



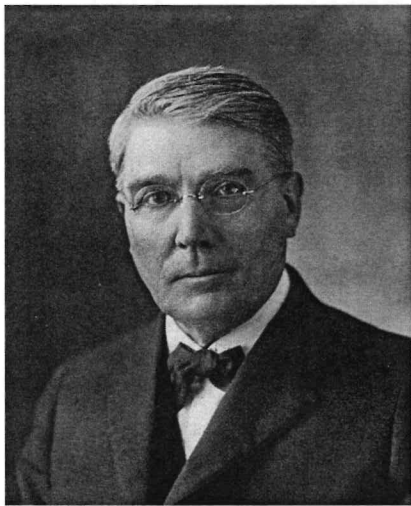
# The Hourglass

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 2 • Summer 2009

## Two Photographers: The Works of O.E. Flaten and S.P. Wange

New Original HCS Exhibit ■ On Display July 2009 - June 2010



O.E. Flaten



S.P. Wange

Photographs from HCS's Flaten/Wange Glass Plate Negative Collection will serve as the focus of an exhibit opening July 8 in our Heritage Hall gallery examines the works of these two very different Clay County pioneer photographers.

Flaten worked in Moorhead from 1879 to 1929. About 800 of his images survive. Wange photographed in Hawley between 1893 to about 1940. We have over 14,000 of his photos. When HCSCC received both collections around 1960, staff blended the collections. But it's not difficult to tell one photographer's work from the other.

Flaten was a kindly but stern man, serious about his work. He learned photography in the 1870s when photographers had to sensitize their own glass plates. His personality shows in his work. His photos are carefully arranged, conservative and technically brilliant.

Wange was a joker and gregarious fellow, famous for winning bets with traveling salesmen passing through Hawley. He learned photography in the late 1880s after factory-sensitized glass plates were available. Wange also owned a barbershop to help make ends meet. His photos lack technical brilliance but show a spontaneity and humor missing in Flaten's work. Together their images provide a unique view of Clay County's past from two very different perspectives.



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Our thanks to the Moorhead City  
Council for their continued support.

New Combined  
Membership Levels!

## HCS Membership Benefits

*Keep this list of membership benefits for your records*

#### **Individual-\$30 and Household-\$50:**

- Member Newsletter with fascinating historical articles and upcoming events
- Free annual admission to exhibits
- 15% discount in Heritage Gift Shop
- 50% off \$20/hour Archives research fee
- Invitations to HCS-sponsored special events
- Access to History Tours

#### **Booster-\$75:** all of the above, plus

- 25% off archival photo reproductions
- 2 guest admission passes

#### **Heritage-\$125:** all of the above, plus

- Association of Science & Technology Centers Museum Passport
- 4 total guest admission passes

#### **Patron-\$250:** all of the above, plus

- One hour of free research from the Archives
- 8 total guest admission passes

#### **Benefactor-\$500:** all of the above, plus

- Frameable 8" x 10" reproduction of historic photo from CCHS Archives
- 12 total guest admission passes

#### **Vanguard-\$1,000:** all of the above, plus

- Two complimentary tickets to the HCS Annual Meeting
- 16 total guest admission passes

#### **All Membership Levels:**

- Satisfaction of knowing you are helping to preserve the memory of our area's people and our rich heritage!

For more information call 218-299-5511  
or visit [www.hjemkomst-center.com](http://www.hjemkomst-center.com)

## Stop in the Heritage Shop!

**15% off ■ HCS Members**

## Letter from the Board President ■ Darren Leno



Greetings from your Board of Directors!

As I write this, I am enjoying a beautiful day in late May. The temperature is 73 degrees. The sky is sunny with no clouds in sight. There is no wind. The Red River has returned to its banks. The mosquitoes have not hatched. Today is one of those remarkable days that lifts our spirits and reminds us of the many blessings of living here.

I'm pleased to report that following the record flood events of March and April, normalcy has returned to the Hjemkomst Center and to most of our communities. Thankfully, the dire second crest flood prediction did not come to pass. Thanks to the hard-working people at HCS and the City of Moorhead, the Hjemkomst Center sailed through this crisis, none the worse for wear.

The Hjemkomst Center closed for several weeks, and this did impact our revenue position by restricting door receipts and gift shop sales, although we continue to be in a good position thanks to careful management of the budget and hiring delays. We are very grateful for the generous response to our fund-raising letter, which garnered more than \$ 3,800. Thank You!

Have you been to the gift shop at the Hjemkomst Center lately? You will find a wide range of interesting, culturally unique gifts. The next time you are shopping for a birthday, graduation or anniversary, please remember the Hjemkomst Center Gift Shop. Present your membership card and receive a 15% discount.

### New Board Members Elected

At the General Membership dinner in May, the following people were unanimously elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term:

Rose Bergan, Hawley  
Pearl Quinnild, Barnesville  
Duane Walker, Moorhead  
Dale White, Moorhead

### Executive Officers Elected for 2009

The Board of Directors has elected the following officers: Pearl Quinnild, Barnesville, returns as our Secretary.

Neil Jordheim, Fargo, is our Treasurer. Barb Bertschi, Fargo, is serving as our new Vice President.

Darren Leno, yours truly, was re-elected to my third and final term as Board President. It has been an honor to serve as the Board President for your Historical and Cultural Society, especially considering how deep the leadership runs on our board. I am very honored to have this opportunity again.

### New Board Committees Need Your Participation

The Board of Directors has established new committees, and there are seats on these committees for members like you to participate. If you would be interested in serving on one of these committees, please email or write Maureen and tell her about your interests, and please describe the skills you would bring to the committee.

■ **Finance Committee** oversees the immediate and long-term financial stability of the organization.

■ **HR/Policy Committee** oversees matters relating to employment and policies.

■ **Resource Development Committee** oversees matters regarding volunteers and volunteer development and fund raising.

■ **Operations Committee** assists staff on matters relating to the operation of the facility.

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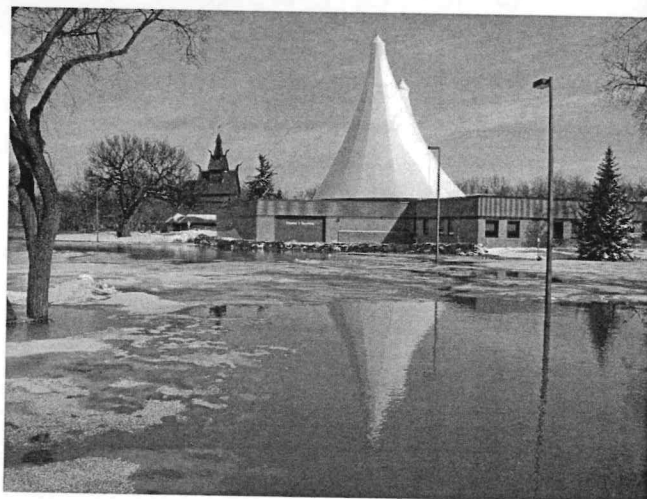
▪**Programming Directions**  
Committee monitors the program schedule, assists in programming events, and provides suggestions for future programming ideas.

### These Historic Times

We are indeed living in an historic time. The challenges and opportunities that face our nation and each of us as individuals at this moment have not been seen in more than a generation. Through it all, your Historical and Cultural Society is hard at work telling the stories of who we are and working to preserve the past and present for the future generations.

Perhaps another generation or more will pass before the likes of the current crisis will be seen again, and the living memory of this event will have passed. Yet the HCS collection will collect and preserve the stories and artifacts to share our experiences with future generations. Please remember your Historical and Cultural Society as you plan your charitable gifts this year.

## Hear Our Flood 2009 Story



**Date: July 30, 2009**

**Time: 5pm-8pm**

Join HCS & Hjemkomst Center staff members as we share our flood-fighting adventures.

You are welcome to bring a brown bag dinner.

## Thanks, Pam!



**Annual Meeting, May 18, 2009 —**  
Maureen Kelly Jonason, Interim Executive Director, presents retired Collections Manager Pam Burkhardt a beautifully made black walnut bowl for her nearly 25 years of service to the Clay County Historical Society.

### GRANT NEWS

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County has received a number of grants this year to help us along in our merger, operations, and special projects.

Funder	Project	Amount
MN State Historical Society	Latino Oral History	\$3,000
MN State Arts Board	Pangea 2009	\$4,500
National Endowment for the Humanities	Asian Games	\$1,000
West Central Initiative	Merger Services	\$2,500
Cole Paper	Pangea 2009	\$200
LRAC	Day of Dead	\$2,000
Blandin Foundation	Digital Projector	\$795
Midcontinent Media Foundation	Shelving Units	\$1,500
Arts Partnership	Viking Village	\$1,500
ND Council on the Arts	Pangea 2009	\$2,000
West Central Initiative	Leadership Institute	\$1,750



## HCS Interim Executive Director Maureen Kelly Jonason

Happy summer at last! The beautiful weather and dry ground seem truly miraculous after our adventures with the flood. Like everyone else, we have our flood stories, and we'd like to share a few about the home of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County—the Hjemkomst Center. On March 24, we knew the situation was dire when the building meeting was suddenly moved from 1pm to 11am. The water rose more quickly than expected, and we had several days of excitement. March 25, hundreds of stalwart, dedicated volunteers of all ages came to our rescue and over 14 hours built a sandbag dike around the west and north sides of the building and church. It was an amazing feat to witness as they stood shoulder to shoulder cheerfully passing sandbags hand to hand. Every couple of hours a new busload filled with energetic college students would arrive from Nemzek Fieldhouse to take over from the last exhausted group. New events coordinator Tim Jorgensen spent one of his first days of work on the sandbag line. Communications Coordinator Michelle Kittleson documented in photographs the incredibly valiant effort as the Red continued to rise.

The Hjemkomst Gallery sits at 42 feet, and so when we heard the crest was predicted to go to 42 feet, HCS staff all started hauling. March 25-28, we moved the archives and many artifacts upstairs to higher ground. First Avenue had flooded, and staff had to hike from the Herberger's parking lot in waders through knee-high river water to get to work. At the same time, our sewer lift station was shut down, and we started using porta-potties. On the night of the crest, we helped City staff pump five different leaks in the dike every thirty minutes for twenty-seven hours to keep the building dry. We also hourly helped empty 40-gallon buckets of water from foundation leaks on the fourth floor. Visitor Services Coordinator Markus Krueger and archivist Mark Peihl kindly staffed many overnight shifts for the next two weeks. Other than one small spot of water on the fourth floor, the Hjemkomst Center miraculously stayed dry. After the temperature dropped and the water level started going down, we sighed in relief.

But that still meant that we were closed for business for the next 30 days.

In the meantime, however, staff continued to work on planning and promoting the exhibits and events for the rest of the year. The Center was eerily quiet without volunteers, seniors, and visitors. Once the second crest hit without much fanfare, the staff started moving artifacts and archives back downstairs. With all the staff hauling diligently over three days, staff worked meticulously to put each item back into its assigned spot. We were delighted to throw open the doors on April 27 and welcome people back in. We even had several school tour groups. At the start of May, we were just starting to get back to normal.

So now it's time to look forward into a brighter future. While we were closed for thirty days, we lost a great deal of revenue. Our request for flood relief resulted in more than \$3800 coming in very quickly, and we greatly appreciated the support! Although our spring exhibits had to be cancelled, we were fortunate enough to reschedule Asian Games: The Art of Contest for the fall. The June exhibit of Prairie Churches was enhanced by Clay County church artifacts. Our goal will be to try to incorporate some of the Society's excellent collection of artifacts and archival materials into many of the future traveling exhibits whenever relevant. On May 18 we enjoyed an excellent annual meeting celebration with former collections manager Pam Burkhardt as guest of honor. July and August will be the peak of our tourist season with thousands of visitors and many fun activities for members (see calendar of events). Please come and visit and bring your neighbors, friends, and out-of-town visitors. We'd love every member to visit at least twice a year just to see what's new! Remember that we change exhibits four times a year, and so there is always something wonderful to see and learn. Come on in!



Photo Provided by: The Hawley Herald

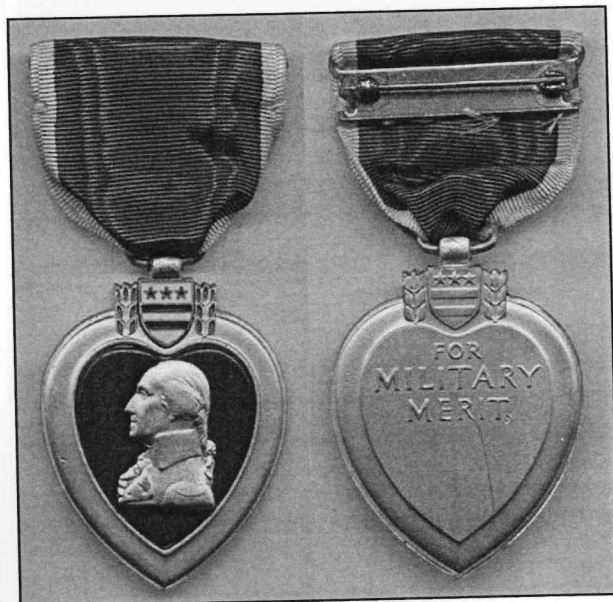
## HCS Archives Helps Solve Mystery

By Mark Peihl, Archivist

Some days, working in the archives is just plain fun; other days it can be extremely gratifying. March 12 was one of the latter. At about 2:00 p.m. I received a call from Gerry Henry of Pelican Rapids who had a mystery to solve. (I love mysteries.) Some years ago he had purchased a dresser at an estate sale near Breckenridge. When he got the piece home, he discovered a Purple Heart in one of the drawers. The Purple Heart is one of our Nation's most respected and recognized military honors, going to those wounded or killed in combat. On the back was inscribed *For Military Merit Albert H. Norby*. Knowing its significance, Gerry (a twice-wounded Vietnam War veteran and Purple Heart recipient himself) had tried over the years to get the medal back to Norby or his family. He called the HCS Archives on a whim to see if we could help. I quickly agreed to assist any way we could.

The Purple Heart has a very long heritage and has not always been awarded for wounds received by enlisted men. According to the US Army's Center for Military History, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century no European powers awarded medals to enlisted men for valor or service - those were reserved for officers. In 1782, General George Washington devised an honor specifically for non-commissioned officers and enlisted men. The Badge of Military Merit, it was to be awarded for "any singularly meritorious action." Washington decreed the decoration be a "Figure of a Heart in Purple Cloth or Silk edged with narrow Lace or Binding" to be worn over the left breast. Three Connecticut soldiers received the award, but it dropped out of sight after the Revolution.

US Army Chief of Staff General Charles Summerall attempted to revive the Badge of Military Merit in 1927.



**Purple Heart Medal**, front and back. Like most Purple Hearts, this one is not engraved with the recipient's name on the back.  
Courtesy of Marksmadals.com.

Things didn't work out, but in 1931, Summerall's successor, General Douglas MacArthur (later of World War II fame), tried again. MacArthur knew with the bicentennial of Washington's birth in 1932, the Nation's attention would focus on our first president. MacArthur worked with the Washington Commission on Fine Arts to come up with a design. An Army heraldic specialist in the Office of the Quartermaster General, Miss Elizabeth Will, created a sketch for the present-day medal.

Army regulations describe the medal as "a purple enameled heart within a bronze quarter-inch border showing a relief profile of George Washington in Continental uniform. Surmounting the enameled shield is Washington's family coat of arms, the same used by the heart shape and the coat of arms of the obverse is repeated without enamel; within the



**Albert Norby**, wounded in France October 17, 1918. *Clay County, Minnesota in the World War, 1917-1919*; Buckey-Mears, Chicago: 1919.

heart lies the inscription, *For Military Merit*, with space beneath for the engraved name of the recipient. The device is 1-11/16 inches in length and 1-3/8 inches in width, and is suspended by a rounded rectangular length displaying a vertical purple band with quarter-inch white borders.” (See the photo on page 6.)

On February 22, 1932, the War Department introduced the new medal. Regulations stipulated two categories for eligibility. The first included those World War I veterans who had received a Meritorious Service Citation Certificate issued by the Commander in Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces. These (relatively few) were issued for, as Washington had wished, a singularly meritorious action. The recipient had to surrender his Certificate to receive the new medal. The second included those who were entitled to wear Wound Chevrons, gold V-shaped bars which wounded

soldiers could wear on their lower left dress uniform sleeve. Veterans had to apply for the award.

During World War II, Presidents Roosevelt and Truman extended eligibility to wounded sailors including Marines and Coast Guardsmen retroactively to World War I. Regulation changes also allowed those who received Purple Hearts for other than injuries to exchange them for other decorations.

Purple Hearts engraved with the recipient’s name are fairly rare. Beginning in World War II, commanders often just passed out the medals on the battlefield or in hospitals. Usually only those issued posthumously or distributed through the application process were engraved. Norby’s engraved medal was likely one of these.

Gerry had heard that the Norby family may have been from the Hawley or Rollag area. I checked our index to deaths recorded in Clay County 1872-1982 to see if he had passed away here. The index listed a “Norby, Albert H.” dying August 10, 1964. With a quick check of the *Hawley Herald* I found his obituary. It indicated that Albert, 76, had been born near Hawley in 1888 and had lived on the family farm his whole life until moving to a nursing home that April. His funeral and burial took place at Hitterdal. It also said he had “served in the Army in France during World War I.” His survivors included a brother, three sisters and a daughter, Hulda Norby, of Hawley. His wife, Mabel, preceded him in death in 1960.

I then checked our copy of *Clay County, Minnesota, in the World War, 1917-1919*. Published in 1919, it’s part of a series of listings of veterans from all over the area. After the War, the publishers

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## Red River Steamboating's Sesquicentennial

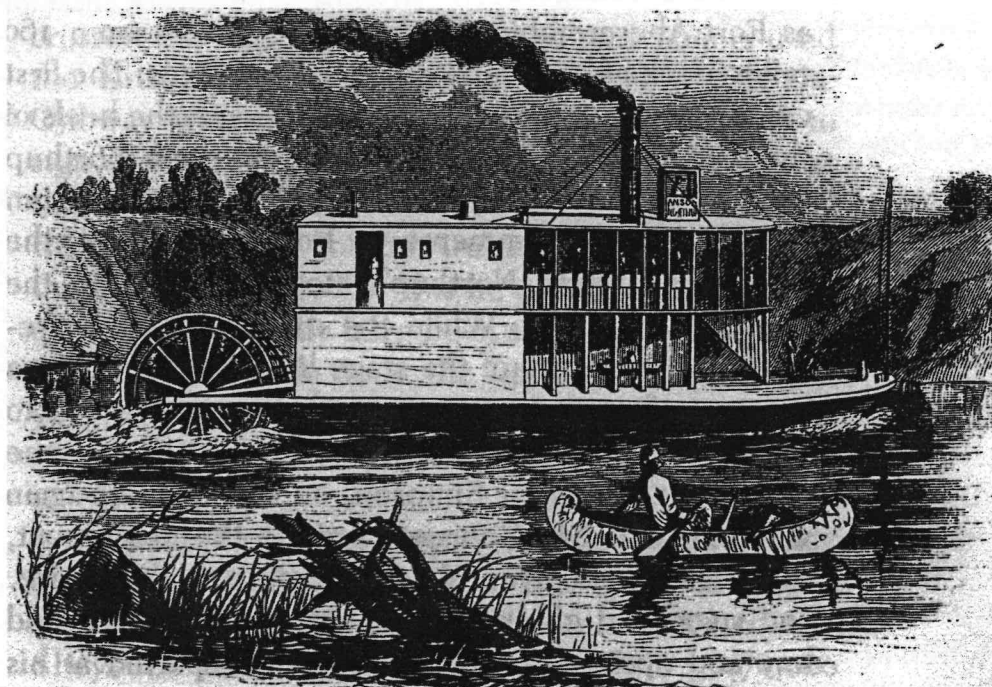
By Mark Peihl, Archivist

May marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of steamboat transportation on the Red River. On May 19, 1859, the *Anson Northup* slid into the Red and began one of the most colorful chapters in the county's history. It was one of a series of events in the late 1850s which dramatically boosted trade, transportation and activity generally in the Red River Valley.

For most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Valley was not a travel destination but a place for people to move through. Starting in the 1820s, trade began between the two main population centers in this part of the continent: St. Paul at the forks of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers and the Red River Settlement at the forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers (present day Winnipeg). The Hudson's Bay Company held a monopoly on all trade in furs in central British North America. Folks at the Settlement, primarily mixed heritage Metis, chafed at this and soon realized they could

get better and cheaper goods for their furs by smuggling them to St. Paul. The HBC tried to stem the flow but eventually threw in the towel. St. Paul merchants, eager to trade north, set up shop right on the border. Hundreds of carts soon squeaked their way over a complex network of trails through the Valley, hauling furs south and every imaginable sort of trade good north.

In 1853 Minnesota dreamers convinced Congress to fund an expedition to search for a route for a proposed transcontinental railroad running from St. Paul to Puget Sound. The publication of Isaac I. Steven's subsequent survey report gave Minnesotans railroad fever. Everyone knew that cities would develop wherever this new railway crossed the Red River. Scores of entrepreneurs, hoping to cash in on a coming real estate boom, sought to establish "townsites" at likely crossing sites.



**The *Anson Northup*** was not much of a boat. One pilot called her "a lumbering old pine basket which you had to handle as gingerly as a hamperful of eggs." *Harpers Monthly Magazine*, October 1860.

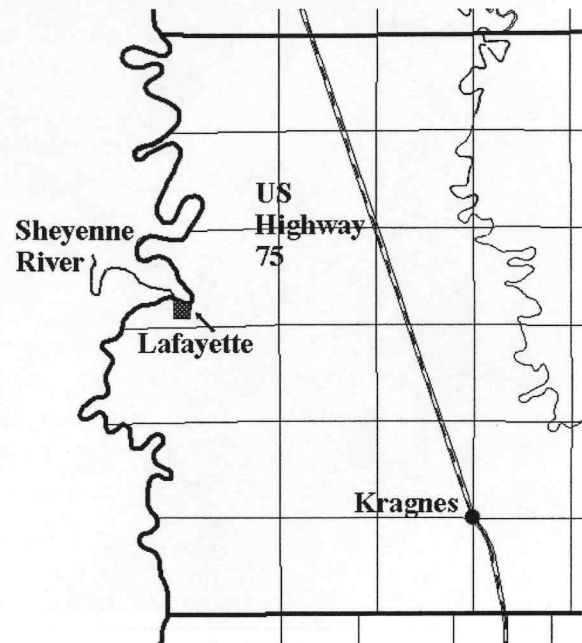


In 1857 they located towns at the mouths of the Red's tributaries, making them easy to find on the nearly trackless prairie. In Clay County, these included East Burlington on the Wild Rice, Lafayette and Sheyenne City at the Sheyenne and Sarsfeld near the Buffalo. With blocks, lots and streets staked out, the entrepreneurs waited for all comers. And waited. The railroad did not come. The stakes rotted in the ground. The financial panic late that year doomed the questionable enterprises. But they brought attention to the Valley. (In 1872 the Northern Pacific Railway crossed the Red at a site of their own choosing, ignoring the townsites abandoned 13 years before.)

In 1858 Minnesota became a state. The US Army extended its reach in the new state by building Fort Abercrombie on the Red River 15 miles north of the confluence of the Bois de Sioux and Otter Tail Rivers where the only townsite to amount to anything, Breckenridge, still managed to survive. The fort would protect American interests in the Valley and guard the projected railroad and wagon trains heading west.

Also in 1858, prospectors discovered gold on the Fraser River in British Columbia. Hordes of fortune hunters began plans to sail from the eastern US around South America to the fields. Others looked to an overland route, via rail and steamboat to St. Paul then via Red River cart or other conveyance to Fort Garry (Winnipeg) and overland west.

Also in 1858, the Hudson's Bay Company tried an experiment in transportation. Since the 1700s, the HBC shipped their trade goods from London on sailing ships across the North Atlantic and through Hudson Bay. From Norway House on the Bay's shore, York boats carried the goods up the Nelson River, across Lake



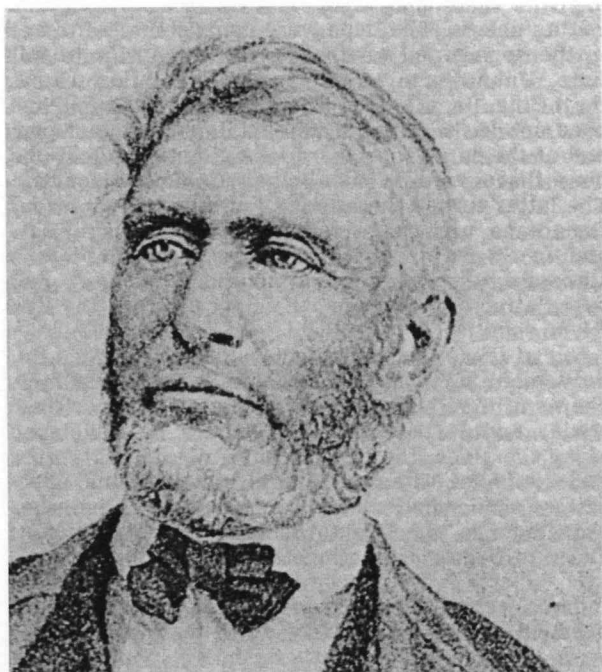
**Northup** built his steamboat at the failed townsite of Lafayette, 4½ miles northwest of present day Kragnes.

Winnipeg and up the Red River to the forks of Assiniboine. Furs returned to London via the same route. This was very expensive and slow. Hudson Bay was free of ice only a short time each year. Ocean storms sent cargos to the bottom. Taking a clue from the Metis' successful cart paths to St. Paul and Mississippi steamboat connections to the east, the HBC sent a small portion of their furs in sealed packages south to St. Paul for transport to New York and London. The experiment proved a smashing success. They saved a lot of money and prepared to send all of their central Canada trade goods for 1859 via this "Minnesota Route."

Meanwhile, in the spring of 1858, Anson Northup of Minneapolis somehow got a steamboat, the *North Star*, up over the falls of St. Anthony. He had a plan to run her on the upper Mississippi to supply lumbermen working there.

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**Anson Northup**, builder of the first steamboat on the Red River. *Pioneer History of Becker County*, 1907.

He got as far as Grand Rapids when he realized there was not enough traffic to make his boat pay. Unable to get back down over Little Falls and the Sauk Rapids, he ran her back down to the mouth of the Crow Wing River, tied her up and left for St. Paul.

All of this Red River Valley activity resulted in Northup's salvation. That fall the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, pleased with the growing trade with the Red River Settlement, offered a \$1000 cash reward to anyone who would place a steamboat on the Red River. A steamboat would cut the long cart trail in half greatly reducing shipping costs.

Northup convinced the Chamber to up the reward to \$2000 and took them up on it. He hurried back to his boat and ran her up the Crow Wing River as far as the Gull River where a small saw mill stood. There workmen dismantled the North Star and cut lumber for a new boat.

In February, 1859, Northup hired 60 men and 34 teams of oxen to drag the machinery and lumber on sleds to the townsite of Lafayette 4¼ miles northwest of present-day Kragnes. It was an epic journey, 140 miles through an extremely cold, stormy winter. On April 1, the first loads arrived at Lafayette and construction began. The boat was built on dry ground held upright on blocks. When completed, she was lifted clear of the blocks with screw jacks and set down on planks leading to the water's edge. Then she simply slid sideways down the planks to the water.

A St. Paul newspaperman was on hand to describe her launching on May 19: "The boat was built at an elevation of twenty feet above, and about one hundred feet distant from the river, which gave a rather steep inclination to the ways. The ways had been greased and the boat struck the water with such force that if the hull had not been very strong it must have been backed considerably. At 10.45, with everything being in readiness, C.L. Northrup [sic], the captain's oldest son, took a stand upon the bow with a bottle of wine, which had been preserved for the occasion, and the shores were simultaneously struck out. As she righted after striking the water, the bottle was broken over the stem and baptized, amid hearty cheers, as the 'Anson Northrup' [sic]."

On the 26th, she started for Ft. Abercrombie. It was a tough trip. Barely seaworthy, scrap lumber braced up her pipes. Hardly five miles from Lafayette, the vibration from her engines shook loose her pipes and she lost steam. With emergency repairs she limped to the fort. There decks and a cabin were added and the stern wheeler headed for Ft. Garry, arriving on June 7.

A Ft. Garry newspaper described the boat: "The hull of the steamer is 90 feet long ...her beam is 24 feet ...with a burden of 80 tons her draught would be about 2 1/2 feet, but when running light she draws only 15 inches. There are three decks. On the first are the kitchen and engine room. The second is [called] the boiler deck [although the boiler was below], which ...contains the cabin with 24 berths, and four staterooms having accommodation for 12 ladies, the office forward and the pantry and washroom aft. The pilot house is on the third or hurricane deck."

After an excursion to Lake Winnipeg, the *Anson Northup* returned to Ft. Abercrombie.

Earlier that winter a number of small southern Minnesota stagecoach and freighting lines combined as the Minnesota Stage Company. Hearing of the new steamboat, Company heads John C. and Henry C. Burbank, extended their stage line from St. Cloud to meet the boat at Fort Abercrombie.

Their first load of passengers arrived in early July to find Northup had abandoned the boat. He had placed and run a steamboat on the Red and now was off to collect his reward. Dismayed, the Burbanks built a flatboat for their passengers to finish their trip to Fort Garry. While they were constructing the boat, HBC Governor Sir George Simpson happened to pass by on his way to St. Paul. He quickly looked over the situation, told the Burbanks to buy the steamer and sped off. In St. Paul, Russell Blakely of the Chamber of Commerce chided Northup for not running her. Northup replied, "If you want to run her, you will have to buy her." The Burbank brothers did just that. With the HBC as a silent partner they took over the boat for \$8,000.

She was no prize. Slapped together out of green pine, she leaked very badly. Her boiler head was cracked and leaked steam. The following winter her boiler was rebuilt. She was repainted and her smoke stack, capstan, steam piping and rigging replaced. By spring, she was rechristened *The Pioneer*, but she was still no treasure. An early passenger said, "nothing could have been more awkward than that tub of a boat, plunging every now and again head long into the banks despite the frantic exertions of the pilot."

Another said she "was small and over crowded, the funnel [smoke stack] rose through the saloon, rendering that chamber extremely warm." One of her pilots called her "a lumbering old pine basket which you have to handle as gingerly as a hamper of eggs."

During her three seasons on the river, the *Anson Northup* had to be rebuilt twice. She finally met her end when she sank near Lake Winnipeg in spring 1862. Her engine was later raised by the HBC and used in a saw mill.

Although not a huge commercial or engineering success, the *Anson Northup* led the way for many other boats that piled the Red for over fifty years.

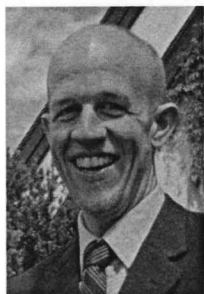
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### **Do you know History Lovers involved in Businesses or Service Clubs?**

If you do, send them our way!  
We would love more Businesses and Service Clubs to become Annual Members of HCS. If you know of anyone, have them contact Interim Executive Director Maureen Kelly Jonason.  
Phone: 218-299-5511 x226  
Email: [maureen.jonason@ci.moorhead.mn.us](mailto:maureen.jonason@ci.moorhead.mn.us)



## Meet New Staff Member



### Tim Jorgensen

Events Coordinator

Hello! I'm Tim Jorgensen, the new Events Coordinator at HCS. My job is orchestrating the cultural and history-centered events offered

throughout the year. From start to finish, I work closely with the HCS staff, event participants, and the community to ensure mutually-beneficial results and meet our mission goals. In 2006, I finished my MA in Folk Studies from Western Kentucky University and I'm now thrilled to apply this education in my native community, Fargo-Moorhead. My favorite historic periods include The Viking Age, The American Old West, and The Vietnam War. I also enjoy playing bass, teaching Norwegian, and grilling.

## SAVE THE DATE

Back to the '50s  
Gala 2009

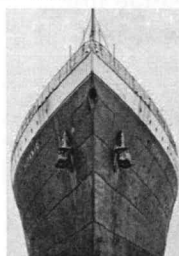


Date: October 22, 2009

Stay Tuned for More Info!

## Titanic History Tour, Sept. 25 & 26

Join us for our first tour as a merged organization! The tour will go to the Twin Cities to see *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* at the Science Museum of Minnesota, which includes actual artifacts recovered from the ship's wreck on the ocean floor, and to see the fabulous "Always...Patsy Cline" production at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater! Tour-goers will also visit the memorable *Minnesota's Greatest Generation* exhibit at the History Center in St. Paul and take in the historic town of Stillwater with lunch-on-your-own, shopping and/or an optional tour of the Joseph Wolf Brewery Cave. Accommodations will be at the newly-renovated Chanhassen Country Inn & Suites, conveniently located adjacent to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater.



**Registration Deadline:**  
August 24, 2009

**To Register call Lisa**  
218-299-5511 x232

### Fall Tour Rates\*

#### Rate Options Based on Room Occupancy

Single Room	\$325 each
Double Occupancy (King Bed or Two Queens)	\$285 each
Triple Occupancy	\$250 each
Quadruple Occupancy	\$225 each

**\*Included in Fee:** luxury motor coach, accommodations, most meals and all attractions fees.  
Schedule subject to change.

# VIKING VILLAGE

Celebrating all things Viking!

HCS Members  
Free!



**July 18**  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**July 19**  
Noon - 4 p.m.

**Viking Era Food, Games,  
Crafts & More!**

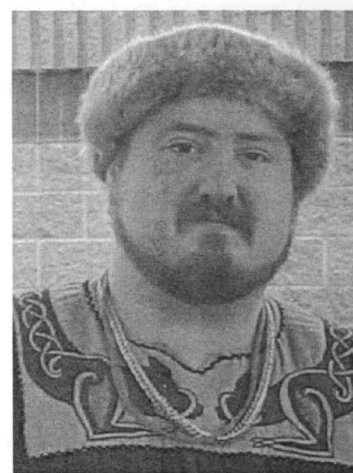
Below is an interview with Sam Swalley who is local a Viking enthusiast who participates annually in a variety of activities from that era. You can see him in action (as in the above photo) at our Viking Village.

**What is your heritage?**

Norwegian, Swedish, and German

**What is your Viking name and how did you end up choosing it?**

Hrodir Viga-Geirr Toreson. "Hrodir" is a derivative of "Hronir," who was a companion of Harald Hadrada – the Norwegian king whose raid on England in 1066 marked the end of the Viking age.



Sam "Hrodir" Swalley

**How did you get interested in doing Viking-age reenactments?**

I was raised with stories about Vikings from my grandfather.

**What kind of period activities are your specialties or favorites?**

Fighting, making boots, and leather-work.

**What parts of Viking life pose the biggest challenge to today's re-enactors?**

Dietary. Vikings had a largely agrarian life; lots of veggies. Most meat was fish or pork.

**What are the big differences between a regular day for you in 2009 compared to a regular day as a Viking?** Work. Depending on the season, a Viking man would be planting, harvesting, or off raiding or trading during the summer. Winter was a time to be home and repairing things.

**What are you looking forward to as a participant at this year's Viking Village?**

Looking forward to "losing sight" of the modern world and letting the village take over so I can be "Hrodir" for a weekend.

## HCS Archives Helps Solve Mystery

Continued from page 7..

placed notices in local newspapers requesting that veterans or their families submit photos and service histories of any Clay County residents who had served. About 1,000 responded. (Similar volumes are available for Becker County, MN and Cass County, ND.) His service record with photo found on page 75 says, "Albert H. Norby. Son of Hans Norby, Hawley. Entered service Feb. 23, 1918, and went overseas in summer, after training at Camp Mills, Camp Dodge and Camp Sevier; Wounded Oct. 17, 1918. Discharged April 10, 1919."

This certainly seemed like our man. I found the family living on their farm in the 1930 U.S. census. It was actually closer to Hitterdal than Hawley. According to the census, Hulda was seven years old in 1930, so she'd be in her 80s today. She seemed like the best bet for a surviving family member. Her last name was still Norby in 1964.

I checked our index to marriages in Clay County to see if she had married after her father's passing. Hulda was not listed there, so I did a search for her in the online telephone index, [www.switchboard.com](http://www.switchboard.com). There was only one Hulda Norby listed in Minnesota, at the Hawley Senior Living Center.

This left me with a quandary. For decades the Archives has followed an unwritten policy of not revealing information about a living person without the person's permission. I could have called Hulda and told her about the medal, but I wanted Gerry to be able to break the news. I called staff at Hawley Senior Living who assured me Hulda wouldn't mind if I gave Gerry the opportunity. I swallowed hard and sent the information to Gerry.

Gerry met with Hulda and shared the info we had sent this past April. The *Hawley Herald* covered the meeting. Hulda was surprised and very pleased to receive her father's decoration. She's justly proud of her father and his sacrifice. As the HCS Archivist, I am gratified to have been a part of returning this historic award to the

## Curator's Column



**Lisa Vedaa**

Interim Collections Manager

Because we were closed for over a month due to the flood, there are very few donations of artifacts to report, but I would like to give an update on activities in the

collections department. During the flood, we did move a large portion of the archival pieces in the collection and some three-dimensional pieces and collections from our storage areas in the lower levels of the Hjemkomst Center to the main floor as a precaution against any potential damage from flooding. Luckily the building was essentially spared, and by the time you read this, we should have all of the artifacts back on their shelves.

I presented my first educational program on April 18 for the Quilters Guild of North Dakota. It was a program about some of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century quilts we have in our collection. It featured a quilt made by the Riverside Elementary Fourth Grade Class for the National Bicentennial in 1976, a quilt made for the Barnesville Centennial in the 1980s, a quilt made by the Barnesville Humboldt 4-H Club in the 1930s, and several other quilts from about 1900 through the 1940s. I look forward to giving more quilt programs, so if you have a club or group that needs program ideas, give me a call at 218-299-5511, ext. 232.

## SAVE THE DATES

October 1-3, 2009

Modern Viking Band  
Returns to  
Fargo -Moorhead





## WE CAN'T THANK OUR SUPPORTERS ENOUGH!\*

Special thanks to those of you who answered our Flood Relief appeal in the last newsletter. Notice how many folks responded from far away!

### **\$1,000 Donors**

David Furholmen, Roseville, IL  
Arthur Holmgren, Huntsville, AL  
Celeste Johnson, Fargo, ND

### **\$200 and under**

Yvonne Bethke, Moorhead, MN  
Olaf and Verna Cartford, Moorhead, MN  
Patrick and Rae Colliton, Fargo, ND  
Jim and Portia Danielson, Moorhead, MN  
Gini Duval, Fargo, ND  
Thomas and Mary Hannaher, Fargo, ND  
Paul Harris and LuAnn Hagel, Moorhead, MN  
Gene and Elsie Peterson, Roswell, NM  
Dewey and Margery Possehl, Moorhead, MN  
RR and LR Welch, San Jose, CA

Thanks also to those who honored those special people we have recently lost.

In Memory of Sallie Bush  
Maureen Kelly Jonason

In Memory of Warren Diederich  
Maureen Kelly Jonason

In Memory of Ruth Swanson  
Altrusa International Club of Moorhead

In Memory of Bev Paulson  
Paul and Marty Dovre  
Maureen Kelly Jonason  
Mr & Mrs Edwin Kallander  
Fred Scheel  
H.C. and Zona Mathison

### **Other donors Dec. 1, 2008 - May 27, 2009**

Norman and Eunice Jones \$5,000  
R.D. Offutt - \$3,000  
Gate City Bank - \$2,700  
Northern Plains Distributing - \$1,000  
Noridian - \$1,000  
Dawson Foundation - \$1,000  
Heartland Trust - \$1,000  
Del Rae Williams - \$810 for tax preparation  
Blandin Alumni Group - \$795 for a new digital projector  
Midcontinent Communications - \$1,500 for shelving units  
Nancy and Neil Jordheim - \$500  
Wells Fargo Bank \$300  
Union State Bank - \$250  
Moore Engineering - \$250  
Maynard Fisk - \$100  
Vikingland Kiwanis - \$100

Recent Upgrade in Membership Level  
Mary Bolstad - \$1,000

\* Any errors are a result of mere human weakness and not intended to reflect a lack of respect.

## New and Renewed Memberships

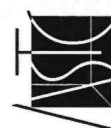
The new and renewed member listing is on hiatus for this issue.  
Please call if you have any questions regarding your membership status.  
We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time of transition.

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County  
 PO BOX 157 • 202 First Avenue North  
 Moorhead, MN 56561-0157



To preserve, interpret and celebrate the history of  
 culture of Clay County and the region.

<b>Exhibition &amp; Event Calendar</b>	
<b>Current &amp; Upcoming Exhibitions</b>	
<b>July 2009 - June 2010</b>	Two Photographers: the Works of O.E. Flaten & S.P. Wange
<b>July 1—September 13, 2009</b>	Red River Watercolor Society Member Show
<b>September - December 2009</b>	Asian Games: The Art of Contest A Celebration of Souls: Day of the Dead in Southern Mexico
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<b>July 18—19, 2009</b>	(see page 13) Viking Village
<b>July 30, 2009 • 5pm-8pm</b>	Flood 2009 Presentation
<b>October 1, 2009 • 7 p.m.</b>	Krauka, Viking Band
<b>October 22, 2009</b>	Back to the 50s Gala & Silent Auction
<b>November 14, 2009</b>	Pangea-Cultivate Our Cultures Festival



The Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County  
 participates in the ASTC (**American Science and  
 Technology Centers**) passport program.