



# HISTORY PAGES

January, 2024

## Mission

Work through education and advocacy to recognize, preserve and revitalize the historic, architectural and cultural resources of Minnehaha County.

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### Board of Directors Meeting

Second Thursday of the month from September to May

11:30 AM—Old Courthouse Museum

200 W. 6th Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Telephone: 605/951-9200

Email: info@minnehahahistory.org



[www.facebook.com/MinnehahaCounty  
Historical Society](http://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaCountyHistoricalSociety)

## JANUARY: THE HISTORY OF ROCK AND ROLL IN SOUTH DAKOTA



(l-r) Brian Wheeler, John Mogen and Michael Cornette

The January 18 History Talk entitled, *The History of Rock and Roll in South Dakota* will be presented by Brian Wheeler, John Mogen and Michael Cornette.

Michael Cornette currently serves as President of the

South Dakota Rock and Roll Music Association. A Yankton native, this life-long music fan is the General Sales Manager for Dakota News Now.

Brian Wheeler, a Huron kid, has played guitar for sixty years. He has been inducted

into the SD Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with three bands. He served as President prior to Mr. Cornette.

John Mogen's band, Mogen's Heroes, has played for more than 45 years. He plays piano, teaches piano lessons, and taught vocal music for 34 years in South Dakota. He's been inducted four times.



Join us:  
Thursday,  
January 18  
at the Old  
Courthouse  
Museum.

Social hour  
begins at  
6:30 PM and  
program  
starts at 7.



## FEBRUARY: HOW LATE 1800 & EARLY 1900 SYRIAN IMMIGRATION INFLUENCED THE SIOUX FALLS COMMUNITY WITH SAM OGDIE

The February, 15 History Talk entitled, *How Late 1800 & Early 1900 Syrian Immigration Influenced the Sioux Falls Community* presented by Sam Ogdie at the Old Courthouse Museum.

Sam Ogdie is of Syrian descent and says

the stories of Syrian Muslims in Sioux Falls in the late 1800's is little known. His talk will explore how Syrian Muslims went from peddlers to grocers. He will do this by using stories from his Syrian grandparents and research from the book, *Muslims in the*

*Heartland*, written by Dr. Edward Curtis.

Mr. Ogdie, an Augustana University graduate has taught in Eastern Iowa, Guam, O'Gorman High School and Augustana University where he is currently a Professor Emeritus.

Join us: Thursday,  
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## Do You Know About The MCHS Endowment Fund?

The Minnehaha County Historical Society has an endowment fund that supports the study, preservation and permanent marking of history of Minnehaha County.



The fund is managed by the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation which was founded in 1984, and is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Today, they manage more than 1,000 charitable funds, including the MCHS Endowment.

If you would like to make a gift to the MCHS Endowment fund:

1. Go online: [www.sfacf.org](http://www.sfacf.org)
2. Click on "Give on Line" button and click on "Search for a Fund" button
3. Fill in the keyword search box with the word "Minnehaha"
4. Select Minnehaha County Historical Society Endowment
5. Click donate now.



[www.facebook.com/MinnehahaCountyHistorical Society](http://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaCountyHistoricalSociety)



<https://www.youtube.com/@minnehahacountyhistoricals584>

## SOUTH DAKOTA'S ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME BY BRIAN WHEELER



The mission of the South Dakota Rock and Roll Music Association is to honor the musicians, bands, promoters, booking agents and venues that helped to shape decades of Rock and Roll in South Dakota.

Showcasing these achievements is possible, in part, through our Hall of Fame display at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls, SD.

This display serves to preserve and celebrate the rich heritage of Rock and Roll in our State. Visitors to the display will find a variety of instruments used by the bands plus a pictorial look back to some of the individuals and bands that traveled many miles every week to perform at some of the most iconic dance halls in the area. In addition, the display features an interactive video display where visitors can capture more details on who these bands were and what made a particular dance hall so special. It becomes a journey through time, reliving the memories and exploring the evolution of Rock and Roll in South Dakota.

Our display seeks to foster a sense of pride, to enhance and expand the history of how the vibrant music scene in South Dakota

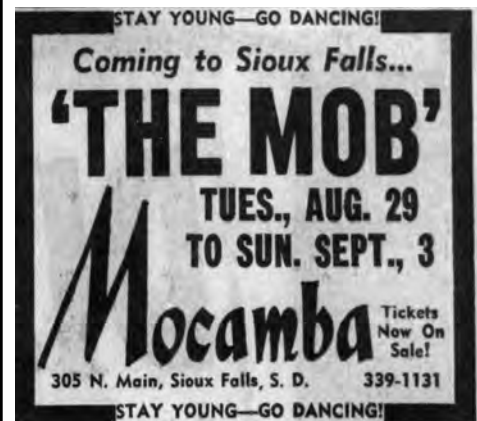
emerged and continues to make a connection to an audience interested in the history of Rock and Roll.



### The Mocamba Club

The Mocamba Club in Sioux Falls was one of the premier nightclubs in the Midwest. The Mocamba ran bands seven nights a week. Live music is what gave the Mocamba its reputation.

The first band hired in 1969 was the Big Thing. Owner Bud Brown found the band playing in another Sioux Falls club and hired them away. The Big Thing became Chicago Transit Authority, and later, Chicago. National acts included the big bands of Buddy Rich, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Maynard Ferguson, Wood Herman, Don Ellis and Chase.



When local bands got the chance to play the Mocamba it meant that they had arrived to the "big time". Owner Bud Brown was very picky about his bands and they had to be extremely professional and talented. If you didn't have both, you didn't play at the Mocamba.

(Text from SD R&R Hall of Fame display)



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES

The success of our mission and the quality of our programs is directly related to the generosity of our volunteers. Our organization would be nothing without the many who step up and help. If you chose to join the ranks of MCHS volunteers you will be rewarded with others who share similar interests in Minnehaha County History...and have lots of fun.

If you're curious about the many opportunities available, either email us at [info@minnehahahistory.org](mailto:info@minnehahahistory.org) or call at 605/951-9200 to find out more.

### January is Dues Renewal Month

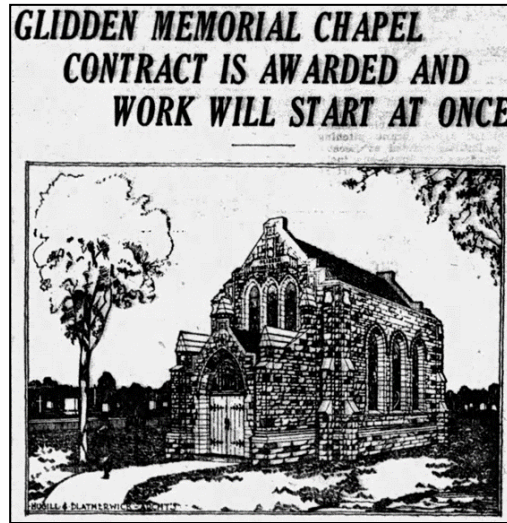
The beginning of a new year is a new budget year for MCHS. Funding for MCHS is primarily through membership dues. Our By Laws state dues for the year to be payable annually in January.

For your payment convenience use the form to the right and submit to the MCHS office. Credit card payment is available, call the MCHS office at 605/951-9200.

Thank you for renewing your membership and funding MCHS for the new year.



## GLIDDEN MEMORIAL CHAPEL AT MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY: BY LOCAL LOU



Located within the gates of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery is a Sioux quartzite building that is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the Glidden Memorial Chapel named for Daniel and Josephine Glidden.

Daniel and Josephine moved to Sioux Falls in 1878. They would end up spending the rest of their years together here with Daniel dying in 1920 and Josephine in 1921.

In life they were strong members of the community belonging to many organizations. In death Josephine left a bequest of \$13,000 to build a chapel

and receiving vault at Mt Pleasant Cemetery.

It would take several years to get the 22 foot by 42 foot Glidden Memorial Chapel built due to access to the money that had been left for the chapel.

In December of 1924 the first body is held in the receiving. Eventually it falls into disrepair and even starts to be used as a maintenance shed. Currently the cemetery is fundraising for chapel repairs so it can be around for another 100 years.

Donations can be made at [MtPleasantSiouxFalls.com](http://MtPleasantSiouxFalls.com)



Check out the Local Lou Podcast and watch her on "Throwback Thursday" every Thursday on Dakota News Now.



<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/local-lou>

To join or renew membership, mail completed form and payment to: Minnehaha County Historical Society - 200 W 6th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(phone & Emails are not shared)

Circle:    New                    Renewing                    Gift

\$500 Benefactor    \$250 Sustaining    \$100 Supporting    \$50 Household    \$35 Individual



Minnehaha County  
Historical Society

200 W. 6th Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

January, 2024  
History Pages & History Talk  
sponsored by:



## DR. BUCKLIN REVIEWS THE REBUILDING OF SD RAILROADS LED BY GOVERNOR JANKLOW



Former USD History Professor, Dr. Steven Bucklin speaks at December History Talk

The December 21 History Talk *Working on the Railroad: A History of the South Dakota Core Rail System* was presented by Dr. Steven Bucklin at the Old Courthouse Museum. Dr. Bucklin focused on former South Dakota

Governor Bill Janklow's decision to have the state purchase rail lines.

Those efforts helped rebuild South Dakota's core rail lines to its current size of 1,964.7 miles.

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