Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County
2016 Annual Meeting

Join us at the Hjemkomst Center on Thursday, May 5, 2016, at 6 p.m. for dinner, entertainment and history, with the meeting starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are $17 for HCSCC members, $20 for non-members.

Browse our newest exhibits, Wet & Dry and Aprons Galore! You’ll also have the opportunity to hear from Mark Piehl, archivist, talking about saloons and the era when they existed, and Markus Krueger, visitor services coordinator, telling us how to get a drink in Moorhead during Prohibition.

Menu by Kelly Wambach
• Antipasto Platter
• Rosemary Lemon Chicken
• Beef Tips Normandy
• Garlic Mashed Red Skin Potatoes
• Honey-glazed Carrots
• Dinner Rolls
• Bread Pudding with Strawberry Rhubarb Sauce

Registration opens March 15, with RSVPs due no later than April 21
To reserve your place at the meeting, contact Matt Eidem, Director of Museum Operations, at 218.299.6737 or by email at Matt.Eidem@HCSMuseum.org.

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Selling alcohol was a family affair in Moorhead. See page 9 for the story.
President’s Message
From Les Bakke

The board has reviewed 2015 and planned for 2016. I want to highlight three things: our financial health, staffing and a new project.

Our financial health in 2015 was very good. We were up in admissions, memberships and gift shop sales. We held our own on donations. Because of these factors, we were able to make substantial payments on our debt.

During 2015, two of our wonderful staff members found different jobs; we miss Jeff and Amanda. Amanda moved our marketing up to a new level and Jeff became our tech expert. However, with the vacancies, we were able to review our needs and refine our positions to move forward with confidence.

Our new and exciting project is our partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society in management of the Comstock House. Matt Eidem will be coordinating the activities at the Comstock House and serving as Director of Museum Operations.

At our annual meeting, we will be electing board members. Kelly Wambach will prepare another tasty dinner again, so you know it will be wonderful. Mark the date and join us on May 5.

Please Send Us Your Addresses!

Are you going away for the winter or coming back for the summer? Please send your alternate address to Linnea.Dahlquist@hcsmuseum.org to make sure you receive all the up-to-date information from us!
HCSCC News

Wet & Dry Exhibit Now Open to the Public

It was a successful kickoff to the HCSCC’s Wet & Dry exhibit on February 16. Nearly 200 people attended a ribbon-cutting and reception for the event.

Ambassadors from the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce were out in full strength to help HCSCC staff and board members with the ribbon, and to present Executive Director Maureen Kelly Jonason with a certificate marking the occasion.

After the opening, those attending were able to walk through the exhibit. People were also able to enjoy refreshments, along with beverages, both alcoholic and Prohibition-style soft drinks, provided by Junkyard Brewing of Moorhead, and Drekker Brewery and Proof Distillers, both of Fargo.

Thanks to everyone for coming out and making the opening of our latest exhibit a big success! And check out the Bartender’s Photo Album on page 9 in this newsletter to see some photos from the exhibit.

Thrivent Members Can Choose HCSCC

Are you a Thrivent member? If you are and have 2015 Choice Dollars® available in your account, you can direct those dollars to HCSCC before a March 31, 2016, deadline. Choice Dollars are how Thrivent Financial members recommend where the company’s charitable grant funds go.

To designate those dollars for HCSCC, visit the Thrivent website at Thrivent.com/thriventchoice and log in. Choose “Direct Choice Dollars” and search the catalog of organizations, then check the box to direct all Choice Dollars, or enter an amount, then choose “Direct Now.” If you’d rather allocate your dollars by phone, call 800.847.4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” when prompted.

Remember, your dollars can be designated until March 31, 2016. Thank you for your help.

Amazon Smiles on HCSCC

The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County is now a part of the Amazon Smile Program. Instead of going to Amazon.com to do your regular online shopping, visit Smile.Amazon.com and choose the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County as the charity you are supporting.

When you choose us, Amazon will donate 2% of every purchase you make to the HCSCC. For more information, you can go to Smile.Amazon.com and sign in with your regular Amazon.com login information.

Newsletter Archive Now Online

Want to go back in time? The HCSCC is in the process of adding all of the back issues of our newsletters to the internet archive. There is a wealth of Clay County history in our old newsletters written by past and current HCSCC staff.

To browse the archive, go to our website, www.HCSCConline.org, and use the Research link on the menu to find the newsletter archive. You can also go directly to the archive by visiting https://archive.org/details/historicalandculturalsocietyofclaycountynewsletters.
Welcome to Spring!
From Executive Director Maureen Kelly Jonason

The March newsletter issue may be my favorite because I love the energy of spring. Granted, March is always the month we hold our breaths and wait to see if the Red River is going to try to swallow us whole as it attempted to do in 2009. It’s hard to believe it has been seven years since then!

In August, I will celebrate my eighth year as executive director of this vibrant and growing organization. How quickly goes the time, and we have done so much growing in that time. From two organizations, we joined forces and became bigger and stronger as one. We joined memberships, missions, staff and space, and with a board of directors and staff determined to make it work at all costs, we have thrived.

Spring also brings to mind the coming year. Our annual meeting on May 5 has become the kick-off to the museum’s busy season of May to October. Be sure to email Matt Eidem, our new Director of Museum Operations, at Matt.Eidem@HCSmuseum.org with your reservation or call him at 218.299.5511, Ext. 6737. Remember what happened last year when some folks had to wait in the lobby while we made sure we had room!

Highlights to watch for this year include the celebration of Mark Peihl’s first 30 years of service with the Society, the Midwest Viking Festival/Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival June 24 and 25, German Culture Day September 17 and Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures on November 19. The year will be over before we know it! Have fun while it lasts.

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Be a Part of Our Community

Are you a member of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County? Sign up or renew your membership today! We have several membership levels to choose from:

- Basic – $40
- Booster – $85
- Heritage – $250
- Basic+ – $60
- Patron – $125
- Benefactor – $500

To sign up or to learn more about what each membership level offers, visit our website at www.hcsconline.org/join-support/ to download a membership form or pay online. For more information, you can also contact HCSCC Executive Director Maureen Kelly Jonason at 218.299.5511 Ext. 6732 or by email at maureen.jonason@hcsmuseum.org. Thank you for your support!
As the end of the 19th century approached, Moorhead had recovered some of its financial footing, but still suffered from a reputation of corruption and crime. That was to be expected. By 1900, some 45 saloons were operating in the city of 3,700 residents, and the saloon owners wielded a lot of political power. Although Mayor Kiefer and his police chief Thomas Murphy had made headway in restoring law and...
order in the town, Moorhead residents had seen the beginnings of reform and wanted more.

The *Moorhead Daily News* reported that residents wanted, “a man who will represent the moral side of municipal affairs... [and that Kiefer] was too easy with the saloons in allowing them to run open on Sundays and in permitting gambling and also allowing women of bad repute to visit the saloons.”

In March 1900, Kiefer declined to run for another term. Voters instead chose Concordia College Principal and anti-saloon advocate Hans Aaker. Though well-meaning and passionate, he was also abrasive and self-righteous. Aaker proved an inept reformer. He failed to get a single conviction against a saloon owner for selling on Sunday or any other violation despite dozens of arrests. After a single one-year term, Aaker went back to Concordia. He later opened Aaker’s Business College.

In 1901, Moorhead voters turned to former Mayor William Tillotson, a trained lawyer who had served [as mayor] in the early 1890s. With more support from the citizenry, Tillotson had greater success in reigning in the saloons. He also appointed a proven police chief, Thomas Murphy. Murphy had left his position as police chief in 1900 after being shot by a fleeing suspect, and returned to his livery business.

This time around as police chief, Murphy followed Tillotson’s lead, putting a stop to the most egregious violations. A series of raids closed down a number of unlicensed liquor vendors and houses of ill fame. Those prosecuted included a sitting city councilman who received a $200 fine for illegal liquor sales. The same councilman’s wife spent six months in the County Jail for running a house of prostitution!

Chief Murphy’s force included a young Norwegian immigrant, Oluf Malvey. Malvey was born in Bolso, on the west coast of Norway in 1873. His brother
Peter came to the US first and paid for Oluf’s passage in 1891. The two moved to Moorhead in 1896. Peter worked as a fireman driving the city’s hose cart. Sheriff William Bodkin appointed Oluf as Jailer in the Clay County lockup. Oluf later served as Deputy Sheriff. In August 1901 he resigned to become a Moorhead Patrolman. His law enforcement experience made Malvey a valuable addition to the force.

In 1903, Tillotson declined to run for Mayor and Murphy again returned to his livery business. The pragmatic former Clay County Attorney Carroll Nye beat a reformer for the Mayor’s seat that February. Nye had run as the “businessman’s candidate.” Many expected Nye to represent the liquor dealers’ interests but he surprised folks by running a clean and efficient administration. He picked Malvey as police chief and continued the crackdown on malefactors.

Malvey proved a fair and honest chief. When Nye left office in 1905, Mayor E. J. Wheeler reappointed Malvey, as did Mayor William H. Davy in 1907.

On January 3, 1910 Malvey was helping carry a drunken man to the Police Station when he slipped on the ice and was severely injured. He underwent successful surgery but soon developed a kidney infection. Malvey died March 20, 1910, at the young age of 36 years old.

Malvey’s funeral was hugely attended. Mourners filled Trinity Lutheran Church to overflowing. Floral tributes came from a diverse range of groups, from the Fargo Elks Lodge to the Royal Neighbors fraternal group to the Loyal Liberty Protective League, a trade organization representing saloon owners. Malvey is buried in Moorhead’s Riverside Cemetery.

Mayor Davy appointed Malvey’s brother Peter to fill the Chief’s position. Peter later served a total of seven years as Moorhead’s Police Chief.

Postscript
Tom Murphy eventually moved his family to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, where he was Superintendent of the Irvine Park Zoo for 12 years. He later moved to Chicago, where he died on December 28, 1938, almost 39 years to the day after he was shot by a fleeing burglary suspect.

We sometimes talk about blizzards today and think they used to be much worse. Fifty years ago, that was definitely the case. In March 1966, a monster four-day blizzard started up on Wednesday, March 2 and, except for a brief lull the next day, the winds didn’t quit blowing until late Saturday night, March 5.

Fargo-Moorhead received 18 inches of wet snow, which 60 mph winds blew into 30-foot drifts. A post-storm cold snap froze the piles solid, making for difficult cleanup. Some 20 people lost their lives and 120,000 head of livestock died. This photo from the John Glas family collection shows a man digging out his car on the 1200 block of 10½ St. N. in Moorhead.

Blind Pigs, Bootleggers, Rum Runners and Saloons
From the Wild West frontier days to just after Prohibition, alcohol had a profound and lasting effect on Clay County. It financed saloons and speakeasies, instigated shootings and bootlegging, and brought about a push for law enforcement and temperance societies to the area.

Nearly 200 people attended the opening reception for the new exhibit, *Wet & Dry: History of Alcohol in Clay County, 1871-1937*. Developed by the History and Cultural Society of Clay County (HCSCC), the exhibit tells a rich story, with photos, artifacts and displays from the era. The exhibit is open in the second floor exhibit area through January 8, 2018.

Aprons Galore!
Opening March 22, *Aprons Galore!* provides an opportunity to learn more about this humble garment that serves not only as a functional piece of clothing, but as a fashion statement and accessory for all types of people.

A large selection of vintage collection of aprons from a private collection will be available for viewing at the Hjemkomst Center from March 22 to June 20. This exhibit is presented by A Woman’s Perspective Art Exhibitions and Events, sponsored in part by the Quilters’ Guild of North Dakota.

A Different Look at Manifest Destiny
March is the last full month of Minnesota artist Laura Youngbird’s *Manifestation* exhibit. Native American dislocation and white migration westward is the topic of the exhibit, which is programmed as an alternative understanding of the concept of Manifest Destiny. Paintings and prints included in the exhibit also reflect on the boarding school experiences of elders, treaty law machinations and intergenerational trauma that continue to be felt today.

*Manifestation* runs through April 3 on the second floor of the Hjemkomst Center.

Hina Dolls from Japan come to the Hjemkomst Center
It’s a chance to mark the Japanese celebration of Hina Matsuri at the Hjemkomst Center as the Northern Plains Botanic Garden Society presents the Hina Doll collection in the lower-level atrium of the Center. This one-of-a-kind collection contains dolls that are considered prize pieces for art collectors around the world.

The exhibit will be open to the public free of charge during building hours at the Hjemkomst Center from March 13 to March 28.

Talking Baseball with Jeff Bozovsky
Jeff Bozovsky has a passion for baseball, which led him to a colorful part of Red River Valley history. Long before the F-M Twins and RedHawks came the 1897 Red River Valley Baseball League, with colorful team names and even more colorful team members.

Jeff will read from his book and answer questions about the league beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, in front of the Hjemkomst in the Hjemkomst Center. The reading is free with museum admission.

FMVA BIG Art Show
At the Fargo-Moorhead Visual Artists (FMVA) exhibit, you’ll get a chance to see what local and regional artists are developing in their latest works. This annual multimedia exhibition has become a tradition at the Hjemkomst Center and provides an exciting view of what’s happening in the arts community.

Want to keep up with new event additions and schedule changes? You can find out about additions and changes by following our social media posts on Facebook and Twitter. Visit us at www.facebook.com/hcscct and www.twitter.com/HCSCC.
A Bartender’s Photo Album

By Markus Krueger

Wet and Dry: Alcohol in Clay County, 1871-1937 is HCSCC’s newest exhibit, exploring the debates over the morality of alcohol from our Wild West settlement, through our infamous Saloon Era, and through Prohibition. Although many of the following photos appear in the exhibit, the story of bartender Matt Wambach fell on the cutting room floor. These photos show how the Wet and Dry political battles affected real people.

Mathias “Matt” Wambach was a bartender, saloon owner, husband and father in Georgetown and Moorhead from the early 1900s until Clay County’s Prohibition in 1915. You know Matt’s great-grandson, Kelly Wambach, as the manager of our historical society’s Heritage Gift Shop and Rex Cafe at the Hjemkomst Center. Identifying the people in these photos has become an obsession of mine, so if readers recognize someone, please let me know by emailing markus.krueger@hcsmuseum.org.

Georgetown, about 1900-1910
Dora Zenk (far left) was one of Georgetown’s most sought-after beauties. Matt Wambach (second from left with his tongue sticking out) won her heart and they married on November 17, 1903. This photograph is proof that people really did smile and have fun in the “olden days.”

Exterior of the Palm Saloon, Georgetown, 1904-10
In the spring of 1904, Mathias Wambach and his brother-in-law Nick Zenk turned an old mechanic shop in Georgetown into the Palm Saloon. The signs on the corners advertise Golden Grain Belt Beer made by the Minneapolis Brewing Company (now brewed in New Ulm by August Schell Brewing Company). Matt and Dora’s first children were born in their apartment above the saloon.
Interior of the Palm Saloon, Georgetown, 1904-10
Matt Wambach is behind the bar on the left, so the other bartender is probably Nick Zenk. Judging by the appearance of the place, most of the money that Matt and Nick spent converting the mechanic shop into a saloon went into the beautiful wooden bar. The bar from the Palm Saloon survived in a local basement until the Flood of 1997.

Exterior of Diemert & Murphy Family Liquor Store, Moorhead, c. 1906
When North Dakota outlawed alcohol in 1890, all Fargo’s saloon business went across the river into Moorhead. Getting North Dakotans drunk became the principal business of Moorhead, and our county seat gained a reputation for being a corrupt and wicked city. When bartender William H. Diemert opened his own place in 1900, he had one of about 45 saloons in a town of less than 4,000 people.

That same year, Katherine Diemert (William's sister) married Joseph Wambach (Matt’s brother). Joseph Wambach would become Billy Diemert’s business manager, eventually bringing his brothers into the business with him. This photo taken by Moorhead photographer Ole Flaten appeared as an advertisement in a 1906 plat map of Cass County, ND, when W. H. Diemert was in a partnership with Thomas Murphy – the very same Thomas Murphy featured in Mark Peihl’s article this month.

Interior of W. H. Diemert Family Liquor Store, Moorhead, c. 1909-12
“Local Option” laws allowed voters in much of Clay County to make their communities Dry, but Moorhead and Barnesville were Wet strongholds. Elections and political maneuverings of the Drys continuously threatened to close Matt Wambach’s Georgetown saloon.

Around 1910, Matt Wambach sold the Palm Saloon and moved to Moorhead to work at W. H. Diemert’s Family Liquor Store with his brothers. Diemert’s was both a saloon and a liquor store that legally sold booze to North Dakotans by mail-order.

Matt is behind the bar on the left. A sign above them says that it is a “Union Bar worthy of the support of organized labor” suggesting the photo was taken after the Moorhead Bartender’s Union Local 365 was organized in September of 1909.
The New Palm Saloon, Moorhead, c. 1913
The Rex Hotel and Saloon was one of the worst dens of sin in a city known for sin. The building was owned by the Duluth Brewing and Malting Company and named “the Rex” after one of their beers. The Rex was repeatedly busted for being an illegal brothel (the red light district was about a mile east at the SE corner of Center Ave and 11th St.) until the city finally shut the Rex down.

Around 1913, Matt Wambach was brought in to reopen the closed saloon and take over the hotel. Matt, who is probably the man leaning on the bar, renamed the place the New Palm Saloon and the Wambach Hotel, but the names did not stick. Matt also remained a bartender at Diemert’s.

Under the ownership of Frank Magnus on during Prohibition, the Rex became Moorhead’s most frequently busted “blind pig” (our local name for “speakeasy”) and was the center of an illegal alcohol network that included most of Moorhead’s bootleggers and blind piggers. After Prohibition ended, it became the Rex Cafe.

Although the building is long gone and the streets have changed their courses, the Rex Hotel and the Hjemkomst Center happen to share an address: 202 1st Ave N. By coincidence, Matt Wambach and his great-grandson Kelly work at the same address a century apart from each other! Last month we decided to rename the museum’s Snack Shack the Rex Cafe.

W. H. Diemert & Co. Wholesale Liquor and Cigars, c. 1914-15
Judging by the age of Matt’s young son, Roland, who is pretending to smoke a cigarette for the camera, this photo was taken about 1914-15. Matt is sitting on the far left, drinking a Rex brand beer.

A few years before 1915, W. H. Diemert tore down his old saloon and built a bigger new place, where this photo appears to be taken. The others at the table may be Wambach brothers (Joseph, Ali, and Nick worked there) and perhaps W. H. Diemert on the far right.

The four Wambach brothers were among 18 Moorheadians working at W. H. Diemert & Co. in 1915. Before the year was out, all of them would need new jobs. The people of Clay County voted to outlaw alcohol, and W. H. Diemert & Co. closed along with all of Moorhead’s saloons on June 30, 1915.

See the new exhibit to read about how a grown-up Roland Wambach helped feed his family during the Great Depression by allowing their farm to be a warehouse for rum runners. Meanwhile, this building became a cigar shop run by Adolph Skalin, who continued to sell alcohol here during Prohibition.
Loff and Stach’s Saloon,  
Barnesville, November 20, 1915

This photo depicts the last night of the last saloon in Clay County. On May 17, 1915, a county-wide vote made alcohol illegal in Clay County. Moorhead saloons closed with fanfare and fireworks on June 30 but Barnesville’s saloons had a few months left on their liquor licenses. Matt Wambach was a bartender serving drinks at the last last call in Clay County on November 20. The place is packed, wall to wall, with sad drunk men. This saloon is now home to the Barnesville Record-Review.

Diemert’s Liquor Store, Moorhead, 1933, is Rustica Eatery and Tavern today

Eighteen years after Clay County went Dry, the U. S. Congress took the first step in repealing Prohibition. They voted that on April 7, 1933, beer with 3.2% alcohol or less would be legal to sell once again. William H. Diemert quit his job as a wholesale grocery salesman and was one of the recipients of Moorhead’s original 30 beer licenses. North Dakota was still Dry, so people flocked to Moorhead on April 7.

Of all the bars that opened in Moorhead on April 7, the old Diemert’s is the only place still serving beer. Diemert’s became Kirby’s, then John Alexanders, and today it is Rustica Eatery and Tavern.

Matt Wambach died in 1935, but his younger brothers went back into the bar business as soon as alcohol was legal again. Nick Wambach managed Diemert’s into the 1950s and Ali Wambach turned the Sabin State Bank into the Crow Bar in 1937.
Crowdsourcing Hawley History

Many of us have had those moments when we find a stack of photos and wonder about the names, events and places pictured. For Hawley, Minn., residents, they’ll have that opportunity to wonder, but also to help those pictures tell a story with a new Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County (HCSCC) project.

HCSCC Archivist Mark Peihl says that, years ago, the Society received hundreds of pictures from the Hawley Herald. Those photos had run in the paper from the 1950s into the 1980s, but few of them have any identification.

Petra Gunderson, a Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) student who works in the HCSCC archives, selected several hundred pictures, photocopied them and placed them in binders. Now the plan is to deliver the binders to the Hawley Senior Citizen Center and start finding out who or what is pictured in the photos.

“In the 1980s we did something similar with our collection of studio portraits by Hawley photographer S. P. Wange,” Peihl explains. “Those photos dated from the 1890s to the 1930s, and Hawley area folks identified about 20 percent of those we displayed. Now we hope they can help us put identifications on 50 percent or more of these photos.”

To help with identification, seniors will be encouraged to write on the photocopies, drawing circles and arrows where needed to help clear up the people, places and events that are pictured. The images will stay at the senior center for three weeks; then they will be moved to the Hawley Library April 1, so the general public can join in on the identification process for the following two weeks.

“Having identifications will make these photos much more valuable for the history of Hawley and Clay County,” Peihl says. “It’s a great way to get the community more involved in its past.”

Do you know who these ladies are?
Spring Fun in St. Paul

May 6-7, 2016

Make plans to join us Friday, May 6, for an overnight trip to the Twin Cities to take in a lot of culture while leaving the driving to the professionals.

We’ll leave from the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead on our deluxe tour bus at 8 a.m. After a quick coffee stop in Alexandria, we’ll continue on to St. Paul, taking time for a lunch stop before heading to the Science Museum of Minnesota. It is a veritable beehive of excitement with fascinating exhibits and activities throughout the building, with the Museum’s new exhibit, Race: Are We So Different?, being of special interest.

We’ll check into our hotel mid-afternoon to freshen up before tackling the Festival of Nations at RiverCentre. Festival of Nations has celebrated Minnesota’s diverse cultural heritage for more than 80 years, showcasing the colorful uniqueness of over 100 different cultures in a variety of performances, foods, exhibits and activities. You’ll be able to spend the entire evening taking in as many cultures as you can at this amazing event.

After a good night’s sleep, we’ll visit the Cathedral of St. Paul before we head to the Minnesota History Center. Exhibits abound, but don’t miss the history of Minnesota laid out in, Here, Now, Wow! Grab lunch on site before our early afternoon departure for home.

But that’s not the end of the tour. We’ll be making a stop at Collegeville to visit the impressive St. John’s Abbey Church designed by Marcel Breuer before our final leg of the trip back to Moorhead. It’s a lot to pack into 36 hours, but that’s part of the fun!

To make this trip possible, we need at least 20 reservations by April 5, so let us know.
right away if you are interested. This trip is the perfect short get-away (or Mother’s Day weekend gift), so feel free to invite friends and family. Once we receive your registration, we’ll provide a more detailed itinerary.

**HCS Members-only Special Rates***
- Quad (four sharing one room with two queen-size beds) $172 per person
- Triple (three sharing one room with two queen-size beds) $186 per person
- Double (two in one room with two queen-size beds) $215 per person
- Single $299

*Non-members will have to join at a Basic or higher membership level before taking part in this tour. These rates reflect actual costs for museum and festival admission, motor coach transportation and driver, and hotel rooms in St. Paul. Meals are not included.

Email Matt.Eidem@HCSmuseum.org or call 218.299.5511, Ext. 6737 to let us know you are interested. Final payment will reserve your seat. Refunds are available up to one week prior to departure.

**Friday, May 6**
- Depart from Hjemkomst Center @ 8 a.m.
- Coffee stop in Alexandria
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- Hotel check-in
- Festival of Nations

**Saturday, May 7**
- Checkout and depart hotel
- Cathedral of St. Paul
- Minnesota History Center
- Collegeville, St. John’s Abbey Church
- Return to Hjemkomst Center
THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATED IN 2015

While members are the backbone of the Society, we also would like to recognize those who donate. Reasons for donations can be to support a particular exhibit or aspect of the Society, support day-to-day operations and maintenance, add to our endowment or memorialize people in the donors’ lives.

Each year, we ask for your help, and we receive a great response from members, non-members, clubs and businesses. Each donation is important to continuing our mission, and we could not do it without you. For your generosity, we are extremely grateful.

$5,000 – $9,999
Bell State Bank and Trust

$1,000 – $4,999
Fargo Lions Club
Gate City Bank
Moorhead Rotary
West Acres Development LLP

$500 – $999
Shawn and Gail Blair
Paul Diederich/Industrial Builders
Heartland Trust Co.
William C. and Jane B. Marcil Charitable Foundation
Moorhead Midday Central Lions
Red River Watercolor Society
James Saueressig
Dr. Kenneth R. Skjegstad
Chris and Ellen Velline

$100-$499
Jack and Sue Arneson
Roger and Betty Anda
Col. Milton Arneson
Lynn and Dee Brakke
Duane and Virginia Brandt
City of Barnesville
Clay County Connection
Clay/Wilkin Corn & Soybean Growers
Yvonne C. Condell
Hans C. and Mary Pfeifer Dahl
Dilworth Loco Ladies Lions Club
John and Terry Dobmeier
Fargo Golden K Kiwanis
Vijay and Anu Gaba
Graham and Madrene Goeson
Tom and Mary Hanaher
James and Mary Hastings
Dennis and Kris Herbranson
Bob Hillier
Irene Hogan
Ken and Jeanette Just
Audrey and Richard Kloubec
Morrie and Ruthie Lanning
Gloria and David Lee
Darlene Mahlum
Andrea McCready
Richard McMurray
 Mickelson Body Shop
Monica and Tom Millette
Larry and Gail Nelson
Marc and Shirley Nokken
Bob and JoAnn Nyquist
Oberg Family Farms
Elsie Peterson
Joyce and Tom Pettinger
Ron Ramsey and Peter Vandervort
Steve and Jade Rosenfeldt
Jennifer and Brian Tjaden
Township of Eglon
Township of Elkton
Valley Premier Bank
VFW Wanamingo
David and Rhoda Viker
Marrion Walsh
Don and Dianne Westrum
Tom and Diane Wray Williams
Women of ELCA
Women’s Guild St. James
United Church

UP TO $100
Rose and Donald Andersen
Selma Anderson
Rod and Audrey Angstman
Rolaine Askegaard
Les Bakke and Bev Lake
Darrel Barth
Delores Bekkerus
Russ and Lois Bekkerus
Joel Belgum
Rose and Gary Bergan
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Milly and Alden Bevre
Bette Blair
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Fine Arts Club Arts Section
Mary Ann French
Esther Garrity
Dorothy Garven
Mae Gee
Robert Gerke and Darlene Fisher
IN HONOR
Clair E. and Ardith L. “Ardy” Peterson in honor of their children:
• Chad Alan Peterson
• Connie Ann (Peterson) Weideman
• Charles Anthony Peterson
• Candace Adair (Peterson) Peterson

IN MEMORIAM
Andrea Bentrud
• In memory of Floyd Lecy

Tania Blanich
• In memory of Duane Mickelson and Dwight Williams

Ione Diiro
• In memory of Marion Gee

Martin and Maureen Kelly Jonason
• In memory of Bjarne Berg, Al Traaseth, Floyd Lecy, and Mavis Frederickson

Bob and Helen Olson
• In memory of Amy Johnson

Lola Ruff
• In memory of Dale Ruff

Dale D. White
• In memory of Al Traaseth

THE SAINT JOHN’S BIBLE EXHIBIT 2017
Fargo First Presbyterian Church Women
John and Anne Kaese
Carol Knodle
Wendy Ward

BERGQUIST CABIN FUND
Jim and Jane Eastes Bergquist
Karol Kay and J. Neil Rood
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Roseileen Gillin-Alder
Kirk and Kathy Watt
November-December 2015 Donors & Donations to HCSCC Collection

We'd like to thank each of our donors for their generous contributions to our collection.

Clearwater County Historical Society, Shevlin, Minn.
• School souvenir booklet, School District 32, Felton, Minn., Ida J. Erickson teacher, 1913

Greater Moorhead Development Corp., Moorhead
• Nine boxes, records, Greater Moorhead Development Corp., circa 1955-2013

Kandiyohi County Historical Society, Willmar, Minn.
• Telephone directory, Barnesville, Minn., Municipal Telephone Co., 1965, and promotional pamphlet published by Chamber of Commerce of Barnesville

Eileen Manning Michels, Falcon Heights, Minn.
• Singer sewing machine information circa 1938, cloth dolls, children’s jeans and shoes, archival material, two books, yarn, double-ended ink pen

Laurine Muhle, Moorhead
• High school girls basketball uniform and other clothing worn by donor’s children

Ilene Neirby, Moorhead
• Two volumes, School District No. 114 East, Baker, Minn., records, circa 1912-1923; photographs, Ole Omundson family, Averill, Minn.; pressure cooker, circa 1930s, used by donor and donor’s mother-in-law

Lowell Nelson, Hendricks, Minn.
• Concordia College freshman beanie, circa 1972, Class of 1976

Gary L. Schulz, Moorhead
• Photographs of Mike and Blondie Hollsten (Averill store owners) and Mel Eidsmoe orchestra, and cleaning cloth, giveaway from Averill Store, circa 1950s

Dale White, Moorhead
• VHS cassette tape, Hitterdal, Minn., High School graduation 1952 & 1953, filmed by Roy Westling, Principal

Marlis Ziegler, Moorhead
• Minutes book of West Buffalo Homemakers Club, Georgetown, Minn., 1964-1970

Donation Spotlight: Two Cloth Dolls Added to HCSCC Collection

These two cloth dolls were contributed to the Society collection by Eileen Manning Michels of Falcon Heights, Minn., as part of a larger contribution.

Both dolls were made specifically for Eileen in the 1920s by Agnes Manning. They are in remarkable shape and were clearly cared for very well. We’d like to thank Eileen for her contribution to our collection.

If you’d like to contribute to the HCSCC collection, contact Lisa Vedaa, the collections curator at 218.299.5511 or by email at lisa.vedaa@hcsmuseum.org.
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Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County  
PO Box 157 • 202 First Avenue North  
Moorhead, MN 56561-0157

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

The Rex Returns!

Don’t you think the spring is a great time for a change? We do too! The warm winds of change are blowing at the Hjemkomst Center as our beloved Snack Shack is now the Rex Cafe, named after the historic cafe that once sat on the same site.

Now, we may have a new name, but we still have the same great taste with Kelly Wambach still running the grill. Come get your lunch or coffee fix at the Rex Cafe from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. We hope to see you soon!

From its original home (left) to its days as one of Moorhead’s top restaurants (above), we’re pleased to continue the legacy of the Rex.