



To: South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees  
South Dakota Historical Society Foundation Board  
From: Catherine Forsch, CEO  
South Dakota Historical Society Foundation  
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Subject: Foundation Board Updates  
Date: April 17, 2025

### **100th Session of the Legislature Project**



To commemorate the 100th session of the South Dakota Legislature and celebrate the people they serve, the One Hundredth Session Planning Committee was formed, with the Foundation serving as both the fiscal and event partner. As the fiscal partner, we provided administrative support, financial oversight, and legal accountability for the project. On the event side, we contributed resources and expertise by assisting with grant applications, creating informational web pages, processing tickets - coordinating with more than 450 ticket holders, selling commemorative merchandise at the Heritage Store, and supporting registration and event-day preparations.

### **Support the 2025 History Conference – May 7–9 in Deadwood**

We're still seeking financial support to help make this year's History Conference a success! If you know of an individual, business, or organization that might be interested in sponsoring a session (\$1,500) or a break (\$500), please contact Nancy Tapken at (605) 773-6298. Session sponsors will have the opportunity to introduce the speaker at their sponsored session—don't worry, we'll provide a script to make it easy. Your support helps us celebrate South Dakota's rich history and ensures a memorable experience for all attendees.

### **Deadwood After Hours – Thursday, May 8 from 5PM – 7PM**

#### **Help Us Welcome Our Guests!**

During the History Conference, the Foundation will host a special networking social—Deadwood After Hours. We'd love for you to join us and help create a warm, welcoming atmosphere for our guests. Your presence goes a long way in helping attendees feel included and appreciated—and may even inspire them to become future members and supporters of the State Historical Society and Foundation. We hope to see you there!

#### **Location: Saloon #10, 657 Main St, Deadwood**

5:00 PM Join us for a relaxed evening at Saloon #10, featuring a bit of South Dakota history and a reenactment of the shooting of legendary lawman James "Wild Bill" Hickok.  
Afterward, we'll head to the Charlie Utter Theatre inside Saloon #10 to enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and a whiskey tasting.  
7:00 PM If you joined us late, at 7:00 PM you can catch the Wild Bill reenactment and a quick dive into South Dakota's colorful past.

Go to [www.sdhsf.org/events](http://www.sdhsf.org/events) to register for the social or the entire conference.

**Spring fundraising campaign** - If you find yourself in the fortunate position of being able to make a charitable gift this spring, please consider a gift to help preserve South Dakota's history. Your gift can be designated to a specific project or to where the need is the greatest. You can return your gift in the appeal that will be mailed this spring, or you can go online to contribute. [www.sdhsf.org/donate](http://www.sdhsf.org/donate)

**Press publications** – We continue to seek for 2025 Press publications to help with design, illustrations, printing, marketing, etc. Gifts of \$5000+ will be acknowledged in the publication.

- General Beadle graphic biography - Written by Justin Blessinger, illustrated by Hector Curriel
- American Indian and Federal Policies in the 20th Century (working title) by Stephen Schulte
- Black Hills History Tours, two volumes by David Wolff, 1. Deadwood, Lead, and Spearfish, 2. Rapid City area
- "Special Places, a Memoir" by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve
- Lakota uses of the Bison board book (working title) by Alfreda Beartrack Algeo
- "Dust, Drought, and Creativity: North Dakota Folk Art in the 1930s" by Susan Wefald.

**Upcoming meetings/events**

- History Talks - Register at [www.sdhsf.org/events](http://www.sdhsf.org/events)
- Foundation Board Meeting 11:00am CT on May 2, 2025

**Capital Campaign**

As the fundraising partner for the South Dakota State Historical Society, the Foundation plays an essential role in obtaining resources to collect, preserve, research, exhibit, and interpret history, ensuring educational enrichment for both present and future generations. In 2025, the primary focus of fundraising efforts will be the renovation of the State Museum. For more information, please reach out to Catherine at (605) 773-6003.