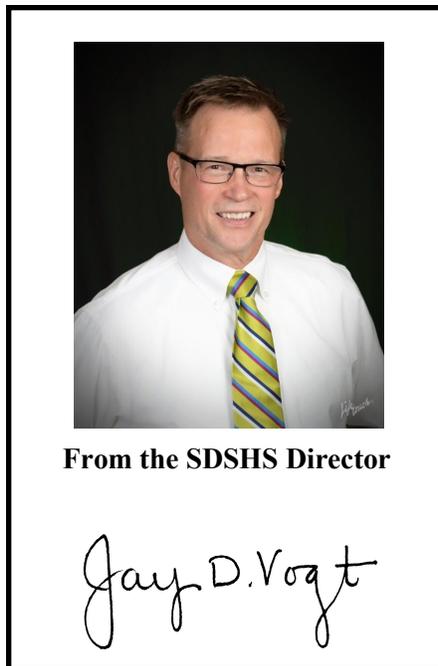


Museum is significant part of Cultural Heritage Center

Most people think of the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center as a museum. Although the center is the headquarters of the State Historical Society and houses four of our five offices, the Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society is a significant part of the Cultural Heritage Center. It occupies the most square footage of any of the society's offices located there. Most of our visitors come to go through the museum. Unpredictably, the museum has the smallest staff and a modest budget.

Our primary exhibition, "The South Dakota Experience," received an award of merit from the American Association for State and Local History. The exhibit was designed and fabricated in three phases and tells the story of the people of South Dakota. However, "The South Dakota Experience" provides the framework for revised interpretations, new information and additional objects. Recently, the iconic, neon Carl's Bait Shop sign from Fort Pierre was placed on display.

The museum also features temporary exhibitions. In the Observation Gallery, "Jackrabbits to Schmeckfest: The Many Faces of Community Identity in South Dakota" focuses on communities throughout the state. It will be replaced in November with an exhibition on the history of efforts for women to receive equal suffrage with men. The years 1918, 1919 and 1920 were significant in women's history in South Dakota, and this exhibit will commemorate that struggle. On June 1, the museum opened a new exhibition, "Silent Silos: South Dakota's Missile Field." Presented in partnership with the Minuteman Missile Na-



tional Historic Site just off Interstate 90 in the Philip area, the exhibit tells the stories of the creation and decommissioning of the missile fields in South Dakota and the impact of the Cold War in our everyday lives. Do you remember "duck and cover" with Bert the Turtle?

However, the museum is more than exhibitions. To museum professionals, the museum is about the collection, the objects held by the museum. Surprisingly, our museum has a modest collection of approximately 35,000 artifacts. We are careful with what we collect. It is particularly strong in American Indian, military and political items. When the Cultural Heritage Center was built, the promoters said that it would take 100 years to "fill it up." Now after just 30

See "Vogt," Page 2

Field Reports

Yankton museum reopens in December

Yankton's Dakota Territorial Museum reopened its door December 2018 in the Mead Cultural Education Center. Officials say it has been a great first few months for them. They have seen so many school tours this spring – it was wonderful for them to have kids around again. They had an exciting dedication ceremony for their "Journeying Forward: Connecting Cultures" exhibit in April.

This spring saw a return of their monthly first Friday program – renamed Feed Your Mind. They have already had some outstanding presentations. They are truly excited to see what this summer will bring for them. They have a lot of things coming up including a Tea Party in July featuring a Victorian Fashion Show, and the kickoff to their Taste of Dakota series in August.

This summer they will begin their newest venture into social media with weekly videos on Yankton history, featured on their Facebook page, website and new YouTube Channel.

Check the museum out online at www.meadbuilding.org; Facebook/Dakota Territorial Museum; Twitter @DakotaMuseum; and on YouTube at Mead Cultural Education Center.

See "More," Page 2

More Field Reports

Continued from Page 1

Following is a list of 2019-20 officers for the Clay County Historical Society in Vermillion:

President – Dan Christopherson; Vice President – Gloria Hensley; Past President – Maxine Johnson; Treasurer – Joni Freidel; Recording Secretary – Erin Burrow; Membership Secretary – Ruth Bylander; Directors: Judy Sullivan, Lisa Johnson, Art Rusch, Barbara Campbell, Kevin Jacobson, Jim Stone and Tom Sorensen

“FarmHer: South Dakota” is a new exhibit that opened April 20 at the Agricultural Heritage Museum in Brookings. Curated by Director Gwen McCausland, it is a traveling exhibit produced by the Ag Heritage Museum and FarmHer, Inc. Women representing a diversity of commodities, ethnic-

Vogt

Continued from Page 1

years in the center, the museum has reached its collection storage capacity.

The museum offers periodic public programming, such as the “Traditional Arts Day.” A popular monthly event is “Family Fun Saturdays,” when parents and children can participate in hands-on thematic activities. In July the activity celebrates summer with “Flowers in Bloom” and in August “Harvest Time” is featured. The museum also offers gallery classes for second, third and fourth grade students. Our education kits on 14 different topics are used in classrooms throughout the state. We also have available traveling exhibitions for museums, nursing homes, schools, etc. The museum staff can assist small museums and local historical societies by providing support and advice about a wide range of museum operational and management issues.

Visit history.sd.gov to learn more about your South Dakota State Historical Society and our museum. Better yet, organize a field trip to the Cultural Heritage Center and tour the museum. Members receive *free* admission to the museum and discounts for books and in our stores. If your group calls ahead of time, we can arrange a tour guide. I hope to see you soon. Thank you. jdv

ity, size of operation and ages of women farmers/ranchers in South Dakota were interviewed, and 10 were selected to be photographed for the exhibit. The exhibit is open through Feb. 8, 2020. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sundays.

Three Northern State University students received awards for papers submitted to the Brown County Historical Society’s annual research and writing contest. First place went to Ethan Delvo of Watertown for “A Recipe for Disaster: How Politics and the Greater Good Killed the Oahe Irrigation Project.” Hannah Higdon from Dupree received second place for “The Indian Reorganization Act: John Collier = Unsuccessful,” and Lauren Paatela, from Buffalo, Minnesota, received third place for her paper “How Sisu Shaped the Iron Range: The Northern Minnesota Iron Ore Industry and Finnish Immigrants, 1890-1930.” All three award winners received a certificate and a cash prize for their papers.

About 200 people attended the 51st Dakota History Conference, held

Deadwood Fund grant winners announced

Historic preservation projects in Hot Springs, Huron and Miller have received matching Deadwood Fund grants from the South Dakota State Historical Society.

The following projects were the most recent to receive grants to supplement their work:

- Huron: First Congregational Church, built in 1919; received \$15,000 to assist with stained-glass window restoration and storm window replacement; and First Presbyterian Church, built in 1915; received \$12,000 to assist with stained-glass window restoration and storm window installation;
- Hot Springs: Harlou Building, built in 1893; received \$13,000 to assist with masonry repair and repointing on façade and side as well as repair of the side exterior stairs;
- Hand County, Miller: Hand County Courthouse, built in 1924; received

April 26-27 at Augustana University in Sioux Falls. This year’s theme of “Health Care and Health Policy” attracted physicians, nurses and specialists from 14 states as speakers. Attendees came from Ohio to Montana and North Dakota to Missouri. The keynote speaker was Dr. Mary Jo Kreitzer, founder and director of the Bakken Center at the University of Minnesota.

The 150th annual Midsommar at Dalesburg was held June 21 at Dalesburg Lutheran Church in rural Vermillion. There was entertainment in both the afternoon and evening. There were arts and crafts on display all day and, for the children, train rides and inflatables. For dinner, a Scandinavian Smorgasbord was served.

Now through Labor Day, the museum in the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre is open extended hours. Museum hours are 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. CDT Monday-Saturday and 1-4:30 p.m. on Sundays. A new exhibit, “Silent Silos: South Dakota’s Missile Field,” a collaboration with the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site, opened to rave reviews in June.

\$14,476.30 to assist with skylight and stained-glass window restoration.

The grants are awarded through the State Historical Society’s Deadwood Fund grant program. Funding for the program is from Deadwood gaming revenue earmarked by state law for historic preservation projects throughout the state. The program is administered by the society’s State Historic Preservation Office at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

For more information on the 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; or website history.sd.gov/preservation/fundingopportunities.aspx.