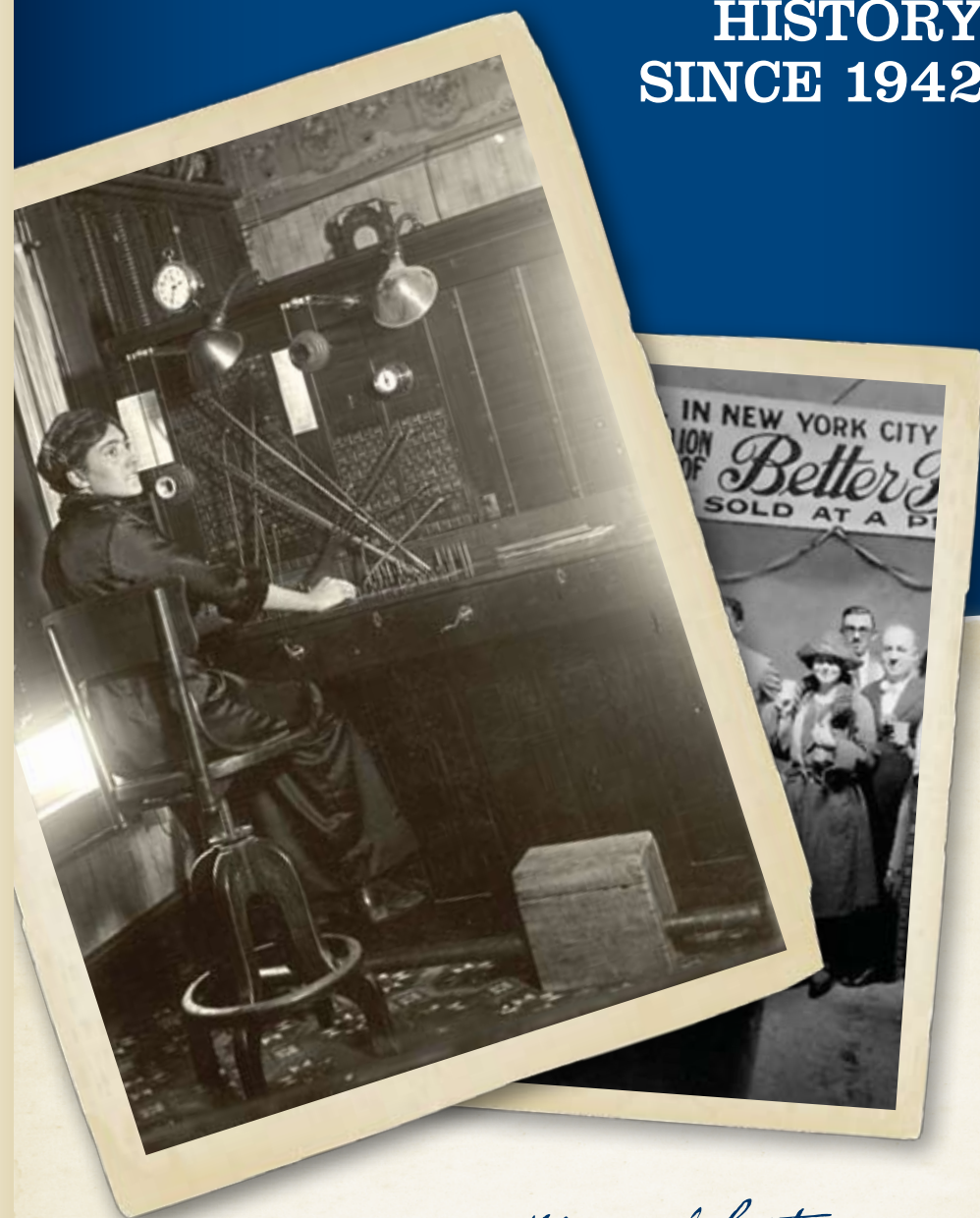


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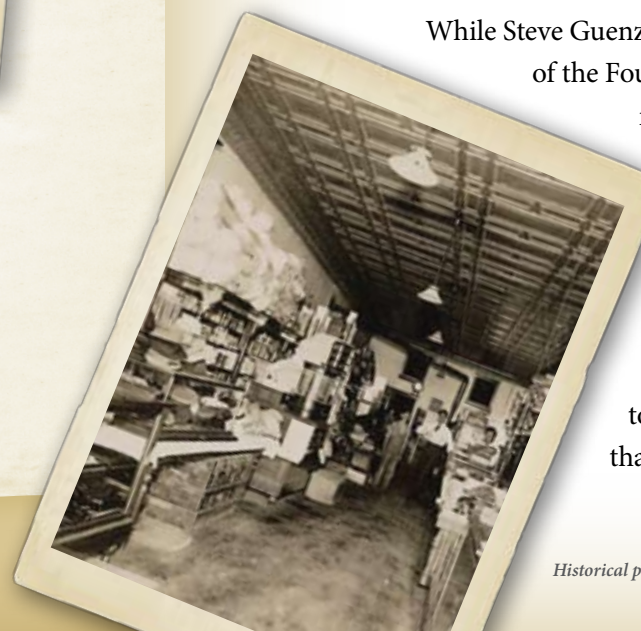
# Connecting People

with **NEBRASKA HISTORY SINCE 1942**



*Nebraska State Historical Society*  
**FOUNDATION**

**2010 ANNUAL REPORT**



*Historical photos from the photographic collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society.*

## Letter from Foundation President

During the past year, THE NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION continued to focus on its mission and develop resources that helped to focus on its core capabilities. The Foundation was pleased when Meg Kester transitioned from “acting” to Executive Director. Through Meg’s efforts the Foundation has positioned itself to enhance the Nebraska State Historical Society’s ability to assure that Nebraska’s history continues to be accessible to future generations.

This year’s annual meeting proved informative and afforded the Foundation with an opportunity to recognize those officers and board members that were leaving. A special debt of gratitude goes to our retiring members of the Board of Directors, James Creigh of Omaha and John Dittman of Lincoln. Both of them were generous with their time and provided the Foundation with strong leadership. Joining the Board is Andrew “Skip” Hove of Lincoln, whose insights have already proven of great value as the Foundation seeks to provide much needed resources for the Nebraska State Historical Society. Retiring as Trustees were Jon Camp, Sally Desmond, and James Weesner of Lincoln, Kim Davis of Omaha, Ken Krohn of Neligh, Joan Phillips of Bridgeport, and Adrian Smith of Scottsbluff. During each’s tenure the Foundation benefitted from their counsel. At the same time we welcome new Trustees Gretchen Garcia and Nelle Woods Jamison of Lincoln, Steve Herman of Curtis, Keith Heuermann of Phillips, Jack Klosterman of David City, Robbie Lonewolf of Walthill, Walt Sehnert of McCook, John Steinheider of Omaha, Jean Vincent of York, and Jeff Wightman of Lexington. I’m confident that they will continue the strong legacy of their predecessors.

This past year saw the Foundation lose three outstanding Trustees: Grace Carmody of Trenton, Richard Hammer of Lincoln, and Ross Rasmussen of Fremont. Their contributions will be missed, but let there be no doubt that their legacies live on.

While Steve Guenzel concluded his term as President of the Foundation, he has graciously agreed to remain on the Foundation’s Board and Executive Committee. Steve’s tenure as President was marked by the resolution of several difficult issues and by the streamlining of many of the Foundation’s processes. We are indeed fortunate that Steve remains on the Board to share his counsel as we tackle the issues that the future presents.

In past years the Foundation administered the membership for the Nebraska State Historical Society. That process has now changed, with the Nebraska State Historical Society assuming responsibility for administering and maintaining its own membership and collection of membership dues. Hopefully, this will alleviate some confusion that may exist and allow donations for the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation to be made directly to the Foundation to further its mission.

The Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center is one of the resources that helps preserve Nebraska history and heritage and is a facility that the Foundation helps support. Partial support of the Ford Conservation Center comes from gifts and bequests from Omaha businessman James M. Paxson to the Foundation. The Ford Conservation Center houses state-of-the-art technical laboratories for the examination, evaluation, and specialized conservation treatment of art and antiquities. Kenneth Bé has assumed the position of Paintings Conservator at the Conservation Laboratory which provides leadership in this important area of preservation.

It is exciting to know that the Foundation is assisting with attempts to raise nearly \$1.2 million for the Nebraska State Historical Society so that additional land surrounding Chimney Rock in the Nebraska Panhandle can be purchased to maintain a buffer around that great, historical landmark. Add to this the other ongoing fund-raising efforts and preservation activities that the Foundation is pursuing and you can see that our plate remains full with worthwhile projects.

I’m honored to serve as President of the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation. I appreciate the outstanding support that the Foundation receives from across our great State. Thanks to all who have provided support to the Foundation and I look forward to an exciting year as together we work to preserve Nebraska’s rich heritage for future generations.

*Carol A. Zink*

**Carol A. Zink, President**

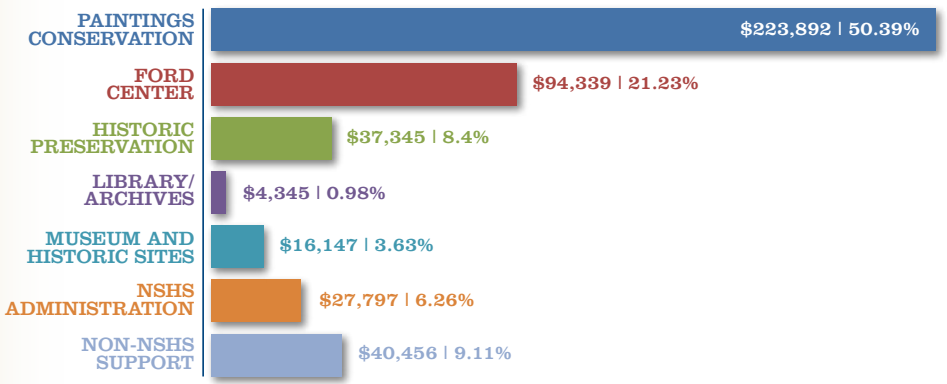
Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation





## Foundation Funds Released 2009-2010

The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation supports a range of activities whose aim is to increase knowledge and appreciation for Nebraska's unique heritage which includes, but is not limited to, the projects and programs of the Nebraska State Historical Society.



Society Support: \$403,865  
Non-Society Support: \$40,456      **TOTAL: \$444,321**

### AREAS OF SUPPORT:

The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation has the privilege of supporting Nebraska history in a variety of ways: resources made possible by endowed and invested funds, direct donor gifts, recently unrestricted funds, and absorbing into our operating budget those items and events that would not otherwise be possible without private support.

Funds for **PAINTINGS CONSERVATION** provided for full-time staffing, the purchase of lab equipment, supplies and necessary upgrades to the HVAC system for the Paintings Conservation Laboratory.

The **GERALD R. FORD CONSERVATION CENTER** received funding for a full-time conservation assistant, restoration and conservation of the Native American collection, upgrades to the HVAC system and other miscellaneous conservation expenses.

The **HISTORIC PRESERVATION** Division received funding in support of the Heritage Nebraska Conference. In addition, the Foundation was able to release \$36,000 of previously restricted funding to support future projects and programs of the Historic Preservation Division.

The **LIBRARY/ARCHIVES** Division received assistance from the Foundation for a variety of projects ranging from digitization of the photo collections, rebinding books and periodicals, and purchasing items for the Library/Archives collection housed at the newly renovated NSHS Headquarters building.

The **MUSEUM/HISTORIC SITES** Division received funding to advance and promote museums and historic landmarks across the state. Funds were used to maintain the Ethel S. Abbott Visitor Center at Chimney Rock; to support the New Deal Art exhibit opening and the October Ghost Ballad performance at the Nebraska History Museum as well as acquiring Nebraska artifacts to enhance the NSHS collection and educate visitors.

**NSHS ADMINISTRATION** funding makes possible the advancement of Nebraska History that restricted budgets are unable to support. The Foundation was able to support a portion of the NSHS Awards with grants to individuals who have championed Nebraska history in their own way, condolences and congratulations to employees, as well as covering expenses for history-related conferences and retreats.

**NON-NSHS SUPPORT** dollars are dedicated to Foundation property expenses, those non-NSHS organizations that have endowments managed by the NSHS Foundation, as well as a series of scholarships for Nebraska students that are made available each year.

## Acknowledging Donors

**Stewards of Nebraska History**  
Perpetually recognizes individuals and organizations for generous gift leadership totaling \$50,000 or more, including contributions of cash and property made during or after lifetime or a commitment for future support at this level.

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**Guardians Of Nebraska History**  
Perpetually recognizes individuals and organizations for generous gift leadership totaling \$10,000 to \$49,999, including contributions of cash and property made during or after lifetime or a commitment for future support at this level.

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When a gift is made in someone's memory, the next of kin is notified and the funds are administered as specified by the donor. We consider it a great privilege to be a part of honoring and remembering your loved ones through the gift process.

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