

The Hourglass



Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County Newsletter

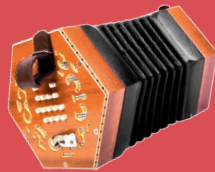
Volume 6 Issue 3 • Fall 2014

German Culture Day

**Free
Admission**

**September 27, 2014
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Hjemkomst
Center
202 1st Ave. N.
Moorhead, MN**



**Dale Dahmen
& the Beats**



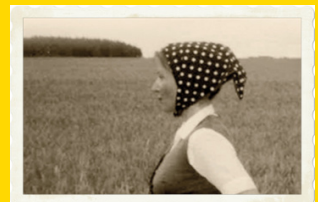
**The
Flemming
Fold**



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

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STAFF

Maureen Kelly Jonason, Executive Director
Maureen.Jonason@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Mark Peihl, Archivist
Mark.Peihl@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Lisa Vedaa, Collections Manager
Lisa.Vedaa@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Markus Krueger, Visitor Services Coordinator
Markus.Krueger@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Jeff Swenson, Exhibits and Events Coordinator
jeff.swenson@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Amanda Nordick, Marketing Coordinator
Amanda.Nordick@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Angela Beaton, Administrative Assistant
angela.beaton@ci.moorhead.mn.us
Kelly Wambach, Gift Shop Manager
Kelly.Wambach@ci.moorhead.mn.us

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

HCSCC News

Welcome New Staff and Promotions

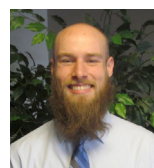
Please help us welcome and congratulate new additions and promotions here at HCS



Angela Beaton became the Administrative Assistant in June. She previously worked with the Rourke Art Museum and has a degree in public history.



Linnea Dahlquist is the new Weekend Manager. Over the past three years she has worked with the museum on many exhibits, tours, and events as a general museum assistant.



Jeff Swenson accepted the position of Events and Exhibits Coordinator. He previously worked as the HCS's administrative assistant and has taken on the many challenges of a new role.

Bylaw Change Approved

When the director of another historical society contacted Maureen for input on the HCS policy for board member removal, it prompted a question: What is "good cause" for removal? The matter was handed over to the HR committee who discussed possibilities and decided that if a board member did not adhere to the requirements of the board as outlined in the organizational handbook, that member could be removed. The original language is this: "Removal of a Director. Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed for good cause by a two-thirds majority vote of all the remaining Directors. Notice of impending removal shall be given to that Director and an opportunity provided to such a person to appear before the meeting of the Board. Any person removed from the Board of Directors shall receive a statement specifying the cause for removal."

This sentence was added : "'Good cause' includes, but is not limited to, non-adherence to the board responsibilities and duties as outlined in the organization handbook." At the July 16, 2014 board meeting, this bylaw revision was approved by vote of the board. This information serves as notice to the membership of this bylaws change.

Letter from the Board President

Gloria Lee



A delightful summer with especially lovely mornings and evenings has passed by. I hope members had an opportunity to take part in an event or visit the museum at least once during the summertime.

One of the more unique events at the Hjemkomst was the Bloch Party with the interesting log from Switzerland, traveling to each continent of the world. The only stops in all of North America were in North Dakota and one day at the Hjemkomst-- what an honor! I think the area wood carvers did an excellent job of representing our region of North America. Eddie Gudmundson, a long-time HCS member and supporter, was able to add one of his tiny carved wooden goblets to a small receptacle in the tree. At 97 robust years of age, Eddie will probably be one of the oldest wood carvers that added their talents to the Bloch. All persons who left their carving on the tree applied a unique interpretation of our corner of the world to Bloch as it travels to the rest of the continents and eventually makes its way back to Switzerland.

September 27 will find the Historical and Cultural Society hosting our second annual German Culture Day. Our premier German event held last year surpassed our expectations. We had a large crowd to experience German customs, food, drink and entertainment. Please stop by with family and friends on Saturday, September 27; the HCS crew is working on an even bigger and better day in 2014. Everyone at the museum is hoping for a particularly beautiful fall day in our lovely wooded setting to enjoy the 2nd annual German Culture Day.

Recently we were asked why HCS always seem to be in a fund raising mode. The person questioning our fund raising efforts thought the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County was totally funded by Clay County. While we greatly appreciate that approximately 40% of our funding is provided by the county, we must continually work to raise funds to pay the salaries of our excellent and dedicated staff, preserve and interpret the many artifacts of Clay County, as well as just keep

the doors to the museum open. Your annual HCS membership fee is an important part of our budget. The revenue from the gift shop and snack shop, plus admissions and donations, are also part of our funding. Maureen, our executive director, does an excellent job of obtaining many grants for HCS. While all of these revenue sources are important, most of them are not reliable and can vary in amount from year to year. Each of us has a dedicated amount of time, energy and cash that we choose to donate to various charities and organizations. We are seeking members to share their time, talents and resources at the museum. New members and corporate sponsors would greatly benefit our modest budget. Since choosing to volunteer and support HCS, I have learned in nearly every visit to the museum something about our state, our county and the history of Fargo-Moorhead. I enjoy playing a small role in the preservation of local history for future generations. The tours and programs we provide for local and regional school children are especially important and satisfying to me as a museum contributor. Unfortunately, there are no self-supporting museums in the entire United States, which means we are going to have to continue to rely on your generosity to help provide the needed funding in order for us to continue to bring you top quality exhibits, programs and activities at HCS. We appreciate your continued support.



From the Executive Director . . .

Maureen Kelly Jonason



Could it be nearly fall already? This summer has flown by in a mad rush of exhibits and events that have kept the staff hopping! And there is a busy fall ahead. Our second-ever German Culture Day will take place this year on Sat. Sept. 27. This free indoor festival celebrating

German-ness was such a big success last year that we just had to throw another one. Just as people throng to the Celtic Festival in March, though they may not be of Celtic heritage, and many attend the Scandinavian Hjemkomst/Midwest Viking Festivals though they may not be of Scandinavian descent, so should everyone make German Culture Day their favorite fall family outing. Enjoy tasty German and German-American foods, German beers and wines, oompa music and alpine yodeling, and meet all kinds of German-philes.

If you're in our neighborhood, stop by and say hello and buy a raffle ticket to win some great stuff: a Kindle Fire HD, a Kitchen Maid Stand Mixer, or a ByteSpeed laptop (think grandchildren!).

In September, some staff will also be off to the American Association of State and Local History national convention in St. Paul. We enjoy opportunities to attend educational sessions, meet new vendors, and network with museum-industry colleagues. We were awarded a grant to support two staffers' expenses. We look so forward to accepting the Award of Merit for last year's *Prairie Daughters: The Art and Lives of Annie Stein and Orabel Thortvedt* exhibit at the banquet on behalf of the entire HCSCC staff and interns who made that wonderful and unique exhibit happen.

Work continues on editing the text and selecting images for the book based on that exhibit that will be published by the ND Institute of Regional Studies

next year. More on that in future newsletters.

This October, some staff are also trooping off to Minot to have a booth at the 56th Annual Høstfest – it will be our first time. With 60,000 attendees expected, we plan to talk to a lot of people about coming to our museum in the future. Nov. 8 will be the 20th annual Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures Festival 10am-4pm, a celebration of our region's cultural diversity with performers and foods from around the world. It's the ninth year it has been held at the Hjemkomst Center and that we have partnered with its founders Cultural Diversity Resources and community groups including Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota and the Red River Danes.

To be honest, December provides some respite. We get lots of out-of-town visitors over the holidays because we are often the only museum open in the area, but downstairs, we have a chance to catch our breath, solidify plans for the next year, and begin fundraising to do it all over again. And do we love it? Of course, we do. Though time has actually gotten faster since I joined the staff in 2008, the variety in each day continues to make it fun and interesting work.

Let's Get COOKIN'!

We will be gathering recipes from now until Christmas so this winter we can assemble the first ever **HCSCC Cookbook**. Please send your favorite recipes with a brief history of the recipe. We would also like to include any of your favorite cooking stories, memories or "old wives' tales" like the one from my Grandmother Maizie: **"Always cut off the ends of the cucumber. They're poison, you know!"** Any household hints will be included also along with a special section devoted to heritage recipes. Please send heritage recipes AS WRITTEN! We also need a name for our cookbook. Any ideas?

Recipe Call

c/o Historical and Cultural Society

202 1st Ave. North

Moorhead, MN 56560-1985

Attn: Kelly

Murder Most Foul – The Death of Dr. Thrond Egge, Part II

By Mark Peihl

In our last issue we began the story of one of the most brutal crimes in Clay County's history – the murder of Dr. Thrond S. Egge. Egge was beaten to death on Moorhead's 6th St S, just east of the present library about 11:15 on Monday, Labor Day, September 6, 1909. Suspicion quickly fell on carpenter Frank Kethman. He was a violent drunk with a long history of bad blood with Egge. The two had been involved in a confrontation in a downtown saloon shortly before. After a quick investigation, Moorhead authorities arrested Kethman in his Fargo home. A Coroner's jury studied evidence, interrogated witnesses and concluded Egge had been beaten to death with a blunt instrument in Kethman's hands. He was arraigned for first degree murder, punishable by death. Kethman pleaded not guilty.

A series of procedures followed leading up to the trial itself. Kethman had a right to a preliminary or evidentiary hearing, a proceeding to determine if the state had sufficient evidence to justify further prosecution. There is no jury, only a judge to make a decision. Defendants often waive their right to a hearing, but Kethman's attorneys elected to proceed probably to force Clay County Attorney N. I. Johnson to reveal just what evidence he had and to tip off the prosecution's strategy.

Kethman was not a poor man. He was a successful tradesman and owned a partially paid-for house in north Fargo and a quarter section of land in North Dakota. His wife's family was well-to-do and gave the Kethmans financial and moral support throughout the ordeal. He was well represented. Frank had hired prominent Fargo attorney T. H. McEnroe to represent him. His wife hired former Moorhead mayor and well-respected lawyer Carroll Nye as his legal counsel.

The hearing began Thursday September 9 in Moorhead City Hall before Court Commissioner James Witherow. In the old television series, Perry Mason, the TV defense attorney played by Raymond Burr always managed to force a confession from the villain in a dramatic courtroom showdown. This almost always occurred during the preliminary hearing. There were no such dramatics in Kethman's case. Johnson introduced his evidence, and witnesses added little to the testimony given during the Coroner's inquest. But on Saturday

morning Nye stunned the community by withdrawing from the defense team, citing "lack of harmony between counsel." Nye and McEnroe could not agree on a defense strategy.

The Fargo Daily News opined that Kethman's lawyers had only two strategic choices: admit that their client had committed the murder but had done so while temporarily insane or deny he had anything to do with it and make the prosecution prove he did. We'll never know what divided the attorneys, but the following Monday McEnroe announced he was also leaving the case. Witherow refused to let him as that would leave the defendant without counsel. McEnroe agreed to stay through the preliminary hearing.



Dr. Thrond S. Egge. His brutal murder in 1909 shocked Clay County. Moorhead Independent, December 6, 1909.v

Monday brought another surprise. A large crowd assembled in City Hall to hear for the first time testimony from the prosecution's star witness, Lillian Wright. She had identified Kethman to police as the man she saw walking up and down 6th Street, acting strangely and disappearing into the tree shadows near the crime scene. She also identified him as the same man she saw rise from the ground and leave the neighborhood after the murder.

But Miss Wright didn't appear. According to Sheriff Archie Whaley, she was out of the state recovering

Continued on next page...

from “nervous prostration.” Witherow postponed her testimony until the following Friday.

Kethman remained in the Clay County jail. An eager reader, he devoured the books, magazines and newspapers brought to him by his faithful wife, Clara. Newspapers regularly commented on her constant attendance at every proceeding, close attention to courtroom details and her unwavering support for her husband. Through her efforts, another prominent Fargo attorney, William Barnett, agreed to take on the case.

The hearing resumed on Friday afternoon. Another huge crowd jammed the City Council chambers. After a few preliminaries, Lillian Wright was called to the stand. Witherow asked most of the questions. The *Fargo Daily News* reported she told of reaching home a few minutes before eleven and “of standing on the porch waiting for her father. She first saw the man she afterwards identified as Kethman [wearing dark clothes and a white cap] walking about, apparently endeavoring to hide from the light of a streetcar.... She told of him going into [the tree shadows across the street to the north].... She heard a crash... and next she saw a man apparently on his knees hammering something on the ground. Then she saw the man with the white hat leave.... and go west on Second Avenue.” The *Fargo Forum* wrote, “She showed not the least hesitancy in making her replies.... She detailed distances and the lights at different points of the view at her command and during a rather severe cross examination by Mr. Barnett she did not display one sign of uncertainty as to what she saw and heard.”

After Barnett’s cross examination, County Attorney Johnson asked Lillian if Kethman was the man she saw enter the murder scene and come out again. She replied, “Yes, sir... he was the only one there.” This “caused a visible stir in the court room and more than one ejaculated ‘that settles it for Kethman.’”

Witherow quickly ruled that there was probable cause to believe Kethman guilty of first-degree murder and ordered him bound over to a grand jury at the next court session and to be held in the County Jail without bail.

Clay County District Court held two sessions each year, one in spring and the other in fall. Before Kethman went to trial he had to face a grand jury. Between sixteen and twenty-three men, selected from the voter rolls, were called to decide which criminal cases presented by the County Attorney would be heard by the court. Grand juries meet in secret. The prosecutor presents his evidence and calls witnesses. The jury can also call witnesses. If a majority of the jurors decide the accused is guilty and there is evidence to prove it, they bring a formal charge, an indictment, against him. The fall court session was scheduled to begin Monday, October 18.

In the meantime, Clara Kethman persuaded Carroll Nye to join Barnett in defending her husband. The two high-power attorneys worked in harmony on the case. County Attorney Johnson also received some impressive backup. Minnesota Attorney General George Simpson sent his Assistant AG Lyndon Smith to help with the case. Johnson also enlisted Minnesota State Senator and noted Moorhead lawyer F. H. Peterson’s assistance.

Kethman’s case came up Wednesday, October 20 after all the other lesser cases were disposed of. Less than 24 hours later the grand jury returned two indictments against Kethman for first-degree murder. The following Monday Kethman plead not guilty in front of District Court Judge M. D. Taylor. Immediately Nye and Barnett asked for a change of venue claiming media attention had made it impossible for Kethman to receive a fair trial in Clay County. Judge Taylor granted both sides time to prepare affidavits.

The attorneys attempted to demonstrate bias on the part of county residents by presenting affidavits from ministers, merchants, grain elevator owners and others with much public contact. The affiants claimed that many people they’d talked to had formed opinions about the defendant’s guilt. The prosecution could also submit counter affidavits claiming citizens were undecided.

On Monday, November 8, Barnett brought to court a stack of local newspapers “all containing more or less lurid reports of the murder and the proceedings which followed.” Barnett read a number of provocative headlines, focusing on the

sensationalist *Fargo Daily News*. Indeed, after Lillian Wright's hearing testimony, the *Daily News*' headline read "Kethman is the Murderer." Just after the killing the *Moorhead Citizen* reported "Frank Keithman [sic] has been arrested as the man who did it.... He is undoubtedly the man... [it is] almost certain that he is the one who committed the deed." All of the local papers, as was typical of the time, published gory descriptions of the condition of Egge's face and the nature of the wounds.

Taylor, however, was not much impressed with the headlines and dueling affidavits. He denied the change of venue request. The trial would begin Wednesday, November 17, with jury selection.

Picking a jury is not the most exciting part of a trial but critically important. Kethman's jury was selected from a pool of over 100 potential jurors. The pool would be narrowed down to twelve. Both sides could challenge any potential juror. There were two kinds of challenges: peremptory and for cause. A peremptory challenge could be made without giving any reason. In serious cases like murder, the defense was able to peremptorily reject 20 jurors, the prosecution 10. For cause challenges were of two types; for actual bias or implied bias. A juror could be challenged for actual bias if he was shown to have formed an opinion about the guilt or innocence of the defendant. The court appointed three lawyers to serve as impartial triers to decide whether or not the challenged juror was actually biased. Their decision was final. A juror could be challenged for implied bias if he was a friend or relative of the judge, defendant or one of the other trial participants or had another conflict of interest. The juror might also be challenged for implied bias in a capital case if his opposition to the death penalty might preclude his finding the defendant guilty. In implied bias cases, the judge's decision was final.

The death penalty question was crucial. In February 1906 convicted murderer William Williams was put

to death in Ramsey County. The hanging was botched. The County Sheriff used a rope too long. Rather than having his neck snapped, the condemned man's feet hit the floor. Deputies grabbed the rope and hoisted Williams up. His strangulation took 15 minutes. Newspaper accounts of the incident shocked Minnesotans and soured many on the death penalty.

Jury selection began Friday, November 19. All potential jurors were from central and eastern Clay County, presumably distant from the influence of Fargo-Moorhead newspaper coverage. The twelfth juror was selected November 23.



Frank Kethman, suspect in the murder of Dr. Egge served as a Moorhead Fireman in the 1890s. Moorhead Fire Department Records.

The jury included two men, Solomon Heldt of Riverton Township and Fred Elrick of Ulen, who said that, though they opposed the death penalty, they would vote to convict Kethman if the evidence convinced them.

At 11:00 am Tuesday, November 23, Assistant Attorney General Smith outlined the prosecution's case to the jury and a standing-room-only crowd at the Clay County Courthouse. He told how Egge and Kethman had a history of bad feelings between them and how that they had an altercation in Walters' saloon earlier that evening, and how Kethman left the saloon a bit before eleven and walked briskly west on Center Avenue while Egge visited with various people for a few minutes before riding his bicycle south on 6th Street toward his home. The prosecution contended Kethman turned south on 5th Street, stopping briefly to pull the wrench from the coal wagon at Main Avenue, then continued south on 5th Street to 3rd Avenue South where he turned east for a block to the Egge home. There Mrs. Egge spotted him. He continued north on 6th Street, to the Wright residence where Lillian Wright saw him act strangely before he hid in shadows along 6th Street and Kethman lay in wait there for Egge, smashing his face with the wrench as he passed on his bicycle and brutally crushed the dead doctor's face. He then headed west down 2nd Avenue South to 5th Street where he replaced the

Continued on next page...

bloody wrench before running into Officer Crossman on Center Avenue.

The Fargo Daily News interviewed “one of the best known attorneys of the city of Fargo” for his thoughts about the case. Though the unnamed lawyer said he believed Kethman was clearly guilty, he thought the case would be hard to prove. A key point was time. Did Kethman have time to walk south to pull the pin, murder Egge and replace the pin before meeting Crossman?

Out of curiosity I recently retraced Kethman’s path with a stop watch. It took me five minutes and 20 seconds to walk “at a brisk pace” from the Walters’ saloon location down 5th Street and 3rd Avenue to Egge’s house. Add a few moments for pulling the wagon pin and it’s still less than six minutes. It took another two or three minutes to trace his movements as described by Lillian Wright. If Kethman left the bar a few minutes before eleven and Dr. Egge spent some minutes visiting before riding home, Kethman likely would have had enough time to commit the murder. It took less than five minutes to walk from the murder scene to where Kethman met Crossman.

But none of the witnesses seemed to pay much attention to the time except Lillian. She based her estimates on the eleven o’clock chiming of her family’s clock. Indeed, the “Fargo attorney”, said “I venture to say the night that Doctor Egge was killed there wasn’t any two watches that were looked at that showed exactly the same time.”

And there was the question of light. Was the scene bright enough for Lillian Wright to have seen what she claimed to see? Moorhead Light Plant Superintendent A. J. Warner testified about the brightness of the street light across from the Wright house the night of the murder. US Weather Observer H. W. Grasse described the phase and position of the moon and cloud cover. The defense called Kethman family friend Mrs. E. M. Parmeter who, with others, visited the scene at night and found “they couldn’t recognize forms and figures.” Dr. Paul Clark and Lillian Wright’s older brother Lawrence testified that they, too, had visited the scene at night and could easily see individuals and “distinguished a cat at a distance of about 30 feet.”

On Monday, November 29, Lillian Wright repeated

her testimony before another packed court room. She related how the man in the white cap had passed within 15 feet of her on the porch, how she first saw him about 11:04. She again positively stated the man she saw was Kethman.

Kethman himself took the stand, vehemently denying he had even been south of Center Avenue in Moorhead for years, that he and Egge had been just joking in the saloon, and that he had laid down and passed out in some shadows along Center Avenue for a time before meeting Crossman.

The attorneys made their final statements on Wednesday, December 1. The jury took the case at 4:30 pm. At 8:30 the next morning they reached a verdict. They found Kethman not guilty of first degree murder but found him guilty of murder in the second degree. A first-degree conviction would have meant the death penalty. The mandatory sentence for second-degree murder was life in prison.

The day after the verdict the *Fargo Forum* reported that “Two sharp ears at the hotel [where the jurors stayed] yesterday afternoon heard enough from a conversation between two members of the jury, who had become fast friends during their enforced confinement... that the first ballot... showed ten for conviction and two for acquittal. Those well familiar with the personnel of the jury... say that the two ‘for acquittal’ were men rather opposed to capital punishment and that they would vote so in order to lay a foundation for a compromise.”

Before imposing sentence Judge Taylor offered Kethman a chance to speak. He said the saloon men lied about the time he left the bar in order to protect their liquor license. Kethman claimed he left the place at 11:07, after the legal closing hour, not five minutes to, and that he could not have reached the murder scene in time to commit the murder.

Judge Taylor sentenced Kethman to life in Stillwater Prison. The next day Sheriff Whaley escorted him to the pen where he became prisoner number 2906. Kethman remained at Stillwater until December 1938 when, enfeebled and age 73, he was transferred to the St. Cloud Reformatory. He died there March 19, 1945, still protesting his innocence.

Collections Donations

Artifacts accessioned March-June 2014

Donors: Jerome Ekre, Hawley; Norm Felde, Moorhead; Jerry Hermann, Georgetown; Ernie Larson, Fargo; Carol Leslie, Albany, OR; Dave Midgarden, Moorhead; Janice (nee Vandree) Miller, Akeley, MN; Morken Lucky Leaf 4-H Club; Jim Olson, Fargo; Joanne Rogers, Fargo; The Rourke Art Museum, Moorhead; Michael Shulstad, Fargo; Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead; Virginia Weston, Detroit Lakes; Pam Williams, Fargo.

Artifacts: pastel by Orabel Thortvedt of prize-winning steer and fair award ribbons for 4-H booth; Halloween costume and baby items c1950s; photocopies of scrapbooks kept by Joyce Gunderson Brandser and Irene Paasch Ekre, both of Hawley, re: area people serving in World War II; signature quilt made in July 1935 by Helping Hands Sewing circle of Trinity Church, for missionaries to Madagascar, Gunerius and Anna Torvik; pair of wooden shoes carved and painted by Adolph Edenborg who owned a flower shop in Moorhead, with three photo prints; *My Country School Diary*, by Ruth Scott Haskins, 1982, author taught at District #6 (Gunderson) School in the 1920s; World War II-era materials re: rationing, military, stamps, brochures, military correspondence course, and greeting cards collected by members of Moll family; Georgetown-area-related photographs; pinback button, Loyalty Day, April 30, 1972, Post 1223 (VFW), Moorhead and one matchbook, Highway Host Restaurant; snapshots



beads, medals, charms, pins, and patches made and earned by donor, red cotton Camp Fire scarf, child's Halloween costume, c1945; milk crate, Fairmont Food Co.; cabinet television, first television purchased by Olaf and Ardella Midgarden of Moorhead in the early-to mid-1950s, purchased at Rigel's in Moorhead; box of records of Glyndon Women's Study Club and various items from Albert and Alice Langseth family; photo prints of Eric Martinson and the Martinson house on 4th Street South in Moorhead; book about donor's 325th Combat Engineers Battalion in World War II, including maps of Utah Beach D-Day invasion, copy of a letter awarding Citation of Battle Honors for the 325th.



New Displays in 3rd Floor Hall Cases!

Two new displays in the east hallway display cases on the third floor of the Hjemkomst Center opened on August 19. Recent acquisitions are featured in one half of the case, while the other half features art by Annie Stein and Orabel Thortvedt from the HCSCC Collection and on loan from Kelly Wambach. **The art display includes two pieces by Orabel Thortvedt that were not included in the 2012-2013 *Prairie Daughters* exhibition.** The recent acquisitions display includes a selection of items donated from 2009 to 2014, including a large collection from the Nokken family south of Moorhead. Come in and see what's new in the collection.

History Pay Dirt beneath Barnesville City Hall

HCSCC Historians visit Barnesville's Old City Jail in July, 2014 to research for an upcoming exhibit
By Jeff Swenson



Barnesville City Jail

Our trip to Barnesville was a success beyond any of our expectations. We explained our mission to city officials: to gather evidence of early city history surrounding crime and

law enforcement in Barnesville. First we visited and photographed the Old City Jail and then went and spoke with the Chief of Police Dean Ernst and briefly saw the old opera house on the top floor of the old City Hall building. We then requested to see what documents might be extant regarding our mission and were told there might be something in the old City Hall basement.

City Administrator Mike Rietz took us through the police station, located on the first floor of the old City Hall building, on our way to the basement. Passing through each room of the police station seemed to tear back layers in time as the old building showed its age the farther we traversed. We reached a staircase and descended into darkness. After we turned on the lights, the space was illuminated revealing a long forgotten basement with a very low ceiling and a dirt floor. Not just any dirt; but the kind that has sat so long, undisturbed, that it has turned to a fine dust. With each silent step the dust would plume around our feet as we meandered back into the depths of City Hall.

Old office supplies lined the base of the stairs: computer monitors, chairs, shelving - everything office workers no longer need and don't know what to do with. Nearing the back of the basement, Rietz pointed out the stack of fifteen or so seemingly water-logged boxes. I started examining their contents as my colleagues continued to find various areas of interest throughout the basement. I quickly realized that I was mostly digging through the accounting documents for the municipally owned Barnesville Liquor Store. Finding dust-covered accounting journals from the 1990s, I continued my search until I started coming across journals from the 1930s.

Kind of excited at this point, I noticed my colleagues had disappeared.

I walked back around the corner to find everyone gathered in a small closet-sized room behind an open metal door in the partition I had come through only a few minutes ago. There was little talking as all three of my colleagues were enthralled by their discovery and intently concentrating on the materials at hand. I poked my head in and noticed immediately "this was it." The room was maybe ten feet deep and six feet wide with two rows of shelving lining its entirety. The shelves were packed with books and boxes, all very old but better kept than what I had been working with around the corner. I looked up at the book on the end of the shelf and said, "Hey guys, does that say Justice Court Docket?" "Yep," they all replied, glancing up from their studies.

I took the book down and saw there must have been ten more books of the same sort right next to it. Then I pulled out a box and looked inside. It was full of hand-written criminal complaints; the first one I opened was from 1939. I was ecstatic! Even Rietz, seemingly reluctant to bring us down here initially, was beaming with vicarious excitement. We spent another twenty minutes or so delving into the contents of the room. Realizing half a lifetime could easily be spent researching and cataloging these materials, we reluctantly left with whispered promises of return one day. In regard to the exhibit we aim to build as well as the somewhat little known history of Barnesville, we hit a gold mine. It was like finding buried treasure.



Jeff (top) Markus (bottom) Begging to stay and research more!

THANK YOU!!

This summer has been full of vibrant, positive energy, with many events/activities and interns! We were joined this summer by Eric Clay and Delaney Freer who are NDSU communication majors with emphasis on advertising and public relations. Marissa Johnson is a history major at Concordia College and Amanda Robson, a history major at University of Northwestern—St. Paul. They worked on a variety of projects and were willing to do almost anything (including dressing up as Vikings)! We sincerely appreciate all of their help and we hope that they enjoyed learning all we had to teach. Thank you all for your enthusiasm and dedication this summer.

Sincerely,
-HCSCC Staff

Internship Experiences at HCSCC

Eric Clay

I first learned about this internship from an opportunity fair at NDSU, where I major in advertising and PR. I was immediately interested because I've loved to visit the HCSCC for as long as I can remember, and history is a personal passion of mine. When I learned that they were looking for someone to work with their marketing coordinator, I knew that it would be a good fit for me, so I sent in an application and got the position!

One of my first assignments was to help the marketing coordinator redesign the museum's brochure. I had never worked with brochures before, so this was definitely an informative and fun experience. Other projects included writing reviews of exhibits, contributing articles to Clay County newspapers that highlighted the HCSCC, helping out with the Volunteer Spotlight for the newsletter, and giving feedback and suggestions to other co-workers. One of the most enjoyable experiences was getting to use the museum's archives.

Under the guidance of Mark Piehl, the archivist, I was able to examine film prints of actual Clay County newspapers from the 1940s. Another major highlight was helping out the Mid-west Viking

festival. I got the opportunity to dress in period clothing, teach people about Norse runes, and assist in pottery activities and demonstrations.

Out of all the projects I worked on, the one that I'm most proud of is definitely the brochure which describes the HCSCC's off-site exhibits. This was my first time creating a brochure on my own, and I was very happy with the end result. Marketing coordinator Amanda Nordick's insights and assistance was invaluable, and I got a lot of great feedback and suggestions.

Overall, I thought that my internship at the HCSCC was both fun and educational in equal measure, and would definitely recommend the experience to anyone who is looking to build their skill set and meet some great people!

Delaney Freer

I was very nervous to start my summer internship at the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. I had never had any out-of-the-classroom marketing experience before. I also had no idea how to pronounce Hjemkomst correctly and some irrational part of me feared I would be kicked out the instant they found me out.

But all my worrying was for naught as Maureen, the executive director, and Amanda, the marketing coordinator, were so warm and welcoming that they put me straight at ease. I am so grateful to have had such an approachable staff to guide me through this whole experience. They were always kind and supportive of my work.

I helped with such office difficulties as an irritable copy machine, avoided the dusty grumblings of the ancient intern desktop computer, and learned what it meant to work in a fun and creative marketing atmosphere.

Whether it was a photo shoot in the break room for Kelly's Snack Shack or dressing as a Viking to administer surveys at the Midwest Viking Festival, there were always enjoyable projects to do. Sometimes I felt like I was having too much fun to actually be getting class credit.

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I chose to apply for an internship at the HCSCC because I wanted to learn how to market for a product that I truly believe in. I think history is very important to understanding our culture and I wanted to be a part of a workplace that works to create that same yearning for awareness in others. I learned copious amounts during my time as a marketing intern. I feel more confident when using design software, better understand the process of creating a marketing campaign and know more of the daily tasks required when working in advertising and public relations.

I am also proud to say I can now correctly pronounce Hjemkomst and know it means homecoming in Norwegian. I plan to have a homecoming of my own soon and return to the heritage center to continue learning.

Marissa Johnson

My internship this summer has been full of learning experiences, trial and errors and a strengthening of the decision for my future career. When I first came here I was quite nervous about what the summer would hold for me because I have never worked in a museum setting before. As the summer went on I began to feel more comfortable and realized I rather enjoyed every aspect of my internship. Because my internship was a general museum internship I learned a little about everything. My tasks throughout the summer have ranged from giving tours of the Stave Church, to helping take down and assemble exhibits, to working with artifacts, and doing research in the archives. Every day would bring a new learning experience that would be beneficial for my future work at a museum.

One of my favorite tasks that I have done has been giving tours of the Stave Church. It took quite some time to memorize the information well enough to be able to give the tour but once it was memorized, I was good to go. I love being able to inform people of the awesome history and story of the church. When I give the tours it is exciting for me to be able to share the information that I have learned and see them get enthusiastic about history. I also really liked doing research for upcoming exhibits. I was able to go through old newspapers

and see what was happening in day-to-day life for people around one hundred years ago. Stories that might not have seemed important to them have now helped us understand what life was like at that time period.

Amanda Robson

As a summer intern, I see one big theme here at the museum: dreams. Our two biggest exhibits, the Hopperstad church replica and the *Hjemkomst*, were formed from the fulfillment of the dreams of the constructors, Guy Paulson and Robert Asp respectively, and their families. Today, the museum carries on their legacies by inspiring its visitors to make their dreams a reality. The Hjemkomst museum accomplishes this inspiration through sharing these men's stories and the stories of other local dreamers. I have been inspired through the shared stories expressed by our museum staff. I enjoyed the wide variety of projects and becoming more comfortable with speaking publicly through giving tours. My internship has encouraged me to continue on in my dream of working in a library or museum after graduating with a history major from University of Northwestern.



Call for Entry

A Woman's Perspective Multimedia Art Exhibitions, Literary and Performing Events

Since 1999, A Woman's Perspective has been presenting multimedia visual art exhibitions as well as literary and performing arts events throughout the Moorhead/Fargo communities. Focused on mentoring and promoting new and emerging artists alongside established professionals, A Woman's Perspective includes art in all genre.

Entries are being sought for visual art, poetry, prose, music, dance, film, theater and performing art.

Download entry form at awp.handworks.org



Quilt National '13 Reception and Exhibition

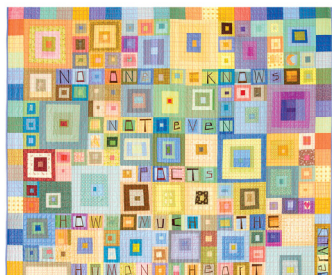
By Vicky Jo Bogart

Quilt National '13 is on display in Heritage Hall at the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County through Sunday, September 28, 2014. A jury of three internationally recognized artist quiltmakers, authors and scholars selected 85 works from 851 entries. You can meet one of the artists, Katie Pasquini Masopust from Santa Fe, New Mexico, at a public reception Thursday, September 18, 3-5 p.m.

Visitors to this collection of *Quilt National '13* can expect to see fine art crafted with respect to the heritage quilting techniques of piecing, appliqué, embroidery and stitching layers together. In addition to the use of found objects and commercial fabrics, these fiber artists create their own dyed, printed, painted and inked fabrics using innovative takes on processes of discharge dyeing, shibori, wax resist, screen printing, monoprinting, digital printing, pastels, acrylics, paint sticks, textile crayons, markers and ink. Materials range from plastic bags to fine silk with everything in between.

Some of the artist statements and visual messages are poignant and profound, challenging or whimsical. Beauty balances the bold and everyone will leave with a memorable impression.

Thank you to the members of the Quilters' Guild of North Dakota and Minnesota Quilters for making this exhibition possible. This activity is also supported in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through a Minnesota State Legislative appropriation. The *Quilt National '13* biennial exhibition is produced and circulated by the Dairy Barn Arts Center in Athens, Ohio where it debuted in April before touring for two years.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ADAM MOUSEL

By Eric Clay



Adam Mousel has a passion for history. A Concordia graduate with a double major in history and psychology and a minor in Scandinavian studies, Mousel

conducts tours of the Hopperstad Stave Church replica, as well as works the admissions desk. Adam enjoys having a volunteer position that makes use of both his mind and his passion. In the months since he started, he has already learned a great deal about the *Hjemkomst* voyage, the cultural significance of stave churches, and the heritage of Clay County in general.

Volunteering at the HCSCC also gives him the opportunity to interact with museum-goers from around the world. In particular, he enjoys answering the many questions that patrons have during the tours, as well as giving insights into how the heritage of the people here has shaped the culture. Sometimes, visitors who are actually from Scandinavia will discover that they have relatives in the area whom they did not know about. The fact that he not only gets to learn about history himself, but also to impart this learning to others, is a great perk of the job. He looks forward to continuing his work here for the rest of the summer and to pursue other jobs that will let him see history up close on a regular basis.

Materials for Clay County Churchscape?

Dr. Joy Lintelman, history professor at Concordia, is beginning a project about churches in Clay County. She hopes to develop a digital resource that would map the locations of all Clay County churches over time, and include historic images (and perhaps other kinds of digitized documents, records, etc.). If you have images of (or records from) CC churches (especially ones that no longer exist) that you would be willing to share by allowing Dr. Lintelman to scan them, please contact her at lintelma@cord.edu or 218-299-3491.

Prairie Boys at War by Merry M. Helm

Prairie Boys at War: Korea June-Oct. 1950 by Merry M. Helm is a new read you can find in the Gift Shop at HCSCC. This is non-fiction account of the Korean War presents personal stories of Midwesterners who received at least one of a number of medals earned for their service in the war. An excerpt reveals the personal side of the War, shown through the eyes of those who fought directly in it, and did so with courage, bravery and stamina.

Helm has been working on this book for a number of years, and it is the first of a three-volume work because of the depth of her research and richness of the accounts. As she describes the series:

"The combined volumes of Prairie Boys at War will tell the history of the entire war. Although there are some sections that explain troop movements, politics, and the origins of the arms race, this series is mostly about our farm boys, our Boy Scouts, our football players, shortstops, orphans and high school dropouts. It's about Czechs, German Russians, Norwegians, Sioux warriors, Finns and Metiz. They were miners, musicians, deer hunters, grape growers, cowboys, and appointees to our distinguished Military Academies. They were commanders, juvenile delinquents, paratroopers, WWII retreats, prisoners of war, jeep drivers, jet aces and frog men. All had one thing in common: they were tough young men who came of age during the Great Depression."

She will present a reading/signing at the Hjerkomst Center on Tuesday, Sept. 9, 6:30pm.

Heritage Gift Shop

@ the Hjerkomst Center

Open seven days a week!

Monday - Saturday:

9 am to 5 pm

Tuesday:

9 am to 8 pm

Sunday:

Noon to 5 pm



All proceeds benefit the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County

What Does House and Home Mean to You?

In conjunction with our hosting the National Endowment for the Humanities traveling exhibit *House & Home* (opening in November 12), please explore these education opportunities.

Homelessness 101 Workshop Wed. Nov. 12, 9am-5pm, Hjerkomst Center auditorium, presented by the FM Coalition for Homeless Persons.

Homelessness 101 is an introduction to the causes, barriers and history of homelessness, as well as the permanent solutions the communities are putting in place. It is geared to new advocates working in social service or faith communities and is appropriate for anyone who wants a better understanding of the dynamics and complexity of homelessness. The workshop is a great primer for public servants and funders. Everyone is welcome. The cost for the day-long event is \$15 and includes a light lunch.

Nov. 18 7-8pm Housing First: No Excuses, a lecture by Dr. Iain de Jong also in the auditorium.

Housing First is an international best-practice housing philosophy that advocates housing people as quickly as possible, based on most appropriate setting, and allowing the reduction in life stress that results from stable housing to lead people to want to make other changes in their lives (Harm Reduction model; Trauma-Informed Care model). Housing First says the service providers will do all they can to keep people housed. Many current practices are more likely to evict for violations of policy.

To register, contact Laurie Baker, Executive Director, FM Coalition for Homeless Persons, directorfmchp@gmail.com, 701-200-0855.

Participants in these events can view the *House & Home* exhibit for free during these two events.

2014 Fall Exhibit & Event Calendar

Doing Our Part: Clay County In WWII

February 11, 2014 - December 31, 2015

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

Quilt National '13

August 16, 2014- September 28, 2014

Quilt National is a biennial juried competition dedicated to the promotion of the contemporary art quilt. It is a showcase for new work produced in the two-year span prior to the exhibition.

Art Educators Exhibition

August 19, 2014- October 20, 2014

This dynamic exhibit showcases the work of visual art educators in our region. These Art Educators have the opportunity to share with us their work and why art is essential in our community.

See Your World through My Eyes: Images by Bruce Crummy

October 3, 2014- November 2, 2014

Fargo-based photographer Bruce Crummy presents his beautiful images of North Dakota - as well as western Minnesota and throughout the Red River Valley. Thirty images will tell the story of our world, through his eyes.

FMVA Constraint

November 1, 2014- January 5, 2015

See how regional artists interpret the "constraint" of labels

House & Home

November 12, 2014- January 7, 2015

NEH presents an exploration of homes throughout various points in history and culture in America, from army barracks to two story colonials. The exhibit allows us to explore the meanings of where and how we live from home furnishings to constructions materials and many other aspects that make up not only a house but a home.

The Wines of Germany

Thursday, September 4, 6:30pm

Wine expert Sam Wai will introduce the thirteen wine regions of Germany. Each wine will be paired with theme-appropriate food that will make up a light meal for the evening. \$35 prepayment and registration required. Contact Jeff Swenson 218-299-5511 ext. 6737 or jeff.swenson@ci.moorhead.mn.us.

Merry Helm Author talk

Tuesday, September 9, 6:30pm

Author of *Prairie Boys at War* will discuss her new book, research and interests on the Korean War.

Quilt National '13 Artist Reception

Thursday, September 18

3-5pm Reception is free and open to the public.

Meet *Quilt National* Fiber Artist Katie Pasquini Masopust from Santa Fe, NM and enjoy the *Quilt National* exhibit.

German Culture Day

Saturday, September 27

10am-7pm Free and open to the public

Celebrate German cultural heritage of past immigrants and of contemporary Germany with a combination of traditional music and dance, children's activities, and folk traditional crafts. This year's musical entertainment will include Dale Dahmen and The Beats, The Flemming Fold and author of *I Am Hutterite*.

Bruce Crummy Artist Talk

Tuesday, October 21, 6:30pm

Local photographer Bruce Crummy will discuss his latest exhibit *See Your World through My Eyes: Images by Bruce Crummy* and book.

PANGEA- Cultivate our Cultures

Saturday, November 8

10am-4pm Free and open to the public

Celebrate our community's traditions and cultures with this local, multi-ethnic showcase of music dance, culinary arts and children's activities.

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



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

German Culture Day

September 27
10am-7pm

Featuring
Author Mary-Ann Krikby,
Music by Flemming Fold and
Dale Dahmen and the Beats

Free Admission
Both Festivals
Hjemkomst Center
202 1st Ave N
Moorhead, MN 56560

PANGEA-

CULTIVATE OUR CULTURES

NOV. 8
10AM-4PM

MUSIC

DANCE

FOOD

