

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2 Board of Trustees
- 3 Director's Notes
- 4 Education & Outreach
- 6 Collections & Exhibits
- 7 Every Object Has a Story
- 8 Gift Shop & Art Gallery
- 10 "A History of Mankato Hospitals"
- 13 Research Center
- 14 Hubbard House
- 15 Volunteer Opportunities
- 18 Calendar of Events

## SPECIAL EXHIBITS



Mary, by Kay Herbst Helms

### **Images of Change**

Kay Herbst Helms  
through March 31, 2018

### **Botanicals**

Gerry Tostenson  
April 4-June 30, 2018

**Coming of Age:  
The 1968 Generation**  
through June 16, 2018



Live music entertaining students at one of the weekly sock hops, Mankato State College.  
*Katonian*, 1967 Yearbook

## A Sixties Invasion!

It won't take long for our readers to notice a common theme in this issue of *The Historian*—the 1960s!

The inspiration behind a closer look at this pivotal decade is the latest traveling exhibit *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation* from the Minnesota Historical Society. National headlines included assassinations, the war in Vietnam and the Democratic National Convention. Locally, Mankato built a new airport, local hospitals merged (see page 9 for more) and 100 year histories were celebrated by Brett's Department Stores, Mankato State College and First National Bank. When the Blue Earth County Historical Society was able to book the *Coming of Age* exhibit for an extended amount of time, staff and volunteers at BECHS knew this was an opportunity to go everything 60s.

Each month, from now through June, there will be at least one event at the History Center centered around the 1960s, from politics and the Vietnam War, to counterculture, Mankato's Urban Renewal and a Cold War spy thriller! Be sure to stay tuned to BECHS' events by following us on Facebook or signing up to receive our monthly email newsletter. Visit page 18 for more information.

This decade is sometimes called the "Swinging Sixties" because of the wide spectrum of principles and ideals. It started with a sense of everything being "prim and proper" and ended with an "anything goes" attitude. The fashion of this era is a prime example: Jackie Kennedy with her smart suits and pill box hats gave way to tie-dye, bell bottoms and "hippie hair." Join us for an evening of the 1960s at *Surrounded By History: Celebrating the Swinging Sixties* on April 27, 2018.

## The Blue Earth County Historian



### Board of Trustees

Chair, Shirley Piepho, Skyline  
Vice Chair, Dan Bruss, Mankato  
Treasurer, Dana Truebenbach, Good Thunder  
Secretary, Julie Lux, Mapleton  
Kevin Allen, Madison Lake  
Dale Benefield, Lake Crystal  
Jessica Beyer, Mankato  
Gretchen Bohl, Mankato  
Randy Dinsmore, Mankato  
Joe Farnham, Mankato  
Sandi Garlow, Mapleton  
Jonathan Guentzel, Lime Township/Kasota  
Katherine Hughes, Mankato  
Steve Jameson, Mankato  
William Steil, Mankato  
Marnie Werner, Mankato  
Ken White, Skyline

### Staff

Jessica Potter, Executive Director  
Director@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com  
Danelle Erickson, Development Manager  
Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com  
Heather Harren, Communications Manager  
Research@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com  
Shelley Harrison, Archives & Collections Mgr.  
Archivist@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com  
Beth Johnson, Education & Outreach Coordinator  
Education@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com

### History Center & Museum

424 Warren Street, Mankato, MN  
507-345-5566  
www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com  
Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### R.D. Hubbard House

606 South Broad Street, Mankato  
507-345-4154  
Closed for Season

### The Blue Earth County Historian Winter 2018

The Blue Earth County Historian is published quarterly for the members of the Blue Earth County Historical Society.

Copyright © 2018 by the Blue Earth County Historical Society. All rights reserved.  
Reproduction in whole or in part of any material from this issue without permission of the publisher is prohibited.

# Board of Trustees

## Steve Jameson, Board of Trustees

I have served on a number of boards during my career. Some of the boards were a good fit for my skills and passions and some not so much. To be a good board member for an organization you need to have an interest in the organization, a good understanding of its mission and the desire to serve. While I haven't served on the Blue Earth County Historical Society Board for very long, so far, it has been a pleasure.

As the publisher of The Free Press, I recognize how important remembering and preserving history is to the life of a community. BECHS' mission is similar to The Free Press' mission which is to be the number one source of local news, advertising and information in the communities that we serve. The Free Press is the chronicler of history as it happens. BECHS is the preserver of that history so future generations will remember their past.

A board is only as good as the organization it oversees. BECHS is a great member-driven organization. Our members are vital to the health of our organization and our board truly serves and is held accountable by our members. We'd also be lost without the countless volunteers that help run our programs and bring our history to life. What makes BECHS truly special is its hardworking and dedicated staff.

Jessica Potter and her team make it easy to serve on the BECHS board. They live and breathe the BECHS mission each and every day. They want to see BECHS grow and thrive. They keep the History Center and the Hubbard House running smoothly and work to educate our community, including children and families. Whether you are utilizing the Research Center or taking part in a program like *Ghosts from the Past*, this small but dedicated staff keeps everything running smoothly.

You can help BECHS thrive in a number of ways. But the most rewarding for me is working to ensure a long and healthy future for BECHS by serving on its board.

BECHS is currently seeking candidates to serve as a Board of Trustee member. If you have a passion for Blue Earth County history, the ability to give a couple of hours per month of your time and the willingness to share your skills in fundraising, facility development and/or nonprofit management, please consider applying. If you live in a Blue Earth County community other than Mankato, that's even better. BECHS works hard to serve the entire county and we need board members from outside Mankato to help us make sure we stay focused on the entire county.

If you've ever considered serving, now would be a great time to join the BECHS Board of Trustees. You'll be glad you did. Applications are available online at [www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) or by contacting the History Center.

# Director's Notes

Jessica Potter, Executive Director

Happy 2018! I look forward to the beginning of a new year as a moment to not only look back at the previous year but also to look ahead at what's to come. We have some great programs, events and exhibits planned in the year ahead. In fact, the first half of this year will be all about the 1960s. True, I did not grow up in the 1960s, so my understanding of this tumultuous decade is limited to what I have learned through books, TV shows like the *Donna Reed Show*, *Gilligan's Island* or *Mad Men*, and by listening to stories from people who grew up then. However, I have always been intrigued by the fashion, the music and the movies the 1950s and 1960s. Maybe I was born in the wrong era? So, I'm personally looking forward to learning more about Blue Earth County in the 1960s this year. I hope you are looking forward to it as well.

Check out the new exhibit *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation*. Not only does the exhibit chronicle the ups and downs of 1968, but it also incorporates objects and photographs from Blue Earth County. We plan to rotate the local history objects throughout the duration of the exhibit, so you'll want to come more than once. Just like the 1960s, the fashions and the pop culture items will change. Oh, what a decade!

Our annual fundraising event *Surrounded By History: Celebrating the Swinging 1960s* is taking a little different spin this year by focusing on this formative decade. Join us on Friday, April 27 at the MSU, M Centennial Student Union Ballroom for dinner, silent auction, raffle, local and national 1960s history including music and fashions of the time. Guests are encouraged to dress to impress in their finest 60s attire. This entertaining event continues to raise significant funds for BECHS. In fact, since it began in 2012 over \$100,000 has been contributed to general operating and special project expenses. Save the date and start looking for your pencil skirts and skinny ties or bell bottoms and tie dye! Be there or be square.

On behalf of the BECHS Staff, Board and Volunteers, thank you for being our History Heroes! Thank you for your partnership in 2017 with your membership, donations and presence at programs and events. You are the driving force behind local history being shared at the Blue Earth County Historical Society. Let's see what we can do together in 2018!

BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
INVITES YOU TO THE

## 2018 Annual Meeting

**Sunday, March 4, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m.**

**Blue Earth County History Center**

424 Warren Street, Mankato

### State-of-the Society Member's Business Meeting

followed by

### *Remembering 1968*

by Pete Steiner, KTOE Radio Personality

History Center opens at 1 p.m.

Visit "Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation"  
before the meeting.



BECHS Members Free  
Non-members \$8/Adult, \$3/Child

Please RSVP by March 1 to 507-345-5566  
or [Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](mailto:Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com)

## BECHS Board of Trustees Applications Now Being Accepted

The Blue Earth County Historical Society is now accepting applications for 3 to 6 candidates to fill vacant seats on the Board of Trustees beginning March 2018. Monthly board meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. All openings are for a three-year term ending March 2021.



This is a very exciting time of growth for BECHS and we are seeking people who want to take an active role in this growth and change. The Board consists of members representing Blue Earth County and is currently seeking individuals strong in fundraising and development, facility development and nonprofit management. In addition, the Board is seeking candidates in greater Blue Earth County. Previous non-profit board experience is preferred, but not required. Applications accepted until **January 31, 2018**. Applications available at [BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) or contact Jessica.





# Education & Outreach

By Beth Johnson, Education and Outreach Coordinator

The holidays have come and gone in a whirlwind of activities here at the History Center! We are looking forward to the months ahead and have added many new activities. From school tours to adult history events, we aim to serve our entire community through education of local history.

## In the Schools

One of our ongoing goals is to reach more children by actively offering local history education opportunities to our schools and other children's groups. We do this through school tours, educational site visits, community education, Pre-K tours, History To Go Kits for educators and classes and workshops for children. We are starting to see our seeds grow.

Elementary school PTOs and other organizations caring for children are on the cutting edge of education by realizing the value of early history education and museum experiences for children. They support their students through tours to the History Center. This fall we had return visits for the second year from the YMCA and all of the Washington Elementary School Kindergarteners! We are once again working with local schools on tours for 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Additionally, we look forward to annual class visits from students in higher education!

## BECHS Outreach

The excitement has been building as we plan for the upcoming year. We have many exciting, engaging and just plain fun events coming up over the next few months. Last fall was a whirlwind of activity as we continued our popular monthly series *History Bits & Bites*, *Remember When Coffee Club* and *Young Historians*. We have added some additional events! New this year we will have a

number of events that coincide and deepen the traveling exhibit experience. During the run of the exhibit *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation* you can revisit the counter culture of the 1960s through interactive experiences. One such event is on Saturday, February 24 at 2 p.m. Join in a guided discussion on political events of the 1960s or offer your memories on the important issues included in the exhibit *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation*. Interpretations of the tumultuous and important political happenings of the 60s are welcome! See also "Special Events" on the following page for details on a special showing of a 1960s Mankato-made spy film *Man on a Mission*!

In *Young Historians*, students have been "Traveling Through Time." October found us in the beginning of the 1900s. BECHS teamed up with Maple River Heritage, Inc. to learn the history of Mapleton and about the many years of the Ringling Brothers Circus. The kids enjoyed making their own circus cars to fill with animal crackers. In December we received an amazing visit from Arn Kind and learned about WWII and participated in the experience of leaping out of an airplane in the dark of night. Other special guests have been a Korean War soldier's wife and a poodle skirt-wearing teen. A big "thank you" to the parents and volunteers who help and participate each month!

Over the coming months, *Young Historians* will continue to cover the political, cultural and economic highlights of the decades. As we move forward in time to the present, we will meet many guest speakers including, among others, a Vietnam Vet and others. Feel free to stop by!



Kids from the YMCA explore the Discovery Lab

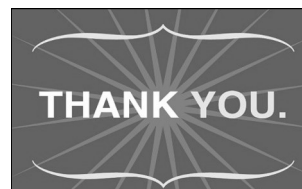


## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOCAL MEDIA PARTNERS

**Watch KEYC News 12** at Noon the first Thursday of each month for "Throwback Thursday with BECHS"

**Listen to KTOE 1420 AM** Pete Steiner's Talk of the Town the 4th Thursday for an update with BECHS

**Check out The Free Press** for regular updates including Sunday's Glimpses of the Past.



# Exploring History for All Ages

## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

### Remember When Coffee Club

Love history? Love to swap stories of the good old days? Looking for a place to connect with other history enthusiasts? **Come to the History Center the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. for BECHS' *Remember When Coffee Club*.**



Mankato's Hilltop

There is no formal program, just a conversation topic to get the group started. Coffee, tea and light refreshments are provided. Free.

#### Upcoming Topics

**February 6** - Having a Baby

**March 6** - Mankato Grows Toward Hilltop

**April 3** - My Neighborhood

### Young Historians

*Young Historians* is a free, monthly, hands-on history workshop for school-age children. It meets the **2nd Saturday of each month, September through May, 10 a.m. to Noon**. This year, the *Young Historians* theme is "Traveling Through Time." Each month students will explore



In December, Arn Kind and the Young Historians explored the 1940s and WWII.

technology, fashion, war, food and much more, seeing how life changed and developed from the late 19th through 20th centuries.

#### Upcoming Topics

**February 10** - 1960s: What a Decade!

**March 10** - 1970s-1980s: From Hippies to Yuppies

**April 14** - 1990s: The Digital Age

**May 12** - 2000s: A New Millennium

*Last meeting of the school year*

**Turn to page 18 for the full calendar of events**

### History Bits & Bites

*History Bits & Bites* is a monthly learning series held the **3rd Thursday of each month during the noon hour at the Blue Earth County History Center**. Bring your lunch for a bite while learning a bit of history! Free for BECHS Members, \$7 non-members. Lunch is NOT provided, but beverages will be available.

#### Upcoming Topics

**February 15** - Stories of a Vietnam Experience, with Veteran Larry Kortuem

**March 15** - "My Imagination to a New World" Safaa Hammouda Sallam and Hamed Salaam will talk about their journey from Egypt to the United States in conjunction with Kay Herbst Helms photography exhibit *Images of Change*.

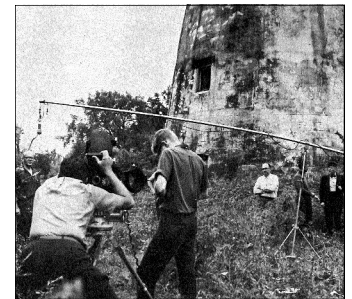
**April 19** - Dead Air, Please Stand By: CCTV with Mark Halverson and Special Guests

## SPECIAL EVENTS

***Man on a Mission: Dinner and a Movie 60's Style***  
**March 23, 2018, 6 p.m.**

Join us for an engaging evening starting with 60s inspired meal at Pub 500 (500 S. Front Street, Mankato) and then a participatory viewing of the 1965 locally-made film *Man on a Mission* at True Facade Pictures (509 S. Front Street, Mankato).

Dress to impress; 1960s attire encouraged.



Filming at Seppman Mill

Miles West, a Mankato lawyer, is recruited by the government to rescue the daughter of a scientist being held by the East Germans in the 1965 Cold War thriller film *Man on a Mission*. The movie, funded by Mankato's Rotary Club, was filmed in and around Mankato, using local actors and production crew.

Tickets: \$40 includes dinner, drink and movie; available at the History Center or online at [BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://BlueEarthCountyHistory.com). Limited seats available! Get your tickets today!

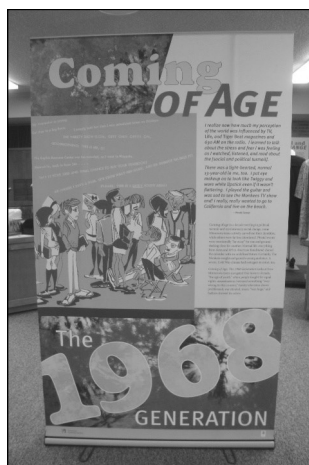


# Collections & Exhibits

## *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation*

By Shelley Harrison, Archives & Collections Manager

The Blue Earth County Historical Society presents our newest traveling exhibit *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation*. In 1968, a half-century ago, the Vietnam War was at its peak, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy were assassinated, and chaos erupted at the Democratic National Convention. This exhibit reflects on a year worth revisiting.



It was a time of upheaval and shocking news events, but life still went on in between those things. Blue Earth County had key events in 1968, like the opening of Madison East Shopping Center, the installation of the *Mankato Piece* sculpture, the Good Thunder bank robbery and merger of Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospital (see more on page 9).



Madison East Shopping Center

This exhibit kicked off in December and features fun hands-on activities, including create your own magazine cover with iconic images from 1968 or test your knowledge of 1960s music with the game show quiz. We're inviting those who lived through this remarkable year to share their stories. You can even share your favorite song or band from the decade.

Along with the interactive displays, visitors will also enjoy artifacts, photographs and clothing chronicling life in Blue Earth County in the sixties.

As this exhibit explores the 1960s, a decade of change and transformation, the exhibit itself will also be changing. Trends will be showcased by using clothing from the museum's collection like First Lady Jackie Kennedy's chic style and pill box hats to mini-skirts, paper dresses and denim. We will keep adding cool stuff as we bring one of our most vivid, chaotic, culture-shifting decades to life.

This exhibit is free and will be on view until June 16, 2018. Throughout the next several months, the

1960s will be a common theme in a variety of programs including *History Bits & Bites*, our Annual Meeting and *Surrounded By History*, just to name a few. Watch the BECHS' calendar for upcoming 1960s related events.

People remember or view the 1960s in different ways, but 1968 marked a turning point for a generation Coming of Age. Come in and take a magical history tour through the 1960s.



*Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation* was created by the Minnesota History Center's "Exhibits to Go" program which brings Minnesota history to communities statewide. "Exhibits to Go" is made possible by the Legacy Amendment's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008.

# Coming OF AGE

The 1968 GENERATION

GROWING UP AMIDST POLITICAL TURMOIL and revolutionary social change had a lasting impact on teens in the late 1960s. This special exhibit looks at the pivotal events—both far away and close to home—that forever shaped the lives of this generation.

Don't miss it—

Blue Earth County History Center

December 9, 2017 - June 16, 2018

Free

A traveling exhibit from the Minnesota History Center.



# Every object has a story...

At the Blue Earth County History Center, the objects showcased tell the varied stories of Blue Earth County's past. With only about ten percent of the total three-dimensional collection on display at any given time, it is hard to determine what stories to tell! Here is a closer look at some items currently on display in the History Center.



## Long Swing Coat, 1963

Worn by Julie Williams Miller, Mankato. This wool coat made with nubby yarns represents the early sixties and the conservative chic style of First Lady Jackie Kennedy. The large brown wood button at the neck and bright orange color give a hint to the "Mod style" to come.

as the one re-created in the museum's *Remembering Front Street* exhibit.

## Kato Premium Beer bottle, 1960s

1968 saw the end of the Mankato Brewing Company. Operations had ceased the previous year, but there was still hope of restarting the brewery until pieces of the machinery were sold off for financial reasons. The brewery began on Rock Street by William Bierbauer in 1856. In the 1960s only 10 percent of the beer produced was sold in the Mankato area.



## Brett's Department Store

In 1968, Brett's Department Store honored its 100 year history with grand celebrations including store sales, commemorative keepsakes and cake!

An important part of Brett's marketing was the store window displays, such



Now the next time you take a spin through the History Center, you'll know a little more of the story.

## HISTORY CENTER ART GALLERY

### *Images of Change*

By Kay Herbst Helms

January 4 - March 31, 2018



Amidu

Through images of hands and brief stories, photographer Kay Herbst Helms casts a lens on how resilient and courageous elders from diverse cultures have used their hands throughout their lifetime. Countries represented include Egypt, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Southern Sudan, Vietnam and Native America.

### Artist Reception: Legacies and Cultures Panel Discussion

Wednesday, February 28, 9:30 a.m. - Noon, History Center

Join a panel of elders from diverse countries as they share memories and cultures from across generations. Some of the elders are subjects of Helms' photographs. Presented in partnership with the VINE Literacy Center. Free.

Tea served from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Panel discussion from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Meet and mingle with the panel members and audience while viewing the exhibit from 11:30 a.m. to Noon.

Next Art Gallery Exhibit: **Botanicals** by Gerry Tostenson, April 7 through June 30, 2018.



# Gift Shop & Art Gallery News

By Danelle Erickson, Development Manager

Stop by the History Center Gift Shop during the week of February 6-10 for our Winter Sale! Sale items will include sample and used books, collectibles and clearance items. Plus BECHS members receive an additional 10% off the sale price!

The newest book from the Mankato Free Press is now available in the History Center Gift Shop.

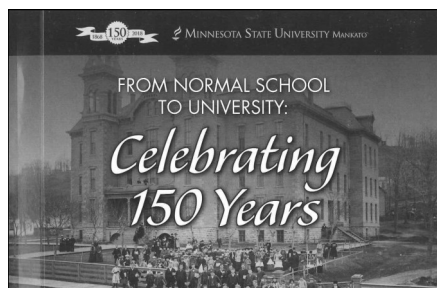
*Minnesota Valley Memories II: The 1940s, 1950s and 1960s* is a 136 page, hardcover book with hundreds of photographs from local archives and individuals.



\$44.95. Also

available is the first volume, *Minnesota Valley Memories: The Early Years*.

Some additions to the Gift Shop come from Minnesota State University, Mankato. *Two Weeks in May* is a DVD documentary about the protest in Mankato in May 1972. \$10.00. It is a companion piece to the book *Out of Chaos* by James Nickerson, \$15.00. Also check out *From Normal School to University: MSU Postcard Book*. This book is made up of 36 postcards taken from the 150 year history of the University. It makes a great collectible or use the postcards and send a MSU memory to someone you know. \$10.00.



The next time

you are in the History Center Gift Shop, make sure you visit the "Discover Minnesota" table. In addition to the books from the Free Press and MSU, you will also find Minnesota travel books and cookbooks and titles by famous Minnesota authors including Maud Hart Lovelace, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Sinclair Lewis.



## Marian Anderson Fine Art Prints



Winter Spirit

Artist Marian Anderson is recognized for her diverse subjects that come from a natural ability not only to create a beautiful painting, but to breathe spirit and soul into her work.

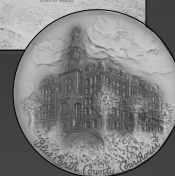
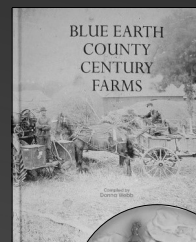
Marian Anderson Fine Art Prints are available exclusively at the History Center and online at [MarianAnderson.com](http://MarianAnderson.com).

**100% of All Sales  
Benefits the Historical Society**

## History Center Gift Shop WINTER SALE

**February 6-10, 2018**

- ◆ 25-50% off select titles
- ◆ Sample and used book sale
- ◆ Discounts on collectibles include, Sandon plates, Marian Anderson art and notecards and Christmas decor.



**Blue Earth County Historical Society  
Members save an additional 10%**





Immanuel Lutheran Hospital on Washington and Fourth Streets, Mankato, 1918

By Hilda A. Parks

Local hospitals have been serving the community for 130 years, but 1968 was a watershed moment when Immanuel Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital merged and formed Immanuel-St. Joseph Hospital of Mankato, or ISJ. The consolidation served a wide area with over half of its patients coming from outside of Mankato.

### **Tourtellotte and St. Joseph's Hospitals**

The first doctor in Blue Earth County was Dr. Moses R. Wickersham who arrived in Mankato in May 1856. By the end of the year, four other doctors had followed him, three located in Mankato and one in Sterling. But it would be 30 years before the county had a hospital, Tourtellotte Hospital built in 1888. Col. John Tourtellotte, a Civil War veteran who had practiced law in Mankato, gave a gift of \$8,000 to the city, although some sources mention a sum of \$8,800. As hospitals were considered a place of last resort, often referred to as "pest houses," no one wanted to live near such a building. Thus a two-story hospital with 20 rooms for 20 patients was built on the prairie north of town, on a lot which would now be on 4th Avenue between Maxfield and Spruce Streets. Being outside the city limits, it was beyond sewer or water lines. Water needed to be pumped with a windmill, or by hand, to storage in the attic of the building.

In 1890 it cost \$7.00 per week to stay in one of the two largest wards. The public wards were \$5.00 per week. The Annual Report for 1892 reported the hospital had served 52 cases, 42 private and 10 county. There were 16 surgical cases and seven deaths. The expenses for the year were \$912.55 for salaries and \$819.93 for provisions. By 1897 the hospital had served 128 patients, with 74 surgical cases and only 6 deaths, five from chronic cases and one from a serious accident. In the early 1900s, appendicitis was the most frequent diagnosis found on hospital records, although "la grippe" was a common complaint.

Originally operated by the city, expenses were high. Consequently, in 1897 the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother of Marshfield, Wisconsin were invited to take over the work. The four sisters who came to Mankato were allotted \$1,000 for the first year of operation.

After one year, they were operating in the black. In



Tourtellotte Hospital, c. 1890s

1898 the Sisters purchased the John A. Willard House and surrounding block on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, near Washington, that could serve 22 patients. They continued to operate Tourtellotte Hospital until 1903, at which time the building was closed, and the property reverted to the city. It was suggested the hospital be used for persons with contagious diseases, especially small pox, as such a facility was lacking in the area. However one provision of the original gift was that it never be used for such a purpose. It was also suggested that it be used for a home for the elderly. As \$10,000 to \$15,000 would be needed to extend water and sewage lines if old Tourtellotte Hospital was to find a new use, the building sat empty, and eventually reverted to the Tourtellotte heirs. The building was demolished in 1906. Some of the stone was used in the building of Immanuel Hospital in that same year. Desiring to remember Tourtellotte's gift to the city, the park and pool were named for him in 1940.

By 1899 there were seventeen doctors in Mankato and ten others throughout the county. The Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, operating both Tourtellotte Hospital and the Willard House, made plans to erect a new building estimated to cost between \$18,000 and \$20,000. Using the land adjacent to the Willard House, 5th Street and Washington Street, the building was dedicated on December 5, 1899, and was named for St. Joseph. It was made of brick, three stories high plus basement and heated by steam. The lighting was both gas and electric, and an elevator made the operating room on the third floor feasible. A covered passage joined the new hospital to the Willard House which contained the kitchen and quarters for the Sisters. A dumb waiter connected the kitchen to the hospital



St. Joseph's Hospital and Willard House

elevator and each landing contained a gas stove to heat food. Each floor also had a bath room and toilet.

A two-story extension was built on the Willard Home in 1913, adding a chapel, two operating rooms and two recovery wards, giving a total of 100 beds. The average number of patients was forty to fifty. The Willard building then became a home for the aged until 1937, when it became the home for the Sisters. An addition in 1926 brought the hospital's capacity to 120 patients. A new idea was instituted in

the 1926 addition, the ability to page physicians on any floor, using microphones from the office with amplifiers on the floors. Although a fourth floor was built in the addition, it was not opened until 1930, when more rooms were needed. Some of the latest equipment was installed at that time, including ultraviolet ray, heliotherapy and infrared lamps, plus equipment for electrotherapy and hydrotherapy treatments that were "valuable for nervousness" reported the *Free Press*. Remodeling occurred again in 1944, bringing capacity to 142 beds.

The number of patients continued to grow, new equipment came into use, and by the 1950s it became apparent an entirely new building was needed. Thus St. Joseph's Hospital built on Garden Boulevard where the hospital currently sits.

Dedicated on June 4, 1953, at a cost of \$4 million, the building was shaped in the



St. Joseph's Hospital c. 1954

form of a Greek cross with four wings. It was five stories high, built of brick, with no "unnecessary ornamentation" reported the *Free Press* in its dedicatory issue. The first floor included the Sisters' quarters, main kitchen, class space and ambulance entrance. The second floor designated two wings for psychiatric patients and two wings for medical patients, plus a chapel. The third floor was for medical and surgical patients. The

Other places in Blue Earth County offered medical services, some even using the name "hospital" such as Franchere Hospital in Lake Crystal, listed in the 1927-28 Blue Earth County Directory. The Mankato Maternity Hospital on St. Clair Road, near the city limits, operated for one year, 1906. It was run by Drs. Jane and Helen Hughes, doctors with practices in the community. The hospital briefly moved to 4th Street, but closed when St. Joseph's opened similar facilities. A city owned Detention Hospital for serious contagious cases, operated at 428 E. Washington Street between the two hospitals, from 1922 to the late 1940s. In addition, St. Peter and Paul's School had been used during a typhoid epidemic in 1908, and facilities at Bethany College were utilized briefly during the influenza outbreak in 1918.

fifth floor was for maternity, labor, delivery and nursery. Laboratories, surgery and maternity wings were among some of the areas that were air conditioned. There were 125 phones in the building with eight outside lines. The dedication, and open house the following two days, saw 18,500 visitors tour the facility. The first patient arrived the evening of June 7 and was given free care. The old hospital building became the Mother Francis Rest Home. It closed in 1967 and the building was razed.

### Immanuel Hospital

The Immanuel Lutheran Church Conference sponsored the building of Immanuel Hospital in 1906, at a cost of \$35,000. The hospital, at Washington and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, was located on the previous site of the Omaha Railroad's roundhouse and turntable. On November 16, 1906, the *Mankato Free Press* extolled the new structure. It was four stories high, including the basement, 42 feet by 86 feet, with sun rooms on each floor and could hold 40 patients. It was heated by a Bromell Vapor System, the first in the state. There were both gas and electric lights and an electric elevator. Two operating rooms were located on the third floor, and the main kitchen was on the fourth floor, with a dumb waiter to bring meals to each floor. Twelve telephones were installed. The first patient admitted to the hospital died, "not an auspicious start" quipped the author of a *Free Press* article in 1989 who had examined some of the old hospital records. The first year of operation, Immanuel served 394 patients. Sixty years later, a greatly expanded hospital served 35,969 patients.

Like St. Joseph's, Immanuel saw many changes and additions through the years. A fire in 1907, attributed to defective wiring, caused \$8,000-\$10,000 damage. An annex was built in 1912, bringing the number of beds to 65. The Annual Report for 1914 reported 1,003 patients and 670 operations. The hospital had taken in \$26,789.94. A three story addition in 1952 added 60 rooms, delivery and labor rooms, laboratory and power plant and other improvements. A 1961 addition brought the total beds to 150. Long-range planning in 1965 projected building a new hospital by 1970.

Immanuel instituted a three-year course to

train nurses soon after it opened, graduating eight students in 1912. The program closed in 1936. Likewise, St. Joseph's began a school for practical nurses in 1947, which closed in 1962.

### Coming Together

Talks of merger between Immanuel and St. Joseph's Hospitals began in 1967. The consolidation was completed in November 1968, forming a new corporation called Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospital of Mankato, with eighty doctors representing fifteen specialties. Starting in 1951, Immanuel had been operated by a nondenominational board, making the merger with St. Joseph's, it is believed, the first time a sectarian hospital merged with a nonsectarian hospital in the United States.

Before the consolidation, staffing at the hospitals was becoming difficult and neither hospital alone could manage the purchase of new, expensive equipment. Although both hospitals were still in operation, the merger saw that all coronary patients were seen at Immanuel and obstetrics was only at St. Joseph's. Prior to the merger, the maternity ward at each hospital averaged only 50% of capacity. The merger also made it possible for 24-hour admittance to the emergency room at St. Joseph's.

Statistics show that Immanuel was busier during the summer, possibly because more areas of the hospital were air conditioned. An article in the *Free Press* in February 1970 commented "long-time Mankatoans were rarely ambivalent about what hospital was 'best'." The Immanuel Hospital building closed in 1979 and is now Gus Johnson Plaza Apartments.

There has continued to be expansion and building since the merger of the two hospitals. The Mankato Clinic moved to its present site adjacent to the hospital in 1992. The hospital became known as ISJ Mayo Health System after Mayo Clinic purchased it in 1996. Another name change occurred in 2011 when the facility officially became Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato. However, how often is it still referred to as ISJ or simply St. Jo's?

### Sources:

Blue Earth County Historical Society Subject Files and Photographs

Polk City and County Directories

*Immanuelite*, 1925 Yearbook

*Mankato Free Press*, various articles

*Mankato Centennial Souvenir Program, Century of Progress*.



Immanuel nursing students, class of 1927

# BECHS Volunteers Make History Happen

“Marketing” and “development” might not seem like exciting words to some people, but if you have a passion for spreading the word and creating partnerships, then the Blue Earth County Historical Society invites you to consider joining our marketing or development committees.

With the new year, these two committees are looking for a fresh start and some fresh ideas. Time commitment includes one meeting per month plus a few hours helping implement new ideas and strategies. Professionals, retirees and enthusiasts are all welcome. Contact Jessica or Danelle if you are interested.



“Cheers” from the annual Holiday Volunteer Potluck!



## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Surrounded By History Committee**

Oversees creation and implementation of our annual fundraiser held the last Friday in April with special focus on sponsorships, auction items, entertainment, logistics and ticket sales. Committee meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at noon, January - April.

### **Marketing Committee**

Oversees creation and implementation of marketing plan, including identifying potential markets, their needs, how to meet those needs with products/services/programs, and how to promote/sell BECHS services/programs.

### **Development Committee**

Oversees public understanding of our mission and acquires financial support for its programs with a focus on annual fundraising drive, membership drive, and member and donor cultivation.

### **Board of Trustees**

BECHS is seeking candidates with skills in fundraising, facility development and/or nonprofit management to fill a 3-year term on the Board of Trustees. Applications are due by January 31, 2018.

### **History Center Receptionist/Gift Shop Attendant**

Seeking individuals interested in greeting visitors, answering basic questions about BECHS and ringing up sales in the Gift Shop. Must be comfortable with computers. Training is provided.

### **Technology Assistance**

Looking for individual(s) 5-15 hours per week to help at the History Center with computer maintenance and problem solving. Experience with

PC hardware and software, Windows 7 and 10, and Windows Server 2016 is preferred.

### **Education/Classroom Activities**

Enjoy helping kids explore history? We are looking for individuals to assist with classroom visits and kids activities and tours at the History Center and Hubbard House, from on-site educators to living history characters. Also seeking individuals for the research and planning of activities.

### **Speakers Bureau**

Enjoy sharing history with groups of people? Consider joining our Speakers Bureau to present historical information to a variety of groups. Use one of our topics or develop your own. Some training can be provided. Schedule varies.

### **Rental Facilitator**

Volunteer(s) needed to assist with after-hour rentals of the History Center Meeting Rooms. Volunteer(s) will greet and assist renters, stay on-site during the event and lock-up when done. As-needed basis.

### **Hubbard House**

See page 14 for a list of ways you can become involved at the Hubbard House.

**There are countless ways you can become involved with the Historical Society. Other opportunities include:**

Exhibit Research and Design	Living History Events
Graphic Design	Office Work
Light Construction	Photography
	Writing and Research



# Around the Research & Genealogy Center

Heather Harren, Communications Manager

As a new year begins, many people set resolutions for themselves. Is one of yours to learn more about your family and where you came from? If you have Blue Earth County roots, a trip to the Research & Genealogy Center might be just what you need!

Wherever your family is located, consider attending one or more of the following classes. Using the feedback from the classes held in 2017, we have four new topics lined up for this year.

On January 27, we will look into **organizing your genealogy**. This class will cover both electronic formats and paper copies. While these are suggested ways to organize your family history, participants are welcome to discuss how they organize their records as well.

On February 17, we will delve deeper into using **newspaper**. Through this class, we will dig into what can be found in newspaper sources for your family history. Although obituaries are the obvious resources, we will also discuss social notes, headlines, and other accounts from the newspaper.

March 17 will cover using **legal resources** for family history. We will delve into land records, wills,



births, deaths, marriages and more through this class. Examples will also be given for how to do this type of research in Blue Earth County, but principles can

apply to many locations and situations.

April 21 will close out our series with **oral histories**. Example questions will be provided, as well as a demonstration of the audio recorders available to be checked-out from the Blue Earth County History Center.

All classes are on Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. The first hour will be devoted to a lecture style presentation followed by time to explore the Research & Genealogy Center. Each class will stand on its own; attendees can attend all classes, or pick those of most interest. Cost per class is \$10/adults, \$7/BECHS Members.

## WISH LIST

Here are a few items we could use. New or used; items or cash to purchase:

**1960s Photos of Blue Earth County People, Events and Places** to be donated to the Archives Photo Collection

**Solid White or Black Cotton Sheets** to use for covering historic objects in storage

**MP3 Players and/or Docking Stations** for background music in the Museum

### Keurig K Cups

Any flavor of coffee for our Coffee Nook, used by guests, staff and volunteers.

**Garden Tools**  
New or slightly used trowels, small rakes, garden clippers, etc. for volunteer gardeners at the History Center. Gardeners also needed.

**Animal Pelts and Bones** for hands-on activities in the Discovery Lab

# Historic R.D. Hubbard House

The Hubbard House had a fantastic 2017 season. The historic home was bursting with life—thanks to the volunteers, staff and countless visitors. The Hubbard House is currently closed, and will reopen in May.

**Interested in helping at the Hubbard House? There are 4 ways you can get involved.**

1. Apply to become a member of the Hubbard House staff. The position is seasonal with weekend hours and possible additional hours for special events and tours. Résumés accepted through March 15. Contact Jessica for more information.
2. Sign-up to volunteer as a tour guide or Carriage House assistant. Schedule is flexible. Training is provided.
3. Like working with kids? Consider becoming a tour guide for school groups. Tours are similar to those mentioned above in #2, but are geared towards younger audiences.
4. Enjoy acting or dressing up in historic costumes? The Hubbard House puts on a variety of programs throughout the year with different living history characters.

To learn more about any of the above opportunities or to sign-up, please contact the History Center.

Thank you to all the volunteers and visitors who made the Christmas “Parlor Game History Mystery” a success!



Scenes from *Christmas at the Hubbard House*.

For Hubbard House updates and tidbits, follow “Hubbard House, Mankato” on Facebook

***Moving? New Address?  
Please let us know!***



It costs over \$2 for each newsletter that cannot be delivered. Please help the Society reserve funds and assure you get your *Historian* by notifying us of your new or seasonal address.



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS A  
**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®**  
ENROLLED ORGANIZATION

**Need a Space for a Meeting or  
Special Gathering?**



**The Blue Earth County History Center  
has a number of rental options for your  
next business meeting, special gathering  
or private party.**

Visit [www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/visit/rentals](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/visit/rentals) for more information on rates or contact the History Center for availability.



# Around Blue Earth County



Rapidan Heritage Society

The Rapidan Depot Museum is closed for winter and will reopen on Memorial Day. Thank you to all who supported RHS in 2017 by attending events, and donations.

Here is a little story from Rapidan's days gone by: In a peaceful little cemetery in Rapidan Township is the unmarked grave of the only casualty of the 1918 Nonpartisan League riots in Blue Earth County.

Jim Smith came to this country from England as an assistant to help care for a shipment of Percheron horses and when he landed here the only assets he had was his head and hands. He was employed by the Nonpartisan League for four years and because of his ability, worthiness and honor he was employed by them up to the time of his death.

The Nonpartisan League appealed to the farmers, but unfortunately "it is hard to go through the country without going through some of the towns and the town people don't seem to want to allow that." Such was the case when the road led into Madison Lake.

Their caravan of cars were met by people wielding water hoses and threatening them with guns, clubs and axes. A man accosted Smith with an axe and Mrs. Smith drew a revolver on the man and told him to drop the axe. He did, but it was Mr. and Mrs. Smith who were roughly handled and thrown in jail!

Some of the farmers from the county stood by them and got them moved to the county jail where they would be safe. Their trial was set for December 16 but was changed to January 13. In that time they both were taken with the Spanish Influenza and Jim Smith died Christmas night, 1918.

When friends came to bury him, Mrs. Smith asked that he be buried in a safe place – away from Mankato and Madison Lake. Mrs. Smith was too ill to attend her trial and all charges were dismissed.

## Madison Lake Area Historical Society 2017 Annual Report



2017 marked the 35th year of the Madison Lake Area Historical Society. The first program of the year was in February featuring Afghanistan War veteran Jack Zimmerman. In March the members met at the Marysburg Church Hall where Marsha Stapleton talked about her trip to Ireland and its 100th Anniversary of Independence from England.

At the April meeting, Larry Kortuem and Mary Buschkowsky were honored with a cake and plaque in appreciation for everything they do for the historical society. Susan Hynes talked about the history of cosmetics and medicine of days gone by.

At May's meeting, Dan Sahau talked about the history of Lake Washington and its resorts and people.

Larry Kortuem presented in June and July. June's topic was on the great Irish escape from Australia and in July he talked about the history of drag racing. In addition, Ron Frederick brought model cars to show.

The summer continued with the annual potluck picnic in August at the Gegan cabin. *The Oh Brother* barbershop quartet sang and told jokes and Dan Kortuem shot off his homemade canons.

September featured Fur Trader Digger O'Dell, (Steve Hanson) told about the life of an early fur trader assisted by Andrew Wolf, Jerry Schaefer, and Larry Kortuem. In October, LeSueur County Pioneer Power Association member Mike Bluhm shared the history of Pioneer Power. At the November meeting members learned about the history of marriage by Larry Kortuem.

The annual Christmas Potluck was held on December 6 at All Saints Church Scheid Hall. Jack Zimmerman and Chris Smith talked about training service and hunting dogs. About 65 members attended the potluck. They collected \$276 for the Echo Food Shelf at the meeting.

### ***You can help make Surrounded By History a Success!***

**Now accepting items for the silent auction and wine raffle.**

- Popular auction items include gift certificates, tickets, gift baskets and unique items or experiences.
- Bottles of wine - can be red or white and valued at \$10 or more.

*Items can be dropped off at the History Center during regular business hours until April 15th.*

# BECHS Donors, Members & Sponsors

October - December 2017

## Donors

Kevin and Shelli Allen  
Wayne and Mavis Anderson  
Dorothy Anthony  
Phil Bachman  
Patrick Baker  
Pete and Cindi Baker  
Helen Balcome  
Kathleen Baxter  
BENCO Electric  
Bill and Chris Bernhagen  
Gretchen Bohl  
Anita Kreutzer Boyer  
Cindy Braam  
Bob and Susan Brown  
Dan and Kathy Bruss  
Barbara Church  
Mary Coleman  
Betty Cords  
Glenn and Marcia Cotton  
Mark and Mary Davis  
DeMars General Contracting  
Mary Deopere  
Charlton Dietz  
Bob and Judy Douglas  
Delbert and Judy Dunlap  
John Ellis  
Joe and Malda Farnham  
Doug and Lori Faust  
Gary Garlick  
Sandi and Darrell Garlow  
Betty Goodrich  
Harold and Pam Grems  
Jane Griffiths  
Jon and Sarah Guentzel  
Jim and Shannon Gullickson  
John and Betty Hallman  
Ryan and Heather Harren  
Karen Havelka  
Norla Hesse  
Ron and Marla Higginbotham  
William Hinrichs  
Jim and Pat Hoehn  
William Hoehn  
Alice Hollingsworth

Don Howard  
Bob and Geri Howieson  
Katherine Hughes  
Joan Hurry  
Alyssa K Inniger  
Lyle and Kay Jacobson  
Bill and Margaret James  
Mary Ann Jensen  
Ellis Jones  
Dolores Jones  
Linda Karow  
Neil Kaus  
Wynn and Ginnette Kearney  
Grace and Richard Keir  
Chris and Laurie Kemp  
Jerry Killion  
Arn and Margaret Kind  
Boyd H Kramer  
Lucinda Krosch  
Denise & Mike Kunkel  
Sally Lamont  
John Larson  
David Ross and Carol Lee  
Roger & Carolyn Lovik  
Brady and Julie Lux  
Renee Mathiason  
Kristin Matzke  
Mary McComb  
Byron and Karen McGregor  
MEI - Total Elevator Solutions  
Marge Meredith  
Rosemary Mock  
Robert Morris  
Mary Mortier  
Mary Nelson  
Matt & Emma Norland  
Dick and Kris Norland  
Beth Norman  
Linda and Jerry Nussbaumer  
Michael Oberle  
Ora Ohlenkamp  
Robert and Susan Olson  
Hilda A Parks  
Leslie & Glen Peterson

Sharon Pinney  
Brad and Jessica Potter  
Margaret Preska  
Molly Regan  
Karl Sassenberg  
Eunice Sassenberg  
Scheels  
Ken and Julie Schrader  
James Schramm  
Jo Schultz  
Daardi Sizemore  
Robert & Marilyn Small  
Garrett Steinberg  
Judith Strobel  
Mary Struffert  
Chris Styndl  
Nadine Sugden  
Kevin & Jody Swanson  
Mark & Kristy Sybilrud  
Leon Tacheny  
Brett & Gretchen Taylor  
Joanne Thomas  
Terry & Kay Tompkins  
Valley News Company  
Harlan Vee  
Leo and Judy Voss  
W Lorentz Construction  
Richard & Lynne Weber  
Marti Weisgram  
Ann Werner  
Ken and Linda Wilmes  
Carol Wingen  
Randy & Rachel Wood

## Sustaining Members

Dale Benefield  
Joel Botten  
Carol K English  
Carlienne and Robert Frisch  
Dean and Jo-an Lavitschke  
Jack & Diann McGowan  
Judie Neitge  
James Sawina  
Donna and Gerald Webb  
Marnie Werner  
Beth Zimmer

## New Members

Steven and Kathleen Burnett  
Rosemary Busse  
Jeanne DeMars  
Steve & Susan Jameson  
Jim and Jane Jans  
Neil Kaus  
Rusty & Patricia Kephart  
Michael Krediet  
Kara Long  
Bridget Norland  
Dwain & Carole Petersen  
Joan Roca & Elaine Lilly  
Peter Thompson  
Kate and Korey VanErdewyk  
Christopher Watts  
Katie and Luke Westman

## Renewing Business Members

Brennan Companies  
Consolidated Communications  
Crystal Valley Co-op  
Industrial Fabrication Services  
Preston J. Doyle Insurance Agency

## Giving Level Members

Dr. William E. Lass



**THANK YOU FOR BEING  
A HISTORY HERO!**

## In Memoriam

The Blue Earth County Historical Society was saddened by the loss of several great friends of the Society in recent months. Many gifts were made to honor their legacies.

Perhaps long-time volunteer Jack Madsen said it best, "History is not dead, it is very much alive! It is what we are experiencing right now, this very moment. The things we collect here at BECHS are ... the tokens that mark our passing." Thank you to everyone who gave in memory of a friend or loved one. Your gift will keep history alive as we share and preserve our local history.

### *In Memory of Bud Lawrence*

Mark and Shirley Piepho  
Brad and Jessica Potter  
Randy Zellmer

### *In Memory of Warren Lerdall*

Randy Zellmer

### *In Memory of Jack Madsen*

John and Nancy Cross  
Charles Draper  
Kristi and Bernie Evans  
Anne Ganey  
Laura Garlow  
Sandi and Darrell Garlow  
Jane Haala  
Susan Hynes  
John & Catherine Kaliski  
Grace and Richard Keir  
Dean & Jo-an Lavitschke  
Tom and Theresa  
McLaughlin  
Brad and Jessica Potter  
Karen and Dennis  
Sandersfeld  
Ken and Julie Schrader

Margaret Schreyer  
Jo Schultz  
William Stallkamp  
Lee Topp  
Donna & Gerald Webb  
Jonathan and Ginger  
Zierdt

### *In Memory of Ronald and Edna Mae Milnor*

Nancy Thurber

### *In Memory of Jerry Salfer*

Eloise and Robert  
Layman

### *In Memory H. Roger Smith*

John and Catherine  
Kaliski  
Brad and Jessica Potter  
Marcia Richards

### *In Memory Dick Steele*

Dean and Jo-an  
Lavitschke

## Please consider memorial or tribute gifts to the Blue Earth County Historical Society.

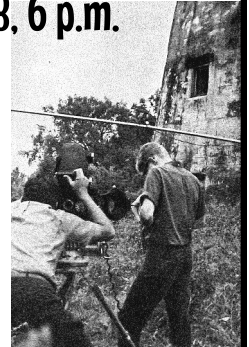
Ask family and friends to donate to BECHS as a birthday or anniversary gift. Or remember someone who has passed away by making a gift in their name. It is our privilege to share word of your generosity with those you are honoring.

# Man on a Mission

## Dinner and a Movie Sixties Style

Friday, March 23, 2018, 6 p.m.

A participatory viewing of the  
1965 locally made film *Man on a  
Mission*, a Cold War spy  
thriller.



\*Sixties Inspired Dinner at Pub 500

\**Man on a Mission* at  
True Facade Pictures

\*Tickets: \$40 Available online at  
BlueEarthCountyHistory.com or at the History Center  
Limited number of tickets available.

Sponsored by:  
greater Mankato  
**ROTARY**  
MANKATO - NORTH MANKATO

1960s ATTIRE ENCOURAGED

## GENEALOGY CLASSES at the History Center



January 27 Organizing your Genealogy  
February 17 Using Newspapers  
March 17 Using Legal Resources  
April 21 Oral Histories

All classes held at the  
Blue Earth County History Center, 2-4 p.m.

\$10/adults, \$7/BECHS member per class

To register, contact Heather at 507-345-5566 or  
Research@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com

## Support BECHS on AmazonSmile

You can support BECHS while shopping on  
Amazon.com by shopping via **AmazonSmile**.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile  
(smile.amazon.com), select a charity (search:  
BECHS), then simply shop while logged in and a  
portion of eligible purchases will be donated  
directly to BECHS.

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

# Calendar of Events January - April 2018

## JANUARY

- 25 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on *Talk of the Town*
- 27 Genealogy Class: Organizing Your Genealogy**, 2 p.m., History Center \$

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Watch KEYC News 12** at Noon for monthly BECHS Update
- 6-10 Winter Sale**, History Center Gift Shop
- 6 Remember When Coffee Club: Having a Baby**, 10 a.m., History Center, *First Tuesday*
- 10 Young Historians: 1960s: What a Decade!**, 10 a.m., History Center
- 10 Kids Stained Glass Workshop**, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Discovery Lab. Ongoing art project, free hands-on activity with Museum admission
- 15 History Bits & Bites: Stories of a Vietnam Experience**, with Larry Kortuem, Noon, History Center *3rd Thursday* \$
- 17 Genealogy Class: Using Newspapers**, 2 p.m., History Center, \$
- 22 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on *Talk of the Town*
- 24 1968 Exhibition Event: Politics of the 1960s**, 2 p.m., History Center
- 28 Artist Reception: Legacies and Cultures Panel Discussion**, 9:30 a.m., History Center



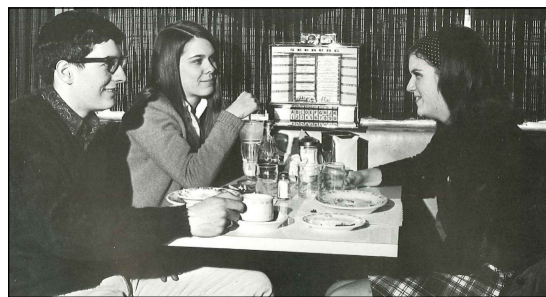
## MARCH

- 1 Watch KEYC News 12** at Noon for monthly BECHS Update
- 4 Annual Meeting: Remembering 1968 with Pete Steiner**, 2 p.m., History Center
- 6 Remember When Coffee Club: Mankato Grows Towards Hilltop**, 10 a.m., History Center, *First Tuesday*
- 10 Young Historians: 1970s-1980s: From Hippies to Yuppies**, 10 a.m., History Center
- 10 Kids Stained Glass Workshop**, 12:30 p.m., Discovery Lab. Ongoing art project, free hands-on activity with Museum admission
- 15 History Bits & Bites: "My Imagination to a New World"** with Safaa Hammouda Sallam and Hamed Salaam, Noon-1 p.m., History Center *3rd Thursday* \$
- 17 Genealogy Class: Using Legal Resources**, 2 p.m., History Center \$
- 22 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on *Talk of the Town*

- 23 Man on a Mission: Dinner and a Movie 60s Style**, 6 p.m. Pub 500 and True Facade Pictures, Dinner, drink ticket and movie, 60s attire encouraged, limited tickets available \$\$

## APRIL

- TBD Volunteer Tour Guide Training** Sign-up today to become a History Center and/or Hubbard House Tour Guide, see pg. 12.
- 3 Remember When Coffee Club: My Neighborhood**, 10 a.m. History Center, *First Tuesday*.
- 5 Watch KEYC News 12** at Noon for monthly BECHS Update
- 7 New Art Gallery Exhibit Opens *Botanicals*** by Gerry Tostenson
- 14 Young Historians, 1990s: The Digital Age**, 10 a.m., History Center
- 14 Kids Stained Glass Workshop**, 12:30 p.m., Discovery Lab. Ongoing art project, free hands-on activity with Museum admission
- 18 Annual BECHS Volunteer Appreciation**, 3 p.m., History Center
- 19 History Bits & Bites: "Dead Air, Please Stand By: CCTV with Mark Halverson and Special Guests"** Noon, History Center. *3rd Thursday* \$
- 21 Genealogy Class: Oral Histories**, 2 p.m., History Center \$
- 27 Surrounded By History: Celebrating the Swinging Sixties**, 6 p.m., Social Hour, Dinner, Silent Auction, Wine Wall, Raffle, "Music of the 60s" performed by XYZ Live!, MSU, M Centennial Student Union Ballroom, Tickets on sale March 1



### Three easy ways to stay up-to-date:

- Check out [www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) for full event details and updates!
- Sign-up for our free monthly e-news to receive updates between *Historian* issues at [www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/Connect](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/Connect)
- Follow BECHS on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

\$=Admission Charged



# Membership Makes a Difference

Just as each object and photo at the Blue Earth County Historical Society has a story, so also each member has a story. Some members have been a part of the Historical Society for decades while others are still enjoying their first year. There are members from all parts of the United States, some who grew up in Blue Earth County and have moved away, others may have never lived here, but want to keep in touch with their roots. Some members have lived in Blue Earth County their entire lives, while others are transplants.

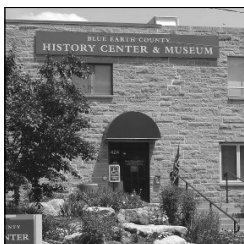
And to complete any member's story is "why" they have chosen to become a member. Reasons behind having a membership can be countless, but may include: the benefit of free admission, a way to

connect to family or as a way to provide financial support for ongoing exhibits, programs and preservation.

When you think about it, these unique stories are the whole reason for BECHS in the first place. We are in the business of collecting stories. The objects and photos we collect come together to tell the stories of today and yesterday. Thank you for continuing the story of Blue Earth County.



**If you aren't a member,  
please consider joining our story!**



---

## BECHS Annual Membership

The Blue Earth County Historical Society is a member-supported, non-profit organization. Membership dues make up a growing portion of the annual operating budget. Thank you for your support.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Levels

Individual Senior (62+) \$30

Individual \$35

Household \$50

Contributor \$75

Supporter \$100

Booster or Business \$250

Advocate \$500

Benefactor \$1,000

Please send this form and check to:

**BECHS Membership**  
**424 Warren Street**  
**Mankato, MN 56001**

**OR**

Complete your membership form online at  
**[www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/join](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com/join)**

*Affiliate Membership levels available for Groups or Organizations, call for details.*



# Celebrating the Swinging Sixties

BY SURROUNDED  
HISTORY

**APRIL 27, 2018**

6:00 p.m.

Centennial Student Union Ballroom  
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Tickets available March 1. \$50.00

**SOCIAL HOUR  
DINNER  
ENTERTAINMENT  
RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION**

60'S ATTIRE IS ENCOURAGED. DRESS TO IMPRESS.



BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
[www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com)



**Blue Earth County Historical Society**

424 Warren Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit Org.**  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Mankato MN  
56001  
Permit No. 86

**Membership  
Expiration Date**