable asset.

Beth Campbell, the State Historical Society's visitor services coordinator, noted that since 1981, volunteers statewide have contributed more than 338,000 hours of service to the Society and its sites and museums; they donated more than 14,000 hours this past year. For information on becoming a volunteer, contact Beth Campbell at (701) 328-2674 or email bcampbell@nd.gov.

Photograph by Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND



Winning the Youth Award was **Foster Leiss**, whose work at the Chateau de Mores site in Medora included helping to install *The Art of Einar Olstad* exhibit at the Chateau Interpretive Center in 2008. With Leiss are Chateau de Mores Site Supervisor **Delores Linn** and SHSND Director **Merl Paaverud**.

New TIES Exhibit Features Bridges of North Dakota

By Mark J. Halvorson

The suspension footbridge in Valley City, the rainbow arch bridge at Mott, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe trestle over the Gassman Coulee outside of Minot – these iconic bridges from throughout the state are featured in the newest traveling exhibit produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Crossing valleys, rivers, and other obstacles, bridges knit the people and places of North Dakota together. The new exhibit, *Bridges of North Dakota*, features bridges spanning from 1872 to the present. The exhibit has a video component that mixes historical photographs from as early as the 1920s with contemporary film footage.

It is the latest addition to the popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) program of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The exhibit was produced in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, with federal funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration's North Dakota Division in Bismarck.

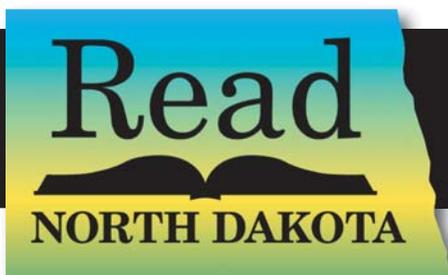
The exhibit consists of five three-sided fabric kiosks that each collapse to the size of a large pizza. The lightweight, durable components will greatly reduce shipping costs for county, local, and tribal museums, libraries, schools, and other venues. The video and its stand-alone display operate off a single switch and come in their own shipping case.

To book *Bridges of North Dakota*, and for a complete listing and information about the other exhibits available in the TIES program, contact SHSND Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit at (701) 328-2794, email sschaffnit@nd.gov or visit the Society's website at www.history.nd.gov.



Photograph by Bryan Trombow, SHSND

The new *Bridges of North Dakota* TIES exhibit from the State Historical Society is shown here on the mezzanine of the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck, where it was displayed for two weeks in July before moving to the Department of Transportation building in the capital city.



North Dakota Heritage Center November 12 Author of Eric Sevareid Biography to Present Program

By Rick Collin

The author of an acclaimed biography of the American journalist and North Dakota native Eric Sevareid (1912-92) will discuss his book Thursday, November 12 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. The program by Raymond A. Schroth, S.J., author of *The American Journey of Eric Sevareid*, will begin at 7 p.m.

His talk, sponsored by *Read North Dakota*, is part of the consortium's focus on biographies of North Dakotans in 2009.

Published in 1995, Schroth's biography details Sevareid's upbringing in rural North Dakota and in Minneapolis, his hiring by Edward R. Murrow, his long career with CBS, and his retirement years. For nearly two decades, Sevareid's voice on the CBS Evening

News came close to representing a kind of national conscience. He was one of the original "Murrow Boys," and one of the great American journalists.

Prairie Public Broadcasting will air Schroth's program on its radio network during the *Hear It Now* program on Thursday, November 19 at 3 and 7 p.m. It will also be broadcast on the television network of Prairie Public that same evening of November 19 at 8 p.m. The program can be viewed after this date on a videostream on Prairie Public's website at www.prairiepublic.org.

Schroth is a professor of humanities at Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey, as well as a Jesuit priest and a journalist. He has taught or served as dean at five Jesuit colleges and universities, plus New York University graduate school and Brooklyn College. He is the author of

eight books, including *The American Jesuits: A History* and *Dante to Dead Man Walking: One Reader's Journey Through the Christian Classics*, and more than 300 articles, which have appeared in such publications as *The Los Angeles Times*, *Boston Globe*, and *Newsday*. He is the media columnist for *The National Catholic Reporter*.

Read North Dakota is a consortium of members, including the State Historical Society of North Dakota, North Dakota Humanities Council, North Dakota Council on the Arts, Prairie Public Broadcasting, and the North Dakota Library Association. The group encourages readers, writers, and educators to enjoy good literature rooted in our place by identifying relevant book titles and authors on a website, in printed materials, and through public events and discussion groups.

Visit www.readnd.org to learn more.



FOUNDATION
Corner

Are You a Potential History's Hero?

"What 'heroes' most often have in common is their willingness to step forward and accomplish great deeds on behalf of others. Supporters of the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck are now using the 'hero' concept in the effort to raise funds for the project. A call is going out for 10 'History's Heroes' to step forward in every county in the state."

From the January 2008 issue of *North Dakota Living*, publication of the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives.

During the 2009 Legislative Assembly, \$51.7 million was authorized to complete Phase II of the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center – the new exhibit and collection spaces for the state museum. The state will provide \$39.7 million for the project and \$12 million will be raised from private and federal sources. Groundbreaking for the museum expansion is targeted for the spring of 2010, with completion of the project by 2014, just in time for North Dakota's 125th anniversary of statehood.

During the 2009 session, legislators were pleased to see that the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation had provided a means for ordinary citizens to make a significant

gift to the completing of the North Dakota Heritage Center with the "History's Heroes" campaign. The "History Heroes" donation campaign is seeking 530 gifts of \$10,000 each – 10 from each of the 53 counties in the state, raising

\$5.3 million.

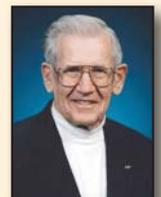
Mike Gustafson, SHSND Foundation board member, developed the concept of the "History's Heroes" program. He retired seven years ago as the general manager of the Cass County Electric Cooperative. Mike testified a number of times during the 2009 Legislative Assembly and struck a chord with legislators, as they could

see North Dakota families coming forward to give a \$10,000 donation over a five-year period. Communities may also organize to contribute \$10,000 to honor their hometowns.

Do you want to be a History's Hero? Contact the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation, P.O. Box 1976, Bismarck, ND 58502-1976, call (701) 222-1966 or email: statehistoricalfoundation@btinet.net

"North Dakota is a unique but widely misunderstood state, not fully appreciated even by those fortunate enough to live here, most especially by those who are natives. The expansion of North Dakota's fine Heritage Center will not only help build state pride among our citizens, essential in development, but will be a significant contribution to the growth of the state's growing tourism industry. I am enthusiastic about the expansion and those who are helping to make it happen."

HISTORY'S HERO DONOR
 DON GACKLE, GARRISON, ND



Virginia A. Nelsen,
 SHSND Foundation
 Executive Director



Bill Schott, leader
 of the SHSND
 Foundation's
 Trustee membership
 development



Marlo Sveen,
 SHSND Foundation
 Director of Development

Check it out! The SHSND Foundation's Expansion Campaign Website www.statehistoricalfoundation.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

September 4

10th Annual Education Field Day, Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site, near Kulm. Area students visit to learn more about the site. Free tours of the battlefield and museum, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the SHSND and the Whitestone Hill Battlefield Historical Society, (701) 328-3508.

September 5 - 6

History Alive! performances featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

September 8

A Conversation with Senator McGovern, the Democratic Party's nominee for U.S. President in 1972, as he discusses his new book, *Abraham Lincoln*, with Clay Jenkinson, humanities Rhodes scholar and author. McGovern represented South Dakota in the U.S. Senate from 1963 to 1981. Dickinson State University, the Dorothy Stickney Auditorium, 5 p.m. (MT). For more, call (701) 483-2560. See story on page 15.

September 9

An Evening with Senator McGovern, as he discusses his new book, *Abraham Lincoln*. North Dakota Heritage Center, 7 p.m. Central Time. For more, call (701) 328-1476.

September 10-13

Learning Lodge at the United Tribes International Pow Wow in Bismarck, sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. For more call, (701) 328-2794.

September 12

Haunting Memories, with History Alive! performances featuring the *Marquis de Mores* and the charming hostess of the Chateau, *Madame de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

September 12

Fort Abercrombie Quilters meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

September 13

A Foot Stompin' Flag Retreat, 2 p.m. Celebrate the final weekend of Fort Buford State Historic Site's visiting season with an official flag retreat by the Sixth Infantry Regiment Association and a foot stompin' free concert by a great band, (701) 572-9034.

September 14

17th Annual Living History Field Day, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free public admission, \$2/student materials fee. Student registration required. Sponsored with the Fort Totten State Historic Site Foundation, Fort Totten State Historic Site, (701) 766-4441.

September 14

A **mannequin-making workshop** co-hosted by the Dickey County Historical Society, the Ellendale Historical Society, and the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The workshop in Oakes, North Dakota, is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided by host institutions. There is a \$10 materials fee. To register, call Claudia Berg at (701) 328-2666.

September 15

Last day the North Dakota State Historic Sites are open for the season.

September 16

North Dakota State Historic Sites closed for the season. Pembina State Museum begins winter hours through May 15, Mondays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time. **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center begins winter hours** through May 15, Wednesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time. **Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center begins winter hours** through May 15, Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time. **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site hours** change through October 31: Thursdays through Saturdays and Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time, open from November 1 through February 28 by appointment only, (701) 797-3691. For more about the new site, visit www.history.nd.gov.

September 16

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Please call in advance. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

September 19-20

Aber Days and District Boy Scout Encampment. The community celebration of *Aber Days* includes Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site with living history demonstrations, a parade Saturday at 10 a.m., a Dutch oven cooking contest at 12 p.m., and Boy Scout encampment and skills demonstrations. (701) 553-5813.

September 25

State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation annual meeting, 12 p.m., **quarterly board meeting**, 1 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 222-1966.

September 25 - 26

21st Annual Governors' Conference on North Dakota History. *The 3 Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1870 to 1950*, North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792. See story on page 1.

September 26

Natural World of the Confluence, 5 p.m. Be at the majestic confluence to enjoy an evening full of fun, with educational, hands-on, and nature-based activities. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

September 30-October 3

SHSND exhibit booth at Norsk Høstfest, Minot, (701) 328-2794.

October

October 8

State Historical Board meeting, 1 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center.

October 10

Fort Abercrombie Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

October 10

History Alive! Campfire with Yellowstone Vic Smith, 7:30 p.m. Gather around a warm, cracklin' campfire to listen to *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, portrayed by Arch Ellwein, as he relates his stories of the Wild, Wild West. Fort Buford State Historic Site, (701) 572-9034.

October 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, and 22

North Dakota Collection Conversations: How Safe Is Your Heritage? To be held at various locations statewide, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. local time. See story on page 18 for details. Registration required by September 30 at <http://collectionconversations.eventbrite.com> or by calling (701) 355-4458.

October 14

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Please call in advance. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

October 17

As part of the Fourth Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium, the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site will be open with interpreters on hand, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MT), (701) 623-4355.

October 17

Confluence Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

October 18

Concert at the Confluence, 2 p.m. Overlook the beautiful confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers while enjoying a wonderful concert. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

October 19-27

Follow the Lincoln Trail on a six-state motor-coach tour led by Rick Collin, SHSND Communications and Education Director and North Dakota Liaison to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. Sponsored by Satrom Travel and Tour. For more information, call 1 (800) 833-8787 or visit www.satromtravel.com.

October 24

Fort Buford Cemetery Walk, 7 p.m. Visit the soldiers, laundresses, wives, and fur traders, as portrayed by reenactors, who lived, died, and were buried at Fort Buford during this special evening tour of the Fort Buford Cemetery. Fort Buford State Historic Site, (701) 572-9034.

October 30

Ghost Stories and Halloween Party at the Chateau, 2 p.m. (MT) Don Elhi will be telling ghost stories to the children from the Billings County Schools as part of a Halloween Party at the Chateau Interpretive Center. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

October 31

Halloween Fun, children's activities and games from 2 to 4 p.m., Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

October 31

History Haunt!, 4 to 6:30 p.m., \$1 admission fee. Spooky fun for all ages! North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

October 31

Chateau de Mores Night at the Museum tour starts at 6:30 p.m. (MT) in the upper Chateau parking lot. There will be historic spirits to enhance the experience, and the Interpretive Center will reopen following the tour for ghostly treats. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

November

November 6

Open House, Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MT). In conjunction with the Medora Wildlife Feed sponsored by the Medora Chamber of Commerce, (701) 623-4355.

November 7

Veterans Day Program, 2 p.m., showing of documentary film, *Small Town Soldiers*, which tells the story of World War II through the eyes of nine veterans from McKenzie County in western North

Dakota. Produced and directed by Watford City native Cody Shimek. He will discuss the making of the film. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. (701) 572-9034.

November 8

Veterans Day Program, 2 p.m., showing of documentary film, *Small Town Soldiers*, which tells the story of World War II through the eyes of nine veterans from McKenzie County in western North Dakota. Produced and directed by Watford City native Cody Shimek. He will discuss the making of the film. North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

November 11

Veterans Day. State offices closed in observance of Veterans Day. Pembina State Museum, North Dakota Heritage Center, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center open.

November 11

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Please call in advance. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

November 12

An Evening with Raymond Schroth, S.J., 7 p.m. Author of *The American Journey of Eric Severeid*. North Dakota Heritage Center. Sponsored by *Read North Dakota*. For more, visit www.readnd.org or call (701) 255-3360. See story on page 6.

November 14

Fort Abercrombie Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

November 15

Concert at the Confluence, 2 p.m. Overlook the beautiful confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers while enjoying a wonderful concert. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

November 21

Confluence Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

November 21

Power of the Night Sky, 7:30 p.m. Be at the Confluence for an evening of lectures on the historic uses of astronomy and then step outside to gaze skyward to identify the stars and constellations. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

November 26

Thanksgiving. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

November 29, December 6

Holiday Open House, 1 to 5 p.m., Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site. Free admission. Sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion and the SHSND, (701) 328-9528.

December

December 4-5

Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas, Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, (701) 623-4355.

December 6

Christmas at the Confluence, 2 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful winter concert, make your own hand-crafted ornaments, and enjoy special treats. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

December 7 – January 4

Showcase of Trees. State Capitol Building and North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2792.

December 9

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Please call in advance. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

December 12

Fort Abercrombie Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center to work on quilting projects and help out the interpretive center. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, (701) 553-8513.

December 13

Holiday Open House, 2 to 4 p.m. Free tower admission, refreshments. Pembina State Museum, (701) 825-6840.

December 19

Confluence Quilters meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, (701) 572-9034.

December 25

Christmas Day. State offices closed. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, and Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center closed.

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur

One of the rarest types of dinosaur fossils was found near Marmarth, North Dakota in 1999 – a mummified duck-billed dinosaur. “Dakota” is spending this summer in Chiba, Japan, as one of the featured attractions at an international fossil exhibition. He will return this fall to the North Dakota Heritage Center.

The Atomic Age Arrives: The Cold War in North Dakota

James E. Sperry Gallery

Through November 15

The Cold War lasted for nearly 50 years, and North Dakota’s landscape is marked with its legacy. This exhibit explores how the atomic age escalated and its civil and military impacts on North Dakotans. Artifacts featured include a replica fallout shelter, missile silo model, and U.S. Air Force uniforms.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Gardening in North Dakota

James E. Sperry Gallery

Opens November 20

Short growing seasons and cold winters have always challenged North Dakota gardeners. From native Mandan and Hidatsa gardeners to the modern North Dakota State University extension offices, people have worked to produce fruit and vegetable varieties that are cold-hardy, fast-growing, and drought-resistant. This exhibit follows a garden’s progress from planting, to harvest, and finally, preservation. Historic garden implements and original seed catalogs are featured.

Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota

Auditorium Gallery

Through January 31, 2010

Abraham Lincoln’s connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many, including appointing the Territory’s first two governors; signing the Homestead Act in 1862; the Morrill Land Grant College Act of 1862, which led to the establishment of what is now North Dakota State University; and the charter for the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1864. This exhibit examines Lincoln’s legacy in the 39th state as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16th President in 2009.

Corridor of Time

Main Gallery

Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions of years ago. One area, completed in December 2006, explores the Late Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago) and early Paleocene (about 60 million years ago) periods – a time when the region’s climate and environment resembled that of the Florida Everglades. A newly expanded section, which opened in December 2008, depicts life and geology of the Paleozoic Era (250 to 540 million years ago), through the Paleocene and Oligocene Eras (24 to 34 million years ago). Developed by the SHSND and the North Dakota Geological Survey.

The USS North Dakota and Nautical North Dakota

Hall of Honors

Permanent Exhibit

Featuring historic photographs and objects associated with the USS *North Dakota* battleship, this exhibit also includes objects and photographs of other vessels with North Dakota ties, such as the *Gurke*, named after Medal of Honor recipient Henry F. Gurke of Neche, N.D., the *Devils Lake*, the *George A. Custer*, the *Arikara*, and the recently commissioned supply ship, the *Sacagawea*.

Recent Acquisitions

Museum Entrance

No Closing Date

A mini-exhibit featuring a selection of recently donated objects to the SHSND’s collections. As an annual project done by the agency’s interns, the *Recent Acquisitions* exhibit is changed each summer.

Pembina State Museum, Pembina

Pembina Today

Permanent Exhibit

An updated display in the museum’s permanent gallery, *Pembina Today* highlights current trends in industry, agriculture, and recreation in northeast North Dakota.

Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota’s Germans

Through February 7, 2010

This exhibit investigates what it meant to be German in North Dakota before and after both world wars. Artifacts, photographs, and documents tell the story of who they are, how and why they emigrated, and how their culture and traditions still thrive in North Dakota.

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora

Rails, Ranching and Riches:

The Marquis de Mores in Dakota

Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit at the site’s new interpretive center tells the story of the Marquis de Mores (1858-96), a French nobleman and entrepreneur who, from 1883 to 1886, ran a cutting-edge meatpacking plant and other businesses in the town he named after his wife, Medora. His family’s 26-room summer home includes thousands of original artifacts. Featured is a smaller-scale refrigerator car, along with the *Deadwood*, an original stagecoach from the Marquis’s Deadwood and Medora Stage and Forwarding Company.

The Art of Einar Olstad

Through October 17, 2010

Inspired by the people, scenery, and ranch life of the Dakota Badlands, rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955) captured the essence of the American West in his whimsical and often humorous portrayals of the Dakota cowboy. In addition to a wide selection of his evocative paintings, objects relating to ranch life in the 1930s are on display.

Photographs of Frank Fiske*Through October 17, 2010*

Born in Dakota Territory, Frank Bennett Fiske (1883-1952) spent most of his life in the Fort Yates area. At 17, he took over the post photography studio. Although Fiske is best known for his portraits of American Indians, he left behind thousands of images that document life in central and southern North Dakota during the first half of the 20th Century. On display are a select portion of his photographs, focusing on daily life at Fort Yates.

Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Fort Buford State Historic Site near Williston

North Dakota Remembers World War II*Through April 18, 2010*

Presenting stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the armed forces and their experiences worldwide, *North Dakota Remembers World War II* features a selection of the more than 1,200 interviews collected through the North Dakota Veterans History Project coordinated by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The exhibit also features World War II-era uniforms, medals, photographs, and other artifacts related to personal experiences in the war.

Trails, Tracks, Rivers and Roads*Permanent Exhibit*

This exhibit at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center features the resources of the confluence and the transportation systems that brought people to those resources.

Life By the Bugle*Permanent Exhibit*

This permanent exhibit in the Field Officer's Quarters explores the life of a frontier military officer at Fort Buford, as well as examines the role of women at an army post. Several objects original to Fort Buford's days as a military post from 1866 to 1895 are displayed.

Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site near Fargo

Beyond the Boundaries:**The History of Fort Abercrombie***Permanent Exhibit*

As the "Gateway to the Dakotas," Fort Abercrombie guarded vital transportation routes and served as an important supply point for military campaigns into the Dakota Territory of the 1860s. This exhibit at the new interpretive center features this history, including the fort's role in the Dakota Conflict of 1862. It includes a mountain howitzer and uniforms and equipment like those used by soldiers at the fort.

Fort Totten State Historic Site near Devils Lake

Photo Album of Historic North Dakota*Through September 15*

A selection of photographs from the photo archives of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, documenting everyday life throughout the state from the turn of the 20th Century.

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck

From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil*Permanent Exhibit*

Located in the site's carriage house, this exhibit illustrates the transition from horse and buggy to the automobile.

Camp Hancock State Historic Site, Bismarck

The Four Seasons at Camp Hancock*Permanent Exhibit*

This exhibit looks at the history of the site through the seasons. The oldest building in Bismarck, this is the only structure remaining from the U.S. Army infantry post stationed here from 1872 to 1877. After it was decommissioned, it served as the U.S. Weather Bureau Station for the region from 1894 to 1940.

TIES**(Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service)****Prairie Churches**

Leonard, North Dakota
through September 30

Finding North Dakota: 250 Years of Mapping

Icelandic State Park
through October 18

Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota

The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County,
Moorhead, Minnesota
September 11 through December 31

The Meadow Arts Council, Crosby, North Dakota
February 1 through February 28, 2010

Photographs of Frank Fiske

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora
through October 17, 2010

SHSND Exhibits

For information about the SHSND's many exhibits, contact Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser at (701) 328-2102. For a complete listing and availability of the popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program, contact Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit at (701) 328-2794. Additional information is available at the Society's website at www.history.nd.gov.

Fiddlers Three



Photograph by Kyle Hellman

The Annual Lawn Party August 9 at the Former Governors' Mansion site in Bismarck featured free entertainment, refreshments, and self-guided tours of the mansion, home to 20 North Dakota governors from 1893 to 1960. As part of the afternoon fun, three young fiddlers, contestants from the Second Annual Arthur A. Link Fiddling Contest held February 16, performed individually and as a group, (l to r) Kamryn Hellman of Bismarck, Olivia Larsen of Williston, and Tom Johnson of Bismarck, accompanied on guitar by Tom's father, Paul Johnson. The celebration also included remarks by former Governor Arthur Link (1973-81) and his wife, Grace. This year's Lawn Party theme was "Celebrating 50 Years of Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion."

Great Gallery Gala

The Great Gallery Gala, otherwise known as a careful exhibit cleaning, was held the evening of July 8, after the North Dakota Heritage Center closed to the public. Attending this exclusive event were several SHSND staff, interns, and volunteers. Here, intern Athena Olson gently dusts the delicate furniture in the nursery exhibit. While specific exhibit areas are cleaned weekly, a thorough cleaning of the entire gallery is done annually using specialized cloths and wool dusters. The delicate nature of the artifacts requires that no cleansers or chemicals be used in the cleaning. White gloves are worn by those cleaning the artifacts to protect them from the oil in the worker's hands.



Photograph by Jenny Yearous, SHSND

Transitions

Emily Ergen began work July 1 as an archivist at the North Dakota Heritage Center. She had been project archivist since May 2008 for the William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection, which is owned by the Williston State College Foundation. The collection comprises more than 50,000 images, providing crucial insights into the history of western North Dakota, especially the Williston Basin area. To date, Ergen has digitized and described some 8,000 images from the Shemorry Collection, which are available for viewing online at www.digitalhorizonsonline.org. Previous employment includes work as a student assistant with the Institute for Regional Studies and University

Archives while attending North Dakota State University (NDSU), and an internship with the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Ergen graduated from NDSU in December 2008, earning a bachelor of science degree in history and women's studies.

Erik Holland began work August 1 as site supervisor at Fort Buford State Historic Site, which includes the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, near Williston. He worked as an interpretive program associate and interpretive program specialist for historic sites at the Minnesota Historical Society from 1998 to 2009, and as the interpretive supervisor of Powhatan

Indian Village of the Jamestown Settlement Living History Museum with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation in Virginia from 1993 to 1998. Prior to that, Holland was a park ranger/interpreter at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton, North Dakota. He has worked previously for the State Historical Society of North Dakota as site supervisor of Fort Clark State Historic Site near Washburn from 1975 to 1984. Holland received a master of arts degree in history from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, and a bachelor of arts degree in anthropology and archaeology from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks.

New to the Collections

By Shane Molander

Some of the latest additions to the collections in the state archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center include:

An additional four feet of material was added to the **Anton P. Ness Papers** (MSS 10939). Anton Peter Ness was born near Clarkfield, Minnesota on May 14, 1880. He was educated in Clarkfield and at the Willmar Seminary in Willmar, Minnesota. Ness worked in the real estate business in Vancouver, Canada, Minneapolis, and Chicago. He married Elise Caroline (Lena) Haugen in Tracy, Minnesota on January 15, 1913; the couple moved to a farm west of McClusky, North Dakota in 1915, where they farmed and where Ness began his faith healing.

Ness's faith healing business grew rapidly, and the family moved to Mandan in 1924, where he opened an office in the Lewis and Clark Hotel. As a healer, Ness made numerous trips to various cities and towns in Minnesota, Montana, and North and South Dakota. He had patients visiting him from all over the country, with patients often sleeping outside or in their automobiles overnight for an opportunity to see him. By 1930, one newspaper reported that as many as

125 people came to Ness each day.

Although he was not licensed to practice medicine, the number of testimonials sent to Ness from former patients underscored the influence he enjoyed in North Dakota.

The collection consists of business records and correspondence relating to his practice of spiritual healing. The collection also contains newspaper clippings, postcards, personal correspondence, and photographs of Ness's family and travels.

The **Plowville - National Plowing Contest** records (MSS 11030) were donated by Ramona Fraase of Buffalo, North Dakota. This collection consists of four cubic feet of materials relating to the 1964 Soil Conservation Field Days and National Plowing Contest, held at the Elmer and Ramona Fraase farm near Buffalo, North Dakota September 17 to 19, coinciding with the 75th anniversary of statehood for North Dakota. The event required much preparation, including turning cropland into hayland so the soil would be in good shape for plowing; stopping production on 1,000 acres from their 1,500-acre farm; assembly of a 35-acre "tent city" for farm exhibits; construction of a wide road from the site to Interstate 94; planting of

2,000 trees by the conservation service; installation of power lines; and construction of a stage, airplane landing strip, and a communications tower. The schedule of events included concerts



Faith healer Anton Ness (1880-1940) poses with a young patient, Alice Gingler of Madison, Minnesota, in this April 16, 1933 photograph taken in a photo studio in Montevideo, Minnesota.

and skydiving exhibitions, a show by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds precision flying team, old-time threshing exhibitions, a fashion show, square dancing, the election of a national soil conservation queen, a banquet, and, of course, the plowing contest.

The collection includes minutes of meetings, correspondence, scrapbooks, maps, and blueprints of the site, and North Dakota Department of Transportation plans for constructing an exit to the event from Interstate 94. Dignitaries attending the contest included Democratic vice presidential nominee and U.S. Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D-MN), Republican presidential nominee Barry M. Goldwater (R-AZ), North Dakota Governor William Guy, and future Governor George Sinner.

The Fraases were heavily involved in soil conservation practices and members of the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts in Cass County. Their farm was recognized for achievement in 1974.



Ness's popularity as a faith healer quickly grew, as evidenced by this circa 1917 photograph of Ness's farm west of McClusky, North Dakota, showing waiting patients.

SHSND MSS 10939-6-18

SHSND MSS 10939-6-23



North Dakotans Honor Lincoln Bust in Norway

A flag of North Dakota was presented by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) to the president of the Norse Federation during a June 28 ceremony in Oslo, Norway, that honored America's Independence Day and the bicentennial of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln.

SHSND Communications and Education Director Rick Collin presented the flag and read a letter from SHSND Director Merl Paaverud to Norse Federation President Hallgrim Berg at the ceremony. It was held in front of a bust of Lincoln that was given to Norway by the people of North Dakota in 1914 for the country's centennial celebration of the adoption of its constitution and declaration as an independent nation. Annual observances in front of the bust are held on or near July 4 at Oslo's Frogner Park. The Norse Federation, also called Nordmanns Forbundet, fosters strong Norwegian-American relations. Thirty-one percent of North Dakota's population is of Norwegian descent – higher than any other state.

The guest speaker at this year's ceremony was former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale, now the Honorary Consul General to Norway. Mondale called Lincoln "America's greatest President." Other program speakers



Rick Collin and State Senator Judy Lee (R-West Fargo) spoke at the June 28 ceremony in Frogner Park.

included State Senator Judy Lee (R-West Fargo) and Collin, who is state liaison to the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Senator Lee brought greetings from North Dakota Governor John Hoeven and U.S. Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) and U.S. Representative Earl Pomeroy (D-ND). Conrad and Pomeroy co-chair the Congressional Norway Caucus.

The most recent issue of the SHSND's journal, *North Dakota History*, published an article, "Sculpting Lincoln," which details the history of the 1914 gift of the Lincoln bust. Copies can be ordered by contacting SHSND Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at (701) 328-2822, email museumstore@nd.gov, or by ordering online at www.nd.gov/hist/MuseumStore.

This North Dakotans to Norway group poses in front of the Lincoln bust following the ceremony in Oslo. Several had ancestors who participated in the 1914 dedication ceremony of the bust. The group also included the twin grandsons of the sculptor, Paul Fjelde (directly below the bust).



Photograph by North Dakota Horizons Magazine

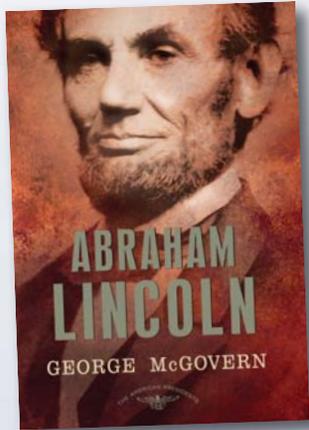
Photograph by North Dakota Horizons Magazine

McGovern Visiting North Dakota To Discuss New Lincoln Biography

By Rick Collin

Former U.S. Senator and U.S. presidential nominee George McGovern is presenting free public programs on his new book about Abraham Lincoln September 8 at Dickinson State University and September 9 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck.

The programs, sponsored by Dickinson State University (DSU) and the State Historical Society of North Dakota, are part of the ongoing Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial commemoration marking the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth in 1809.

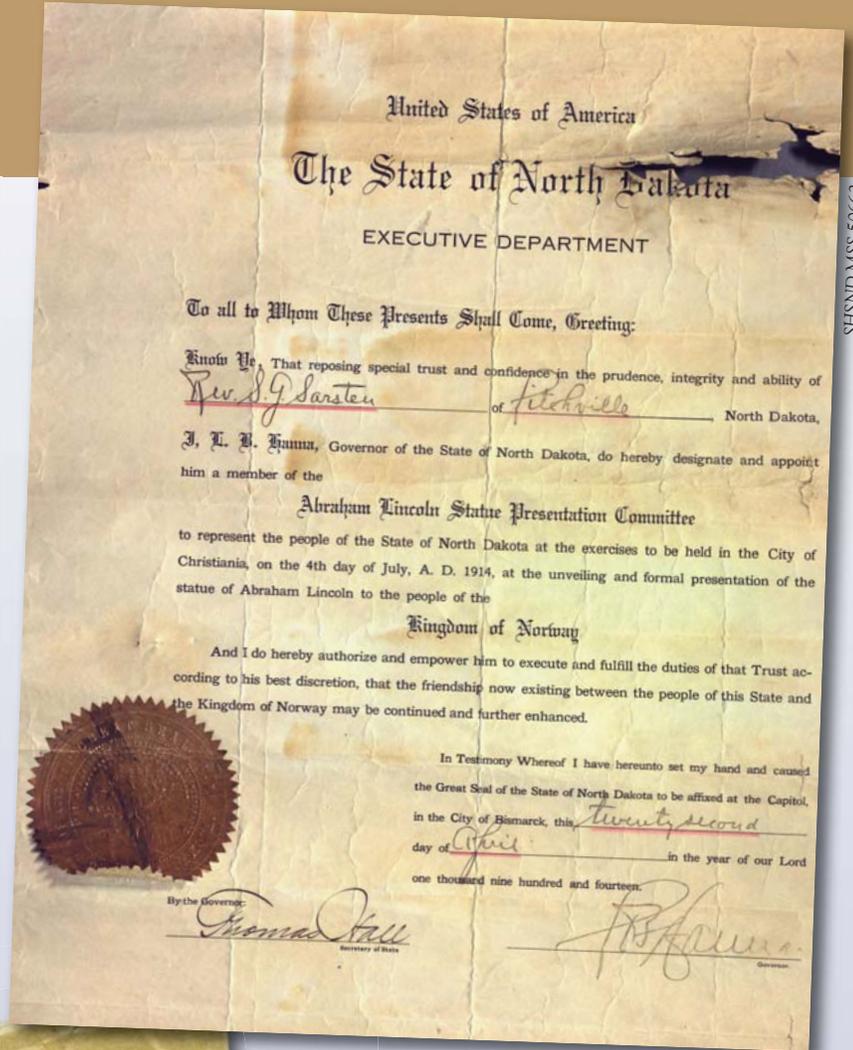


The September 8 program will take place at DSU's Dorothy Stickney Auditorium at 5 p.m. Mountain Time. It will be moderated by Clay Jenkinson, humanities Rhodes scholar, author, and chief consultant to the Theodore Roosevelt Center at DSU. Jenkinson will interview McGovern about his book on Lincoln, his years as a senator, his run for the Presidency, and the Vietnam War.

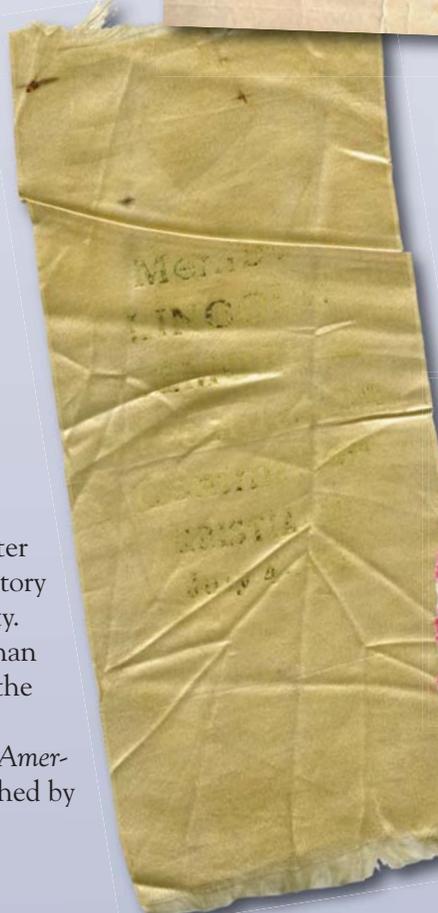
The September 9 program will be held in the North Dakota Heritage Center's Russell Reid Auditorium, at 7 p.m. Central Time. It will feature a presentation by McGovern, followed by a question and answer session with the audience. A book signing will follow each program.

McGovern represented South Dakota in the U.S. Senate from 1963 to 1981, and was the Democratic Party's nominee for U.S. President in 1972. He lost the general election to incumbent Republican President Richard Nixon. McGovern, 87, was a decorated bomber pilot in World War II, after which he earned his Ph.D. in American history and government at Northwestern University. A prolific author, he has lectured at more than 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the world.

His book, *Abraham Lincoln*, is part of the *American Presidents* series by Times Books, published by Henry Holt and Company, Inc.



SHSND MSS 50662



This document was issued to members of the Lincoln Statue Committee by Governor Louis Hanna prior to their 1914 journey to Oslo (then Christiania) for the statue dedication ceremony in Frogner Park. This was issued to Reverend Solomon G. Sarsten from Litchville, who kept a diary of his trip. The document was donated to the State Historical Society of North Dakota's collections in June by his granddaughter, Harriet Halvorson of Valley City.



Also donated by Harriet Halvorson from her grandfather's trip was this ribbon (left), now mostly faded, and this American flag that was attached to it, worn by Reverend Sarsten at the statue ceremony July 4, 1914.

SHSND Education Videoconference Series Honored

The State Historical Society of North Dakota has been named the first place recipient of the 2008-09 North Dakota Teacher Favorite Award, marking the second year in a row it has won this honor. This award is selected annually by North Dakota K-12 educators through EduTech and presented to a content provider for their exceptional leadership in providing educational programming through videoconferencing.

The Society's Curator of Education Marilyn Snyder and Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit

have been delivering curriculum outreach programs on North Dakota history to classrooms via the ITV network at the North Dakota Heritage Center for nearly five years. During this time, several programs have been developed and delivered, including such topics as *Early People in North Dakota*; *Fur Trade*; *Native American Dwellings*; *The Capitol of North Dakota is Bismarck*; *Learning U.S. History Inside and Out*; *Inventions, Innovations and Adaptations*; and *Homesteading in North Dakota*.

EduTech is part of the state's In-

formation Technology Department's budget. Its mission is to provide North Dakota educators and students with opportunities that extend learning in the classroom, focusing on the use of technology to improve student achievement.

The second-place winner was the North Dakota Forest Service, and the third-place recipient was the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

For more information about the Videoconference Series, visit www.edutech.nodak.edu/video.

Society Workshops Offer Assistance

By Claudia Berg

The Sargent County Historical Society hosted a workshop June 10, *Ideal vs. Real*, that looked at inexpensive and readily available materials, using simple techniques, to care for museum collections. The workshop was presented by Jenny Yearous, the State Historical Society of North Dakota's (SHSND) curator of collections management, assisted by Athena Olson, a graduate student from Texas Tech University who is completing a six-month internship with the agency.

A second workshop presented by the SHSND, "Making Mannequins," will be hosted by the Dickey County Historical Society in Oakes on Monday, September 14. Most museums have clothing collections, and providing the best care possible while the pieces are on exhibit can be a challenge. This workshop will provide participants with hands-on experience making a mannequin from scratch, and will work with a variety of easily accessible and inexpensive materials. Participants will have a finished example to use in their museum. A \$10 fee is required to cover materials, and lunch is provided courtesy of the Dickey County Historical Society and the Ellendale Historical Society. Scholarships are available to cover travel and workshop expenses.

To register, contact SHSND Expansion and New Initiatives Coordinator Claudia Berg at (701) 328-2666 or email cberg@nd.gov. To apply for a scholarship, contact Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson at (701) 328-3573 or email amunson@nd.gov.

If your organization would like to host a collections workshop, contact Claudia Berg.



Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND

Some of the participants at the June 10 workshop in Forman, North Dakota. Those pictured are: *back row, l to r*: Athena Olson and Jenny Yearous, State Historical Society of North Dakota; Wes Anderson, Barnes County Historical Society; June Fritzen and Ron Narum, Sargent County Historical Society; Corrine Wenzel, Barnes County Historical Society; Mark Timbrook, Minot State University; Eunice Timbrook, Minot; Lisa Veeda, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, Moorhead, Minnesota. *Center row*: Lois Smith, Buffalo Historical Society; Sue Schlecht and Jeanette Robb-Ruenz, Enderlin Historical Society. *Front row*: Leone Kramer, Audrey Ficencic and Kathy Brekke, Sargent County Historical Society, and MaryAnn Kunrath, Dickey County Historical Society.

New Officers for State Historical Board; Grinnell Appointed, Gerntholz Reappointed

By Rick Collin

Chester E. Nelson, Jr., of Bismarck has been elected by fellow board members as president of the State Historical Board. The board oversees the operations of the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Gereld Gerntholz of Valley City has been elected vice president, and Richard Kloubec of Fargo has been elected secretary. Their two-year terms as board officers end June 30, 2011.

Governor John Hoeven has appointed Calvin Grinnell of New Town to the State Historical Board and reappointed Gerntholz to another term. Members of the State Historical Board are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms.

Grinnell is a historian who works in the Three Affiliated Tribes Museum in New Town. He is the cultural preservation resource specialist for the Three Affiliated Tribes and has more than 30 years of professional experience in cultural preservation, communications, and public relations. Grinnell served several years on the North Dakota Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Advisory Committee and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Review Board. He is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, serving from 1974 to 1979.

Nelson served as legislative budget analyst and auditor for the State of North Dakota for 35 years before retiring in 2000. A native of Kenmare, North Dakota, Nelson has

served on the Board since July 1, 2001, and was reappointed by Governor Hoeven in 2004 and again in 2007.

Gerntholz, a former state legislator and retired farmer, is secretary of the board of directors of the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation. A retired colonel with the North Dakota Army National Guard, he has served on the State Historical Board since July 1, 2003, and was reappointed by Governor Hoeven in 2006 and again in 2009.

Kloubec, a retired businessman working in real estate, construction, and sheep ranching, has served on the board since May 23, 2007, when he was appointed by the governor to fill out the remainder of the term of John Von Rueden, a longtime board member who died April 17, 2007 following a long illness. Kloubec is also a member of the North Dakota State University Development Foundation Board. He served in the North Dakota House of Representatives from 1973 to 1993, including terms as the House Majority Leader in the 1989 and 1991 legislative sessions, and a term as Speaker of the House in the 1987 session.

The new State Historical Board officers began their duties at the Board's summer meeting July 31 at the new Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown. Board members also participated in the site's grand opening activities, including a ribbon cutting ceremony the morning of July 31, and a banquet and program that evening.

SHSND Collections Receives Tartan Stone

California stone carver Frank Maurer describes the North Dakota symbols he chiseled in the stone celebrating the Scottish heritage of Tartan Day during a July 23 talk he gave before presenting the stone to the State Historical Society's collections at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. He used Indiana limestone to match the state capitol ground's buildings. In the background are SHSND Director Merl Paaverud and State Archivist Ann Jenks, who accepted the stone for the collections.

Below: The stone carved by Maurer features various state symbols, something he has done for several other states, including South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, California, Idaho, and Utah. Maurer traces his ancestry to the Picts of Scotland, who were master Celtic stonecarvers.

Photographs by Sarah Walker, SHSND



North Dakota Collection Conversations Set for October

Thanks to a Connecting to Collections grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the North Dakota Cultural Heritage Initiative (NDCHI) will hold eight statewide meetings in October. “Collection Conversations” will bring collections professionals, volunteers, and other interested individuals together to discuss providing safe conditions for collections, developing an emergency plan, assigning responsibility for collections care, and raising public awareness and marshalling support for collections.

“We are excited to have the opportunity to bring together collections professionals and volunteers from across the state,” said Ann Jenks, NDCHI project coordinator and state archivist for the State Historical Society of North Dakota. “These meetings will play a key role in continuing to preserve our state’s heritage for the future generations.”

The purpose of the project is to determine the status of the state’s museum, library, and archival collections, as well as what hands-on training, panel discussions, and workshops would be of most value to North Dakota collections professionals and volunteers in order to seek future funding for collections care activities in the state. Through the regional meetings, the NDCHI hopes to establish a connected network of collections professionals and volunteers to serve as resources for each other.

The free regional meetings will include complimentary collections care resource materials provided by three North Dakota museum, library, and archival professionals and a networking lunch to connect with others in the region. In addition, the discussion to determine the most pressing needs of North Dakota collections has the poten-

tial to lead to future funding to enhance collections care.

To register to attend a meeting, visit <http://collectionconversations.eventbrite.com> or call (701) 355-4458. Limited travel stipends are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 30.

In addition to the State Historical Society, NDCHI project partners include Museums in North Dakota (MIND), Dickinson State University, Knife River Indian Villages and Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Sites, North Dakota State University, the North Dakota Art Gallery Association, the Plains Art Museum, the North Dakota Library Association, and the West Fargo Public Library.

The IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

For more information about “Collection Conversations,” call NDCHI Project Facilitator Dana Schaar at (701) 355-4458.

Meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. local time.

October 12 – Dickinson, Dickinson City Hall

October 13 – Williston, Williston Community Library

October 15 – Bismarck, North Dakota Heritage Center

October 16 – Minot, Minot State University

October 19 – Devils Lake, Lake Region College

October 20 – Grand Forks, Grand Forks County Historical Society

October 21 – Fargo, Plains Art Museum

October 22 – Jamestown, National Buffalo Museum

New to the National Register

The Custer Military Trail Historic Archaeological District in Billings and Golden Valley counties is the most recent North Dakota site to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Custer Military Trail Historic Archaeological District consists of 18,149 acres in southwestern North Dakota where part of a military transportation corridor and five historic sites exist. All the sites are associated with the Northern Plains Indian Wars period from 1864 to 1876 and include Initial Rock, two military campsites, a military trail, and the site of the 1864 Battle of the Badlands. This district has been recognized by the National Park Service on the National Register of Historic Places as nationally significant. The U.S. Forest Service has an autotour trail map available for the district, which includes interpretive signs. Visit www.fs.fed.us/r1/dakotaprairie/maps.



Photograph by Tom Turck, USDA Forest Service

This interpretive marker in the Custer Trail Historic Archaeological District tells the story of the Battle of the Badlands, an August 1864 battle between Lakota (Sioux) and U.S. Army troops under the command of Brigadier General Alfred Sully.

Students Gaining Experience as SHSND Interns

By Deborah K. Hellman

Since 1982, college interns have been gaining valuable hands-on experience working with staff at the state's history agency in several specialized areas. This year, eight interns participated in this summer's program, which benefits both the students and the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Alyssa Gerszewski and **Amy Bellefeuille** worked as digital project archivist interns in the State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. Raised in Grafton, North Dakota, Gerszewski will be a senior this fall at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University near St. Cloud, Minnesota, where she is a history major and political science minor. She studied in France during the fall of 2008 and visited several European countries. Bellefeuille, from Bloomington, Minnesota, is a public history major at North Dakota State University in Fargo. Both interns worked with smaller museums and historical societies statewide to scan photographs, documents, maps, and other hidden gems which are then uploaded to the "Dakota Mosaic" within Digital Horizons. Digital Horizons is an online treasure house of thousands of images, documents, video, and oral histories depicting life on the Northern Plains from the late 1800s to today that can be accessed at www.digitalhorizonsonline.org.

Samantha Bossman is a senior art history major with minors in museum studies, French, and non-profit management at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. As a summer intern at the Chateau de Mores, Bossman kept busy working as an interpreter, participating as a character in the living history tours, conducting and transcribing interviews for the Medora Memories Oral History Project, translating French documents into English for site records, and running the box office for the *Footsteps into Medora's Past* museum theater program.

Emily Sajdak is a senior at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, where she studies history and English. For the fall, she is enrolled in the Middle East Studies Program based in Cairo, Egypt. While there, she will study the language, culture, and history of the Middle Eastern peoples and also travel in the region. Sajdak worked at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site on several projects, including the Medora Memories Oral History Project, doing interpretation at the Chateau, and running the box office for the museum theater. She also wrote scripts for the living history tours this summer.

Athena Olson is from West Bend, Wisconsin. She has a bachelor of science degree in archaeology from the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse, and is currently working on her master's degree in museum science from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. During her museum collections internship she has cleaned, cataloged, stored, and exhibited new objects in the museum's collection. She will continue to assist the museum division through the end of this year.

Brianna Bohmbach of Charlson, North Dakota was the



Photograph by Jenny Yearous, SHSND

This summer's State Historical Society of North Dakota interns enjoyed a break from their work during a July 22 visit to several historic sites, including the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Fort Mandan, and Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site. The annual tour to familiarize the Society's interns with the state and its history was led by Jenny Yearous, SHSND curator of collections. This year's interns are shown here at the Fort Mandan Interpretive Center (front l to r) Athena Olson, Cassandra Stangeland, Samantha Bossman, Carol Wilson, Alyssa Gerszewski, (in tent) Emily Sajdak and Amy Bellefeuille. Not pictured: Brianna Bohmbach.

summer intern at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center and Fort Buford State Historic Site near Williston. She graduated from North Dakota State University this past May with a bachelor of arts degree in tourism. Returning to her roots in western North Dakota, Brianna spent the summer planning events at the Confluence and Fort Buford. Her main job was planning the 28th Annual Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Encampment of August 15-16. She also participated in the daily activities of the site, including giving tours, greeting visitors, and maintaining operations.

Carol Wilson, a native of Royal Oak, Michigan, is a junior at Ohio Northern University in Ada. She is double majoring in professional writing and history. This summer, Carol worked as the *Dakota Datebook* intern, researching and writing scripts for Prairie Public Radio's daily program.

Cassandra Stangeland worked as the archives reading room assistant this summer. A former Bismarck resident, she is attending Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Stangeland is earning a bachelor of arts degree in German and history. This fall she will be studying German culture and language while abroad in Magdeburg, Germany, completing her degree.



STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
OF NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Heritage Center
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #170
BISMARCK, ND
58501

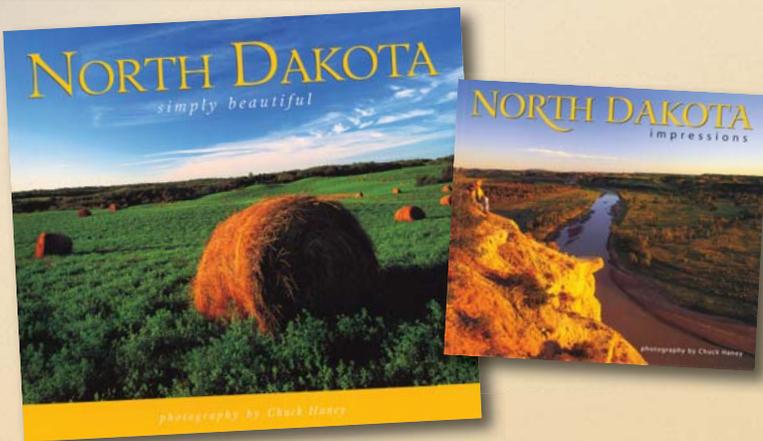
SOCIETY NEWS

Beauty of North Dakota

Savor the beauty of North Dakota's diverse landscapes and varieties of wildlife in these two coffee-table albums featuring photographs by freelance photographer and writer Chuck Haney.

Both books are available from the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store or by contacting Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at (701) 328-2822, email museumstore@nd.gov or order online at www.nd.gov/hist/MuseumStore.

North Dakota: Simply Beautiful (Hardcover) Price: \$24.95
North Dakota Impressions (Paperback) Price: \$9.95



International Attraction



Photograph by Beth Campbell, SHSND

The opening of the State Historical Society's newest site has attracted international media attention, including coverage in daily newspapers and on radio and television throughout Europe, Asia and even Australia. The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown has also been visited by television crews from such nations as Russia and Japan. Here, a crew from the Japanese public television network, NHK-TV, interviews Burt Nelson of Grand Forks, a former Air Force master sergeant and facility manager in the 448th Missile Squadron stationed at the site during the Cold War. The crew visited the site July 31 during its grand opening. For more on the site and its launch, see page 3.

Plains Talk is published quarterly by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), North Dakota Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505. Telephone (701) 328-2666. Website www.history.nd.gov Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director; Richard E. Collin, **Plains Talk** Editor; Deborah K. Hellman, **Plains Talk** Assistant Editor; Kathleen Davison, SHSND Editor; Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND Assistant Editor. **Plains Talk** is a benefit to members of the SHSND Foundation. Direct correspondence or requests for copies to the editor at the address listed above. This information is available in other formats. Please allow two weeks' lead time.

North Dakota State Historical Board: Chester E. Nelson, Jr., Bismarck, President; Gereld Gerntholz, Valley City, Vice President; Richard Kloubec,

Fargo, Secretary; Albert I. Berger, Grand Forks; Sara Otte Coleman, Department of Commerce, Tourism Division; Calvin Grinnell, New Town; Alvin A. Jaeger, Secretary of State; Diane K. Larson, Bismarck; Douglass Prchal, Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer; A. Ruric Todd III, Jamestown; Francis G. Ziegler, Director, Department of Transportation.

SHSND Foundation Board: Jon McMillan, Fordville, President; Wally Beyer, Bismarck, Vice President; Barbara S. Lang, Jamestown, Treasurer; Darrell L. Dorgan, Bismarck, Secretary; Pat Grantier, Bismarck; Mike Gustafson, Kindred; Armen Hanson, Devils Lake; State Senator Robert M. Home, Minot; Thomas J. Riley, Fargo; Dalles Schneider, Bismarck; Gereld Gerntholz, Valley City, State Historical Board Liaison.