

Newsletter

January/February 2000

Volume 23, Number 1

THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS

I joined the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society in 1998 ... and look at me now! I'm the President! How could this happen?

First of all, I started coming to meetings. Then I had some exciting breakthroughs in tracing my roots ... and became a "celebrity" of sorts. I didn't have an "agent," a campaign manager," or a "PR" person to promote my candidacy. I suddenly found myself elected vice president in 1999.

Here we are in the year 2000, and your new President needs an "agenda." What I really need is to see more faces at our regular meetings. In looking at our membership list for 1999, I realized that there are a few members from the Pierre-Fort Pierre area that I do not know. They are the names without faces. We want our local society to be a "living, breathing" entity ... not like some ancestral roots lost in the past.

We also should contact former members who haven't participated in several years. If you know of such persons, encourage them to meet with us. You might even invite them to our next monthly meeting as a "guest."

Our Society is also looking for new "recruits" ... people who are just beginning to trace their roots. We promise not to haze "freshmen" or make them wear "green beanies."

—Charles Sisk

Contents

Calendar	8
Dale's Trails	2
Membership Application	7
Membership List	4
Minutes	3
Norway Trip	1
President's Views	1
State Meeting Workshop	6
Websites	5

SOCIETY MEMBER VISITS NORWAY

Christine Dierks, member of the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society, writes of her trip to Norway last fall. Chris is a genealogist and this was her first trip to Norway.

We had a wonderful trip. Everything, including the weather, was just great. My husband, Ken and I, and my aunt and uncle from Washington, enjoyed the Brekke Tour that took us all around the southern area of Norway. We were in Oslo, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Bergen, Voss, Morgedal and many small towns in between. The fjords and the scenery were all as beautiful as we had always heard. Of course, most exciting for me were the days we were in the areas of my ancestry. A distant cousin, Øystein Sandanger, who arranged a tour of one of these areas, met us at the dock and said, "Welcome, you have come home," and I really felt that I had!

After reading and studying and researching my family and where they had all lived, it was so wonderful to be able to see the houses they had lived in, walk where they had walked, and see a lot of the same scenery, the mountains, the fjords, the valleys, that they had seen. We had a ferry ride on the Telemark Canal and went through the same locks that my ancestors must have gone through when they left their country to come to the United States. It was a very strange feeling as I

(Continued on page 7)

2000 OFFICERS

President	Charles Sisk
Vice President	Laurence Zastrow
Secretary	Christine Dierks
Treasurer	Jeanie Hartman
Board Member	Laura Glum
Board Member	Richard Phillips

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605-224-7554 (W)

[Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 or 7:30 p.m. at locations announced via newspaper articles, library postings, or newspaper articles.]

Dale's Trails

Homesteads

by

Dale Wurts and Carol Jennings

The next time you are out for a drive in the country, pull off the road next to a field of grass. Imagine you are in a wagon loaded with most or all of your belongings, looking out over your new home, your "homestead". If you are lucky, there may be some trees next to a creek, otherwise it will be all grass and nothing else except maybe some wild creatures, friendly and unfriendly.

Now you have to make a decision, you have to pick the place to build your home, the location of the house and barn, some water, and what do you live on. The land may be free, but you still need water to exist, and some shelter from the weather, plus some way to feed yourself. There are trading posts throughout the area, but they can be several days' travel away, and you still need money to buy the supplies. What comes first?

Your homestead is a quarter section, so on a section of land, which is one mile square, there could be four families. One practice was to build up close to the center of the section where the corners of each section came together, so you could be close to your neighbors and thus able to work together. It wasn't unusual at first to have one common well.

Housing was another challenge. Some put up a canvas tent, which was okay until winter. Some made a dugout in a creek bank with logs or lumber used to enclose the front, which was warm in winter, cool in summer and dark. I imagine you could also have some crawly 'friends.' There was also a thriving business at that time building claim shacks. Most of these were 8 to 10 feet wide by 10 to 12 feet long, with a door and a window, and covered with tar paper. These were built on skids, so they could be towed to the location. Some lived in the wagon box, but the wagon was also their transportation to get around as well as their truck to haul supplies.

The life on the homestead was not easy—a drought could ruin crops and gardens, a prairie fire could burn them out, Indians might steal their livestock, and the winter blizzards could isolate them for months. So they always had to plan ahead.

The Homestead Act was passed in 1862 but didn't have an immediate effect on settlement because of trouble with the Indians, bad crops, and grasshoppers.

The lack of railroads also hindered settlement because it was more difficult to get into the area and almost impossible to get rid of produce.

There were several methods of obtaining this "free" land. The homesteader went to the area and applied for the land. Sometimes the military gave land to men when they were getting out of the service in place of money. To encourage tree planting on the treeless plains, the Timber Culture was established. Homesteading allowed you to get 160 acres of land "by proving up on it," basically living on it for five years and improving by plowing some land and putting up a place to live. The homesteader had to be a citizen of the United States or show proof of intent for citizenship. After the Indian title was extinguished and other private lands claims, if any, were adjudicated and surveyed, then the Surveyor General's office established meridians and base lines at six mile intervals to establish townships of thirty six sections each, one mile square. A legal description was worked up for each parcel of land. A small fee was required to file on Homestead land. If the Homestead requirements were met a final certificate was issued. These included the application, naturalization papers if needed, plus the homesteaders age, post office address, a description of the land and buildings, date of residence, number and relationship of family members, crops and witnesses. About 60% of the homesteads were not completed, and the claims were cancelled. These cancelled claims can also contain valuable information.

We have included some pages from Sophia Ringer's homestead, who later married my grandfather George Wurts, and they settled on her claim. I guess she had the better claim. The file has 28 pages, including her proof of naturalization, the witnesses' affidavits for proving up, the inventory of buildings, plus the name change. We also included Grandfather George Wurts's Timber Culture. This file only has 8 pages because he didn't prove up; he sold it when he married Grandma. The house they had is still on this homestead, although it has been remodeled several times and now is in need of repair.

If you are sure you have a homesteader in South Dakota, contact the Archives in Pierre, and they can help you locate the necessary records and assist you making application to the National Archives. The National Archives will notify you of the costs and send the file after they get the money.

The information for this article came from "The Source," a Guidebook of American Genealogy, "Dakota Panorama," from the State Archives, and of course, the Wurts's Genealogy.

[This is the fifth in a quarterly feature.]

MINUTES January, 2000

The monthly meeting was called to order by Vice President Charles Sisk at the LDS Church on Tuesday, January 18, 2000. Members present were Charles Sisk, Laura Glum, Richard Phillips, Anita Zastrow, and Gary and Jeanie Hartman. Royce Loesch, Lloyd Wullweber, and guest speaker Jim Fahey also attended.

Minutes of previous meetings were read and accepted. The 12/8/99 checking account balance was \$224.18.

Unfinished Business: Rich Phillips presented a partial slate of officers for 2000 as follows: President, Charles Sisk; Vice President, Lary Zastrow; Secretary, Chris Dierks; Treasurer, NONE; Board Members, Laura Glum and Richard Phillips; Past President, Bev Huckins; and Newsletter Editor, Anita Zastrow. The slate will be voted on at the February 15, 2000 meeting. Discussion was held regarding the uncertainty of whether Laura or Rich are to be off the Board. The past minutes will be consulted. Further discussion had Jeanie agreeing to have her name submitted as treasurer.

As a follow-up to the program presented by Sam Meyer on SeniorNet, Sam has indicated that he has had numerous requests for training in Family Tree Maker. Members are encouraged to contact him.

New Business: Anita was encouraged to obtain information regarding the State Meeting to be held in April in Sioux Falls for the next newsletter.

Jeanie mentioned that the cost of birth records (not others) goes up to \$10 (both State and County). Anita will verify prior to inclusion in the next newsletter.

Members were reminded that dues for 2000 are due.

The business meeting was adjourned and Laura introduced Jim Fahey, Hughes County Cemetery Director, as the evening's guest speaker.

Program Notes: Jim Fahey, city cemetery director, shared his experiences as he continues to index graves in both Riverside and Calvary Cemeteries.

The city took over cemetery operation in the late 40s, early 50s. Currently there are nearly 5,500 known graves in Riverside, with over 500 being veterans. The current burials and sales are recorded; extra time is spent adding old information. Backups are made daily. Folders are kept with all papers as reference. Effort is made to include obituary data. As maintenance of the cemetery is conducted, efforts are made to bring old markers to the surface to identify. Additional data is always welcome; the Register of Deeds office is an excellent source.

Jim responded to numerous questions with the following bits of information: burial permits began in the 30s; the oldest grave in Riverside is 1887; there is a 15-day waiting period for disinterment, re-interment; lights on graves are permitted but promote vandalism; headstones are mended with silicon-epoxy; there are still some private cemeteries in our area.

Jim closed the program by demonstrating the software with sample searches.

February, 2000

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Beverly Huckins at the LDS Church at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2000. Members present were Charles Sisk, Lary and Anita Zastrow, Chris Dierks, Richard Phillips, Gary and Jeanie Hartman, Bev Huckins, and Genny Ziegler.

The minutes of the January 18 meeting were read and accepted. It was noted that the treasury balance is approximately \$111.00 following renewal of several publications and payment of the post office box fee.

Jeanie reported on the change of costs for vital records with the State and County. Births and deaths will be \$10 each and marriages and divorces will be \$7.00.

Anita presented a corrected, up-to-date bill for the costs of the newsletter in the amount of \$44.35.

Unfinished Business: A brief discussion on the bylaws was held. A copy of the most recent will be located and Anita will scan and provide copies to facilitate making additions and corrections.

New Business: The State Genealogical Meeting will be held April 7-8 in Sioux Falls hosted by the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society. The cost is \$22.00. Additional information is available in the State Genealogical Society Newsletter. The State Historical Society Meeting will be held in Pierre in April.

Richard Popp will present the March 21 program entitled "What's New at the Archives." Richard will be asked to suggest projects in which our Society might become involved. Royce Loesch will speak on his involvement in Civil War re-enactments on April 18.

A short discussion was held regarding a genealogy section being established at Rawlins Library. Bev and Charles will confer with the librarian.

The election of officers was held; a unanimous ballot was cast for the slate presented in January (see below).

The business meeting was adjourned and those present spent time brainstorming about programs and projects.



"We'll have to stay one night in a motel because we don't have any relatives between Toledo and Omaha."

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The persons listed below have paid Society dues for 2000!

Christine Dierks
1212 E. Church Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Wayne and Nancy Kirkpatrick
309 S. Polk Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Charles Sisk
216 S. Jefferson Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Laura and Cindy Glum
312 S. Pawnee Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Tina Manning
PO Box 416
Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0416

Laurence and Anita Zastrow
PO Box 1005
Pierre, SD 57501-1005

Yvonne Haefner
PO Box 481
Murdo, SD 57559-0481

Richard Phillips
PO Box 32
Pierre, SD 57501-0032

Genevieve P. Ziegler
510 N. Madison Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Gary and Jeanie Hartman
418 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Roger and Ardis Ruark
117 Pasque Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Please complete the membership application found on page 7 and return it along with your annual dues to:

Beverly Huckins
1115 N. Grand Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Phyllis Schamens
101 Mercury
Pierre, SD 57501

Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer
416 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

BROWSING THE GENEALOGY LIBRARY

by Bev Huckins

Because I am doing some family research in Virginia, I am interested in some items on Virginia history. Among the books in our Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society library (located in the basement of the

Rawlins Library), is an interesting book "Colonial Records of Virginia," originally published in 1874 but reissued in 1973. Contained in this book is an accounting of the First Assembly in Virginia in 1619; a 1623 list of the living and dead, a 1634 list of the inhabitants in several counties, a letter from Charles II acknowledging receipt of a gift

of Virginia silk in 1668, and a list of the Parishes in Virginia in 1680.

The writing is that of those early times and presents a picture of hard times waiting for supplies from England and conflicts between leaders as well as with the Indians.

In the list of Parish readers, I found one who may be an early ancestor.

CERTIFIED COPY FEE CHANGE

Effective February 1, 2000, certified copy fees for birth and death records was raised to \$10 for both state and county offices. Fees for marriage and divorce records remains at \$7. Check with your local offices regarding all other fees.

Immediate past president Bev Huckins, center, is shown passing the president's briefcase to newly elected president Charles Sisk. Other officers from left to right are Jeanie Hartman, treasurer; Chris Dierks, Secretary; and Lary Zastrow, Vice President. Also serving on the Board are Laura Glum and Richard Phillips, board members and Anita M. Odens Zastrow, newsletter editor.



HISTORICAL RECORDS—

HUGHES COUNTY

Register of Deeds
104 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-7495
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1900 to present
DEATH	1900 to present
MARRIAGE	1900 to present
LAND	1882 to present

STANLEY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 596, Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0596
605-223-2610
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1877 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1892 to present
LAND	1891 to present

SULLY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 265, Onida, SD 57564-0265
605-258-2331
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1905 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1905 to present
LAND	

Certified copies of Birth and Death Records are available for \$10 each and Marriage and Divorce Records are available for \$7 each; certified copies of Land Records are available for \$2 each. Regular copies of land records are \$1 each or less if only partial records. Remember, additional limitations making birth records "harder to see" have recently been imposed. Check with your County offices regarding these restrictions as well as any other fees.

WEBSITES

- US GenWeb Project..... <http://www.usgenweb.org>
- South Dakota GenWeb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com/~sdgenweb/>
- Rootsweb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com>
- The Genealogy Home Page <http://www.genhomepage.com/>
- Ancestry..... <http://www.ancestry.com>
- Swiss Genealogy Project..... <http://www.mindspring.com/~philipp/che.html>
- Civil War Historic Places <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/links/hist.htm#cemetaries>
- American Civil War Research..... <http://www.civilwardata.com>
(Records of 1.67 million soldiers, regimental rosters and battle chronicles. Fee required for access.)
- Cyndi's List <http://www.cyndislist.com>
(Over 35,000 Links in 70 categories. This is one of the most comprehensive research sites on the Net)
- National Genealogical Society..... <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>
(Useful documents on how to conduct family history interviews and preservation of documents and photos.)
- Federation of Genealogical Societies <http://www.fgs.org>
- Switchboard <http://www.switchboard.com>
- Broderbund <http://www.genealogy.com>
- AHS of Germans From Russia <http://www.ahsgr.org>
- The Genealogy Home..... <http://www.homestead.com/ancestors/>
(Genealogy information and links for Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Finish ancestors.)
- Gathering of Tartans..... <http://www.tartans.com>
(Genealogy section for those with Scottish ancestry and links to their clan, clan histories, and tartans.)
- Church of Jesus Christ LDS <http://www.familysearch.org>
- National Archives and Records Admin..... <http://www.nara.gov>
- Birth Records (with birthdates <http://www.state.sd.us/doh/vitalrec/birthrecords/index.cfm>
over 100 years)
- Cemetery Junction Directory <http://www.daddezio.com/cemetery/index.html>
(Links to 13,000 online cemetery lists.)



Sioux Falls Genealogical Society

WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 8, 9 am to 4 pm
The Old Courthouse Museum
200 W. Sixth Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Featuring Nancy J. Emmert, CG, from Madison, Wisconsin

**The South Dakota Genealogical State Meeting will be held
at 9 am the morning of the seminar.**

This informative meeting will offer information on upcoming events.

A series of four one-hour lectures with handouts will be presented by Certified Genealogist Nancy J. Emmert. Each lecture will contain material for the beginning, intermediate, and advanced researcher. A new idea and clue to the puzzle is waiting to be found for everyone interested in their family roots.

Lectures will include:

1. **Location: Researching in Your Ancestor's Community**
2. **Reading the Fine Print: Newspaper Research**
3. **They Left Town: Tracing Migrating Families**
4. **From Piles to Files: Organizing Your Research**

Cost of the entire event is \$22.00 and includes a lunch, soft drink, or coffee.

The Genealogical Workshop is co-sponsored by the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society and the Mary Chilton Chapter DAR and will be held at
The Old Courthouse Museum
200 W. Sixth Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
[Located downtown with convenient parking]

YES, include me in this one-day event. I understand the cost is \$22 per person including lunch.

Number of persons attending _____

Name of each person

Send check payable to the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society to:

Georgene Jurgesen
Events Coordinator
2300 E. 57 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

(Continued from page 1)

felt I was seeing the last view of Norway that they had seen back in 1861. Some had left as early as 1837 from that same canal in Telemark County, before the locks were built, but the scenery would have been the same.

Three fourths of my ancestors came from Rogaland County, the small islands north of the city of Stavanger. We were only able to spend one day touring those islands with Øystein, his wife and other cousins, but it was the highlight of the trip. We visited several farms and cemeteries and had open-faced sandwiches at the home of Øystein and his wife, Gerd. We walked around on top of a Viking burial mound behind their house, saw two German bunkers left from WWII, still up on the hill behind the farm where my great grandfather had lived, visited the farm where another great grandmother had grown up and had left when she was 16 years old, and saw a cave that dated back to the stone ages on that farm. We drove through an undersea tunnel from the islands back to Stavanger where we saw a medieval church where I had ancestors buried in the walls.

Of course, we saw much more than I can write about here, but it was a very exciting trip. I hope to go back again someday to see where other ancestors lived, and I'm very glad to have had the chance to visit the land of my ancestry. I would welcome any questions from anyone who has plans to travel to Norway in the future.

—Chris Dierks

LIBRARY HOURS

RAWLINS LIBRARY

Monday-Thursday	9 am - 9 pm
Friday	9 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 6 pm
Sunday.....	1 pm - 5 pm

STATE LIBRARY

Monday-Friday	8 am - 5 pm
Saturday-Sunday.....	Closed

STATE ARCHIVES

Monday-Friday	9 am - 4:30 pm
First Sat./Month	9 am - 4:30 pm

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Tuesday	1 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday	1 pm - 9 pm
Thursday-Friday	7 pm - 9 pm
Saturday	10 am - 2 pm

[Closed on holidays—please check schedule.]

Remember that the State Archives is also open on the first Saturday of each month to be of assistance to patrons.

PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 925, PIERRE, SD 57501-0925

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP + 4 _____

TELEPHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

FAX _____ E-MAIL _____

Surnames Being Researched—

Brief Statement of Current Status and/or Focus of Research—

DUES _____ Individual (\$10) _____ Family (\$12)

CALENDAR

- March 17 St. Patrick's Day!
- March 20 First Day of Spring!?!
- March 21 Monthly Society Meeting, 7 p.m., State Archives,
Richard Popp presenter, *"What's New at the Archives,"* plus suggestions
of project ideas with which the Society might become involved
- April 2 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- April 7-8 State Genealogical Society Meeting, Sioux Falls
- April 18 Monthly Society Meeting, 7 p.m., National Guard Museum,
Royce Loesch presenter, *"Military Re-enactment"*
- May 14 Mother's Day!
- May 16 Monthly Society Meeting, 7 p.m., Rawlins Library
"Getting Acquainted with Genealogy Resources at Rawlins"
- May 29 Memorial Day Holiday!
- May 31- June 3 2000 NGS Conference in the States New England, Providence, RI

"Genealogy is like love! It's best when shared with another."

Newsletter

THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS—

When one gets involved with genealogy, with tracing family histories and migrations, it is very easy to become distracted. My recent side trip through the BookSale and book purchase is a current example. (See article entitled "A Book of Boats" elsewhere in this edition.) I found the book interesting even though it didn't relate to much of my family.

I have since donated this book to our Society's collection in the basement of the Rawlins Library. Perhaps one of you will find information on the "ark" that brought one of your ancestors to America.

You never know when an interesting book will turn up at a book fair, an auction, or a rummage sale! Keep your eyes open and your cash handy!

—Charles Sisk

Due to personal health concerns of your Editor, an April/May issue was not published. The next issue of the Society's newsletter will be October/November. Contributions are greatly appreciated and may be made directly to amzastrow@aol.com.

Thanks for your patience and understanding!

Contents

Calendar.....	10
Civil War Genealogy.....	8
Dale's Trails.....	2
Huckins Family.....	6
Membership Application.....	9
Membership List.....	4
Minutes.....	3
National Guard Museum.....	7
President's Views.....	1
Websites.....	5

STATE ARCHIVES WELCOMES HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK DONATIONS

At the March 21 meeting of the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society, Richard Popp told Society members of the need for more high school yearbooks at the State Archives. A listing was distributed of the high school yearbooks cataloged at the Archives though April of 1999. Members were surprised to see how few high school yearbooks were listed for some schools. Richard explained that the Archives has a much more complete collection of South Dakota college yearbooks.

More researchers are inquiring about high school yearbooks as a source for finding information about ancestors. Sometimes a high school yearbook may be the only source of a photograph of a family member.

Members of genealogical and historical societies were encouraged to solicit donations of high school yearbooks to the State Archives. Persons wishing to donate yearbooks may contact the Archives for a listing to see which yearbooks are needed. This is a chance for current researchers and collectors to preserve another resource.

—contributed by Charles Sisk

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	605-945-2842 (B & F)
	605-224-7554 (W)

[Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 or 7:30 p.m. at locations announced via newspaper notices and/or flyer postings.]

Dale's Trails

Hey You!!!

by

Dale Wurts and Carol Jennings

Hey you!! Did you answer? Probably not. Which "you" was being referred to? Now, had the command been "hey Dale" or "hey, Carol", we would have answered, but you would not have, if you were not Dale or Carol. We never cared much for our names, they didn't seem to have the proper significance for someone like us, but our folks picked them, so that has to mean something. It was upsetting to each of us to find out that Dale was also a woman's name and Carol was also a man's name! For instance—Dale Evans (Mrs. Roy Rogers) or Carroll O'Connor! They have been good names as they have stuck with us throughout the years and will still identify us after we are dead.

By putting names together, as first, middle, and last names, we can identify a particular person. Our last name is Wurts, as was our Dad's, our Granddad's and on and on. Huh, oh no, what happened. Another spelling? Now you are into Genealogy.

This we didn't know, but the Swiss have no language of their own. Switzerland is bounded by Germany, France and Italy, and the inhabitants speak one of these languages according to the localities in which they lived. Thus the Wurts family was formerly Wirz, which is purely German in character. We used to correct people who said we were German. The Wirz family can be traced back to Ulrich von Uerikon, Knight, the second of four brothers, who lived in the middle of the 13th century. He married in 1280 the Baroness von Wandelburg, daughter of the Lord High Steward of Pappenschweil. They had three sons, the youngest being Burkhardt, who was Ammann or Chief Magistrate of Uerikon. In the old family annals he appears as "Burkhardt von Wirz von Uerikon". "Burkhardt von uerikon," "Burkhardt Wirz" and so on. This change of name grew out of his marriage to Verena, only child of Heini Wirz, one of the sons of Hermann of Erlenbach. One of their sons was Heinrich Wirz, who lived in the last half of the 14th century and the early part of the 15th century. This

manuscript goes on and on through the family up to the Wirz who came to America. Johannes Conrad Wirz was born in 1706 in Zurich and came to this country in 1735. Enroute, he married Anna Goetchi in Rotterdam. In the following generation the family name became Anglicized or Americanized to "Wurts," the same spelling that is in use today.

Now, on our mother's side, her mom was a Peterson of the Peterson clan south of Holabird. Peterson came to this country from Norway. He was named after his father's first name, as son of Peter, but his dad had a second marriage. These boys also came to this country, but they took the name of the farm, Enstad. Under the old Norwegian system of naming, a person had essentially two last names. First, one was named after the father's first name. A boy would be called Peterson and a daughter would be Petersdatter. The other last name was the name of the farm which the family owned or on which a person was employed. Thus, possessing a certain farm name did not necessarily mean you were related to others on that farm.

Now, if you want to really see a mess, Sharon Bair has been attempting research on one of her lines. I doubt if she knows yet if she has everyone or if she missed some in the middle. She is looking up McEntarfer or McEnderfer, beginning in Germany. She has found these names—Meckendorfer, McInterfer, Macanturf, Merckendoerffer, Macenterfer, McEntarfer, McEnterfer, and McEntarffer. Luckily, Sharon found extensive research had already been done. An introduction to the H Eugene McInterff Records explains: "Presented herewith are some of the direct descendents of Christopel Meckendorfer that have been gathered over the past 27 years." The family name has been found under more than 255 different spellings, many of which are used in this data base. All of the various spellings, however, definitely have been found to be part of the McInturf[f] family although several of the spellings may be found to be used by other families.

Confusing, but if you realize there can be changes in family names over the years, research becomes easier. It helps if you have a devious mind and a wild imagination and persistence. You can throw in a few grains of luck, too. Good hunting.

[The information for this article was taken from the Wurts and Bair Genealogies.]

[This is the sixth in a quarterly feature.]

MINUTES

March 21, 2000

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society met at the SD State Archives with Richard Phillips, Charles Sisk, Deb Hiatt, Laura Glum, Beverly Huckins, Karen Allen, Sheryl Nielsen, Bob Townsend, Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Yvonne Haefner, Nancy and Wayne Kirkpatrick, Lloyd Wullweber, Lorraine Kintz, and Chris Dierks present.

A brief meeting was held before the program. The minutes from the February meeting were read and approved.

There is \$214.83 in the treasury. Jeanie Hartman will pay the *Heritage Quest* bill.

There was no unfinished or new business.

The meeting adjourned.

A program entitled "What's New at the Archives" was presented by Richard Popp.

April 18, 2000

The meeting was held at the Pierre National Guard Museum. Members present were: Laura Glum, Cindy Glum, Charles Sisk, Lary Zastrow, Beverly Huckins, Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Chris Dierks, Karen Allen, Steve Gomez, and Yvonne Haefner

The minutes from the March meeting were read and approved.

Jeanie Hartman reported a balance of \$246.83 in the treasury.

No unfinished business.

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Program: Steve Gomez gave a talk on what is available in the library at the National Guard Museum. They have most of the over 100 volumes of the Civil War of the Rebellion set of books and 50-60 volumes on WWII and a few books for WWI and one book on the 1898 Spanish War which contains articles on the entire campaign. The back portion of the 1898 book is where you find information on the SD troops.

Royce Loesch told us about his Civil War reenactment "hobby" and showed a video on one he attended in Kansas. He was dressed in the costume of the Confederate soldier. Reenactments are done in many of the southern cities where the original battles occurred with as many as 33,000 people getting together. About 2,500 people meet at Gettysburg, South Dakota once every 3-4 years.

Both Steve and Royce gave us lots of information on the weapons used during the Civil War.

May 16, 2000

The regular meeting of the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society was held at Rawlins Library at 7 p.m. Those present were President, Charles Sisk; Vice President Lary Zastrow; Treasurer, Jeanie Hartman; Secretary, Chris Dierks; Anita Zastrow, Beverly Huckins, Genny Ziegler, Laura Glum, Gary Hartman, Richard Phillips, Beverly

Duffel, and Susan Assmus.

The minutes for the April meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read with a balance of \$268.83.

Unfinished Business: We discussed the Society's pamphlets, which are being redone by Anita. Charles and Laura will speak to the people at the Archives about our members doing some volunteering on naturalization records and other indexing that needs to be done.

New Business: We were invited by Bev Huckins to the Congregational church on May 19 to have supper and visit with a man who is doing the Huckins family research and has written several books and newsletters.

The June and July meetings will be held at the Archives and details will be announced at a later date.

August 15 we'll have our annual picnic at Steamboat Park.

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Everyone contributed some new information they've learned about genealogy to the group. We plan to try to do this each meeting.

June 20, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center by President Charles Sisk. Others present were Secretary Chris Dierks; Treasurer Jeannie Hartman; board members Laura Glum and Richard Phillips and Karen Allan, Susan Assmus, Gary Hartman, Vonda Abbott, and Bev and Ron Duffel.

The minutes from the May 16 meeting were read. A correction was made to change LDS Church to Rawlins Library.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$268.83.

Unfinished Business: Brief discussions were held on several topics: namely, a possible volunteer project at the Archives, the Cedar Hills Cemetery project and a reminder for us to spread the word about donating high school yearbooks to the Archives. Charles Sisk had some success with that when his sister-in-law posted a copy of Richard Popp's list of books that are needed in her shop window in Miller.

New Business: We were informed of the new fee schedule at the Archives. The fees for some copying will be increasing, as will photo reprints and research services.

We were reminded of the PBS series on genealogy every Saturday at 8 a.m. central time.

After the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m., Chelle Somsen, from the State Archives, presented a very informative program on how to preserve our photos and documents.

July 18, 2000

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society met at the SD State Archives. President Charles Sisk called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Others present were Chris Dierks, Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Laura Glum, Richard Phillips, Karen Allan, Lorraine Kintz, Susan Assmus, and

(Continued on page 9)

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The persons listed below have paid Society dues for 2000!

Karen A. Allan
320 N. Johnson Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Susan Assmus
100 Village Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Christine Dierks
1212 E. Church Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Ron and Bev Duffel
113 Dupree Trail
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Laura and Cindy Glum
312 S. Pawnee Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Steve A. Gomez
817 N. Central Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Yvonne Haefner
PO Box 481
Murdo, SD 57559-0481

Gary and Jeanie Hartman
418 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Beverly Huckins
1115 N. Grand Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Lorraine Kintz
20314 Porcupine Loop
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Wayne and Nancy Kirkpatrick
309 S. Polk Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Tina Manning
PO Box 416
Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0416

Richard Phillips
PO Box 32
Pierre, SD 57501-0032

Roger and Ardis Ruark
117 Pasque Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Phyllis Schamens
101 Mercury Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Charles Sisk
216 S. Jefferson Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

James and Karen Stein
308 N. Monroe Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Adrienne Stepanek
PO Box 555
Williston, ND 58802-0555

Lloyd Wullweber
29534 Dry Run Road
Pierre, SD 57501

Dale Wurts
106 E. Park Avenue
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Laurence and Anita Zastrow
PO Box 1005
Pierre, SD 57501-1005

Genevieve P. Ziegler
510 N. Madison Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Please complete the membership application found on page 9 and return it along with your annual dues to:

Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer
416 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

BROWSING **THE GENEALOGY** **LIBRARY**

by *Bev Huckins*

One of the many publications our Society subscribes to for the benefit of our members is *Family Records Today*, a quarterly publication of the American Family Records Association. The Summer 1999 issue has a very interesting article by Arlene Eakle entitled "Evidence in Census

Records." She reminds us of the many things we can learn from census records and also presents an idea for a chart to help organize the information and the source. Since this is one of my problems (organizing information for each person), I am always looking for something to help me! This looks like something I will like—some information in one place, quickly and easily attainable. She also explains the Soundex system used to find names in the 1900 Federal Census, abbreviations used, and what you will find in the 1900-1910 records. This issue also

includes a good article on the Allen County Library at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, which is very informative—especially for those members who may be fairly new at this hobby. Happy Hunting!

The May/June 2000 issue of *Ancestry* has an article on Ellis Island and immigration records (p. 43); an article on Canadian Research (p. 63) lists a call for case studies. Do any of you have a story of getting past a "brick wall" in your research? They pay \$500 for an accepted manuscript after printing. Check it out—you may have a gold mine here!

HISTORICAL RECORDS—

HUGHES COUNTY

Register of Deeds
104 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-7495
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm (M - F)

STANLEY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 596, Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0596
605-223-2610
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

SULLY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 265, Onida, SD 57564-0265
605-258-2331
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1900 to present
DEATH	1900 to present
MARRIAGE	1900 to present
LAND	1882 to present

BIRTH	1877 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1892 to present
LAND	1891 to present

BIRTH	1905 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1905 to present
LAND	

Certified copies of Birth and Death Records are available for \$10 each and Marriage and Divorce Records are available for \$7 each; certified copies of Land Records are available for \$2 each. Regular copies of land records are \$1 each or less if only partial records. Remember, additional limitations making birth records "harder to see" have recently been imposed. Check with your County offices regarding these restrictions as well as any other fees.

WEBSITES

- US GenWeb Project..... <http://www.usgenweb.org>
South Dakota GenWeb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com/~sdgenweb/>
Rootsweb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com>
The Genealogy Home Page <http://www.genhomepage.com/>
Ancestry <http://www.ancestry.com>
Swiss Genealogy Project..... <http://www.mindspring.com/~philipp/che.html>
Civil War Historic Places <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/links/hist.htm#cemetaries>
American Civil War Research..... <http://www.civilwardata.com>
(Records of 1.67 million soldiers, regimental rosters and battle chronicles. Fee required for access.)
Cyndi's List <http://www.cyndislist.com>
(Over 35,000 Links in 70 categories. This is one of the most comprehensive research sites on the Net)
National Genealogical Society..... <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>
(Useful documents on how to conduct family history interviews and preservation of documents and photos.)
Federation of Genealogical Societies <http://www.fgs.org>
Switchboard <http://www.switchboard.com>
Broderbund <http://www.genealogy.com>
AHS of Germans From Russia <http://www.ahsgr.org>
The Genealogy Home..... <http://www.homestead.com/ancestors/>
(Genealogy information and links for Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Finish ancestors.)
Gathering of Tartans..... <http://www.tartans.com>
(Genealogy section for those with Scottish ancestry and links to their clan, clan histories, and tartans.)
Church of Jesus Christ LDS <http://www.familysearch.org>
National Archives and Records Admin..... <http://www.nara.gov>
Birth Records (with birthdates <http://www.state.sd.us/doh/vitalrec/birthrecords/index.cfm>
over 100 years)
Cemetery Junction Directory <http://www.daddezio.com/cemetery/index.html>
(Links to 13,000 online cemetery lists.)



HUCKINS FAMILY HISTORY SHARED WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS

Bev and Rob Huckins were surprised by a visit from Bill and Abby Huckins of Taylorsville, Utah, in late May. Bill Huckins began researching the Huckins family genealogy about 20 years ago. He has visited Europe, Canada, and many states in the U.S. locating cemeteries and researching records in many places, as well as meeting family members. In Pierre, a visit was made to the SD State Archives where Abby and Bev discovered a "C. F. Huckins, age 20," in the Territorial Census of 1880. He was listed with a group "seven miles up the river from Fort Pierre in Stanley County". His occupation was given as teamster; apparently all the group were drivers for a freight line on its way to the Black Hills. We knew "C.F." had been in South Dakota at Sioux Falls and later in the Black Hills prospecting for gold, but we didn't know he had actually been in the Pierre-Fort Pierre area specifically.

Bill and Abby were surprised and amused by Rob's resemblance to "Buster" Huckins who lives in Vermont on the Canadian border. Buster Huckins comes from a family of one of the five sons of the original Robert Huckins who settled in the New Hampshire area in the early 1600s. Before coming to Pierre Bill and Abby visited in the Sturgis area with several Huckins' families including Rob's son, Brian and daughter Amanda, who now live there. After supper with Bev, Rob, their son Kent, Genny Ziegler, Charles Sisk, and Laura Glum of the local Society, Bill and Abby told of some of their research in England and Canada.

They headed back to Utah the next day by way of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Bill wrote newsletters to family members for several years detailing his findings and then printed up eight volumes of family history! In addition, he has researched some of his mother's family, and Abby has done research on her family. They are ready to turn the search over to younger members now, but the families can thank them for all their work and interest in getting the Huckins line so fully researched. It's amazing that there is still more to be done!

—contributed by *Bev Huckins*

A BOOK OF BOATS

The book is not about Noah's Ark, not about Viking ships, not even about the Mayflower, but it does go into detail on passenger liners of recent times. While 'browsing' the annual AAUW BookSale at the Pierre Mall this spring, I came across an intriguing book entitled "Passenger Liners of the World Since 1893," by Nicholas T. Cairis. For the bargain price of \$1.00, the book was mine! Although my ancestors arrived in America before any of these "boats" were built, I thought the book might be of interest to families whose ancestors came to America after 1893.

The pictures, descriptions, and stories of these ocean liners were fascinating. Some of the liners were owned by difference shipping lines. Some were German ships taken over by the Americans or British during World War I. The Cunard Line listed 19 passenger liners built between 1893 and 1914. Of these, seven were sunk by submarines and one hit a mine and sank. Another Cunard ship was sunk following a collision and still another was wrecked in the Azores.

The French Line, Holland-America Line, North German Lloyd Line, Norwegian-America Line, Swedish-America Line, and United States Line all had better survival rates for passenger liners of the period 1893-1918. This was probably due to the fact that few of the ships of these lines were used for transporting troops and supplies during World War I.

I did find a picture and description of the ship Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm which brought one of my uncles to America in 1911. His granddaughter was delighted!

The book of boats inspired me to search for a book relating to ships in service from 1850 to 1900. This period of time would relate to the arrival of one set of my grandparents and a great-grandfather. My search at the State Library revealed that there are other books on ocean liners available. Most of them cover the same period as the book from the BookSale. None was quite as detailed as "my" book. Some of the books at the State Library do include passenger liners that were not covered in "my" book.

Some other day I will search to see what might be available through interlibrary loan

—contributed by *Charles Sisk*

NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM IS VALUABLE GENEALOGY RESOURCE

According to Steve Gomez, the South Dakota National Guard records are an overlooked genealogy resource. Gomez, director of the National Guard Museum in Pierre, told the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society members that valuable details can be found for ancestors who served in the National Guard. Included in the Museum's library are hundreds of books containing detailed information of those who served in the military.

Some of the information may not be available in other government resources because the first territorial militia was formed in 1862. Territorial Governor Jayne ordered the formation of six companies of militia, composed of cavalry and infantry. Companies A and B, First Dakota Cavalry were federalized and served until November, 1865. These units were attached to General Sully and covered an area from Sioux City up the Missouri River into present-day Montana. The Dakota Cavalry served General Sully to protect the settlers from the Indians during the Civil War. In the museum library are more than a hundred books with Civil War participants information.

In April, 1898 the First Infantry Regiment was federalized and served in the Philippines from May, 1898 until October, 1899. They had served 129 days in combat in the Philippines under General MacArthur, the Division Commander. The troops were welcomed home at Aberdeen by President McKinley. Five troops of South Dakota cavalry were assigned to the 3rd U. S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, known as "Grigsbys Cowboys." Several volumes of information on Spanish-American War participants are available in the library section.

During World War I, the Third Battalion of the Fourth South Dakota Infantry was mobilized in March, 1917. In July, both the Fourth Infantry and First Cavalry Regiments were mobilized. The units from South Dakota were reorganized into other units. South Dakota units were part of the 40th, 41st, 32d, 34th, and the 88th Divisions. The 147th Artillery Regiment participated in the several important battles in France from June through November, 1918. They returned from France in 1919 and were demobilized at Des

Moines. Volumes of information on World War I participants can be viewed at the library.

On November, 1940, South Dakota National Guard units were called up for training. The 147th Field Artillery Regiment went on active duty and embarked in November, 1941, for duty in the Philippine Islands. They departed Pearl Harbor and were west of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and were diverted to Australia. They were participants in the long battle of retaking the Pacific islands of the Pacific and part of the occupation force in Japan. The 34th Division landed in North Africa in January, 1943. They participated in the North Africa Campaign, the Italian Campaign and the occupation of Northern Italy after May of 1945. The library has 50 volumes of World War II records.

At the outbreak of the Korean Conflict, the 196th Regimental Combat Team was mobilized and shipped to Alaska. The unit was made up of three battalions of infantry; the 147th Field Artillery Battalion, the 200th Engineer Company, and a medical detachment. The South Dakota soldiers were returned home in 1952.

Gomez told the group that there are many rosters from the Spanish-American War to the present, with most nearly complete. The retired National Guard colonel welcomed visitors to use the records in the museum library as well as to view the exhibits of guard uniforms and military artifacts. The museum is located at 301 East Dakota Avenue in Pierre and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Inquires about specific library materials can be made at 605-224-9991.

—contributed by *Lary Zastrow*

GENEALOGY SOURCES

FAMILY CHRONICLE is "one of the very best genealogical magazines available today," says Carllene Marek. Find out how you can obtain a trial copy by visiting <<http://www.familychronicle.com/>>

HISTORY MAGAZINE has "articles written in a style that appeals to the average person rather than the historical scholar." Find out how you can obtain a trial copy by visiting <<http://www.history-magazine.com/>>

[Taken from *RootsWeb Review*, Vol. 3, No.7
at RootsWeb-Review@rootsweb.com]

CIVIL WAR GENEALOGY RE-ENACTORS RESEARCH SHARED

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society held its monthly meeting at the National Guard of South Dakota Museum as a supplement to the presentation of a Civil War "re-enactor." Royce Loesch came fully garbed in his Confederate uniform confirming his membership in the Landis Artillery. Loesch told how he became involved with the growing number of Civil War buffs who gather at battlegrounds to re-enact the historical confrontations.

Loesch described how his son's early involvement involved him in a study of ancestors who had participated in the Civil War. He has traced family histories to a great uncle, Gustav, who joined the Union Army at 19. According to a newspaper story about the elderly Loesch (he lived to 101), Gustav had served in the West campaigns of General Grant. He was captured by the Confederates in Cole County, Missouri, and spent over a year in the infamous Andersonville prison.

The military gear that Loesch has acquired (and is required for participation) are authentic reproductions of Civil war uniforms and weapons. Other "re-enactors" have invested in all matter of reproduction weapons, including the cannons used by Loesch's battery. These weapons are maintained and transported by their individual owners from re-enactment to re-enactment throughout the summer.

Over 2500 were at the 1993 re-enactment at Belmont, Missouri, where Loesch had participated and preserved the action on video tape which he played for the members. The Gettysburg re-enactment draws over 30,000 participants, while some 65 cannon were part of the re-enactment of Shiloh.

Loesch concluded his talk with a presentation of his percussion cap rifle and a detailed explanation of the operation of the muzzle-loading cannon on display at the National Guard Museum. Following Loesch's presentation, Society members engaged in discussion of their genealogy and family history research of ancestors who had participated in the Civil War.

Those interested in more information on this unique approach to exploring (and participating

in) your Civil War ancestry can check the Internet at <http://www.cwreenactors.com>. For a list of uniforms and accoutrements you will need to check <http://www.cwreenactors.com/faq.htm>. A comprehensive list of re-enactor units can be found at <http://sunsite/civil-war/warweb.htm#reenactors>.

—contributed by *Lary Zastrow*

BABY BOOKS

I am just getting started in genealogy, but I have learned quickly not to overlook baby books as a source of ancestral information. I found a great deal of information in my father's baby book, which was handwritten by his mother. It showed the full name of parents and grandparents, gifts from aunts (a dress in 1917) and uncles, dates and places of birth, names of siblings, and addresses of where and when they lived in a given area. Also included were important events in the child's life. For instance, I learned that my father heard President Coolidge take his oath of office and give his speech over the radio. Coolidge was the first president to do this in 1925, and my father was eight years old. A reference to how my dad said "Ford" led me on to search for car registrations. I found cars registered to both uncles in the given state. The information in the baby book also gave me names of other people and family members who were in the area at any given time.

Just remember to read the book over a few times. The first time I read my father's baby book I was too interested in what he said and did at different times of his life. I didn't see the importance of all the information that became very obvious after reading it again.

—*Carol Pirtle*

[Taken from *Ancestry Weekly Digest*, 1 April 2000, from Ancestry_Weekly_Digest@anclist001.ancestry.com]

(Continued from page 3)

Julia Hattem.

Last month's minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read showing a balance of \$290.83.

Unfinished Business: Jeanie Hartman will sign member cards and distribute them to the paid members.

New Business: Brief discussion was held on making a listing of our holdings in the Rawlins Library, including the ancestor charts and microfilms.

Karen Allan moved to recommend that we cast the ballot for voting for the National Genealogical Society board. It was seconded by Gary Hartman and passed unanimously.

The State Board will meet on Saturday, July 22, at noon at the LDS Church.

Discussed upcoming program ideas for September, October, and November.

The August meeting will be a potluck at Steamboat Park on the 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. for the program by Stephanie Rausch of the State Archives staff.

CERTIFIED COPY FEE CHANGE

Effective February 1, 2000, certified copy fees for birth and death records was raised to \$10 for both state and county offices. Fees for marriage and divorce records remains at \$7. Check with your local offices regarding all fees.

LIBRARY HOURS

RAWLINS LIBRARY

Monday-Thursday 9 am - 9 pm
Friday 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

STATE LIBRARY

Monday-Friday 8 am - 5 pm
Saturday-Sunday Closed

STATE ARCHIVES

Monday-Friday 9 am - 4:30 pm
First Sat./Month 9 am - 4:30 pm

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Tuesday 1 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday 1 pm - 9 pm
Thursday-Friday 7 pm - 9 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

[Closed on holidays—please check schedule.]

Remember that the State Archives is also open on the first Saturday of each month to be of assistance to patrons.

PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 925, PIERRE, SD 57501-0925

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP + 4 _____

TELEPHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

FAX _____ E-MAIL _____

Surnames Being Researched—

Brief Statement of Current Status and/or Focus of Research—

DUES _____ Individual (\$10) _____ Family (\$12)

CALENDAR

August 15

Potluck PICNIC
Steamboat Park Covered Shelter, 6:30 p.m.



September 4
September 19

Labor Day Holiday!
Monthly Meeting, Rawlins Library Basement, 7 p.m.
“Inventory of Resources”

October 9
October 17

Columbus Day/Native American Day Holiday!
Monthly Meeting, LDS Church???, 7 p.m.
“Viking Explorer”

November 11
November 21
November 23

Veteran’s Day!
Monthly Meeting, TBA
Thanksgiving Day!

December

NO MEETING!
Happy Holidays!

“Genealogy is like love! It’s best when shared with another.”

Newsletter

October/November 2000

Volume 23, Number 3

THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS—

At the September meeting some of us who recently became members of our Society learned more about the history and resources that have accumulated. We explored our "cellar," in the basement of the Rawlins Library in Pierre.

Our local Society held its first meeting on January 19, 1972. This meeting was under the direction of Mrs. Dale Wurts, Laura Glum, and Kenneth Stewart. There is a book in our "cellar" that chronicles these "roots."

Our "Root Cellar" does not include any carrots or potatoes from our gardens, but it does include many films, books, maps, and genealogical publications acquired by our members for nearly 30 years.

Some of our "roots" include:

1. Numerous pedigree charts prepared by Society members of year's past.
2. 107 volumes of *War of the Rebellion, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*.
3. 207 rolls of microfilm. Most of these are copies of old newspapers in Dakota Territory and South Dakota from 1867 to 1982. A few films are of censuses of selected counties in Dakota Territory of 1880 and 1885.
4. 44 linear feet of books on family histories, migrations, nationalities, gazetteers, city

(Continued on page 3)

REUNION IDEA SHARING IS TOPIC FOR JANUARY MEETING

When the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society meets for its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2001, it will be a time for members to present the program. Members are challenged to come to the 7 p.m. meeting at the LDS Church on Jefferson Avenue with ideas and stories from family reunions, etc., to assist other members as they may be challenged to plan such an event during 2001.

Bring your ideas, stories, program samples, scrapbooks, photographs, family tree printouts—anything that will be helpful to other Society members.

EDITOR'S NOTE.

A special item on the agenda will be discussion of the proposed means of distributing the Society's newsletter in 2001—via e-mail in .pdf format. Your input is important!

2000 OFFICERS

President	Charles Sisk
Vice President	Laurence Zastrow
Secretary	Christine Dierks
Treasurer	Jeanie Hartman
Board Member	Laura Glum
Board Member	Richard Phillips
Past President	Beverly Huckins

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 605-224-2559 (H)
 605-945-2842 (B & F)
 605-224-7554 (W)

[Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m. at the Rawlins Library or locations announced via newspaper notices and/or flyer postings.]

Contents

Calendar.....	10
Dale's Trails	2
Fall State Meeting Report.....	7
Membership Application.....	9
Membership List.....	5
Minutes.....	4
Norway Trip	8
President's Views	1
Websites.....	6

Dale's Trails

Lewis & Clark

by Dale Wurts and Carol Jennings

There is a so much talk about the Lewis & Clark expedition that we decided to look into their trip. They did come through Dakota and stopped on the Missouri River right here in the Pierre-Fort Pierre area. Wouldn't it be fascinating if one of our ancestors was on that voyage. This made us curious, and trying to get as many facts as possible, Dale bought a condensed book, "The Journals of Lewis and Clark," as condensed by a Bernard DeVoto. [The original journals, seven volumes, with much technical data, did not interest him, so he bought DeVoto's book.] DeVoto made the book interesting to the average reader and still included most of the diary of the travels without the technical stuff.

In the fall of 1802, President Jefferson, being aware of the value of the territory called Louisiana, as an area rich in furs and commercial trade and also aware that if some other country had control, they could control all this commerce as well as possibly take over the rest of the states. Spain was about to assign control to France. President Jefferson was certain there was a water route to the Pacific, and this could make it advantageous to secure that commerce that was going to Canada. In January of 1803, Jefferson went to the Congress for \$2500 to finance an expedition to go to the headwaters of the Missouri and on to the Pacific Ocean. He told the Spanish that it was a literary expedition. He had no idea the terrain was so rough or that it was so far to the Pacific. The Louisiana Purchase came about in the middle of 1803, so now the expedition had more duties assigned.

This book doesn't give all the names of the party, but we will give the names of those we have. The party consisted of nine young men from Kentucky, 14 soldiers who volunteered their services, two French waterman [Cruzatte, Labiche], an interpreter, a hunter [Drewrer], and a black servant [York]. Three captains were selected from the group [Ordway, Pryor, and Floyd]. We are certain the original journals are

available at some local library and would contain all the names.

Where we quote the diary, we use the exact wording, including the way they spelled, punctuated, and capitalized in various places. Makes for interesting reading.

The expedition started from St Louis on Monday, May 14, 1804. On Friday, August 24, 1804, they arrived in what was later called Dakota Territory and camped on the mouth of a creek near a high hill [Spirit Mound] near Vermillion. The diary states "in a northerly direction from the Mouth of this Creekin an emence Plain a high Hill is Situated, and appears of a Conic form, and by the different nations of Indians in this quarter is Suppose to be the residence of deavels". It was also here that they found and killed their first buffalo.

The diary goes on to tell about the river, islands, and wildlife, as well as encounters with the Indians. They spotted the first prairie dogs ever recorded by white man, called barking squirrels in the journals, in Nebraska and wild game was remarkably abundant. They comment "great herds of buffaloe, deer, elk, and antilopes were seen feeding in every direction as far as the eye of the observer could reach." This was some place between the Niobrara and the White River. On Monday, September 17, 1804, Captain Lewis writes, "having for many days past confined myself to the boat, I decided to devote this day to amuse myself on shore with my gun and view the interior of the country lying between the river and the Corvus Creek." We could not determine just where this creek is. The diary goes on for almost three pages describing the land, grass, trees, and animals, totally fascinating and hard to imagine the way it was.

On Monday, September 24, 1804 the diary goes on, "Set out early a fair day the wind from the E. pass the mouth of Creek on the L. S. Called Creek on high Water {High Water} passed a large Island [Now Farm Island] on the L.S. about 2 miles & 1/2 long on which Colter Camped and Killed 4 elk, the wind fair from the S. E. we prepared Some Clothes and a few Meadels for the Chiefs of the Teton's bands of Seoux which we expect to see at the next river, observe a great deal of Stone on sides of the hills on the S. S. we

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

saw one hare, today, prepared all things for Action in Case of necessity, our Perogus {boat} went to the Island for the Meet, Soon after the man on shore run up the bank and reported that the Indians had Stolen the horse [they had a horse following on shore in case they had need for it] We soon after Met 5 Inds and ankered out some distance & Spoke to them informed them we were friends, & Wished to Continue So but were not afraid of any Indians, Some of their young men had taken the horse Sent by their Great father for their Chief and we would not speak to them until the horse was returned to us again."

"passed a Island on the S. S. on which we Saw Several Elk, about 1 1/2 miles long Called Good humered [humoured] Isld [Now LaFramboise]. Came to about 1 1/2 miles above off the Mouth of a Small river about 70 yards Called by Mr. Evens the Little Mississou [Missouri] River, The Tribes of the Seauex Called the Teton, is camped about 2 Miles up on the N. W. Side, and we shall call the river after that nation, Teton [present day Bad River] This river is 70 yards wide at the mouth of Water, and has considerable Current we anchored off the mouth."

Since the early 1790s the Teton Sioux had been stopping all river boats and forcing them to dispose of their goods at a price the Indians set, then usually letting the parties continue. Lewis and Clark had been warned of these activities and had made preparations. These first few days right here in the Pierre-Fort Pierre area were very trying for the men on the expedition with their first crisis and their first climax. The Indians were determined to again take what they wanted, but this time the expedition held their ground and said they would fight. The Indians outnumbered the expedition, but they knew many of their men would die, so they backed down. The diary goes on to explain in great detail the meetings with the Indians before the expedition continued up the river.

There is not a great deal of genealogy in this article, but the history surrounding the Missouri River and its importance to the livelihood of everybody is of great importance. All life, human and animal, centered around this river—a very important part of the history of our land.

[This is the seventh in a quarterly feature.]

(Continued from page 1)

directories, and a wide variety of genealogical publications.

There is a card index for publications in our archives. This index has not been kept up to date in recent years. Our founding members appear to have been more diligent in keeping records of their acquisitions and records of the members of our Society.

In the past three decades, the Pierre-Fort Pierre area has experienced many changes. There are more facilities for public gatherings and many more activities to utilize these facilities. Along with these changes there are many more organizations seeking members. Many of us feel we don't have as much "free" time for certain activities.

We may need to consider having a Librarian in our Society keep track of our acquisitions in the "cellar" at the Rawlins Library. We should establish a policy for the use of our resources and make that policy known to our members.

Our resources in the "cellar" are for your use. Stop in and look around. You may find something useful to your genealogical research. —Charles

AN 'ATYPICAL' FAMILY REUNION

Over 40 members of the North American branch of the Billion family flew to ancestral Belgium for a reunion in the summer of 2000 according to Pierre resident Bob Miller. Bob came to the Genealogical Society's November meeting to share his maternal families effort in holding an international reunion.

Miller's mother had been born in Antwerp and had emigrated to the United States with her mother and father—a former doctor in the Belgian Army. They had come to Sioux Falls, where other Billion family members were residing, and his grandfather became part of a funeral business which continues as the Barnett Funeral Home. When his grandfather died at the age of 35, Bob's mother returned to Belgium but returned to Sioux Falls when she was in her teens. His mother visited Belgium several times during her lifetime and maintained close contact with her family there.

The Billion cousins of Bob's generation decided that those close relationships should not be allowed to pass. Internet e-mail became the principal means of making and renewing contacts. The American family members decided that a reunion in Belgium

(Continued on page 5)

MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2000

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society members met at 6:30 p.m. on August 15, 2000, at Steamboat Park for the annual summer potluck. Everyone brought a dish to pass. Those who attended and had a great time were: Anita and Lary Zastrow, Ken and Chris Dierks, Laura Glum, Jeanie Hartman, Charles Sisk, Ardis and Roger Ruark, Richard Phillips, and Susan Assmus.

After the meal, Charles Sisk held a very brief meeting to discuss our upcoming meetings. The Fall SD Genealogical Meeting will be held in Winner.

Anita Zastrow brought a draft copy of revisions to our Society's brochure and asked for any ideas and corrections.

The weather was just right, not too hot, just windy enough to keep the flies away. Had it been the night before, we would have been miserable.

Everyone went home about 8:00 p.m.

September 19, 2000

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Charles Sisk at Rawlins Library on September 19, 2000. Others present were members Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Susan Assmus, Chris Dierks, Laura Glum, Anita Zastrow, Karen Allan, Richard Phillips, and Genny Ziegler. Clarice Blumer was a visitor.

The July minutes were read and approved. In August we had a picnic and a very brief meeting. Minutes for that meeting were not available.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$302.83.

Unfinished Business:

The State Archives is looking for old high school and college annuals from most towns in South Dakota. The Archives has a list available of the few books they do have. We discussed ways of getting the word out to try to find more of the books.

Anita Zastrow, our newsletter editor, updated our local society's brochure and has it ready for distribution. She passed out several of them to the Archives and the LDS church and will include it in the next newsletter, due out before the November meeting. Anita would really appreciate it if more of us could contribute news and articles to the newsletter.

The State Genealogy Executive Board will meet January 20 at 12:00 noon in Pierre at the LDS church.

New Business:

The SD State Genealogy Meeting will be held the third weekend of April in Pierre. Our group will need to determine the exact date and place and select a caterer. We will be working with the State Association on the speakers, etc.

We held a brief discussion on upcoming programs. In October Richard Phillips will speak on his recent trip to Norway, and in November Bob Miller will speak on his trip that he took last summer to Belgium. We would like to have the Norwegian foreign exchange student at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m..

We then checked out our society's books and other resources in the Rawlins Library basement where we have everything stored.

October 17, 2000

The regular monthly meeting of the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society was called to order at the LDS Church by President Charles Sisk on October 17, 2000. Other members present were: Richard Phillips, Beverly Huckins, Laura Glum, Anita and Lary Zastrow, Susan Assmus, Ardis Ruark, and Chris Dierks.

The checking account balance as of October 11, 2000 was \$322.83.

The minutes of the September board and regular meetings were read and approved.

Unfinished Business:

We discussed the upcoming State Genealogy meeting to be held in Pierre next April. Charles has reserved the Chamber of Commerce meeting room for Saturday, the 21st of April, 2001, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Friday night's board meeting will be held at the Governor's Inn on the 20th. Lunch details will be discussed at a later meeting.

Possible speakers for the meeting in April include Ken Stewart, LaVera Rose, Bob Heesch, Paul Bad Moccasin, and Harold Schuler.

Richard Phillips attended the Fall meeting in Winner and gave a report on the speakers. Bob, Marilyn, Charles, Richard, and Laura will coordinate on the program for the April meeting. The State board agreed with the location and dates selected for the meeting.

Charles informed the Society that he sent an article to Mr. Wheeler, the editor of the State Genealogy Society newsletter, regarding the high school and college annuals collections for the State Archives.

The next board meeting will be at the LDS church on Wednesday, November 8, to discuss the speakers for the April State Meeting.

Anita Zastrow will try to get as many e-mail addresses as possible so the newsletter can be e-mailed to members in order to cut costs of mailings. This will be experimental.

New Business:

There will be an archival resources planning meeting on October 27 at the Cultural Heritage Center. The public is invited.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips presented a program on his recent trip to Norway.

November 21, 2000

President Charles Sisk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the LDS Church. Other members present were: Richard Phillips, Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Anita and Lary Zastrow, Laura Glum, and Chris Dierks.

The minutes of the October board and regular meetings were read and approved.

Treasurer Jeanie Hartman reported a balance of \$322.83.

(Continued on page 9)

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The persons listed below paid Society dues for 2000!

Tom and Pat Adam
215 W. Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Karen A. Allan
320 N. Johnson Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Susan Assmus
100 Village Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Christine Dierks
1212 E. Church Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Ron and Bev Duffel
113 Dupree Trail
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Laura and Cindy Glum
312 S. Pawnee Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Steve A. Gomez
817 N. Central Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Yvonne Haefner
PO Box 481
Murdo, SD 57559-0481

Gary and Jeanie Hartman
418 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Beverly Huckins
1115 N. Grand Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Lorraine Kintz
20314 Porcupine Loop
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Wayne and Nancy Kirkpatrick
309 S. Polk Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Tina Manning
PO Box 416
Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0416

Del Paulson
20300 Cedar Court
Pierre, SD 57501

Richard Phillips
PO Box 32
Pierre, SD 57501-0032

Roger and Ardis Ruark
117 Pasque Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Phyllis Schamens
101 Mercury Street
Pierre, SD 57501

Charles Sisk
216 S. Jefferson Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

James and Karen Stein
308 N. Monroe Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Adrienne Stepanek
PO Box 555
Williston, ND 58802-0555

Lloyd Wullweber
29534 Dry Run Road
Pierre, SD 57501

Dale Wurts
106 E. Park Avenue
Fort Pierre, SD 57532

Laurence and Anita Zastrow
PO Box 1005
Pierre, SD 57501-1005

Genevieve P. Ziegler
510 N. Madison Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Please complete the membership application found on page 9 and return it along with your annual dues to:

Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer
416 S. Buchanan Street
Pierre, SD 57501

(Continued from page 3)

was the most fitting. The Belgian family members chose the city of Spa and made all of the arrangements for the reunion.

The reunion was facilitated by the fact that all of the Belgian family spoke English. There Bob met 90-year-old Alphones Billion who had been his grandfather's godfather. He learned much about the family history, including the fact that the Billion family originated in Germany. Matthew Billion emigrated to Belgium in the 1750's where he served as a "gatekeeper" in Antwerp. (Although unsure of the exact duties of a "gatekeeper," Miller assured us that it was a position of much prestige.) The Billion ancestors were decidedly urban as there is only one known Billion "family farm" which is located at Savol, Belgium.

Miller shared a number of photos of the Belgium

scenery and cities. He displayed a number of pictures as he described his visits to Brugge, Ghent, and Brussels with their splendid and ornated "old world" architecture.

The reunion was a success according to Miller, and in 2004, the American Billion families will host their European cousins in the United States.

Society members spent several minutes discussing the complexities of arranging an international family reunion and the utilization of the Internet for contacting distant relatives.

Miller also shared with the members a copy of the Peschong Family History, compiled by R.J. Peschong. Peschong had gathered much of the information in his travels as an officer in the Bank of America where he was responsible for developing the predecessor of the Visa credit card.

—contributed by Lary Zastrow

HISTORICAL RECORDS—

HUGHES COUNTY

Register of Deeds
104 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-7495
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1900 to present
DEATH	1900 to present
MARRIAGE	1900 to present
LAND	1882 to present

STANLEY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 596, Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0596
605-223-2610
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1877 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1892 to present
LAND	1891 to present

SULLY COUNTY

Register of Deeds
PO Box 265, Onida, SD 57564-0265
605-258-2331
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1905 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1905 to present
LAND	

Certified copies of Birth and Death Records are available for \$10 each and Marriage and Divorce Records are available for \$7 each; certified copies of Land Records are available for \$2 each. Regular copies of land records are \$1 each or less if only partial records. Remember, additional limitations making birth records "harder to see" have recently been imposed. Check with your County offices regarding these restrictions as well as any other fees.

WEBSITES

- US GenWeb Project..... <http://www.usgenweb.org>
 South Dakota GenWeb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com/~sdgenweb/>
 Rootsweb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com>
 The Genealogy Home Page <http://www.genhomepage.com/>
 Ancestry <http://www.ancestry.com>
 Swiss Genealogy Project..... <http://www.mindspring.com/~philipp/che.html>
 Civil War Historic Places <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/links/hist.htm#cemetaries>
 American Civil War Research <http://www.civilwardata.com>
 (Records of 1.67 million soldiers, regimental rosters and battle chronicles. Fee required for access.)
 Cyndi's List <http://www.cyndislist.com>
 (Over 35,000 Links in 70 categories. This is one of the most comprehensive research sites on the Net)
 National Genealogical Society..... <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>
 (Useful documents on how to conduct family history interviews and preservation of documents and photos.)
 Federation of Genealogical Societies <http://www.fgs.org>
 Switchboard <http://www.switchboard.com>
 Broderbund <http://www.genealogy.com>
 AHS of Germans From Russia <http://www.ahsgr.org>
 The Genealogy Home..... <http://www.homestead.com/ancestors/>
 (Genealogy information and links for Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Finish ancestors.)
 Gathering of Tartans <http://www.tartans.com>
 (Genealogy section for those with Scottish ancestry and links to their clan, clan histories, and tartans.)
 Church of Jesus Christ LDS <http://www.familysearch.org>
 National Archives and Records Admin..... <http://www.nara.gov>
 Birth Records (with birthdates <http://www.state.sd.us/doh/vitalrec/birthrecords/index.cfm>
 over 100 years)
 Cemetery Junction Directory <http://www.daddezio.com/cemetery/index.html>
 (Links to 13,000 online cemetery lists.)



Fall 2000 State Meeting Winner, South Dakota September 30, 2000

After registering, everyone was greeted by two local queens, one being rodeo and the other Native American. The session started with a greeting from the Mayor to be. It seems the current mayor was leaving town and this person was to be the replacement. Introductions and announcements followed.

The first sessions as a historical presentation on the history of Fort Randall and the surrounding area by Jack Broome, the Superintendent of the Burke Schools. Jack is a native of the area, so his interest in Fort Randall area history began many years ago. His mother was born under the current Missouri River bridge and his grandfather ran a ferry at Snake Creek. He began by saying his school is one of few high schools in the state to have a local history graduation requirement. He told about taking students on field trips to historic sites in the county. It was interesting to see several members of the audience who knew some of the early persons Jack spoke of. This was a well received session. For anyone with roots in that area, it helped fill in the people side of family history. It showed that one needs to know the history of the area and time to fully appreciate the genealogy of one's ancestors. A complete report is too long for this report.

The second session was presented by Martha Flamming, the Bon Homme County Home Extension Agent, who presented "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?". This program is an extension service program developed by the Minnesota Extension Service. The program addresses the need for people to prepare for the distribution of their property at some time in their life. This distribution may occur at a number of stages in one's life, whether downsizing one's home, moving into a community living facility, or otherwise. She presented some of the issues one should consider in this stage of life. Some issues are: What is special property? What are the values that family members attach to an item? Equity among the family. The issues are too numerous to go into complete detail in this report. The theme is this is not a task to take lightly, make a plan

and follow through with a plan. One may find a family member that is insulted because they did not receive a little item of low value that has sentimental value to them. This is a program, which should be made available in every community.

The noon lunch was served by a 4-H club with the local men's barbershop group presenting several musical selections.

The keynote speaker of the conference was Ruby Coleman of Valentine Nebraska. Ruby has made presentations to audiences at a number of genealogy conferences including the NGS one in Denver. She has moved several times in her married life. The first presentation was titled "When The Census Taker Came, Grandpa Was In The Outhouse." This session centered on the apparently missing people one is looking for in census. One must understand the census process. Just think about the 2000 census. In my case it was complete a form and mail it. Ruby reported that until 1920 census were completed in the summer when farmers were in the field, people might be moving, or not home when the enumerator visited. Another consideration is the census you read is not the original work; it is the final copy after being copied. She cited an example where the county copy included grandpa, but the federal copy didn't. Consider how little time the enumerator may have spent with a family to collect the information. Also, the literacy level of the enumerator when spelling names. Ruby reported a high error rate with the soundex, so one should read the entire county to assure that you people were not indexed. The 1930 census has few indexed states and none currently indexed starting with 1940.

Ruby suggested that one do cluster genealogy, or following those people around your family to aid in locating family members as many families migrated in groups. Copy everything even if it appears misspelled. Study family naming patterns.

The last presentation of the day was "Motivation, Evaluation, Action." In this session, Ruby said that success is 10% ability and 90% attitude. One must enjoy genealogy, if not one should do something else. She told of the luck she

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

had during a couple research trips. In one, she made a second trip to a cemetery and a person walked past her so she asked about the person she was researching. The walker said, "murder." It turned out the person had been murdered, which was not previously known to her client.

She ended her session with a number of basic genealogy principles of documentation, evaluation of evidence, primary vs. secondary, direct vs. indirect, etc.

After a program of this variety and quality, the spring meeting will require work on the part of the committee.

—submitted by *Rich Phillips*

TALES OF A VIKING EXPLORER

With a handful of turn of the century picture postcards and an invitation from his cousins, Rich Phillips set out to visit the homeland of his grandmother. A promise made to his Norwegian relatives in 1976 came to fruition in the Summer of 2000. The cousins' trips to America in 1976 and 1985 had prompted his promises to return to the fjords of his grandmother's Norway. The postcards, sent by her cousins after her immigration to America, depicted the villages and farms near her Norwegian home.

Phillips flew to Amsterdam on July 28 and then on to Oslo. While claiming his baggage there, he found it is a truly small world when he discovered a Brookings, SD resident doing the same. Met by his cousin, he spent several hours exploring downtown Oslo and walked along the waterfront. Rich shared many photos of the picturesque city, public squares, and parks with the Society members. He shared his impressions of the Storting (Parliament building), City Hall, National Theatre, and Frogner Park (home of the world famous sculptures of Gustav Vigeland). Phillip's photos of the Oslo Fortress on the harbor, the Thor Hyerdahl's Kon Tiki and Viking ship displays, and Fromm Museum were of special interest to the members of Norwegian heritage.

Phillips told of the bus tour that he took from Oslo to Bergen. At Telemark they toured the Heldahl Stave Church, the Telemark Canal, and the Romerk Dam. The latter was the location of

the "heavy water" plant portrayed in the movie, "Heroes of Telemark", of the destruction of the essential component for producing a nuclear bomb.

In Bergen, Rich visited the home of famous Norwegian composer, Edvard Grieg, and the historic Hanseatic buildings along the harbor. These well-preserved buildings were erected in the 1600's when Bergen was one of the important members of the commercial alliance known as the Hanseatic League.

From Bergen, Rich took the Express train to Myrdahl and on to the city of Flomm. He visited the Briksdahl Glacier and then proceed on to Lillehammer, the home of the last winter Olympic games. With his cousins transporting him, Rich visited the Lower Borgund Stave Church upon which is the Stavekirke church in Rapid City is modeled. It is one of the 28 stavekirkes remaining in Norway, and one of the best preserved according to Phillips.

It was then on to the fjorde in Sogn and the towns of Naustad and Ostwald that were the home of his grandmother and his ancestors. Rich then displayed photographs that he had taken of many of the same scenes and buildings depicted in the picture postcards sent his grandmother in the early 1900's. Except for the asphalted roads and automobiles, the scenes were remarkably unchanged after 100 years.

Richard's presentation ended with a discussion of his visits to the towns, churches, and cemeteries where his ancestors had lived and died. The members were pleased that Rich had captured the wonderful scenery of his ancestral home and his sharing the experience with the Society members.

—contributed by *Lary Zastrow*

2001 Dues are DUE!
Use the coupon on page 9.

(Continued from page 4)

Unfinished Business:

Laura Glum reported that Lavera Rose will be one of the speakers for the April State Genealogy meeting to be held in Pierre. A discussion was held about other possible speakers and also the catered meals.

New Business:

Jeanie has new membership cards printed and ready to distribute.

Mention was made about a letter in the Pierre Capital Journal from the SD State Archives about the inventory project of resources around the state.

Anita distributed copies of our most recent Bylaws to the board members.

Charles Sisk appointed himself, Bev Huckins, and Chris Dierks to be the nominating committee for next year's officers.

The next newsletter will be out in December.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Bob Miller presented a talk on his summer vacation and reunion in Belgium.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Dierks, Secretary

CERTIFIED COPY FEE CHANGE

Effective February 1, 2000, certified copy fees for birth and death records was raised to \$10 for both state and county offices. Fees for marriage and divorce records remains at \$7. Check with your local office regarding all fees.

LIBRARY HOURS

RAWLINS LIBRARY

Monday-Thursday 9 am - 9 pm
Friday 9 am - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

STATE LIBRARY

Monday-Friday 8 am - 5 pm
Saturday-Sunday Closed

STATE ARCHIVES

Monday-Friday 9 am - 4:30 pm
First Sat./Month 9 am - 4:30 pm

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Tuesday 1 pm - 5 pm
Wednesday 1 pm - 9 pm
Thursday-Friday 7 pm - 9 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

[Closed on holidays—please check schedule.]

Remember that the State Archives is also open on the first Saturday of each month to be of assistance to patrons.

**PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 925, PIERRE, SD 57501-0925**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP + 4 _____

TELEPHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

FAX _____ E-MAIL _____

Surnames Being Researched—

Brief Statement of Current Status and/or Focus of Research—

DUES _____ Individual (\$10) _____ Family (\$12)

CALENDAR

- December **NO MEETING!**
Happy Holidays!
- January 1 Happy New Year!
- January 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day!
- January 16 Religious Freedom Day!
- January 16 **Monthly Meeting**
"Sharing Ideas and Stories of Family Reunions"
LDS Church, 7 p.m.
2001 Society Dues are DUE! (Use coupon on page 9.)
- February 14 Valentine's Day!
- February 19 President's Day Holiday!
- February 20 **Monthly Meeting**
Election of 2001 Officers
LDS Church, 7 p.m.



"Genealogy is like love. It's best when shared with another."