

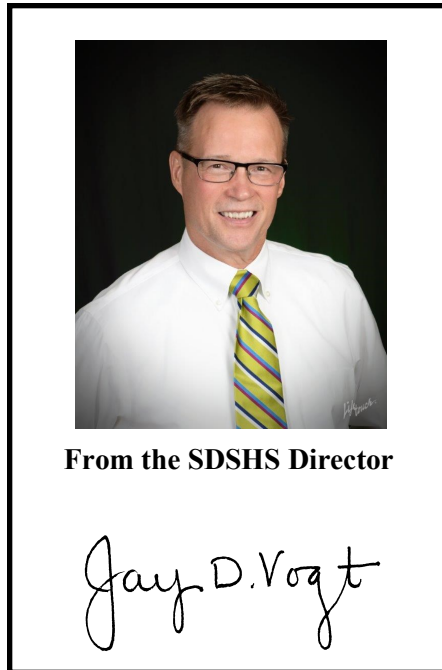
For more information contact: Jeff Mammenga, South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone — (605) 773-6000; Fax — (605) 773-6041; Email — [Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us](mailto:Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us); Website — [www.history.sd.gov](http://www.history.sd.gov)

## Board of Trustees serves SD State Historical Society

Established by the State Legislature in 1901, the South Dakota State Historical Society is a state agency, part of the Department of Education. In 1985 the State Legislature created a 12-member Board of Trustees, combining the functions of four different boards into one. A hybrid type of state government administrative board, the Board of Trustees is comprised of six members appointed by the Governor and six members elected by the Society membership. The Trustees serve three-year terms, with two appointments and two elected positions expiring annually and no term limits. The Board of Trustees meets four times a year.

Because the Board of Trustees serves as the State Review Board under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), certain professions must be represented on the board. The Governor is responsible for appointing an architect and a historian, and the membership is charged with electing an archaeologist and an architectural historian. A professional archivist is also required under state law, selected by the membership.

Current Trustee members include Brad Tennant of Aberdeen, President, and David A. Wolff of Spearfish, Vice-President. In addition, other members include Sean J. Flynn of Mitchell, John D. Fowler of Elk Point, Tom Hurlbert (architect) of Sioux Falls, Laurie Langland (archivist) of Fulton, Jon Lauck (historian) of Sioux Falls, Peggy Sanders of Oral, Brian Sandvig of Milbank, Rolene R. Schliesman (architectural historian) of Wilmot, Francis Whitebird of St. Francis, and Jennifer Winter (archaeologist) of Pierre. Doc-



tors Flynn, Tennant and Wolff are also professional historians. Fowler is the “Dean” of the board, having served since 2003, longer than any other Trustee. Sandvig and Winter joined the Board this year.

The State Historical Society is responsible for several chapters of state law, including SDCL Chapters 1-18, 1-18B, 1-18C, 1-19, 1-19A, 1-19B and 1-20. The Society also follows the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Trustees have significant tasks under the NHPA as the State Review Board. They review and approve the annual plan and review

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## Field Reports

Amateur and professional historians are invited to prepare and present an original research paper or personal memoir for the 2020 West River History Conference, scheduled for Oct. 8-10 at the Historic 1898 Martin and Mason Hotel in Deadwood. Should the COVID-19 situation worsen, the WRHC board of directors promises the book of 2020 collected papers will be published. For more information please visit [westriverhistoryconference.org](http://westriverhistoryconference.org) or email [lhnrscservices@gmail.com](mailto:lhnrscservices@gmail.com).

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The Brown County Historical Society in Aberdeen recognized three Northern State University students for their paper entries in the BCHS annual research and writing contest. First place went to Mitchell A. Hanes for his paper “Father Robert William Haire: The Life of South Dakota’s Pioneer Socialist.” James Heisinger received second place for “Barry Goldwater: Losing the Battle But Winning the War,” and Darcy Usher received third place for her paper “Capt. William H. Daly: A Country Boy Goes to War.” Each of the students received a certificate and a cash prize for their winning papers.

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James Volin, Tony Haga and Vicky Kilian are new board of directors members for the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Volin and

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# “Silent Silos” exhibit wins national award

The American Association for State and Local History recently announced that the Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre is the recipient of an Award of Excellence for the exhibit “Silent Silos: South Dakota’s Missile Range.”

The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 75th year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history.

The award-winning exhibit is the culmination of nearly two years of work by the museum staff, and it represents the first-ever collaboration between the state museum and the National Park Service’s Minuteman Missile National Historic Site near Philip. The exhibit focuses on the story of South Dakota’s missile field, the missileers who operated the silos, and it provides the first look that many South Dakotans have at the equipment and materials underground, from the launch keys to uniforms.

“We are honored to win this award,” said Jay Smith, museum director. “I would be remiss if I did not also thank Superintendent Eric Leon-



**Mary Duvall, a state representative from Pierre, learns more about the construction of the Minuteman Missiles while walking through the “Silent Silos” exhibit at the Cultural Heritage Center.**

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ard and his staff at the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site for their partnership. It was a true collaboration between our institutions, and we are delighted to share the results with the public.”

“Silent Silos” will be on display at the Cultural Heritage Center through February 2021.

This year, AASLH conferred 57 national awards honoring people, projects, exhibits, and publications. The winners represent the best in the field and provide leadership for the future of state and local history.

The AASLH awards program was initiated in 1945 to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the United States. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards not only honor significant achievement in the field of state and local history, but also bring public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations, institutions, and programs to make contributions in this arena. For more information about the Leadership in History Awards, contact AASLH at 615-320-3203, or go to [www.aaslh.org](http://www.aaslh.org).

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and recommend nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Further, they promulgate the Society’s administrative Rules (ARSD Article 24:52), evaluate the highly competitive Deadwood Fund grant applications, assess property tax moratoriums, consider deaccessions from the State Historical Society’s collections, and receive reports and recommendations on activities and programs from the staff.

The Board of Trustees also serves in an important advisory capacity as the Society strives to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of the people of South Dakota and make it available for the life-long learning of present and future generations. Visit [boardsandcommissions.sd.gov](http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov) to learn more about State of South Dakota boards and commissions. Thank you. jdv

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## More Field Reports

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Haga have served previously. These three replaced outgoing board members Richard Muller, Martin Oyos and Ann Smith. Kari Mahowald left the CWS after serving as office coordinator for nearly five years; she was succeeded by Alisa Teevens.

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The South Dakota State Railroad Museum in Hill City reopened to the public on June 1. The museum opens on a daily schedule from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. MST, as does the 1880 Train next door.

June 13 marked the debut of a new monthly get-together - the SDSRM’s “Section Gang Coffee.” Join them at the museum at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month for an hour/hour and a half session with Museum Curator Rick Mills and other speakers and have some coffee, and talk trains and history. Museum members are free,

and it’s \$7 for non-members.

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The Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre, headquarters of the State Historical Society, reopened to the public on June 15, with several COVID-19 social-distancing protocols in place throughout the building. Public hours for the museum and gift shop are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Saturday and 1-4:30 p.m. on Sundays. Archives hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; the public is encouraged to call the archives ahead of time at 605-773-3804 and make an appointment to do research. Call 605-773-3458 or visit [history.sd.gov](http://history.sd.gov) for more information.

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What’s happening with your local history group or museum? Send your officers or information to “Hoofprints” at [Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us](mailto:Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us) or Hoofprints, SD State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD 57501.