

STURGIS & MEADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter, March 2024, Vol. 9, Issue 1



Photo Courtesy of Bob Davis

Inside this issue:

Third Dig Season May 13-24 at Bear Butte Creek Historic Preserve	1
2023 Dig Report Published	2-6
Wanted: History Days Booths	2
Fort Sidney, Nebraska and Cheyenne, Wyoming to the Black Hills, 1874-1880	6-7
135 Years of History: Meade County, Sturgis Volunteers to Work on Cataloging Historical Items	8-10
The Love? Story of Marcus Baird and his Already Married Wife	10-11
History at High Noon: Meade County Time Capsule; Poker Alice; Walker Family	11
Bob Lee Photos	12
President's Message	13
Calendar of Events	13
Membership Form	14

HISTORY DAYS 2024

"1874 CUSTER
EXPEDITION:
150 YEARS OF
EXPLORATION,
SETTLEMENT AND EX-
PLOITATION"
June 14-15, Sturgis
Community Center

Edited by
Logan Lamphere

Third Dig Season May 13-24 at Bear Butte Creek Historic Preserve ... *Logan Lamphere*

Students from the University of South Dakota and Augustana University will be on site at the Bear Butte Creek Historic Preserve from May 13-24, 2024, continuing to "dig" on Soapsuds Row.

They will also begin a general survey of the entire property.

Dr. Tony Kruz from USD and Aaron Mayer from Augustana will lead this year's efforts. Dr. Kruz led students the first year

laying out the grid for our digs.

Aaron Mayer acted as crew chief for this past year's dig. Both are excited to be involved with our project and we are so fortunate to be involving so many college students.

Further processing, cleaning, and documentation will once again be at the Lamphere Ranch Campground nearby.

All are welcome to stop by and visit either location!



Volunteers at the 2023 Soapsuds Row archaeological dig. The dig will continue for its third season May 13-24 (Photo by Logan Lamphere)

2023 Dig Report Published

... *Logan Lamphere*

Dr. Linea Sundstrom has published her findings from last summer's archaeological dig on the Soapsuds Row area of the Bear Butte Creek Historic Preserve.

To read the full report, visit bbchp.org/portfolio/soapsuds-row/.

The project was funded through an Outside-Of-Deadwood grant from the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission, and was sponsored by the Bear Butte Creek Historic Preservation Council.

In summary, the project has sought to answer the following research questions about Fort Meade's Soapsuds Row:

1. Are intact ca. 1878 to 1910 deposits present?
2. What is the extent of fort-related archaeological remains?
3. What is the depth of culture-bearing sediment?
4. Are intact pre-contact (pre-fort) deposits present? What is their depth and horizontal extent?
5. Has the site been looted or otherwise disturbed? To what extent?
6. What, if anything, remains of the old Soapsuds Row?
7. Where were the laundress houses and outbuildings?
8. What were the houses made of?
9. Which ages, sexes, and ethnic groups were present at Soapsuds Row?
10. What activities took place at Soapsuds Row? Were the laundresses "ladies in every sense of the word" or catering to soldiers' vices?
11. What was the economic status of those living along Soapsuds Row?

Questions 1, 2, 5, and 6 were answered from the 2022 dig, but new questions arose that year:

1. What is the nature of the apparent structural feature? Do the logs indicate an intact log building of some sort or are they debris from fences? Does the feature represent an intact house or other building or does it represent a trash pile?

continued on next page

Wanted: History Days Booths

The Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society is seeking live and static booth displays for its annual History Days celebration on June 14-15, 2024, in Sturgis.

The annual History Days celebration will once again be at the Sturgis Community Center for 2024, with this year's tentative theme: "1874 Custer Expedition: 150 Years of Exploration, Settlement and Exploitation."

Tables are available free of charge for non-commercial displays of any local, regional and family history subject, including, for example, community histories, collections and appropriate school student history projects.



Mark Rambow gives a presentation on genealogy during a past History Days (Photo by Logan Lamphere)

Some of the early applicants for booths will be:

- Time Capsule items – Mark Rambow
- Maps of 1874 Black Hills Expedition – Logan Lamphere
- Gold Rush in the Black Hills – Vi Stoltz and Joan Bachmeier
- S&MCHS scrapbooks -- Joan Bachmeier
- History Below The Pines group, Spearfish – Dave Super
- "Where I'm From" collaboration between Sturgis Brown High School Academy students and Aspen Grove Assisted Living residents – Jim Holland
- West River History Conference
- Fort Meade Museum – Lee Stroschine

Contact S&MCHS board member Jim Holland at 605-484-7063, jbholland74@gmail.com, for more information on a booth display, or to reserve a space.

2023 Dig Report (cont'd)

2. Does the privy fill represent more than one episode of deposition?
3. Is the privy feature contemporaneous with the structural feature?
4. Does the hardened effluent feature pre-date the privy?
5. Can the age of the various features be narrowed down or expanded?
6. What explains the highly fractured and burned nature of the artifacts?

The results of the 2023 dig produced a number of features and artifacts. A “feature” is a collection of one or more contexts representing some human non-portable activity, such as a hearth or wall.

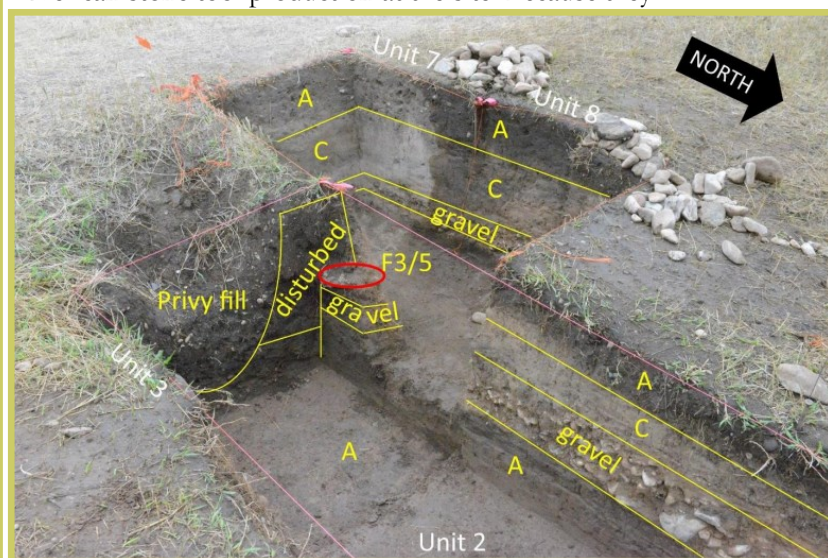
Three features found in 2022 were explored further in 2023. The first feature included a line of hardened effluent associated with ash, a gravel lens, cut mammal bone, and oxidized (burned) sandy soil. The second feature is a privy hole. The third feature is a concentration of household debris associated with several logs.

A new feature uncovered in 2023 is a vertical plank wall and an associated trench marking the back wall of a subsurface cellar or icehouse.

Artifacts included chipping stones, which indicate Native American stone tool production at the site. Because they



Planks from the log structure feature during 2023 dig.
(Photo by Logan Lamphere)



Privy feature excavation block showing stratigraphy and location of hardened effluent (red oval at center). (Photo from “Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season,” by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

were in the upper soil level, they may have been left just before or at the time of the cavalry post being established in 1878.

Sundstrom wrote, “Knapped glass artifacts from the 2022 excavations suggested that some of the chipped stone artifacts could be contemporaneous with the early cavalry post; however, nothing was found in 2023 to elucidate this possibility.”

Multiple types of ceramics, bottles, metal containers, buttons, nails and hardware were found, especially in the privy hole.

Other artifacts included a large piece of oil cloth, part of a honing (sharpening) stone, remains of a kitchen stove and pothook, military uniform elements, jewelry, tobacco related items

continued on next page

2023 Dig Report (cont'd)



Chow chow jar, oilcloth, and ash pan from stove in the log structure feature. (Photo from "Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season," by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

including an 1896 advertising pin, gun-related items and sewing items.



Aaron Mayer of Augustana University uses the "bucket method" for flotation in his laboratory study of the botanical remains found during the 2023 dig (Photo from "Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season," by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

There were also bones from pigs, domesticated turkeys, cattle and other unidentified mammals and birds.

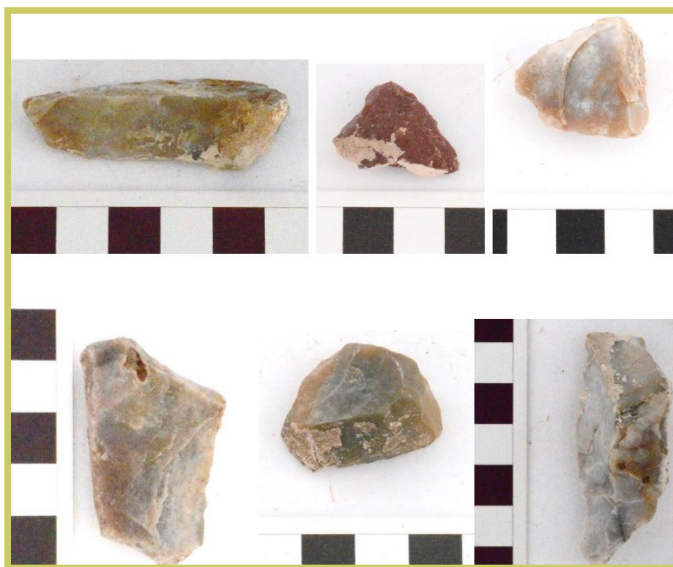
Human coprolites were also found in the privy, which afforded the opportunity to explore what plant foods were being consumed during the time the privy was in use, according to Sundstrom.

Aaron Mayer from Augustana University Archaeology is an expert in paleoethnobotany and the study of macrobotanicals. In addition to serving as crew chief during the 2023 dig, Mayer was able to conduct a study of the plant remains from the site.

From the report:

"The lone barley seed may have been accidentally incorporated into food or deliberately consumed. Plum and raspberry represent intentional additions to the diet, either from wild varieties gathered from near the site, where both are present today, or from canned, jarred, or dried (prunes) fruits. Another charred plum pit...was found in the privy fill in

2022. Fruit was important at frontier posts where scurvy remained a real threat during the nineteenth century. The debris deposit associated with the log structure contained a



Examples of chipped stone tools from 2023 dig. Upper row: expedient tool of chert, chert biface fragment, scraper; lower row: unifacially retouched flake and scraper fragment (Photo from "Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season," by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

single squash seed, which likely represents garden produce. The *Parenchyma* starchy tissue is from an unidentified tuber, possibly potato or wild Jerusalem artichoke or Indian turnip. The *Brassicaceae* seeds are from

continued on next page

2023 Dig Report (cont'd)



Top, collection of blue transferware sherds from 2023 dig and complete teacups in the Madras pattern (bottom). (Photo from “Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season,” by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

domesticated or wild mustard or from domesticated turnip. These may represent use of mustard seed in pickles, such as the chow chow represented by a bottle found in association with the log structure.”

There was also a fragment of oyster or clam shell, and several pieces of egg shell, which could have come from chickens or ducks.

A lard pail from the log structure feature suggests that the site’s inhabitants were purchasing, rather than rendering, lard by the turn of the century.

Overall, the dig has still not found any artifacts or datable materials from the Pre-Contact Era, but there are still layers below the area excavated that could eventually yield evidence of older human habitation.

Sundstrom concludes that “It appears that this area of the site witnessed at least two episodes of use between 1878 and 1910, as indicated by the age of artifacts related to the various features.”

Also noted was evidence of a fire at the log structure feature.

“The results of the 2022 and 2023 investigations confirm that this area of Fort Meade was used for family housing, particularly by laundresses, as the early maps show,” wrote Sundstrom. “The possible soap-making feature, if correctly identified, reflects the early days of the fort when it was slow and costly to import necessities. It appears that early laundry work at the fort relied on skilled workers who knew how to make soap from ashes and scrap bone. While animal bone and wood ash were abundant at the fort, it took a great deal of expertise to create detergents of the correct strength for the various fabrics laundresses washed.”

“Without pH test kits, it was easy to get the mix wrong, resulting either in a violent chemical reaction (soap volcano), failed soap, or soap too acidic or too caustic for its intended use,” wrote Sundstrom.

The current evidence supports the idea that the log structure was built over an earlier cellar or ice house.



Left, bottle embossed with a mortar and pestle design and “Theo Haas & Co, Druggists, Sturgis, So. Dak.”; right, bottle embossed with “Shiloh’s Consumption Cure” (Photo from “Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season,” by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

continued on next page

2023 Dig Report (cont'd)



Uniform button and enlisted man's jacket. (Photo from "Exploratory Investigations at Soapsuds Row, 2023 Field Season," by Dr. Linea Sundstrom)

Sundstrom concludes, "The debris itself is clearly from a domestic setting, as opposed to a military or industrial one. It strongly indicates a fairly prosperous household—one able to afford attractive dishes, a kitchen stove, and a few luxuries. This contrasts with the low quality of the house, which undoubtedly was erected hurriedly in the early days of the fort when housing was in short supply. The individual or family living there consumed beer, liquor, patent medicines, chewing tobacco, canned goods, desirable cuts of meat, domesticated turkey and chicken, eggs, and factory pickles. This household was able to purchase an oil cloth table- or floor-covering."

Using historic records from Fort Meade, Sundstrom theorizes that the log structure could have been home to one Rose Courtney.

Courtney had been given permission to live in one of the old log houses on November 26, 1907, by the post commander. She had worked for the 7th Cavalry for 37 years as a laundress and domestic servant, and was widowed. She would have been around the age of 60. There was a fire at her cabin in which Rose Courtney died. She is buried in the Old Post Cemetery.

In addition to other evidence, Sundstrom wrote that "Surprisingly for a site located in an area used to house families, no toys were found during our investigations. Rose and her husband had no children."

Fort Sidney, Nebraska and Cheyenne, Wyoming to the Black Hills, 1874-1880

... *Violet Stoltz*

In 1874, General George Custer and 1200 troops were sent to explore the Black Hills of the Dakota Territory. The military objective was to explore routes and locate sites for future military posts. However, the expedition was also to determine if the Hills contained gold deposits as it had been rumored.

It was hoped they could dispel the rumors in order to dissuade the white population from encroaching on Native American lands. Custer did little to dissuade any rumors, as he sent steady reports back to General Sheridan concerning the discovery of various precious metal deposits.

During 1874, thousands of freight wagons and stagecoaches passed to the Black Hills along the 267-mile Sidney-Black Hills Trail. The route first supplied the Sioux and Red Cloud Agency on the White River and the troops at adjacent Camp Robinson as well as Fort Sidney. The southern terminus of the trail was at Sidney, Nebraska, on the Union Pacific Railroad. People would or could ride the train to Sidney, then go forward into Dakota by stagecoach or wagon train.



A stagecoach from Sidney, Nebraska (Photo from the Nebraska State Historical Society)

With the discovery of gold in the Black Hills, the trail soon gained new importance. Until 1880, much of the freight for these mining camps was shipped from Omaha to Sidney and into the Black Hills over this route. The peak 1878-1879 trade was estimated at more the 22,000,000 pounds. Within two

continued on next page

Sidney-Black Hills Trail (cont'd)



Loaded with passengers, the Sidney-Deadwood Stage paused near Rapid City's Florman Block in 1880.

(Photo from the Nebraska State Historical Society)

years, the trail had been extended to Deadwood and other settlements in the Black Hills.

Cost to Travel and Freight Costs

Prices did have some effect on the travelers. Some could not afford the more comfortable \$25 stagecoach ticket so purchased a ticket for \$15 to ride with a mule train or \$10 for a slower moving bull train.

By one means or another, 50 to 80 people and 50 to 75 freight wagons usually left Sidney on a daily basis, bound for the Black Hills. They, of course, had to come through Sturgis. A few unfortunate prospectors returned to Sturgis and other towns to farm, raise cattle, or occasionally open a business for residents and travelers.

Cheyenne, Wyoming, to the Black Hills

The popularity of the Cheyenne, Wyoming, trail to the

Black Hills was also established because of the Union Pacific Railroad. Cheyenne got an early boost when the government built a bridge that spanned the North Platte River at Ft. Laramie, so the railroad was not delayed because of spring flooding. Several of the new freighting firms moved from Sidney in 1889 because of the shorter, safer, and more profitable route.

After the gold rush, Sidney depended on the farmers and also became the center of the cattle industry. In 1949, the first successful oil well in western Nebraska was drilled north of Sidney and oil became a factor in the local economy.

Other routes were established in 1877 as the railroads came through North Dakota and finally into eastern South Dakota; however, railroads were not extended into the Hills until later.

INFO WANTED: *S&MCHS Board Member Betty Jo Huff is putting together school memories to share in future newsletters. If you have stories or information to share, please contact Betty Jo at huff1227@gmail.com.*

135 Years of History: Meade County, Sturgis Volunteers to Work on Cataloging Historical Items...*By Wendy Pitlick, Black Hills Pioneer*

(Editor's note—this story was first published on February 1, 2024, in the Black Hills Pioneer, and is reprinted here with permission.)

A small tin box that has been weathered by more than 100 years contains business cards, handwritten descriptions, financial statements, and other historical records from the creation of Meade County in 1889.



Kevin Forrester holds original plans for the Meade County Erskine Building, which was built as a school and then remodeled into county offices. (Photo by Wendy Pitlick)

The box is among mounds of large maps of plans for a railroad from Sturgis to Fort Pierre that was never built, maps for the county courthouse construction in 1894, plans for the Erskine school construction, and countless photographs, newspaper articles, and records.

Overall, there are hundreds of tiny little pieces of history, spanning 135 years of business in Meade County, which members of the Sturgis and Meade County Historical Society and the Sturgis Arts Council will join together to catalog and figure out a way to create a public display for the abundance of history. The items come from two time capsules that were discovered in two separate places. Former Meade County Facilities Manager Kevin Forrester found the first one inside the model of the original county courthouse, when he was cleaning it for display at a historical presentation. The second



Several hand-written notes, financial records and other forms of historical documentation are included in the 1894 time capsule. (Photo by Wendy Pitlick)

was discovered in the cornerstone of the original courthouse. The unveiling of the time capsule items occurred about eight years ago, with the intent of immediately getting to work cataloging items and finding a way to store them. But due to life events and other circumstances, the project did not get completed before Forrester retired from his job with the county. Last week, Forrester and members of the Sturgis Meade County Historical Society, and the Sturgis Arts Council, approached the Meade County Commission to ask permission to start removing items from the vault for cataloging into a digital software coding system for museum archives.

The effort also involves working on a plan to display some of the time capsule items at the

continued on next page

Time Capsule (cont'd)

courthouse and in other county buildings. The Sturgis Meade County Historical Society does not currently have its own building to store or display items of significance.

“As we go forward there are items that not only maybe we need to look at a time capsule placement of, but maybe it fits into the historical group’s mission of trying to create a more local museum as well,” Forrester said. “There is a gold shovel that has all the county commissioners’ names on it from the time they broke ground in the courthouse in the

1960s. There are a lot of interesting items, and it seems like this group is 100 percent the best choice for the commission to partner with to facilitate the next steps.”

One of the items in the time capsule that is no longer part of the collection is the Poker Alice trial transcript. Forrester said when they discovered that documentation, historical society member Fourth Circuit Court Judge Jerome Eckrich and others, contacted the Unified Judicial System, which took the transcript to be included as part of its records.



Kevin Forrester (left) and Mark Rambow examine original plans for the Erskine building that were found in county vaults recently. (Photos by Wendy Pitlick)



Richard Moeller, *member* [sic] of the Sturgis Arts Council, which presents a monthly program entitled “History at High Noon” at the Sturgis Library, proposed presenting the time capsule items at the group’s next available presentation, March 15. Additionally, Forrester said the group has even more items of historical significance to share that were not in the original time capsules, which were found when Meade County offices were moved from the courthouse to the Erskine building.

“Here is a drawing of a railroad that was supposed to go from Sturgis to Fort Pierre,” Forrester said. “It was never built, except for one five-span bridge over the Cheyenne River, south of Howes. Haakon County uses that as a county bridge today. It’s amazing. It’s only about 10 minutes south of Howes.”

During the March presentation, Forrester said the group will also take public input about items to include in the next time capsule that would document more recent Meade County history, to be opened in 50 years.

Once all of the historical items have been cataloged, and the new time capsule created, Forrester said all of the historical treasures will be re-interred in a specially designated place and sealed with a lead glass window, in June. This time, the time capsule will include a plaque, with instructions to open it all again in 50 years.

“We have the capacity to scan things and photograph things and put them on thumb drives to put in there,” said Rambow. “Technology being

continued on next page

Time Capsule (cont'd)

what it is, they might look at it and say ‘what the heck is this?’ I think as we’re getting things prepared and photographed, we can come up with a digital document of some sort that says ‘this is what’s in here.’”



A small tin box found as part of a time capsule contains business cards, historical documents, and hand written descriptions of life when Meade County was established in 1894. (Photo by Wendy Pitlick)

Overall, Rambow, Forrester and Moeller said they are looking forward to working with the county to do this part of documenting Meade County’s 135 years of history, and setting aside items of significance for the county’s future residents and leaders.

(Editor’s note—you can watch the opening of the time capsule in 2016 on our YouTube channel:

[youtube.com/watch?v=cB_FsOxUt8I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cB_FsOxUt8I))

Check us out Online!

Join the Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society conversation online in these places:



Website: SturgisHistory.org



YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/@sturgishistory](https://www.youtube.com/@sturgishistory)



Facebook Community:

facebook.com/sturgishistory.org



Another helpful Facebook group is

History of Sturgis & Meade County, SD:

facebook.com/groups/sturgishistorypage



Instagram: [instagram.com/sturgishistory](https://www.instagram.com/sturgishistory)

#sturgishistory

The Love? Story of Marcus Baird and his Already Married Wife

... *Lee Stroschine*

Marcus M. Baird was born in Ohio and moved to

Indiana as a child. Baird served in the Civil War with the 42nd and 87th Indiana Infantry. He married Maria Filley in 1867 in Indiana and moved his family to Dakota Territory in 1879.



Marcus Baird (Photo courtesy Terry Arpan)

The 1880 census has them living on Spring Creek and the Belle Fourche River in Lawrence (later to be Meade) County. Marcus’s occupation was that of a farmer. His wife, Maria, died in 1903 and on December 3, 1904, Baird, age 57, of Sturgis married Mary Perkins, age 37, of Denver, Colorado.

As it turns out, Mary was already married to another man, James L. Wilson. Mary and James married in 1902 in California. James L. “Baldy” Wilson was a soldier in the 1st Cavalry at the time, and it was against military regulations for him to marry, so he used an assumed name.

Baldy re-enlisted in the 6th Cavalry in November 1902, and was stationed at Ft. Meade. On

continued on next page

Marcus Baird (cont'd)

November 24, 1905, Baldy was discharged from the cavalry at Ft. Meade and decided to return to Pennsylvania where he was from.

On November 21, 1905, Mary Baird boarded the train in Lead with her husband, Marcus, thinking she was headed to Denver to visit a sick sister or possibly to Kansas (newspapers state two different destinations). In Alliance, Nebraska, Mary Baird met Baldy Wilson, who was taking the train home.

Whether it was a planned meeting or accidental will never be known. Baldy stated that it was a chance occurrence. Marcus learned that his wife was not on her way to Denver and was already married. Marcus had the sheriff telegraph the Lincoln police to arrest them and hold them until he could arrive from Meade County.

Mary and Baldy were arrested in Lincoln, Nebraska, after arriving on the train to Pennsylvania and were held in jail awaiting the sheriff's arrival. Marcus and a deputy sheriff (or Sheriff Brown, depending on differing newspaper accounts) from Meade County headed there.

Mrs. Baird was closely questioned by local officials and at first declared she would not return to her South Dakota home nor live again with Mr. Baird. Later she and Baird were brought together in Chief Cooper's office and a reconciliation took place after considerable weeping on the part of Mrs. Baird, and she promised to return.

Both Mary and Baldy were released from jail with no charges against them. Mary boarded the train and headed to Kansas to visit family and Baldy continued on to Pennsylvania.

However, the reconciliation did not last. On April 24, 1906, the marriage was legally voided or annulled.

Mary admitted that she was married to two men and feared she would go to the penitentiary. Marcus stated to the court that "he wants to get a release from hereof any claim on my property." Marcus remained unmarried the rest of his life.

Whether Mary and Baldy reunited or not is a mystery lost to history.

History at High Noon: Meade County Time Capsule; Poker Alice; Walker Family ... *Richard Moeller*

The March 15 History at High Noon will be on the Meade County Time Capsule. This program will present items from the time capsule discovered in 2016 along with items to possibly be placed in a new capsule. It will be a unique partnership between the Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis and Meade County Historical Society.



Peg Aplan will be doing a program on Poker Alice for our April 19 program. Finishing out the 2023-2024 season, Janeen Walker and Beth Walker will do a Walker Family History on May 17.

History at High Noon is a program on the third Friday of the month (October and November, January through May). We meet at noon in the Community Room of the Sturgis Public Library. It is sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council.

We are always looking for ideas. If you would like to tell your family's history or have something history-based, please contact Richard Moeller (running2win@gmail.com, 605-939-3789), Ross Lamphere (rosslamphere@gmail.com), 605-490-3110), or Diana Hayes (605-347-3007).

To learn more, visit sturgisarts.org or [youtube.com/@sturgispubliclibrary](https://www.youtube.com/@sturgispubliclibrary).

Help us Identify Bob Lee Photos

The Bob Lee Photo Collection, thousands of photo negatives taken by the late Bob Lee during his many years with the local paper, was generously donated by his wife, Dodi Lee. The photos range, primarily, from the late 1950s through the mid 1970s.

Please help us out! We would love to have any information or memories of these sample photos.

Send comments to Mark Rambow at mark@sturgishistory.org.



#94 - Sturgis Livestock Exchange



#313 - Bear Butte Lake pool

Message from the President's Desk—Thank You Donors

...*Mark Rambow*

It has been an active winter for the Historical Society, and we have a busy spring ahead of us!

The Genealogy Work Group has been meeting our usual time, the first Saturday of the month. We have had some great groups and topics in 2024! We have discussed the resources available at the Sturgis Public Library, learned how to maximize the FamilySearch website, and discussed using military records.

Coming up, we will be discussing researching our immigrant ancestors on April 6, how to use and interpret graves and headstones on May 4, and hope to make a field trip to the cemetery on June 1!

We will again be taking July and August off, resuming the Genealogy Work Group for the fall on September 7!

We are also preparing for this summer's "History Days." It will be held on June 14 and 15 at the Community Center,

with a theme of "1874 Custer Expedition: 150 Years of Exploration, Settlement, and Exploitation."

In addition to fantastic speakers and booths, we will also be viewing all of the materials which will be included when the county time capsule is reinterred at the Erskine building during the Saturday portion of the History Days activities.

If anyone is interested in attending or assisting with any of the Historical Society activities or collections, please reach out!

Thank you!

Mark Rambow,
President



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Friday, March 15 — HISTORY AT HIGH NOON

"Meade County Time Capsule," Sturgis Public Library, sponsored by SAAC.

This program will present items from the time capsule discovered in 2016 along with items to possibly be placed in a new capsule.

Tuesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m. — MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Zoom/Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce

Saturday, April 6, 1:00 p.m. — GENEALOGY WORK GROUP, Sturgis Public Library

Saturday, April 13, 1:00 p.m.—SCOOP OF HISTORY: In Nazi hands, The POW Experience of Sturgis' 109 Engineers, by Mark Rambow, Sturgis Public Library

Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m. — MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Zoom/Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce

Friday, April 19 — HISTORY AT HIGH NOON

"Poker Alice," Sturgis Public Library, sponsored by SAAC.

Peg Aplan will be doing a program on Poker Alice.

Friday, May 17 — HISTORY AT HIGH NOON

"Walker Family History," Sturgis Public Library, sponsored by SAAC.

Janeen Walker and Beth Walker will present the Walker Family History.

We Rely on You for Your Membership Dues

Remember, membership is due annually according to the month in which you joined. Options for paying your dues include:

- a) fill out the membership form below and drop it off at the membership table in the City Auditorium during History Days. We will accept your check or credit card;
- b) fill out the membership form below and mail it with your check to the address listed on the form; or
- c) go online to the Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society website at SturgisHistory.org, and click on *Membership and Donations*—> *Membership*, fill out the membership form (renewing members must also fill out a new form), and make your payment through PayPal using your credit card.



If you have any questions, please contact Membership Chair Richard Moeller at running2win@gmail.com or (605) 939-3789.

We appreciate all your support and contributions to the Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society, and we hope you are enjoying your membership!

STURGIS & MEADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Our goal is to preserve, protect and promote the history of Sturgis and Meade County. We cannot do this alone ... this is done through memberships, sponsorships and donations. The Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Therefore, sponsorships and donations are tax-deductible; membership dues are not tax deductible.

Registration Information

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership Level Desired

_____ Individual: \$25.00

_____ Family: \$35.00

_____ Student: \$15.00

_____ Business Sponsorship: \$250.00

_____ Life Membership: \$5,000.00

Please send this form, accompanied by a check for your membership, to:

Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society
P.O. Box 221
Sturgis, SD 57785

You may also register, pay dues, and donate online with a credit card or PayPal at: www.SturgisHistory.org

STURGIS & MEADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 221, Sturgis, SD 57785

Board Officers

Mark Rambow, President,
mark@sturgishistory.org

Ross Lamphere, Vice President

Jim Holland, Secretary

Janice Lundgren, Treasurer

Joan Bachmeier, Historian

On Line

Website:

www.sturgishistory.org

YouTube:

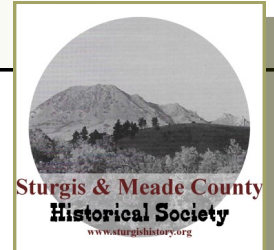
youtube.com/@sturgishistory

Instagram:

instagram.com/sturgishistory

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/sturgishistory.org



OUR SPONSORS

City of Sturgis

Oasis Bar & Fireside Lounge

KBHB Radio

The HomeSlice Group

Meade County Commission

THANK YOU!

Sturgis & Meade County Historical Society

P. O. Box 221

Sturgis, SD 57785

"History is who we are and why we are the way we are."

—David McCullough