



# History

## NOTES

## South Dakota State Historical Society: Annual Report for 2018

Society members, South Dakotans and government officials can have different perspectives on the work of the State Historical Society, depending on their interests. Some people see the society as either a research institution or a museum. For others, it is a publisher, regulatory body, storage facility, academic foundation, private organization or state agency. In fact, we are all those things. Our mission is to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of the people of South Dakota through archaeology, archives, historic preservation, the museum and research and publishing. The society has endeavored to care for South Dakota's history since its founding in 1901.

Part of our ability to fulfill this multifaceted mission has been due to consistent leadership on the board of trustees. In 2018, Governor Dennis Daugaard re-appointed Jon Lauck of Sioux Falls and Francis Whitebird of Saint Francis, and society members re-elected Peggy Sanders of Oral and Rolene R. Schliesman of Wilmot to three-year terms. Other trustees include President Brad Tennant, Vice President David A. Wolff, John D. Fowler, Richard D. Harnois, Jeffery A. Hazard, Robert Kolbe, Laurie Langland and Tom D. Tobin.

Nevertheless, leadership does change, and after 42 years with the State Historical Society, State Archaeologist Jim Haug retired in June. Senior Archaeologist Terri Bruce served as the interim leader until Renee Boen of Rapid City took over the position in October. Boen was also a senior archaeologist with the society but most recently worked with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as an area archaeologist. Sadly,

Bruce died unexpectedly in December after having been with the society for eight years.

During the 2018 history conference in Rapid City, the society acknowledged outstanding contributions to the field with the Governor's Awards for History. Pierce and Barbara McDowell of Sioux Falls and Kenneth Wetz of Newell received the Individual Award; the Charles Nolin Monument Restoration/Revitalization Committee of Sturgis collected the Organizational Award; Melvin Fathke took home the Teacher of the Year Award; and Margaret Preston of Sioux Falls won the Herbert S. Schell Award for best article in *South Dakota History*. The society also recognized the late Patricia Adam of Pierre for her years of service as board of trustees president and foundation board member with the Robinson Memorial Award, the society's highest honor. The archaeology office organized the conference, titled "Infinite Variety: Past, Present, Future," which focused on the diversity of South Dakotans and our history.

The society is a division of the Department of Education. As a state agency, we have a budget of \$5.7 million, consisting of 38.5% state general funds, 21% federal funds and 40.5% other funds from sources such as membership dues, other earned income, like contracts and fees for services, and a small portion of the state tourism tax. In addition, the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation raises money for programs and projects not funded through the state budget. Public and private support are essential for the efficient and effective operation of the State Historical Society. Thank you for your continued support.

### South Dakota State Historical Society Administrative Staff

Jay D. Vogt, *Director*  
Jeff Mammenga  
Caroline C. Uecker

### South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees

Brad Tennant, *President*  
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*Vice President*  
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Peggy Sanders  
Rolene R. Schliesman  
Tom D. Tobin  
Francis Whitebird

### Department of Education

Ben Jones,  
*Interim Secretary*

### Administrative Office:

Cultural Heritage Center  
900 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2217  
(605) 773-3458  
history.sd.gov

## Archaeological Research Center Staff

Renee M. Boen,

*State Archaeologist*

Matthew Busch

Dan Byrne

Michael Fosha

Katie Lamie

Aaron Mayer

Cassie Vogt

Jane Watts

Dave Williams

Roger Williams

## ARCHAEOLOGY

During the past year, Archaeological Research Center staff conducted 52 pedestrian surveys and 16 evaluative testing projects to determine the eligibility of various sites for the National Register of Historic Places. The State Historic Preservation Office sponsored two grant projects to determine the possibility of adding sites to the National Register. With the help of tribal entities, we completed Phase I of the process to establish criteria for evaluating stone circles for consideration and began an additional submission for bison kill sites.

The center completed a total of 78 pedestrian survey reports and an additional 109 record search reports that did not require pedestrian surveys. Curation staff finalized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers documentation project and is nearing the end of the Stoesser site project for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We also started a cultural and paleontological curation project for the Bureau of Reclamation while leading additional projects for the South Dakota Department of Transportation, Game, Fish and Parks, and private companies.

A leadership team from the Corps of Engineers visited the Archaeological Research Center in August to learn more about the facility and its collections. In addition to Colonel John L. Hudson, Omaha District Commander, the team comprised various officials, including tribal and cultural resource liaisons. The many functions of the center, and the repository and collections management program in particular, impressed the visitors. In September, Andrea Gregory and Molly McMurphy

from the St. Louis District's Mandatory Center of Expertise for the Curation and Management of Archaeological Collections completed a facility assessment of 13 repositories in preparation for their study on collection regionalization efforts. They concluded that the Archaeological Research Center curates the largest volume of Corps of Engineers material in the nation. Their forthcoming recommendations could help frame future collection rehabilitation projects and funding efforts.

In November, center staff, along with a representative of the State Historic Preservation Office, conducted a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act consultation for human remains from two sites in Marshall County. Participants from South Dakota tribes included the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Oglala Sioux Tribe and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe as well as the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska and Spirit Lake Mni Wakan Oyate of North Dakota. Repatriation processing continues into the new year for these remains.

Over the year, the center's staff recorded 745 new locations and revisited 858 sites, which were documented with updated site forms. We received and added to the library a total of 447 new cultural resource reports and completed 409 record searches in 2018. In outreach, we also worked with the Center for American Paleolithic Research and Hot Springs Mammoth Site on a mammoth site in Jackson County.

*History Notes* is published three times yearly by the South Dakota State Historical Society. *History Notes* is available upon demand on audio tape and large print. Other forms will be considered upon request.

Printed on recycled paper.

Printing costs available upon request.



*Staff Archaeologist Cassie Vogt conducts shovel test excavations at the Minneconjou Recreation Area in May.*

# Archives

The State Archives welcomed two new staff members in 2018, archives associate Steve Mayer and digital archivist Nicole Hosette. Mayer oversees the Special Projects Program, which offers microfilming and data entry services at the South Dakota Women's Prison in Pierre and will soon expand to offer digitization. Hosette is responsible for processing and managing electronic records. With an increasing number of collections being donated in electronic format, having a staff person dedicated solely to their processing is a leap forward for the archives.

The archives reached 1,367 people this year through site visits, tours, presentations and consultations. Staff gave 34 presentations across the state on topics related to preservation, online resources and genealogical research. To increase public outreach, we also organized two History Trivia Nights in April and October at the St. Charles Lounge in Pierre. Teams of four contestants each competed to answer questions about South Dakota and United States history correctly. Other outreach activities included a World War I display in the Cultural Heritage Center lobby featuring the names of military personnel killed in the year 1918 and those who died from war-related ailments between 1919 and 1922; a display case in the archives research room containing woman suffrage items; and two exhibits featuring pictures of Scotty Philip's buffalo herd and World War I photographs in the center's education room. Images from our collections also appeared weekly as a feature in the *Pierre Capital Journal*.

We held three events in October to celebrate Archives Month, a nationwide effort to publicize the services and collections available at archival repositories. In addition to History Trivia Night, a photo scavenger hunt on Facebook used the website to increase public engagement. A prompt posted every Monday asked the public to find and share a family treasure, museum, monument or repurposed historic building. Finally, an archives-themed escape room had participants solve puzzles using items in the Archives' collections to get out successfully.

The State Archives received a third round of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant in September for digitizing historic newspapers. The funding will allow an additional one hundred rolls of microfilmed newspapers to be digitized and placed on the *Chronicling America* website by August 2020. The previous round aided in preparing titles such as the *Madison Daily Leader*, 1890–1922; *Ogla-la Light* of Pine Ridge, 1905–1920; and *Philip Weekly Review*, 1907–1912, for addition to *Chronicling America* this winter.



Photographer Alpha Mortenson's "The Girl in Winter Coat and Hat" is one of the 3,172 images digitized this year.

This year, we added 3,172 images and maps and 622 land survey records to the South Dakota Digital Archives, making a total of 79,169 items available online. The website has experienced a growing number of visitors, with the photographs being especially popular. The archives received 246 new donations, totaling 199.23 cubic feet and almost 102 gigabytes of records. The library acquired 118 new books for its collection, and 132.16 cubic feet and 234.7 gigabytes of manuscript and government records were processed and made accessible.

## State Archives Staff

Chelle Somsen,  
*State Archivist*  
Sara Casper  
Virginia Hanson  
Nicole Hosette  
Sarah Kirchman  
Steve Mayer  
Cherri Reed  
Matthew Reitzel  
Kimberly Smith  
Ken Stewart

## State Historic Preservation Office Staff

Jay D. Vogt,

*State Historic*

*Preservation Officer*

Ted Spencer, *Director*

Liz Almlie

Jenna Carlson Dietmeier

Sofia Mattesini

Chris Nelson

Kate Nelson

Paige Olson

Cindy Snow

# Historic Preservation

In 2018, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) had another rewarding year identifying and preserving unique historic sites throughout South Dakota. One important success story was our joint effort with local Habitat for Humanity volunteers and Pierre/Fort Pierre Historic Preservation Commission members to scrape and repaint the entire Oahe Chapel building near Oahe Dam north of Pierre. This work will help to maintain the appearance of the historic structure, which is a fine example of the many mission churches established in the American West during the latter part of the 19th century. The SHPO is also responsible for maintaining and repairing both the 33-acre Fort Pierre Chouteau National Historic Landmark and the Verendrye Monument in Fort Pierre. Our staff and partners, through numerous volunteer hours, put forth a diligent effort to keep these sites clean and appealing so our many visitors can enjoy them.

program was the awarding of 10 grants for preservation projects for a total of \$117,000. With planned matching funds of \$580,106, we anticipate a total of \$697,106 in public-private investment. The State Property Tax Moratorium financial incentive program certified 14 projects in six counties for the eight-year state historic preservation property tax moratorium for restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings. Investments in these projects totaled approximately \$8.4 million. This program continues to provide property owners with a solid investment in preserving historic residential and commercial buildings in their local communities. Finally, the National Park Service added seven South Dakota properties to the National Register of Historic Places this year.

The SHPO recently completed several additional projects. The office finalized a comprehensive survey of downtown Madison with



*The National Park Service added St. Paul Lutheran Church in Union County to the National Register of Historic Places in 2018.*

We continue to work hard on our core mission areas of nominating important historical sites to the National Register of Historic Places, implementing financial incentive programs to encourage preservation, and conducting thorough federal, state and compliance project reviews. Staff traveled extensively throughout the state providing educational presentations, technical site visits and outreach to tribal cultural resource and preservation offices as well.

The Deadwood Fund Grant Program, now in its 21st year, benefits communities across the state. Among our work with this critical

plan for a potential new historic district. We also concluded an interesting survey and documentation of various historic mines in the northern Black Hills and two county architectural surveys.

Lastly, we welcomed a new employee, Sofia Mattesini, who now serves as historic preservation specialist for the north region. For more information about historic preservation programs, resources and activities, please visit [history.sd.gov/preservation](http://history.sd.gov/preservation) or call (605) 773-3458.

# Museum

The Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society had an excellent year in 2018. Staff completed projects dealing with new exhibits, programming and multiple behind-the-scenes tasks. Thanks to our many visitors, we experienced a 3.6% growth in attendance over last year.

Our public programs drew many of those visitors. We continued our strong relationship with South Dakota's schools as 3,588 students visited the Cultural Heritage Center. More than 250 families enjoyed our History Explorers Backpack program, and over 1,000 people participated in our monthly Family Fun Saturdays. Among the highlights of our programming were presentations by Claire Jerry, curator of political history at the Smithsonian Museum of American History, who discussed the women's movement of the 1970s in relation to our current exhibit *Spirit of the '70s*. Our outreach extends beyond the museum as well. Nearly 7,000 students around the state interacted with our traveling education kits, and through our social media efforts we now have over 5,000 Facebook followers.



Curator of Collections Katy Schmidt cleans one of the artifacts from the museum's primary exhibit.

Two behind-the-scenes activities deserve attention for their impact on museum operation. Staff are engaged in an ongoing effort to clean the artifacts presently on display throughout our primary exhibit *The South Dakota Experience*. Additionally, they have developed a new training program for tour guides, including a book that summarizes the history of each artifact on display, to help them construct programs that will ensure a high-quality, memorable experience for visitors.

Our exhibit program also saw a great deal of attention in 2018. We have begun updating aspects of the primary exhibit and added a hands-on component to the gallery's Oyate section. Staff members Aidan Brady and Peter Kleinpass revised and added components to the rail car display in the *Proving Up* exhibit, including a new video, hands-on items and a telegraph, thanks to a generous donation. A new exhibit also opened in the Observation Gallery entitled *From Jackrabbits to Schmeckfest: The Many Faces of Community Identity in South Dakota*.

This year saw planning for future exhibits and programs. We have begun collaborating with the staff of Minuteman Missile National Historic Site to create an exhibit set to debut in 2019 that will explore the Cold War, the missile system's establishment in South Dakota and the present use of the decommissioned sites. In preparation, museum staff traveled to the Minuteman Missile site near Philip several times in 2018. We also started preparing a strategic plan for the museum to address key issues, such as dwindling storage space for collections, that staff anticipates emerging in coming years.

Lastly, we have maintained our representation in professional associations. Museum Director Jay Smith is a current board member of the Mountain Plains Museums Association. Ronette Rumpca is the current president of the Association of South Dakota Museums.

## Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society Staff

Jay Smith, *Director*

Aidan Brady

Peter Kleinpass

Ronette Rumpca

Katy Schmidt

## Research and Publishing Staff

Nancy Tystad Koupal,

Director

Michael Burns

Cody Ewert

Jennifer McIntyre

Jeanne Kilen Ode

Judy Uecker

# Research and Publishing

In 2018, the Research and Publishing Office released five titles and won four awards—three for *Glorious Fourth of July* and one for *Paul Goble, Storyteller*, both published in 2017. The South Dakota Humanities Council named the chapter book *Tatanka and Other Legends of the Lakota People*, written and illustrated by Donald F. Montileaux, as the 2019 Young Readers One Book in December. The work features three previously issued South Dakota Historical Society Press books, *Tatanka and the Lakota People*, *Tasunka*, and *Musk-rat and Skunk, Sinkpe na Maka*.

The Press published Robert W. Sebesta's *Early Churches in South Dakota: A Lasting Legacy* in August. Sebesta shares the early history of worship and its associated structures in the state through this comprehensive volume of over 650 standing churches built before 1930.

A September symposium at the Center for Western Studies at Augustana University marked the release of *The Plains Political Tradition: Essays on South Dakota Political Culture, Volume 3*, edited by Jon K. Lauck, John E. Miller and Paula M. Nelson. This series identifies major influences on the political culture of South Dakota against a backdrop of agricultural ups and downs, varied religious beliefs, worldwide conflict and powerful personalities.

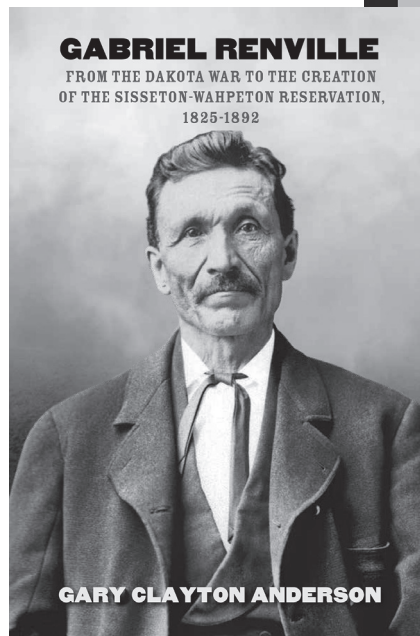
The Press released three premier biographies at the South Dakota Festival of Books in September. *Born Criminal: Matilda Joslyn Gage, Radical Suffragist* by Angelica Shirley Carpenter details the life of Gage, a forgotten suffragist, as she fought for women's rights. It is the first of three planned publications for the Suffrage Project, which commemorates women gaining the right to vote in South Dakota and across the country. Gary Clayton An-

derson's *Gabriel Renville: From the Dakota War to the Creation of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Reservation, 1825–1892* explores the life of the controversial leader and illuminates his

motivations as he navigated a world in flux. Sean J. Flynn studies the life and career of the first Lakota congressman in *Without Reservation: Benjamin Reifel and American Indian Acculturation*.

Staff completed editorial work on both *Spotted Tail: Warrior and Statesman* by Richmond L. Clow and *The Frontier Army: Episodes from Dakota and the West* edited by Eli Paul. Design began on another of the Suffrage Project publications, a picture book titled *The Voice of Liberty* by Angelica Shirley Carpenter. Development for other forthcoming titles and research for *Pioneer Girl: The Revised Texts* continued.

*South Dakota History*, the society's quarterly journal, completed its 48th year of publication. It featured articles on women in World War I, the USS *South Dakota*, tribal leader



Richard (“Dick”) Wilson, fur trader Joseph Graveline, the correspondence of Col. Nelson Miles and Gen. William T. Sherman and commentary from the authors of *Pioneer Girl Perspectives*. The office also published three issues of the *History Notes* newsletter and maintained the Pioneer Girl Project website, [pioneer girlproject.org](http://pioneer girlproject.org).

Follow the progress of current and forthcoming projects on Facebook and Twitter. For a current catalog, visit the Press website, [sdhspress.com](http://sdhspress.com). To donate to the Suffrage Project, visit [sdhsf.org](http://sdhsf.org).

# State Historical Society Donors, 2018

The South Dakota State Historical Society is pleased to receive donations of books, manuscripts, photographs, artifacts and services. The society thanks the following individuals and organizations for contributing to the preservation of South Dakota's heritage through their generous gifts to the archives and museum collections.

John Aden	Fred Greguras	Jerry McQuay	Economic Development
Rebecca Aman	Carl Gunderson	Marcia Marquardt	SD Legislative
Robert Anderson	Christine Hamilton	Jerry Meendering	Research Council
Dan Arbach	Susan Hanes	Miles City (MT)	SD Office of the Governor
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Alan Ball	Judy Hannebaum	Minnehaha Co.	SD Retirement System
Nancy Barry	Virginia Hanson	Clerk of Court	SD Rural Electric Assoc.
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Gary Cutler	Sarah Jones	Helen Schuck	Illona Weber
Barbara Danforth	Glen Jorgenson	Matt Semmler	Western Development
Dorinda Daniel	Kanabec Co. Historical	Therese Shafranski	Museum, Saskatoon, SK
Dale Davidson, Sr.	Society, Mora, MN	Kim Smith	Lloyd Willey
Dallerie Davis	Frances Kilen	Myron Sonne	Vicki Wilson
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Catherine Draine	Kathleen Koestler	Archives & History	
Liz Morton Duckworth	Kari Kohlhoff	SD Bureau of Finance	
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Eastside Heritage Center,	Mary Kost	SD Dental Assistants	
Bellevue, WA	Nancy Tystad Koupal	Association	
Sara Egge	Ralph Kramer	SD Department of Agriculture	
Melinda Eikamp	Marilyn Krentz	SD Department of Education	
Eileen Elrod	David Landrey	SD Department of Environment	
Cyrilla Face	Sue Larsen	& Natural Resources	
Faulk Co. Historical Society	Lead-Deadwood	SD Department of Game,	
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# State Historical Society Volunteers, 2018

Volunteers help to preserve and interpret South Dakota's history as they greet, guide, research and perform other vital tasks for the South Dakota State Historical Society. The society thanks the following individuals for sharing their time and talents at the Cultural Heritage Center, Archaeological Research Center and various archaeological sites.

Karen Authier  
Carol Axtman  
Jack Baker  
Jennifer Baker  
Mike Baker  
Patrick Baker  
Fred Baldenweck  
Rodd Bauck  
Rich Berg  
Dan Binder  
Megan Bordewyk  
Kris Bradley  
Monica Bugbee  
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Chris Leatherman  
Cathi Lester  
Karen Lindbloom  
Joann Lonbaken  
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Dave May  
Betty Meintsma  
Joanne Merkel  
Maya Miller  
Kelly Morgan  
Mary Chantry Nelson  
Larry Ness

Sami Paul  
Elaine Pye  
Jackie Radway  
Judy Rapp  
Paula Reynosa  
Art Rezac  
Ardys Roseland  
Ardith Sand  
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Jeanne Schweigert  
Jim Schweigert

Brett Selland  
Myah Selland  
Clara Shelbourn  
Jeff Shelton  
Ron Smith  
Barb Sogaard  
Tom Sogaard  
Ken Stach  
Brad Steckelberg  
Jessica Tarrant  
Pat Tarrant

Bob Travis  
Jim Valnes  
Karen Van Mullem  
Stephen Van Mullem  
Heather Venner  
Mike Weisgram  
Gloria Welk  
Kelli Wold  
Linda Yuill  
Russel Yuill  
Terry Yun



*Volunteers helped to paint the Oahe Chapel near Pierre this past summer.*



## South Dakota Historical Society Foundation Board of Directors

John Teupel, *Chair*  
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Phil Hall, *Secretary*  
Mike Gibson, *Treasurer*  
Jacquelyn Fuller  
Gary Heintz  
Roger Meyer  
Curt Mortenson  
Greg Risse  
Charles Riter  
Chuck Schroyer

## Administrative Staff

Catherine Forsch,  
*President*  
Lisa Bondy,  
*Administrative Director*  
Holly Crosby  
Dorinda Daniel

# Foundation

We are fortunate to have so many contributors who share our goal of making the history of South Dakota accessible to tens of thousands of visitors both in person and through other forms of outreach. The board, staff and volunteers of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, the partner organization of the State Historical Society, thank you for your membership and philanthropic support.

In 2018, private donations assisted the completion of new projects in several of the society's program areas. Our fundraising efforts supported restoration of an iconic bait shop sign, which the museum will display to help tell the important history of fishing in the state. A donation from the BNSF Railway Company contributed to the makeover of the museum's railroad exhibit, making it more engaging while remaining informative. Two other gifts allowed for carpet replacement and the repainting of the Observation Gallery in time for the June opening of the exhibit *From Jack-rabbits to Schmeckfest* and aided in updating the museum's lighting.

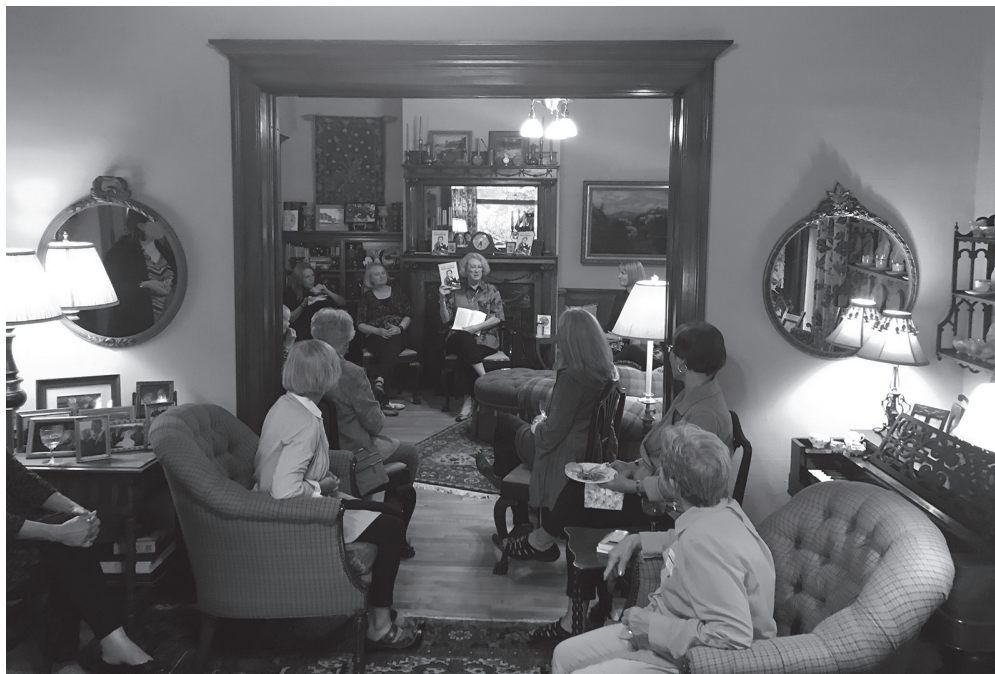
The Mary Chilton DAR Foundation contributed resources to support publication of the forthcoming children's book *The Voice of Liberty*, which tells the story of suffragists who demonstrated for women's right to vote at the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty in 1886. The foundation also organized two successful book signings for South Dakota Historical Society Press authors with support from Arrowhead Country Club and Pat Fishback. The Ester & Harold Mertz Foundation covered the

cost of a scanner for over-sized books for the State Archives' Special Projects Program at the South Dakota Women's Prison, and other donor funds continued to support the archives' ongoing digitization project, which has made almost 80,000 images available online.

This year, we saw another increase in members joining at the Heritage Circle levels of \$125 and above for a total of 414. If you are not a Heritage Circle member but could increase your level of giving to \$100 or more, your membership will help us expand programs and services. As donor support for the work of the State Historical Society continues to grow, so do the opportunities for educational outreach, special exhibitions and public programs.

In December, the foundation held elections for board members and officers. We extend special thanks to the outgoing chair, John Teupel, who served on the board for twelve years and as chair for the last six. Phil Hall and Mike Gibson are also retiring. We welcome eight new board members: Cindy Anson Eilers, Charlie Hoffman, Eric Jennings, Patricia Miller, Randy Seiler, Rich Sattgast, Robert Peterson and Betty Olson.

With the 30th anniversary of the Cultural Heritage Center and new exhibits on the Minuteman Missile and the centennial of woman suffrage scheduled for 2019, we will again look to our devoted supporters for funding. We appreciate all of you whose belief in our mission is vital to our success. To donate or learn more, visit [sdhsf.org/donate](http://sdhsf.org/donate). The foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.



Angelica Shirley Carpenter discusses her book *Born Criminal* at a Foundation event in the home of Pat Fishback.

# South Dakota Historical Society Foundation

We would like to thank the following donors for their support of the programs of the South Dakota State Historical Society through their generous contributions to the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation in 2018.

## **Over \$10,000**

Anonymous  
BNSF Railway Foundation  
Leo Flynn Estate  
William Cameron Johnston Estate  
Harold and Esther Mertz,  
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## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

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Cynthia Lillibridge  
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Greg & Jamie Risse  
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Ruth Schmidt  
Chuck & Bonny Schroyer  
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SD Humanities Council  
John Teupel  
Margaret Cash Wegner

## **\$500 - \$999**

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CNA Surety  
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Virginia Dettman  
First PREMIER Bank  
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Ralph & Maxine Jones  
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Clyde Jundt  
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Jay Smith  
SD Rural Electric Assoc.  
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Walmart #1604  
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Mary Lou Wilhelm  
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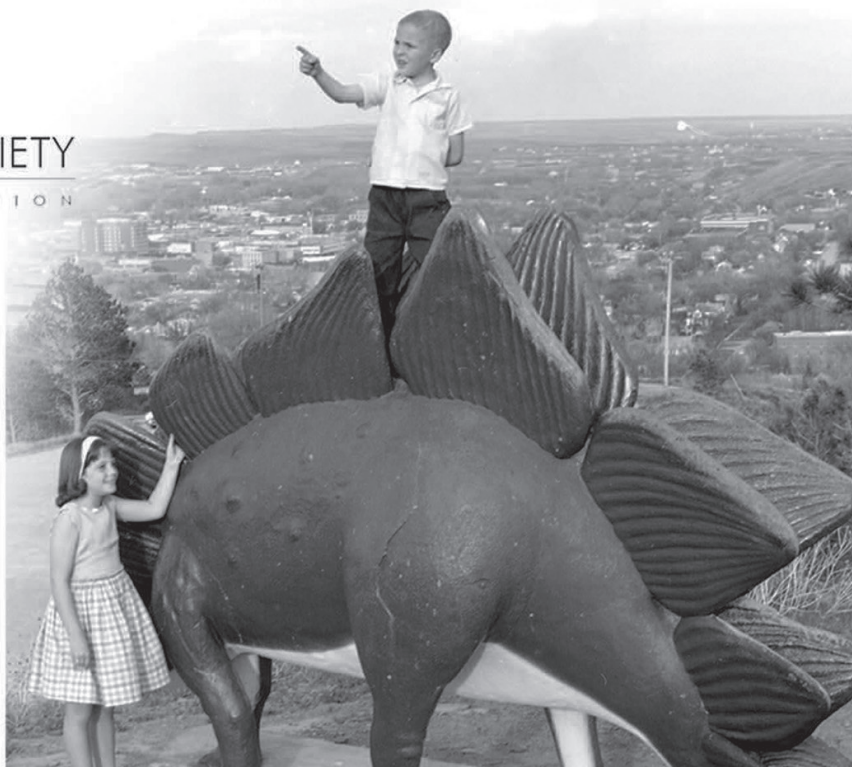
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