

## Thanks for your ongoing efforts in preserving South Dakota history

In 1901 the South Dakota Legislature created the South Dakota State Historical Society and the Department of History. The Society was promptly assigned the duties of the Department of History. However, through a series of re-organizations in state government, the Department of History eventually disappeared and the role of the State Historical Society continued to evolve. As a state agency, the Society is today part of the Department of Tourism. SDCL Chapter 1-18 outlines the responsibilities of the Society.

Initially housed in the State Capitol, the cases that contain the First Lady Gown exhibit are some of the cases used for the museum which lined the first floor hallways. The Society led the effort to build the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building across the street from the Capitol, which became our home for around 50 years. However, the Society outgrew that location, and our administrative offices and parts of the archives were later located in the State Library. In honor of the State's Centennial Anniversary in 1989, the State of South Dakota built the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center to serve as the new headquarters for the Society. Eventually, the historic preservation office moved from rented space in Vermillion to the Cultural Heritage Center, also.

Today the Society operates in five program areas — archaeology, archives, historic preservation, museum, and publications — and imple-

### From the SDSHS Director



Jay D. Vogt

ments or operates within the requirements of eight chapters of state law. The Society handles history and historical records, the state archives, historic sites and monuments, preservation of historic sites, county and municipal historic preservation activities, archaeology exploration, and public records and files under the South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL). Further, the State Historical Society implements the National Historic Preservation Act in South Dakota, and works with the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriations Act (NAGPRA).

The State Historical Society

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### Field Reports

April Gregory is the new executive director of the Booth Society, Inc., the Friends Group for the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives in Spearfish. Gregory replaces Renae Servaty.

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The South Dakota State Railroad Museum in Hill City held a "Trees and Trains Extravaganza" between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In addition to the railroad exhibits, the museum featured holiday trees. For more information about the State Railroad Museum, call (605) 574-9000 or (605) 877-6629.

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Humanities scholar Dr. Barbara Johnson presented a program at the October meeting of the Brown County Historical Society in Aberdeen. Dr. Johnson's program featured her research on Hamlin Garland, a Pulitzer prize-winning author who lived in Brown County in the late 1800s.

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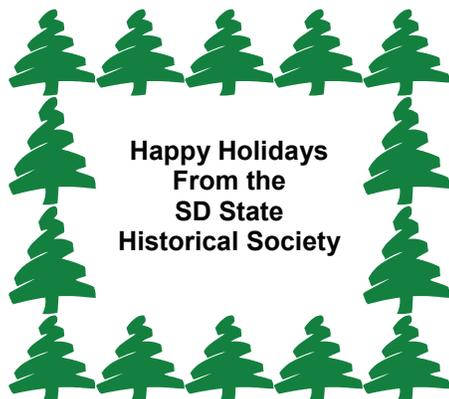
If you have information about your organization you'd like to share with *Hoofprints* readers, please send it to the postal or email addresses at the top of this page. History Group members of the South Dakota State Historical Society are given priority, if space is limited.

# Vogt

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collects, preserves, interprets and promotes the history of the people of South Dakota. Although we are a state agency, only 37% of our budget comes from the state's taxpayers (33% general funds and 4% tourism promotion tax), 17% comes from federal funds and the remaining 46% comes from earned income—membership dues, museum admission fees, and charges for services. In addition, we work closely with the South Dakota Heritage Fund, — the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation as of Jan. 1 — to raise funds for special projects. Without outside funding, we would be unable to digitize the photographs in our collection, produce education kits and traveling exhibitions, and publish books on our state's history.

We also rely on the local historical societies, archives, historic preservation commissions and museums to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of their community and area. Although the State Historical Society responds to nearly 9,000 reference requests and over a quarter of a million people visit our website; our traveling exhibitions are seen by approximately 39,000 people and nearly 5,500 students use the suitcase education kits throughout the state; and we release seven new books annually — we rely on local support. We cannot be everywhere in the state, and your work is essential at the local level. You use our reference services, traveling exhibits, etc. Thank you for your on-going contributions to preserving South Dakota history. Please feel free to contact us with questions and requests for assistance. We are a team, and the more we work together, the better we will collect, preserve, interpret and promote South Dakota history. jdv



## Applications for next round of Deadwood Fund grant are announced

The South Dakota State Historical Society has announced that the applications for the next round of the Deadwood Fund grant program are due on Feb. 1, 2012 for work beginning May 1, 2012.

The program is designed to encourage large-scale restoration or rehabilitation of historic properties by individuals, organizations or public agencies, according to Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society, whose historic preservation office administers the program.

Grants will be awarded in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000. The grant amount must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis from nonfederal and nonstate sources. Nonprofit organizations will be allowed to use in-kind services for one-half of their match.

In 2010, more than \$138,000

was distributed among 10 projects.

Funding for the program is from Deadwood gaming revenue earmarked by state law for historic preservation projects throughout the state and distributed by the State Historical Society.

The second round of 2012 applications will be due on Oct. 1, 2012.

For more information on the South Dakota State Historical Society's Deadwood Fund grant program, contact the State Historic Preservation Office at the Cultural Heritage Center, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2217; telephone (605) 773-3458.

Grant forms are available online. Go to <http://history.sd.gov/Preservation> and click on "Funding Opportunities."

## Restored Governor portraits returned to State Capitol

Eight portraits of former governors were returned to the State Capitol hallways in Pierre in mid-December after being away at a conservation center for treatment.

The portraits were sent to the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis for cleaning, retouching, and in some cases remounting after an assessment by the South Dakota State Historical Society found them in need of preservation work.

"We're pleased to have them home in the Capitol," said Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. "They are part of a unique historic collection. The work done on the portraits will help preserve them for continued display for many years."

The portraits of Coe Crawford, Samuel Elrod, Ralph Herse, William McMaster, George S. Mickelson, Robert Vessey, Tom Berry, and Frank Byrne were returned to the first floor of the state Capitol in Pierre where the collection of 30 former governor portraits is publicly displayed.

The preservation work was paid for with what remained of private funds raised last year for the Cap-



**Dan Brosz, left, curator of collections for the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center; and Mike Mueller, special projects coordinator for the state Bureau of Administration, rehang the portrait of Gov. Samuel Elrod.**

itol's centennial celebration. The limited amount of those funds precluded two of the portraits — those of Berry and Byrne — from receiving treatment. The cost of preservation work on the six portraits totaled \$11,995.