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**Finding Aid to the
Ernest B. and Donna M. Borr
Collection
2009.14**

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OVERVIEW

Donor: Ernest B. & Donna M. Borr

Accession Date: 9 October 2009

Collection Number: 051

Quantity: .75 linear feet

Summary: Two Strasburg, ND Catholic Church histories, nine prayer books, a prayer card, and a copy of Katharina Schafer's obituary; dating from 1904 to 1956.

Languages: German, Latin, Dutch, & English

Links:

- ["Ernest Borr Can Speak the Language"](#) – *Bismarck Tribune*, 16 February 1982
(reprinted on the GRHC website)

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Citation: Ernest B. and Donna M. Borr Collection, 051, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

BIOGRAPHY

Katharina Schafer was born on September 29, 1874 in Strassburg, South Russia, to parents Anton & Elizabeth (Kohler) Brendel. Katharina Brendel married Bernhard Schafer. Katharina (Brendel) Schafer died on July 15, 1949 at the age of seventy-four.

Gertrude Borr was born on December 28, 1865 in Michigan. Gertrude married Peter Borr. Peter Borr died on October 18, 1943 at the age of eighty-five. Gertrude Borr died on November 6, 1952 at the age of eighty-six.

Ernest O. Borr was born on July 13, 1905 to parents Peter and Gertrude Borr. On November 29, 1933, Ernest Borr married Kathryn Schafer in Strasburg, North Dakota. The couple raised six children: Ernest, Gracia, Kathleen, Mary Beth, Donna, and Walter. Ernest O. Borr died on December 4, 1990 at the age of eighty-five. Kathryn (Schafer) Borr died on January 3, 2007 at the age of ninety-five.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Ernest B. and Donna M. Borr Collection** consists of eleven books, a prayer card, and a copy of Katharina Schafer's obituary. Dates were not available for all the items in the collection. However, the items that are dated range from 1904 to 1956. Of the eleven books, three are in German, one is in Dutch, five are in Latin, one is in English, and one book has English, German, and Latin. The collection has been organized into three series: Emmons County, Prayer Book, and Subject.

The [Emmons County Series](#) has two Strasburg, North Dakota Catholic Church histories. Both books were printed by Der Volksfreund in Richardton, ND. The books are in German and date to 1914. The two books belonged to Ernest and Kathryn (Schafer) Borr.

The largest series in the collection is the [Prayer Book Series](#). This series contains nine prayer books in English, German, Latin, and Dutch. The book Führer zum Himmel was the personal German prayer book of Katharina Schafer. Het Boek der Psalmen was the personal Dutch psalm book of Gertrude Borr. The remaining books came from St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Strasburg, ND.

The [Subject Series](#) consists of a prayer card and an obituary. The prayer card is dated to 1904 and came from St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Strasburg, ND. The other item in the series is a photocopy of Katharina Schafer's obituary. The obituary was published in the *Bismarck Tribune*.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
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1/1	Finding aid, detailed inventory, and initial inventory
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1	EMMONS COUNTY SERIES
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	<u>Strasburg, Emmons Co., N. Dak.</u> [Jubilee] 1914. 25 th year Jubilee of St. Peter & St. Paul's Gemeinde and Festgabe für den 3 rd Katholikentag der Diözese (copy 1)
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Strasburg, Emmons Co., N. Dak. [Jubilee] 1914. 25th year Jubilee of St. Peter & St. Paul's Gemeinde and Festgabe für den 3rd Katholikentag der Diözese (copy 2)

PRAYER BOOK SERIES

- 1 Enchiridion Precum, 1916
- 1 Altar Manual
- 1 Ordo Sabbati Sancti, 1953
- 1 Führer zum Himmel, 1905
- 1 Het Boek der Psalmen
- 2 Ordo Hebdomadae Sanctae, 1956
- 2 Missae Defunctorum, 1924
- 2 Missae Defunctorum, 1922
- 2 Missale Romanum, 1923

SUBJECT SERIES

- 2/1 Prayer Card, 1904
- 2/2 Obituary of Katharina Schafer, 1948