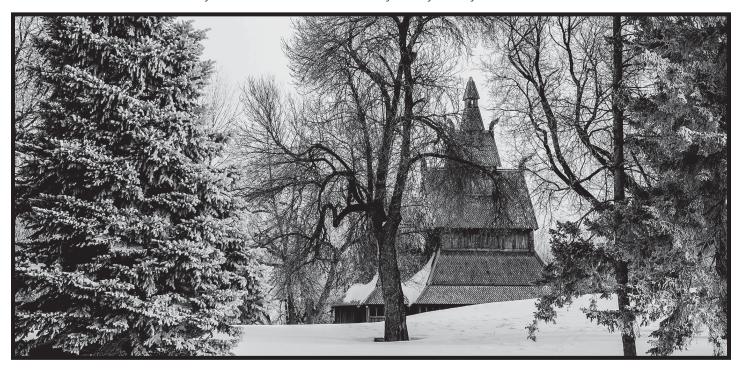
# The Hourglass



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# COVID-19, EEO 20-99 Temporarily Close Museum Doors

In accordance with Minnesota Emergency Executive Order 20-99, we temporarily closed our museum at the Hjemkomst Center on Friday, November 20, at 5:00PM. For the continued safety of our staff, members, and museum visitors, we will remain closed until further notice while we monitor the pandemic and assess state and industry guidance. Our current closure includes Heritage Gift Shop and the Clay County Archives. This marks the museum's second closure of the year after our doors were closed earlier this spring and summer.

Until we can welcome you back to our museum and sites,

we invite you to connect with us online and explore local history at home. Our newsletter archive is a wonderful source of reading material. You can follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, as well. We also hope you will join one of our free, live virtual events [details on page 15], shop online, and share your COVID stories.

HCSCC staff will continue to work behind the scenes on a variety of writing, research, and archival projects. You will continue to receive our regular communications, where we'll share updates. We look forward to opening our doors at the Hjemkomst Center to you all once again.



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# President's Message

## from Vijay Gaba



I was introduced to HCSCC and the Hjemkomst Center through Pangea. My wife Anu is a trained Indian classical dancer and this venue gave her the opportunity to show her talent and our history to our adopted country. Our daughters too have taken part in Pangea. I was pleasantly surprised and amazed to see the vast array of people and cultures coming together during the festival. I was

quick to realize that the Fargo-Moorhead community really understood and lived up to the name 'Hjemkomst,' which means "homecoming."

I have been a director of HCSCC's board since 2013 and I was elected vice president two years ago. I remember Maureen told me of the vacancy and said I would make an excellent choice. Seeing my hesitancy, she assured me that my vice presidency did not necessarily include a subsequent term as president.... Well, here we are! Of course, it is a matter of honor and pride for me, especially as an Indian-American who has been so welcomed in this community, to serve as president of HCSCC. It is because of your kindness that I am in this position.

Let me tell you a little about myself. I grew up in New Delhi, India, obtained a medical degree, and served in my hometown for 12 years before moving to the United States. I completed my residency in anesthesiology in Baltimore and New York before moving to Fargo in 2004. I live here with my wife Anu, who is a medical oncologist. We both work at Sanford and have 2 adult daughters. We hope to retire here in this community.

We were thrilled and touched when HCSCC hosted the traveling exhibition Beyond Bollywood: Indian-Americans Shape the Nation. While we worked on my favorite part of the project — highlighting the histories of our local Indian-Americans — I realized how HCSCC represents Americans from all parts of the world. We all bring a part of our own heritage to this region and adopt what already exists and together we create a diverse and vibrant community.

HCSCC has done terrific work collecting and sharing our local history. We are fortunate to have a talented staff and the support of volunteers, board directors, members, and community partners. I look forward to helping the organization grow. The work of history continues, even through our COVID-19 challenges.

I pray for all of us to be safe and healthy before the better days ahead.

- Vijay Gaba

Our thanks to the Moorhead City Council, Clay County Commission, and Clay County residents for their continued support of local history, art, and culture at HCSCC.

# **HCSCC News & Events**

# Pangea Celebrates Our Multicultural Communities Online

This fall we moved our annual multicultural festival Pangea – Cultivate Our Cultures online, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The usual celebration of local chefs, musicians, artists, merchants, and thousands of museum visitors in the Hjemkomst Center wasn't an option, so instead we reached out to HCSCC members and regular Pangea collaborators, asking them to produce short videos introducing the community to one of their unique, household traditions.

The result offers a wholesome look at the fascinating diversity of our community in the Red River Valley, revealing the colorful journeys our families have taken to this place and the stories they've picked up along the way.

Cooking demonstrations show us how to make Indian masala chai, Finnish korvapuusti, French niçoise salad, and Pakistani meethi seviyan. Community members introduce us to African percussion, Norwegian rosemaling, Scandinavian chip carving, Appalachian music, and Dakota and Ojibwe sweat lodge traditions.

Explore the diversity of our Fargo-Moorhead, Cass-Clay community at www.hcscconline.org/pangea2O2O.

### **HCSCC Seeks COVID-19 Stories**

HCSCC has made a few recent appearances in local news media seeking contributions to our COVID-19 community history project. We're still seeking those contributions! COVID-19 represents one of the major disruptions of American life in our history. We ask for your help to preserve those stories.

Find our COVID-19 hub at www.hcscconline.org/covid19 and share your story. We've included some prompts, but remember we're asking for any stories that YOU believe should be recorded, preserved, and shared. Photos, videos, audio recordings, and artifacts that illustrate our COVID-19 experiences make excellent contributions.

## HCSCC Schedules Online Local History Lectures Through Winter

HCSCC has scheduled a winter series of live and online local history lectures. HCSCC staff and visiting historians will deliver a multimedia presentation and then answer any audience questions. Audience members may register for the Zoom webinar or join the Facebook Live broadcast. Registration and event details are available on our website at www.hcscconline.org/events.

#### The WWI Letters of the Masterson Brothers Tuesday, December 15, 7:00PM

Maurice and Kenneth Masterson, twin brothers from Barnesville, were in just about every major American engagement of World War I. HCSCC Programming Director Markus Krueger reads from their letters, exploring their experiences in basic training, their impressions of Europe, and their life in the trenches.

#### Civil Liberties and the Great War Tuesday, January 19, 7:00PM

World War I presented a challenge to civil liberties throughout the United States, including Clay County, Minnesota. HCSCC Senior Archivist Mark Peihl discusses a rise of fear and anxieties during the Great War that motivated a wave of political repression and violence directed toward immigrants, minorities, and radicals.

#### The Stockwood Fill Tuesday, March 16, 7:00PM

As glacial Lake Agassiz drained away thousands of years ago, a rich prairie and unique geology took its place. This geology presented a challenge to builders as railroads, industry, and town boosters moved into the Red River Valley. HCSCC Senior Archivist Mark Peihl discusses the challenge that the Northern Pacific Railroad faced in building a railroad bridge over the Stockwood Fill.

Watch for updates online as we add more events!



Follow us on Facebook!



Follow us on Instagram!



Follow us on YouTube!

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www.instagram.com/hcscc\_hjemkomst



# Letter from the Executive Director

# Maureen Kelly Jonason

Seasons' Greetings!

I am sure we are all anxious for 2020 to come to a rapid close, but there is still much to celebrate as we usher in the new year. We are excited about several big initiatives that have been moving forward in spite of COVID-19 interruptions. Museum life is half-lived in the future even an historical and cultural museum.

In 2020, we completely replaced all of our museum exhibition lighting with a large \$89,000 grant from the MN Historical Society. Come when we reopen and see what a difference these lights have on your experience. Our fluorescent and halogen bulbs were replaced with LED fixtures, dimmers, and motion sensors, offering greater efficiency and lowering energy costs. If you find a dark gallery next time you join us at the Hjemkomst Center, just move! The motion sensors will flip the lights right back on (where they'll stay for at least 12 minutes).

We have ordered new museum exhibition walls to be installed in early 2021. We also continue to make progress on our "Board Training, Visitors Count!" survey component, and our Comprehensive Interpretive Plan, all with the support of the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies through our 2019 Capacity-Building grant.

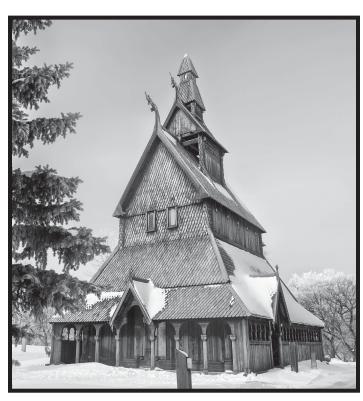
We are also just embarking on a complete refurbishment of our ship gallery exhibits. It may be hard to believe, but in 2022, it will have been 40 years since the voyage of the Hjemkomst, and we want to retell the story of the building and sailing of the Viking ship replica in a new and exciting way that will educate people for generations to come. Stay tuned for more on this project!

As this newsletter reaches you, healthcare leaders

are optimistic about vaccination developments. We anticipate a new year with renewed energy, a slow recharging back up to regular museum hours, new and exciting LIVE programming once it is safe to have groups again, and continued virtual programming for those of you who prefer to continue to partake of programming from the comfort of your own home.

It's been a heavy year for all, but it looks like lighter days lay ahead. Happy New Year, everyone!

-MJK



A 2013 photo of the Moorhead Stave Church (HCSCC).



## Consider the Gift of Membership with HCSCC

Are you a member of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County? Do you have family or friends interested in museums, festivals, and local history? HCSCC membership makes a great gift, and we have several membership levels to choose from:

- Basic (Individual) \$40
- Booster \$85
- Patron \$250

- Basic+ (Household) \$60
- Heritage \$125
- Benefactor \$500

To sign up or to learn more about what each membership level offers, visit our website (www.hcscconline.org) and click on the "Join & Support" tab at the top menu or give us a call: (218) 299-5511.

# **HCSCC** Exhibitions

## Red River Girl

From Telemark to the Buffalo through March 7, 2021 4th Floor Gallery

In 1859, Norwegian couple Olav Gunnarson and Tone Leivsdotter Songedal purchased a farm in West Telemark called Thortvedt (Tortveit). Two summers later they joined almost 100 fellow Norwegians emigrating to the United States from Fyresdal. After nine years in Houston County, Minnesota, the family moved again to the Buffalo River. They named their new farm Thorvedt and established themselves as one of the earliest families settling in Clay County.

Red River Girl: From Telemark to the Buffalo is a bilingual, Norwegian-American exhibition exploring the tremendous stories of the Thortvedt family, from Fyresdal to Glyndon and the many miles between. The exhibition was produced in collaboration with West-Telemark Museum in Norway. It contributes to a richer understanding of America's immigrant history, focusing on Norwegian journeys to the Red River Valley.

Red River Girl: From Telemark to the Buffalo is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through a Minnesota State Legislative appropriation.

The exhibition is also sponsored by the FM Area Foundation, The Arts Partnership, the Alex Stern Family Foundation, and the Midco Foundation.

# Ihdago Manipi

Clay County at 150

February 9, 2021 through December 31, 2023 Heritage Hall

The origins of Clay County, Minnesota, 150 years ago marked a dramatic transformation in this land, including the dispossession of Native Americans, an ecological revolution, and the construction of modern American life. *Ihdago Manipi* highlights the stories of this unprecedented change and the lives that both formed and confronted it.

*Ihdago Manipi* is financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.

## Roots of the Red River Valley

Through the Lens of Russell Lee

January 9 through March 14, 2021 Heritage Hall

Roots of the Red River Valley offers an intimate look at one of the region's economic pillars in this photographic history of Polk County, Minnesota's 1937 sugar beet harvest. The exhibition includes 71 images from acclaimed photographer Russell Lee, ordered into three distinct spaces outlining the experiences of the farmer, migrant worker, and factory. Roots of the Red River Valley invites viewers to ponder the lives of rural and migrant laborers in our communities, particularly their relationships, families, and homes.

Roots of the Red River Valley: Through the Lens of Russell Lee was produced by the University of Minnesota Crookston.

Roots of the Red River Valley: Through the Lens of Russell Lee is sponsored by American Crystal Sugar.

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#### A Century of Civic Engagement: The League of Women Voters Minnesota

through Sunday, January 3, 2021 Heritage Hall

The Minnesota Legislature voted YES on September 8, 1919, to ratify the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. However, Minnesota suffragist Clara Ueland said that day, "Today is the commencement rather than the end of our work." A Century of Civic Engagement traces the history of the League of Women Voters Minnesota that followed.

## The Grand Army of the Republic in Clay County

through May 2, 2021 4th Floor Gallery

A year after the Civil War ended, Union veterans established a fraternal organization called the Grand Army of the Republic (or G.A.R.). The men of the G.A.R. left a lasting legacy in the United States, establishing veteran pensions, building soldiers' homes, and lobbying for major legislation. The Grand Army of the Republic in Clay County shares the stories of G.A.R. and Civil War veterans in Clay County, Minnesota.

# Give the Gifts of Museum Visits... ...and Get a Gift in Return!

Not sure what to give the stir-crazy friends and family in your life? Give the gift of history — a fun, educational, and socially distanced gift that gives all year long.

For just \$60, you can give a Basic+ membership to any household you love. You could even give one to the households you like a lot. A Basic+ membership includes a year of museum admission for the entire household and accompanied grandchildren (18 years old and younger); a year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, The Hourglass; 15% off most purchases at Heritage Gift Shop; 50% off archival research; and an annual membership in the Time Traveler reciprocal museum admission program, which grants discounts at hundreds of museums and historical sites around the United States, including more than 40 museums and historical sites in Minnesota and North Dakota.

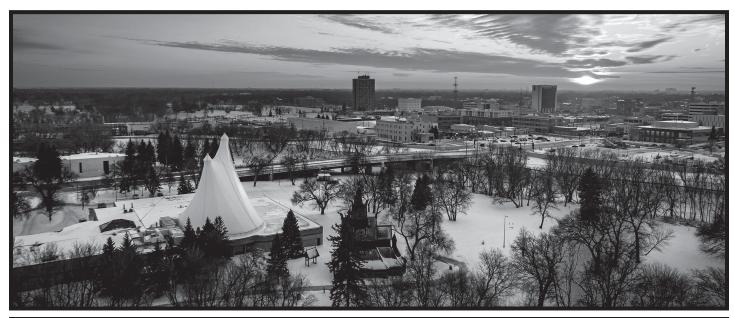
If you have a major museum-lover in your life, or someone poised to be a major museum-lover this year, consider the gift of a Heritage membership. This \$125 membership includes the benefits of a Basic+ membership, but adds four guest admission passes, discounts on archival photograph reproductions, and membership in the Association of Science and Technology Center Travel Passport Program, which grants admission to more than 350 museums and science centers around the world. Eleven museums in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South

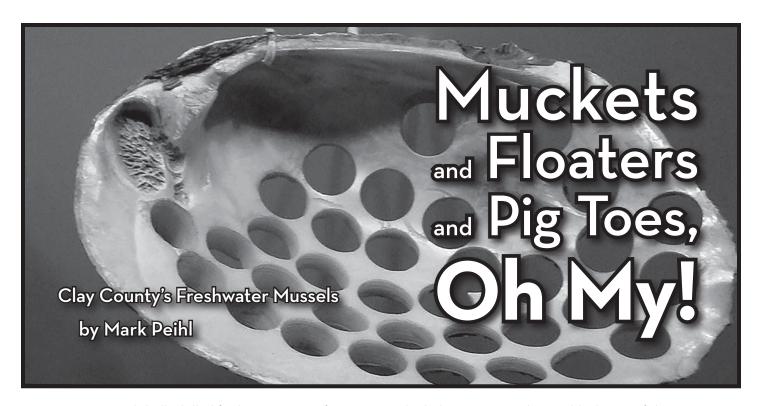
Dakota participate in this program, including Headwaters Science Center, Bell Museum, the Bakken Museum, Lake Superior Zoo, the Science Museum of Minnesota, Gateway to Science, and the Washington Pavilion.

As an added incentive, we will add a gift bag of goodies including a brass Minnesota ornament, an HCSCC Hjemkomst/Hopperstad mug, Bergquist Cabin note cards, and a 20% gift certificate for Heritage Gift Shop. If you'd like to take part, contact us with payment and contact information for the recipients of your gift. We'll hold your gift bag at Heritage Gift Shop until your next visit!

This coming year will bring a renewed excitement for both travel and, specifically, museum galleries. Many of us are eager to stretch our legs and get out of the house, and many scientists are increasingly optimistic about the ongoing development of a COVID-19 vaccine. As that process moves forward and our personal time moves more into public and social settings, museum membership offers a wonderful opportunity to make 2021 a year of ideas and experiences, as socially distanced as you'd prefer.

Contact HCSCC Administrative Assistant Lynelle Martin to sign someone up today! You can reach Lynelle by email at lynelle.martin@hcsmuseum.org or by phone at (218) 299-5511, ext. 6739.





Mussel shells drilled for buttons. Manufacturers used tubular saws to cut button blanks out of the shells, leaving these left overs. Workers polished and drilled thread holes in the blanks. The drilled shells were used as road fill, sold as chicken feed or discarded (McClung Museum of Natural History).

One of our members recently submitted a question about a shell he found on the bank of the Red River. Shells along the Red are not unusual. Folks often but incorrectly refer to them as "clam shells." Actually, the shells are from freshwater mussels. They are among the most remarkable critters to inhabit Clay County.

A mussel is a bi-valve mollusk, meaning it has a two-part hinged shell. A retractable muscle, called a foot, secures it to the riverbed. There, below the muddy waters of our prairie streams, the mussels lie in beds of tens of thousands, quietly drawing in water through one syphon and out another, filtering out organic matter on which they live. This cleanses the water in the process.

Mussels have an extraordinary reproductive cycle. According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, male mussels send out sperm, occasionally impregnating nearby females. The female broods the fertilized eggs until she releases them as larva called glochidia. Some of the larva find their way to fish to which they attach themselves. (The females of some mussel species dangle tissue resembling a minnow to lure the fish closer.) Skin forms over the larva and creates a cyst. Over days or months, the larva transforms into a juvenile mussel, the cyst breaks open and the juvenile drops to

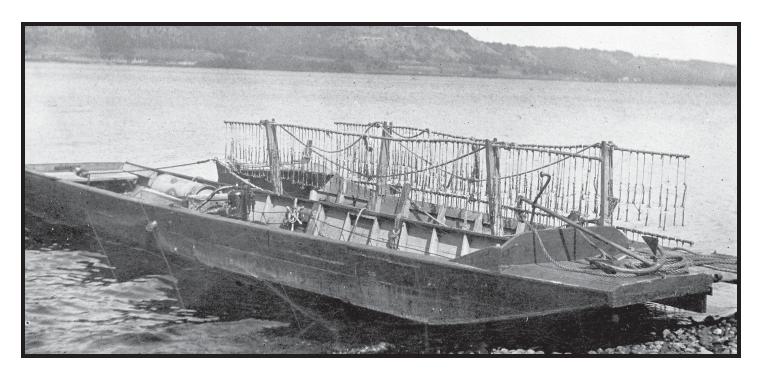
the streambed. The fish suffers no harm in this process.

Thirteen mussel species inhabit the Red and Buffalo Rivers. Their common names are as bizarre as their reproductive system. In addition to Muckets, Floaters and Pig Toes, the names include three species of Heel Splitter, Pocketbooks, Maple Leafs and Creepers.

For thousands of years, local Indigenous people utilized mussels in a few different ways. They used the shells to make tools and jewelry and mixed ground shells with clay to "temper" their pottery, making it less likely to crack when fired. They undoubtedly also ate the meat. While freshwater mussels are edible, they're tough and they don't taste good. The filter feeders also accumulate pollutants in their flesh. Stick to the tastier ocean varieties for your lunch.

They are surprisingly long-lived creatures. Some live a few years, but most live from ten to forty years. Others can reach over 100! Many can't reproduce until they are several years old. This makes them vulnerable to indiscriminate harvest. This has happened twice in Clay County.

In the 1800s, buttons were expensive imports from China. The US government imposed a large tariff on imported



Charles Sherwood's "Clamming" boat on the Mississippi River. In the early 1920s, Sherwood used this boat to harvest many tons of mussel shells from the Red River south of Moorhead. Note the horizontal iron pipes, called brailles, fitted with hooked chains. Sherwood hung a braille over the side and drifted his boat sideways, downstream, over a mussel bed. The mussels clamped their shells onto the passing chains, capturing themselves. Sherwood sold the shells to button manufacturers and the meat to area farmers as pig feed (HCSCC).

buttons. In 1891, German immigrant John Boepple of Muscatine, Iowa, came up with a method of making buttons cheaply from fresh water mussel shells. Boepple used tubular saws to drill out cylindrical plugs from the shells. Workers split the plugs into button-thick disks, drilled thread holes through the blanks and polished them. The iridescent buttons proved extremely popular. Button manufacturing exploded in the Muscatine area and created a huge demand for shells. Soon, the mussel beds in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri were stripped bare. "Clammers," as the mussel hunters were called, sought out other sources across the upper Midwest.

By the early 1920s, they discovered the Red River. In 1921, a group of clammers took several railroad car loads of mussel shells from the Red. The next year, three clamming outfits were operating on the river south of Moorhead. Some clammers waded in shallow water with modified pitchforks, manually shoveling the mussels into boats. Partners Johan Anderson and Peter Johnson had a launch fitted with a scoop which they dragged along the bottom, gathering up huge numbers of shells. A winch lifted the shells and dumped them into the boat. They captured a car load in about five or six weeks.

Charles Sherwood of St. Charles, Minnesota, had a

more sophisticated operation. He set up his camp on the west side of the Red, near the present Convent Bridge. On his boat, Sherwood had some iron pipes about ten feet long called brailles. Attached to them were a bunch of two-foot long chains, set a few inches apart. Each chain had a number of two-inch hooks attached along its length. The clammer dropped a braille off the side of the boat perpendicular to the current and floated sideways downstream, dragging the chains over the clam bed. The mussels lay on the bottom, their shells open, facing into the current. As the chain touched a mussel, it would "clam up," shutting its shell, clamping itself onto the chain. The clammer would retrieve the braille, replace it with another and continue drifting as he removed the mussels from the chains.

In 1995, I spoke to Rudolph Johnson, son of Frank Johnson whose farm was just across the river from Sherwood's outfit. He remembered Sherwood's operation well. Sherwood employed nine men and clammed the Red from spring until fall. The take was enormous. Rudolph remembered "three piles of shells, each thirty feet high and thirty feet wide." Sherwood boiled the mussels in a huge caldron which killed them and caused their shells to open. Rudolph's father bought the meat. Rudolph called it "the best hog food we had." People were intrigued.

Sherwood had to build a fence around his camp to keep the gawkers at bay.

Clamming could be lucrative. In 1922, local clammers received \$25 per ton of shells (that would be nearly \$400 today). A railroad carload brought \$1000. Sherwood took his outfit to the Otter Tail River and netted \$670 profit in two months. The bonanza did not last. Mussel beds became harder to find. In the mid-20th century, cheaper and more colorful plastic buttons took over the industry. By the 1960s, very few shell buttons were being made.

Clamming brought an occasional bonus. Mussels, like their ocean dwelling cousins, oysters, can produce pearls. Once in a while, a tiny bit of sand or grit manages to get into a mussel's mantle, soft tissue inside its shell. The mantle secretes nacre, a composite material of calcium carbide that makes up the mussel's shell. As the grit irritates the mussel, its mantle surrounds the offending object with nacre, creating a smooth surfaced pearl. Clammers might look in one-hundred mussels before finding a single small, misshapen pearl. A larger, round, more valuable pearl might be found per one-thousand mussels.

This pearl formation process came close to devastating the area's mussel population a second time. It can take years or decades for an oyster to produce a pearl. In the early 20th century, a Japanese biologist patented a method to jump start the process. He cut mussel shells into strips, then cut the strips into cubes and tumbled the cubes until they formed round balls. He inserted the spherical pieces of mussel shell between the shell and mantel of an oyster, stimulating it to secrete nacre. By beginning with a much larger piece of irritant, he drastically reduced the time it took to create a pearl. Cultured pearls, as these came to be known, are 80-90% mussel shell with a thin coating of actual pearl material. This industry really took off in Japan in the 1960s and again in the late 1980s. Demand for mussel shells exploded once more.

In the mid-1980s, shell prices ran about eight cents per pound. By 1990, they sold for between 85 cents and \$1.00 per pound.

Again, rivers to our south were quickly stripped. Some states outlawed the taking of mussels. In 1986, Minnesota passed laws regulating the harvest. By 1990, North Dakota still had no laws regarding clamming. The Red and Sheyenne River mussels were up for grabs.

By mid-summer 1990, a dozen clamming groups were reportedly operating on the Red and Sheyenne Rivers. They came from lowa, Tennessee, Texas, Nebraska and Wisconsin. One outfit employed scuba gear to locate mussels. Most just waded and picked them by hand. One lowa shell buyer claimed he'd purchased 25,000 pounds of shells that summer and was looking for more. Area natural resource managers became alarmed. On September 9, 1990, North Dakota Governor George Sinner issued an emergency proclamation outlawing the taking of mussels in state waters, including the Red. It's still illegal to harvest mussels in North Dakota.

In 1999, Minnesota began a state-wide survey to learn more about these creatures. As filter feeders, mussels are a good indicator species of water quality. The survey results were not great. Of 50 species found in the state, 28 are endangered, threatened or of special concern. The Minnesota and Red River watersheds were surveyed in 2003-2004. The survey reported "the mussel fauna of the Minnesota River drainage has been degraded as evidenced by the apparent loss of several species, the proportion of species found alive vs dead, and the relatively lower catch rate per unit effort of live mussels."

However, the Red River watershed report indicated "Relatively few rivers exhibited loss of species, and typically, only one (or no) species were found as dead shells only in any river sampled. All species were found at considerably more sites live than dead, suggesting that they have stable populations in the drainage as a whole." The lower reaches of the Buffalo River were reported to be the home to one of the richest and most abundant mussel communities in the state.

Clay County's mussels are not in the clear yet, though. A new mussel, the Zebra Mussel, originally introduced to North America through ballast water dumped from oceangoing ships, has been discovered in the Red River. These prolific critters act as hyper-filters, consuming way too much organic material. Huge numbers can block water intakes and cover lake bottoms with sharp shells. They out-compete native mussels for food and can smother native beds.

Today in Minnesota, it's illegal to harvest any living mussels though if you have a fishing license or are under age 16, you can pick up to 48 dead half-shells or 24 whole shells, as long as they are not from protected species. It's tough to tell species apart, so if you see a shell on the riverbank, it's probably best to just leave it alone.

# HCSCC Members, 2020

Thank you to the sustaining members of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. If you are a member and do not see your name listed below, please contact us by phone at (218) 299-5511, ext. 6739 or 6732, or by email at communications@hcsmuseum.org. Thank you all for supporting local history by supporting HCSCC!

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Roland and Mary Swanson

Township of Alliance

Township of Georgetown

Township of Hawley

Township of Highland Grove

Township of Keene Township of Moland Township of Parke Township of Skree Valley Premier Bank

Vikingland Kiwanis Moorhead

Mark Voxland

Jim and Nellie Walker

Marrion Walsh Sherry and Tom Watt

Kirk Watt Farms, Inc. Joel and Lori Westrum

Ronald White, III Diane Wray Williams

Ronald and Del Rae Williams

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Joy Lintelman and Rick Chapman

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Northwestern Bank

Teresa and Richard Norwig

Anne Olsgaard Janet Ostercamp Alan and Patricia Otto Carlton and Phyllis Paulson Richard and Helen Pemble

John D. Peterson

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James Powers

Jeffery Quam and Rebecca Smith

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Ron Anderson Audrey Angstman

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Nina Clark
Marjorie Corner
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Diane Dabbert
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Jennifer Ehrichs Arnold Ellingson Blake English Rodney Erickson Karie Freed

Peggy Gaynor

Glass Doctor of Fargo-Moorhead

Rosalie Goble Sandra Gordon Augie Gothman Genevieve Goven MD Keith Gregerson Ardis Haaland Tom Hall

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Deb Harris Elaine Hasleton Mary Jane Haugen Carole Lee Hays Dorothy Heieie Ruth Weibe

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Dale Stensgaard
Daryl Stensgaard
Dorothy Suomala
Francis Svezia
Alex Swanson
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#### AN UPDATE:

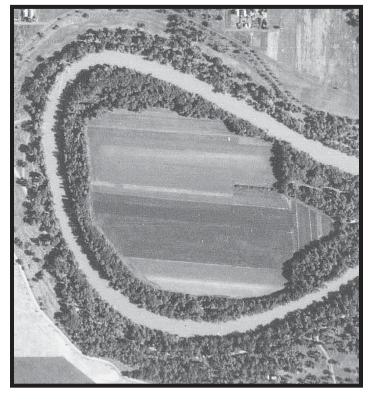
**Erling Rolfson** 

## "Before It Was Gooseberry Mound Park"

We are always grateful to be corrected when it leads to a better understanding of local history. In last issue's article about Gooseberry Mound Park (*The Hourglass*, Fall 2020), I supposed that it was Moorhead's first boy scouts in the 1920s who gave the hill on Bosshard's Farm its name. However, HCSCC member Carroll Engelhardt, one of our finest local historians, can push the date back a little farther. An April 1914 issue of *The Crescent* student publication listed that "popular class entertainments ... included the senior men giving their female classmates a boat ride on the Red River; the women later reciprocated with a picnic at Gooseberry Mound. Class adviser Emma Norbryhn supplied fudge on the first occasion and joined in the activity of being thrown off Tarpeian Rock on the second."

Now we have a tantalizing new location to find! The original Tarpeian Rock is in Rome, overlooking the ruins of the Forum. I guess those Cobbers really paid attention in class! Sounds like the Gooseberry bike trails to me.

- Markus Krueger, HCSCC



Wes Woolbright

Fred Wosick

Robert Wright

An aerial photo of crops growing in Gooseberry Mound Park, taken in 1939. The tree line by the river is almost identical to the park's tree line today (HCSCC).

# HCSCC Winter 2020 Calendar

#### A COVID-19 NOTE:

In accordance with Minnesota EEO 20-99, our museum at the Hjemkomst Center will remain closed at least through Friday, December 18, 2020. We plan to reopen our museum this winter, but we also recognize that there are too many changing factors to announce a specific reopening date at the present time. Online programs will take place at the given dates and times, but exhibition dates below are tentative. Please find us online for updates about reopening, modified hours, holiday closures, and visitor guidelines at www.hcscconline.org.

HCSCC remains committed to providing a safe museum experience for our members, partners, and guests.

#### **ONLINE EVENT**

The WWI Letters of the Masterson Brothers Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 7:00PM Online (Free)

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, December 16, 4:00PM Online (Free)

#### **EXHIBITION CLOSING**

War, Flu, & Fear: World War I and Clay County

Thursday, December 31, 2020 Hjemkomst Center Heritage Hall

#### **EXHIBITION CLOSING**

A Century of Civic Engagement: LWV Minnesota

Sunday, January 3, 2021 Hjemkomst Center Heritage Hall

#### **EXHIBITION OPENING**

Roots of the Red River Valley Saturday, January 9, 2021 Heritage Hall

#### **ONLINE EVENT**

Civil Liberties and the Great War Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 7:00PM Online (Free)

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 4:00PM Online (Free)

# FUNDRAISER Giving Hearts Day

Thursday, February 11, 2021 Online www.givingheartsday.org

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 4:00PM Online (Free)

# EXHIBITION OPENING The FMVA BIG Art Exhibition

Monday, March 15, 2021 Hjemkomst Center Heritage Hall

#### **ONLINE EVENT**

The Stockwood Fill Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 7:00PM Online (Free)

#### **EXHIBITION OPENING**

#### **Atomic Alert!**

Saturday, March 27, 2021 Hjemkomst Center (Admission) Heritage Hall

## Joining Us Online?

Perfect! Go to WWW.HCSCCONLINE.ORG/EVENTS or click on EVENTS at the top of our homepage. You'll find links to event broadcasts via Zoom and Facebook — and don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

#### Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County

PO Box 157 • 202 1st Avenue North Moorhead, MN 56561-0157



To collect, preserve, interpret, and share the history and culture of Clay County, Minnesota.



Opens February 9, 2021

