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Al Larvick Fund's North Dakota Grantees Receive Their Newly Digitized Home Movies

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December 30th, 2020: Al Larvick Conservation Fund (ALCF), a New York-based nonprofit, announces its completion of conservation and digitization activities for its 2019 **AL LARVICK NORTH DAKOTA GRANT (ALNDG)** recipient home movie collections. The Al Larvick Fund, in partnership with the preservation lab [The MediaPreserve](#), supports the cleaning, repair and digital capture of individual and organizational home movie and community recording collections that originate on analog formats and which are considered "North Dakota-based".

Last year the award was given to two individuals, **Frankie Kaiser** of Mandan, North Dakota and **Joel Winckler**, also of Mandan, North Dakota (formerly of Jamestown). The grant decisions were made in December of 2019. *The Kaiser & Schumacher Family Film Collection* and the *Garmon Winckler Family Films and Audio* collection were shipped to The MediaPreserve in 2020. After the work was finished, the original films and audio recordings were returned to the grantees, along with newly created digital files of their home movies and a best practices guide for care and maintenance of the analog and digital materials.

The two collections were selected for an Al Larvick North Dakota Grant due to the people and places the films captured. Another key aspect of the award selection was the grant recipients' intent to care for and share their collections with family and community, as indicated through their application.

The films and audio are representative of North Dakota's history on both a personal and broader level. The Kaiser and Schumacher media consists of approximately 2000 feet of 8mm films color, silent film. The fund was able to support approximately half of the collection through its 2019 grant. The content documents happenings in and around Stutsman County by Frankie Kaiser and additional family members.

I was raised west of Streeter, North Dakota. As a young married couple, we bought a movie camera in 1967, believe it was a Kodak, and took many 8mm films of family celebrations, local stock car races, snowmobiling, and our pet cats. I was also given several movie films taken by two uncles and they are included in this collection. I felt honored to get them and will enjoy showing them again in a new format." ~ Frankie Kaiser

The Garmon Winckler Family Films and Audio captures the interests and experiences of Joel Winckler's father, Garmon Winckler. While in the Army, Winckler purchased a Crown 8-T3 8mm camera and a reel-to-reel audio recorder. He filmed and taped from 1961 to 1973, which resulted in approximately 10 reels of 8mm color, silent film and 10 audio tapes. The fund was able to support the entire collection. The Winckler footage depicts Army life in South Korea, as well as civilian life back home in North Dakota, family gatherings at various homes, as well as local road trips to International Peace Garden and Medora when both places were in their development stage.

"The 8mm films and reel-to-reel audio tapes came into my care several years ago after they'd become almost forgotten in the family home attic. I enjoy keeping the story alive of how his German from Russia family persevered despite persecution in Russia, homesteaded farms in the Dakotas in the 1870s and 1880s and flourished into the 21st century." ~ Joel Winckler

Beginning operation in 2015, ALCF has enjoyed screening and workshop events in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019 at Bismarck, Valley City, Fargo and Grand Forks, North Dakota historical societies and libraries. Shane Molander, Deputy State Archivist for the State Historical Society of North Dakota and ALCF board member, is the series organizer, along with Kirsten Larvick, the Founder/Executive Director of the Al Larvick Fund. The Al Larvick Fund operates two home movie grant programs, the **Al Larvick National Grant**, the **Al Larvick North Dakota Grant** and its oral history arm, **Homespun Histories**, which recently released its first two interviews with past recipients.

Further information about ALCF can be found at <http://www.allarvickfund.org>. The Al Larvick Fund is a 501c(3) nonprofit. Home movie clips from the above collections, as well as still images from the films are available upon request.