

The Hourglass



SCANDINAVIAN HJEMKOMST & FESTIVAL MIDWEST VIKING FESTIVAL JUNE 26-27 10AM-5PM

ENTERTAINMENT - FOOD - FAMILY FUN

In This Issue

Letter from the Executive Director	3
HCS Annual Meeting Recap	4
The Fall of a Moorhead Gangster Pt. 2	5
Collections Donation	11
Charles Erdel- Liquor Dealer	12
HCS Members only Tour	16
Scandinavian Hjemkomst/Viking Festival	17

Kids, come
discover with

Maali
and
Mikko!



www.hcscconline.org & www.nordiccultureclubs.org



Hjemkomst Center
202 1st Ave. N
Moorhead, MN
218-299-5511



PO Box 157 • 202 First Avenue North
Moorhead, MN 56561-0157
218-299-5511 • www.hcscconline.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Les Bakke, President, Moorhead
John Dobmeier, Vice President, Barnesville
Jade Rosenfeldt, Secretary, Moorhead
Gail Blair, Treasurer, West Fargo
Jenny Mongeau County Rep., Moorhead
Mark Altenburg, Moorhead
Vijay Gaba, Fargo
Gloria Lee, Georgetown
Monica Millette, Fargo
Gene Prim, Barnesville
Jim Saueressig, Fargo
Jennifer Tjaden, Hawley
Dale White, Moorhead

STAFF

Maureen Kelly Jonason, Executive Director
Maureen.Jonason@HCSmuseum.org
Mark Peihl, Archivist
Mark.Peihl@HCSmuseum.org
Lisa Vedaa, Collections Manager
Lisa.Vedaa@HCSmuseum.org
Markus Krueger, Education Coordinator
Markus.Krueger@HCSmuseum.org
Jeff Swenson, Exhibits and Events Coordinator
Jeff.Swenson@HCSmuseum.org
Amanda Nordick, Marketing Coordinator
Amanda.Nordick@HCSmuseum.org
Angela Beaton, Volunteer Service Coordinator and
Administrative Assistant
Angela.Beaton@HCSmuseum.org
Kelly Wambach, Gift Shop Manager
Kelly.Wambach@HCSmuseum.org
Matt Ediem, Project Archivist
Matt.Ediem@HCSmuseum.org

CLAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wayne Ingersoll, District 1
Frank Gross, District 2
Jenny Mongeau, District 3
Kevin Campbell, District 4
Grant Weyland, District 5

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

HCSCC News

HCSCC Presents the Clay County Heritage Award

This year's 2015 Clay County Heritage Award winner: the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion, for their more than 60 years of preserving county history and sharing it with the public at the annual festival held in Rollag, MN every Labor Day weekend since 1954. WMSTR president Mark Kerkvliet, when notified of the decision, was both excited and humbled: "We sure appreciate the honor."



We would like to welcome Matt Ediem to our HCS staff. He is working as the Project Archivist helping upgrade our systems and make the archives more accessible. Originally from Rochester, MN, he graduated from Concordia College

and is excited to be back in Clay County, researching some of the fascinating history. He adds "It's great to be back home, I remember taking my grandparents here, (to the Hjemkomst Center) when I was in college, and we just loved it." He is working diligently to have a variety of new collections uploaded on a new Past Perfect site for the Clay County Archives by June. More information will be available in the near future. This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the state of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.



Find us on
Facebook

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!

From the Executive Director . . .

Maureen Kelly Jonason



Just fresh from the annual meeting on May 7, I feel positively celebratory about HCS. The excellent turnout (over 105) of members at the meeting showed how supportive and interested our members are. I am only sorry I didn't get a chance to visit with each and every one who attended. Two weeks before, we held our spring Volunteer Appreciation Brunch to show how grateful we are for the support of over 100 volunteers. Our "regular" volunteers, who work weekly 4-hour shifts, put in over 6000 hours a year as tour guides, admission clerks, and gift shop assistants; our special-event volunteers focus on planning and executing our three cultural festivals. And we also get a lot of help from Work Study students from MSUM and NDSU as well as interns from all three colleges. With only eight full-time staff and three part-timers, we need all the help we can get.

As members of the Society, you also have much to be proud of. Your museum displayed twelve different exhibits throughout 2014 in addition to the ship and church. Check out the newsletter or the website for details whenever planning your visits. We also hosted several author presentations on books on local history and a "history of music" program. Exhibit receptions and festivals also filled our days and nights. We collaborated with the NDSU public history department on projects that gave students "real-world" hands-on practice in sharing local history. And we continue to develop our accessibility to visitors with disabilities. For more specific details, please see the annual report posted on our website under About at <http://www.hcscconline.org/about/>

The annual meeting also gave the membership the opportunity to re-elect board members. We are fortunate in that no one wanted to leave the

board this year. They operate cohesively and offer appropriate guidance to the staff in terms of working toward our Strategic Goals. In January newly elected Clay County Commissioner Jenny Mongeau came on the board, and we appreciate her willingness to act as liaison to the Commission. At the May 20 board meeting, the Board members elected Les Bakke as president for two years. We look forward to the board members taking a more active role in fundraising for general operating in the coming years.

As you plan your summer activities and visits from relatives, take a look at the exhibit and events calendar in this newsletter (page 19) and pencil us in. Out-of-town guests are always impressed by what Clay County has to offer. We are more than the ship and the church – we are local history and cultural heritage. And we look forward to our busy visitor season and seeing YOU at the museum.

Photos from the Annual Meeting



Honoring Jon Evert for his dedication



President Gloria(right), and Director Maureen(left).

CONGRATULATIONS



THE WESTERN MINNESOTA
STEAM THRESHERS REUNION



Jade Rosenfeldt(left) and Gloria(right) presenting meeting minutes

What a Year at HCS Annual Meeting Recap



The HCSCC Annual Meeting on May 7, went off without a hitch! It was a fabulous evening and we all left with smiles, full bellies and a bright outlook towards the future. What a year! The evening was a great opportunity

to look back on 2014 and remember many of the achievements of HCS members, volunteers, board and staff.

The evening opened with kind words of encouragement and success from President Gloria Lee, followed by a lovely meal prepared by our own Kelly Wambach. The Annual Report was presented, and there was also a short election which unanimously re-elected Gloria Lee, Dr. Vijay Gaba, and Gene Prim to the Board of Directors. Members also unanimously voted to re-elect Jade Rosenfeldt and Jim Saueressig retroactively to the Board for the previous year.

Jon Evert was recognized for his many years of service to HCS, and Gloria Lee was also recognized for her two successful years as HCSCC Board President. We were also proud to award the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion for their more than 60 years of preserving county history and sharing it with the public at the annual festival held in Rollag, MN, every Labor Day weekend since 1954.

The evening concluded with angel-food cake with strawberry-rhubarb sauce, and a presentation of Doctor Edward Humphrey's films clips from 1911 of a variety of events in Moorhead. It was a lovely evening filled with laughter, good conversation and a positive atmosphere. The HCSCC staff thoroughly enjoyed getting to meet and know many of you, and thank you again for your continuing support. We couldn't do it without you!

The 2014 Annual Report is available online at www.hcscconline.org/about



New interpretive signs for the Bergquist Cabin.



Improving technology! Thanks to kind donations.



Increasing the visitor experiences for all ages!



District 3 Schoolhouse received a grant for a new coat of paint.

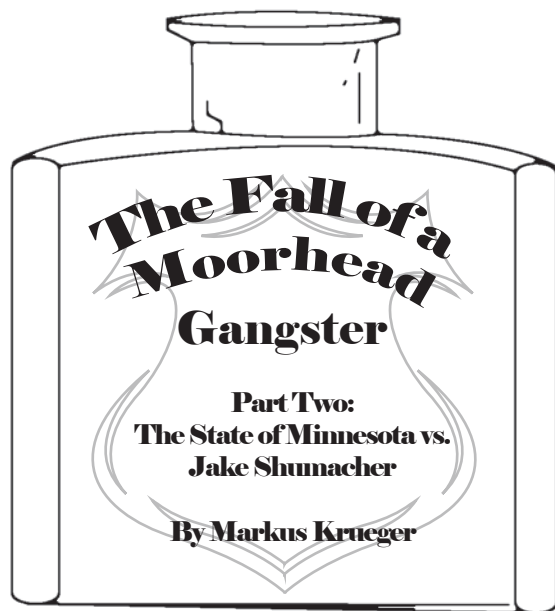


12 rotating exhibits in 2014 kept the staff very busy!



Making memories with fabulous volunteers!





To read part one of this story, detailing the rise of Jake Schumacher and the robbery of the Sabin State Bank, go to our website: www.hcscconline.org/newsletter. This article was written using newspaper articles from the Moorhead Daily News and the Fargo Forum, Jake Schumacher's prison file from the Minnesota Historical Society, and special thanks to Clay County Court Clerk Sue Little for obtaining the court files for Jake Schumacher and Walter McGavin.

The Manhunt after the Sabin Bank Robbery

On December 29, 1931, Moorhead gangster Jake Schumacher ordered his gang of four men – Arkansas Bob, Ed Redman, Sam Abes, and Zach Lemon – to rob the Sabin State Bank. Jake provided the stolen car, the gas, and the guns. He was supposed to meet them on a rural road south of town after the robbery where they would ditch their stolen getaway car and drive back to Jake's place in Moorhead to divide the loot. The bank (now Sabin's Crow Bar) was robbed, but when the four bandits drove to the rendezvous point, Jake Schumacher was nowhere to be seen. His gang always thought something was off with the plan, but now they were certain – for some reason, Jake had set them up. The robbers sped away but the snow was deep and the roads were bad. After getting stuck a few times, they finally had to abandon the car in the snow at the Obert Tweeton farm. As they walked along the Buffalo River and through snowy fields to get to Moorhead, Arkansas Bob vowed that he would find Jake Schumacher and kill him.

The Sheriff's Department heard about the robbery around 2:30pm that day, and Deputies Verne Terryll and John Whaley grabbed their guns and drove south at high speed (which at this time was a quaint 35-40 mph). Along the way they saw Jake Schumacher driving north

toward Moorhead, away from Sabin. Jake was driving a car belonging to Walter McGavin, a rival gangster who recently dethroned Jake as Moorhead's Prohibition "Beer Baron." Jake honked a hello to Deputy Whaley. John Whaley followed leads involving the robbery all day and into the night. The next morning, Jake Schumacher met Deputy Whaley in Moorhead's city park (now Memorial Park). Jake told the deputy that he would find a stolen 1928 Ford Coach filled with illegal alcohol in a garage controlled by Walter McGavin. Jake said the man who stole the car was Art Presnall, Walter McGavin's cousin, and that Presnall would be leaving that morning for Detroit Lakes by train.

John Whaley had known Jake Schumacher for a long time. It must have been a complicated relationship. It was common knowledge that the Schumacher family – parents Charlie and the recently deceased Anna, and their adult children – were prominent rum-runners supplying the Fargo-Moorhead area with illegal alcohol. It was common knowledge that Jake Schumacher, the family's 38-year-old eldest son, was something more than just a bootlegger. Deputy Sheriff John Whaley, and his father, Sheriff Archie Whaley, would arrest members of the Schumacher family from time to time, but they were also using Jake as an informant against other criminals. Since Jake was at the center of Fargo-Moorhead's criminal underworld, he knew quite a bit. It was up to John and Archie Whaley to determine what tips from Jake were real, while keeping in mind that Jake was using the Sheriff's Department as a tool to further his own plans. But just because Jake was up to something didn't mean he wasn't providing true information. John Whaley went to the depot and arrested Art Presnall before he got on the train, with Jake Schumacher by his side to identify the suspect.

As Walter McGavin approached his house at 322 2nd Ave N, he could see that the police were waiting for him. He asked Jake Schumacher on the sidewalk outside if their house was "pinched." It had been Jake who was the rat. Walter McGavin and his gang members Dick Lamb, Allen Emerson and Adolph Howe were arrested that night. According to the Moorhead Daily News, the police seemed to think they were raiding Jake Schumacher's headquarters. They found that although Jake Schumacher still lived in one room, Jake's house and the leadership of his gang had been taken over by Walter McGavin as of December 1, 1931. The gang used the house as a headquarters "but on that date the 'business' was taken over by 'Mac,'" the paper reported, "and Schumacher since has become but a cog in the underworld machine." It appeared that Jake intended to go from cog back to kingpin, and he just got his rival thrown in jail. Mac's

Gang was charged with selling, transporting and handling intoxicating liquor and concealing a stolen car. But Mac suspected correctly that Jake Schumacher was behind their arrest, and they were being set up to take the fall for the Sabin State Bank robbery.

While Mac's Gang were no angels, they did have one important fact to protect them against the charges: they didn't rob the bank. When they were brought before George Carlson, the cashier at the Sabin State Bank, Carlson told the authorities that these men were not the bandits. Walter McGavin told the police that he saw four men matching the description of the bank robbers in Jake Schumacher's room the day before the robbery.

Deputy John Whaley and Moorhead police officers Sam Zenk and Jalmer Erickson talked to Jake Schumacher about the stolen car and about the members and activities of Walter McGavin's gang. But something did not seem right to John Whaley. What, he asked Jake, was he doing driving Walter McGavin's car back from Sabin at the time of the robbery? Jake told the deputy to come back alone and he would talk. When Whaley returned later, Jake said he had been delivering a gallon of moonshine to somebody south of town the day of the robbery. Then John asked Jake if he thought anybody hanging around his house – which was a center for criminal activity – could have been in on the robbery. Jake said that, from the whispers and quiet around the house, he suspected five men of being involved somehow – Arkansas Bob, Zach Lemon, "Black Sam" Abes, Ed Redman, and Hungry Slim. Jake provided the Sheriff's Department with detailed descriptions to identify these men and also gave his best guess as to where to find them. Jake was ratting out the men he commanded to rob the bank!

They arrested Sam Abes at his apartment in the Broadway Hotel in Fargo. On Jake's tip, the Whaleys drove up to Ponsford, and arrested 21-year-old Zach Lemon at the post office. Arkansas Bob, Jake said, was "plenty tough" and he might be found at Leo Kossick's card room. Jake did not know it, but Bob had hopped a freight train out of town. To my knowledge, he was never apprehended. Although Ed Vandiver, alias "Hungry Slim," was not involved in the Sabin Bank robbery, Jake knew him to be a bank robber and a murderer and seemed to want him out of the way, too. A year after these events, Jake Schumacher would help authorities in a murder case against Vandiver. But the police could not immediately find Ed Redman.

They called Eva Mannypenny's boarding house at 19 4th Ave South, Moorhead, "The Hole" because it was tucked into a hole in the hill in what is now Woodlawn Park.

That's where bank robber Ed Redman had been hiding out ever since he, Lemon and Arkansas Bob returned to Moorhead, after robbing the bank. Ed "St. Paul Blackie" Redman was a career criminal who had spent much of the previous twenty years at the state prison in Stillwater for grand larceny, carrying a concealed weapon, robbery and burglary. Ever since Jake abandoned them during the robbery, Ed had been fuming but laying low. He still had a rifle used in the robbery.

The Sheriff and his deputies kept going to Jake Schumacher's house for more information as the case progressed. Jake had a loaded 12-gauge automatic within reach and sat in front of the window so he could see anyone approaching his house. Jake told the police that he was getting phone calls from both Ed Redman and Hungry Slim telling him that they were going to "bump him off." Jake had made a lot of enemies after betraying the McGavin Gang and his own crew of robbers. Some people who wanted to kill him were still at large. On New Year's Eve or Day, Jake asked to be brought into jail for his own protection.

Responding to another tip, John and Archie Whaley apprehended Ed Redman in a room upstairs at Eva Mannypenny's boarding house. Redman matched the description Jake gave to them. The gun from the robbery was hidden behind her shed. From the serial number, they knew the gun belonged to Jake Schumacher. As more information arose, the Whaleys started to suspect Jake Schumacher was more than just a witness giving helpful tips.

The Trials

About 40 people were questioned, 16 were arrested, and 23 witnesses were sworn in for the trials that resulted from the Sabin Bank Robbery. The exciting trials dominated local news and front-page stories included word-for-word testimony that exposed Moorhead's secret criminal underbelly.

First to go on trial were Walter McGavin and his gang on January 8, 1932. Walter McGavin added to the excitement by acting as his own attorney. Thanks to a tip from Jake Schumacher the morning after the robbery, police found a stolen car in a garage said to be controlled by McGavin, and also found the plates on McGavin's car were from a different stolen car. Among the most interesting witnesses brought in to testify was Deputy Sheriff John Whaley. Whaley dropped a bombshell when he admitted that the previous April, Jake Schumacher was talking to him about bank robberies. "He was going to play stool pigeon for me," Whaley said, by getting in with a gang and acting as an informant against them. But Jake was

arrested on alcohol smuggling charges and put in jail in Detroit Lakes shortly after they talked. McGavin's questioning of the Deputy revealed a pattern of strange behavior in Jake Schumacher.

Walter McGavin: Did [Jake Schumacher] at one time report to you that a car was coming down from the Canadian border – you were in your office – with liquor in it and that you could head them off at a certain place?

Deputy Sheriff John Whaley: Yes; he did.

McGavin: Did you investigate later, and did your investigation tend to show that that liquor belonged to him?

Whaley: Yes; it belonged to him: at least our investigation tended to show that it did.

McGavin: In other words he would and did go into a thing part way and turn around and make a complaint against himself?

Whaley: That was what it appeared; there was nothing definite. That was the conclusion we drew.

Although they were happy to get the tips, not even the Sheriff's Department seemed to understand why Jake would rat out his own liquor shipments and his own bank robberies to the police. "You don't have to worry about the law around here," Jake told his gang the night before robbing the Sabin Bank, "I am the Law." Was Jake lying to his crew or did he really believe he had the Sheriff's Department wrapped around his finger? Clay County Attorney Henry Steining, mentioned in Jake's trial that "there has been a lot of talk in the city and out through the country to the effect that the authorities didn't dare go through with this prosecution of Jake Schumacher, that it would tear the lid off of something." If that was Jake's thinking, he miscalculated his relationship with the Whaleys. Sheriff Archie Whaley put out a warrant to arrest Jake Schumacher for his involvement in the robbery of the Sabin State Bank, and both he and his son, Deputy John Whaley, testified against Jake in court.

After three weeks of waiting impatiently in jail, gang leader Walter McGavin finally got a chance to grill Jake Schumacher on the witness stand. McGavin was angry at Jake for getting him arrested for car theft and for trying to frame him for the Sabin Bank Robbery. Prosecuting Attorney James M. Witherow, used his legal skills to frustrate McGavin and prevent Jake Schumacher from saying anything. Many of McGavin's questions were aimed at linking Jake to the bank robbery, but since McGavin and his gang were not on trial for robbing the bank, his pointed questions about the robbery were all overruled before Jake could answer them. As Mac released details on his and Jake's criminal operation,

the judge warned McGavin that he was digging his own grave. As Jake stepped down from the witness stand, McGavin directed his frustration at opposing counsel, saying "Mr. Witherow, I don't know what you are doing to call in a witness to give perjured testimony." The judge warned McGavin that another statement like that and he would be charged with contempt of court. The fate of the McGavin gang was postponed until after the bank robbery trials.



The three men shown above are in the Clay county jail, charged with robbery of the Sabin State bank, in which \$2,500 loot was taken. The fourth man is still at liberty. Those above are, left to right: Zack Lemon, Moorhead, said to have been riding with Jake Schumacher when the latter fired at Patrick W. McLeary on a city street corner recently; Sam Abes, Fargo shoe shiner, and Ed Redman, the latter arrested in a southside "hideout."

Mugshots of the three captured robbers of the Sabin State Bank. (Left to right) Zach Lemon, Sam Abes, Ed Redman. Robber Arkansas Bob got away with it. *Moorhead Daily News* January 7, 1932.

On January 16, Jake Schumacher and robbers Sam Abes, Ed Redman and Zach Lemon were arraigned before a judge on the charges of robbing the Sabin State Bank. Bank robbery at this time carried a penalty of life in prison. Sam Abes and Ed Redman were handcuffed when they were brought in, but they were surprised to see young Zach Lemon come into the room without handcuffs. The Moorhead Daily News painted the picture: "Redman, with the appearance of a hardened criminal, sat [in] his chair snarling and staring with a wicked gleam in his eyes at those around him....When the indictment was read and Lemon's name appeared as one of the witnesses who testified before the grand jury, Redman sat upright and glared at Lemon."

Each of the four suspects apprehended for the bank robbery were given separate trials beginning on February 1. County Attorney Henry C. Steining told the court that unless Abes and Redman confessed, the prosecution would not have sufficient evidence to link Jake Schumacher to the crime. Hearing that, Sam Abes

quickly turned to Sheriff Whaley and said "I want to plead guilty. Is it too late?"

Seeing that fellow-bandit Zach Lemon already confessed against them, and wanting to get back at Jake for betraying them, both Sam Abes and Ed Redman pled guilty and testified against Jake Schumacher. Their testimony and that of Zach Lemon and the other witnesses have been woven together to make these two articles about the robbery. Both Abes and Redman were sentenced to 5 to 40 years in Stillwater Prison, a sentence they received, according to the Moorhead Daily News, "calmly and even cheerfully, apparently pleased to get off so easily." Zach Lemon got a light sentence of five years in the state reformatory in Saint Cloud because of his testimony before the Grand Jury and because all sides saw him as being a good kid who fell into bad company.

"The courtroom was filled to overflowing as the Schumacher case opened," reported the Moorhead Daily News on February 2, 1932, "it being necessary to open the doors to allow the overflow crowd to stand in the corridors." People brought their own lunches to court so they would not lose their spots during the noon recess. After Abes and Redman told their stories, it was getaway driver Zach Lemon's turn to speak against Jake. Schumacher's attorney, James A. Garrity, tried to discredit Lemon's testimony by claiming Lemon and McGavin were together trying to frame Jake Schumacher for the robbery. "Where did you steal the Chrysler?" "Who are you trying to protect here – anybody?" "You fellows had this all framed, didn't you, but you are accusing this man (pointing at Schumacher) of being the leader of this gang?" Zach Lemon kept denying the accusations and people believed him. Jake's arsenal of weapons and ammunition, taken from his apartment, were laid before the jury as evidence.

Several people testified against Jake over a four day trial, from former gang members to the farmer who found the abandoned getaway car. Jake's former housekeeper said she overheard Jake's plans for robbing half a dozen banks from Grafton to Lake Park the previous spring. Walter McGavin was able to have his say against Jake, too.

In their closing statements, county attorney Henry Steining made the case a referendum on allowing known criminals like Jake to operate in Moorhead. "Jake got the confidence of these men by telling them that he was above the police, more powerful than the city council. This man has laid the foundation of gangdom, which is migrating from the large cities, in Moorhead. . . . Are we going to root out the seeds of gangdom from the city of Moorhead?"

Jake's defense attorney, James Garrity, loaded his closing statement with buckshot-like claims in an attempt to raise a shadow of a doubt in any juror. Maybe it was Arkansas Bob who was behind the plan, he said, or a frame-up by Lemon and McGavin. "From the mouths of 14 criminals comes the testimony on which the state

would send this man up for life, not the testimony of respected citizens, but the testimony of convicted criminals. . . . Would you crucify him, nail him to the cross because he gave to the sheriff of Clay county the names and descriptions of these bank robbers?" Garrity went on "Jake was never in the Sabin bank. He never received a red cent from that bank. Would we send him to jail for his associates? He even came to Sheriff Whaley asking for protection. Does that sound like he was the brains of the gang? Brains

– look at him and see if he has an ounce of them."

It took the jury 45 minutes to come back with a guilty verdict in the case of the State of *Minnesota vs. Jake Schumacher*. Judge Nye turned to Jake Schumacher and sentenced him to "be confined at the state prison at Stillwater, Minnesota, at hard labor for the balance of your natural life." McGavin pled guilty to having illegal alcohol, but the car theft charges were quietly dropped against McGavin and his gang and they were released from jail over the next month. All except Art Presnall, that is. He was sentenced to a year in a Saint Cloud prison, not for stealing the car (those charges were dropped) but for breaking out of the Clay County jail. On February 9, Presnall picked a lock, sawed through an iron bar, and escaped into a waiting car. He was apprehended



Mugshot of Jake Schumacher in 1944.

by authorities in Pembina two days later as he tried to sneak across the Canadian border. Had he waited a few more days, Presnall would have been released from jail with the rest of the McGavin Gang.

Only Jake Schumacher will ever truly know what he was thinking when he planned the Sabin bank robbery. Was Jake planning on betraying his bank robbers from the start or did he only turn them in after the charges did not stick to McGavin and his gang? Did he think the Whaleys would protect him? If you think he was crazy for planning a bank robbery and setting it up to fail from the start, you would be in agreement with the state prison psychiatrist. A year after arriving at the Minnesota State Prison in Stillwater, Jake Schumacher was found to be delusional and paranoid and he spent the next seven years in the Asylum for the Dangerous Insane in Saint Peter. Feeling no need to protect anyone, Jake was happy to denounce everyone, but it is hard tell which stories were true, which were lies, and which were delusions. Jake denied his guilt to the end, telling the parole board in 1944 that "I had sold my joint for \$1,000 to [McGavin] and Arkansas Bob. I was going to Kansas City where I had bought a meat shop. The bank stick-up was to get the \$1,000 to pay me."

In June of 1944, Jake Schumacher was let out of jail and returned to Moorhead. The reports of his parole officer tell much about his life outside after twelve years in prison. His estranged wife, Nina, wanted nothing to do with him. He stayed with a sister for a while, but Jake

had alienated his family. Employers told his parole officer that he was a hard worker, but he did not keep jobs for long. Jake was good at being a bootlegger, but Prohibition was over. He was a butcher before being a bootlegger, but he complained to his parole officer that machines had taken the art out of meat cutting. Cabbies reported that whenever Jake passed the police station, he talked about wanting to blow it up. Jake died in 1948.

In Jake Schumacher, we see our community follow a pattern common throughout the country: as the years of Prohibition went by, more money was pumped into criminal alcohol operations, those criminals became more organized, and crime as a whole became more common and more violent. Alcohol money allowed thugs like Meyer Lansky and Lucky Luciano to organize small neighborhood gangs into a nation-wide network that we now call the Mafia. Al Capone controlled Chicago because liquor money bought him police and politicians and influence. Jake Schumacher was certainly no Al Capone, but by the early 1930s Jake was also no mere bootlegger. Americans tolerated bootleggers (how else could they get a drink during Prohibition?) but ignoring the bootlegger's crimes allowed criminal activity to take root in town, and at least one Moorhead bootlegger graduated into a gangster. But it appears Jake Schumacher did not have the cunning necessary to run a criminal empire. In robbing the Sabin State Bank, Jake went too far and the people did as the prosecuting attorney asked – they rooted out the seeds of gangdom in Moorhead. Well, mostly rooted out, at least. Moorheadites still had to get a drink somewhere.

Recycle for a Cause!

Did you know that you can recycle and donate to HCS at the same time? MinnKota has a really great system in place where you can bring your recyclables to any recycling center listed below and they will donate the proceeds to an "approved charitable organization" (That's Us!) All you have to do is let the recycling center know that you are donating to us, and give them our phone number: 299-5511. That's It!

The Recycling Centers are located:

903 4th Ave N. Fargo
Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-3pm

3510 S. University Ave. Fargo
Thurs-Fri: 9am-5pm, Saturday: 9am-3pm

1321 1st Ave. N. Moorhead
Tues-Fri: 9am-5pm, Saturday: 9am-3pm

Callie King- Spring Marketing Intern

I am a senior at North Dakota State University majoring in Public Relations and Advertising and as I was getting closer to graduation and looking for an internship, I knew I wanted to intern somewhere where I could practice a variety of skills. Interning with the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County at the Hjemkomst Center allowed me to do just that.



I had the pleasure of working closely with Amanda Nordick, the marketing coordinator at the HCSCC. It was a great experience and I always felt like my ideas were given consideration

and appreciated. All the staff at the Hjemkomst Center was very welcoming, and I looked forward to coming to the Hjemkomst Center each day.

During my time with the HCSCC I was able to do a variety of tasks, from designing posters to

researching promotional items. I was able to design some panels for an exhibit and to further develop some of my writing skills. This internship gave me exactly what I wanted which was an array of opportunities to develop different skills. I feel the skills I learned interning with the HCSCC will be a great help to me in any future jobs.

I had a great time with the HCSCC and I look forward to coming back to visit and to see some of my work come to fruition. I would like to thank all the people from the HCSCC and at the Hjemkomst Center for making me feel welcomed and especially Amanda Nordick for making my time an enjoyable and valuable experience.

Heritage Snack Shack

Mon. - Fri.
11:30am - 1:30pm



New Summer Menu!
need we say more?

located at the
Hjemkomst Center
www.hcscconline.org

All proceeds benefit the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County.

Collections Donations

Accessions October-December 2014

Donors: Adam Burnside, Edina, MN; Clay County Extension, Moorhead; Wes Dunford, Fargo; Robin & Tammy Hinrichs, Barnesville; Floyd Lecy, Moorhead; Candace Mathiowetz, Dilworth; Leanne L. Norman, Buffalo, MN; Cheryl Olson, Moorhead; Alvin Swanson, Moorhead; John Young, Jr., Hawley

Objects donated: (1) collection: photos, books and documents from John and Alma Young family, including C. C. Nelson; (1) office machine: WIZ receipt duplicator, used on Leo H. Wright & Sons farm, Barnesville; (1) paper bag, American Crystal Sugar, brown with red print, 100 lb., found as insulation in former Excelo Bakery building, Excelsior, MN; (1) pair ski poles, used around farm near Kragnes and at slopes at Detroit Lakes and Bemidji and near present-day Maplewood State Park; (3) cameras: 1) Kodak, Pocket Kodak, No. 1A; 2) Kodak, Brownie Flash 6-20, with flash attached; 3) Agfa, in original box, all used in Moorhead; (1) manuscript, two-page handwritten memoir of World War II experience; (1) pressure cooker gauge tester, used by Clay County home extension agents to test clients' pressure cooker gauges; (2) photo prints, views of construction of trestle for the Stockwood Fill; (1) collection: artifacts, photos and documents

related to railway mail service in Minnesota; (1) doll, circa 1958, with handmade jacket and dress; (1) dress slip, ivory

Accessions January-April 2015

Donors: Mary Atchison, Moorhead; Clay County, Moorhead; Gloria Lee, Georgetown, MN; Gene Prim, Barnesville; Kathy Richards, Georgetown, MN; Alex Swanson, Moorhead; Susan Wannemacher, Perham, MN

Objects donated: (4) color ink jet prints, copies of photos of farm and farming at Bollman farm near Georgetown, 1900-1906 & (1) of M/M William Messner; photocopies of biographical info re: Bollman/Messner family members; (4) color ink jet prints, copies of photos of Ophelia Gleason and her homestead near Weldon, MT, in 1917; photocopy of typescript "My Story" by Ophelia Gleason; (1) plat of Oak Mound Cemetery, (4) typescripts, re: Oak Mound Farmers Club and Oak Mound community organizations; (8) typescripts, re: Oak Mound Cemetery and Oak Mound Cemetery Association; (1) volume, Half a Century: Fairmont Creamery 1884-1934; (3) glass plate negatives, made by Annie Stein, with accompanying copy photo prints: 1) field scene, Adam and Annie Stein and others; 2) baseball team, Charles Stein far left; 3) grave marker, Philip Stein, Wild Rose Cemetery, Georgetown, Minn.; (1) matchbook cover, Barney and Art's Place, Georgetown, Minn.; (1) publication, Geological Atlas of Clay County, Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, 2014; (30) film 5"x7" b/w negatives, Barnesville scenes, ca late 1930s-1950s

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



CHARLES ERDEL - LIQUOR DEALER

BY MARK PEIHL

HCSCC staff members are busy researching our next exhibit. *Wet and Dry – Liquor in Clay County, 1871-1937* will look at how booze influenced and challenged the County from its earliest days through the repeal of prohibition. Many of our readers are aware that all North Dakota saloons closed on June 30, 1890, and that Moorhead became a haven for our thirsty neighbors across the Red. In 1900 forty-five bars operated in the city – with a population of less than 3700. That's one saloon for every eighty residents. It wasn't Moorheadites supporting the saloons, it was Dakotans.

Moorhead's watering holes were convenient for bridge-crossing Fargoans but many local folks may be surprised to learn that our liquor dealers kept North Dakota residents lubricated in more remote parts of the adjacent state as well. One of our collections illuminates this part of the trade nicely. The Charles Erdel Papers are a collection of letters, orders, bills and receipts from one of Moorhead's many wholesale liquor dealers. These scraps of paper illustrate how Erdel and his contemporaries operated. It turns out that North Dakota was not exactly bone dry after all.

North Dakota entered the Union in November 1889. Statehood required Dakotans to vote on a proposed constitution. Citizens were split nearly evenly on the liquor issue. The constitution's framers were concerned that a prohibition clause might sink the whole thing so they submitted a temperance amendment to be voted separately. It passed but just barely, by less than 1300 votes. The amendment outlawed the sale of liquor but not buying or possessing it. Nothing barred North Dakotans from ordering as much booze as they wanted for personal

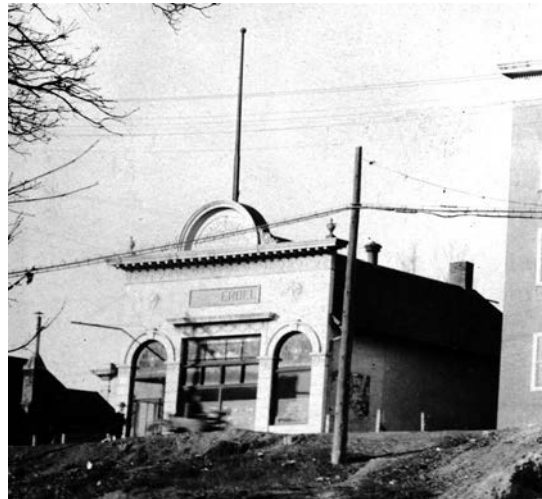
consumption from Minnesota liquor dealers who shipped it out by rail. Just as long as they didn't resell the stuff, it was ok. One of these Minnesota dealers was Charles Erdel.

Erdel was born 1878 to a Pennsylvania family of German immigrants. In 1880 Charles' father, Bernard, was working in Philadelphia as a brewer. Later that year Bernard's brother Tom arrived from Germany. By 1885 Tom was also working in a brewery, in pre-prohibition Fargo, Dakota Territory. When North Dakota went dry in 1890, Tom moved to Moorhead and opened a bottling works and wholesale liquor business. Soon after, he built the fabulous House of Lords saloon on the corner of what was then 1st

Ave N and 1st St. It was in a great location just kitty corner across the street from the north bridge to Fargo. (Just southwest of where American Crystal Sugar's downtown headquarters stands today.) Two years later fifteen-year-old Charles joined his uncle in Moorhead where he learned the liquor trade working for Tom and living in his house a half a block east of the bar.

In 1899 Tom built a new house a block north of his bar on 1st Street at the corner of 2nd Ave N. Charles converted Tom's old house into a saloon of his own. In 1904 Tom built a new, even more fabulous bar, *The Rathskeller Over the Rhine*. He moved his new house fifty feet to the east and turned it so it

faced north on 2nd Ave N and built the Rathskeller on the old house site. Tom built a famous tunnel to connect the basement of his new saloon with the basement of his home. Even today sinister rumors and dark stories about tunnels and hidden passageways haunt local history. But basically the tunnel provided Tom Erdel indoor access to his business and carried pipes for a joint heating system for the two buildings.



Charles Erdel's saloon at 110 1st Ave N as it appeared post-prohibition in 1920. Note the sign has his first name blanked out. In 1920 the building was a restaurant owned by Charles' cousin, Alphonse. A. W. Bowman Collection.

In the 1960s the old Rathskeller building housed a small grocery store and numerous apartments rented mostly to college students. Tenants and later owners of the building found boxes of paper records from Charles' businesses stashed in his uncle's old saloon. Some made their way to the HCSCC and NDSU Archives. The papers date from about 1905 through 1914. They provide a gold mine of information about the early liquor trade in Moorhead.

Charles Erdel ran his saloon at 110 1st Ave N continuously from 1899 to 1915. He also periodically operated a bottling plant, off-sale and wholesale liquor business. The records reflect all of these pursuits. The bills and receipts provide insights into the minutia of day-to-day saloon work. Erdel kept an account with the Moorhead Ice Company. In the days before mechanical refrigeration, ice cut from the Red River the winter before kept his beer chilled for customers. In August 1914, alone he went through nearly 6000 pounds of ice at \$1.80 per ton.

Saloons offered workingmen a place to grab a quick meal. For the cost of an eight-ounce nickel beer, a guy could take a pass through the "free lunch" counter. Loading up again without buying an additional beer was considered boorish and could get you thrown out. Some free lunches were little more than a plate of stale cheese sandwiches, but Erdel seems to have delivered a pretty good spread. Receipts indicate he bought thirty dozen eggs at a time, scores of chickens and turkeys, mustard by the gallon, sauerkraut, veal roasts, spare ribs, oysters on the half shell and ham hocks. The food included salty fare to keep the boys drinking: pickles, potato chips and pretzels by the barrel.

Weekly laundry bills show lots of towels, table cloths, aprons and bags of rags needing cleaning. About every couple of weeks a couple of men's vests, presumably worn by his bartenders, are included.

Cigars were a big part of his business. He sold thousands purchased from a variety of wholesalers. Local manufacturer Robert Neubarth provided 500 of his "Belle of Moorhead" stogies alone during the winter of 1908-09. (The family later had Neubarth Jewelry.)

Of course, much of the material documents his dealings with booze wholesalers. Erdel purchased from many different breweries and distilleries. Though a few orders are for gin and brandies, the vast bulk of his hard liquor trade involved whiskey. Whiskey is alcohol distilled from fermented cereal grains (corn, rye, barley) and then stored for years in charred oak barrels. The wood imparts flavor, aroma and color to the stuff. The longer it's stored the better and smoother the taste. Distillers could store their whiskey in government bonded warehouses subject to inspection by federal agents. This was to ensure the booze was actually as old as the distiller/bottler/retailer claimed it was. Whiskey with a government label "bottled in bond" was as good a guarantee of quality as one could get.

Erdel bought his whiskey in bulk by the barrel from the distiller. Manufacturing inconsistencies meant barrels might hold between 31 and 53 gallons. Wholesale prices varied from 35 cents to a dollar or more per gallon, depending on the quality. Other charges applied. For instance, in March 1909 Ferdinand Westheimer and Sons Distillery in Louisville, Kentucky sold Erdel a 49-gallon barrel of four-year-old "Dorchester Rye Whiskey" at 92 cents a gallon. US government taxes added a whopping \$1.10 per gallon. Bottling charges (in quart bottles) totaled about 50 cents per gallon. Government warehouse storage for 48 months came to \$4.80 for the barrel or about 10 cents per gallon. A "regaugeing" fee added a few cents per gallon. The alcohol content of the whiskey varied from barrel to barrel when it came from storage. If the alcohol content was too high the distiller would re-gauge the stuff by cutting it with water down to 90 proof (45% alcohol), a standard, drinkable strength. If it was too low he'd beef it up with 180 proof (90%) grain alcohol. Shipping cost about 4 bucks. Erdel's cost came to nearly \$3.50 per gallon. He retailed Dorchester Rye bottled in quart bottles for \$5.00 per gallon.

In the late 1880s brewers got into the retail business directly by buying or leasing saloons all over the country, thus vertically integrating the operation from manufacture to distribution to retailing. Brewers paid liquor license fees, provided local owners/managers with furniture, glassware, etc. and made them loans. In return the saloon sold only

the brewer's products. Erdel may have successfully remained an independent. He dealt with several different breweries including G. Heileman, Hamm's and, especially, John Gund Brewing Company of LaCrosse, WI. However, in 1908, 1909 and again in 1913 Erdel borrowed large sums of money at 6% interest from Gund. His promissory notes include the provision that if he "shall sell, handle and deal in, or use in his said business, beer of any other manufacturer than that of the John Gund Brewing Company... then this note... shall ... become due" immediately. Erdel continued to order beer from other breweries but he may have only sold it through his large off-sale business, not in his on-sale saloon.

Indeed, the bulk of the records are letters and orders from his off sale customers in North Dakota. As mentioned earlier Dakotans could order as much as they wanted for personal consumption. Resale except by licensed pharmacists was forbidden. Most of the orders seem pretty legitimate. For instance in February 1907 Jeremiah Crowley of Broncho, ND, wrote Erdel, "I see by the *Morning Call* [newspaper] Fargo that you are selling Old Crow Whiskey. Please inform me by return mail if you can furnish Old Crow in case goods. Bottled in bond. Age of goods, price, and c [etc]. I want whiskey for my own use and want it good."

In some cases customers' writing skills were challenged. On June 29, 1907, John Dick of Engelvale, ND, wrote "Dear Sirs please send me by express, one case of your beer bud wiser if have got it. Or anhizer bush. Send C. O. D. Yours Truly John Dick. Pleas send so I can hav it by next Wed. [the day before July 4] and oblige." Some customers had other more literate neighbors write out their orders. But in many cases it is obvious from the amounts ordered or the customer's comments that the booze was headed for illegal resale.

North Dakota was hardly dry. The Anti-Saloon League's annual report for 1915 included a chapter on conditions in the state. It claimed there was little enforcement in the western part of the state before 1909: "Practically all the Slope country west of the Missouri river and including territory about Devil's Lake, Minot and west was wide-open. I mean that there were saloons with bars and back bars, and in many instances the keepers were paying fines to the towns and in some cases graft to the officials and carloads of intoxicating liquors were unloaded in broad day light in these places. There were from 80 to 100 saloons along the Northern Pacific Railway in the towns from Mandan to Beach."

In October 1909 Grand Forks prohibitionist Baptist minister Rev. F. E. R. Miller attacked the liquor dealers' press bureau for vastly over-estimating the number of bootleggers in North Dakota. Reports suggested that 1791 "blind pigs" were operating in the state, one for every 244 residents. (The term blind pig goes back to mid-19th century New England where an enterprising liquor dealer tried to get around a law prohibiting liquor sales by charging patrons 10 cents to see a blind pig kept in a back room. The viewers also received a "free" drink.) The number came from the volume of US liquor tax receipts issued to North Dakotans the previous year. The federal government required a \$25 payment from booze dealers, legal or not, to sell. Presumably many blind piggers paid the fee to stay out of federal prison. Rev. Miller claimed that the figure included the 470 licensed pharmacies in the state.



The Rathskeller in 1970 shortly before its demolition. Charles Erdel's uncle Thomas Erdel built the fabulous Rathskeller Over the Rhine saloon in 1904. A famous tunnel led from the basement of the saloon to Tom Erdel's house to the east (at left). After prohibition closed, the bar owners added a second story, closed in the open veranda on the west and turned it into an apartment building. In the 1960s tenants found boxes of Charles Erdel's business records stashed in the building.

Forum Communications Company Collection.

The good Reverend indignantly contended that there couldn't be more than 1321 illegal drinking places, barely one for every 354 residents.

Either way, there was a lot of booze sloshing around the dry state. Erdel was glad to provide his share. Some of the orders were from folks who just worried about nosy neighbors. In August 1906 R. E. Dresser of Spiritwood, ND, wrote, "Please send me by freight 1 case Hamm's Velvet, have it come by no. [number] and not in my name. Too many rubber necks here." But others clearly had something going on. In one month in 1909 Magnolia, ND, elevator manager Ed Hayford ordered five cases of beer, each containing 36 one-pint bottles; 2 eight gallon kegs of beer and a gallon of pure grain alcohol. Ed might have just had a drinking problem, but in December 1911 he wrote, "I am not going to send you any more checks as I got word from my elevator co. that it was reported to one of their traveling men at Lisbon, N. D. that I was running a blind pig [his emphasis]. So it stands me in hand to be careful... from now on I will order and... send money by someone going down or by M. O. [money order]." He then goes on to order six gallons of grain alcohol to be sent to two different fellows in Buffalo, ND. Splitting shipments to avoid looking suspicious was a pretty common tactic. In 1906 Erdel's employee Ben Krebsbach sent Erdel a fifteen-gallon whiskey order from J. D. Sheep of Denhoff, ND, with a note reading, "Send 3/doz. 6 oz. beer glasses with handle on em and 3/doz. Whiskey glasses. Send this fellar good booze he is going to be a good customer. He is just starting out in the business and I would like to hold his trade so send these goods at once."

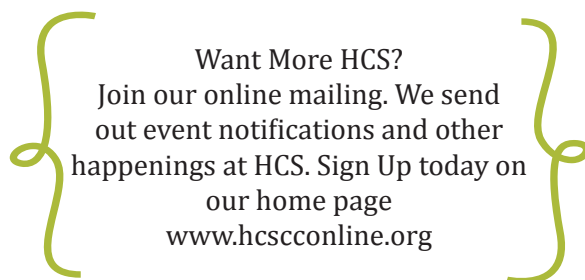
Erdel also employed "salesmen" in the field to take orders, paying them a commission of 12 to 20 % per sale. In early 1907 he found a loop hole that cut out the middle man. Apparently unclaimed freight at a railroad depot could be reclaimed by the sender and disposed of at the depot. In February Erdel wrote to Northern Pacific Railway depot agent at McHenry, ND, asking if the C. O. D. shipment he sent to Pete Hanson had been picked up. If not he proposed that "I will be in your town within 10 days to dispose of the same." "Pete Hanson" likely did not exist. Erdel essentially wanted to set up an off sale at the depot. The agent forwarded the letter to his superiors with the note "Where can I find instructions covering this

case and do you want us to deliver to any other than Hanson? Erdel is slippery." It's unclear if Erdel got away with anything in this case, but he continued to try the dodge even after North Dakota outlawed the practice in March 1907.

That October Erdel visited Lisbon, ND, and unloaded a bunch of booze. Sheriff Tim Dwire issued a warrant for his arrest. Erdel got word and quietly boarded a train for Fargo. A Deputy searched the train at Sheldon but missed Erdel. He hopped off the train southwest of Fargo, hitched a ride with a farmer into town and took a streetcar across the Red to safety in Minnesota. According to newspaper accounts he then called the Deputy Sheriff long distance and "gave him the horse-laugh." Big mistake. Sheriff Dwire contacted the North Dakota Governor who telegraphed the Minnesota Governor who had Erdel extradited to Lisbon. The court slapped him with a \$500 fine and three months in jail.

The penalty put a serious crimp in his business. 1908 and 1909 were difficult times for Erdel. The records are filled with threatening letters from creditors. Apparently Sheriff Dwire, however, held no hard feelings. In 1912 and 1913 Dwire placed a number of large booze orders with Erdel on Sheriff's Department stationary!

Erdel continued in the business until 1915 when Clay County voters banned liquor sales countywide. He moved to Minneapolis where he owned another saloon until national prohibition hit in 1920. Erdel moved back to Moorhead. Unlike other former liquor dealers, Erdel avoided bootlegging. He ran a tire repair and sales shop in Moorhead for many years. Once prohibition was repealed he became a bartender. Charles Erdel died in 1956 and is buried with his wife Caroline in Moorhead's St. Joseph's Cemetery.



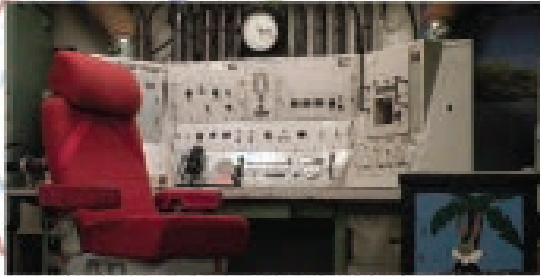
Want More HCS?
Join our online mailing. We send
out event notifications and other
happenings at HCS. Sign Up today on
our home page
www.hcscconline.org

A DAY IN DAKOTA HISTORY TOUR

\$95

AUG 22, 2015

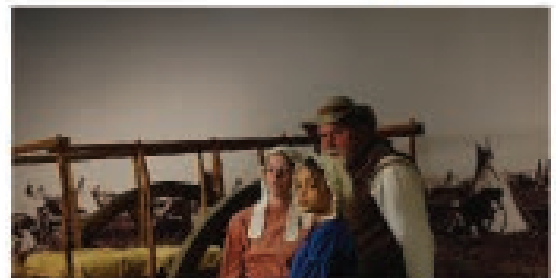
BEGINNING AND ENDING
AT THE HJEMKOMST
CENTER, MOORHEAD, MN
8AM- 10PM



RONALD REGAN MINUTE-
MAN MISSILE SITE-
COOPERSTOWN, ND



HATTON-EIELSON MUSEUM-
HATTON, ND



PEMBINA STATE MUSEUM -
PEMBINA, ND

DEADLINE TO RESERVE AND PAY IS JULY 22 .
YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF HCSCC FOR THIS TOUR.
FOR RESERVATIONS OR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
JEFF SWENSON 218-299-5511 EXT. 6737 OR
JEFF.SWENSON@HCSMUSEUM.ORG



Photos courtesy of: State Historical Society of
North Dakota (top), Chris Yeager, Hatton-Eielson
Museum (middle), Pembina State Museum (lower).

Scandinavian Hjemkomst and Midwest Viking Festival

The 38th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival and the Midwest Viking Festival returns to the Hjemkomst Center on **June 26-27**. Celebrate Nordic culture from ancient times to today.

HCS and the Nordic Culture Clubs want to continue this long running tradition in presenting the community with great entertainment, education, and cultural activities to excite and enchant people of all ages while exposing them to the charm of Old and New World Scandinavian traditions. With this event, you get two Festivals for the price of one! Outside you can participate in all things Viking, with blacksmiths, food demonstrations, Viking games, and a variety of other activities. Inside, you can expect to have your senses awakened with the smell of Scandinavian delicacies, shopping of all kinds, and wonderful entertainment!



We have a fabulous line-up this year to make the Finnish and Saami host cultures shine! We are honored to host the New York Kammermusiker, a double-reed ensemble that has traveled extensively throughout the world. They will be playing a variety of Scandinavian folks songs specially arranged for their unique group as well as classical music from Scandinavian composers. Continuing the focus of Scandinavian classical music, the Park Rapids Area Community Band, led by Dr. Russell Pesola will be joining with vocal group Saana Ensemble and Finnish brass band Ameriikan Poijat for a performance dedicated to the 150th Anniversary of the birth of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. The Soiva International Music Camp will also return for its fourth year, with more fabulous performances throughout the festival. Humorous duo the Two Talls will provide dancing and laughter for all ages, while a variety of living-history storytellers including Kari



Tauring and Jan Smith will transport you to Old and New World Scandinavian traditions. The Saami contingent of the festival will include performances by Saami yoiker Nathan Muus, an outdoor Saami lavuu tent village, presentations on Saami cultural heritage, and a special tribute to Faith Fjeld, the late editor of Baiki, the North American Saami journal and leader of the North American Sami Reawakening.



The Midwest Viking Festival is a gathering of blacksmiths, craftsmen, musicians and living history enthusiasts, from throughout the upper Midwest and abroad, who specialize in bringing the Viking Age back to life in this live Viking Village.

This year, we are excited to host Jeff Angus, an award-winning Viking leather-worker and artist. Doug Swenson will return with his traditional blacksmith shop; a self-taught blacksmith, he has impressed us for many years with amazing

recreations of ironwork from Scandinavian cultures. Battle demonstrations are scheduled for both days of the festival and a beer garden with locally-made Viking-themed brews is sure to be a hit. There are also plenty of opportunities for children to engage with the Viking way of life, with hands-on games and crafts throughout the park such as wool felting, coin striking and rune writing. This activity is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through a Minnesota State Legislative appropriation.

Festival admission per day is \$10 for Adults, \$5 for Youth 13-17, and Children under twelve are free with a paid adult. The Hjemkomst Center is at 202 1st Avenue North, Moorhead, MN. For more information visit www.nordiccultureclubs.org or www.hcscconline.org

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.

Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation **Now- 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."

American Dreams **Now – September 30, 2015**

American Dreams: Immigrants Carved Out Their Place on North Dakota's Plains is an exhibit researched, designed, written and installed by Dr. Angela Smith and her graduate and undergraduate students from North Dakota State University. This exhibit uses the Father William Sherman Collection as a lens to view the vibrant immigrant past of North Dakota.

Race and Remembrance

Now – August 30, 2015 These poster projects were created by Minnesota State University Moorhead students in a History course on American Identities taught by Prof. Paul Harris. A major theme of the course looked at how identity is shaped in historical memory, and the class was assigned to create commemorative exhibits of their own to honor the 150th anniversary of the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act.

The Red River Watercolor Society's 22nd Annual National Watermedia Exhibition **June 21- July 31, 2015**

With nearly 300 artists' entries from all over the US and Canada, The National Juried Watermedia exhibition is the only exhibition of its type in this part of the country. This year's exhibit includes stunning examples of florals, landscapes, figures and still life, as well as abstract, non-objective and experimental pieces with expressive and innovative use of various water media.

Upcoming Events

Canning, Not like Your Grandma Used to Do... **June 2, 2015, 6pm Heritage Theatre**

This free presentation explores the myths and facts of canning food for a new generation.

Red River Watercolor Society's 22nd Annual National Watermedia Opening Reception **June 23, 2015, 5-7pm 4th Floor Gallery**

This reception will be open to the public, and showcase the stunning examples of florals, landscapes, figures and still life, as well as abstract, non-objective and experimental pieces with expressive and innovative use of various water media such as acrylic, casein, ink and gouache by some of the top names in watercolor media today. Light refreshments will served.

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

Visitors get two festivals for the price of one. The Midwest Viking Festival is an outdoor gathering of craftsmen, musicians and living history enthusiasts, from throughout the upper Midwest, who specialize in bringing the Viking Age back to life. Indoors, the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival features high-quality performances of dance, music and humor from around the world! Many Scandinavian delicacies from aebleskivers to lutefisk can be enjoyed as you walk through the enchanting variety of shopping and interactive activities throughout all four floors of the Hjemkomst Center.

Monument Dedication Set for Clay County's First Female Aviator

Kragnes Township, Minn.

A ceremony will be held Sunday, June 14th to dedicate a monument erected on the grave of Aviatrice Florence (Gunderson) Klingensmith in the Oak Mound Cemetery near Kragnes.

Klingensmith was born and raised in the Oak Mound vicinity and became the first licensed female aviator in Clay County, MN. and the state of ND in 1929. She set several world records in women's aviation, was a charter member of the 99s and was killed in 1933 when her plane crashed during a race near Chicago.

A model plane was placed on her grave after her interment at Oak Mound, but was later discarded after it deteriorated. A monument resembling the original one is being erected by the Oak Mound 4-H Club for their 2015 Community Pride Project.

A church service will be held at 11 a.m., Sunday, June 14th in the Oak Mound Congregational Church, two miles west of Kragnes (9930 10th St. N.W., Moorhead). A potluck lunch will be held at noon followed by a dedication ceremony in the cemetery at 1 p.m. The public is welcome to attend this event. Please R.S.V.P. to Alex Swanson at (701) 540-8930 or apswanson@hotmail.com.



Be a Victory Gardener

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.

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.



Heritage Gift Shop

at the Hjemkomst Center

*New Summer Inventory featuring:
Local Artists
Cook Books
and Handmade gifts you won't
find anywhere else.*

*Don't forget your
Membership
Discount*

Mon-Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday Noon- 5pm