

# HUNTLEY PROJECT MUSEUM

OF IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE

Spring 2014

Issue No. 1

[www.huntleyprojectmuseum.org](http://www.huntleyprojectmuseum.org)

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## What's Happening at the Museum in 2014?

Committed to preserving, interpreting, and sharing the human history of the geographic area known as the Huntley Project.

### MEET OUR NEW DIRECTOR

Spring has sprung! It's been a long cold winter, but I think we've turned a corner. The birds are chirping, the grass is growing and there is water in the canal once again.

Spring is bringing many changes and a fresh new outlook to the museum. One of the changes is a new director! After serving the community and the museum, Melissa has moved on to take the Community Development Coordinator position in Tioga, North Dakota. I'm sure she will do a great job there as she did here.

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### LEARN AT THE MUSEUM!

The museum is not just a place for artifacts and preserving anymore! We have started offering monthly workshops to serve our community.

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*The main museum building*



*Artifacts at the museum.*



*Neal Gunnels: Museum Director*

Spring has sprung at the Huntley Project Museum!

Come and see us!

## Meet Our Director

Hello! I'm your new Director! My name is Neal Gunnels and I grew up on the Project. I'm a 1987 graduate of Huntley Project High School. My parents, Ralph and Shirley Gunnels, were proud members of the Huntley Project Community and are now deceased. I have two children, Erik: 16 and Hanna: 14.

I hold a BS in Business Administration from Eastern Montana College and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Montana State University - Billings.

My background in Business Administration and Education give me the tools to continue to grow the museum and bring even more resources to the community.

Come and visit me at the museum! I love to hear your stories and reminisce about life on the Huntley Project.



Neal & Hanna Gunnels

## Learn at the Museum



Workshops include watercolor painting, pastels, bird watching, and a variety of science and history workshops.

Other new endeavors include community displays including handmade quilts and woodwork!



In addition, we have set up a living display which includes chickens, a garden, a working wheat field and the irrigation canal.

Call the museum at 348-2533 to register or find out more about current events.

## Upcoming Events!

Annual Meeting - May 31st

Wood Working Show - June 6-7

Homesteader Days - July 11-12

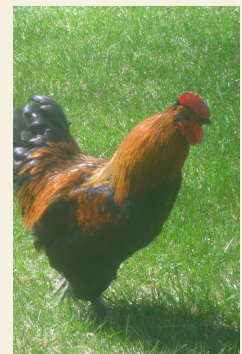
Clark's Days - August 2-3

Threshing Bee - August 16-17

Neal Gunnels & his camera-shy daughter, Hanna on a summer nature trip.

Far Left: Students dissect owl pellets during our *All About Owls Workshop* in March.

Left and Bottom: Our newest resident chickens.



## Volunteers Welcome!

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

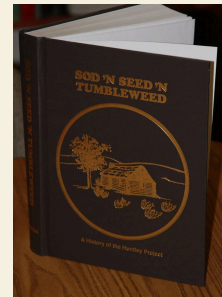
We are always looking for new volunteers! Volunteering at the Huntley Project Museum is a rewarding and enriching experience. Learn while you're helping the community!

There are a lot of opportunities available. We need docents, greeters, laborers, data entry people, artifact caretakers, teachers and planning help! If you are interested, please contact the museum at 348-2533.

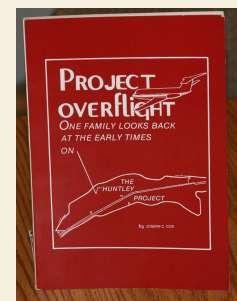


### Give the Gift of Knowledge!

We have a number of items for sale at the museum, including two books about local history.



**Sod 'N Seed 'N Tumbleweed:** Sod Seed 'N Tumbleweed is a beautifully bound book about the history of the Huntley Project, irrigated agriculture in the region and includes many family bios. A MUST HAVE if your family is from Huntley Project or if you have an interest in farming or irrigation history. Makes a great gift!



**Project Overflight:** This is a very well written book about early homesteader life. This book is a good first hand account of day to day life of a homestead family.

## Become a Member of the Huntley Project Historical Society Today!

Huntley Project Museum belongs to the community and we need your support. One way to show support is to join the Huntley Project Historical Society. Your membership includes many benefits like

discounts on workshops and merchandise in the gift shop! It also helps the museum financially. Fill out the attached form and become a member today!

## Artifacts & Information NEEDED!

We are currently looking for artifacts and information regarding the CCC camp (1930's) and POW camps (1940's) that were on the Huntley Project.

worked the beet fields on the Project. *(Artifacts or information from any time period are welcome!)*

We are also looking for information and artifacts about the migrant workers that

If you have artifacts relevant to this period or would like to share stories please contact us at the museum!

## Progress is Happening!

### HAVE YOU SEEN OUR HISTORICAL TOWN SITE?

The historical town site is coming right along. We are working on the church now and should have it done by the end of June.

If you haven't visited the town site, come on down! The town site consists of refurbished and restored historic buildings from the Project.

Trust me, you'll enjoy the tour and there is more to come. Come on down and see our progress!



## Our Summer Projects!

We have four summer projects that we are currently fundraising for:

1. LED light bulbs are needed to replace our current incandescent bulbs. LED bulbs consume 80% less energy and do not emit the harmful UV rays that incandescent bulbs do. UV rays can be harmful to museum artifacts!
2. We need educational technology items to enhance our classroom and facilitate a better learning experience.
3. We need an automated external defibrillator and an additional two fire extinguishers to add to the safety equipment at the museum.
4. And finally, we need new outdoor and display signage including more durable, longer-lasting aluminum placards.

