



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: August 29, 2025

New fiscal year

The Foundation board voted to move from a calendar year to a fiscal year beginning July 1 to align with the State budget. The new fiscal year structure took effect on July 1, 2025.

America's 250th South Dakota

The Foundation is proud to serve as the fundraising partner of the America's 250th South Dakota Commission. Two current projects include:

Raffle: Custom Parkwest Arms SD-10 Rifle

Only 250 tickets will be sold for a custom Parkwest Arms SD-10 Single Shot Rifle engraved with the America's 250th South Dakota logo. The winner may add a personalized engraving, making it a one-of-a-kind heirloom. Proceeds support statewide educational programs and events celebrating our nation's founding and South Dakota's role in American history. Learn more and purchase tickets at www.sdhsf.org/events.



Partnership with Platte Creek Brewing Company (Geddes, SD)

Dr. Ben Jones partnered with Platte Creek Brewing to create "Dakota Liberty Beer" in honor of America's 250th. A portion of proceeds will support education and celebration activities. The launch takes place at the South Dakota State Fair, with more events to follow.

A Lasting Tribute to the 100th Legislative Session

To commemorate the 100th Legislative Session, South Dakota artist Dick Termes created a unique Termesphere, named the *Legisphere* by the planning committee. The artwork is now on permanent display on the 4th floor of the Capitol. At the committee's request, we partnered with SnapSpheres to create a collectible 3D puzzle replica. The *Legisphere* is available for preorder through the Heritage Store in 3" and 7" models at www.sdhsf.org/store (search "100th").

Please consider a gift to help support these important projects:

- “A Special Place” (Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve memoir)
- David Wolff’s “Black Hills History Tours” (Volumes 3–5)
- “The Amazing Pethecaka Buffalo Board Book” by Alfreda Beartrack Algeo
- “History of Badlands” by Philip Hall
- “George Washington” (Faces of Mount Rushmore SD Biography Series) by Gary Gregg
- “150 years of Commemorating the Battle of the Little Bighorn” by Sandy Barnard
- “Kylie and the Very Old Cat” (children’s picture book, true story about Badlands fossil find by an 8-year-old girl) by Linda Marshall
- “General William Beadle” (graphic style biography) - written by Justin Blessinger, illustrated by Hector Curriel
- “Dust, Drought, and Creativity: North Dakota Folk Art in the 1930s” by Susan Wefald.

Adopt a Collection in the State Archives

We are looking for donors to adopt a digital collection in the State Archives. By adopting a collection, you’ll not only support two digitization positions but also preserve South Dakota’s local history. If you know someone who appreciates the work of our archives, please direct them to our special projects pages to make a contribution.

https://www.sdhsf.org/donate/special_projects/saving-sd-digital-collections.html

Upcoming Events

***History Talks* 7pm CT / 6pm MT**

Register at www.sdhsf.org/events

Sept 9 – Makenzie Huber

How to Record and Write Life Stories

Award-winning journalist Makenzie Huber of South Dakota Searchlight will share practical ways to capture oral histories and life stories. Participants will gain tools, questions, and a simple plan to preserve family legacies.

Oct 21 – David Wolff

Black Hills History Tours – Volumes II & III

Historian David A. Wolff presents his books on the growth of Rapid City, the rise and fall of gold towns, and the role of railroads, timbering, and mining in shaping the Black Hills.