

**1879** The original "Ladies History Club" is established by seven cultured, educated, and influential women bringing arts, education, and literature to a rough prairie village.

**1892** The club is admitted into The General Federation of Women's Clubs. The GFWC was established in 1890.

**1901** The History Club is a charter member of the GFWC of SD State Federation; the first State President is the club's own Mrs. Winona Axtell Lyon.

**1915** A pivotal year as The History Club transforms from a study club to an altruistic club with a new focus of hands on volunteer work in service to the community.

**1920** Now over 100 members, the need for their own space for meetings and events inspires The History Club to incorporate and start a building fund.

**1940** A gift of land from Mrs. Lyon makes it possible to build a clubhouse. The grand opening is celebrated by 380 members, and a special edition of the Argus Leader commemorates the work and women of The History Club.

**1950-1970** Membership is healthy, and The History Club thrives with variety in its programs and projects and the clubhouse is the hub of activities both public and private.

**1980-2006** Membership drops as lifestyles and "club work" changes; community service

moves into the private or corporate sectors. The beloved clubhouse, which is a contributing property in the All Saints Historic District, falls into disrepair and is in danger of being lost to both The History Club and the Sioux Falls community.

**2007** Public awareness of the club's plight grows, and membership swells from 18 to over 70 members by year's end. It's a new club with new energy and a clear focus on the changing needs of a growing community yet intent on preserving the traditions of the past.

**2011** The membership reincorporates as The History Club with new bylaws and articles of incorporation and a vision toward the future.

**2012** The membership brings the national First Book program to Sioux Falls to provide books to children in the community.

**2013** Awarded Deadwood Fund Grant from South Dakota State Historical Society to refurbish windows in the clubhouse.

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you are interested in learning more about The History Club, please visit us. Membership meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the clubhouse.

For more information visit us at our website:  
[historyclubofsiouxfalls.org](http://historyclubofsiouxfalls.org)  
or email us at [historyclubsf@gmail.com](mailto:historyclubsf@gmail.com)



## THE HISTORY CLUB



**Dedicated to the historic preservation of its clubhouse and historic archives and to the continuation of its community involvement through charitable, educational, and social purposes.**

758 South Phillips Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104



[historyclubofsiouxfalls.org](http://historyclubofsiouxfalls.org)

The History Club, a nonprofit organization with a focus on community service, is a 501(c)(3) organization for tax purposes.

Since 1879 The History Club has been involved with and supported numerous community service projects in Sioux Falls, including:

- ◆ co-creating the first lending library.
- ◆ consulting on the location and aesthetics of the Orpheum Theatre.
- ◆ initiating the installation of the Japanese Gardens in Terrace Park and the Sioux River Greenway Trails.

Today The History Club continues to evolve with the changing times by:

- ◆ maintaining, restoring, and preserving the corporation's historic building.
- ◆ maintaining its archives of women's history collection for public use.

- ◆ serving as a resource to the community.
- ◆ developing and sponsoring community and volunteer programs.
- ◆ providing informative programs at monthly meetings.
- ◆ providing a place for the community to gather.
- ◆ offering friendship, fellowship, and a sense of community to its members.

#### Ongoing Projects and Activities

- ◆ First Book-Sioux Falls
- ◆ Volunteer participation at Longfellow Elementary School
- ◆ Tea Society
- ◆ Book club
- ◆ Yoga group
- ◆ Preservation of its historic clubhouse
- ◆ Little Free Library
- ◆ Bowden Youth Center Book Club
- ◆ Annual Dickens Luncheon
- ◆ Annual scholarship for female University of Sioux Falls student
- ◆ Monthly programs/meetings
- ◆ Variety of charitable and social activities

#### New Member Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies/Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues: \$80. Make check payable to The History Club and return to:

**THE HISTORY CLUB**  
c/o Membership Committee  
758 South Phillips Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

I am interested in the following activities.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Book Club
- \_\_\_\_\_ Building Committee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Education Connection
- \_\_\_\_\_ First Book-Sioux Falls
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising
- \_\_\_\_\_ GFWC Alliance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Membership/Promotion
- \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Programs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tea Society
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yoga