**Research and Publishing Program Report, May 2025**

By Dedra McDonald Birzer, Research and Publishing Program Director

SDHS PRESS

  SDHS Press is thrilled to announce that our 2024 children’s publication, *Georgia Jipp: Blizzard Pilot*, has won the Western Writers of America Spur Award for Best Western Children’s Picture Book.

  SDHS Press and SDHS Foundation staff continue to plan and host monthly “History Talks,” a virtual author speaker series. Video recordings of the talks are available on the SDHS Foundation’s YouTube channel. For January’s event, we convened a panel discussion on South Dakota’s legislative history in honor of the 100th legislative session. The panel featured Tony Venhuizen, Terry Woster, and Bernie Hunhuff, along with just under 100 participants. SDHS Press put together an anthology on the same topic, which will be distributed at the legislative celebration in April. In February, Cindy Wilson presented on connections between Charles Ingalls and Charles Wood Irish, a leading railroad operative in Dakota Territory in the 1870s and 1880s. March featured two authors from our *Equality at the Ballot Box* anthology, Kelly Kirk and Kelly O’Dea. April’s speaker was Lakota author and illustrator S.D. Nelson.

Press staff have spent the spring organizing our shipping space and hopping from one deadline to the next. Along with completing the legislative history anthology, titled *A Legislature of Citizens*, staff are close to printing the second of David Wolff’s *Black Hills History Tours*, which focuses on Rapid City and the Central Black Hills. A third B*lack Hills History Tours* volume (featuring Spearfish, Lead, and Deadwood) is also in production. In addition, children’s picture book “Badger Clark: Poetry Wrangler” is almost complete, as is “Wilder Weather: What Laura Ingalls Wilder Can Teach Us About Watching the Weather, Understanding Our Climate, and Protecting What we Cherish.”

HISTORY NOTES

The Research and Publishing Program completed work on the Winter 2025 issue of the *History Notes* newsletter, which is the Annual Report. It was delivered to members’ mailboxes in March.

SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORY

The Research and Publishing Program completed the Spring 2025 issue of the *South Dakota History* journal. It was printed and mailed to members in late March. The issue includes articles on women in the state penitentiary in Sioux Falls, the *Germania Verein* and the German Theater in Sioux Falls, and the EROS Data Center.