

The Hourglass

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 2 • Summer 2012

NORDIC FOOTPRINTS

35th Scandinavian Hjemkomst and
Annual Midwest Viking Festivals

June 22 & 23
10 a.m. - 5 p.m

Free Admission for
HCSCC Members with
Membership Card



Don't miss the boat...

Relive the voyage of the *Hjemkomst* in our daily blog <http://thevikingshiphjemkomst.areavoices.com>. Click on **30 years ago Today** for daily posts and a place to share your memories about the ship and its crew.

In this issue

Letter from the Board President	3
Letter from the Executive Director	4
Nordic Footprints	5
Collections Donations	6
Jesten's Claim: Moorhead's 1st Homesteader	7
Georgetown and the Dakota War	8
Volunteer Spotlight	15
Exhibition & Event Calendar	17



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

HCSCC News

Please Send us Your Addresses!

Are you going away for the winter or coming back for the summer? Please send your alternate address to Michelle.Carlson@ci.moorhead.mn.us to make sure you're receiving all the up-to-date information from the HCSCC!

New Marketing Coordinator



I would like to introduce myself. I am Gwen McCausland and I am the new marketing coordinator. I started in April and I am really excited to be a part of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. I have an eclectic background in museums, design and sales.

My previous museum experience is primarily in the collections department. I worked for various museums and historic sites managing collections and designing exhibits in North Dakota and New Mexico. I am also a freelance designer creating exhibits and promotional materials for various nonprofits and small businesses.

As I forge ahead in my new position, I hope to incorporate my experience in museums with my years of working in sales to promote the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. One long-term project that I am working on is developing a brand for the museum. I want to make sure that our message is clear and consistent to the public about who we are and what we do.

But with any project, I like to take a grassroots approach by involving the community. So I ask you as a member of HCSCC, what words would you use to describe the Society and the museum? Please call me at 299-5511 ext. 6736 or email me at gwen.mccausland@ci.moorhead.mn.us with your thoughts. I look forward to meeting you and hearing your ideas.



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Letter from the Board President

Gene Prim



Looking Forward By
Looking Back . . .

A couple of milestones were recently observed by the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. We hosted our annual meeting on May 1 with a dinner meeting at the Community Center in Dilworth. There was a good attendance at the meeting to hear some of the good news.

The ever-improving financial situation of the Society is good news to all involved. Since the merger of the Clay County Historical Society and the HHIC Board, the outstanding debt has been reduced by about 62%. When the two groups merged the outstanding debt was \$78,722. A large portion of that debt was related to roof replacement in 2006-2007 and also a long-term note in the amount of \$25,000 held by the City of Moorhead.

The Moorhead note was forgiven by the City and the rent reduced. Incremental payments on the \$53,772 bank line of credit have been made as cash flows have allowed. Total debt for the merged Society is now less than \$30,000 with plans in place aimed at eliminating that debt over the next two years. In the meantime, the HCS operates on a tight budget that is reviewed monthly by the board.

Helping with our bottom line this year will be the absence of days lost to any flooding which will provide the first full 12-month statement of operations. It will be the first financial statement that we have seen in a half dozen years with no business weeks lost to the flooding Red River.

Programming and exhibits at the Center are constantly changing. Events that did not work are being modified, modernized or eliminated. Those that do work are scrutinized to see how they can be made better.

It has been my honor and privilege this past 12 months to head up an aggressive board that wants to see HCS grow, prosper, expand and operate in a more businesslike atmosphere. As with all boards, the faces

are always changing in the organization. That is good and it is bad. With any change, we lose experience. With the naming of new board members we gain new ideas and ways of accomplishing what we want to do and new direction on where we want to go.

At the time of the merger the total board membership was listed at over 25 members with the full slate of members from both boards evolving into a single organization. It was an unwieldy number at best. The by-laws of the new organization called for a reduction of the board to a dozen members. This was accomplished, through normal attrition, much faster than most anticipated. The board is now at the desired number and sees regular turnover, fresh ideas and even some healthy disagreement from time to time.

This past year we lost more board members than we traditionally do as Barb Bertschi, Pearl Quinnild, Kelly Wambach and, following the end of her term in May, Rose Bergan left the board. They have been replaced by Les Bakke, Gail Blair and John Dobmeier with one additional board member yet to be named.

Barb Bertschi joined the board in 2007 and during her tenure served as secretary, vice president and president of the organization. Kelly Wambach also joined the board in 2007 and left this past year due to scheduling conflicts. He remains active in various activities including the fall fundraiser and working with staff to develop an exhibit featuring Clay County and artists Annie Stein and Orabel Thortvedt.

Pearl Quinnild was appointed to fill an open seat in 2005 and served until January of 2011 when she resigned from the board. Pearl died in December 2011. Rose Bergan came on the old Clay County Historical Society Board in 2003 and has spent a decade serving the board. During her tenure she served as secretary and vice president of the organization.

Faces and finances . . . The new members bring us fresh, new ideas. The improving financial situation will allow us to devote our time to improving the organization once the debt has been paid off. It is a date to look forward to and a future that is exciting.

HCSCC Executive Director

Maureen Kelly Jonason

Photo courtesy of The Hamley Herald.



Happy Summer to all our HCSCC members!

It's amazing how much work can be done when there is no flood to fight! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have celebrated the annual meeting on May

1, events coordinator Tim Jorgensen's wedding May 12, our spring volunteer appreciation brunch May 15, Syttende Mai (May 17) with a pølsefest (hotdogs in lefse – a Norwegian tradition), and multiple changes of exhibits. We will have had numerous meetings to plan the summer and fall festivities. Some of us will have researched archives and artifacts for the articles in this issue and for exhibits yet to come.

I have just come from the American Association of Museums national conference which this year was held in Minneapolis. The Minnesota History Center hosted a reception, and there I saw a fabulous exhibit that recreates the entire life time of one house in St. Paul. As visitors walk through the first room, they meet the family that built the house, and then the families and individuals who lived in the apartments into which the house was broken up in subsequent rooms, and each room is also in the period that those people lived there. What a wonderful way to explore the stories of real Minnesotans. If you get a chance, go down and see it. As we are a member of the Time Travelers Program, your HCSCC membership entitles you to a discount to that museum.

Recent staff changes have brought us wonderful new people to work here: Gwen McCausland is our new marketing coordinator. Married with one little boy, Gwen brings years of experience in all aspects of history museum management to her new work promoting HCSCC locally, regionally, and nationally. Michelle Carlson joins us as part-time administrative assistant through the Rural MN CEP program. The mother of three children, Michelle enjoys the flexibility that allows her to be home for her kids by early afternoon.

Michelle is now in charge of membership and donation processing, so the delays some members experienced over the winter will be no more. Say hello to Michelle when she contacts you regarding your membership or donation. Geneva Pendleton came to us through the Experience Works program. Initially hired as a guide for 25 hours per week, Geneva has proven to be a fast learner and so she has helped out in the gift shop and cataloguing. Former board member Kelly Wambach is our new gift shop manager. With his many years of experience in customer service, his knowledge of retail, and his creativity, he is already bringing fresh new ideas to the gift shop. He works 8:30-2:30 Tuesday through Saturday over the summer. We also welcome a number of interns working in collections, in archives, and on the new *Hjemkomst* exhibit set to open in July during the 30th Anniversary of the *Hjemkomst* voyage. Please be sure to plan ahead to come July 21 for a great celebration of this Clay County historical event.

You should be receiving this summer edition just in time to mark your calendars for June 22-23 as well. This year, HCSCC joins the Nordic Culture Clubs in celebrating Nordic culture throughout time with Nordic Footprints, a two-for-one festival here at the Hjemkomst Center. The Midwest Viking Festival will take place outside at the same time that the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival takes place inside. For just \$10 per day per adult, you can learn so much, enjoy great food, and have such fun – and you don't even have to be Scandinavian to attend! Please bring the teens for just \$5, and the kids 12 and under get in FREE when accompanied by a paying adult. It's more than time to get the younger generations involved in preserving history and heritage. This joint festival is a great way to show them that these efforts can be fun and rewarding. HCSCC members themselves, of course, do get in free, IF their membership is current AND they present their membership cards. Call Michelle today if you are not sure about the status of YOUR membership.

Regardless of what exhibits and activities interest you the most, please come in and see us this summer – we have so much to offer! And don't forget to visit out at the Bergquist Cabin June 22-23, 1-4pm, 1008 7th St. N. in Moorhead.

Nordic Footprints

June 22 & 23

Two Festivals for the Price of One!

by Tim Jorgensen

For 2012, the Midwest Viking Festival sails into uncharted waters. For the first time ever, the festival will be held alongside the annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival on the same weekend, June 22 and 23. With the purchase of one ticket, visitors will be able to experience both festivals.

It's exciting to have more Vikings coming in from farther distances. The festival is growing and doing justice to being a "Midwest" festival. There will be Vikings from as far north as Gimli, Manitoba, as far south as Omaha, Nebraska, as far west as Colorado Springs, and as far east as Madison, Wisconsin. Many of them belong to other Viking organizations, so this will be a good opportunity for the community to see how Vikings from other parts of the country portray the culture.

The increase in demonstrators also allows for more comprehensive coverage of Viking Age activities. For example, this will be the festival's first year having another Viking ship on display other than the *Hjemkomst*. Sam Shoults, from Missouri's Skjaldborg Vikings, will display his own functional Viking boat, the *Yrsa*. Other new participants for 2012 include shoe-making demonstrations from the Idaveller Vikings of Colorado, leather crafts with Tandy Leather, and leg-wrap weaving with master weaver, Laina Therrien, from Glendive, Montana.

Visitors will also be able to experience other Viking activities including glass bead making, coinstriking, silversmithing, runic reading/writing, chainmail production, blacksmithing, wood carving, fiber production, pottery making, and a variety of challenging Viking games. Staff singer, Kari Tauring, and storyteller, Svein Tunheim will have performances in the stave church both days. Indoor and outdoor battle demonstrations are scheduled for both days.

The mission of The Midwest Viking Festival is to offer an educational, interpretive, and celebratory festival focused on informing the public about Norse society and culture in the Viking Age. This activity is supported in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through a Minnesota State Legislative appropriation. If you are interested in attending as a merchant or demonstrator, please contact Tim Jorgensen at 218-299-5511 ext 6737 or via email at tim.jorgensen@ci.moorhead.mn.us

For volunteer opportunities (including volunteer Vikings), please contact Markus Krueger at Markus.krueger@ci.moorhead.mn.us



Collections Donations

By Lisa Vedaa, Collections Manager

Thank you to all of the donors who gave objects and archival material to our collection these last few months.

Donors:

Anonymous; Odell and Mona Boberg, Moorhead; Clearwater County Historical Society, Shevlin, MN; E Triple S & R Conservative Think Tank, Moorhead; Paul Eidbo, Moorhead; Engineering Dept., City of Fargo; Chet Gebert, Fargo; Bob Gerke, Moorhead; Tom Hall, Moorhead; Craig Hurner, Glyndon; Jeffory Kluck, Lake Park; Markus Krueger, Moorhead; Dan Lein, Moorhead; Jerry & Dona Lein Family, Moorhead; Erling Linde, Moorhead; Evelyn F. Mickelson, Fargo; Nokken Family, Moorhead; Northwest Minnesota Historical Center, MSUM, Moorhead; Judy Olson, Moorhead; Keith and Kay Olson, Hawley; Bruce Partridge, Moorhead; Shirley Rustad, Fargo; John and Paulette Schneider, Fargo; Janet Syrup, Moorhead; Kelly Wambach, Sabin; Paul West, Wahpeton; Vern Whitten, Fargo

Accessioned Archives and Objects:

Stories/essays by Herman Linde, Concordia College student; 35mm slides, Moorhead Central Junior High, Spring 1979; photos, artifacts, memorabilia collected by donor at Dilworth High School and Moorhead State College; album, photographs of *Hjemkomst* journey 1982; wedding dress, worn by Dorothy Parks for 1946 marriage to Robert Sandvik at Trinity Luth. Church, Moorhead; copy scan, wedding portrait of Robert Sandvik and Dorothy Parks; Air Corps Uniform worn by Dr. Joseph Schneider; essay of Dr. Joseph Schneider's military service and medical career.

Photo prints: Maude Parks, Maude Parks' laundromat and store in north Moorhead, front window of Parks' store on opening day; Robert Sandvik with his 1940 Ford panel truck used for his business, "Bob's Candies" c1945-46, Capt. Joseph Schneider, Sussex, England c1944-45; (53) photo prints, aerial views of area circa 2008-2010, mostly 2009 flood; snapshots of area buildings, etc. c1959-1960: Clay County courthouse, St. Ansgar's hospital, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, North Junior High gymnasium interior, view from 730 11th St N, Moorhead into neighbor's backyard, American Crystal Sugar Company buildings; Comstock Hotel token, 50-cent All-You-Can-Eat; USGS Map of

Flood-Prone Areas 1969, projection of April 1897 Red River Flood.

Ceramic apple cookie jar owned by Myrtle Olson, Moorhead; 1950s-60s toys: plastic green army soldiers, plastic cowboys and Indians, plastic Presidents of the U.S. set, American Square Logs set, Krazy Ikes set; (4) volumes, school records, District No. 27 Downer, ca1920s-1940s; scrapbook, kept by Kevin Walker, 1959-1996, collected postcards, photos and other ephemera from Fargo and Moorhead, late 1800s-1980s; measles quarantine sign, 1938; "Lest we forget The Record Winter of 1936," booklet distributed by Deep-Rock Oil, Minneapolis, MN; World War I helmet, painted by David Lediën; photo of young man, unidentified, by Lofthus & Lee photographers, Hawley, Minn.; 3-ring binder filled with photos and historical information about Moorhead and area, ca1930-2000; (2) uniform sets, US Navy circa1954-56; circa 1920s or 30s piece of wallpaper from living room of house at 1306 3rd Ave S, Moorhead; typescript, "Memories by Wilferd Anderson"; copies of Highland Grove Lutheran Church annual meeting reports, 1999-2003; cookbook, Heart of the Home Recipes, Park Lutheran 100 Years and Still Cooking, 2000; F-M Centennial Corp., Red River Legends, 1975 (script for Fargo-Moorhead Centennial pageant); (3) pieces, sheet music, lyrics written by Annie Stein, Georgetown: (1) "Annie the Rannie," 1921 and (2) "Goodbye Europe! We're Going Home," 1918 & 1919.

Collection of items from Oscar (Gilly) Nokken farm south of Moorhead, including photographs, books, skis, and etc.; volume, Library of Health, 1927, owned by John and Dina Hesjedal; brass headboard, day bed and full bed frames from Hurner farm, Glyndon; electric cash register, used at Palace Clothier and Kendel's stores, Moorhead; medical tools used by Dr. Botolf, Moorhead; photo prints; records collections: Camp Fire Girls, Cass-Clay Creamery, Inc., Community Access Television of Moorhead, Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company, Union Congregational Church of Hawley and Ladies Aid Society, Moorhead Jaycees, and Peterson Brothers Store

Jesten's Claim: Moorhead's First Homesteader

By Jennifer Battcher, Intern and Mark Peihl, Archivist

May 20, 2012 marks the 150th anniversary of the passage of the Homestead Act. Of the many ways for Clay County settlers to obtain federal land, homesteading was by far the most popular. Over 1200 homesteaders claimed nearly 174,000 acres in Clay County.

Claiming the land was not easy. The settler acquired his "free" land by paying a small filing fee, living on the land for five years and proving that he had made improvements on it. Barely 40% of those who filed homestead claims successfully received their land.

Many of our readers are familiar with some early settlers, such as Randolph Probstfield, Edwin Hutchinson and John G. Bergquist. But the first homesteader to acquire a claim through the provisions of the Homestead Act was a little known Norwegian, John Jesten. Last winter, our Concordia College intern, Jennifer Battcher, researched and wrote the following article about Jesten and his claim.

In 1869, Moorhead was a wilderness brimming with trees and uncultivated lands known only to the American Indians of the region and those few traveling the Red River Trail. Sixteen miles south of old Georgetown and thirty-two miles north of Fort Abercrombie stood an abandoned log cabin. Built in 1860, this cabin had been used as a stagecoach stop for travelers and shipments traversing the Red River Trail. With a new building erected closer to Fort Abercrombie, this cabin stood forsaken in the woods until Job Smith happened upon it and John G. Bergquist happened upon him. Together they fought off the loneliness and chill of the impending winter on the frontier.

Little do most people know Smith and Bergquist were not alone on this cold frontier. Just over three miles to the south there were signs of civilization. A man named John Jesten had filed a homestead claim encompassing the present day Gooseberry Mound Park, on October 16, 1869 and was beginning the five-year acquisition plan. He became the first homesteader in Clay County to successfully acquire land through the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862.

John Jesten was born in Norway to Ammon and

Karen and came to Minnesota in 1869 at the age of 29. Since last names were a foreign concept in Norway, new Norwegian immigrants needed to invent for themselves a family name. In Norway, people were titled after their father or mother's first name. For instance, Joseph Svenson was Joseph, the son of Sven. Mary Johnsdottir was Mary, the daughter of John. John Jesten's brother, Elias, became Elias Ammonson. However, John took a different route. Some immigrants chose, instead, to name themselves after farms in the old country. John's surname is most likely the Anglicized version of a farm name near which John grew up.

Norwegian names could be confusing to American authorities. In his homestead papers, John is referred to as, variously, "Gjestson," "Jasten," "Gasten," "Gjastsen" and "Jastsen." After proving up his homestead he filed a notarized affidavit listing his "true name and correct orthography [spelling] of the same" as John Gjestsen. By 1880 he was going by Jesten.

Jesten worked his land for a good four years before starting a family. On May 19, 1873, John, now 33 years old, and Betsy Johnson, a 31-year-old Norwegian immigrant, went to the Clay County Courthouse and applied for a marriage license. Sealed and signed by the clerk, the rest of the certificate is vacant, lacking not only the signatures of witnesses but also the signature of a religious minister or a justice of the peace. They, like many others, may not have bothered to get officially hitched.

John picked a good claim. It encompassed the area now between 16th and 24th Avenues South, west from 8th Street to the river. The 178-acre parcel included all of the then-heavily wooded Gooseberry Park. In fact, his property was about half good farmland and half timber, a valuable resource in 19th century Clay County. The claim gave him access to water in the river and a building site well above any flood elevation yet seen. (The Homestead Act provided only 160 acres per claimant. Jesten's 178-acre claim was irregularly shaped along the river, so he had to buy the extra 18 acres from the government at \$1.25 per acre.)

In November 1874, Andrew Holes and Peter

Continued on page 14...

Georgetown and the Dakota War

By Markus Krueger, Visitor Services Coordinator

This August is the 150th anniversary of the U.S.-Dakota War. Also known as the Sioux Uprising, this conflict was fought between a faction of Dakota warriors and American settlers and soldiers along the Minnesota frontier in August and September of 1862. It was a short but incredibly important conflict. After only six weeks, an estimated 450-800 white and Métis settlers lay dead, and the Dakota – the people who called Minnesota home longer than any other – were expelled from the state. The war produced more blood and more tears in Minnesota than perhaps any other six weeks in our history. It also produced some of our most hair-raising stories, such as Clay County's little-told tale of the evacuation of Georgetown.

The U.S.-Dakota War is almost always overshadowed by major Civil War events that were happening to the east. The Second Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Antietam (still the bloodiest single day in American history), and President Abraham Lincoln issuing the Emancipation Proclamation all occurred during these days. But on America's northwest frontier, everyone's attention was focused on an uprising among the Dakota people, known by those outside the tribes as the Sioux. The Dakota had sold off their Minnesota land to the U.S. government in the 1850s, but years of being cheated and mistreated by the Indian agents and traders assigned to their reservations left their people desperate and quite literally starving. On August 18, 1862, a faction of several hundred Dakota warriors rose up in an attempt to sweep the white settlers from the frontier and win back their land. Most of the people killed in the conflict died in the first few days of the war as families of settlers were massacred trying to flee to safety. The faction of warriors was stopped at Fort Ridgely, New Ulm and Fort Abercrombie. Volunteer soldiers led by former governor Henry Hastings Sibley eventually defeated the Dakota warriors under chief Little Crow. Those who survived either fled or were imprisoned. Even though the great majority of Dakota people and their leaders were either neutral or actually worked against the warring faction in order to stop the uprising, all of the Dakota were, for a long time, exiled from Minnesota.



Georgetown circa 1880.

From front to back: Georgetown traders store, the hotel, and the Hudson Bay Company warehouse

Georgetown was the northernmost and westernmost settlement whose people fled for their lives during this war. Georgetown was the western edge of the United States in 1862, so far beyond other American settlements that the battles fought for control of Minnesota's frontier mostly occurred 200 miles to the southeast. American settlement was just beginning in the Red River Valley. The fur trade center of Pembina, Georgetown's northern neighbor, was the only settlement more than five years old. South of Georgetown was Fort Abercrombie, whose 80 new volunteer recruits of Company D, 5th Minnesota Regiment, were the only military presence in the Valley. Other than that, there were a few stagecoach stations and a smattering of guys in cabins hoping to sell their claim for big money once civilization caught up with them. Breckenridge was the most impressive of these speculator cities, with a population of half a dozen, a hotel and a saw mill. During the Dakota War everyone in Breckenridge who did not seek safety at Fort Abercrombie were killed and the hotel was burned to the ground.

Georgetown was a company town for the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC), a British fur trade firm owned in London and operated out of Fort Garry (modern-day Winnipeg). The HBC owned most of western Canada, using it as a hunting preserve for furs to sell in Europe. The furs got to London by travelling south from Fort Garry by steamboat to Georgetown, east across the prairie in a long train of wooden ox carts to Saint Cloud, south on Mississippi River steamboats to the nearest train station and from there to the Atlantic coast and across the sea. After unloading the furs in

Continued on next page...

Saint Cloud, the HBC Red River cart brigade would load up on manufactured goods – everything from shovels to sugar – and bring it back to the steamboat at Georgetown to be taken to the wealthy but extremely isolated settlements around Fort Garry. Georgetown had a two-story hotel, a general store for HBC employees, and a few sheds around, but the reason for the town's existence was the warehouse where the steamboat *International* and the cart brigade swapped furs for manufactured goods.

Among the main characters of our story



*E.R. Hutchinson
circa 1890*

are the first pioneer families of Clay County: the Probstfields and the Hutchinsons. Randolph Probstfield is the source for this story. He lived with his wife Catherine and their two-month-old baby Mary on a farm a mile and a half outside of town. E.R. Hutchinson came to the Red River as a crewmember of the first steamboat in 1859. He met his wife Isabelle on a trip up to Fort Garry. Like the majority of the RRV population

at this time, Bella Hutchinson was almost certainly Métis (meaning she was of mixed Native American and European ancestry), the daughter of a Scottish HBC employee and a Native American or Métis mother. Bella and "Hutch" had an astonishing 18 children together over the years, and later census records tell us that they had their oldest two by this time: two-year-old Edwin and baby Sarah.

The Georgetown story begins the night of August 22nd, 1862. The war was already four days old, but no one in Georgetown knew it. The steamboat *International* was docked in town, waiting for the cart brigade to return with the goods from St. Cloud. That night a messenger arrived from Fort Abercrombie with news that settlers were being massacred all across the frontier. All soldiers in Georgetown and any civilians seeking protection were to return with him to the fort.

According to the memoir of early pioneer Adam Stein, who was fighting in the Union army at this time, E.R. Hutchinson and George Lullsdorf immediately thought of their friend Randolph on his farm. "We

thought we would save him if we could,' said Mr. Hutchinson. 'We had a pair of steers, well broke, that could trot like a pair of moose, and in less than 10 minutes we were on the road.'" Randolph Probstfield recalled being woken up about midnight by his two friends. The Probstfields loaded the baby, the gun, some blankets and provisions onto the cart and went into Georgetown. "There I found consternation, panic and confusion, and many frightened men and women," Randolph recalled. "The night was passed in terror."

The next day the Hudson's Bay Company cart brigade arrived in Georgetown, bringing 110 carts full of goods on their way to Fort Garry and, perhaps more importantly, more people to defend the small frontier outpost. The timing of the war was fortunate for Georgetown – a few days before or after and the only people in town would have been warehouse workers and a few settlers. It just so happened that these events occurred while both the teamsters of the cart brigade and the crew of the *International* were in town. Probstfield reported 44 men able to bear arms. Unfortunately, they had only 33 guns, some of them old flintlocks. On the bright side, they would not run out of bullets because among the cargo on its way to Fort Garry was a shipment of ammunition.

Heading up the defense were two well-known figures on the frontier: Alexander Hunter Murray and Norman Kittson. Murray ran the operations at Georgetown as the HBC chief trader. He had risen high in the ranks of the company after founding Fort Yukon above the Arctic Circle, but during these events he was bedridden with illness. Norman Kittson arrived as head of the HBC cart brigade. Kittson had been an important fur trader and politician in the Red River Valley. After the war he made a fortune in the steamboat and railroad industries with his business partner James J. Hill, but in 1862 he was working for the HBC. Minnesota's Kittson County is named for him.

The defenders boarded up all the windows of the buildings, leaving slits to stick their rifles out of. They built a guardhouse that could fit six men as a strong point. They changed guards every two hours, day and night. They heard that Fort Abercrombie was surrounded by Dakota warriors and under attack. One night as E.R. Hutchinson stood guard, he estimated seeing hundreds of men on their way to attack Fort Abercrombie. All knew that Georgetown could not withstand an attack that size and, according to the June 1, 1882, issue of the *Moorhead Weekly News*, the Probstfield family had an agreement that Randolph would kill Catherine and

baby Mary rather than let them be captured. After two weeks the defenders of Georgetown decided they had to make a break for it. Since the war raged to the south and the east, and the nearest U.S. settlement to the west was across the Rocky Mountains, their only option was to go north to Pembina and Fort Garry.

This path, however, was not free from danger. The Pembina and Red Lake bands of Ojibwe were gathered at “the Grand Forks.” Grand Forks was not yet a city, but the confluence of the Red River and the Red Lake River has long been a gathering place. The two Ojibwe (aka Chippewa) bands had been waiting for weeks to make a land sale with the US government, much like the ones the Dakota signed in the 1850s. Unfortunately, the war broke out just before the meeting was to take place, forcing the negotiators and the large treaty train full of goods and food for the Ojibwe to turn around. The *International* was briefly detained by this camp before she arrived at Georgetown two weeks before, so the crew knew first-hand that the Ojibwe at the Grand Forks were already hungry and impatient.

Still, north was the only option. The steamboat *International* was loaded with cargo, and the crew along with women and children headed north under command of Norman Kittson. Everyone else crossed the ferry into Dakota Territory in the Red River carts.

“The crossing of the river that night at Georgetown is one that I shall never forget,” recalled Randolph Probstfield in the 1900 Holiday Supplement to the *Moorhead Independent*: “The suffering, the anxiety, the terrors and the disappointment to me were all events most deeply impressed upon my mind. We had all worked all night, most of us like heroes...at last I found myself alone with wife and babe, team and goods without a soul to help excepting the almost sick and helpless Alexander Murray, the agent of the company, who with us was the last to leave. Team after team was ferried across the stream and as the work of evacuation progressed the panic increased and when we came to cross it required considerable persuasion to have the ferry return for

us.” They camped out of rifle range of the tree line that night, all so exhausted that they fell asleep without posting guards.

The next day they crossed the Elm River west of Hendrum and camped on the other side. They were preparing lunch when a rider appeared. It was Pierre Bottineau. Whether he was guiding expeditions across uncharted territory, translating for treaty negotiations, picking sites for forts and railroad lines, or founding cities (he had a hand in creating Saint Paul, Minneapolis, Maple Grove, and Red Lake Falls among others), this Métis frontiersman seemed to be at the heart of almost everything important happening in our state’s early history. North Dakota’s Bottineau County and the city of Bottineau are named for him. Bottineau

found himself surrounded at Fort Abercrombie when the war broke out, but he slipped through the Dakota lines and was on his way to Pembina for help. When he told the Georgetown party that he saw Dakota warriors not far behind them, the camp quickly packed up and headed north. “Those who had not eaten desired no dinner,” Probstfield said. Bottineau sped ahead of them to Pembina.

As the party crossed the Goose River, they were greeted by a welcomed sight. Bottineau had returned with a group of 12 heavily armed men from Pembina. They were led by Joe Rolette, Jr., a fur trader, political leader, and one of the most colorful figures in Red River Valley history. In North Dakota,

Rolette County is right next to Bottineau County. Just like an old John Wayne movie, “Jolly Joe” Rolette and the Pembina posse came down to guide the cart train north to safety.

They did not get far, however, before they found out that the steamboat was stuck, about where Perley is today. The wagons were circled and a party was dispatched to pick up the people and cargo aboard the *International*. Not everyone on the steamboat joined the cart train, however. Joseph Adams, Robert Scambler and his wife Elizabeth volunteered to stay behind and guard the valuable ship. In addition, a



*Randolph and Catherine Probstfield
photograph taken prior to 1862*

flatboat full of Hudson Bay Co. cargo was cut loose from the *International*. Under the command of Clay County pioneer E.R. Hutchinson, the flatboat headed for Fort Garry as fast as the current would take it.

That night, as the cart train waited for the group to return from the steamboat, what was described as an “Indian War Whoop” came from out of the darkness. Everyone was frightened and prepared themselves for attack. They were relieved to learn it was only their friends returning from the steamboat. As Randolph Probstfield put it later, “The yell had come from Pierre Bottineau, who was in a playful mood from what he had found at the boat, the sale of which later was prohibited in North Dakota.” Obviously, there must have been some liquor in the shipment going north to Fort Garry.

Oddly enough, Randolph Probstfield complained that security became very lax once those armed-to-the-teeth heroes of the northwest frontier took charge. Guards were no longer posted. A meeting was called as they approached the Ojibwe camp. A frustrated Randolph walked out in the middle of the meeting, saying that if they decided to post guards that night, he would do his shift, but in the morning he and his family were going back home. Randolph Probstfield was always a stubborn man who liked to go his own way, but if 1950s Fargo Forum newspaperman and local historian Roy Johnson is correct in dating this meeting to September 12, Randolph could be excused for being grumpy. The day before was his and Catherine’s first wedding anniversary, and they spent it on the road as war refugees with a two month old baby. They did post guards that night but after Randolph’s shift was over the Probstfields and about eight to ten others split off from the group and headed back to Georgetown.

Isabelle Hutchinson also left with the Probstfields, but she did not intend to return to Georgetown. The group escorted her along the river until they saw her husband floating downstream on the flatboat. Isabelle (and the children, we assume, although they are not mentioned) hopped on board to join E.R. The Hutchinsons on the flatboat successfully slipped past the Ojibwe camp at the Grand Forks in the middle of the night, and we can bet they had a happy reunion with Isabelle’s family when they reached Fort Garry.

A Red River cart train, however, is incapable of sneaking past anything with ears. The screech of the wooden axels grinding against the wooden wheel hubs could be heard for miles. Those giants of the Minnesota Frontier were all captured at the Grand Forks. Although Norman Kittson and Alexander Murray refused to hand

over any Hudsons’ Bay Company property, the hungry Ojibwe helped themselves to food and supplies from the carts. After taking what they wanted from the cart train, the Ojibwe let the group go on their way to Fort Garry, angry but unharmed. Kittson and Murray were able to recoup their losses a year later. In the Old Crossing Treaty of 1863, Ojibwe bands signed over northwest Minnesota for settlement. Kittson and Murray were awarded \$100,000 in the treaty for their lost luggage.

The Probstfield party made their way slowly and carefully to Georgetown. They found the settlement unharmed. Perhaps Georgetown was too small and too far beyond settlement to matter – the war was won and lost 200 miles away in the Minnesota River Valley. Or perhaps Georgetown was spared because, even though it was south of the border, it was basically a British town owned by a company that did a lot of trading with the Dakota and had little or nothing to do with the American settlers and soldiers that they were fighting against. All was quiet in Georgetown except for one night, toward the end of September, when all were awoken by the HBC sled dogs barking like mad. In the morning they found horse tracks going right through town and across the river. The Dakota warriors had realized they lost the war and were fleeing across the river for safety.

The Dakota War lasted only six weeks, but the after effects went on longer. General Sibley ordered everyone in Georgetown to leave the next spring while he invaded Dakota Territory to punish the warriors who fled Minnesota. Even after settlers were allowed to return, people were understandably wary of moving back to the frontier after the trauma of 1862. Settlement in the Red River Valley, which was just beginning before the war, ground to a halt and even went backwards. The 1860 US Census listed 79 people living in Clay County (then called Breckenridge County). The Minnesota State Census of 1865 lists only 27 people living in Clay County. Of all those who lived through the evacuation, only the Probstfields and the Hutchinsons returned to raise their families in Clay County. They would wait for almost a decade before the Northern Pacific Railroad restarted settlement on the Red River frontier.



The ‘*International*’ ferry at Fort Gary

Lisa Vedaa Celebrates 10 years with HCSCC



May 13, 2012 marks the 10-year anniversary of Lisa Vedaa's tenure with the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. She began as the director of the then Clay County Historical Society. After the merger, Lisa transitioned to the collections manager position.

Lisa's love for museums began at a young age: "I was fascinated by the visits to local historic sites my teacher arranged in 3rd grade, and loved old 'stuff'." Her interest in history brought her to NDSU where she earned a bachelor's degree in Public History and later pursued a master's degree from St. Cloud State.

After a few years managing the collection at Codington County Museum in Watertown, South Dakota, Lisa moved to Clay County to start a new chapter in her life. Now married with three little boys, Lisa reflects fondly on the past ten years: "As Director, I really enjoyed getting to know all of the members and working with Pam and Mark on exhibits. We won an AASLH award for our exhibit *Eating out in Clay County* and developed history tours for our members. I am enjoying working with the collection which is what first sparked my interest in history."

When asked what she envisions in the next ten years, she replied, "My goal is to acquire more museum-standard storage for our artifacts, especially for our textile collection. I appreciate the opportunity I have had to work with such talented staff. I am also looking forward to see how the organization will grow and I hope to continue to contribute to it."

As a thank-you gift, Lisa was presented with a hand-carved box made by Izo Becic.

Ask the Archivist...

Archivist Mark Peihl receives many calls, emails, and visits from researchers each year. For instance, he recently received this request from Australia:

I am researching my family history. My Great Grandfather was named Moorhead (spelt Morehead in his Civil Registration entries) George Aitkin (B1854 Hobart Tasmania to D1938 Sydney Australia). I do not know if he or his descendants had any connection with Aitkin County or nearby areas. My request is to ask you about the naming origins of Moorhead town/city.

Many thanks for your assistance.

Vince A.

Here is Mark's response:

Hello Vince,

Moorhead was named for William Garroway Moorhead, a member of the Board of Directors for the Northern Pacific Railway. The Northern Pacific Railway stretched from Duluth, Minnesota on Lake Superior to Seattle, Washington on the west coast of

the US. In 1871 the NPR reached the Red River of the North, and Moorhead and Fargo, North Dakota were formed at the crossing.

Moorhead was the son of Irish immigrants who arrived in 1798 (presumably from the north of Ireland – Moorhead was a Presbyterian). He was born in Halifax, Pennsylvania in 1811. In 1840 the governor of Pennsylvania appointed him supervisor of the Allegany Portage Railroad. Later President James Polk appointed him to a position in the US Consulate in Chile. While there, Moorhead made a fortune shipping flour to gold miners in California. He married the sister of financier Jay Cooke, a major backer of the Northern Pacific Railway, and was appointed to the Board. Moorhead died in 1895.

For information about the origin of the place name "Aitkin," see <http://mnplaces.mnhs.org/upham/county.cfm>

I hope this is of some help!

Mark Peihl

HCSCC Participates in the Blue Star Museums Program

The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County is one of more than 1,500 museums across America to offer free admission to active military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 1,500 museums across America. The program runs from Memorial Day, May 28, 2012 through Labor Day, September 3, 2012.

The Blue Star Museum Program offers free admission to families with a member currently serving in the military, especially focusing on the approximately 1 million children who have had at least one parent deployed. This program offers these families a chance to visit museums this summer when many will have limited resources and limited time to be together.

The free admission program is available to active-duty military and their family members (military ID holder and up to five family members). Active duty military include Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and active duty National Guard and active duty Reserve members. To find out which museums are participating, visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. The site includes a list of participating museums and a map to help with visit planning. Please contact the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County with any questions regarding free admission to our museum.



Blue Star Program Q&A

How many military personnel and/or family members are allowed in for free per visit?

The military ID holder plus up to five family members.

How do you define a family member?

A family member of active duty military may include a spouse or child, aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.

What if my spouse is deployed? Can my family and I still participate?

Yes, spouses of deployed military are eligible for Blue Star Museums. Just bring your DD Form 1173 ID Card, or DD Form 1173-1 ID Card, for active duty military family members.

LOOKING FOR
**FAMILY
★ ACTIVITIES**
THIS SUMMER?



Free Admission

**1,500+
museums**

Memorial Day to Labor Day

Blue Star Museums offers free admission to active duty military, including Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, National Guard, and Reserve members, with up to five family members.

Go to arts.gov
for more information.



FINE ARTS SCIENCE HISTORY MUSIC FILM CRAFTS TOYS GARDENS ZOOS
AND MORE



Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 1,500 museums.

Jesten's Claim: continued...

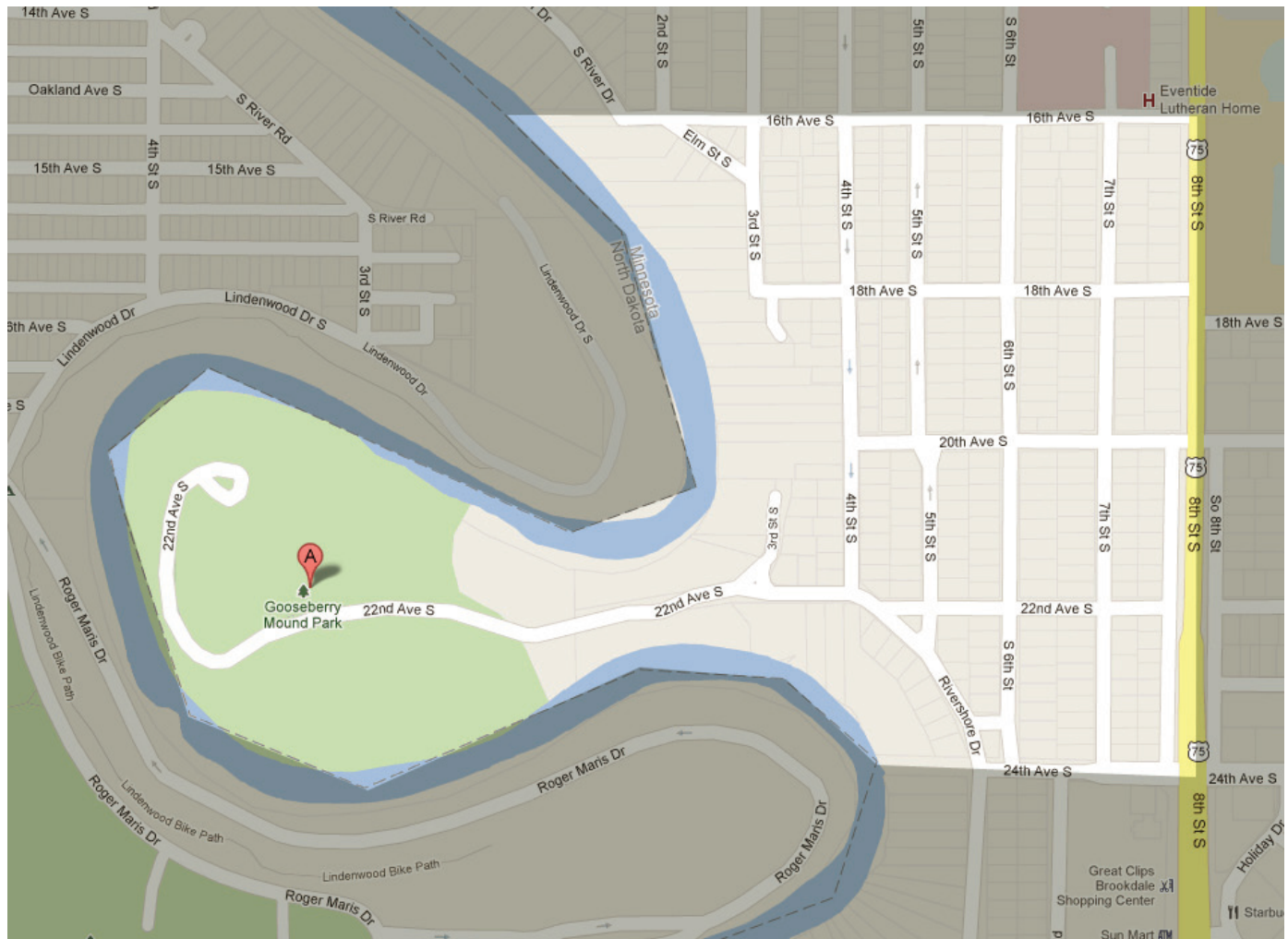
Anderson signed as witnesses John's "Homestead Proof," an affidavit attesting to his residency on the land and description of improvements he made. It indicates he built a house "of logs 14 x 16 feet in size with an addition 14 x 9 feet in size with a shingle roof, board floors, two doors, five windows." He also added a 14 x 20-foot log stable, had about forty tons of hay stacked, and fenced about 100 acres. Jesten later added to his holdings, buying another quarter section to the south.

John and Betsy Jesten had begun to build a life for themselves. By 1880, the Jesten farm was flourishing. Three little boys, Adolph, John C and Tudor, ages 5, 4 and 3 respectively, kept Betsy busy as a homemaker. Elias Ammonson, John's 50 year old brother, lived with them. The Jesten family was doing so well that they even employed a farm laborer, Adam

Freed, who was a Swedish immigrant, and a servant, Mary Maley, a Norwegian immigrant who was 50 years old. Seemingly, life was good for the Jesten family, and Betsy would soon be with child again.

Then tragedy struck. March 22, 1881, Betsy went into labor with their fourth child. A baby was born but Betsy died in the process. Left with three young children and presumably a newborn baby (it is unsure whether the baby lived or died), John wasted no time finding another wife. On November 28, 1881, barely eight months since the death of Betsy, John married Clara Hoff.

Clara Hoff, just 25 years old, had immigrated to the United States one year before. She had come from Solkendalen, Norway and found herself in a new land married to a 41-year-old farmer with four young children. Within the next five years, the Jesten family would greatly expand as Clarence, Peter, Emil,



The unshaded area in this map shows the land included in John Jesten's claim. It was a good spot. What's now Gooseberry Park was heavily wooded from Elm Street/Rivershore Drive to the west. The area to the east was good farmland, well above the flood plain.

Adapted from GoogleMaps.

Theodore and little Betsy Jesten were born.

Clara and John Jesten must have had a lively household. Nine children all within one or two years of each other is a lot of life for one home but can also take a toll on the parents. By 1885 John was suffering from rheumatism in his back and neck. Then, on March 4, 1886, when the Jesten farm was brimming with life, John had a stroke. Five days later, he passed away at the age of 46.

Clara stayed on the Jesten farm for fourteen more years before moving to town at the turn of the century. The Jesten farm became the farm that provided horses for the Fairmont Creamery. Once in town, John and Clara's son, Peter Jesten, became a member of the Fire Department and served as Deputy Sheriff for thirteen years. Clara lived to be 79 years old and died in 1934. Her daughter, Betsy, moved to Fergus Falls

with her husband. Theodore, her son, lived in Seattle, Washington. Emil was in Larimore, North Dakota, and Peter and Clarence lived in town. The fate of John's other children remains a mystery, but John C. Jesten does appear in many land transactions throughout Clay County and northern Minnesota. Some of these even involve him selling land to his half siblings, Clara's children.

While what we know of John Jesten's existence encompasses a brief seventeen years, we do know that he filled those years with life and family. He came from Norway to the "New World" to make a life for himself on a plot of prairie and forest all alone save for two men in a nearby cabin. So next time you take a stroll through Gooseberry Park, remember that before it was a park, it was a home filled with the life of an immigrant trying to make it on the frontier.



Volunteer Spotlight

Joyce Pettinger

When did you start volunteering at HCSCC?

I started after I retired as a librarian for the Lake Agassiz Regional Library in 2003. I was asked to help select books for the gift shop by the museum director at that time. I am able to use my experience as a librarian in the gift shop with organizing items and researching history.

What do you enjoy the most about volunteering?

I enjoy the culture of the place. I love to tell about the ship and the church. I know Guy Paulson so I especially like the stave church. I also enjoy promoting the heritage of the region even though I am not Scandinavian. My husband tells me that I am a Norwegian wannabe.

In the gift shop, I like to find items to sell that relate to the exhibits on display. We have such wonderful and interesting exhibits.

You were also a board member, correct?

I was also a board member for two terms, I believe. I was part of the board during the merger and found it very interesting to be a part of that. But my heart is working with the visitors and helping in the gift shop.



**We appreciate all of your hard work and dedication!
Thanks, Joyce!**

30th Anniversary of the Hjemkomst Voyage

July 21, 2012

Join us Saturday, July 21, 12-5pm for a community open house to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the voyage of the Hjemkomst. When the HHIC merged with CCHS in 2009, we took on the responsibilities of interpreting the ship and its historic journey from Duluth, MN to Bergan, Norway in 1982. We are delighted to report that almost all of the crew members—including the Norwegians—will be coming. Of course, skipper Erik Rudstrom died in September of 2009, but his widow and his two children, who have never been here, will be coming as will Bjørn Holtet and Vegard Heide with family members.

In preparation for this momentous event, we have received grants to hire Claudia Pratt to research, develop, and install a new exhibit on the building and sailing of the ship with special attention to the Asp family and the role of Hawley in completing the epic project. Focusing on the idea of the many sagas involved, Pratt has uncovered new and interesting information about the entire process from Bob Asp's initial dream to its fulfillment by his family. She has been supervising an MSUM cultural anthropology student, Chris Jordan, who has been researching the many, many newspaper articles in the collection throughout spring semester. In addition, volunteer Alison Myers has been assisting by cataloguing the exhibit furniture and assessing additional needs for the exhibit. Most recently, NDSU graduate history student Amanda Asselin Nordick has joined the exhibit team through installation. Additional interns will also help on the project. Central to the celebration will be the grand opening of this exhibit on July 21. The exhibit will feature rarely exhibited ship artifacts and commentary

shared by crew members' personal logs and recent interviews.

Then a panel of crew and Asp family members will share their particular memories at 1pm. During the entire event, Prairie Public Television will be video-recording the events and interviews with crew and Asp family members for an oral history project. The objective is to capture untold stories as well as the impact the voyage has had of their lives looking back thirty years later. The exhibit and the oral history project are made possible in part by the people of Minnesota through a grant funded by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Keep your eyes open for upcoming mail. As members, you will be sent ten raffle tickets to buy or sell as part of our fundraising efforts for the

30th anniversary celebration. Prizes include a new Kitchen Aid Mix Master (value \$400), a cupcake pop baking kit, a waterproof SALT jacket and waterproof duffle bag from voyage sponsor Helly Hansen as well as breakfast with a crew member on July 22. The drawing will be held at 4pm on July 21, but you need not be present to win. Stay tuned for more celebration plans as they develop.

Hjemkomst Sagas: One Viking Ship, Many Stories Exhibit Opening

1 pm Panel Discussion
4 pm Raffle Drawing
Free Admission 12-5

Gift Shop Under New Management



The Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County welcomes our new gift shop manager, Kelly Wambach. Originally from Georgetown, Minnesota, Kelly has been involved with the HCSCC for several years. He served for five years as a board member until his term ended in September

2011. He is currently on the committee for the 2013 exhibit, Annie and Orabell.

Besides his love of history, Kelly, a formally trained chef, owned his own restaurant,

the Northerwood Chalet. He worked in other area restaurants such as the Tree Top and the Viking Oaks.

Mr. Wambach also owned the Old Market Antique Shop and worked in furniture sales and as a design consultant: "I love working with people and designing. I am also a self-taught painter and incorporate art in all aspects of my life, from the creating the final touches on hors d'oeuvres to arranging my garden or a store display."

Kelly will be working 3/4 time in the Gift Shop this summer. During the school year, he works as the cook for the Kappa Delta Sorority at North Dakota State University. Kelly will be sharing his time between the Gift Shop and the sorority starting in the fall.

Thank You Volunteers!

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who dedicated their time to the success of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County and the Senior Center in 2011. The Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, May 14, was a success due to Tim Jorgensen and Julie Maxen's fantastic orchestration of the event and the wonderful food from Oven Door Catering. As the main speaker, Markus Krueger gave his presentation about Georgetown's involvement in the

Dakota War of 1862 to commemorate the 150 year anniversary of the war.

A special award of dedication went to Ruth Franzen for over twenty years of volunteering at the Berquist Cabin. A donation was made in her honor to the Concordia Swedish Language Camp



Ruth Franzen with Lisa Vedaa



Jeanette Dittman

Scholarship fund.

A twenty-year medallion went to Jeanette Dittman for her years of service at the admissions desk.

From our first year to our 20-year-plus volunteers, each volunteer enhances the Historical and Cultural

Society of Clay County. We are truly indebted to them all. Thank you.



Left: Tim Jorgensen serving egg bake.

Right: Volunteers enjoying coffee and visiting prior to the presentation



New and Renewing Members

March 1, 2012 - May 15, 2012

Individual \$30

Charles A. Nelson
Ken Christianson
Clayton Jorgenson
Peter Edson
Jean A. Prentice
Joyce R. Johnson
Judi Koehmstedt
Deloris Mellon
Elizabeth Olday
Ronald Olin
Margaret Sarbacker
Joanne Schlanser
Linda (Knopp) Small
Steve Handegaard
Larry Swenson
Phyllis Thysell
Waneta Truesdell

Household \$50

Zona Mathison
Beckman, Barb
Bernard & Eleanor
Ohnstad
Dr. Joel & Debra Haugen
Gordon & Carol Ekre
H. Dennis & Marva D.
Odegaard
Hiram M. & Ada M.
Drache
Keith A. & Kay Larson
L. Diane Pickett
Leland & Dorothy Delger
Marlowe & Joan Parries
Robert G. & Eleanor
Brandt
Rustad, Gordon & Carol
Shoptaugh, Terry &

Deborah Janzen
Smith, Gary & Yvonne
Stenberg,, Jennifer &
Brock
Stensgaard, Dale
Swanson, Roland & Mary
Tangen, Ken & Mary
Traaseth, Al & Janet
Vijay Gaba
Young, John

Booster \$75

Blair, Shawn and Gail
City of Felton
Dana & Ginni Powers
Rich, Lyle & Joan
Richard & Roberta
Henderson
Schaefer, Richard & Mary
Schaefer, Richard & Mary
Solum, Charles and
Gertrude
Stenerson, roger & Joan
Vincent & Shirley Haugen

Heritage \$125

Wright, Steve
City of Barnesville
James M. & Mary J.
Hastings
Karol Kay Peterson Rood
Katherine Mentjes
Pat Hinze
Schroeder, Steve & Lucia
Stenerson, James & Chris
Stordahl, Ray & Erma
Voxland, Mark & Donna

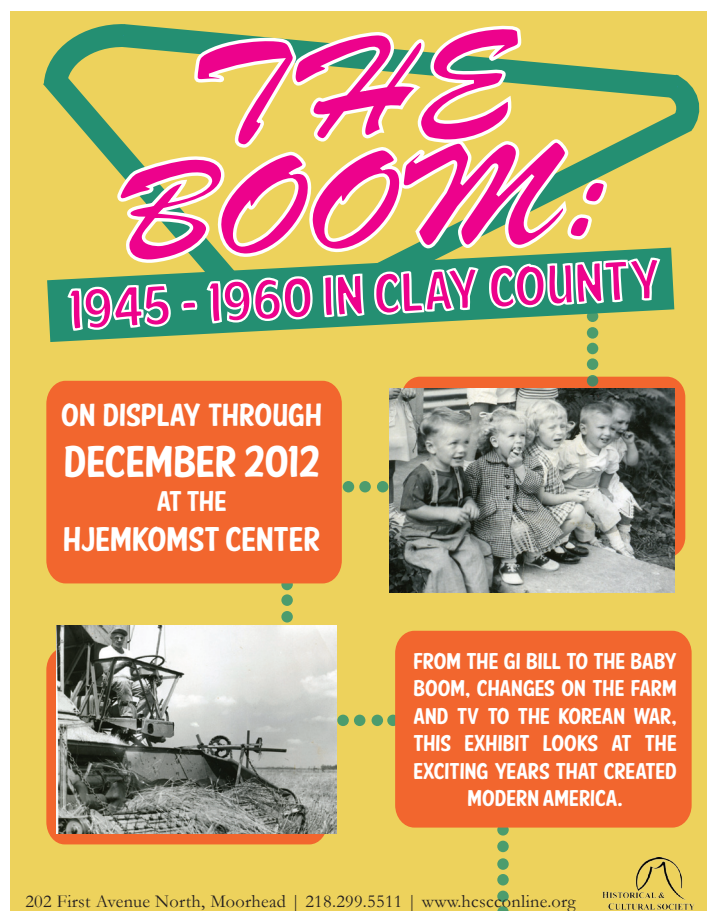
Patron \$250

Carol Bergquist
David & Gloria Lee

Benefactor \$500


Lois Selberg

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



THE BOOM:
1945 - 1960 IN CLAY COUNTY

ON DISPLAY THROUGH
DECEMBER 2012
AT THE
HJEMKOMST CENTER



FROM THE GI BILL TO THE BABY BOOM, CHANGES ON THE FARM AND TV TO THE KOREAN WAR, THIS EXHIBIT LOOKS AT THE EXCITING YEARS THAT CREATED MODERN AMERICA.

202 First Avenue North, Moorhead | 218.299.5511 | www.hcscconline.org

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY



2012 Exhibition & Event Calendar

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions **Through January 2013**

The Boom: 1945 - 1960 in Clay County

From the GI Bill to the Baby Boom, changes on the farm and TV to the Korean War, this exhibit looks at the exciting years that created modern America.

March 19 through June 18

Seeds of Victory!

An exhibit about the World War II Victory Gardens just in time for spring! This exhibit tells us how gardening and canning your own food was a patriotic duty.

June 19 through September 19

Red River Watercolor Society National Juried Show

Red River Watercolor Society is a volunteer organization that serves to promote the interest, display and education in watercolor and other water-based media in this region and nationally through their flagship National Juried Exhibition (not available June 22-23).

July 21 through December 31

Hjemkomst Sagas: One Viking Ship, Many Stories

The exhibit will bring a fresh perspective about the *Hjemkomst* expedition. The public can look at this exhibit with new eyes and be amazed again at what an accomplishment the expedition was— for the Asp family, the voyage crew, as well as the businesses and communities that supported it.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, June 19, 5 - 8 p.m.

Red River Watercolor Society National Juried Show Opening Reception

Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (both days)

Nordic Footprints

The 35th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival joins forces with the Annual Midwest Viking Festival for a heck of a deal: two festivals for the price of one! Sweden is the featured country for 2012!

Enjoy the Scandinavian Quartet from Sweden as well as other musicians, dancers, booth exhibits, foods, and presentations on four floors indoors and a pretty-authentic Viking village outdoors with demonstrations of the arts, combat skills, and everyday life of the Vikings. **Per day admission: \$10 for adults, \$5 for youth (13-17), free to children 12 and under with paid adult. Members get in free with membership card**

Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23

Bergquist Cabin Open House

Learn about the historic Bergquist Cabin at 1008 7th Street North in Moorhead, 1:00-4:00pm. A shuttle bus will be available to transport visitors from the festival at the Hjemkomst Center on the hour (1:00, 2:00 & 3:00). Tour of Cabin by Archivist Mark Peihl, refreshments and Swedish crafts.

Saturday, July 21, 1 - 5 p.m.

Hjemkomst Voyage 30th Reunion

Returning crew members from the *Hjemkomst* Voyage will sit on a panel to share their memories and what their lives have been like since the voyage with the public.

Saturday, September 22, 12-4

Pie-o-neer Day

Enjoy a slice or a whole pie at the Bergquist Cabin as we demonstrate cooking techniques of the 1800s. All pie sales benefit HCSCC.



Bergquist Cabin Open House

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



To preserve, interpret and present the history and culture of the Clay County community and its neighbors.

The 30th Anniversary of the Hjemkomst Voyage

July 21, 2012
Open House 12 - 5pm

1pm Panel Discussion

*You know the story; now hear it
from the crew that lived it!*

