

Value of History document proves that History is Relevant

We appreciate the value of history, but starting in 2013 in an effort to share that understanding, the History Relevance Campaign was initiated. A group of history professionals from around the country examined the value of history in our society today, and held forums at various conferences and meetings to seek input from across the history field and established a value statement. The resulting Value of History document identifies seven ways that history is essential to ourselves (identity and critical skills), to our communities (vital places to live and work and economic development), and to our future (engaged citizens, leadership, and legacy). I encourage you to visit

www.historyrelevance.com to learn more about this project and read the statement. I urge you to share these principles with your membership and community leaders. Approximately 150 history organizations, including your South Dakota State Historical Society, have endorsed this statement. Your group can endorse this statement, also, and get added to this growing list of supporters.

I hope that you can join us April 28-29, 2017, in Sioux Falls for our annual history conference. This year the meeting theme is *Laura Ingalls Wilder: A 150-Year Legacy*. Following on the success of our book, *Pioneer Girl: An Annotated Autobiography*, edited by Pamela Smith Hill, the South Dakota Historical Society Press is hosting this year's conference and releasing a new book, *Pioneer*



From the SDSHS Director



Girl Perspectives: Exploring Laura Ingalls Wilder, edited by our own Nancy Tystad Koupal, director of the Press, which includes the text of a speech given by Wilder in 1937 and essays on the children's author. The contributors to *Pioneer Girl Perspectives* will be the speakers at the history conference. Visit www.history.sd.gov (click on About Us) and learn more about the conference.

As we end 2016 and welcome the New Year, I invite you personally and your organization to become members of the South Dakota State Historical Society. Individual members start for as little as \$40, and history-related group membership dues are only \$50. The privileges

See "Vogt," Page 2

Field Reports

Current officers of the Museum of Science, Wildlife & Industry in Webster include: President — Alice Bartell; Vice-President — Jim Brakefield; Secretary — Lynne Hansen; and Treasurer — Sherry Zimmerman.

####

Current officers of the Aurora County Historical Society in Plankinton include: Chairman — Dan Larson; Co-Vice Chairmen — Lewis Matzner and Jim Brown; Secretary — Gladys (Sally) Erdahl; Treasurer — Carol Schaefer; and Directors — Stanlee Johnson and Angela VanPelt.

ACHS Museums consist of five historical buildings and a main entrance/office each of which exhibits objects, written and oral histories, land descriptions, and a document library. The museums are open during community events and by appointment. Call (605) 942-7303 or email achs.museums@gmail.com.

####

The Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead hosted three signature events in December to celebrate the holiday season.

The annual Festival of Trees Vintage Holiday Celebration on Dec. 1-2 was a festival of community spirit, while raising funds for music and theatre programming and restoration projects at the HHOH.

See "More," Page 2

More Field Reports Continued from Page 1

The Potter Family Christmas Show was held on Dec. 3. The five members of the Potter Family performed, along with the 30-member Shrine of Democracy a cappella chorus.

Finally, HHOH Director Sarah Carlson joined other well-known performers from the Black Hills and across the state for the 2016 Black Hills Cowboy Christmas, an old-fashioned concert and dance on Dec. 10.

####

The 39th Celebration of the St. Lucia Tradition in Dalesburg was held on Dec. 11 at the Dalesburg Lutheran Church near Vermillion. The annual celebration held every year since 1977 (except 2008 when it was snowed out) recognizes the area's Swedish/Scandinavian heritage.

####

Two exhibitions recognizing women at work on the prairie are now open at the South Dakota Art Museum in Brookings. "Harvey Dunn: Women at Work" runs through March 25, 2017, and "Women at Work: From the Illustrations of Paul Goble" is displayed through April 2, 2017.

Vogt

Continued from Page 1

of membership include subscriptions to *South Dakota History* and "History Notes," free admission to the museum in the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre, and 10 percent discounts at the Heritage Stores (Cultural Heritage Center and State Capitol), archives and for society publications. Advanced membership in the Heritage Circle includes exclusive Smithsonian Affiliation benefits, including a subscription to Smithsonian Magazine and much more.

####

The Dell Rapids Museum in Dell Rapids hosted a "Festival of Christmas" on Dec. 3-4. Saturday's events included a bake and gift sale, piano recitals, a Christmas tea, gingerbread house judging, and a Parade of Lights downtown, followed by the arrival of Santa Claus at the museum. On Sunday there was a Tour of Homes, fiddling music, a silent auction and a Christmas festival and auction to raise money for the museum.

####

Current officers of the Codington County Historical Society board of directors in Watertown include: President — Roger Whittle; Vice-President — Nancy Oviatt-Titze; Secretary — Denise Ottenbacher; Treasurer — Kris Fey; and Directors — Shelly Alvine, John Dagel, Jon Iverson, Harlan Konrad, Joy Nelson, Tim Oviatt, Sue Pearson and Donus Roberts.

The Codington County Heritage Museum hosted an open house on Dec. 9 and 11, serving holiday treats and hot cider. During the entire month of December, the museum had a make-and-take craft area for children. The museum also hosted a free showing of the movie "The Snowball Express" on Dec. 29.

####

Thank you for your support of the South Dakota State Historical Society. Our mission is to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of the people of South Dakota. You do similar work in your community. Thank you for all you do for state and local history! jdv

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.

The Minnehaha County Historical Society celebrated "A Holiday Evening" on Dec. 8 at the Pettigrew Home and Museum in Sioux Falls. History, music and refreshments were shared, and wagon rides were given. The society's December program, "Norway to Minnehaha County — History brought to you by John Thompson," was presented Dec. 15 by Celia Benson.

2017 Deadwood grants announced

The South Dakota State Historical Society announces that the applications for the first round of the 2017 Deadwood Fund grant program are due on Feb. 1, 2017 for work beginning no earlier than May 1, 2017.

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.

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 2017 applications will be due on Oct. 1, 2017 for work beginning no earlier than Jan. 1, 2018.

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>.