

The Blue Earth County

# HISTORIAN

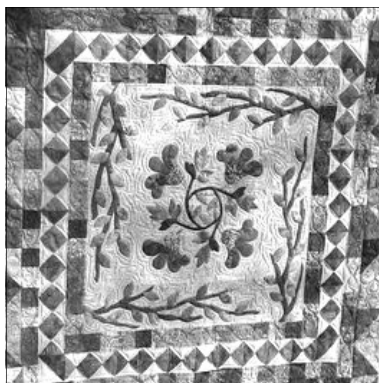


## Happy 110th Anniversary BECHS



Museum display at Mankato's 1902 Semi-Centennial celebration, see page 2.

### Quilts on display



New exhibit featuring the Deep Valley Quilters, see page 4.

### Around the County with RHS



Bus driver, Art Nelson, standing by the Rapidan Consolidated School bus, 1924, see page 16.

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Our Mission: To collect, preserve, and promote the history of Blue Earth County for present and future generations.

## The Blue Earth County Historian



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#### Hours (January-April)

Tuesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Wednesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### R.D. Hubbard House

606 South Broad Street, Mankato  
507-345-5566  
CLOSED until May 2011

### The Blue Earth County Historian Winter 2011

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

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# Director's Notes

Jessica Potter  
Executive Director

What do all of these historical milestones have in common?

- First games played in baseball's American League.
- Loop-the-loop centrifugal railroad (aka roller coaster) patented by Ed Prescott.
- New York becomes first state requiring auto license plates \$1 fee.
- Memorial Day first observed in the U.S.
- Benjamin Adams arrested for playing golf on Sunday in New York
- Hubert Cecil Booth patents vacuum cleaner.
- Theodore Roosevelt renames "Executive Mansion," "The White House".
- Gillette patents first disposable razor.
- The Blue Earth County Historical Society founded.

The answer: They all happened in 1901 – 110 years ago.

Imagine, if you will, sitting around a table in the Board of Trade room at Mankato's City Hall and it is October 10, 1901. Judge Daniel Buck is presiding over the meeting called to organize the Blue Earth County Historical Society. Poor weather keeps many away, but a number of "old pioneers and several young men" brave the elements to be part of this historical occasion.

"Blue Earth County was organized fifty years ago and lots of good historical material is lying around loose and it will be the object of this society to put it into suitable shape for transmission to future generations that may inhabit the confines of Blue Earth County." (*Weekly Ledger*, October 15, 1901)

All in attendance vote to move the organization forward and on November 7 the Constitution for the Blue Earth County Historical Society is presented and adopted. The first officers for the newly formed organization are: President Judge Daniel Buck, First Vice President C.A. Chapman, Second Vice President H.C. Hotaling, Secretary Thomas Hughes, Treasurer Philip Mueller and Librarian Miss Minnie McGraw.

The Constitution states that the purpose of the organization is "to collect, arrange and preserve a library of books, pamphlets, maps, manuscripts, prints, papers and other material illustrative of the civil, religious, literary and natural history of Minnesota; to obtain a cabinet of minerals and archeological curiosities; to rescue from oblivion the memory of its early pioneers and to obtain narratives of their exploits, perils and adventures, together with their portraits and personal histories; to obtain statistics as to the past and present condition and resources of

Minnesota, including its horticultural, agricultural and mineralogy and other things pertaining to its social and political history; and to cultivate among its citizens a knowledge of the useful and liberal arts, science and literature; and it may take steps to this end by lectures and suitable means whereby the acquisition and diffusion of knowledge among its members and the people generally shall be accomplished.”

*Section 1 – Blue Earth County Historical Society Constitution.*



The year 1902 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the settlement of Mankato. This was perfect cause for a celebration led by the newly formed Historical Society. The Semi-Centennial took place from June 30 – July 5, 1902. The event included a museum of curiosities and relics at the Pay Livery barn, circus, carnival, parades, laying of the Carnegie Library cornerstone, Old Settlers’ banquet, concerts, historical programs, fireworks display and the publication of *Mankato: Its First 50 Years* by Thomas Hughes.

As a historian, I think it is very interesting to look back at looking forward. What this means is, it’s interesting to look through the eyes of someone from our past as they are looking to their future hopes and dreams; to be in that room on October 10, 1901 with Daniel Buck, Thomas Hughes and the lone woman Miss Grace Comstock; and to be inspired by the hopes of a Blue Earth County Historical Society. Could they have even imagined that in 110 years the organization would still be going strong with a collection of photographs that number over 10,000 or three-dimensional “relics” of over 23,000? Or that the organization would be housed in an 11,000

square foot facility with a museum, research center, archives and storage room and be running out of room. When those first 15 people signed the By-laws to become life members, did they ever imagine that over 500 households would support this organization in 2011? As I said, it’s interesting to look back at looking forward.

Happy Anniversary Blue Earth County Historical Society! Here’s to an unimaginable future of hopes and dreams.



## Marian Anderson Art Gallery



The NEW Marian Anderson Art Gallery located at 1560 Adams Street, Mankato, is now open. The Gallery and Gift Shop is operated by and all proceeds go to the Historical Society as a generous gift from Marian. See beautiful originals on display and purchase prints, note cards and accessories.



### **Marian Anderson Art Gallery Hours**

January-May

1st Saturday of each month 2-4 p.m.

3rd Thursday of each month 5-7 p.m.

Other times by appointment

**Grand Opening May 14 – 15**  
**with special appearance from Marian Anderson**



# Board of Trustees



**Mike Lagerquist**  
Board of Trustees President

*Whoever wishes to foresee the future  
must consult the past; for human events  
ever resemble those of preceding times.*

—Machiavelli

The beginning of a new year is a logical time to ruminate on the past—whether that is the last year or a lifetime—to separate that which we like and want to continue from that we dislike and hope to end. It is also the time to set goals and to make changes that will help you reach those goals.

If you've been involved with the Blue Earth County Historical Society over the last year, you know that 2010 was a year when the Board of Trustees took an inventory of what we do and how we do it. Now, as 2011 unfolds before us, we set our goals.

For me, one big resolution for 2011 is a better inclusion of all parts of Blue Earth County in our programming. While we all realize there is more to Blue Earth County than Mankato, because we are headquartered here it is often easier to focus our activities here. Unfortunately, that does a disservice to anyone who calls Amboy, Eagle Lake, Garden City, Good Thunder, Lake Crystal, Madison Lake, Mapleton, Pemberton, Rapidan, St. Clair and Vernon Center home.

We resolve to do a better job of seeking input from residents in those towns during 2011 and to have the resulting BECHS programs reflect that input. To help us accomplish this goal, we look to each of you for input.

This input can come in a variety of forms.

1. Answers: Obviously, providing us with information about a building, town, township or event that took place in the county's past will give us a leg up in finding a way to share that information with others. It brings an immediacy to its dissemination.

2. Questions: If you've always wondered about something in Blue Earth County but have never known where to turn for answers, consider coming to

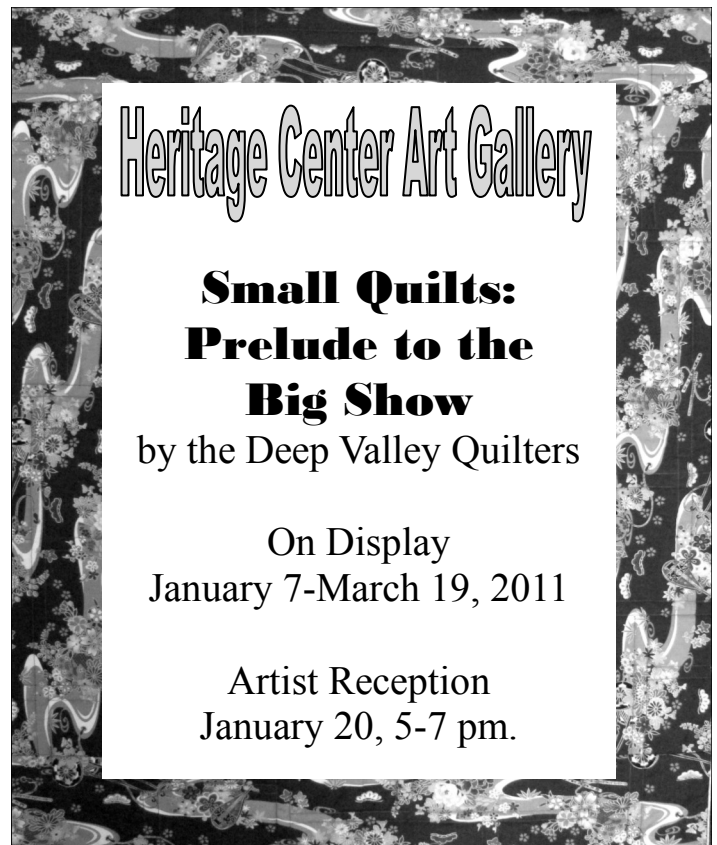
BECHS. If we have the answers, we're happy to share them; if we don't, we'll be happy to help you get them.

3. Participation: This is a two-way street. While we hope that you will join us in those events we have planned, we also hope you'll come to us when you've got your own events to share. It's difficult for us to become involved in the planning or execution of ALL events, but maybe there's something more we can provide—resources, collaboration or help getting the word out.

I hope to see and learn much more about all of Blue Earth County in 2011.

*History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.*

—Robert Penn Warren



**Heritage Center Art Gallery**

**Small Quilts:  
Prelude to the  
Big Show**

by the Deep Valley Quilters

On Display  
January 7-March 19, 2011

Artist Reception  
January 20, 5-7 pm.

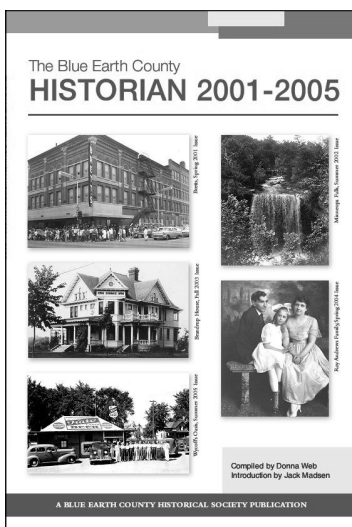
**Next Exhibit:**  
Bend of the River Photography Club  
“The Lens Tells the Story”  
April 1-June 30, 2011

# ...at the Museum Store

JoLynn Crowe, Museum Manager

Now that the winter solstice has come and gone and our days will be getting longer, there is still plenty of winter left to have us in its grasp for awhile. Why not stop by the museum store or check online to see what we have for some good reading for the winter months yet ahead.

There is the newly rebound *Historian 2001 - 2005*. This book is the compilation of the feature



articles from the Blue Earth County Historical Society's publication, *The Historian*, from the winter of 2001 through the fall of 2005. The topics vary widely from articles on innovation in teaching to biographical sketches of some remarkable people, from accounts of the development of local industry to stories of immigration from all

parts of the world, from stories of ghosts in school houses to those of a traveling opera company.

The store also offers the newly released combined editions of Maud Hart Lovelace series. Titles include *Heaven to Betsy/Betsy in Spite of Herself*, *Betsy was a Junior/Betsy and Joe*, *Betsy and the Great World/Betsy's Wedding*, *Carney's House Party/Winona's Pony Cart* and the single book, *Emily of Deep Valley*.

Another great series is the American Girl Collection, which is celebrating its 25th birthday this year. The Museum carries the American Girl Historical Characters. Check out American Girl Cooking Studio books, paper doll packages, storybook collections and paperback collection books (6 paperback books in each). This collection is beloved by young girls.

Grace Keir has designed several aprons with the innovative idea of using embroidered pillow cases as the main body of the apron. A must see! A great gift idea would be an American Girl Cooking Studio book with an apron to go along with it.



For the year of 2011, the museum store has many mini-calendars available with reproduction advertisements for Ayers Sarsaparilla, Hoyts' German Cologne, Rubifoam for the Teeth, Van Houten's Cocoa, J. & P. Coats Best Six-Cord Thread, Crown Prince Coffees, Hoods Sarsaparilla, and Niagara Starch. For some, these will bring back great memories of years and products past.

Don't forget to check out the sales corner for some special 20% off deals. Be sure to check out the items, you never know what you might find!

Another way to see what the store has to offer is to visit BECHS online at [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com). Click on the shopping cart to see what is available in the Museum Store and shop from the comfort of your home, no matter what the weather is!

Happy shopping!

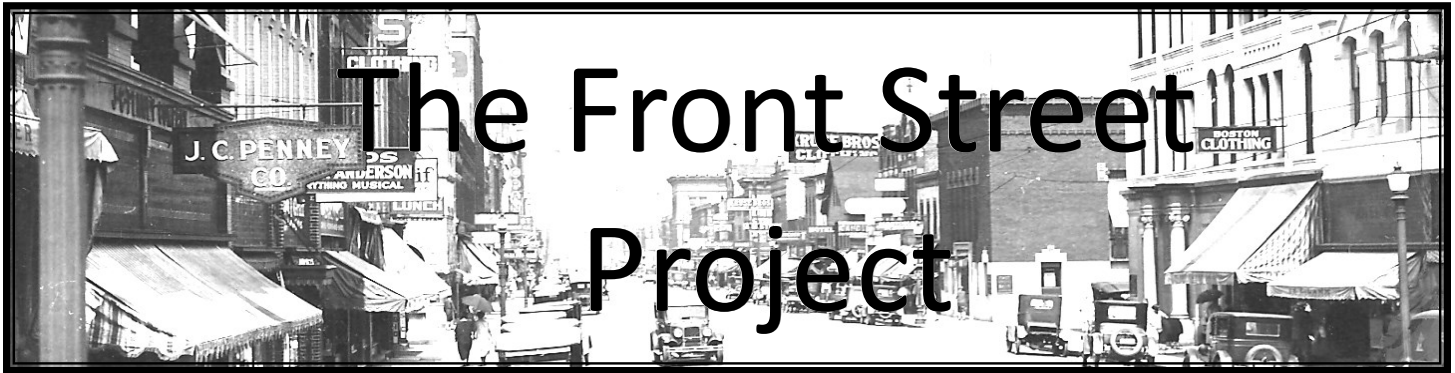
## Volunteer Help Needed

### *Gift Shop Attendant*

Duties include: cash register operation, a warm welcoming smile and good customer service.

Hours and location will vary between the Heritage Center, Hubbard House and Marian Anderson Art Gallery.

Call JoLynn for more details 345-5566



The Front Street Project has a simple goal: to capture, preserve, and present the stories of Front Street from the early beginnings as a core downtown business district in Mankato—to urban renewal—to present day revitalization.

The Front Street Project began collecting oral and written stories in 2009. To date, over 30 oral histories and 40 written memories have been collected. See the memory below as an example of one of the many incredible recollections that have been donated to the project. These memories along with historical accounts, photographs and memorabilia will make up the Front Street Project book and interactive exhibit at the BECHS Heritage Center to debut in 2011.

We continue to collect written memories to be used for the project. In addition, we are currently collecting memorabilia and photographs of days gone by on Front Street. Items can either be placed on loan for the duration of the exhibit (3-5 years) or can be donated to the Historical Society for posterity.

Volunteers and sponsors are still needed for the Front Street Project exhibit and book. Please contact Jessica at 507-345-5566 or [bechs@hickorytech.net](mailto:bechs@hickorytech.net) if you are interested in being a part of this community project or for more information.

Check out our current Front Street Project partners: The Free Press, Mankato Area Foundation and Voices from the Valley.

## Front Street Memories

*Contributed by Doris Berger*

Front Street, Mankato where I shopped with mother in the 1940s and 1950s. My earliest spending sprees were at the “dime” stores where I would spend considerable time choosing plastic doll house furniture. All the money I earned cleaning and packing eggs at our farm was happily spent on the furniture. Brett’s was “the” store where shoes, clothes, and the fabric department were exciting. Rose Thomas managed an outstanding sewing department and John Turner created wonderful displays in the big front windows as well as inside.

We came in from the farm and usually spent the better part of a day. Lunch was often at the Topic Café on Jackson. For Christmas and special occasions our pictures were taken at the “Penny Picture Studio” on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. There was the very stylish Vogue dress store and another on the corner of Jackson and Front. Zimmerman and Bangerter the hardware store where you could buy dynamite.

And Anton’s had a grocery store where we could stop on a Sunday evening on the way home for Grandma’s to pick up a few groceries needed for Monday morning. And Jim Anton was a very young man who sang “Ain’t You Glad You Were Born” – what a town - the clerk sang in the grocery store!!

Then at the top of the hill at Madison Avenue you could look back down Front Street and see the street lights all the way to Liberty and to a young farm girl it was pure magic.

## The Front Street Project Partners

**The Free Press**



Recording Life  
in Southern Minnesota



**MANKATO AREA FOUNDATION**

# Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Project

Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager



The Blue Earth County Historical Society was awarded a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant in the amount of \$3837.00. The grant, awarded in September, will support the completion of the microfilm collection of local community newspapers.

Our microfilm collection of local newspapers is a vital resource that documents the daily life of Blue Earth County from 1857 to the present. Each reel of film contains a snapshot in time through the daily news, feature articles, editorials, advertisements, sports, and even the comics and movie listings. Front page stories on local reaction to global events are followed with notices of weddings, deaths, and local sports scores. Illustrations and photographs supply images of the people and events that made the news.

With this grant we have the opportunity to enhance our microfilm collection with additional reels of the following local newspapers: *The Free Press*, *Lake Crystal Tribune*, *Lake Region Times*, *Maple River Messenger* and *The Land* magazine. These additions will complete our collection with what is currently available through the Minnesota Historical Society's microfilm lab.

"It's wonderful to see so many communities and local organizations benefiting from the Heritage and Cultural Grants," said Britta Bloomberg, deputy state historic preservation officer. "Minnesota should be proud of the unprecedented opportunities these grants provide for organizations to preserve and share our history and cultural heritage. The impact of the projects supported by the Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants will be felt throughout the state for many years to come." The Minnesota Historical Society will award a total of \$6.75 million in Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants to non-profit and educational organizations, as well as, government units and tribes during the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years for projects of enduring value for the cause of history and historical preservation across the state.

## Heritage Center Winter Hours *January-April*

**Tuesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Wednesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
**Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

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# R.D. Hubbard House

The Hubbard House has wrapped up the 2010 season with special events in October and the annual

Christmas at the Hubbard House in December. Another enchanting Hubbard House Christmas was celebrated by many. Special thanks to all of the volunteers that made these two events memorable and meaningful for all who attended. In fact, here is a nice note BECHS received:

*My friend Edward and I had the pleasure of touring the Hubbard House on October 23. It was a delightful experience! Our guide (Susan Hynes) was knowledgeable and well-spoken. We were also charmed by the young ladies (Alex Oldenburg and Laura Garlow) playing the roles of the two sisters.*

*Since we were attending the Toastmasters convention that weekend, we were especially mindful of the need for public speaking skills and the courage it takes to step outside one's comfort zone. So, we were especially pleased that the two "sisters" were doing just that and building professional and life skills. I hope you will thank all the Hubbard House tour staff for us and encourage teens to develop self-confidence through these activities. What they may lack in polish is amply made up in charm.*

Hats off to our Hubbard House volunteers!

## *Hubbard Family Christmas Eve*



Right:  
Susan Hynes as maid.



Below:  
Katherine and Mary Esther Hubbard as portrayed by Alex Oldenburg and Laura Garlow.



Front: Katherine Dean (Alex Oldenburg), Frank (Patrice Hundstad), Mary Esther (Laura Garlow)  
Rear: Maid (Donna Webb), Maid (Susan Hynes), Cook (Jane Tarjeson)

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GALLERY

## Volunteer Help Needed

### *Hubbard House Assistant*

Duties include: tour guide, gift shop attendant, Historic house maintenance. To start in April.

Contact JoLynn for more details 345-5566





Margaret Anderson Kelliher and her mother Elaine Himmelman Anderson.

## Her Roots Run Deep: Margaret Anderson Kelliher

By Beth Zimmer

In the over 150 years of the Minnesota legislature there had not been a Speaker of the House who represented Blue Earth County. However, from 2006 through 2010 that position was held by Margaret Anderson Kelliher who “officially” represented District 60A, but we in Blue Earth County can claim her too. She was not only born and reared here to a family with our values, but has ancestry that goes back on both sides to the earliest settlers of the county.

Margaret’s paternal line begins with Henry Clay Anderson. Born in Ohio in 1832, he arrived in Blue Earth County in the early 1860s. Tradition is that before Anderson settled in the Judson area, he tried his hand at sailing as well as mining for gold. According to Thomas Hughes in *History of Blue Earth County*, Anderson laid claim to 300 acres that were in a “raw state of nature.” If one visualizes the glacial till that the Minneopa State Park now extols, you can see that Henry must have had his work cut out for him. Through the years he developed the land to make it productive and when he died in 1904, he left a sizeable estate of \$2000 in personal property and \$16,000 in real estate. Henry began the tradition among the Andersons of civic responsibility by being most supportive of various enterprises for the good of the community.

His bride-to-be, Sarah Jane Martin, was born in 1852 in Ripon, Wisconsin, to two natives of New York State who moved to Waterville, Minnesota, when she was ten years old. Henry and Sarah were married in 1871 eventually becoming parents of ten children. She was a widow for 44 years living to be 92 years of age. Sarah died on June 29, 1945.

Margaret descends from Henry and Sarah through their eldest child, James Henry Anderson. He married Lily August Johnson in an outdoor double wedding in 1896. She was born in 1870, in Judson Township, to Swedish immigrant parents, Charles and Anna Johnson. The yard where the double wedding took place was surrounded with “McKinley for President” banners. The couple must have been very enamored with McKinley since they named their first born, Charles “McKinley” Anderson. Ironically, this man who was named for a Republican president was Margaret Anderson Kelliher’s grandfather.

Charles McKinley Anderson, born in 1897, married into another pioneer family in South Bend Township area when he married Ella V. Hanel in 1922. Ella was the daughter of Gottlieb John Hanel and Anna Emma Seppman. Gottlieb, born in Posen, Germany, in 1865, migrated with his parents to the area when he was eight years old. Anna Emma Seppman was born 1872 in South Bend Township to Louis and Augusta Miller Seppman.

Louis Seppman was born in Germany in 1835 to Heinrich and Elizabeth Kleiman Seppmann. He arrived in New York City on New Year’s Day of 1853 settling first in Pennsylvania. After trying his luck at looking for gold on Pike’s Peak, he finally arrived in Blue Earth County in 1857. With his stonemason skills, he immediately found employment and invested his earnings into a farm consisting of 415 acres located in South Bend Township. He married Augusta Miller in 1866. She was born in Pommern, Germany, in 1850 to Michael and Dorothy Miller.

In the early days of Blue Earth County wheat was grown requiring a mill to grind it. Seeing this need, stonemason, Louis Seppman, built the round-tower mill out on Highway 68 which is now a part of Minneopa State Park. This “Old Dutch Mill” has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1971 and is probably one of the most noticed and recognized landmarks in the county.

Carl Marvin Anderson was born in 1925 to Charles Anderson and Ella Hanel. In 1947, he married Elaine Margaret Himmelman of Mankato. They became the parents of four boys and two girls including Margaret Elaine Anderson Kelliher. Carl followed the Anderson tradition by buying his own farm land adjacent to the land on which his great grandfather Henry C. Anderson settled.

While the Anderson side of Margaret's family was becoming leaders in the agricultural growth of the county, the maternal side of her family was making their mark in Mankato.

Henry Himmelman, Sr. was born in 1834 in Strasbourg in the Alsace area. After completing his academic education at the age of fourteen he began an apprenticeship as a wagonmaker. An interesting side note is that his brother entered the military service and was shot as he stood by the side of Napoleon III as his personal guard. At the age of 20, Himmelman sailed to America first settling in St. Charles, Missouri. He arrived in Blue Earth County about a year later, where he opened a wagon and blacksmith shop in Mankato. The shop was most successful and he became well acquainted with the area's farmers.

In 1858 in Mankato, Henry, Sr. made Pauline Heinze his bride. Pauline was born in Saxony, Germany in 1840, the fifth of ten children born to Johan Christopher "Frederick" Heinze and Wilhelmina "Caroline" Hoffern.

Pauline's father, "Frederick" was from a wealthy family, but her mother, "Caroline" was a lowly stable girl known for her liveliness and industriousness. His parents disapproved of the match, but since he was an only son, he inherited his family's wealth. The entire family except the oldest son, Gottlieb, arrived in New York aboard the ship Helene in 1850. Gottlieb stayed in Germany to manage their property there.

The family originally settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but in 1856 they migrated to Blue Earth County where they purchased a farm in Lime Township. Frederick died about five years later.

Son Charles A. Heinze established a bakery in Mankato which was later managed by his brother, Ferdinand. One test of whether your family are "true" pioneers of Blue Earth County is whether you have a relative represented in one or more of the Betsy-Tacy Books. The Heinze's pass this test since Ferdinand

was the real life individual who is noted in the books as the Mr. Heinze of the "Heinze Palace Restaurant and Bakery" where the girls liked to go for treats.

In 1869 Henry Himmelman, Sr. must have seen the need for a hotel as, on the site where his shop had been, he built the City Hotel. This quickly became the headquarters for all of the farmers who came to town to market their produce. His wife, Pauline, was said to have been a great help in the management of the hotel and was a huge contributor to its success. Like her husband, she possessed an amiable disposition that made the City Hotel a pleasant place to stay.

Probably growing out of need to furnish his hotel with good mattresses, Henry, Sr. was manufacturing them by 1890. This business got so large that it demanded all of his attention and he turned the management of the hotel over to his son, Henry, Jr. The mattress business was eventually moved to St. Paul, but when Henry, Sr. retired, he moved back to Mankato.

Henry Himmelman, Sr. was another of the ancestors of Margaret Anderson Kelliher who sewed the seeds of good citizenship. From the moment of his migration to this area he was always interested in civic affairs and a contributor to causes that would benefit the city's interests. He also entered politics serving as an alderman for 15 years.

Pauline Heinze Himmelman died of diabetes mellitus in 1906 at the age of 66. Her husband followed her in death in 1911. They are both interred in a mausoleum at Glenwood Cemetery in Mankato. Pauline and Henry Himmelman, Sr. had three boys and two girls. Their son Henry Jr. managed the City Hotel for eighteen years before he left the Mankato area. He moved west where he helped to establish the Westin Hotel Chain, known for its upscale lodging today.

Margaret's line is traced through their younger son, Edward J. Himmelman. He was born in 1864 in Mankato and was educated in the public school system of Mankato and at the Mankato Normal School. He also pursued a business course at the Commercial College of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

After finishing his schooling, he worked at several different jobs that provided varied experiences in the business world. In 1903, Henry Himmelman, Jr. gave up the management of the City Hotel and Edward J. returned to Mankato as its proprietor. He

must have set his sights on attracting a superior class of patrons because in 1905 he opened a new, modern hotel which he named the Hotel Heinrich. It was lauded as materially adding to "Mankato's prestige as a live and progressive place." Like his father he was a great promoter of Mankato.

Edward married Margaret Leader in 1887. The daughter of Andrew H. Leader, she was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1867. Andrew had enlisted with the Prussian army when but 19 years of age. It was while living with Margaret and Edward Himmelman in Sioux City that he became identified with a German association known as the Krieger Verein whose membership consisted exclusively of German soldiers who had served in the fatherland. Shortly before his death in 1906, this society proclaimed him the oldest Prussian soldier and presented him with a one-of-a-kind solid gold cross. He had also dabbled in politics while still living in Milwaukee, being elected county commissioner as well as superintendent of the poor.

Margaret Leader Himmelman died on December 18, 1917 leaving two sons, Troy E. and Fred Heinrich. Fred stayed in Mankato to help his father with the management of the hotel. He was born in 1890 in Sioux City, Iowa. In January 1916 he and his best friend, Charles Steiner, applied for passports so that they could vacation in Cuba. On his application, Fred stated that he planned to visit Cuba for pleasure and sightseeing for a period of two months. At the end of his application is written "Please Rush!" The two young men must have been anticipating a great time.

Fred enlisted to serve in the First World War. At the time there appeared in the local newspaper an article telling of his being gifted a handsome wrist watch by the employees of the Heinrich hotel before he departed with the selected men from Blue Earth County.

Fred married Mayme Publitz in 1921, in a double wedding with his friend Charles Steiner. She was born in Nicollet, Minnesota, in 1894. Her family was of German descent but had gone to the Ukraine to farm during the reign of Catherine the Great. Her father, Wilhelm, worked as a railroad section boss in America.

In 1924 Edward, now a widower, married Gertrude Hitzel and they took up residence in the

hotel. He died in Mankato in 1932 and was buried in the mausoleum in Glenwood Cemetery. After the death of Edward, his second wife, Gertrude, assumed ownership of the Heinrich Hotel. The announcement of the sale of the Heinrich Hotel to W.G.A.

Burton was made in the *Mankato Free Press* in 1936.

Fred moved his family to St Paul where he owned a deli, across the street from St. Thomas College which still exists today. By 1936 they were back living in North Mankato and Fred was running a filling station. Fred died in 1961 and Mayme died in 1979. Fred and Mayme had two sons and three daughters. One daughter was Elaine Margaret whose marriage to Carl Marvin Anderson has already been discussed.

From the very beginning Carl and Elaine's youngest, Margaret, was special. She was their third child to be born on the 11th of March. The other two were Craig and Martha. The doctor suggested that the unusual fact be publicized, but Elaine Himmelman protested saying "You're not having the picture of a 44-year old mother in the *Free Press*."

Margaret's closest in age sibling was Paul who was 13 years older than she. Being so much younger than her siblings may have daunted a less precocious, and strong-willed person, but from the very beginning she showed that she was tough! When her brothers tried to ban her from their woodshop due to all the messes that she made, she wrote and posted a proclamation to let them know she didn't agree. It read, "I can make all the messes I want in this shop--- Margaret"

Margaret showed her leadership abilities early. When she was in the second grade, her school bus got stuck in a snow bank. Everyone on the bus had to get out and push. The next day Margaret went to school and recommended that her teacher take to the proper sources the suggestion that all school buses should include two-way radios.

When Margaret was in the 5th grade, there was discussion of dropping the 5th and 6th grades at Hoover and bussing the students to Roosevelt. Margaret led her peers in preparing a petition for the teacher to take to the school board to voice their concerns.

Participation in 4-H activities gave Margaret more opportunities for leadership. During the summer of 1984 she attended a week long 4-H



Leadership Conference which motivated her to set goals. She wrote down three which included winning a trip to Chicago based on dairy food records, to become an ambassador for 4-H and to become a state officer of 4-H. The following summer at the Conference she competed with 30 4-H leaders and was elected President. She was the first 4-H member of Blue Earth County to be named to a state office in 20 years. That year she also won her trip to Chicago and became an ambassador, therefore successfully fulfilling all three of her goals.

In March 1986 she was crowned Blue Earth County's American Dairy Princess. The princesses represent the dairy industry at stores, parades and other public events to promote dairy products.

After graduating from West High School in Mankato she went to Gustavus Adolphus College in St Peter, MN where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a concentration in history. During a debate held at the college on Nov 10, 2009, Margaret declared herself the only candidate to ever run for governor of Minnesota who could also claim that she had been St. Lucia in the annual celebration at the college.

Margaret's active interest in politics began early. In the 1980s during the economic downswing faced by the farmers in the state, the family almost lost their farm. Margaret's first experience with the power of the people in helping to guide their government was a result of her picketing the state capital during this period. She attended her first caucus when she was twenty years old. Going through the caucus system, she was elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. Michael Dukakis, the party's candidate that year, was not successful, but not only was it an introduction to big time politics for Margaret, but she met her future husband who was also a delegate from Minnesota.

Marriage had to wait though. After finishing her studies at Gustavus, Margaret was off to Boston where she earned a Masters of Public Administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and was a Bush Foundation Leadership Fellow.

Margaret and David were married on June 20 1992 in Hennepin County. The couple has two children, Patrick and Frances. Margaret soon

secured a position as an aide to Bob Vanasek who was then Speaker. Who was to know that in the future she herself would serve in this capacity?

Margaret has gone through the ranks in all of her political activities. She started as a community organizer in the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood. In 1998 she was elected to represent District 60A in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Her first term was capped by her being named "Freshman Legislator of the Year." She has

proven herself to be a strong, pragmatic leader who reflects the values of her rural Blue Earth County upbringing. In 2006 her skills were further recognized when she was elected Speaker of the House at the age of 38. She was the

second woman to hold this position and the first person in the history of the state to have Blue Earth County roots.

Although Margaret represented the Minneapolis District 60A, it was on her parent's farm where Margaret chose to make an announcement that she planned to run for governor in 2010. Those in attendance had been invited to bring along a dish to pass for a dinner on the lawn. Family members, old friends, former teachers, politicians and news people sat down together to break bread and exchange tales of what they remembered about Margaret.

After winning her party's endorsement for governor, she lost her bid to run in the primary to Mark Dayton. She has since declared that she is planning to retire from politics, but would seek employment elsewhere.

Whatever she chooses to pursue, one can be assured that Margaret will continue to reflect the pragmatic, down to earth values that she learned growing up in Blue Earth County.



Margaret Anderson Kelleher and author, Beth Zimmer.

# Every object has a story...

The Society's archives and object collection includes many large and small items documenting life in Blue Earth County from the mid-19th century through today. The items have been donated by people who want to help preserve and protect this rich history. If you are interested in donating a piece of Blue Earth County history, please contact Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager. Here is a glimpse into our collection:



This cornice was salvaged from 414 South Front Street, Mankato. Cornices are the overhanging panels that give a finishing touch to a building. It helped to give a grand appearance to the Zimmerman Hardware Store. It is said to have been designed by the Art Institute of Chicago.

Now seeking items related to the history of Mankato's Front Street - photographs, menus, business related items, memorabilia, etc.



This 1953 Maytag range is fantastic and in pristine condition. The stove has been in continual use, with loving care, since bought new by Fred and Dixie Muellerleile. Maytag made 43 different types of ovens, stoves, and ranges. This range has Art-Deco styling and is a Dutch Oven Model with a large work space and large burners. *It sparkles!*

## Minnesota 2nd Regiment Company H

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. The war began on April 12, 1861 with the attack on Fort Sumter and ended April 9, 1865 at Appomattox Court House. This bloody conflict nearly tore the country apart. But it survived, grew and prospered.

The next issue of *The Historian* will include an article on the part that the 2nd Minnesota Regiment Company H, made up of Blue Earth County residents, played in this conflict.

## Wish List

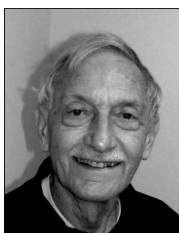
*Items or cash donations will be gratefully accepted.*

- Tabletop tripod
- Office Max or Que Computers Gift Cards
- Archival supplies for collections storage (ongoing preservation expenses)
- Front Street Project exhibit and book funds
- PastPerfect 5.0 Upgrade (need \$200)

**THANK YOU!**

# Volunteer Spotlight

In 2010, 86 people donated over 6,300 hours to the Blue Earth County Historical Society; this is the equivalent of three full-time employees. Volunteers serve on committees and the Board of Trustees, assist with programs and special events, maintain the collections and archives, conduct research for publications and genealogy requests, clip newspapers, conduct tours at the Museum and Hubbard House, and... Thank you to all who donate their time and talents! Interested in volunteering? Contact JoLynn at 345-5566.



## Win Grundmeier

After retiring from teaching chemistry for 32 years at Mankato State University in June of 1990 and taking a vacation of three months, I became a volunteer at BECHS in September 1990. I started in the "Clipping Department", cutting important articles from the *Mankato Free Press* for use in the vertical files. Two years later I joined Orv Jensen and Ken Knutson in accessioning and labeling artifacts. I served on the BECHS Board of Trustees for two terms, from 1992-1998 and am currently serving another term. My wife and I have performed as living history characters at the Hubbard House, "Ghosts from the Past" and various Pub Crawls. Recently, I have been presenting programs at local senior residences with the Archives Manager, Shelley Harrison. I am also involved with doing research for books and newsletter articles and giving tours both at the Hubbard House and at the Heritage Center Museum. The most enjoyable part of my volunteering is the Collections Committee meetings.



## Donna Webb

I became a volunteer at BECHS when I retired from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 1998. I thought it would be a good fit for my History degree and the skills I had gained working at the MSU Library and PALS Library Automation department for 26 years.

During the last 12 years I have served one term on the Board of Trustees, been a member of the Archives, Collections, Communications and Marketing, Museum Store, Technology and Website Committees, served as the Chairman for the Publications Committee and as a tour guide at the Hubbard House. Over the years I have played a part in the Hubbard House Christmas activity, the Summer Lawn Party and other costumed events. My primary responsibilities have been the organizing, cataloging and data entry of the Society's book collection, production of the quarterly newsletter and "other duties as assigned."

## BECHS Membership

October - December 2010

### New Members

Garlick, Gary  
Heinze, Marsha  
Hislop, Roger and Kay  
Hughes, Katherine  
Lavitschke, Dean  
Lehnert, Marilyn  
Madison, Rallah  
Nafziger, Beverly  
Nelson, Erick and Kristin  
Oldenburg, Chris and Steve  
Otto, Ruth  
Studer, Mary

### Business Members

Abdo, Eick & Meyer  
Brennan Companies  
Burkhardt & Burkhardt  
City Center Hotel  
Frentz Construction  
Goodrich Construction  
Hoehn Drainage  
I & S Group  
Insty Prints  
Laurel's Edge  
Mankato Farmers Market  
Mankato House  
Pathstone Living  
Paulsen Architects  
Piepho Moving and Storage  
Preston Doyle State Farm Insurance  
QComputers  
Quality 1 Hr. Foto  
Red Door Creative  
The Free Press  
Tow Distributing  
Voyager Bank

***To our new and renewing members, THANK YOU for your continued support.***



# BECHS Donations

October-December 2010

Anderson-Morgan, Verna  
Anonymous  
Barber, Dr. Eddice  
Bassett, William  
Belgard, Hugh and Vail  
Botten, Joel  
Bowen, Patrick  
Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd.  
Buscher, Mr. and Mrs. Robert  
Church, Barbara  
Coleman, Mary  
Dooley, Mary  
Farnham, Joe and Malda  
Fors, Brian and Deborah  
Fredericksen, Dennis and Joan  
Garlow, Sandra  
Hamer, Nancy  
Hanson, Kathryn T.  
Havelka, Karen  
Hinrichs, William and Judith  
Hustuft, Dean and Carol  
Hynes, Susan  
Insty-Prints/Bob Shibilski  
Jansen, Steven  
Jones, Ellis and Janet  
Just, John, Sr.  
Kalvig, Ann  
Karow, Linda  
Keir, Grace  
Kind, Arn and Meg  
Klugherz, Catherine

*In honor of Frank and Dorothy  
Klugherz*

Kunkel, Denise M.  
Lagerquist, Michael  
Lamont, Earl and Sally  
Lavitschke, Dean and Jo-an  
Lavitschke, Jo-an

*In honor of Carol More*

Lee, Carol  
Lutes, Duncan  
Madsen, Ann and Richard  
Madsen, Timothy  
Madson, Les, Dawn and Olivia  
Mathiason, Renee  
McComb, Mary

McGowan, Jack and Diann  
McLaughlin, Tom and Theresa  
Medalen, Ethel R.  
Meredith, Dr. D. C. and Marge  
Moeller, Rachel  
Mortier, Mary  
Norman, Beth  
Ohlenkamp, Ora  
Olsen, Dennis and Edward Chavan  
Olson, Susan  
Potter, Brad and Jessica  
Pulis, Tim  
Rettmer, Forrest and Georgia  
Rezmerski, John  
Ries, Chuck and Carol  
Sassenberg, Eunice  
Sassenberg, Karl  
Schindle, Berneal  
Schrader, Julie  
Sheppard, Florence  
Sizemore, Daardi  
Smith, Emmett  
Smith, H. Roger  
Sofchalk, Donald  
Voss, Judy and Leo  
Voss, Suzann  
Ward, Mary E.  
Webb, Donna  
Zimmer, Beth

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Archives, Collections, and Exhibits

Blume, Darwin  
Goff, Harley and Janet  
Grundmeier, Winston and Shirley  
Keir, Richard and Grace

### Building Fund

Howard, Don A.

### Front Street Project

Brown, Joan  
Fallenstein, Fay  
Nelson, Bill and Mary

### Hubbard House Restoration

Boubel, John and Karen

Hubbard, John Jay  
Nuessle, Ruth J.

### Programs

Ahlness, Janice  
Miller, Julie W.

### Technology

Patricia Morrow

### Young Historians Take a Stand for History

Brown, Susan  
Hynes, Susan  
Zellmer, Randy

## MEMORIALS

*In Memory of Teresa Erlandson  
Kurth, E. F.*

*In Memory of Jim Greenough  
Richards, Marcia Jones*

*In Memory of Donald Hager  
Botten, Joel*

*In Memory of Regina Huettl  
Lavitschke, Dean and Jo-an*

*In Memory of Jerry Keenan  
Kurth, E. F.*

*In Memory of Jerry Salfer  
Brunner, Pat and Joan Busch*

*In Memory of Helen Sofchalk  
Sofchalk, Elizabeth*

## IN-KIND

Hadley, Paul (*workshop tools*)  
Oleson, Eric  
Piepho Moving and Storage  
Red Door Creative  
Resner, Donna

## GRANTS

Mankato Area Foundation, \$2500  
for the Front Street Project

# Around Blue Earth County



Rapidan Heritage Society

## *Rapidan School Buses* by Jane Tarjeson, RHS Secretary

This morning as the snow gently fell, I listened to the radio for school late starts and watched the bus pull into Rapidan 25 minutes late. I wondered, what were busses like in years past?

When the Rapidan Consolidated School opened in 1922, the pupils were “conveyed with ease and dispatch to and from school in Reo speed trucks which were electrically heated and lighted!”

But when the drifts piled on the roads, it was the horse-drawn sleigh that was once again used. January 1925 was one such winter. The *Mankato Free Press* reported, “The school bus was unable to get through the drifts Wednesday morning to take the kiddies to school and Mr. Councilman and Art Olson hitched up to the bobs and gave the children a sleigh ride to school and home that day.”

In March 1932 the boys basketball team had rather bad luck on their trip home from the tournament at Mankato on a Saturday night. The bus became stalled in the drifts on the road east of Rapidan and by getting out to help shovel and push, most of the boys had their ears badly frozen.

The school busses were painted black, but in the January 6, 1938, *Good Thunder Herald* reported “The Rapidan School buses are displaying new paint jobs. Are the buses completely painted? Oh no! – just the word ‘School Bus’ printed in large black letters on an orange background on the back of the bus. A safety precaution complying with the state law designating the vehicle, to all passersby, as a school bus, and that all cars should pass at no more than ten miles per hour.”

In the December 1938 Rapidan School Board Minutes, bids were accepted for a new bus with 36 passenger Superior steel body, 155” to 157” wheel base, 4 wheel Hyd Brakes, 650 x 20 tires with four wheel rears, snow tread and one spare wheel. An International complete was purchased for \$1771.00. In January 1939 the board decided to put defrosters on all the busses.

A big thank you goes out to the dedicated men and women who drive these busses. Vehicles have changed, but the safety of the children has always and still is the most important factor.



## **Madison Lake Area Historical Society**

### *Happenings 2010* by Jerry Frederick, MLAHS President

The January meeting found Larry Kortuem telling about an early village named Volksville that no longer exists. It was located near Lake Washington. The village had a saw mill, dance hall and furniture factory.

Speaking of furniture, the former building of Wirig's Old Red Barn Furniture came down in June and left an empty lot on Madison Lake's Main Street.

The Kensington Runestone was the topic of discussion at the February meeting with Jerry Schaefer served as moderator. Pell Johnson talked about hunting and the beauty of Swan Lake at the March meeting. Meetings are aided by the use of a podium made by Jerry Schaefer and a computerized projector on loan from Larry Kortuem and Mary Buschkowsky.

April's meeting with Howard Vetter demonstrated the process of stone cutting at Vetter Stone Company, an international business in Mankato and Kasota.

Corrine Sprague, Mary Buschkowsky and Ken Ziegler taught the May group about caring for occupants of the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center in past years. Barb and Bob Lamont hosted the June gathering at

their home showing their family collections.

Traveling again in July, the Club visited the gardens of Mary Buschkowsky and Sharon Chader. Jerry Schaefer set up his tepee and we showed flint knapping.

Schaefer drove his tractor in the Paddlefish Days' Parade with Larry and Trixie Kortuem tossing candy from the tractor's bucket. Marlene and Michael Frederick walked the route to give out brochures advertising the Blue Earth County Historical Society and the Madison Lake Area Historical Society.

A larger group including Madison Lake, Rapidan Heritage Society and Cleveland Society enjoyed an August potluck at the 1867 log home of Bernard and Francesca Kortuem. During the program, the making of a log cabin was explained by Larry Kortuem and Frank Kortuem demonstrated making wooden shingles. Schaefer, with his authentic tepee displayed artifacts including an atlatl and other utensils of early inhabitants. Madison Lake's group was represented at the Blue Earth County Fair. Also in August Ted Roemer, a founding father of the Madison Lake Area Historical Society, turned 100 years old.

Jim Derner came to the September meeting with about 7000 bottles he has collected over the years. Show and Tell with family photos was at the October meeting. At the November meeting held at the Community Center, Kortuem and Schaefer presented collections of animal skeletons and more.

During November members assisted a descendent of Charles McCarthy in bringing Chalres remains back to be buried at Marysburg Immaculate

Conception Cemetery from the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center Cemetery. Brigham Young University will air a documentary of the work February 28, 2011 at 6 p.m. on the BYU channel. See [www.byutv.org](http://www.byutv.org) for more information

A Christmas potluck including smoked wild turkey (Thanks, Bob Lamont) was enjoyed with donations going to the food shelf. Michael Frederick talked about the tragic Madison Lake fire of December 24, 1910. Excerpts were read from a book entitled *Alfred's Christmas*, written by Alfred Muellerleile. The book was written about his boyhood Christmas holiday at his Madison Lake home.

Looking forward to 2011, Wynniss Buesing will present a program about the Security Section of the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center. Following in February, Larry Kortuem plans to tell about the Generations Project of Charles McCarthy. It is hoped that the documentary will be available to see at the meeting. Dean Pettis tells of the Pettis Railroad Station in March. Members are seeking to have a report from those who recently toured the Holy Lands. Harvey Roglin has been engaged to speak in May about the Owatonna State Orphanage.

The Madison Lake Area Historical Society meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Madison Lake Community Center, 525 Main St. All are welcome to join. Annual dues (\$5.00) are paid each January. Current officers are Jerry Frederick, President, Mary Buschkowsky, Secretary and Shirley Schaub, Treasurer. For additional information call 243-3357.

## **Volunteer Help Needed**

### ***Tour Guide***

BECHS tour guide's lead groups large and small through the Hubbard House and Heritage Center Museum. Guides must complete tour guide training in April. Elementary School tours fill the calendar in May and early June.

Contact JoLynn for details 345-5566.



***Moving? Snowbird?  
Please let us know!***

If you are moving to a different address, please let us know. It costs over \$1 for each returned newsletter that cannot be delivered. Please help the Society reserve our funds and assure that you get your copy of the *Historian* by notifying us of your new or winter address or letting us know to suspend mailing your newsletter if you are going to be away for a long period. **Your help is appreciated.**



# YOUNG HISTORIANS



Connor Oldenburg, YH Co-President

I am 12 years old and have been involved in Young Historians for four years, and also volunteer as a historical re-enactor. History is an important part of my life and that is why I am excited about the new curriculum that Young

Historians is using this year, *America: The Story of Us*.

This History Channel DVD series gives us a first-hand look at what life was like, as well as highlights of well-known and not-so-well-known people who all played parts in making the United States of America what it is today.

There are certain scenes in the series that give me a better sense of history than books or other videos. For example, when watching the guerrilla warfare of the American Revolution, how they would hide in trees and bushes and how they picked off enemy generals and guides showed me details I didn't know. The American Revolution spy system involved people "accidentally" bumping into each other and passing messages in crowded areas. During the "Westward Movement" episode we saw the dangers many pioneers encountered traveling and living in the Rockies. One family featured was the Donners and the struggles they faced while trying to reach their dreams. Even though I have read about this before, seeing the people and the landscape gave me a better sense of what it was like.

Sometimes seeing actors portray events can give a clearer picture of what it was like to live, struggle, fight, and survive hundreds of years ago, instead of only reading a book or viewing still pictures. This is one of the reasons why those involved in Young Historians also participate in living history programs like at the Hubbard House or with the Lincoln plays.

One big way Young Historians is taking a stand for history is through our activities to raise money to buy new tables and chairs for the Historical Society multi-purpose room. Our goal is to raise \$5000. So far we have raised \$740 by selling coupon books for the November Herberger's Community Day Sale and by participating in the Madison East Holiday Gift and Bake Sale. You can help by making a donation or buying a coupon book for the February 26<sup>th</sup> Herberger's Community Day Sale. Watch for other Young Historians fundraisers this spring.



## Fingerprints and Footnotes

The Fingerprints and Footnotes Club had a magnificent 2010 with a peppy spring and an exciting summer. In November we met Civil War enthusiast John "Johnny K" Kvasnicka and discussed the upcoming 150th Anniversary of Minnesota's entry into the Civil War. We met at Pub 500 in December, where Schell's Brewery was gracious enough to host a beer sampling along with a taste of the history of breweries in Mankato.



John "Johnny K" Kvasnicka



The gang at Pub 500 for the program: Sips of Beer - the History of Mankato Breweries.

As always the meetings are entertaining, as well as educational and a delightful time is had by all. Newcomers are always welcome.

If you have any ideas for discussion topics or any interest in presenting a topic, please contact Shelley. See the calendar of events for upcoming programs.

## Footnote in History

In the Census records of 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930 every individual was questioned as to their ability to speak English.

-Provided by Beth Zimmer

# Calendar of Events January-April 2011

## JANUARY

### **20 Third Thursday Gallery Walk**

Heritage Center Art Gallery and Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 5-7 p.m.  
Artist's Reception for "Small Quilts: A Prelude to the Big Show" by the Deep Valley Quilters.

### **21 Herberger's Community Day Coupon Books**

now available. Support BECHS! Buy a coupon book! All proceeds used to buy new tables and chairs for the multi-purpose room.



### **25 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.** for BECHS Update with Trish Johnson and Jessica Potter - 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

## FEBRUARY

### **1 Fingerprints and Footnotes**

Census Research, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.

### **5 Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 2-4 p.m.**

### **8 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**

### **12 Young Historians**

Heritage Center, 10 a.m.

### **17 Third Thursday Gallery Walk**

Heritage Center Art Gallery and Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 5-7 p.m.

### **22 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**

### **26 Herberger's Community Day Sale**

Do you have your coupon book?

## MARCH

**Women's History Month - watch for special events.**

### **1 Fingerprints and Footnotes**

Grace Keir presents Demystifying Your Family Photos, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.

### **5 Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 2-4 p.m.**

### **6 Annual Meeting**

Old Main Village, 2 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Arn Kind in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.



Arn Kind & Young Historians

### **8 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**

### **12 Young Historians**

Heritage Center, 10 a.m.

### **17 Third Thursday Gallery Walk**

Heritage Center Art Gallery and Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 5-7 p.m.

### **22 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**



Pub Crawl, October 2010

### **25 Sips of History: History of the Minnesota River Valley in 5 Glasses**

Mankato City Center Hotel, 6 p.m.

*New twist on the Historic Pub Crawl.* Details to be announced. Tickets on sale February 15.

## APRIL

### **2 Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 2-4 p.m.**

### **5 Hubbard House Tour Guide Training, 10 a.m.**

RSVP to JoLynn at 345-5566

### **5 Fingerprints and Footnotes**

Margaret Schreyer presents the history of local jazz musicians, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.

### **9 Young Historians**

Heritage Center, 10 a.m.

### **9 Hubbard House Tour Guide Training, 2 p.m.**

RSVP to JoLynn at 345-5566

### **11 Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event**

Heritage Center, 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a light meal as we celebrate the Society's volunteers. Volunteers are recognized for years of service and number of hours donated in 2010. RSVP to JoLynn at 345-5566.

### **12 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**

### **16 Victorian Tea Party**

St. John's Episcopal Church, details to be announced

### **21 Third Thursday Gallery Walk**

Heritage Center Art Gallery and Marian Anderson Art Gallery Open, 5-7 p.m.

Reception, Bend of the River Photography Club

### **26 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM at 4:10 p.m.**

**Check out [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com)  
for full event details and updates!  
Become a Facebook Fan for weekly updates!**



## Blue Earth County Historical Society

415 Cherry Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit Org.**  
U.S. Postage  
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56001  
Permit No. 343

Membership  
Expiration

## 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+) \$20

Individual \$25

Household \$35

Contributor \$50

Supporter\* \$100

Booster\* \$250

Advocate\* \$500

Benefactor\* \$100

\*denotes Business Member levels

Please send this form and check to:

BECHS Membership

415 Cherry Street

Mankato, MN 56001

**OR**

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

**Preserving and sharing Blue Earth County's history since 1901**