

South Dakota Federal Courts Historical Society  
July 9, 2007

The South Dakota Federal Courts Historical Society continues the process of obtaining the oral history of the federal district court judges who are currently on senior status. The oral history of Judge Richard Battey has been completed. A committee of approximately seven of his former law clerks met and discussed general topics to be covered during the taping. Also the oral history of Judge John B. Jones was completed. A committee of eight of his former law clerks, his long time judicial assistant and his court reporter met and discussed general topics to be covered during the taping. During the actual taping, each former law clerk posed questions to Judge Battey and to Judge Jones to cover their community service and professional life prior to becoming a judge and significant cases handled during their judicial career. A compact disc was created and has been placed in the archives. Additional copies have been distributed to former law clerks and other interested parties. We have now completed the oral history of all three of our senior district court judges.

After receiving the compact disc of Judge Jones' oral history, a sack lunch was held in Sioux Falls for the premier viewing of the tape. Approximately fifteen people attended. We plan to hold other sack lunches around the district for viewings of all three histories.

The taping of the oral history of Judge Roger Wollman is next. We hope to begin this process soon.

We have now depleted all the funds of the Historical Society and have a cash balance of zero.

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