

Membership dues support your State Historical Society

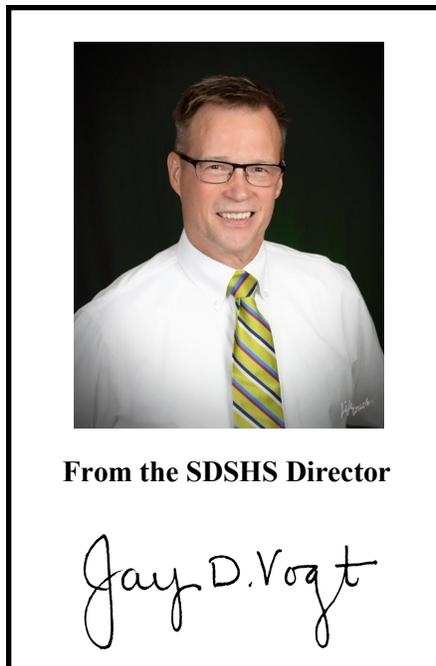
The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines membership as: 1. the state of belonging to or being part of a group or an organization; the state of being a member and 2. all the people or things that belong to or are part of an organization or a group.

Although your South Dakota State Historical Society is part of state government, it does have a membership component. Our mission to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of the State of South Dakota is about people. This work heartens people to participate. People can donate archival records (personal papers, films, photographs, recordings, etc.), museum objects and financial support, either through cash gifts, estate planning or memberships.

Membership is important not only for the revenue created by dues, but also it builds a constituency — people, such as you, who care about South Dakota history. Whether your interest is archaeology, archives, historic preservation, museum or publishing, your attentiveness and involvement is imperative.

Annual dues (\$50) from history-related groups support this newsletter and the technical services we provide local organizations. Membership dues are an eligible expense under Certified Local Government (CLG) grants.

Individuals and families may join at a variety of levels—student (\$30),



individual (\$40), family (\$50) and international (\$70). We have members in all 66 counties of the state and in 46 of the 50 states (all but Delaware, Maine, Rhode Island and West Virginia) and in four foreign countries. So if you know someone in those missing states, I ask you to get them to join us.

All members receive our quarterly journal “South Dakota History” and the “History Notes” newsletter; free admission to the museum in the Cultural Heritage Center; a 10 percent discount at the Heritage Stores, the archives and society publications; and invitations to special events.

Members who want to support the

See “Vogt,” Page 2

Field Reports

Current officers and staff of the Old Fort Meade Museum and Historical Preservation Association near Sturgis include: President — Randy Bender; Vice-President — Charles Blaisdel; Secretary — Lee Stroschine; Treasurer — Daryla Sandy; and Museum Director — John F. Tesnow.

Officers recently elected to lead the Clay County Historical Society in Vermillion include: President — Dan Christopherson; Vice-President — Gloria Hensley; Treasurer — Caitlin Collier; Recording Secretary — Lisa Johnson; Membership Secretary — Ruth Bylander; Past President — Maxine Johnson; Directors — Marvin Walz, Judy Sullivan, Art Rusch, Barbara Campbell and Erin Burrow; Lifetime Directors — Cleo Erickson and Ann Severson; Executive Director — Wess Pravecek; and CCHPC Liaison — Jim Stone.

Current officers of the Grant County Historical Society in Milbank include: President — Arlo Levisen; Vice-President — Shirley Zahn; Treasurer — Karen Layher; Secretary — Val Cameron; Curator — Bruce Johnson; and Board Members — Joe Holtzmann, Nancy Anderson, Rosie Christianson, Gloria Cooley, Marsha Lundberg, Marge Nowick, Susan Sbel and Daryl Stengel.

See “More,” Page 2

Fort Pierre celebrating its bicentennial in 2017

It is not too early to plan ahead to attend Fort Pierre's Bicentennial Celebration September 15-17, 2017. This could be the biggest celebration in Fort Pierre's 200-year history.

The Fort Pierre Bicentennial Celebration will be combined with the annual Dakota Western Heritage Festival, now in its fifth year, but with the addition of many more events and activities for downtown and the Fairgrounds. Events and activities being discussed include concerts, a street dance, arts in the park, inflatables, rodeo, a historic parade, fireworks, carnival, pow wow, trader's flea market, re-enactments, and the list goes on.

Fort Pierre Mayor Gloria Hanson said, "Historians have named Fort Pierre 'The most historic town in South Dakota', and being the oldest continuous white settlement in Dakota Territory is certainly significant. Our 200th anniversary is worth celebrating, and we are going to

plan an event to make great memories."

Hanson continued, "Much progress has already been made in planning, naming subcommittees, adopting a logo, and narrowing down choices on events for the Bicentennial."

Committees have been hard at work to plan the marketing and community involvement. Local and regional tourism groups are partnering with Fort Pierre to make preparations for a Gala event and a yearlong celebration of Fort Pierre's 200th birthday. There is still a need for more committee members. If you are interested in being on a committee, contact the City office at 223-7690 or by email at mayorhanson@fortpierre.com or Bicentennial Chair, Chris Maxwell at 280-2895; email: max-well.chris.j@gmail.com.

For more information on the Fort Pierre Bicentennial Celebration visit <http://www.fortpierre.com/tourism/> or the Fort Pierre Tourism Facebook page.

Deadwood Fund grant applications due by Oct. 1

The South Dakota State Historical Society announces that the applications for the next round of the Deadwood Fund grant program should be postmarked no later than Oct. 1 for work beginning no sooner than Jan. 1, 2017.

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.

Grant forms are available online at <http://history.sd.gov/Preservation/FundingOpps/FundingOpportunities.aspx>.

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; e-mail shpo@state.sd.us.

More Field Reports

Continued from Page 1

This year's fundraiser of the South Dakota State Railroad Museum in Hill City has them "California Dreamin'." The museum is selling \$50 raffle tickets for a chance to win a trip for two to Northern California, including airfare, hotels and a special tour aboard the Napa Valley Wine Train. For more information, call (605) 574-9000 or email sdsrrm@gmail.com.

This year's officers of the West River History Conference include: President — Shebby Lee; Vice-President and Sponsorships — Wayne Gilbert; Secretary/Publications — Bobbi Sago; Treasurer — Diana Hayes; Exhibits — Marguerite Kleven; Corresponding Secretary — Carolyn Weber; and At-Large — Karen Holzer.

This year's conference will be held Oct. 13-15 in Rapid City. The keynote speakers are Paul Horsted and Joe Wiegand. Horsted, a nationally-recognized independent photographer and publisher, will be discussing his latest work "Our National Parks Yesterday & Today." Wiegand is the nation's premiere reprinter of President Theodore Roosevelt.

The Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead held a Victorian Day & Steampunk Ball on Aug. 20. The Steampunk culture is described as "science fiction dealing with 19th-century societies dominated by historical or imagined steam-powered technology." Opera House director Sarah Carlson said that Lead's history of industry and innovation fits in well with the Steampunk genre.

If you would like the officers or news of your organization published in "Hoofprints," please email it to Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us or send it to: Hoofprints, South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD 57501-2217.

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Continued from Page 1

society's nonprofit financial partner, the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, also may join the society through the Heritage Circle. I like to promote the Heritage Circle as membership-plus or a higher level of membership. Heritage Circle members are members of the State Historical Society, but a portion of their dues supports the society's foundation. As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the society is able to offer Heritage Circle members the additional benefit of a subscription to the Smithsonian Magazine.

If you or your local history organization are not members of your State Historical Society, I invite you to join. If you are a member, thank you. Your support is significant and appreciated. Encourage your family and friends to become members. You can be our biggest advocate. Thank you. jdv