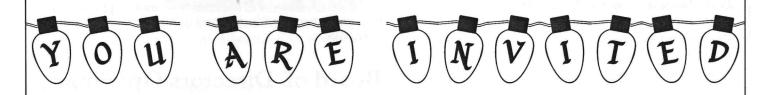
## The Hourglass

Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 4 • Winter 2010



### Holiday Open House

Hjemkomst Center Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, 1 - 3 p.m.

**1:30 p.m.** Free guided tour of *The Saint John's Bible* exhibit given by local calligrapher Anne Kaese

**3 p.m.** Book talk about Swedish immigrant artist Birger Sandzen by Dr. Jim Kaplan. His new book will be available at the event.



Life in Community, Aidan Hart in collaboration with Donald Jackson, Copyright 2005, The Saint John's Bible, Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota, USA.

## Did you Know ...

Moorhead is named after William Garroway Moorhead, who was a member of the Northern Pacific Railway Board of Directors?

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#### **CLAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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

## **HCSCC** News

Hjemkomst Voyage Skit

The HCSCC attended the community performance for In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater's "Water, Water



Everywhere" on Friday, Aug. 20. The cast did an amazing job! Most of the skits were focused on water in the Red River Valley, along with a fun portrayal of the *Hjemkomst* voyage! If you would like to see more photos from

their performance, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hcscc.

### **Board of Directors Openings**

We will have two openings on the Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County's board of directors in May. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Maureen Kelly Ionason at 218-299-5511 ext. 6732.

### Kudos to Mark Peihl

HCSCC Archivist Mark Peihl presented his new community



HCSCC Archivist Mark Peihl standing with Fargo Lions President Mike Gallagher.

presentation entitled "Prisoner-of-War Camps in the Red River Valley" on Monday, Nov. 1 at the Fargo Lions weekly meeting. Mark received a standing ovation from the Fargo Lions.

Ron Martin, who was program chairman for the day, has been a member of the Fargo Lions since 1978. In his introduction he stated that Mark's programs are in the "top 5" of all programs he has heard at their weekly meetings since 1978.

### **Email Address Request**

We need your email address to send you announcements between newsletters, and we promise not to inundate you with emails. We have a few but would love more! If you use email regularly, please send your address to Lynn Catherine at Lynn.Catherine@ci.moorhead.mn.us.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically instead of paper form, please note that to Lynn in the message.

### Letter from the Board President

Barb Bertschi



The year is coming to a close and it's time to reflect on 2010. I would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Your membership and volunteerism have helped the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County show success in so many areas. The programming was better than ever, and HCS enjoyed an increase in admissions because

of it. Thank you for telling your friends and family about all HCS has to offer. The memberships increased as a result of your help.

The staff and volunteers really make HCS a fun place to visit. I'm impressed every time I have the opportunity to speak with one of them. They bring such enthusiasm to their participation in the mission of HCS, and the organization is reaping the rewards. I would like to thank each of them for their creativity and unique contribution in the past year.

HCS is making great strides to become even more of a "go-to place" in the community. The new HCS Executive Director, Maureen Kelly Jonason, has wonderful plans to bring additional exposure to HCS, and I can't wait to see what she does for the organization in the next year. Her leadership will certainly be an asset to accomplish this goal.

I look forward to 2011 and all that it will bring this organization. Of course, we are hoping the waters of the Red River stay within its banks this spring (as everyone is), and flooding won't be one of things that test us. HCS does have an emergency plan of action if needed. Hopefully, by being prepared for the worst, we will enjoy the best.

The vision we have for HCS is that it's a place for people to visit again and again. To obtain this goal, there must be new and different things to experience. We want to accomplish this objective while staying true to the mission of HCS which is "to preserve, interpret and present the history and culture of Clay County and the Region". The staff has done a fantastic job in 2010 to create or find exhibits, events and displays of interest. This has definitely created an excitement about what is to come next in 2011.

Many of you have already found that each time you walk through the galleries there is something different to experience. If you haven't been to HCS for awhile, I suggest you visit soon. If you already are a regular guest, I encourage you to bring a friend/family member next time. The best advertising is "word of mouth" and a happy member is the best way to make this happen.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I invite you to be part of the excitement by volunteering, supporting us financially and asking your friends and family to become members. HCS is here because of you.

### Grants Received in 2010

-1			
	Alex Stern Family Foundation	\$ 2000	Toward a new camera security system
	F-M Area Foundation	\$ 596	New Photo Scanner
	Lake Region Arts Council*	\$ 6057	Birch bark exhibit and programs
	Lake Region Arts Council	\$ 3000	for Quilt National exhibit in 2011
	Midcontinent Foundation	\$ 1000	New slide scanner, new table saw
	MN State Arts Board*	\$ 16,110	Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures 2010
	North Dakota Council on the Arts	\$ 2000	Viking Village 2010
	The Arts Partnership	\$ 1435	Viking Village 2010
	Minnesota Historical and Cultural	\$ 10,688	New archival shelving
	Grants*		
	MHC Grants*	\$ 6618	Microfilm of church records and newspapers
			1 1

TOTAL \$49,504

\*These grant awards are made possible by the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

We thank all of our generous granters for their support.

## **HCSCC** Executive Director

### Maureen Kelly Jonason



history and arts projects in 2010.

It's been a banner year for HCSCC. First, we have been blessed with many grants. The taxpayers of Clay County have supported us every year with a generous donation through the Clay County Commission. The taxpayers of the state of Minnesota, when they voted in a tiny increase in sales tax in November of 2008, made it possible for us to apply for and receive funding for both

With that transfusion, we have been able to complete longoverdue and greatly needed projects including upgrading the equipment in the Archives: a new microfilm reader/scanner and new computer to use it, a new computer for archivist Mark Peihl, a new slide scanner, a new photo scanner, new shelving to convert the old graphics lab into expanded archival storage and to increase artifact storage, and purchase of newspaper and church records collections on microfilm to enhance research.

In addition, we received support from grants for our arts projects including Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures Festival and Viking Village 2010 from the MN State Arts Board, The Arts Partnership, and North Dakota Council on the Arts. We also served as Fiscal Agent to help launch the new Nordic Arts Alliance, focused on bringing contemporary Scandinavian arts experiences to American audiences. See the article on grants in this newsletter for more details.

Admissions are also up as a result of several popular exhibits this year starting with Lincoln in North Dakota, WWI and WWII Posters, Ellis Island Portraits, and currently up until Dec. 27, The Saint John's Bible and Crime Lab Detectives. Come on in and see them both for the price of one!

We beat old records for attendance at our festivals as well: Viking Village brought in more than 800 people and Pangea—Cultivate Our Cultures more than 1300.

Many people don't realize that the museum and some of its

exhibits are seen for free by lots of visitors each year. Whenever the City rents out the auditorium, ship gallery, or meeting room for meetings or wedding receptions or Senior Connections holds a free event; when River Keepers brings in a record 1700 4th graders for free water education each fall; when museum visitors come in on the third Tuesday evening of each month for free admission (most put a donation in the box); for the 2000+ visitors to the free Celtic Festival produced by the park departments of Fargo and Moorhead; for the 1300+ attendees of Pangea-Cultivate Our Cultures, which is free to the public; for the 3000+ visitors to the Scandinavian Festival; and of course, every time one of our 500 members visits—we roughly calculate that 20,000 visitors per year come in free of charge. In addition, of course, are the approximately 2000 researchers who stop into the Archives each year. The annual financial support of Clay County and the in-kind support of the City of Moorhead make all that possible. We can't thank them enough!

HCSCC is also blessed with a great staff: historian Mark Peihl has been the archivist here since 1986; historian Lisa Vedaa started as CCHS's executive director and then became the collections manager in 2009; Markus Krueger brings his art history degree to bear on interpretation of the ship and church and in all his work installing each exhibit; Tim Jorgensen applies his master's in folk studies to event coordination and traveling exhibit research; Brianne Carlsrud joined us in January fresh from MSUM's Communications Department with a degree in marketing. We also have the support of two part-time workers who came to us through the Experience Works program: Sandy Braseth in the gift shop and Lynn Catherine in the office. MSUM Work Study program has paid students throughout the year to assist us in all areas of museum operations: Samantha McGrane (events assistant), Jack Jones (weekend manager), and Jake Gysland and Sean Makunza (museum assistants). We've also had the services of four interns: Katie Jahnig, Mark Stilton, Laura Sawatzke, and Kim Iwen. Most recently Dean Golberg joined us paid by Experience Works to work in the gift shop and archives. We appreciate all the extra help. See the article on volunteers elsewhere in the newsletter.

Having been hired as the executive director in May, after nearly two years in other capacities, I find myself extremely grateful for how well 2010 has gone—from successful fundraising, excellent exhibits, and fun and educational events to increased publicity, devoted volunteers, and staying dry! I can hardly wait for 2011!

## Bridging Cultures Birch Bark Workshops

Bridging Cultures: Scandinavian and Ojibwe Traditions in Birch Bark, currently an exhibition on display through Dec. 15, was the focal point for a series of workshops in October. Education majors from Concordia and current teachers from the region learned how to incorporate birch bark craft into classroom curriculum to illustrate cultural comparisons. Two other workshops taught craft projects to students from the Red River Alternative Learning Center and to the general public. HCSCC is a fiscal year 2010 recipient of an Arts and Cultural Heritage grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.



Warren White teaches an intergenerational group at the workshop on birch bark craft projects.

### Interns, Volunteers, and Museum Assistants ... oh my!

We're happy to announce that we have new helpers who are assisting with various tasks. Please make

sure to give them a warm welcome if you see them around the museum!



Name: Jake Gysland
College: MSUM
Major: Philosophy
Position: Museum assistant.
Jake gives tours, works at the
Admissions Desk, and helps
with projects as needed.



Name: Kim Iwen
College: MSUM
Major: Anthropology
Position: Intern. Kim
works on cataloging new
accessions as well as
entering information into
Past Perfect.



Name: Sean Mukunza
College: MSUM
Major: History and East
Asian Studies
Position: Museum assistant.
Sean helps with archiving and cataloging at the museum, and he also helps with various projects as needed.



Name: Ashley Groenke
College: NDSU
Major: Apparels and textiles
Position: Volunteer. Ashley
helps with entering collection
information into Past Perfect.



Name: Katie Jahnig
College: Concordia
Major: Print journalism and history
Position: Intern. Katie began
interning at the museum last
spring and is continuing her
co-op through Concordia. She
mainly helps with cataloging
the collections and processing
donations to the collections.



## Volunteer Spotlight

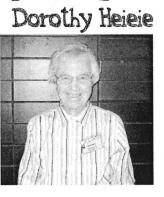
We are going to start highlighting one of the HCSCC volunteers each issue so you can get to know our wonderful volunteers better! We randomly drew a name out of a hat and picked Dorothy, who has been volunteering at the Hjemkomst Center for more than 14 years.

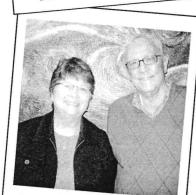
Dorothy Heieie grew up in Brooten, Minn. and graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. in 1954 with a major in home economics. Dorothy was a nutrition and sanitation advisor for 15 years in Laos, Vietnam and Nepal at a teaching training school with

home economics extension and then a high school. After her overseas work, she was a family economics and management specialist for 18 years in Missouri.

Dorothy moved back to the Fargo-Moorhead area after she retired in 1995 and has been volunteering at the Hjemkomst Center since Jan. 1996. "I like to meet different people that come here, and I also enjoy the staff," Dorothy says, "I am 100% Norwegian, so I am very interested in the *Hjemkomst* Ship and the Hopperstad Stave Church.

Dorothy enjoys reading and writing letters in her spare time. She likes to attend the music and social events at Concordia and is involved with her local church. Dorothy has also been volunteering at Sanford since 1996, where she is known as the "magazine lady."





Names: Joyce and Jim Holter Positions: Volunteers. Joyce enters new information into Past Perfect, and Jim gives tours of the Hopperstad Stave Church.

### **Collections Donations**

### By Lisa Vedaa, Collections Manager

### May-October 2010 Accessions and Donors

Donors (listed alphabetically): Sylvia Anderson, Moorhead; Philadelphia Andrews-Broughton, Apex, NC; Lois Bekkerus, Glyndon; Russ and Lois Bekkerus, Glyndon; Children of Elman and Ethel Krabbenhoft, Sabin; City of Moorhead; City of Moorhead Parks and Recreation; Clay County 4-H; Eugene Cruz, Moorhead; Elmwood Cemetery Association; Jack Evert, Moorhead; Jon Evert, Moorhead; Ida M. Flaaten, Moorhead; Chet Gebert, Fargo; David and Paula Grosz, Moorhead; Edward Gudmundson, Moorhead; Hazel Haarstad, Moorhead; Joyce Haug, Hawley; Carol Haugen, Hawley; In Memory of Art and Delores Marvig; Joan Ishaug, Fridley, MN; Robert S. Jacobson, Palm Harbor, FL; Margret Kragnes, Moorhead; Donald Larew, Moorhead; Don Lein, Glyndon; Moorhead Woman's Club; Jan Nelson, Fargo; North Dakota Department of Transportation; Pope County Historical Society, Glenwood; Fred Quam, Fargo; Vivian Radi, Moorhead; Red River Genealogical Society, Fargo; Margaret Ristvedt, Hawley; Doug Sillers, Fargo; Barbara Sipson, Moorhead; Jack Smith, Detroit Lakes; Phyllis Thysell, Fargo; Duane Walker, Moorhead; Vern Whitten, Fargo; John Young, Jr., Hawley

Artifacts (in no particular order): copies of paper and digital records for Elmwood Cemetery; bill-of-sale for Lyceum Theater, Moorhead, 1918; confirmation certificate, letters, 6-cent Sears voucher, and photocopy of 1948-49 souvenir from District 3 School; Rally in the Valley poster, 1997; photographs of Romkey Park area, Moorhead, circa 2000; (2) quilts, scrap fabrics; scrapbook and certificate from Parke 4-H Club; 1896 blue-gray wedding dress; Smith "Famous" Seed Potato Cutter and photos of E. W. Smith farm; account book for Martin Anderson with Jacob Olness, Dry Goods and Groceries, 1918 and diploma for Ida Anderson, May 27, 1914, Minnesota Public Schools; (2) sections of Fargo-Moorhead streetcar line on 12th Avenue North in Fargo and (1) CD with photos of the track in place and removal; (4) volumes, scrapbooks and records of Hawley American Legion Auxiliary; photos from the Roos family; (2) boxes records, Bob Brekken estate; Clay County 4-H scrapbooks and Happy Feet 4-H Club posters; Bob Asp and Hjemkomst memorabilia collected by donor during construction and voyage; one pound Radiant Roast coffee bag, Fairway Foods, Inc.; "Census 2000" key chain

with name card; bottle openers with beer brand logos; US Postal Service magnetic clip; "NuAge" photo mounting corners; Topps Chewing Gum trading card of "Unknown" Russian let Plane, circa 1952; "We Like Ike/Dick" political window sticker; 1933 burgundy velvet wedding dress; (18) 35mm slides, Hjemkomst ship; ceramic jug, "The Peterson Mercantile Company, Wholesale Wines & Liquors, Moorhead, Minn." and ceramic plate, "Minnesota, May 11, 1858;" Clay County Courthouse souvenir plate; advertising plate for Solberg & Nelson Groceries, Fruit & Candy, Moorhead; 1909 calendar advertising plate, Pehrson & Nelson Groceries, Fruits & Candies, Moorhead; advertising dish for Holland Cleaners 40th Anniversary; Dick & Jane table-top teacher's aide from Comstock School; military and VFW uniform and photos; beaded whisk broom holder with whisk broom and circa 1950s flour bag; Comstock American Lutheran Church 25th Anniversary history, 50 Years in the Valley, the Story of the East Grand Forks American Crystal Sugar Company flagship plant, Hickson [ND] Centennial history; photo postcard of Hawley High School; Mouton coat; auction poster, Rustad Consolidated Schools, Thursday, May 27 [no year], (1) issue, Rustad school paper, The Clarion, May 29, 1930, History of Norman County, Minnesota, 1958; various clothing from 1950s and 60s, space shuttle model kit, set of (3) nesting white hobnail ashtrays; annual reports of field man Paul Swenson for American Crystal Sugar, Drayton, ND plant, beet crop 1951-1972; photo print, mounted, "Men of '71," Moorhead civic leaders and early settlers in 1871; Victor adding machine, used by donor in Moorhead Drug; traveling wardrobe trunk owned by donor's mother, Viola Heimark, daughter of Dr. Jacob Heimark; Sabin, Minnesota Centennial 1881-1981; assorted photo prints and negatives, photography equipment and camera used by O. E. Flaten and Grosz Studio; aerial photos of Fargo and Moorhead in 2009 flood; pens used by mayors of Moorhead and Fargo to sign flood mitigation papers and copy of signature page; photo album with photos of Skalet family from Ulen, photos of Coalwell family members, and books owned by Ole Skalet; Moorhead Woman's Club records and year books 1893-2010; photo print of Andrea Padilla Cruz and Canuto Cruz; photo print of portrait of Carl John Jacobson and Anna Britta Asp with a framed photo of their son Carl Alfred Jacobson taken circa 1907; Clay County tax lists for years ending in 6 and 7, 1906-1977

## New Book Documents Rollag Area Families

Many of us are aware that Clay County immigrants tended to settle alongside others from the same country as themselves. Norwegians came to live near other Norwegians, Germans with Germans. In many cases, these pioneers also came from the same region or district in the old country. Many 19th-century land seekers who moved to southeastern Clay County around Rollag came from Rollag in the Numedal Valley in Norway. Last year, Maxine Shulstad and Dennis Herbranson published a remarkable history of these folks. The writers researched and compiled genealogies of about three dozen families in Parke and northern Tansem Townships and the surrounding area who came from the Numedal Valley. But this volume is more than that. Their work illuminates the immigrant experience with stories – sometimes humorous, sometimes heart rending – of the people who left all behind to try life in a new, unfamiliar land.

Shulstad and Herbranson also researched the immigrants' backgrounds and families in the old country. Finding the link to a specific village or farm in the old country is often the most difficult task for genealogists. These writers have jumpstarted that process for southeast Clay County families. And their methods can be used by others making the same attempt elsewhere. The book also contains a great chapter on the often confusing Norwegian naming system.

This book is not only for folks from the Rollag area. Carefully researched and well written, it's a good read (and would make a great Christmas present). Rollag: From Norway to Minnesota – The Numedal Valley Immigrants and Their Families is available for \$48.09 at our Heritage Gift Shop in the Hjemkomst Center. Check it out!

## Volunteers Who Went Above and Beyond

The HCSCC would like to give a special thanks to two extraordinary volunteers in 2010: Attorney Bill Guy did our Articles of Merger and helped us with all the legal paperwork for the Clay County Historical Society and Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center merger over the last two years.

In addition, Anne Kaese has dedicated herself to giving as many presentations as possible to encourage people to come see *The Saint John's Bible* exhibit! Anne is giving more than 25 guided tours and presentations, both at the Hjemkomst Center and other venues around the Fargo-Moorhead area.

## Lefty Johnson Visits the Hjemkomst Center

July 17, 2010 was the 30th anniversary of the removal of the ship from the Hawley warehouse. Jim Fawbush, with The Hawley Herald, did a wonderful story on the anniversary with a special feature on Lefty Johnson, who was a friend of Robert Asp's and instrumental in the Hjemkomst project. Lefty stopped by the Hjemkomst Center



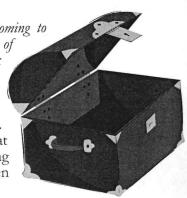
museum in July to take a couple of photos next to the *Hjemkomst* Ship.

## Thank you!

Many thanks to Gene Prim and Marc Ness for donations from Clay County Connections, *Clay County Union*, *The Hawley Herald*, and *Barnesville Record-Review* in order to complete the digitization of all our newspaper microfilm collection. Their support means that soon the newspapers will be archived online and available to everyone!

# What Would you put in Your Immigrant trunk?

For our new exhibit, Coming to Clay County: 150 Years of Immigration, we asked our visitors what they would put in their immigrant trunk if they had to start over in another country. Here are the things that some kids would bring (the spelling has not been changed):



"I wood take all my rockets"

"all i Bring is LECOS"

"Tools, a wepon, clothes, chess, pictures, plates, bowls, silverware, radio and PIE"

"I would bring my star wars action fgures, books and movies. I would also bring close, food, my baby blanket and my body pilow."

Intrunk: pictures, MP3, DS, my Karaoke machine, not the laundry, my bedspread"

"Outtrunk: I would take my sister Emma and my huge family.

"food, water, close, a shower, sope, toothe brush, tooth paste, gold"

"I would bring close, food, a friend, pair of shoose, a hat, life Jacket, Sleepingbage, my pairents, a hat, notebook, my family, swimingsuit just incase my notebook, my family, swimingsuit thing to do." close would get wet, my ant favirot thing to do."

## Clay County and the Bomb - Civil Defense in the Cold War and Backyard Bunkers

By Mark Peihl, Archivist

These days our emergency preparedness activities focus on protection from tornadoes and floods, but fifty years ago, Civil Defense (CD) authorities concentrated on a now seemingly remote threat – a Russian nuclear attack on the US. In the early 1960s, anxiety about a warming Cold War set Americans to converting basements and backyards into bunkers for riding out atomic Armageddon. And Clay County was no exception.

The Soviets' first atomic test in 1949 took US officials by surprise. Eighteen months later President Harry Truman signed the Civil Defense Act of 1950. The Act placed responsibility for CD plan development and implementation firmly in the hands of state and local agencies. The federal government provided overall guidance and some funds, but the decentralized aspect of CD remained through the Cold War.



Clay County Sheriff and Civil Defense Director Parker Erickson poses with a Geiger counter. Red River Scene

An early federal initiative is still remembered by many Baby Boomers. In 1951 the Office of Civil Defense introduced the cartoon character Bert the Turtle who encouraged school kids to "Duck" under their desks and "Cover" their heads when they saw the bright flash of an atomic detonation. The early relatively low-vield bomber delivered nukes gave officials hope that folks in suburbs of eastern cities (the presumed targets) might survive with enough protection. "Duck and Cover" had little to do with rural Minnesota. Soon, however, new, much more destructive hydrogen bombs, hundreds of times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Hiroshima

and Nagasaki at the end of World War 2, dashed those hopes. The Feds quietly shelved Bert the Turtle in 1953. Times called for a new approach.

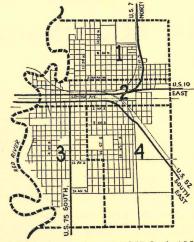
In accordance with the 1950 CD Act Minnesota Governor Elmer Anderson appointed H. A. Schon to head the new Civil Defense Department. Schon developed the "Minnesota Survival Plan," calling for county and local authorities to form CD organizations. Many reacted slowly. In 1954 the Clay County Commission appointed newly elected Sheriff Parker Erickson County Civil Defense Director. No budget or staff accompanied Erickson's new duties.

Public apathy and ignorance bedeviled CD authorities. In August 1955, Erickson conducted a test of warning sirens around the county. Sirens blew a steady note for one minute to warn residents of danger. This was followed by a wavering tone or series of short blasts to indicate an attack was imminent and one should take cover. The results were not encouraging. Smaller county towns used their fire sirens for the test. Many thought it meant there was a fire. Glyndon's Fire Chief refused to blow the whistle. Moorhead used the steam

whistle on the Fairmont Creamery. Few heard the signal and fewer knew what it meant.

Another statewide test a year later yielded similar results. CD officials in St. Paul phoned Moorhead Police Chief Les Bielfeldt warning him an "attack" was coming. He in turn called CD Directors in 13 Minnesota counties who teamed with local telephone operators to alert city and village officials. Each village Director placed a series of pre-arranged calls to farm residents. The cumbersome system may have advised folks of a problem... what then? The Moorhead Daily News asked, "What would you do if Friday's air raid drill were real?... The best possible advice is to be prepared to evacuate, and to know how to take cover if there is little or no warning." But there was no comprehensive plan to follow. The News suggested citizens contact Erickson's office or Washington for copies of pamphlets with titles like "4 Wheels to Survival," "Facts About the H-Bomb" and "Atomic Blast Creates Fire."

State CD Director Schon, however, was at work on the Minnesota Survival Plan. In late 1956, Schon's staff decided that the Soviets' primary Minnesota targets would include the Twin Cities and harbor facilities at Duluth. East Grand Forks also made the list because of its close proximity to the Grand Forks Air Force Base. They considered Fargo-Moorhead a secondary target, one which might be hit if Russian bombers failed to reach a primary target, because of Fargo's Hector Airport, bridges on the Red River and the North Dakota Air National Guard base.



Moorbead evacuation map, 1957. In the 1950s Minnesota Civil Defense officials designated Fargo-Moorbead as a possible Soviet nuclear target and developed an evacuation plan. It divided Moorbead into four zones. Residents of each were to follow US Highways 52, 75 and 10 to safety some fifty-plus miles away. Undated Fargo Forum clipping, c. 1957.

In February 1957, CD officials from Minnesota, Cass County North Dakota and Clay, Norman, Otter Tail, Becker and Wilkin Counties met in Moorhead to develop an evacuation plan for Fargo-Moorhead. Their set-up divided Moorhead into four zones. (See the map on page 8.) Downtown residents would drive east to Detroit Lakes on US Highway 10. Those in southeast Moorhead would head for Fergus Falls on Highway 52. Others were to travel north to Ada or south to Breckenridge on US Highway 75. They left the downtown zone narrow to allow Fargo residents with lake cabins to follow Center Ave through Moorhead to the east. The plan assumed a two-hour warning time. Those without an automobile were urged to "make advance arrangements in your block to set up an evacuation car pool." In September workmen installed over twenty evacuation route signs along Moorhead's streets. The plan made no mention of rural Clay County residents though everyone was advised to put at

least 50 miles between themselves and Fargo-Moorhead.

Assuming no one's car broke down or otherwise blocked traffic, what would greet Clay County refugees in our neighboring counties? The Moorhead Daily News reported the receiving communities "have made plans for the reception of evacuees in case of emergencies." But in November Erickson addressed a faculty meeting at Moorhead State Teachers' College. A summary says, "When people get to [their] destination, the cars are to be parked in [the] fairgrounds and people re-registered. If someone is missing, a check will be made by radio. A floor plan is available for every school, college and church in the area. For example, a church may be converted to a hospital. The ladies aid will cook the food." Given our experience with evacuation during Hurricane Katrina, this all sounds hopelessly naïve. Though I do find comfort in the idea of local folks surviving nuclear war on church basement food!

Newspapers also hint at plans to unite children with parents if an event occurred during school hours. Starting in 1958 Clay County CD distributed I.D. bracelets to students through the Moorhead Schools. The bling reportedly cost 55 cents and was "chrome stainless steel, non-toxic and will not darken the skin." They carried the child's name, address, phone number, religious preference, next of kin and blood type. The *Fargo Forum* ominously reported "their melting point is between 2600 and 2750 degrees Fahrenheit." Authorities distributed nearly 5000.

In 1959 CD thinking began shifting. An H-bomb test on Bikini Atoll revealed that nuclear fallout could cover huge expanses with deadly radiation. That meant church basements, even those in DL or Fergus, made for inadequate evacuation centers. The launch of *Sputnik* and deployment of the first nuclear tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles in the late 1950s cut potential warning time of nuclear attack from hours to minutes.

The Eisenhower administration looked at a nationwide system of public shelters but balked at the enormous price tag. Instead, in June 1959, the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization distributed a booklet, The Family Fallout Shelter, which encouraged families to construct their own bunkers. The publication contained detailed construction drawings for four different types of shelters ranging from a basic "do-it-yourself" basement concrete block structure to prefabricated underground concrete and steel bunkers. Cost estimates varied from \$150-\$1500 and more (that's more like \$1100 to \$11,000 today). The booklet included suggestions on ventilation, stocking, lighting and sanitation: "Provision for emergency toilet facilities and disposal of human wastes will be an unfamiliar problem." It recommended a tightly covered 10-gallon garbage can. Each plan included at least one right angle turn in the shelter entrance. "Radiation scatters somewhat like light. Some will go around a corner. The rest continues in a straight line. Therefore, sharp turns in a shelter entrance will reduce radiation intensity inside the shelter."

It's not known if any Clay County residents built shelters based on this booklet. In December Cass County ND Civil Defense Director Leonard Caverly estimated that about 20 – 30 Fargo families had installed shelters. In 1960 Clay County CD began a series of classes designed to educate locals on the importance of home shelters and how to live in and stock them. Two-hundred-seventy signed up for the first class, but only 170 completed the 12-hour marathon. High school science teachers from Moorhead, Hawley and Barnesville received Geiger counter training. Moorhead added four warning sirens to the one on Fairmont Creamery.

But it took the John Kennedy administration and international tensions to give CD a real boost. JFK entered office in January 1961 committed to CD. In an address to Congress in May, he expressed his support of the concept of deterrence, that only a strong capacity for retaliation would deter the Soviets from attacking us. But he went on to say,

But this deterrent concept assumes rational calculations by rational men. And the history of this planet... is sufficient to remind us of the possibilities of an irrational attack, a miscalculation, an accidental war...which cannot be either foreseen or deterred. It is on this basis that civil defense can be readily justifiable-as insurance for the civilian population in case of an enemy miscalculation. It is insurance we trust will never be needed-but insurance which we could never forgive ourselves for foregoing in the event of catastrophe.

He proposed a massive increase in Civil Defense spending including a plan to identify public and private buildings which, when properly stocked with food, water and medical supplies, could serve as community fallout shelters.

As Kennedy spoke, the Cold War was warming up. After World War 2 an Iron Curtain separated West Germany from the Soviet-dominated East. The communists controlled access across the border except in divided Berlin. Thousands of East German scientists, teachers and technicians poured west. This brain drain threatened to cripple the East. On June 4, 1961 Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev threatened to sign a new treaty with East Germany, abrogating Western rights to access Berlin. He gave the US and its NATO allies until December 31 to get out of town. JFK said no dice.

Tensions built that summer. In August, Khrushchev began constructing the Berlin Wall. On September 15, *LIFE* magazine published a special issue touting home fallout shelters. The piece

included a letter from JFK written a week earlier in which he restated his plans for community shelters and continued, "In the meantime, there is much you can do to protect yourself - and in doing so strengthen the nation. I urge you to read and consider seriously the contents of this issue of LIFE..." Whether Kennedy knew what the article would say when he signed the letter is not clear. The piece breathlessly pushed home fallout shelters as the only responsible.



Clay County Sheriff and Civil Defense Director Parker Erickson, right, watches as Mayor I. T. Stenerson, left, and Assistant County CD Director Joe Turner hand an evacuation route sign to county employee Norman Krump for installation on a Moorhead lamp post. The signs were to guide residents to safety in case of nuclear attack. Red River Scene, Sept 19, 1957.

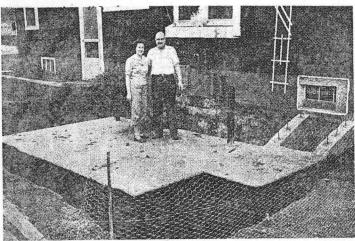
option for American families faced with possible nuclear war and claimed, "You could be among the 97% to survive if you follow advice on these pages." The *LIFE* issue featured photos and plans for home shelters (including a pre-fab steel unit which could be erected in four hours by a man and his son), stocking advice and intoned, "If a military-objective attack should come now to an unprepared nation, 45 million Americans – a fourth of the population would die... But if Americans took precautions against fallout the mortality could drop sharply. About five million people, less than 3% of the

Continued on next page ...

population would die. This in itself is a ghastly number. But you have to look at it coldly."

There is no indication where *LIFE* got these numbers, but Kennedy's letter gave the piece credence. It and the Berlin situation set off a nationwide fallout shelter craze.

Local interest was high. In an August 27, 1961 Fargo Forum article, Cass County CD Director Caverly and Clay County's Erickson claimed to be "swamped with shelter queries." Caverly said, "The phone's always ringing. We get letters and at least 10 inquiring persons come in daily... I've had to quit noting on my calendar the number of inquiries received daily." He claimed he had distributed "50,000 shelter books." Numbers of shelters actually constructed are hard to come by. Caverly estimated "well over 300 fallout shelters in Cass County." (He'd estimated 90 in Fargo the previous May.)



Harold and Ruby Briggs stand of the roof of their new fallout shelter under construction beneath the driveway of their north Moorhead home. It was the first home shelter built in Moorhead. Fargo Forum, May 10, 1961.

Clay County's Erickson said, "a month ago I knew of only one shelter in Moorhead... Now there are many, many more. Because various contractors and residents themselves are building them... it's impossible to know how many are under construction. Too, some persons don't like to admit they are building shelters. I tell them they can use them for tornado protection, too. That makes them feel better." The *Forum* article claimed, "Many are being included in construction of new homes, most adjoining basements... One contractor reported writing three contracts in a day. Another company ran out of steel for shelters."

The one Moorhead shelter mentioned by Erickson was likely that of Harold and Ruby Briggs. In May, Fargo Forum reporter Wayne Lubenow did a feature story on the north Moorhead couple's addition. Lubenow claimed it was "the first bona fide, built-to-Civil-Defense-specification shelter in the city." Built by Vern Pladson Construction Company of Moorhead under the Briggs' drive way, the 12 x 8-foot steel-reinforced concrete bunker featured a 100-gallon hot water tank, a transistor radio, electric lanterns, a hand-operated machine for making electricity and "air vents filled with glass wool to purify fallout-contaminated air." Lubenow wrote Briggs "had a bit of trouble convincing his wife, Ruby, to have the shelter built. But he won her over and the shelter is the talk - and envy - of the neighborhood... The neighbors know there are two empty bunks in there and Briggs already has more applications for them than he can handle." When Briggs quipped that he was going to have "lots of tools in the shelter - like big crow bars and picks... in case the entrance is blocked by the blast and he has to dig himself out," Ruby

protested "But other people will know we're in there and they'll get us out." Briggs replied, "Honey, there isn't going to be any other people to dig us out." The shelter cost the Briggs \$750.

Beside Pladson Construction and the do-it-yourself route, locals had other options. According to another Lubenow article in September, Moorhead contractor Arlo Buland "designed a fallout shelter he considers luxurious – for a fallout shelter." The builder reportedly

months researching other designs but found them pretty Spartan. "You'll be in your shelter for two weeks at least, he figured so what's wrong with having a few of the comforts of home?... Constructed like the inside of a trailer home, the shelter has three rooms - a tiny bathroom, a kitchen and a combination room-bedroom." The bathroom featured a little shower; the kitchen "a miniature sink and plenty of drawers and storage space" and the living room "a booth with table and upholstered seats which fold into bunk beds for four people." A mockup



Brochure from the American Safe-T-Shelter Company, Fargo, 1961. The company sold corrugated metal shelters for suburban homes, farms and communities. CCHS Collections.

stood outside Buland's office at 1506 Main Ave. Like the Briggs' digs, Buland's shelter was 8x12-foot reinforced concrete but had a rounded, Quonset-style roof and was designed to stand inside a corner of a basement. The price was flexible. A bare shelter installed in a basement would run \$850. "If you want the toilet, then you'll need plumbing. You could probably go up to \$1800, but you'd be living good."

The Forum's reference to a contractor which had "run out of steel" may be to the American Safe-T-Shelter Company. Fargoans Erwin Quarne and Dayton Hatling opened the distributorship for corrugated steel "Living Shelters" manufactured by the Wonder Building Corporation in Chicago. A colorful brochure in our collection (see illustration on page 10) highlights models designed for home basements, or backyard burial; farm shelters with facilities for livestock and seed storage and community bunkers for up to 100 people. (Wonder Buildings are still being sold by Hardened Structures of Virginia Beach VA.) In October 1961, Hatling pitched one of the later to the Cass County Commission for an "underground control center" to be constructed somewhere on the Courthouse grounds. Commissioners seemed receptive, but it was never built.

Later that month Quarne and Hatling partnered with two other locals to form "Family Shelters, Inc.," which sold shelters made by Kelsey-Hayes Company of Detroit and Philadelphia – the same prefab unit featured in the *LIFE* article. Their offices and warehouse were at 233 23rd St N in Fargo.

As Americans glanced nervously toward the sky and dug holes in their yards, President Kennedy, reportedly embarrassed by his part in the home bomb shelter craze, moved ahead with the community shelter part of his plans. He convinced Congress to spend a whopping \$207,000,000 in 1962 on CD, the most ever spent in one year on CD before or since. It primarily funded his public shelter initiative. In late 1961 he'd initiated Phase I, a nationwide survey to find interim shelters for as many as 50 million Americans. These were marked

with paper signs but not stocked. Refugees were expected to bring necessaries with them. A more substantial survey in 1962 identified many more and introduced Americans to the familiar metal yellow and black Fallout Shelter signs.

Local activities tracked those on the national level. Early in 1961, the Minnesota Civil Defense Department reversed course and removed Fargo-Moorhead from its list of secondary targets. Parker Erickson told the *Forum* "evacuation is out and shelters are in." Late that fall Clay County's evacuation route signs came down. The 1962 survey found 50 buildings in Moorhead and 37 in other Clay County towns adequate for use as shelters. The first survival supplies arrived in March 1963.

It was a brief hurrah for CD. After JFK's death in November 1963, most of his CD ideas moved to the back burners. Civil Defense support vacillated between anemic and weak through most of the Cold War. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, activities focused on natural disaster recovery and prevention and more recently, terrorist threats.

In November 1994, Congress repealed the Civil Defense Act of 1950 and the yellow and black signs began to disappear. In the early 1980s I had a friend who worked for an area company with a community shelter in its basement. His boss told him to "clear out all that junk downstairs." The junk included rusty water cans, boxes of survival biscuits and five-gallon tins of "carbohydrate supplement" all dated 1963. Of course, I sampled the fare. The biscuits were wrapped and looked much like Graham Crackers but tasted like saltines – without the salt. And the "carbohydrate supplement" turned out to be lemon drops. The latter were still pretty good but made for mighty lean rations for two-weeks in a fallout shelter.

The home shelter phenomenon of 1961 also fizzled quickly. An AP story carried in local papers in July 1962 announced the "Shelter Boom Has Gone Bust." Late the previous year, Russian and US tanks backed away from each other on the Berlin border and tensions subsided. A later report in *Newsweek* magazine quoted a Michigan shelter dealer as saying that even during the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962, the only call he received was from a reporter asking if he still stocked shelters.

People just decided they didn't want to spend the time and effort on, as JKF put it, "insurance we trust will never be needed." Many worried about appearing afraid and what neighbors might think of them. Others wondered about neighbors eyeing their spaces. On Friday, September 29, 1961, local CBS affiliate KXJB aired an episode of The Twilight Zone titled "The Shelter." It told the story of a group of friendly neighbors, one of whom had built a basement shelter. When they hear a radio report of a possible attack, the desperate families plead with the owner to let them in, turn on each other in fear and break down the shelter door - just in time to hear it was all a false alarm. Shame faced at what they had become, they try to get back to normal relations, but they all know it's too late. In his signoff, host Rod Serling says, "For civilization to survive, the human race has to remain civilized. Tonight's very small exercise in logic from The Twilight Zone." Fortunately, it's a lesson we did not have to learn.

[There are undoubtedly lots of home shelters still out there. We know of three in Moorhead and three others in Fargo. We'd like to know more about this fascinating episode in local history. If you have or had a shelter in your home or know of one, please contact HCSCC Archivist Mark Peihl at 218-299-5511 ext 6734, mark.peihl@ci.moorhead.mn.us. Thanks!]

## Heritage Gift Shop

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Hours:

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday noon - 5 p.m.



## Who Lived Here Before Me?

HCSCC staffer researches the history of his new home and finds links to early Clay County pioneers

### By Markus Krueger, Visitor Services Coordinator

My wife and I just bought our first home and, like a lot of homeowners, we are curious about who lived here before us. Even though my office is right next door to the Clay County Archives, I still have a lot to learn about what they can tell me and how to unlock that information.

I asked archivist Mark Peihl to help me find out all I can about my house. Below is a list of some of the more valuable tools you can use to learn more about your house's history, what they are, and what they told me about my own house.

The Archivist - Our first and most valuable resource is Mark Peihl, our archivist and local history expert here in Clay County. Even if you do not have the pleasure of living in Clay County, your local archivist is the person who knows what information is available to you and how to interpret this information.

The City Directory - Mark started me off by looking at the city directory. You can think of it as the phone book before phones. Unfortunately, Moorhead was the only place in Clay County to list their residents in the directory in the years I'm looking at, but Clay Countians living outside Moorhead can still trace land ownership through tax records and plat maps. I started with the year 1928, the first year that the Fargo-Moorhead directory started listing residents by address as well as just by name. I looked up the address: 416 10th Street South. According to the book, it doesn't exist. Strange. I was told my house was built two years before.

I looked through other volumes. The first mention of someone living there was in 1930: Anne Gunderson, a widow. The next book, 1932, lists George Lee, a pharmacist, and his wife Eleanor. Between 1934 and 1945 my place was home to the families of

annie I

Picture clipping of Anne Gunderson. Thortvedt Family Papers.

the principal of the nearby High School, a banker, and a warehouse worker. Signe and Selma Lee, both nurses, moved in after that and stayed for forty years. Then, in 1982, something interesting happens. George and Eleanor Lee move back in, staying with Selma after Signe Lee passes away.

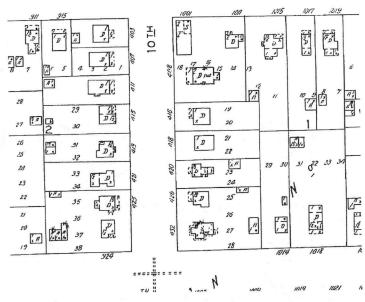
I was left with a lot of questions: Who was Anne Gunderson, the first person I can place in my house? Who were George and Eleanor Lee, how were they related to Signe and Selma Lee, and how did they end up moving back to a house

they moved away from 50 years before? But my first question is this: If my house was built in 1926 like the realtors said, why does it not show up in the directory until 1930?

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps - For this answer, Mark looked in the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. The Sanborn company made very accurate maps showing the individual lots and footprints of all structures in town. Initially used by insurance companies to set rates, their maps are extremely valuable for historians today. From Sanborn maps, we know the exact location of every structure in town in a given year, from office buildings to outbuildings.

Where my house should be in the 1922 map there is a long rectangular building labeled "machinery shed." The next map, made in July of 1929, is the first record I have of my house existing. The map also gives me the exact location of my property:

Highland Addition, block 1, lots 19 and 20.



Sanborn Map for 1929. The oldest record I could find of my house existing (center-right of the map).

Tax Lists – Mark Peihl sent me over to the bookshelf full of Tax Lists to find out who owned lots 19 and 20 of the first block of the Highland Addition before my house was built. The 1925 book for the city of Moorhead lists the owner as Samuel A Loudon. A quick look back to the City Directory tells me that he was a blacksmith living on 8th Street.

Looking at the low value of the land compared to other lots in the neighborhood, Mark figures that, as we expected, there was most likely no house on the property in 1925.

Grantee Index to Deeds - While I was looking at the tax lists, Mark was trying to find my property in the Grantee Index to Deeds, a record of land transactions. He found that Anne

Gunderson bought the land from Samuel Loudon in November of 1927. The next time it was sold is in September of 1945, when Signe and Selma Lee bought it from an Allen Gunderson. Is Allen Gunderson Anne's son? Perhaps the reason why there were so many different residents in the early years was that the Gundersons rented it out. George and Eleanor Lee seem to be their first tenants.

Abstract – The only record I used that was outside of the Hjemkomst Center was the abstract that came with my house. This is a record of who owned the land dating back to when it was first surveyed in 1871. Anne bought the two lots for \$800 in 1927. That would be enough for land, but probably not enough for a house at that time. A few months later she takes out two loans totaling \$3000. I'm willing to bet that this is the real date of my house's construction. A widow named Anne Gunderson built my house in the summer of 1928. But who was Anne Gunderson?

Death Records - Death records tell you a lot about a person: when and where they were born, names of spouses and children, how they died, etc. Mark looked up Anne Gunderson and things started to make sense. Allen Gunderson was indeed Anne's son. Mark also looked up the Lees and found that George, Selma and Signe were all siblings. Then came the "Eureka" moment. All these names started ringing bells with Mark Peihl. Gunder Gunderson, Anne's deceased husband...the Lees...these are the names of the Norwegians that settled the Buffalo River in Moland Township. If they knew the Thortvedt family, he said, then there is a good chance we can find out more about them through the Thortvedt Family Papers.

Archival Collections - The archives are filled with photographs, diaries, scrapbooks and miscellaneous papers donated by people from the county. One of our most valuable collections is a number of notebooks and binders in boxes that Mark calls the Thortvedt Family Papers. Levi Thortvedt came to the Buffalo River as a boy in 1870 when his father, Ola Thortvedt, led perhaps the first large group of Norwegian settlers to the Red River Valley. This was a big deal in our region's history and the new book *Norwegians in Minnesota* devotes pages to their story. Levi's daughter, Orabel Thortvedt, was a gifted artist and chronicler of family history. The Thortvedts are a historian's favorite kind of people: pathological documenters, compilers of history, and pack-rats who make their life's work available to their local historical society.

Orabel made several volumes of biographical sketches of family, friends, acquaintances, and ancestors. I literally took out an old blue binder that Orabel labeled *Index G* to look for Anne and Gunder Gunderson. Bingo! Starting with a family tree I can see Anne's husband Gunder and Levi Thortvedt were first cousins. Looking further I see the page devoted to Anne Gunderson, the woman who built my home.

The brown, crinkly page tells Anne's life story with a small photo clipping of Anne as an old woman. She was born Anne Jonsdatter Tvedten (daughter of Jon and Dagne from the Tvedten farm), a neighbor of the Thortvedts even back in Norway. She immigrated in 1879 to the Buffalo River, living with her uncle in a log cabin that was still standing on the Thortvedt farm at the time of Orabel's writing. Within a few years she married Gunder Gunderson, who died of pneumonia in 1908. Two lines catch my eye: "Moves to Moorhead to live – (now Signe & Selma Lee's house)." Then, farther down, George Lee is listed as a pall bearer

at her funeral. The Lees and the Gundersons are most certainly linked.

I looked for the Lees in Orabel's Index L, Volume 1. Here was a treasure trove of information. Orabel's family tree for the Lees shows Signe, Selma, and George are all children of her aunt Thone and Gunder Lee. They were Orabel's cousins and they were very close. In fact, there is more written about these three than anyone else in the book, at least in volumes L and G. Selma and Signe were nurses, early examples of professional working women, both listed in 1941's Who's Who in Minnesota. Among the newspaper clippings included in the binder is a reminiscence of their lives printed by the Clay County Historical Society, with a picture of the two taken in my house. George was a fiddler and Orabel accompanied him on piano when he won a trophy in 1971. She devotes pages to a description of George and Eleanor's wedding, listed and described his favorite horses throughout his life, and copied a large portion of George's diary of his vacation to Norway. The information for each of these three is enough to fill a newsletter article all by themselves and enough to make these people very real to me.

Memoirs/Newspaper Articles - There was one source of information that I had already read while researching local immigration for our recent exhibit: Levi Thortvedt's account of his family's historic trip to homestead the unsettled Red River Valley in 1870. The 40-page document, which ran in several Minnesota and North Dakota newspapers in the 1930s, is a priceless eyewitness account of the immigrant experience in the pioneer days, settling the frontier, and the coming of the railroad. I went to my desk and dug out my copy. The names were all there. The year after Levi's father, Ola Thortvedt, led a few families and single men to Minnesota's western frontier, he was joined by his brother Bendik Gunderson (their father was named Gunder, which is where the name Gunder-son came from. Ola took his name from the family farm in Norway - Thortvedt). With Bendik was his son, little Gunder Gunderson, who would one day marry Anne Jonsdatter Tvedten. Travelling with Bendick and Gunder in 1871 was a single man named Ola Lee, who would marry Levi Thortvedt's older sister Thone. Among Ola and Thone's 13 children would be Signe, Selma, and George. It was exciting to know that my house was connected to some of the earliest Red River Valley pioneers!

Stroll around the Neighborhood – On my walk home from work, I decided to go a few blocks out of my way to see some of the addresses I collected and walk in the footsteps of the people I read about. As soon as I left the Hjemkomst Center it occurred to me why the name Anne Jonsdatter Tvedten sounded so familiar. We have her beautiful rosemalled immigrant trunk on display in our current exhibit, *Coming to Clay County: 150 Years of Immigration!* That trunk probably used to be in my house.

Further on, I saw that the house of Samuel Loudon, the blacksmith who sold the land to Anne Gunderson, has been replaced by Korsmo Funeral Home. I imagine Samuel tipping his hat to his kitty-corner neighbor, Solomon Comstock, as Moorhead's elderly pioneer-patriarch walked home from his 8th Street office. I walked by the house where Anne Gunderson was living just before she built my house. I saw what she would have seen looking right out her front window in 1927: Samuel Loudon tearing down his old machinery shed on Highland Addition, block 1, lots 19 and 20. I imagined an old woman saying to herself, perhaps in Norwegian, "My, what a fine place to build a home."

## Exhibition & Event Calendar

**Current & Upcoming Exhibitions** 

Through Thanksgiving 2011 Coming to Clay County: 150 Years of Immigration

Through Dec. 27, 2010 Crime Lab Detectives

Through Dec. 27, 2010 The Saint John's Bible

Through June 2011 Georgetown: Transportation Crossroads

Jan. 5 - March 9, 2011 Becoming American: Teenagers & Immigration

Feb. 1 - April 3, 2011

A Woman's Perspective on The Elements

March 19 - June 27, 2011 Norwegian Footprints

April 8 - June 10, 2011

The BIG Art Show presented by the Fargo-Moorhead Visual Artists

June 21 - Sept. 18, 2011 Red River Watercolor Society National Juried Show

July 2 - Sept. 11, 2011 Aftermath: Images from Ground Zero; Photographs of Joel Meyerowitz

Sept. 15 - Nov. 13, 2011 Quilt National 2009

Sept. 27 - Nov. 13, 2011
African Soul, American Heart: Images of Duk Payuel, Sudan, by Deb Dawson

**Upcoming Events** 

Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, 1 - 3 p.m. Holiday Open House 1:30 p.m. free guided tour of *The Saint John's Bible* 3 p.m. Book talk about Swedish immigrant artist Birger Sandzen by Dr. Jim Kaplan

Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011, 4 - 7 p.m. Opening reception for Becoming American: Teenagers & Immigration

Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011, 1 - 4 p.m.
Reception/performance for A Woman's Perspective on The Elements

Tuesday, June 21, 2011 Opening Reception for Red River Water Color Society National Juried Show

July 16, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. & 17, noon - 4 p.m. 2011 Midwest Viking Festival Bring the whole family!

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011 Special event commemorating the 10th anniversary of 9/11 for Aftermath: Images from Ground Zero; Photographs of Joel Meyerowitz

## End-of-Year Tax Savings

Here is an idea for those individuals who are age 70 and 1/2 or older and will be receiving a Required Minimum Distribution check in the middle of December. The IRS dictates that everyone 70 and 1/2 + has to take a small percentage out of their retirement plan at the end of each year.

If you have one or more favorite charities and you do not need the income for normal living expenses, this is an excellent source to make a gift. These gifts would qualify for a tax deduction in the year given.

For those who have large distributions of more than \$10,000-\$40,000, you might consider purchasing a life insurance contract and naming the charity or charities as beneficiary. In the future, you could use those distributions to pay the annual premium. The one requirement that could prevent someone from utilizing this idea is that an insurance physical would be required.

This method will leverage well for annual premiums.

Please contact Maureen Kelly Jonason at 218-299-5511 Ext. 6732 or Maureen. Jonason@ci.moorhead.mn.us for more information.

## Viking Presentation at the Moorhead Public Library

Markus Krueger and Tim Jorgensen gave a presentation on Vikings at the Moorhead Public Library on June 30, 2010.

The presentation was an introduction to youth about whom the Vikings were and were not to eliminate common misconceptions and included a showing of replicas used during the Viking-era such as chainmail, giant carved tent poles, bone needles, and more. In addition, a replicaViking

shield was on display, as well as a replica helmet to compare to the inaccurate horned helmet.



Tim Jorgensen (left) and Markus Krueger (right) showing children Viking-era replicas.

Youth came away with a better understanding of whom the Norse people of Scandinavia were and what they did and have an

introduction of how we all can learn from archeology and reading books in the library.

### New and Renewing Members

Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2010

#### Individual \$30

Norwegian Consulate of North Dakota Tochi Products Anderson, Ron Sherbanoo Aziz Erwin Backlund JoAnne Bekkerus Delores Bekkerus Yvonne Bethke Michael & Sharon Blasgen Phyllis Boatman Michelle Bowlin Warren & Marie Brendemuhl Mark Chalimonczyk Nancy K. Cooper Karen Evanson Garske, Teresa Sharon Gever Io Grondahl Edward A. Gudmundson Virgil Gunnarson Fern Haiby Hanson, Gary Waldo Hatledal Gustav & Joyce Haug Helen G. Haugen Vickie Hendrickson Irene Hogan Karla Huebner Joyce R. Johnson Virginia Kolba Lois Lamb Schur Martin, Ron Shirley Meehan Michael Michlovic Sandra Miles Arloine Mithun Conrad Newgren Nissen, Denise Beverly Nokken Janet F. Ostercamp Jean A. Prentice I. Morris Rasmussen Michael G. Rasmusson Timothy Ray John Sarbacker Scheel, Susan Catherine Scheibe John E. & Sherri A. Stern Stewart, Jan Swenson, Larry Tedford, Mona Tingdahl, Marvin A. Truesdell, Waneta

White, Dale D. Zwack-Mellon, Deloris A.

### Household \$50

Col. Milton & Armorel Arneson Gary & Rose Bergan Clarence & Donna Hanson Neil & Polly Hanson Pagyn Harding Russell & Rita Hoffman David L. & Marilyn A. Kerssen Daniel R. Koper Keith A. & Kay Larson McPhillips, Margaret Robert & Gail Monson Robert & Carol Muscha Timothy & Anna Ourada Dewey & Margery Possehl Roger & Barb Spilde Iim Steen Tangen, Ken & Mary Videen, Judy & Robert

#### Booster \$75

Harmon Glass Doctor Dr. John & Kim Baird John & Jane Borland Roland & Beth Dille Arthur Holmgren James D. Johnson Kingham, Justine David & Julie Larson Sherwood E. & Marilynn Peterson Paul D. Pratt

### Heritage \$125

Clay County Connection Iverson, Thomas & Beth Hal Janneck Gordon & Sylvia Lell Theodore & Norma Olsgaard Tom & Joyce Pettinger Davis A. Scott Watt, Tom & Sherry Zaeske, Al & Char

#### Patron/Benefactor

Korsmo Funeral Service Donna M. Richards

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

### An Exhibition of Prints from



The Saint John's Bible is on display through Dec. 27, 2010 and includes twenty-five reproductions specially selected to convey the grandeur and brilliance of the 160 illuminations as well as the scriptures and the clever corrections to mistakes of the first hand-written bible in 500 now housed at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville near St. Cloud, Minn..

Local calligrapher Anne Kaese will give presentations on the history of The Saint John's Bible project, people, places and materials complementing The Saint John's Bible exhibit. Here is a current schedule of Kaese's lectures, presentations and guided

Dec. 2, 1:30 p.m. Hjemkomst Center, Guided tour with paid admission

Dec. 9, 1:30 p.m. Hjemkomst Center, Presentation and guided tour with paid admission

Dec. 16, 1:30 p.m. Hjemkomst Center, Guided tour with paid admission

Dec. 21, 6:30 p.m. Hjemkomst Center, Presentation and guided tour with free admission

### Telge Glima Performs at the Hjemkomst Center

We were honored to have Telge Glima at the Hjemkomst Center on Sept. 15. Telge Glima is a Swedish group that performs a variety of old Nordic games and wrestling.



Telge Glima performs to instruct the public in old Nordic games and sports. They have toured all of Scandinavia as well as many other European countries with their shows.

Telge Glima has about 25 members, 11 of which were at the Hjemkomst with Center, different backgrounds. What they all have in common is the

love of combining history with bruises! And they really encourage fun and games, curiosity for our past and our forgotten cultural heritage (games and sports from the old ages) and also friendly and playful competition.

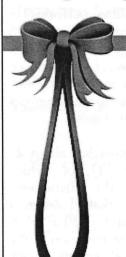
Their performances were so much fun to watch. We hope to have them back next year!

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 Clay County and the region.

## Peace on Earth



HCSCC is open 359 days per year (blizzards not included). We will be closed December 24, 25, 31, and January 1.

Enjoy safe and warm holidays!

HCSCC Staff and Board Members