

## Year 2015 has produced good times for history

This past year the South Dakota State Historical Society celebrated the on-going critical and sales success of Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography," edited by Pamela Smith Hill, as well as the triumphant return of The Great Sioux Horse Effigy from its world tour as part of "The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky" exhibition. Both of these undertakings characterize the important work of your State Historical Society. Whenever I think of Laura Ingalls Wilder, I think of her novel "The Long Winter," which is the heart of the Little House Series and takes place in De Smet, South Dakota. As South Dakotans, "The Long Winter" is telling our story -- toughing it out during the winter. Although none of us twist hay to burn in our wood stoves to keep warm, we relate to the cold and wind of winter. Wilder represents our state's pioneer heritage. The Great Sioux Horse Effigy is one of the State Historical Society's most important artifacts. The artist, believed to be Joseph No Two Horns, is paying tribute to his horse, probably making his last leap of life in battle. The effigy, widely considered one of the finest horse sculptures in the world, is back home in the Cultural Heritage Center. Over the Native American Day weekend, the State Historical Society offered a variety of activities and programs, culminating in the blessing of the effigy in its new case in the museum gallery. The Great Sioux Horse Effigy represents the American Indian culture and history of our state.

### From the SDSHS Director



Jay D. Vogt

The South Dakota State Historical Society exists to collect, preserve, interpret, and promote the history of the people of our state. Through archaeology, archives, historic preservation, museum, and research and publishing, the State Historical Society gathers material important in our history, provides the best possible care of the things that come from our history, and tells the stories, good and bad, about our history. As local historical societies, archives and museums, you too are doing that same essential work: attracting school groups to visit your facilities, providing programs for life-long learning, stimulating economic activity and tourism in your community, and sharing the stories. The

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### Field Reports

Mark your calendars for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Fall River History Conference to be held Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. MST at the Mueller Center in Hot Springs.

A variety of topics relating to Fall River County will be presented by eight individuals. Presenters put a lot of work and research into their presentations to make the day interesting and enjoyable. A noon meal will be served as well as mid-morning snacks. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year to support the Pioneer Museum. Cost is \$30 if you register early, \$40 at the door. For more info or to reserve a spot, call Robert Phares at 605-745-5690. Registration forms are also at the Mueller Center.

The list of speakers and topics is as follows:

- Betsey DeLoache, Pierre—Rural Schools in Fall River County
- Katie Logue Smith, Oelrichs—Logue Family and Oelrichs
- Edie Jenniges, Oral—History of Oral
- Ray Peterson, Brookings—1947 to Present, Miss South Dakota Pageant
- Rhonda Sedgwick Stearns, Newcastle—1960, National High School Finals Rodeo in Hot Springs
- Cindy Reed, Cascade—Claude Barr's Lifework and Gardens
- Joann Boggs, Dewey—History of Dewey
- Dave Batchelor, Hot Springs—David Batchelor, City Father

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## More Field Reports Continued from Page 1

Current officers of the Lyman-Brule Genealogical Society include: President — Cleone Cozine; Vice-President — Kathy Feltman; Treasurer — Marlene McGregor; Secretary — Gary Biskeborn; and Librarian — Mark Nesladek. The group meets the third Monday of each month at the Cozard Memorial Library in Chamberlain. For more information visit [lbroots.org](http://lbroots.org)

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The Minnehaha County Historical Society sponsors monthly programs the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Old Courthouse Museum in Sioux Falls. The Jan. 21 program is “Powder House Road History” by Steve Wehling and Ron Robinson. The society supports changing the

name of Powder House Road in Sioux Falls to Veterans Parkway.

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The South Dakota State Railroad Museum in Hill City sponsored a “Trees and Trains Appraisal Day” on Dec. 20. Participants could bring their railroad items to be appraised by a professional, plus stroll through the museum’s festive Christmas trees and operating model trains.

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The Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead hosted a “Black Hills Cowboy Christmas,” an old-fashioned concert and dance, on Dec. 12. Performers included Paul Larson, Kenny Putnam, Boyd Bristow, Jami Lynn, Caitlyn Taussig, Brent Morris, Robert Dennis, Mike Linderman, Ruth Groeneveld and Sarah Carlson.

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State Historical Society cannot care for our history without your help. We rely on local history-related groups to do the heavy lifting in the communities throughout the state.

Nevertheless, your State Historical Society is available to help. The staffs from the archives and museum are willing to provide advice and counsel for collection storage and preservation, creating meaningful exhibitions, and offering public programming. Visit [history.sd.gov](http://history.sd.gov) and learn what presentations we can provide, education kits and traveling exhibits that are available, and research resources accessible online. Find out the latest books on our state’s history, and what is planned for our next history conference. Through the Deadwood Fund, we provide matching grants for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and through the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SCHRAB) we provide workshops and publications on and mini-grants for

historical records. Explore our website to learn more about what the State Historical Society has to offer. Your group may also want to plan a field trip to the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center. Let us know when you are coming, and we can help make your visit more beneficial to your organization.

The South Dakota State Historical Society relies on various revenue streams to meet our budget every year, and one important source of funds is membership. Basic membership is only \$40 for an individual and \$50 for a family or history-related group. Persons interested in providing additional support can join at the Heritage Circle levels starting at \$125. The Basic membership includes a subscription to the quarterly journal, “South Dakota History,” free museum admission, and discounts at the Heritage Stores, archives, and our publications. All those benefits are also included at the Heritage Circle level, plus we are now providing an affiliate membership in the Smithsonian Institution and other benefits based on your support level. If you are not already a member, I encourage you to join the State Historical Society.

Thank you for your important work collecting, preserving, interpreting, and promoting the history of your community and South Dakota. Please let us know if your State Historical Society can be of any assistance. [jdv](mailto:jdv)

## SDSHS Deadwood Fund grant applications due Feb. 1

The South Dakota State Historical Society announces that applications for the first round of the 2016 Deadwood Fund grant program are due Feb. 1, 2016, for work beginning no earlier than May 1, 2016.

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 2014, \$121,921 was distributed among 11 projects, which resulted in a total public-private investment of \$447,799.

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 2016 applications will be due Oct. 1, 2016, for work beginning no earlier than Jan. 1, 2017.

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 at <http://history.sd.gov/Preservation/FundingOpps/FundingOpportunities.aspx>.

**If you would like your organization’s happenings or officers published in an upcoming issue of “Hoofprints,” please send your news to [Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us](mailto:Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us) or mail it to: Hoofprints, South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD 57501-2217.**