

The Blue Earth County

# HISTORIAN

Blue  
Earth  
County  
Historical Society

## BLUE EARTH COUNTY AND THE 1940 U.S. CENSUS



Miller Motors employees on South Front Street Mankato, 1938. See page 9 for more about the 1940 U.S. Census.

### Valley Scenes Remembered



Exhibit featuring Sue Mueller-Story's work on display now, see page 17.

### Surrounded by History: A Celebration of Who We Are



Inaugural BECHS fundraising event was enjoyed by all, see page 2 for details.

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Our Mission: To lead in the collecting and promoting of Blue Earth County's history to ensure its preservation for the enrichment and benefit of present and future generations.

## The Blue Earth County Historian



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Executive Director, Jessica Potter  
bechs@hickorytech.net  
Archives Manager, Shelley Harrison  
bechsam@hickorytech.net  
Museum Manager, JoLynn Crowe  
bechsms@hickorytech.net  
Archives Assistant, Heather Harren  
bechsrc@hickorytech.net  
Bookkeeper, Barb Church  
Newsletter Editor, Chris Oldenburg

### Heritage Center

415 Cherry Street, Mankato, MN  
507-345-5566

[www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com)

#### Hours

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

### R.D. Hubbard House

606 South Broad Street, Mankato  
507-345-4154

#### Hours

May: Saturday & Sunday 1-4 p.m.  
June-August: Friday & Saturday  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday 1-4 p.m.

### The Blue Earth County Historian Spring 2012

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

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## Board of Trustees



Mike Lagerquist  
Board of Trustees President

While there is always anxiety that comes when planning something like *Surrounded by History: A Celebration of Who We Are*, presented March 9 at the Minnesota State University, Mankato Centennial Student Union Ballroom, the success of this inaugural BECHS fundraising event already has us looking forward to next year: Friday, March 15, 2013, at the same location.

Special thanks go to our event sponsors: Leonard, Street and Deinard (\$800), CHS (\$600) and Eide Bailly, MinnStar Bank, Paulsen Architects, Pioneer Bank, AgStar, and State Farm-Preston Doyle and Lonnie Bristol (\$400). It wouldn't have been the same without Daniel Dinsmore Photography, which allowed the 158 people in attendance to get their pictures taken in true historical fashion. And it was enhanced by the volunteers who performed in the BECHS "History Mystery: The Case of the Missing Sheet Music."

Our goals were conservative: host an annual fundraising event that shows off what the Blue Earth County Historical Society is all about while sharing those things in a fun and unique way that thanks

those who support us year after year. Because of the generosity of sponsors, attendees and silent auction donors, we raised more than \$6,500 for the general operating fund.

The success of *Surrounded by History* removes much of the anxiety going into next year's event – mark your calendar for March 15, 2013 – you won't want to miss it.

In March, BECHS held its Annual Meeting where the state of the Society was reported and new Board members were elected. We welcome Deborah Fors, Artur Pietka, William Steil and Marnie Werner as the newest members of the BECHS Board of Trustees. We also said goodbye to Winston Grundmeier who completed his second term on the Board. Dakota Educator and Elder Dave Larsen was our Annual Meeting speaker. He shared his story of growing up in the Dakota community and his transition into a leadership role within the community. Copies of the 2011 Annual Report are available on our website and print versions are available at the Heritage Center.





# Director's Notes

**Jessica Potter**  
Executive Director

*What does the Blue Earth County Historical Society mean to you?*

Remember that question? I've been asking our supporters this question for a couple of months. For some, it's a place to volunteer or take part in our programs and events. For some like the late June Lees, BECHS was an organization that inspired her, therefore when June passed away in 2010, she bequeathed a significant amount of her estate to BECHS. June's generosity will have a great impact on this organization.

Last spring and summer, BECHS undertook a self-evaluation called the Museum Assessment Program through the American Association of Museums. It was an eye-opening look at our organization's community awareness. That was followed by a peer review in August, which helped us to see areas of improvement. Why is it so hard sometimes to "see" things until someone points it out? Then we proposed the question, "What does BECHS mean to you?" in our year-end fundraising letter. Your generosity spoke volumes!

Now, it's time for a new twist on that question. In January we began the process of updating our Strategic Plan with the guidance of Jonathan Zierdt, CEO of Greater Mankato Growth. The goal is to give Board and staff members a road map for the future of BECHS. One of the first steps was to look at our mission and vision statements. In 1901, our founders established this mission for BECHS: "To collect, preserve and promote the history of Blue Earth County for present and future generations."

We continue to operate under that mission; however, the Board chose to refresh the language for the 2012 BECHS. "To lead in the collecting and promoting of Blue Earth County's history to ensure its preservation for the enrichment and benefit of present and future generations." It's still the same mission, but now with a refreshed, active statement.

The vision statement, "What do we want to achieve?" also got a new look. "Preserve the Past, Protect the Future" (since 2003) changed to "The Blue Earth County Historical Society recognizes the

importance of history and access to it." The refreshing of these two statements guides our course forward.

Now that the updated mission and vision statements are in place, the next step in the Strategic Planning process is to create our work plan or how I like to think of it, as our "buckets of work". We divided our organization into three buckets:

- Programs and promoting Blue Earth County History.
- Collecting and preserving Blue Earth County History.
- Exhibits and presenting Blue Earth County History.

Here's where you come in and the question "What does the BECHS mean to you?" As a member-supported organization, we are asking for your input in prioritizing our work plan. As you can imagine, our buckets are overflowing right now with ideas and opportunities, so we need your help deciding what you see as a priority for the future growth of this organization. The easiest way for us to collect your thoughts is through an online survey. Please go to [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com) and click on "Member Survey" on the front page by May 1<sup>st</sup>. That will take you to Survey Monkey where you will be asked a short series of questions. The survey will remain anonymous, so please share your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, etc. Remember, we don't always "see" what is right in front of us until someone points it out or until our perspective is changed.

As always, the Board, staff, and I, sincerely appreciate the support you provide as a member, donor, volunteer and/or patron.



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# At the Book and Gift Shop

JoLynn Crowe, Museum Manager

Where did winter go? After last year's weather I do appreciate the break, but talk about confusing weather for the wildlife and plants! Anyway, back to the spring time and the Museum Book and Gift Shop! Since the birds are all a twitter it reminds me to mention that we carry a wonderful variety of fine art prints of birds from the bright red cardinal to the cooing dove and beautiful swan, plus other Marian Anderson animal prints.

We are bringing in new books about the Dakota since BECHS received a grant to host the new Dakota Series held the first Saturday of every month continuing through the month of December. A few of the titles and prices are: *Honor the Grandmothers*, compiled and edited by Sarah Penman (\$15.95); *Spirit Car-Journey to a Dakota Past*, by Diane Wilson (\$17.95); *Dakota Philosopher-Charles Eastman and American Indian Thought*, by David Martinez (\$19.95); and *Little Crow-TAOYATEDUTA*, by Gwentyth Swain (\$12.95); plus others that we have carried in the past. So, please stop by and have a look!

We look forward to the gift shop in the Carriage House being open for business the first weekend in May. Another sure sign that spring has arrived for the BECHS staff!

On hand we also now have a total of seven cemetery transcription books finished and compiled by Corey Hugg. They are Beauford, Butternut, Cambria, Ceresco, Decoria, Lincoln, and our most recent addition the Shelby Cemetery transcription. The cost is \$49.95 and the majority of the cost comes back to BECHS as a fund raising project.

It's baseball time once again and our 1860s Vintage Base Ball team, the Mankato Baltics, have many games scheduled for the season. Be sure to check out the BECHS website at [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com) to view the schedule on their



Dakota and U.S.-Dakota Conflict related items available in the Book & Gift Shop and online at [bechshistory.com/shop](http://bechshistory.com/shop).

webpage. We will be offering t-shirts for sale at the Museum Gift and Book Store. A great way to show your team spirit! Go Baltics!

Don't forget the three great locations to shop for gifts! The Museum Book and Gift Shop at the Heritage Center located at 415 Cherry Street, Carriage House Gift Shop at the R.D. Hubbard House located at 606 Broad Street, and the BECHS website at [bechshistory.com](http://bechshistory.com) (look for the shopping cart logo).

## Join the Fun! Join the Team! Make History Happen! Volunteer Today!

### **Public Relations**

Assist with press release composition, website and social media updates, and graphic design of event posters using Microsoft Publisher.

### **Handy Work**

Help needed with light construction, painting, repairs and various projects, including the Front Street Project exhibit, Hubbard House and Heritage Center improvements.

### **Tour Guide**

Lead large and small groups through the Hubbard House and Heritage Center Museum. Tour guides needed year-round, but busiest time is April – August. Training provided.

### **Gardening**

Help care and maintain Heritage Center flower beds.

### **Audio/Visual**

Assist with conversion and editing of audio and video files for Discover the Dakota series.

### **Hubbard House Assistant – Paid Position**

Assist with the seasonal operation of the Historic R.D. Hubbard House (May-September).





# R.D. Hubbard House

Since the chiming of the New Year's bells, BECHS volunteers have been working around the clock to prepare the Hubbard House for its seasonal debut. The donation of original Hubbard furniture was an exciting addition during the Christmas season, as were the decorations elegantly arranged by Perry Dauer. BECHS was fortunate to have two months after the Christmas season to store the decorations and organize the attic. Many items of mystery were found, including three typewriters, a costume fur coat, and several old mattresses.

Work has also begun on an interpretive plan for the house, based on an interpretive plan written for another historical house. Included in the scope of the interpretive plan are: tours targeted to specific interests, plans for continuing the preservation and restoration of the house, and exciting events that will encourage many from the community to experience the Hubbard House in its 1905 glory.

During its time in the house the interpretive committee noticed detail items that would enhance the richness of the house. The committee has spent several months researching Hubbard House archives to acquire a more accurate picture of the house at the completion of the 1990s restoration. While work is ongoing for the interpretive committee, they hope to soon have several of the "new" tours outlined for tour guides to follow. If any

existing tour guides have information that they would like to share concerning the Hubbard family, the house, or grounds, the interpretive committee would love to have more information! Please contact JoLynn.

The 2012 Hubbard House season will kick off with the Victorian Tea Party on April 28<sup>th</sup> and weekend tours beginning May 5<sup>th</sup>. Starting in June stop by each Friday for Story Time with the Hubbard Girls and the Victorian Lawn Party on June 2nd. BECHS is always looking for volunteers and funds for future programs. If volunteering for Hubbard House events or interpretive committee plans interests you, please contact JoLynn at 507-345-5566.



Christmas at the Hubbard House, 2011



Story Time with the Hubbard Girls, 2011



**Historic R.D. Hubbard House**

## *Victorian Tea Party*

**Saturday, April 28**

Afternoon Tea served at 1:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.

Wear your best hat to the annual Victorian Tea Party at St. John's Episcopal Church followed by interactive tours of the Historic R.D. Hubbard House featuring fan language and women's clothing. All ages event includes Afternoon Tea, Children's Crafts, Silent Auction, and interactive house tours.



**TICKETS**  
**Adults \$15 or BECHS Members \$10**  
**Children 5-17 \$5**  
**Children under 5 FREE**  
*Seating is limited.*  
*Tickets must be reserved in advance.*



**BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Visit [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com) for more details

# Discover the Dakota Culture and Heritage Series

In order to understand a culture you must experience their lifestyle, learn about their beliefs and get to know them as a people. The 12-part series Discover the Dakota Culture and Heritage was created to provide the opportunity for people of all ages to experience and learn about a beautiful culture that shaped Minnesota's landscape in recognition of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862.

The series began in January with Dakota Storytelling presented by Dakota Elders and Educator Dave Larsen and Joe WhiteHawk. In February, participants viewed the film *Return to Shetek: The Courage of the Fool Soldiers*. Traditional



Dakota Arts and Crafts Festival

Dakota artisans demonstrated their crafts in March giving participants the opportunity to experience the process that goes into creating traditional Dakota art like beadwork, porcupine quillwork, moccasins, quilting and flute making. The

Maza Kute Drum Group and Dancers engaged the audience with the beat of their drums, songs and dance demonstrations in April.

Upcoming Discover the Dakota programs include Dakota Language in May with a focus on Dakota lessons and morals. In June, visit the beautiful Hubbard House lawn to play Dakota games. Games were played by the Dakota people to learn hand/eye coordination, concentration and to develop memory skills as well as be entertaining. In July, the National Eagle Center will visit the Hubbard House with a couple of Eagles. Participants will be able to see the eagles up close and learn about their habitat and their importance to the Dakota people.

The Dakota culture is a way of life. The traditions that have been passed on for centuries circle around what has been learned from Mother Earth and all living things. This series is co-organized by the Blue Earth County Historical Society and Elders of the Dakota Nation. Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage was designed as an educational and interactive experience for all ages, bringing together the Dakota people and the community at-large to develop an understanding of the past and strengthening partnerships for the future. This project has been made possible in part by a grant from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



## Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage

*A Monthly Educational Series  
Celebrating the Dakota People*

*In recognition of the U.S. - Dakota War of 1862 Sesquicentennial*

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
**January - December 2012**  
**Free • Open to All Ages**

### SERIES SCHEDULE\*:

#### January 7

The Tradition of Storytelling

#### February 4

Film: "Return to Shetek: The Courage of the Fool Soldiers"

#### March 3

Dakota Arts and Crafts Festival

#### April 7 at Ostrander Auditorium, MSUM Campus

Maza Kute Drum Group and Dancers

#### May 5

Language: Spoken and Sign

#### June 2 at R.D. Hubbard House

Dakota Games

#### July 14 at R.D. Hubbard House

National Eagle Center Traveling Program

#### August 4

Dakota Poetry

#### September 8

Pow Wow Etiquette and Reconciliation

#### October 6

Preparing for Winter

#### November 3

Film "Dakota War of 1862"

#### December 1-31

"Commemorating Controversy" Traveling Exhibit

All events will be located at the Heritage Center,  
415 Cherry Street, Mankato unless otherwise noted.

\* Schedule and topics are subject to change.



Grant Recipient  
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL  
& CULTURAL GRANTS

This project has been made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008. Administered by the Minnesota Historical Society.



BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Visit [www.bechshistory.com](http://www.bechshistory.com) for more details or call 507-345-5566.



Spring fever hit the Mankato Baltics. The unseasonably warm weather has excited the Baltics base ball ballists (a.k.a players) as we get ready for our upcoming season. The Rochester Roosters hosted a spring

training event for members of all MN vintage base ball clubs on March 11. The Baltics proudly had twelve ballists on the field, which was more than any other vintage club, and they were impressed with the Bubble facility which is actually a dome covered football field on the campus of Rochester Community College. The gentlemen split into three teams and played by the 1860's vintage base ball rules for four hours. It was nice to dust off the cleats and play with others who enjoy the game so much. The team and cranks (a.k.a fans) enjoyed a meal at Valentino's to end a day of camaraderie and fun. Next is our "Striker-to-the-Line" season kick-off event which is at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 20 at the corner of 5th St. & Cherry St. (across from the Heritage Center). Cranks will have the opportunity to meet the players, pick up the 2012 schedule, and sign up for door prizes.

This year the Baltics will be traveling to Afton, La Crescent, Columbia Heights, Shakopee, Rochester and Arlington for over twenty matches. We are thrilled to be hosting four teams for our 2nd annual Mankato Baltics Vintage Base Ball Festival at Land of Memories Park on Saturday, June 30 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. There will be concessions, activities for kids and the best part...base ball! Each year we add more ballists, more matches and the enthusiasm is amazing so our goal is to continue sharing that with Blue Earth County and rally support to keep the past in the present. As a member of the Vintage Base Ball Association we are also pleased to announce that the VBBA convention will be held in Rochester, MN in 2013! The Mankato Baltics are honored to be a part of this noteworthy event for MN vintage base ball.

The Heritage Center has Mankato Baltic t-shirts for sale and you can find us on both Facebook and the Blue Earth County Historical Society's website.

Last but not least, we would like to sincerely thank our 2012 sponsors who have been gracious and supportive....HUZZAH, HUZZAH, HUZZAH!



### 2012 Mankato Baltics

*Back row (L to R):* Jeff "Goose" Hawker, Des "Can't Get Right" Thompson, Joe "Quickstep" Andreasen, Captain Brad "Hotstepper" Hawker, Vern "Buzzard" Simpson, Nikko "Asian Persuasion" Segal, Dean "Big D" Anderson

*Front row (L to R):* Roger "Stretch" Veldhuisen, Hugh "Light Hitter" Belgard, Jeremy "Worm" Hutchens, Travis "Swing Set" Clay, Eric "E-Train" Wahlund

*Not pictured:* Paul "Wheels" Biedscheid, Tyler "Hot Rod" Palmer, John "Hammer" Bartsch, Mike "Stumbles" Lagerquist

## MANKATO HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### Discovering America's Hidden Gems

*In recognition of National Preservation Month*

#### Thursday, May 17 @ 4-6 p.m.

Local Historic Designation and Public Tours of the Historic Blue Earth County Courthouse

#### Thursday, May 24 @ 4-6 p.m.

Local Historic Designation and Public Tours of the Historic R.D. Hubbard House

#### Thursday, May 31 @ 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Downtown Revitalization and the Minnesota Main Street Program *Co-hosted by the Heritage Preservation Commission and the City Center Partnership*

Events are free and open to the public.

#### For more information:

387-8611 or

[www.mankato-mn.gov/HPC/Meeting.aspx](http://www.mankato-mn.gov/HPC/Meeting.aspx)



# BECHS Donations

## January - March 2012

AgStar Financial Services  
CHS  
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Eggers, Amanda  
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Garden City Township  
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Foundation  
Kato Community Club  
Kato Roofing, Inc.  
Kerkhoff, Donald  
Lees, June Estate  
Leonard, Street and Deinard  
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MinnStar Bank  
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Pioneer Bank  
Preston Doyle State Farm Insurance  
PUB 500  
Rapidan Township  
Sassenberg, Karl  
Snilsberg, Lee  
Sterling Township  
Swanson, Kevin  
Ullrich Construction  
Voyager Bank  
Zellmer, Randy

## MEMORIALS

*In Memory of Cecil Bigelow*  
Bernadette Wilson

*In Memory of Judith Hogan*  
Byron and Karen McGregor,  
Randy Zellmer

*In Memory of Robert J. Sheran*  
Randy Zellmer

*In Memory of Caroline Straka*  
Randy Zellmer

## MATCHING GIFTS

CenterPoint Energy GIVE  
Volunteer Program \$500

## IN-KIND

Goodrich Construction  
Hiniker Saw Mill  
Meyer, Rod  
Piepho Moving and Storage

## Marian Anderson Fine Art Prints

As a living legacy, Marian Anderson has donated her entire inventory of fine art prints to the Blue Earth County Historical Society; 100% of all print sales benefits BECHS. Fine art prints are available to view and purchase at the Heritage Center Book & Gift Shop and online at [www.mariananderson.com](http://www.mariananderson.com).

Marian's paintings are not just an illustrated subject but within each a story is told. With each brush stroke a breath of life sets her art apart. As you immerse yourself in the depths of her painting, you will see the beauty of a lifetime of experience. The subjects featured in Marian's work include Canine, Native American, Nostalgia, Diversity & Landscape, Wildlife and Mountain Men.

You can help BECHS raise funds by purchasing Marian Anderson Art for yourself or as a gift.

Pictured here: "Sacagewa" available in main edition prints (\$125), "Northern Awakening" available in main edition prints (\$95) and note cards, and "Timeless Moment" available in artist proof prints (\$200).







## Census Records — Treasure Chest for Family Researchers

By Beth Zimmer

There is a lot of talk about our "rights" provided by the Constitution, but did you ever think that it is the Constitution that provides the family researcher with a real treasure as well? The Constitution mandates (Article 1, Section 2) that an "actual enumeration" of the nation's population be made at least every ten years. The original purpose was to apportion representatives and taxes among the states, but as the years have gone by the government has also used it to learn the status of its population. One can actually study the societal concerns of the nation each decade by observing the questions asked by the census taker.

The first census taken in 1790 focused on the number of men available to serve the country in the military. By the 1820 census there was interest in the occupations that the people in the expanding nation were engaged: agriculture, commerce, or manufacturing? By 1850 the country was becoming more industrialized and urbanized. Concerns about poverty and dislocation produced questions about schooling and income. The immigration of large groups starting in the late 19th and continuing into the early 20th centuries resulted in questions about native language and country of origin. Starting with the 1900 census there were questions concerning the years of immigration and naturalization. These questions asked due to societal concerns can also be useful to the family researcher. The census records offer much more than names, approximate ages, and location of birth! The census provides a way to locate an individual and his family, establish relationships, and then trace the family through several decades besides providing clues for further research.

Just as the census records are taken every ten years, the release of a census that is approximately seventy years old is made about every ten years.

On April 2, 2012 the 1940 census was released making it a red letter day for those researchers who recognize its value! The 1940 census, like those before it, reflected the times at which it was taken. Multiple questions were concerned with whether the individual was employed currently and/or during the preceding years since the country was just beginning to emerge from the great depression. Individuals were asked if they had a social security number since the law establishing it was passed on April 14, 1935, but it did not cover the whole population as it does now. If you ever wondered whether your ancestor was employed by the CCC or any of the other public emergency jobs during this time, you will be able to find out! One criticism of using the census to do genealogical research is that ten years is a long span of time between collecting data. A unique feature of the 1940 census is that all individuals were asked where they were residing on April 1, 1935. This question was probably another way of determining how the people had fared during the depression. Did they have to migrate elsewhere looking for a job? This concern could translate into providing means for researchers to locate ancestors during a five period span instead of the usual ten.

Another boon to family researchers is that the census taker was required to circle the name of the individual who supplied the data for the family. Knowing it was the wife who talked to the census taker, one will not be surprised to find that her husband's parents birth places are incorrect. She had only known them in Minnesota. How would she know they were born in Wisconsin?

As early as 1850 there were questions to determine if people were attending school and/or if they were literate. Appearing for the first time in the 1940 census was a question that today is seen on most questionnaires: What was the highest grade in school they attended?

Prior to the 1850 census, only the head of the household was named. Others in the household were somewhat acknowledged with slash marks that identified their genders and approximate ages. A word of caution in trying to identify the "make up" of a family in these early records; it was not uncommon for a family to take in homeless children, maiden aunts, widowed parents, or anyone else who needed a home so the

slash marks include people besides the nuclear family. The main information that is obtained from these early census records is the location of a family in a given decade. The researcher can then go to the deeds and wills of that county to get further information since people living in the USA prior to 1850 generally owned land, which they protected by registering their ownership and by keeping it in the family.



Wykoff's Oasis Drive-In, 1939

Starting with the 1850 census, all individuals living in a household were named including their ages, genders, places of birth, occupations, and financial worth. Relationships are not named but are hinted at since the various family members are listed in order. First the head of the household, then the wife, and then the children are listed in chronological order of their births. Any others living in the household would be listed after the youngest child. When one does family research, one should ALWAYS keep in mind differences in customs and lifestyles. It was not until World War II that emphasis on using the first of one's Christian name became the accepted norm. Earlier, it was very common for an individual to use his second name or a nickname in his daily life and/or in signing legal papers. More than once I have found a marriage license with the woman whose Christian name was Mary being identified as "Molly or "Polly." That is why the family researcher should always record the whole Christian name as well as any nickname used. It would be wise to familiarize oneself with commonly used nicknames for given names.

Even more frustrating than the use of nicknames is using initials to identify each individual family member. I have found this practice particularly in the 1850 census among the families who considered themselves more upper class. Since this was the first census that identified all members of a household, I have often wondered if this was a way of these upscale families trying to retain their privacy.

Generally the name of the head of household pops up immediately when one uses a computer to search a census. In cases where misspelled names, nicknames, second names, or initials have been used, the computer will come up empty. One would think

that the more information that you give the computer, the better. However, the opposite is true. Give the computer only basic information. Always provide the location and if you have a person with an unusual

given name, eliminate the last name and use this unusual first name only in your search. You may come up with a whole list of Henriettas, but culling this list is much easier than looking at every single name in the area. Another way to find a "missing" family is to look at who their neighbors were in a census where you have found them. Then find the neighbors in the census where your family is missing and then observe their neighbors. Chances are you will find your relatives living in the same spot as in the other census, but identified with some name of which you would have never thought of such as "Decon" instead of "Dickson." Researchers might find it advantageous to spend time saying a last name and writing down all possible ways that they think it might be spelled.

One must also be aware of the date being used as the cutoff day or "Census Day" for the census record being observed. The census taker could not go to every house on the same day so a cutoff date is used for all census records for that year. Unfortunately, the date used as the cut off date varies with the census record year, but understanding its significance is important. For an example, let us use June the first as the cutoff day. Grandpa dies on the 2nd of June and the census taker arrives on the 10th of June. Even though Grandpa has been dead for eight days, he will be counted by the census taker since he was living on the first of June. This also holds true for the birth of a child. Even if the baby is in his mother's

arms when she answers the census questions the baby would not be counted if he had been born after the first of June.

Census Days for the various years:

1790--02 August  
1800--04 August  
1810--06 August  
1820--07 August  
1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880,  
1890\*, 1900--01 June  
1910--15 April  
1920--01 January  
1930--01 April  
1940--01 April  
\*1890 census burned

It is generally suggested when tracing an individual that the researcher finds him in at least three different censuses, but I like to find him in every census during his lifetime. By having several census records, the migration as well as the births, deaths, and marriages of your individual and everyone living in the household can be traced. I make a chart showing all the data of each person for each decade. Examining the chart, I can determine approximate dates of the major events in each of the lives as well as the locations. This narrows the search for legal records, such as a will or marriage records. Having census records from several years also helps to identify a family. There may be two Bob Smiths of the same age living in the same county but chances are that the other members of their families are not replicas of the other. One question asked of all starting in the 1850 census was the age of each. The 1900 census is the only released census where all individuals had to supply the month and year of their births as well as their ages. The month of birth for babies born during the census years 1870 and 1880 is requested. If you think lying about one's age is a new phenomenon, you will be surprised when you look how the ages of some of your ancestors changes with each census. It may have been ten years since the last census, but

Aunt Jane may have aged only two years. Birth certificates were not required in many states until the early part of the 20th century so one must do some sleuthing to determine Aunt Jane's age. I was able to discover Aunt Jane's "true" age by finding the first census in which she appears which shows her age as three. It is a pretty safe bet that at that early age, there were no "stories" told concerning her age.

Doing family research is just like buying a house: Location! Location! Location! As previously mentioned, the location of birth of the individual was added to the questions asked in 1850. In 1880 the location of birth of each individual's father and mother was also requested. This can prove invaluable while tracing your family. If you want to know what year an ancestor migrated to the USA, look at the 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses. Finding the year of migration will help one find the manifest



Indian Lake Sunshine Club, 1935

record of the boat on which they traveled. One of the most valuable pieces of information that one gains from a manifest is learning the exact village of a birth. Sometimes using this information can provide you with a family tree that goes back many generations. The same censuses that ask about migration also ask if the migrant has been

naturalized. If he has, naturalization papers can be sought. This set of three different forms used in the naturalization process provides a wealth of information. The census records can help you discover information concerning your ancestor's marriage year. If they were married during the actual census year of 1850, 1860, 1870, or 1880 the census taker was supposed to write in the month that the marriage took place. The 1900 and 1910 census asked married individuals how many years they had been married. In addition, the 1910 and 1940 census taker was supposed to note if this was the first marriage or another. In the 1920 census each individual is simply asked for their marital status. In the 1930 and 1940 censuses married women were asked their ages at the time of their marriages. Simple calculations can determine what year the

## Continued from page 11...

marriage took place, making it easier to find their marriage licenses.

Since we are currently observing the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, many researchers may want to establish that they had an ancestor who served. The 1910 Census asked if the individual was a Veteran of the Civil War. If you find that your ancestor did serve, you should check to see if he or his widow ever petitioned for a pension. Besides telling of the service of your ancestor, valuable genealogical data can be obtained from them. The 1930 and 1940 census takers asked if a person was a veteran and of which war.

Anyone who does genealogical research will tell you that it is often very difficult to learn the maiden name of a woman. Since 1880 all individuals are asked of their relationships to the heads of the households. Often one will find the wife's parents or a brother or an unmarried sister living with the family, which will provide you with the desired information. I will eternally be grateful to the census takers who took the records of my two times great aunt in the 1850 and 1860 censuses. This maiden woman was deaf and dumb which was noted in the remarks column. You can imagine my excitement when I found this woman with our unique last name living with one family in 1850 and with another in 1860. Further research proved that this afflicted woman and the woman of the household in each census were sisters of my two times great grandfather. I always felt sorry for this woman who had to go through life with this affliction, but it surely did help me solve a major genealogical problem. The 1880 census has a space for "other information" and the 1910 census actually has a space asking if an individual is blind or a deaf—mute.

Those of you who have Blue Earth County ancestors are in luck! In the collections at the Historical Society you can find tape copies of all of the federal censuses that included citizens of this county with the exception of the just released 1940 census. Minnesota became a state in 1858 so the first census that is applicable is that of 1860. Besides all of the federal censuses through 1930, you can also find the State Censuses of Minnesota. They were taken in the years that ended with a 5 starting in

1865 and ending in 1905. The two together provide a record showing the county's residents for every five years between 1860 and 1910.

I sometimes have difficulty reading the headings on the various census records which limits the usefulness of data I have found. I have found it to be valuable to have a blank form of each of the census records in my files. They can be found free online. While my family dates back in the USA from its earliest years, my husband's family immigrated to the USA in the early 1900s. Although our heritage is very different, I have found the census records invaluable in researching both families. While using the early censuses I found immediate proof of the migration of my family from North Carolina to Tennessee. With my husband's ancestry the censuses of 1920 and 1930 provided a beginning point for further research. In it were listed the years of immigration and naturalization of his grandparents providing the clues that eventually led me to determine the name of the village in the Banat part of Hungary where the family had lived since the 1750s.

The census records are about the greatest treasure that any family researcher could have. The collection of data provides instant information as well as clues to what you can find! I can hardly wait to see what treasures the 1940 census has for me.

### Bibliography:

Dollarhide, William, "The Census Day,"

[www.historicalpreservationgroup.org/](http://www.historicalpreservationgroup.org/hgs_census_day.htm)

[hgs\\_census\\_day.htm](http://www.hgs_census_day.htm)

FamilySearch.org, "1940 Federal Census: detailed Questions and Enumerator Instructions. [https://familysearch.org/1940census/enum\\_instructions](https://familysearch.org/1940census/enum_instructions)

Personal observations of census records from 1790 through 1930

Prologue, "U. S. Census History" National Archives and Records Administration, Summer 1 2002 (Vol. 34, No. 2)

### **Minnesota Genealogical Society Workshop**

**Saturday, June 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**MSU, M Centennial Student Union**

*Co-hosted by the South Central MN Genealogy Expo*

**Visit [www.mnsg.org](http://www.mnsg.org) for program details**



## Become a Time Traveler!

Time Traveler is a nationwide program for history museums. With your membership to participating local history museums you will receive a variety of special benefits such as free admission or gift shop discounts at over 150 museums throughout the U.S.

View participating museums and program details at [www.timetravelers.mohistory.org](http://www.timetravelers.mohistory.org). BECHS has applied to the program, watch for details to see if we are accepted.



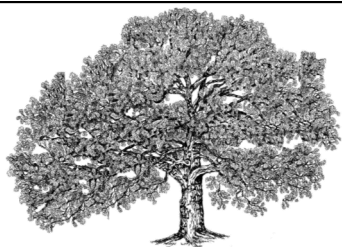
## Research Center

Heather Harren, Archives Assistant

What a great past few months we have had here in the Research Center. The good weather that we have had has brought many people in looking for more information about their families. Now is a great time to be doing family research because on April 2, the 1940 census became available online. If you would like help navigating the census, please come visit me and we can work through finding your family together.

Besides operating the Research Center on a daily basis, I am also responsible for BECHS's website, Facebook, and Twitter communications. A recent development is that our Facebook page has been converted to the new timeline format. All of our links are still there, they just have a new format. For instance, the other pages that we *liked* are now along the right side of the page, you simply have to scroll down to see them. Also, our events are easier to find now. Under the photograph, which I hope to update on a monthly basis, is our basic information, followed by photos and events. This will make it easier for you to join in our events since you no longer have to scroll through our page looking for them.

There is a way that you can help BECHS reach more people on Facebook and Twitter. I recently learned more about Facebook and Twitter, and some ideas came from other people to help get our events to a larger audience. The next time that you come to BECHS for research or for an event, if you update your status to say something like, "Going to the Discover the Dakota Series at @Blue Earth County Historical Society," as you type "@Blue Earth," BECHS should come up in a drop-down menu for you to select. Not only does your status update go to your page, but it will also appear on our page. The *at* symbol (@) will disappear when you click on the link for BECHS. This can also be done on Twitter if people hashtag (#) the event, such as "#DiscovertheDakotaSeries" or "#BECHS." Note there cannot be spaces in the hashtags. Please give this a try the next time that you stop by the Heritage Center or go to one of our events.



*Celebrate The Wisdom of the Oak*  
**CAMBRIA EISTEDDFOD**  
*A Celebration of the Celtic Heritage of Poetry, Song and Story*

**Sunday, June 24, 2012**

**Morgan Creek Vineyards**

*Poetry inspired by the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862*

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Celtic Music

Food, beverage, wine and winery tours

**2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Eisteddfod

*Five of Minnesota's Finest Poets*

performing in competition for a hand-carved oak Bardic Chair, under the Wisdom Oak & Honorary Chairing of Minnesota Poet Bill Holm

Presented by:

League of Minnesota Poets, Morgan Creek Vineyards & Blue Earth County Historical Society

# BECHS Membership

January-March 2012

## New Members

Banwart, Penny  
Chambers, Susan and Colin  
Cowan, David  
Dalluge, Betsy  
Draper, Charles  
Laird, Pat and Dianne  
Lybeck, Rick  
Mulford, Oliver and Patricia  
Nurre, Neil and Cherrington, Dr. Janet  
Oviatt, Brian  
Watts, Chris and Dawn

## New Business Members

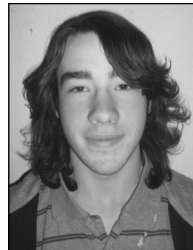
Crystal Valley Coop  
Jones and Magnus, Attorneys at Law  
ProGrowth Bank

## New Affiliate Members

Blue Earth County Township Association  
Minnesota Gymanfa Ganu Association

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

# YOUNG HISTORIANS



Lucas  
Youngerberg

The Young Historians have been working this year on family history and ethnic groups. As older Young Historians, my sister, Brooklyn, and I took on the responsibility of studying Germany and presenting what we learned to the group.

We had a lot of fun working with Hanna Sturm, a foreign exchange student from Germany. She came to our house and reviewed our presentation with us. She laughed a lot at some of the things we found that she had never heard of, such as the Christmas Pickle. The story of the tradition states that parents put the pickle in the Christmas tree. The child who finds the pickle receives an extra treat. They do this so that the children admire all of the ornaments on the tree instead of just ripping open their presents. Hanna hadn't heard of it, but thought it would be good to get an extra treat! She also informed us that they don't put up their Christmas tree until Christmas, and then they leave it up for a month after. Chelsea Exel, our foreign exchange student from the Netherlands, also does this and they don't get as many Christmas presents as Americans do. One wedding tradition still practiced in Germany is where the bride and groom cut a log using a double handled saw or some other chore, to show that they can work as a couple.

Pastor Del Begalka did a wonderful job of speaking to our group about his experiences over in Germany. He spoke about food, language and some unique habits of Europeans.

The best part about doing this project was getting in touch with older, distant relatives, who had started some family research. They were able to tell us some fun stories about our family and where the Youngerbergs came from originally. Posen, Germany (at that time) is now called Poznan, Poland. Germany was in control of it in the late 1800's when Gottlob Youngerberg came to America. Through this digging, we have found out who they were and where we came from.

We'd love to see you on Saturday, May 12, for our open house of Family History Projects. You will learn more about the different ethnic groups in America and our family stories.

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Fax: (507) 388-5991  
[www.oldmainvillage.com](http://www.oldmainvillage.com)



Where Service Sets Us Apart

# The Front Street Project

## Exhibit Opening June 2012

Details to be announced





# Fingerprints and Footnotes

Fingerprints and Footnotes is for any of you interested in researching your house, your town, your family or just a subject that you find intriguing. Newcomers are always welcome. In February we invited everyone to join us as Larry Kortuem presented "Lost and Found: The Charles McCarthy Story." It was the amazing story of area resident Charles McCarthy. We had a great time following clues, newspaper tales, and even a riddle in a graveyard to solve this family history mystery.

In March, Win Grundmeier discussed the fascinating history of postage stamps. Thank you to those who shared some of their own vintage postcards with the group. In April John Isch combined history and genealogy with his narrative of the attack at Lake



Win Grundmeier

Shetek. He gave us Lavina Eastlick's firsthand account of the U.S. – Dakota War of 1862 and her life afterwards.

If you have any ideas for topics or tours or if you have any interest in presenting a topic, please let Shelley know.

## Future Meetings:

**May 1** Celebrate National Preservation Month with a house history workshop

**June 23 (note date change)** Minnesota Genealogical Society (MGS) Genealogy Workshop  
**July (TBD)** Base Ball History with the Baltics

## **Footnote in History**

June 6, 1877 – The Minneapolis Base Ball Association is organized and two days later the team plays Fairbanks of Chicago, winning 4-3.  
<http://events.mnhs.org/bookofdays/index.cfm>

Remember to follow the Mankato Baltics 1860s Base Ball Team on Facebook and Twitter!

## WISH LIST

### **Video Camcorder with tripod - \$200**

A digital camcorder could be used by BECHS to record events or speakers and then make presentations available online.

### **Meeting Room Tables and Chairs - \$3,000**

The Society is in need of new meeting room tables and chairs to replace the well-worn 20+ year-old equipment. Cost of the project: 6 folding tables, \$1,000, 75 chairs with caddy, \$4,000. To date \$2,000 has been raised.

### **1940 U.S. Census on Microfilm - \$125**

### **Gift Baskets for Victorian Tea Party Silent Auction**

### **Farm Toys**

Gently used or new farm puzzles, toy tractors, farm animals, etc. needed for our kids' corner in the museum. Also, looking for hands-on components or toys for pioneer cabin.

### **Landscaping**

Need additional drought tolerant plants for the Heritage Center Landscaping. Can be new or transplanted.

### **Ink Cartridges**

Recycle your printer ink cartridges with us and we can turn them in for store credit at Office Max.

### **Working Flat Panel Monitors**

*These special projects and items are not within BECHS's annual operating budget. If you are interested in fully or partially supporting one of these projects, please indicate your wishes on your check. Please contact Jessica at 345-5566 with any questions about these projects or other opportunities.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

# Collections and Exhibits...

Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager

In association with our series “Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage” series we took a look at our Native American exhibits and we “discovered” we were not representing Blue Earth County’s Native American heritage. With some help from our friend, Joe White Hawk, we took a new direction for interpreting our American Indian collections. Exhibits have been revamped to showcase our most significant and earliest examples of Dakota artifacts. Along with the dugout canoe and the example of the cache pit, several new objects are on display which include:

*Ornaments:* circa 1860s made from red trade wool, silk ribbons, hide, thimbles, tin cones, and hawk bells.

*Armbands:* circa 1870 made from hide, porcupine quills, horsehair, and dyes.



*A Baby's Cap (left):* circa 1900 made from hide, glass beads, cotton cloth, sinew, and thread.

In working with the collection, we are strongly interested in appropriate identification of objects that were once catalogued based on where they were collected, not where they originated. It is extremely important to us to prominently display those objects that tell our local stories. We also have an exhibit devoted to objects related to the Hochunk and artifacts that originated from Blue Earth County.

With the “Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage” series the Society wants to celebrate our Native American heritage with our temporary exhibitions, as well as public programs. Hopefully we can explore all aspects of those who were here originally. As always we want to educate and keep the stories of all cultures alive in Blue Earth County.

Another new addition to the Museum, but not to BECHS, is the Holberg Cabin. Many of you may remember the log cabin from the basement of the R. D. Hubbard House. Thanks to Goodrich Construction and Piepho Moving and Storage, all

visitors now have better access to this piece of history.

The Holberg Cabin was built by A. Holberg in 1873. The cabin was constructed with notched log ends and dovetail corners which eliminated the need for nails. The cabin was quite

“modern” for its time; all of the cooking was done on a stove, not in a fireplace, and it had a basement cellar.

The log cabin was taken from its original location near the Le Sueur River in Rapidan Township and reassembled in 1965 under the direction of Dr. Bert Burns and fraternity members of Mankato State College (now Minnesota State University, Mankato)



in the basement of the R.D. Hubbard House. Here it amazed many 3<sup>rd</sup> graders for the next 40 years, but in recent years access to the cabin has been limited.

Our emphasis in the Museum is to create hands-on engagement and learning through

experiences. The 139-year-old log cabin offers interactive opportunities where our youngest visitors can learn about the daily lives of the pioneers who made Blue Earth County their home.

We hope all of you, young and young at heart, venture in to see this old log cabin in its new location.

In the coming months, the Museum will be undergoing significant changes. Stop by and see what’s new!





# Every object has a story...



The three-dimensional artifacts in BECHS's permanent collection consist of more than 31,000 objects. Most of the objects in our collection are donated by Blue Earth County individuals and families; people who want to make sure Blue Earth County's story, and their own, are never forgotten. Your grandfather's World War II letters or your aunt's graduation photo can be as important as a rare piece of 19th century furniture. Anything that can help BECHS preserve the memories and experiences of Blue Earth County's diverse people is historically valuable. Here is a glimpse into our collections.

## **Street Light Glass Globe**

This acorn style globe was used to illuminate St. Clair's Main Street prior to the 1950s. With the hydroelectric power of the Rapidan Dam, voltage lines were extended to our surrounding communities by 1913 lighting up all of our Main Streets.

This item is a great example of the "Main Street" in every community. Keep on the lookout for more details on our upcoming exhibit, The Front Street Project and if you are interested in donating a piece of Blue Earth County history, please contact Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager.

## HERITAGE CENTER ART GALLERY FEATURED ARTIST

### **Sue Mueller-Story, Valley Scenes Remembered**

**Portrait Restorer and Watercolor Artist**

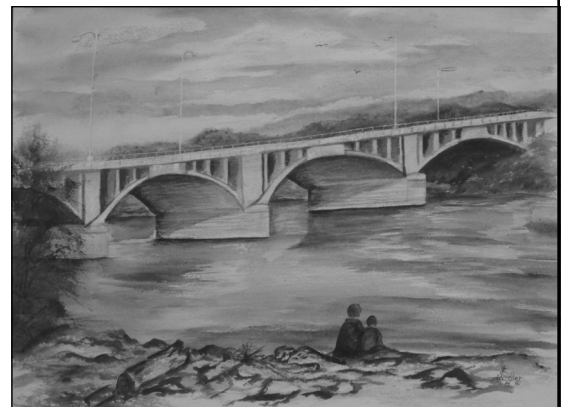
***On display at the Heritage Center through June 2012***

#### ***Decades of Pictures Swimming In My Head***

*Growing up as an only child many miles from any town, on a ranch with only my dog and the family cattle around, gave me a lot of time to look at nature and see the beauty they're about... Days never got long as there were always things to see and explore. As I grew and the family moved closer to town, the quiet and beauty of the ranch stayed with me, and painting came naturally, as well as restoration.*

*My wish is that every child will be able to some day feel a little of that peace and joy that I have known with my art work. It has helped me through many hard times, and with this God given talent it can bring us all closer to Him.*

*- Sue Mueller-Story*



"Telling Stories By the Bridge"

#### **Next Exhibit:**

**Mélange by Liz Madsen**

**July - October, 2012**

# Around Blue Earth County



Rapidan Heritage Society

Rapidan Heritage Society began its 10th year last year; the year was a bit more relaxed compared to past years with no large celebrations. The annual meeting was held on February 17th, with "Johnny K" & Colleen Kvasnicka. They spoke on the upcoming 150th Anniversary at Wasioja of Minnesota's entry into the Civil War—a very interesting and informational talk. Both came dressed in period costume. Colleen went through all the various nuances of a woman's dress during that period of time.

Our Memorial Day celebration was again a big success. The day started out with a salute to the past and present troops with the presenting of the Colors by the North Mankato American Legion Post. RHS would like to again thank St. John's Church for the coffee and donuts they so graciously provided for the morning. We had a short program honoring the Civil War Veterans who settled in the Rapidan area. Jane Tarjeson spoke about several of Rapidan's Historic buildings and their impact on the community today. To finish off the day, we had a wonderful lunch served again by RHS in the township garage.

On June 25th, some of RHS members and friends took a bus trip over to Wasioja, MN, for the 150th Anniversary of Minnesota entering the Civil war. What a day! It rained softly most of the day with a downpour during the big finalé in the afternoon. But that didn't stop our group; they stood their ground just like the MN Volunteers did during the Civil War times. It was an interesting place with lots of very cool things to see and do. We spent quite a bit of time just walking around the grounds, asking questions and visiting with all the performers. A big thank you to all who made this trip such a fun time.

RHS again hosted our "National Night Out" August 2nd in Rapidan with a potluck in the township garage. Many neighbors of Rapidan and the surrounding area came with dishes to pass and stories to share. Footnotes and Fingerprints club from BECHS joined our party and Shelly came prepared with trivia questions about Rapidan. Everyone had a great time, so keep the first Tuesday evening in August open—RHS will host another event this year.

We had Ghosts in the Depot again this year with many young and old visiting our Depot on Halloween

night. We were lucky that the weather cooperated in giving us such a nice evening. After a great evening of special guests, we gathered in the township hall community room for some great food and socializing among all who stayed.

A big thank you to our volunteers who were busy getting things ready for the November Non-Profit Bake Sale at Madison East—it was a great success. Our tables were popular again this year with many buying goodies and gifts for the upcoming holidays. Cookies, bread, canned goods, and doilies were a hit! As usual, we had a great time with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Depot with many little visitors and friends bringing in the holiday cheer. Afterward, we had our annual Holiday gathering at the township hall. Wonderful food and great friends came to celebrate the holiday season.

Your continued support of these fundraisers and donations are necessary and so very important to our Heritage Society. We really appreciate all of your support at our meetings and events through- out the year and hope that in this new year, you will continue to help support our organization in whatever way you feel comfortable in doing. RHS would like to thank everyone who made a monetary donation or donation of Rapidan memorabilia to our organization this year. With all your wonderful gifts, our mission of preserving the past one piece at a time will continue to grow.

Thank you.

L. Madsen, President

*Join RHS for the annual Memorial Day Celebration on Monday, May 28 at 9:00 a.m.*

## **Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd.**

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# Calendar of Events April - July 2012

## APRIL

- 19 Third Thursday Gallery Walk, Artist's Reception for Sue Mueller-Story**, Heritage Center Art Gallery 5-7 p.m.
- 20 "Striker-to-the-Line" Spring Kick-off Event for the Mankato Baltics**, 5:30 p.m. corner of 5th and Cherry St., Mankato
- 26 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on Talk of the Town
- 28 Victorian Tea Party**, St. John's Episcopal Church and R.D. Hubbard House, 1-4 p.m.

## MAY

- 1 Fingerprints and Footnotes: House History Workshop**, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.
- 5 Discover the Dakota: Language**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.
- 5 Hubbard House opens for season**, Saturdays and Sundays in May 1-4 p.m.
- 12 Young Historians, They Chose Minnesota: Family History Day**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.-Noon, Open to the Public to see the Young Historian's Family History Projects
- 17 Historic Blue Earth County Courthouse Tours**, 4-6 p.m., Mankato Heritage Preservation Commission Local Designation
- 17 Third Thursday Art Walk**, 5-8 p.m., Heritage Center Art Gallery
- 19 Red Jacket Trestle Reopening Celebration**, 10 a.m.-Noon
- 19 Mankato Baltics @ LaCrescent**, 11:30 a.m.
- 24 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on Talk of the Town
- 24 Historic R.D. Hubbard House Tours**, 4-6 p.m., Mankato Heritage Preservation Commission Local Designation
- 31 Minnesota Main Street Program**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Verizon Wireless Center, Mankato Heritage Preservation Commission Preservation Month Program

## JUNE

- 1 Hubbard House Summer Hours**, Open Friday-Sunday, June thru August

- 1 Story Time with the Hubbard Girls** @ Historic Hubbard House  
*Friday mornings @ 10:30 a.m. thru August*
- 2 Discover the Dakota: Dakota Games**, Hubbard House Lawn, 10 a.m.
- 2 Victorian Lawn Party** at the Historic Hubbard House 1-4 p.m.
- 10 Mankato Baltics @ Afton**
- 16 Mankato Baltics @ Columbia Heights**, Noon
- 17 Mankato Baltics @ Shakopee**, Noon
- 21 Third Thursday Art Walk**, 5-8 p.m. Heritage Center Art Gallery
- 23 Minnesota Genealogical Society Genealogy Workshop**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., MSU, M Centennial Student Union co-hosted by the South Central MN Genealogy Expo, visit [www.mnngs.org](http://www.mnngs.org) for details.
- 24 Cambria Eisteddfod**  
*Welsh Poetry and Music Festival at Morgan Creek Vineyards*, 2 p.m.
- 28 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. for BECHS Update on Talk of the Town
- 29 Historic South Front Street Pub Crawl**, 6 p.m., Tickets on sale in June
- 30 Mankato Baltics 1860s Base Ball Tournament**, Land of Memories Park, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

## JULY

- 14 Discover the Dakota: National Eagle Center**, Hubbard House Lawn, 10 a.m.
- 19 Third Thursday Gallery Walk Artist Reception for Liz Madsen**, Heritage Center Art Gallery, 5-8 p.m.
- 26-29 Blue Earth County Fair**
- 28 Mankato Baltics @ Rochester**, 10 a.m.
- TBA Fingerprints and Footnotes: Base Ball History with the Baltics**

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

**Sign-up for our new monthly e-news to receive updates between *Historian* issues! Follow BECHS on Facebook and Twitter.**



## Blue Earth County Historical Society

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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.

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### **Membership Levels**

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\*denotes Business Member levels

Please send this form and check to:

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415 Cherry Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

**OR**

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

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

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