

The Hourglass



2015 Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2015
at the Hjemkomst Center, 6pm

Scenes in and Around Moorhead

A collection of
film by Dr. Edward
Humphrey from 1917



Tickets: \$16 for members
\$20 for non-members
Please RSVP by April 28.
More details on page 10.



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Our thanks to the Moorhead City Council and Clay
County Commission for their continued support.

HCSCC News

New and Exciting Staff Updates

Welcome to HCS!

We are welcoming our new Project Archivist, **Matt Eidem**! He was hired to work with HCS for the next 18 months organizing manuscript collections, paper records, documents, letters, scrap books, newspapers, pamphlets, maps, posters, photographs, tapes, films, disks, genealogical and related ephemera, and other relevant print or electronic material of an archival nature that reflects primarily Clay County, MN history. This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Chelsey Quiring is joining HCS for a special internship research project. She will be surveying settlement-era buildings and remnants in Clay, Becker and Norman Counties, MN.

New Roles at HCS!

We are excited to announce that **Markus Krueger** is now taking on the role as Education Coordinator, focusing more on educational programming, research and group tours.

Angela Beaton our Administrative Assistant has added the role of Volunteer Service Coordination, and is excited to work with our many fabulous volunteers.

www.facebook.com/hcsc



Please Send us Your Addresses!

Are you going away for the winter or coming back for the summer? Please send your alternate address to Angela.Beaton@HCSmuseum.org to make sure you're receiving all the up-to-date information from the HCSCC!

Letter from the Board President

Gloria Lee



How time flies. It has been two years since I was elected president of HCS and this will be my last message to you. I have served on the board of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County since the merger of the Clay County Historical Society and the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center in 2009. The vision the board had at the merger of the two organizations has created a premier showcase for the history and cultural heritage of the entire Fargo-Moorhead area and surrounding Clay and Cass counties. Fear of difficulties in the blending of the two organizations never materialized, and HCS has flourished with the combined expertise of the two groups. It has been an enjoyable and interesting experience to be part of the decision-making process. Under the leadership of our executive director, Maureen Kelly Jonason, and a dedicated, talented staff, the quality of our feature exhibits has been exceptional and award winning. Many of the smaller exhibits that are on display for a limited time offer interesting glimpses into our past. Talented local artists, as well as artists from throughout the country, can exhibit their work showcasing a wide variety of media at various shows throughout the year.

We continue to receive excellent comments from educators who bring their students to view our exhibits. Seeing artifacts and hearing the stories of local residents makes the history young people are studying in the classroom come alive. Our archivist, Mark Peihl, regularly aids people in their research in our extensive library of documents as they search for knowledge of family roots and historical data. Beyond serving the approximately half million residents who live within a hundred-mile radius of Fargo-Moorhead, we also receive visitors from many states and numerous countries of the world, enhancing their visit to our area.

The culture of our area continues to grow. Two of our major festivals recognize the European-Scandinavian cultures of early settlers, but we continue to reach out to the newer Americans. Being a part of Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures helps me experience the richness and diversity of the customs, foods and traditions more recent immigrants bring to our area. Our Native American cultures are also recognized at Pangea, but in the future we are hoping to have a permanent exhibit that tells the geological story of the Red River Valley and an expanded story of the Red River Native Americans. This exhibit would lead into the earliest settlers and people of vision who came to this foreign place and saw the potential for success in their farms, communities and cities. As a result of their successes and sacrifices, we have been the beneficiaries of their diligence and hard work. We can be proud to have a heritage here; we continue to have visionary people in our midst who are expanding the industrial, agricultural, technological, business, medical and educational opportunities in our community.

The history of our area intrigues me. Serving as a board member of HCS is a perfect fit. I am continually expanding my knowledge of our area, and helping determine the strategic plans for the future of the museum is exciting. I am doing my part to preserve the history and culture of the area by belonging to an organization that is successful in its mission. We need diversity in the skills, talents and interests that people bring to the HCS board. If you would like to learn more about becoming a board member, please contact Maureen Kelly Jonason, our executive director, at the Hjemkomst Center. During the spring and summer of 2015, I hope all of our members can visit the museum or attend an HCS event at the Hjemkomst Center.

From the Executive Director . . .

Maureen Kelly Jonason



Excitement is in the air! And not the least of which is because we anticipate no flood this spring! But even better, we have many exciting projects in the coming year.

First, join the staff and board in welcoming Chelsey Quiring, an MSUM archaeology student graduating in May, who will work for HCS until next December, paid for by a Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) grant. Under the guidance of NDSU Extension Service Forester and professor Dr. Joe Zeleznik, Quiring will be going out into the County to conduct a “settlement-era log structure survey.” First, Quiring will conduct primary research in the Clay County Archive under Mark Peihl’s direction to learn more about the property and builders of the structures before contacting property owners to conduct site visits. Already aware of 19 such structures in Clay County, Zeleznik will train Chelsea how to take samples from the logs in order to perform dendrochronology dating of them, unless a property owner chooses not to allow sampling. Quiring will continue her research into parts of Becker and Norman Counties as well, for she is focused on only burr oak structures.

Next, we have also been blessed with another MHS grant to fund a year-and-a-half long project to arrange, catalogue, and put on to Past Perfect 5.0 software the entire Clay County Archive. Matt Eidem, a 2007 Concordia College history graduate who went on to complete a master’s degree in archival studies, joins us March 2 from Louisville, KY, as a temporary Project Archivist to complete the job before June 1, 2016. His wife works for US Bank, headquartered in Minneapolis. Both are from Minnesota and were interested in returning to the state; this opportunity has worked out well for everyone!

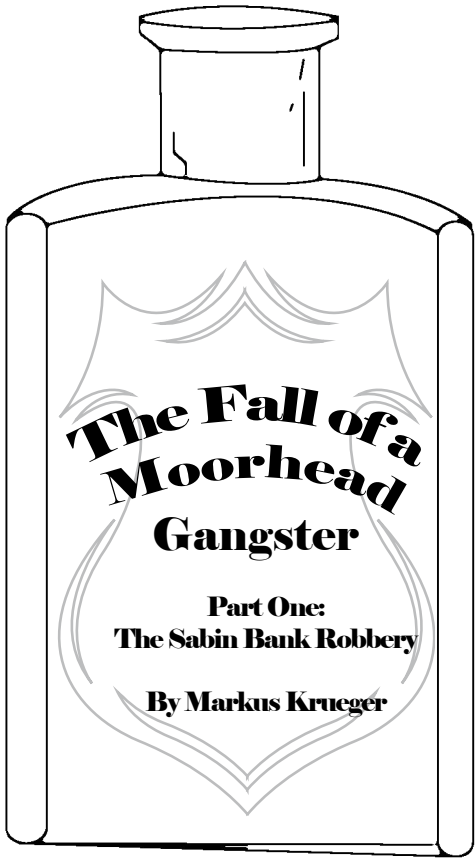
Of course, grants help us with projects and we are fortunate to be eligible for both arts and heritage

grants from both MN and (a few) from ND. But it is your donations that make so much of our work possible. Through donations in 2015, you will help to

- Preserve, interpret, and share the cultural heritage of regional residents with three arts festivals: Midwest Viking Festival, German Culture Day, and Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures.
- Reorganize Main Storage with a lot of re-housing of artifacts.
- Rebuild the District 3 Schoolhouse bell tower and finish up the painting.
- Repair the holes in the Bergquist Cabin and assist with graffiti removal.
- Research, write, build, and install a new Clay County exhibit focused on alcohol (Wet and Dry due to open in Jan. 2016).
- Pay the deposits on rental fees for future traveling exhibits.
- Pay for important expenses such as storage supplies, staples, scissors, stamps, and salaries!

This issue is dedicated to all our many generous 2014 donors, from large corporations to kind friends who remember others with memorials or who think about adding to our endowment fund. We thank you most sincerely for all that you give so that we can continue to contribute to a more vibrant regional community.

Our apologies to Marg Kuenn, eldest daughter of Robert Asp, whose name was inadvertently left off of the 2014 membership list. Thanks, Marg, for calling this error to our attention! We appreciate all our members and never want to miss listing any of them!



The Crow Bar in Sabin is full of history. It is one of Clay County’s oldest bars, and it has amazing old woodwork that probably dates all the way back to when Ali and Stella Wambach turned this building into a tavern in 1937. The Crow Bar is also the scene of one of the most sensational crimes in local history. On December 29, 1931, this bar was the Sabin State Bank, and it was robbed by Jake Schumacher’s gang. Jake thought he had it all figured out – rob a bank, get the money, frame his gangster enemy, and reclaim his title of *Moorhead’s Beer Baron* – but he was crazy to think it would work. When Jake betrayed his own gang, they testified against him in court, and it was standing-room-only in the Clay County Courthouse as people watched Moorhead’s two gangs destroy each other from the witness stand.

By combining the accounts and testimonies made by several local criminals, witnesses, law enforcement officials and legal professionals, we get a true story that reads like an exciting 1930s crime caper movie. The information in this story comes from almost daily articles in the local newspapers following the robbery and subsequent trials (mostly from December of 1931 through February of 1932). It also comes from Jacob Schumacher’s prison and parole files obtained from the Minnesota Historical

Society. This article is an attempt to make sense of the conflicting stories, to separate the true confessions from the lies, but this is a difficult task to be sure. As Sheriff Archie Whaley said of this case, “*These fellows have told so many stories that we have found to be lies that we can’t believe anything that they say anymore.*” To be honest, I’m not even sure if we can trust the sheriff.

The Schumachers

Jake Schumacher was born in 1893, the oldest of six sons and three daughters born to Charlie and Anna Schumacher. He was named after his mother’s father, Jacob Weidenbacher, a saloon man and liquor wholesaler in Iowa. As a teenager, Jake learned the family business – meat cutting – from his Bavarian-born father. Jake left home at 18 to work as a meat cutter in Winnipeg, Kansas City, and Saint Paul, getting married to Nina Nelson along the way. Meanwhile, Clay County voted to outlaw alcohol in 1915, and the whole country followed our lead when the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States went into effect in 1920. Butcher Charlie Schumacher realized he could make more money selling beer than selling beef. The Schumacher family started what we would now call an “alcohol distribution company,” but was then known as “criminal rum-running.” In 1924, at the age of 31, Jake moved back to Moorhead and his father taught him the new family business. Jake became a rum-runner.

Prohibition was put in place by people who believed alcohol was the root of almost all crime, poverty and other social ills. Banning alcohol, they thought, would solve most of the nation’s problems. Prohibition, however, ended up creating a national crime wave. People simply did not stop drinking. People who sipped a beer on a summer afternoon or toasted champagne at a wedding were now criminals. These *scofflaws* (a word invented to describe people who ignored Prohibition) bought their booze from *bootleggers* (so-named for concealing liquor in their boots). Scofflaws drank at legitimate businesses that secretly sold alcohol under the table called “Speak Easies” or “Blind Pigs” (both mean the same thing, but we usually called them Blind Pigs around here).

*continued on page 6

Many farmers, impoverished by poor crop prices in the 1920s and the Great Depression, made extra money by distilling their own moonshine or turning their buildings into secret booze warehouses. “Rum runners” like the Schumacher family brought shipments of booze into town to supply the blind piggers and bootleggers. The Schumachers specialized in quality, legally-made Canadian whiskey and beer.

Charlie and Anna Schumacher’s home at 521 9th St. North Moorhead was a place where people went to drink and a warehouse for hiding liquor smuggled into town. The Schumachers were not the only rum-runners in the area (far from it!), but they were important, notorious, and colorful. Jake’s younger sister Celeste, known as Babe Schumacher, was said to have her car outfitted with hidden tanks in the wheel wells for hiding liquor. The Schumacher house was frequently raided, and several family members did short prison terms, but they kept selling liquor as long as there were laws against it.

Jake Schumacher and wife Nina rented their own place at 322 2nd Ave N, Moorhead, which sits about where ParkView Terrace apartment complex is today. Jake was part of his family’s rum-running operation. Nina drove out to meet booze-filled Canadian airplanes landing in the remote countryside of northern Minnesota. But as the years went on, Jake became increasingly involved in other crimes and his home became a center for criminal activity in Fargo-Moorhead. He formed a gang. The members of this gang lived in his house’s six apartment rooms. Each man had a key to his own room, and Jake had keys to every room. Gangsterism was spreading across America in the 1930s. With Jake Schumacher, gangsterism was beginning to sprout in Moorhead.

Clay County Commissioner James M. Witherow explained Jake’s way of working in a Feb. 13, 1932, article in the *Moorhead Daily News*. “*The methods of Jacob Schumacher were peculiar to the gangster leader who always likes to send somebody else of comparatively innocent experience ‘up against the blaze,’ while the real planner and originator of the crime remains in the background and rakes in the major share of the profits. It is fundamental that you can not have a school for crime in a neighborhood without graduating some criminals.*”

Jake Schumacher was at the top of his game in 1930. He bought a brand new *Stutz* sedan and a \$1,750 diamond ring for his wife Nina. His furniture, he boasted later to a prison psychiatrist, was worth \$8,000 (about \$125k in today’s money) and he had just as much spending money at home. But things started going out of control for Jake. As his success grew, so did his crimes. He was always a nervous fellow, and as his crimes increased, he became paranoid, violent, and mentally unhinged. In 1931, Jake Schumacher’s personal and professional life all came crashing down.

His troubles started in January when he got busted for his involvement in what prohibition agents called “*the biggest U.S. –Canadian liquor smuggling conspiracy uncovered in the north-west in years.*” (*Moorhead Daily News*, January 31, 1931). The crime in question was probably little different than his other smuggling runs, except for the fact that the Feds caught him. It began when John Lanthier of Rainy River, Ontario, crossed into Minnesota with about 300 bottles of Canadian whiskey. Lanthier took the whiskey about 15 miles through the woods to the farm of Helge Palmquist of Spooner, MN. Jake Schumacher met Palmquist at Upper Red Lake, bought the whiskey, and sold it to some other guys. Those guys got busted in Minneapolis with three carloads of Canadian whiskey valued at \$50,000 (about three quarters of a million dollars today!). Countless trips like this across the border allowed men like Jake Schumacher to keep not just our community but much of the country well supplied with quality, name-brand Canadian whiskey and beer.

While waiting for his trial date, Jake’s mother Anna died. Then he found out his wife of 19 years was having an affair with a former cop. When he saw the man walking down 4th Street in Moorhead on March 27, Jake ran to his nearby car, grabbed a sawed off shotgun and jabbed it in the ribs of his wife’s lover. The man and another bystander were able to wrestle the gun from Jake. Jake got off with a fine, but his relationship with his wife did not recover and they separated seven months later. “*He states that he was sorry that he didn’t kill that guy,*” wrote the Stillwater prison psychiatrist in Jake’s prison file years later.

Jake Schumacher served five months in the Becker

County Jail for his involvement in the Rainy River smuggling case. He had already done 30 days in the Clay County Jail for liquor offenses in both 1924 and 1926, but his incarceration in Detroit Lakes led to a downward spiral in his career, because it was there that he met and befriended fellow inmate Walter McGavin. The two convicts talked about robbing banks when they got out and passed the time in their jail cells defending themselves in mock trials. When McGavin got out in October, he came to Moorhead because Jake offered him a job. It turns out that the job McGavin had in mind was Jake’s. We don’t know the specifics of the struggle for power. All we know is that Walter McGavin took over Jake Schumacher’s house on December 1 of 1931. McGavin took Jake’s house keys and gave Jake a key to one room. Jake’s gang turned into “Mac’s Gang.”

The Plan

After losing leadership in his own gang, Jake Schumacher got to work forming a new gang with the idea of robbing banks in Hawley and Sabin. Sam Abes (aka “Black Sam,” aka “the Fargo Possum”), a shoe shiner and member of Fargo’s criminal community, told this story of meeting Jake at his apartment in a kind of job interview: “*I shook hands with Schumacher and then he opened a dresser drawer. It was half full of shells, guns and revolvers. Then he opened a closet door and got out a rifle and tried it out. There were lots of other guns in the closet.*” Arkansas Bob, in his late 20s, was another member of the gang, as was 21-year-old Zach Lemon from Ponsford, MN. Like Walter McGavin, Lemon met Jake in the Becker County Jail, where he served some time for getting into a fist fight at a party. The gang’s driver was Pat McLeary, who had just arrived in town half-frozen by hopping on a freight train. Others came and went, some from Jake’s old gang. Ed Redman, the final member of the gang, said that Jake recruited his new gang so that nobody knew each other.



The scene of the crime! The Crow Bar was the Sabin State Bank in 1931.

They planned to rob the Hawley bank first, and according to Sam Abes, they went out to Hawley between three and five times to do the job but they always had cold feet and came back home. Zach Lemon testified in court that one of the reasons they had cold feet was that some in the gang suspected Jake Schumacher of plotting to betray them. His gang was right. Testimony in court shows Jake was, for some reason, informing the Sheriff’s department about bank robberies. Roy Wicker remembers being a kid in Hawley at this time, seeing police officers on rooftops looking down at the bank waiting for Jake.

“*Every kid in town knew he was coming,*” Wicker recalled, “*and of course he didn’t show up.*” Abes recalled Jake being furious after the robbers came home empty handed once again, telling them, “*We have to do everything right. The first false move anybody makes I’m going to plug him. I’m putting this on, paying the gas and oil and we have to do something.*” Jake was getting impatient.

On December 21, 1931, the gang drove out to Hawley but once again came home to Moorhead after deciding against the robbery. The gang’s driver, Pat McLeary, did not return to Jake’s apartment but instead took

a girl driving in one of Jake’s cars. Jake ordered Zach Lemon to drive him around town to search for his missing man in his missing car. Jake spotted McLeary around 11th Street and 1st Ave N in Moorhead. Schumacher took out his pistol and pumped five shots into the car being driven by McLeary, causing him to lose control and plow into a snowbank. Jake Schumacher leapt from his car, ran up to McLeary, and beat his face bloody with the butt of his revolver while calling him a “double crosser.” McLeary went to the hospital and Jake was arrested for 2nd degree assault.

*continued on page 8

As Jake paid his \$1000 bond to get out of jail, he was bold enough to tell the court commissioner, “*Any man who works for me has to have a penitentiary record so if anything happens he will take the rap.*” Jake told the police that McLeary stole his car, and his actions were justified to get it back. Lemon, Jake’s driver in his search that day, later told the authorities that Jake assaulted McLeary as a message to the rest of the gang that they better stop having cold feet and start robbing banks.

Three days before the Sabin State Bank robbery, they recruited one last member, a 48-year-old boilermaker from Saint Paul named Ed Redman. His arrest record went back 20 years and included grand larceny, burglary, and carrying concealed weapons. “*Jake mentioned a bank holdup and said he wanted four or five men. I told him I didn’t like that kind of thing,*” Redman would testify, although he was lying about one part of that statement. He had just robbed the Park River Bank a month before. “*Jake kept insisting that I go with them. He said I was a good man for the job. Then he got us all drunk. Jake said, ‘the man who backs out now knows too much and he’ll either get slugged or I’ll give him what McLeary got.’ I didn’t want to get killed so I went with them. Jake furnished the gas, car, guns and everything.*”

The gang was assembled and the plan was set. Sam Abes, Ed Redman, and Arkansas Bob would rob the bank while Zach Lemon stayed behind the wheel



Jake Schumacher’s Minnesota State Prison mugshot in 1944. Courtesy Minnesota Historical Society.

in the getaway car. When they got the money, they would speed away to meet Jake Schumacher on a country road southeast of Sabin. They would ditch the old car, get into Jake’s car, and all go back to Moorhead together to divide the loot. According to Redman, on the night of December 28, Jake told them, “*Boys, I guess we’re all set. Let’s do the job. We’ve got to do the job. You don’t have to worry about the law around here. I am the law. We’ll stay in this room tonight. Nobody is going out of here.*”

The Robbery

At about 2:30 pm on December 29, Ed Redman, Arkansas Bob, and Sam Abes entered the Sabin State Bank. They forced cashier George Carlson into the vault at gunpoint, stuffed \$2,500 in bills, silver, and bonds into a flour sack, and locked Carlson inside. Across the street, farmer Richard Johnk saw the men come out of the bank, their faces covered by their jacket collars, and get into a stolen Chrysler with Zach Lemon behind the wheel. Arkansas Bob jumped in the front seat. “*Drive like Hell!*”, he told Lemon. Redman knocked out the back window with his gun and threw tacks on the road behind them to puncture the tires of anyone who followed. As Redman threw the tacks, Abes secretly reached his hand into the flour sack and snatched a few hundred bucks. Witness Richard Johnk ran into the Scheel’s hardware store (yes, the original Scheel’s store in Sabin), yelled out that the bank was being robbed, and asked the clerk for a gun. Too late. The car was gone, but Johnk wrote down the license plate number.

The bandits sped a mile south and a mile and a half east to rendezvous with Jake Schumacher, but he wasn’t there. They waited impatiently until they realized Jake wasn’t coming. “*Drive north,*” Arkansas Bob furiously ordered Lemon. “*Cross the highway the first chance you get – they’ll be watching it.*” The four abandoned the car at the Obert Tweeten farm and walked along the Buffalo River towards Moorhead. Arkansas Bob punched a hole in the ice with the butt of his rifle and threw his jacket into the river to prevent any witnesses from identifying him. Abes testified later that Redman wanted to kill Lemon and hide his body under the ice, too. Did he want a bigger share of the loot? Was he afraid of the kid talking? Somehow Redman was persuaded against killing the kid. Arkansas Bob and Redman

took turns holding the money. Cold, confused, and betrayed, Arkansas Bob said that when they got back into town he was going to find Jake Schumacher and kill him.

All four men made their way west through the snow to Moorhead that night. Abes went home to Fargo, but the other three – Arkansas Bob, Redman, and Lemon – arrived at Eva Manypenny’s boarding house at 19 4th Ave S. around 11pm. Even though the robbery did not go according to plan, and no one knew what Jake Schumacher was up to, the three did still have a lot of money and they were in a mood to celebrate. Eva Manypenny’s boarders, George Rea, Joe Rueda, and Joe Martinez, came downstairs to find a drinking party. The robbers gave Rea and Martinez \$500 in liberty bonds. The two men later told the court that they burned the bonds as soon as they realized they were involved in the bank robbery.

Where was Jake Schumacher the day of the robbery?



HCSCC Members-Only Tour*

A Day in Dakota - \$95 per person

Three historic sites in one day! All in a comfortable, air-conditioned motor coach.

Ronald Reagan Missile Site
Carl Ben Eielson Home
Pembina Museum

Let’s depart the Hjerkomst Center parking lot bright and early on Sat. Aug. 23 for our day of adventure. We’ll snooze or enjoy the rural scenery as we make our way to Cooperstown to visit the Ronald Regan Missile Site and learn about North Dakota’s important role in the Cold War. We’ll enjoy a tasty box lunch on our drive up to Hatton to tour the beautiful Victorian boyhood home of aviator Carl Ben Eielson. Then it’s on to Pembina to tour the museum and enjoy the view from the tower before heading back home, stopping in Grand Forks for a quick bite at McDonald’s. All in all, our history-filled day will be educational and fun.

*Saturday, August 23- Departs 8am and Returns around 10pm
Full payment reserves your seat. Deadline to reserve and pay is July 22 . Fare includes tour director, bus transportation and driver (driver tips at your discretion), admission to all sites, lunch. Full refund if cancelled by one week before departure.
*You must be a member of HCSCC to go on the tour. Individual membership is \$40 per year.
Contact Jeff Swenson for the complete itinerary: 218-299-5511 Ext. 6737 or
jeff.swenson@HCSmuseum.org (please leave a message with your name and phone number).*



HCSCC Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2015 6pm
Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, MN

Tickets: \$16 for members(at cost) \$20 for non-members

Join HCS for our 2015 Annual Meeting at the Hjemkomst Center on May 7. The evening will begin at 6pm with lively music, a buffet-style dinner with menu by our own Kelly Wambach. Stay for the Annual Meeting at 7pm. The presentation this year includes some rarely seen footage of early Moorhead from 1917 shot by Dr. Edward Humphrey, presented by Mark Peihl.

Menu by Kelly Wambach

Bloody Mary Aspic

Minted Peas and Asparagus Tips

Garlic and Spring Onion Mashed Potatoes

BBQ Pineapple Chicken Breast

Stuffed Loin of Pork
with Parsley and Peppercorn Sauce

Homemade Angel Food Cake
with Strawberry and Rhubarb Sauce

Please RSVP by April 28.
send payments to reserve your seat to
Jeff Swenson
218-299-5511 ext 6737
Jeff.Swenson@HCSmuseum.org

During WWII, Americans were asked to turn their lawns to gardens to help feed our families. One in three veggies grown America in 1943 came from someone's "Victory Garden." This year, remember the sacrifices of your loved ones who lived through WWII by planting an edible Victory Garden of any size.

Register Your Victory Garden Today!
<http://www.hcscconline.org/victory-garden-registration/>

You will receive 2 free tickets to the *Doing Our Part: Clay County in WWII* exhibit, and a free reproduction Victory Garden poster from the Heritage Gift Shop.



Featured Exhibits

Doing Our Part: Clay County In WWII Now through December 30, 2015

When the United States went to war in WWII, all citizens pitched in to do their part to win the war; Clay County was no exception. This exhibit tells the stories of the men, women, and children of Clay County who were affected by the war and how it changed the fabric of everyday life.

Bloch

Now through March 10, 2015

Visitors are welcome to experience Bloch and the many additions that North Dakotans made with their own cultural flair and learn more about how art can bring together people from all over the world. Bloch is an interactive global art project by Com&Com which connects artists and folk traditions to facilitate a worldwide conversation. For more information see www.bloch23781.com.



A Woman's Perspective on SQUARE Now through March 29, 2015

A Woman's Perspective Multimedia Art Exhibitions and Events hosts emerging and established artists to present visual, literary, and performing art. This year's theme is Square- which was used as inspiration for the visual art, poetry, prose, music, dance and theatre.

Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation March 18- June 21, 2015

Discover how Minnesota teens came of age in the 1960s, a decade when people fought for liberty, feminism rose, family television shows proliferated, the draft knocked, music "was huge," fashion showed its colors and assassinations betrayed something "very wrong in this country."

Upcoming Events

Quilt a Hankie- AWP Workshop Saturday, February 28 10am-4pm

Quilt your own Hankie with Barb Nicholson. This workshop features techniques on selecting, planning and quilting a vintage hankie. For more inspiration enjoy some of Barb's work on display through March 30, in the 3rd floor hall display *Remembering When*. To register for this course please go to awp.handworks.org.

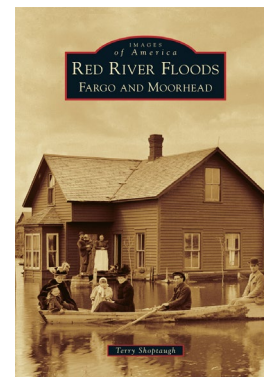
Barn Quilts - AWP Workshop Sunday, March 1, 12:30-4pm

This workshop, taught by Mary Jo Schmid, features acrylic painting on 2'x2' board to create a personal quilt block suitable for hanging outdoors. You can see samples of this work in the AWP On SQUARE exhibit. To register for this course please go to awp.handworks.org.



Red River Floods: Fargo and Moorhead with Author Terry Shoptaugh Sunday, March 22, 2pm

Local historian and retired MSUM professor, Terry Shoptaugh presents *Red River Floods*. This book shows a detailed photographic account of the ebb and flow of Red River flood waters in the Fargo/Moorhead area since 1871. A wide variety of images offers a multifaceted perspective from residents, local flood-fighting crews, and state and federal agencies.



Scandinavian Hjemkomst & Midwest Viking Festivals June 26-27 10-5pm

2014 Generous Donations (not Memberships)

Donations come in all year long from many people for many reasons: memorials for those who have passed; additions to the endowment; preservation of the Bergquist Cabin or District 3 School House; appreciation for our historians’ public programs; and special projects. We make a formal request each summer and at the end of each year for general operating to help us pay the bills. Members and non-members, individuals, clubs, and businesses respond, and we are truly grateful.

Your support means the world to us!

\$10,000 or Higher

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\$5000-\$9999

Bell State Bank and Trust

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The Black, White and a Past Well Written:

The story of a Hjemkomst Intern

By Dustin Olson

When I first started my internship back in August, I wasn't sure what to expect. What I got were great experiences, fun assignments, and amazing people at the Hjemkomst Center. Many of my assignments had me travel around the Fargo-Moorhead area in the hunt for research materials, help around the center where ever needed, salvage old newspapers, and even give tours of the Hopperstad Stave Church.

Journey to Becoming a Tour Guide

At first I was nervous about taking on the task of a tour guide as I have never done anything like it. In order to become a good guide, I took it upon myself to utilize the skills I have learned from public speaking classes and my theater years. First I looked over the basic materials I needed to help me understand what a stave church was and what I was expected to know when taking people out to see the church. I watched one of my fellow tour guides, Diane, gives an amazing tour. From there, I was able to set the movements and the create pauses when I needed to give facts about the church. Once I did this, I began to memorize an outline that was given to me by Markus, who is in charge of volunteers and tours. This is when I applied my public-speaking and theater skills. I used note cards that would help prompt me for the first two weeks of my tours until eventually I got rid of the cards and started to recite it all from memory. Giving tours was an enjoyable experience that allowed me to use skills I haven't used in some time, and I also got to meet people from all over the United States along with other countries.

Always Here to Help

One of my other duties, other than doing research in the archive and giving tours, was helping where I could. I got to help take down exhibits, close down events, and put up exhibits. For example, we had a local photographer come in with his amazing digital

shots. I teamed up with Markus and we went around measuring and placing screws for the picture frames to be hung. It was the first time during my many internship hours that I got to do something that wasn't related to my general studies. I certainly learned a lot about how to properly place frames, the placement of exhibits, and how to change out an exhibit in a limited amount of time.



Hard at work setting up House & Home Exhibit.
From left to Right Mark, Markus and Dustin

Where's Waldo? Oh he's on page A5.

When I signed up, I had been expecting to do some research within the Clay County Archives, but instead, I was sent out to find certain information on gang-related conflicts in the Fargo-Moorhead area. At first I was very surprised as I have never heard of actual gang activity in this area. So I began to look over these materials at the local library in downtown Fargo. Mark Peihl gave me a list of dates that were affiliated with these gang conflicts. The Fargo Forum back in the '90s was full of these concerns, but eventually Fargo-Moorhead must have succeeded because you hardly ever hear of gang violence in our area.

Next Mr. Peihl sent me to the North Dakota State University archives to begin research on the

Barnesville back 1915. The newspaper was called the Courier, and it was full of interesting information about Barnesville as it was a "dry" paper, so it attacked saloons where ever it could. I spent many hours surfing through the paper looking for topics that would help move the research along. I also got to learn a great deal about microfilm. Microfilm is film that has multiple newspapers upon it. This brings me to another project we began in November.

Salvage What You Can

By far the most challenging projected I tackled during my internship was patching up the old newspapers found in Barnesville. These papers dated back to 1886-89 and were dilapidated because of the poor conditions they were left in. Mr. Peihl and I took on the task of salvaging these papers. Note how I said salvage instead of preserve. At this point, we are unable to preserve these newspapers because of finances and the very fact they were so dilapidated. First, Mr. Peihl went through a process of rehydrating the papers as they were too dry, so dry that simply jarring them would cause them to shatter. Next, we sat down for several weeks to seal cracks and holes and reassemble these papers. We did this by using simple matted tape. Any other tape would be too glossy for what will happen after we are done. This task took some time as I realized that I'm not a surgeon, and placing tape precisely on certain spots is a hard task. After being taped, they will be rehydrated again and then sent to another business to be microfilmed. It was because of us that future generations can see the old newspapers.

Conclusion

I feel far more educated because the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County challenged me to go beyond my normal means. I got to work with others in putting up exhibits, looked through years' worth of microfilm, salvaged old papers, and gave tours. It's amazing the amount of things I got to learn while working at HCS. I will take the skills I learned from my internship into my career as a Public Historian.



Want to find out about YOUR family's history in Clay County?

Contact Mark Peihl in the archives.
Mark.Peihl@HCSmuseum.org
218.299.5511 ext 6734

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County

PO Box 157 • 202 First Avenue North

Moorhead, MN 56561-0157



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