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### **Cultural Heritage Center Exhibits Hats, Other Recent Donations**

PIERRE, S.D. -- Select items recently donated to the museum and archives of the South Dakota State Historical Society are currently on display in the lobby of the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The museum is featuring 16 hats of all shapes and varieties. The hats range from a pheasant-feathered women's hat from the 1950s to an Air Force flak helmet from the Vietnam War; a Shriner's fez from the Naja Temple in Deadwood to a baseball cap asking the question "Kaylor, SD – I know where it is, do you?" Sixteen staff members and volunteers each chose a hat and recorded why they made their selections.

"There is really a fun mix of hats on display," said Helen B Louise, museum director, "We have been very lucky to have received a great assortment of hats and headwear in the past few years from our generous donors. The imagination really takes flight when you see some of these hats!"

The State Archives is displaying a group of materials that includes, among others:

- A 1928 photo of employees and equipment of the Summit Construction Co.,
- A sketch of the Dakota Territory done for a school project by a child from Ohio,
- Lead newspaper printing plates with images from Lebeau and Herreid,
- A DVD from Blunt's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009,
- An 1892 GOP state convention delegate scorecard, among others.

Another recent archives donation displayed is a photograph and telegram from the Gene Gary Gruver Collection. Gene Gruver joined the Navy in 1954 and suffered a spinal cord injury while stationed in Saipan, resulting in quadriplegia. The bulk of the collection consists of 25 telegrams sent to Gene's family in Huron about the status of their son, mainly sent from late August through September of 1955. The photo is of Gene, in an iron lung, being flown from Saipan to San Francisco.

The exhibit is on display through the end of September. There is no cost to see the exhibit; there is a small admission fee for the museum gallery.

If you have any items that you would like to donate to the South Dakota State Historical Society, please contact Dan Brosz, curator of collections, at (605) 773-6013, or Matthew Reitzel, manuscript archivist, at (605) 773-3615.

*The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism and State Development and strives to help the state meet the goals of the 2010 Initiative by enhancing history as a tool for economic development and cultural tourism. The society is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit [www.history.sd.gov](http://www.history.sd.gov) for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.*