Welcoming students to the Welk Homestead Historic Site on Wed., Sept. 20, is Diane Rogness, historic sites manager of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Rogness gave an introduction to the site, “what a building can tell us,” pointing out what the old red barn tells about the past and how our ancestors farmed.

Present at the Welk Homestead State Historic Site Agriculture Day are, left to right, Kim Jondahl (SHSND communication/education director), Elaine Wald and Betty Maier (volunteers), Diane Rogness (SHSND historic site manager) and Violet Ohlhauser (volunteer). The volunteers provided tours of the buildings for the students.

Elaine Wald gives a tour of the Welk home. Area schools that participated in Ag Day were Strasburg (4th and 8th grades), Kulm (8th grade), Sterling (5th through 8th grade), Linton (9th grade) and Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock (4th, 9th and 10th grades).

Derek Faust of the USDA Agricultural Research Service presented H2O Olympics. He used pennies in his experiments to address cohesion, adhesion and surface tension — such as, number of pennies you can add to a cup of water before it spills over the side and how many drops of water you can put on a penny without spilling over the edge.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Mike Czeczok talked about the importance of healthy soil for agriculture and food production, and healthy landscapes.

Meagan Schoenfelder in the left photo and Nancy Eley, in the right, from the SHSND, gave a demonstration on spinning and weaving.

SHSND Outreach Program Coordinator Danielle Stuckle, did fun activities with the students on prairie ecology. Using ropes and making a web, Stuckle had the students be weeds that get into the root system in the soil.

Ashley Stegeman of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture played Bingo with the students with all sorts of farming questions on crops and livestock. She also brought in to her presentation, the jobs that are available in North Dakota that are ag-related.

Dr. Keith Schindler Dr. Tom Deis Dr. Leslie Hellebush

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