

The Blue Earth County

HISTORIAN



What's ahead this season?



Florence Jones Powers, circa 1900. Florence was a lifelong resident of Mankato. This summer Florence's daughter Jeanne Audrey Powers donated photographs of Florence and her family circa 1900-1910.

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Native American Artisans

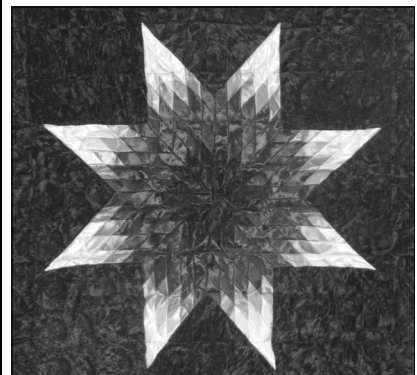


Exhibit featuring Native American artwork now on display, see page 7.

New Exhibit Opens



Remembering Front Street exhibit now open, see page 16.

BECHS 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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Heritage Center

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507-345-5566

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

Closed for the season

The Blue Earth County Historian

Fall 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

The nights have gotten colder, the leaves are falling, and nature is preparing for the winter. Autumn is the time in Minnesota when all living things take the time to regroup, count their blessings, and start making plans for what lies ahead.

Here at the Blue Earth County Historical Society, we're doing the same. This year has been exciting, with monthly events celebrating the Dakota culture reminding us, again, of the heritage of the land we call home. We've also done a lot of stopping, looking around, and taking inventory of where we, as an organization, come from...and where we want to be in the future. We're starting to formulate our plan.

Part of any organization's planning process involves finances. Last year, thanks to the lead gift by long-time dedicated volunteers Shirley and Win Grundmeier, we were able to make sure not only that our operations were covered, but that we had enough to make it through the winter, so to speak. Our members and donors came through in a big way, and for that we thank you.

Now, as we begin the process of planning for 2013 and beyond, we once again turn to those who support us.

This year the Blue Earth County Historical Society will again participate in Give to the Max Day. On November 15th, non-profits from across Minnesota will concentrate their efforts on raising those funds that are so important to their short- and long-term survival. It's a great opportunity to speak in one voice, reminding people of the light we provide, not only through the dark days of winter but all year round. Giving online is made easy and the campaign is concentrated into one day to allow us the rest of the year to get down to business.

We'll also take this opportunity to conduct our year-end donor campaign, reconnecting with those of you who have given generously in the past and making extra efforts to communicate with those who may have just discovered us in our 111th year of operations. We hope that as you look back on the year just past, and look forward to the year ahead, you'll put a little aside to help us continue to celebrate the events and people in Blue Earth County's history who have brought us to where we are today.

Minnesota winters can be long and cold, but when we come together in a united way we can emerge from the other side stronger and ready to take on the new year. We see great things in our future together!



Director's Notes

Jessica Potter
Executive Director

I love fall with the leaves changing to brilliant colors, warm apple cider on a cool evening and easing back into wearing layers. This transition of seasons also reflects a season of transitioning for BECHS with the opening of a brand-new exhibit, the Hubbard House closing for another season, and gearing up for the launch of our fall year-end fundraising campaign. The opportunities are endless during this season.

Front Street opening

The new exhibit at the Heritage Center, "Remembering Front Street," finally opened at the end of September with more than 300 people visiting opening weekend. As many of you know, this has been a personal labor of love since 2009 when Dave Engen and I first talked about Front Street. Dave was working on a documentary project to record the community's "third places"; the places we gather between home and work. He was looking for a "new" third place and my immediate response was Front Street. After working at BECHS for 11 years, I have viewed incredible photographs of this mystery place of the past – Front Street. My dream would be to stand in the middle of Front Street during its heyday and see and sense the hustle and bustle, shop at Brett's, have a soda at the Candy Kitchen and, of course, stand in the lobby of the Saulpaugh Hotel. Well, Dave kept his end of the deal and set out to interview people who played a part in Front Street's past, and then he opened it up to everyone to be part of the voices of Front Street. Now, three years later, we are proud to announce that "Remembering Front Street" the exhibit is ready for you to stroll down memory lane. We anticipate the exhibit will evolve as many of you experience it and come forward with Front Street memorabilia. It will be on display for at least two years to allow for these changes. So, please come, enjoy, tell your friends and come again!

Timber

Our research on the timber in our collection continues. As you may be aware, the timber's story is that it was used as a piece of the 1862 scaffold, reused in a building on Front Street, sent to the

University of Minnesota as an artifact in 1881; it was then returned to Mankato in 1927. Unfortunately, the story given to the timber does not match our primary research, so we have been struggling to prove or disprove the account. If you are interested in following our research and perhaps shedding light on our findings, please check out our new blog on our website which includes a timeline comprised of our research, plus unanswered questions. We will update this blog as additional information is uncovered and allow you to post your thoughts as well. We take our responsibility of presenting the history of Blue Earth County seriously. We won't put an object on display as potentially historically significant as this one without first knowing if the story and the object are authentic.

BECHS Anniversary and Fall Campaign

Autumn at BECHS also means Ghosts from the Past, our 111th anniversary in November, and our fall year-end fundraising campaign. Ghosts from the Past will explore the story of prohibition in Blue Earth County on October 26 and the 27. We are looking forward to another entertaining look at the past. See page 7 for more information. Then join us to celebrate our 111th anniversary with a special open house on November 9 and 10. We will feature double member discount shopping, refreshments and maybe a surprise or two. This will be a great time to shop for holiday gifts while supporting BECHS.

Our year-end campaign materials will hit your mailboxes in early November. We have a large goal this year of \$25,000, and when this goal is achieved we will be able to make much needed improvements to the Heritage Center (our home for the past 25 years) and prepare for projects in 2013. For details of what needs to be done to improve the Heritage Center, please feel free to contact me directly.

I am always humbled by our members, donors and volunteers, whose time, support and financial resources allow this organization to flourish and grow. Thank you for the opportunity to be on the staff of YOUR Blue Earth County Historical Society. Enjoy this beautiful season of Thanksgiving.

At the Book and Gift Shop

Penny Wallace, Museum Assistant



The excitement of our new Front Street exhibit is whirling through the air in our Heritage Center Museum Store! We are excited to offer a wide variety of new merchandise, exclusively dedicated to the wonderful history and memories that take us back in time to another place.

Marian Anderson has once again brought the beautiful vision of our love for Mankato and Front Street to the Heritage Center Gift Shop with her signature Mankato series in the poster *Mankato With Love*—which includes: *Partners In Progress*, *Good Ol' Summertime*, and *Closing Time*. Gorgeous, frame quality posters for only \$12.95.

The Mankato series also includes wonderful notecards that are as stunning as the prints, and they are very popular items with our customers. We are also happy to offer Anderson's other nostalgic notecards dedicated to *Yesteryear* (North Mankato), *City of Charm & Tradition*, (New Ulm), *The Spirit Lives* (Sleepy Eye), and *To The Glory of God* (Church of Saints Peter & Paul). This is just a sampling of some items that make great gifts and are as much fun to send as they are to receive during the holiday season, or anytime.

BECHS has assembled several walking tour guides that invite everyone to walk down the sidewalks of Front Street again: *Hidden Front Street*, *Fortune and Family Ties*, and *Walking Tour of North Front Street*.

The collection of beautiful Marian Anderson Native American notecards are so popular and breath-taking, they have been a challenge to keep on the shelf. They are an absolute “must see” along with

our new inventory of Native American books, signed by the authors...sure to be collectors' items!

With winter approaching, our array of scrumptious cookbooks are sure to be a big hit as a special treat for ourselves or a yummy gift that is sure to bring wonderful meals!

The new Maud Hart Lovelace Betsy-Tacy books and notecards have arrived, including the new book, *Discovering Deep Valley*. The notecards and books are so charming, they are sure to bring a smile to your face. Another fabulous gift idea for the holiday season!

Since we did bring up the festive holiday season that is approaching, we are preparing for a grand display in our Museum Store and invite you to join us for our open house November 9th and 10th! We invite everyone to browse and shop our unique store and find those one-of-a-kind gifts for people of all ages to cherish through the years.

I am so happy and thrilled to have been invited to join the Front Street excitement, the staff, supporters and lovers of such deep, rich, lovely history as Blue Earth County! I've lived in the

area many years and now happily in Mankato and I always have had a passion for history, artifacts and wonderful memories that people share! I'm a graduate of a private college, and I bring a great deal of executive assistant and retail store management experiences. I look forward to seeing you in the Museum Store and can't wait to meet you!

Remember, if the weather gets a bit brisk, don't forget to shop at our popular online store. The fun shopping experience in your own comfortable chair and convenience - just a “click” away!





R.D. Hubbard House

Ryan Harren and Alexandria Oldenburg, Hubbard House Assistants

The Hubbard House is now closed for the season, and we are sad to leave after such a wonderful summer filled with many eventful weekends.

In July the Hubbard House hosted the Dakota Series event when the National Eagle Center brought a bald eagle and gave an informative presentation on eagle biology and history. In mid-July the Betsy-Tacy Convention was held in Mankato and many of the conventioners stopped by the house. A medicine show took over the grounds in August, where visitors to this "Flim-Flam, Snake Oil, and Ballyhoo" event had their fortunes read, were amazed with magic tricks, and saw a juggler and a belly dancer along with medicine show reenactment. Many of the medicine show visitors also took a tour of the house, so it was a busy day for us!

This season approximately 900 visitors came to the Carriage House or attended tours of the Hubbard House. We had an additional 150 visitors for Story Time with the Hubbard Girls on Friday mornings from June to the end of August. People came for tours of the house from all parts of Minnesota and 20 other states. Our visitors came from almost every state in the midwest, as well as more distant states like California, New York, Texas and Florida. We even had international visitors from Denmark, Germany and Ukraine. It was exciting for us to give tours to people from so many different places and to share our local history.

Even though the house is closed for the season, you can still come back and visit it during "Christmas at the Hubbard House." This fun event is full of costumed re-enactors portraying a wide variety of characters from the Victorian era. The house is also decked out in lights and festive decorations. You may have seen the Hubbard House over the summer, but it's a different event at Christmas! Make sure to stop back December 1 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. or December 2 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. to visit us for Christmas at the Hubbard House.

Piepho Moving & Storage, Inc.

777 Industrial Road
Mankato, MN 56001

Mark Piepho
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Mark@Piepho.com
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Christmas at the Hubbard House

An Annual Mankato Holiday Tradition

A Hubbard Family Christmas

Saturday, December 1

3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 2

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Guided Tours · Holiday Gift Shop

Adults \$7.50 / Children 5-17 \$5

BECHS Members & under 5 FREE



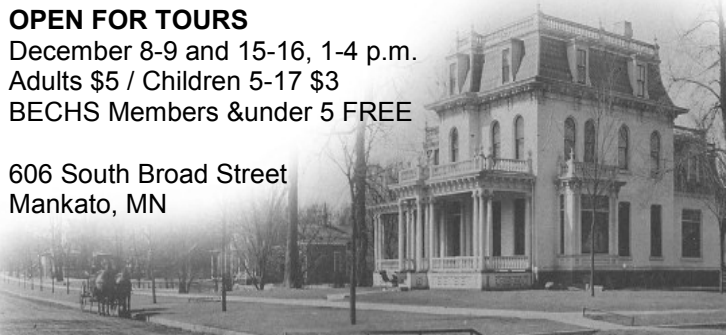
OPEN FOR TOURS

December 8-9 and 15-16, 1-4 p.m.

Adults \$5 / Children 5-17 \$3

BECHS Members & under 5 FREE

606 South Broad Street
Mankato, MN



BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Visit www.bechshistory.com for more details



In recognition of the U.S. - Dakota Conflict of 1862 Sesquicentennial

Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage

A Monthly Educational Series Celebrating the Dakota People

In order to understand a culture, you must experience the lifestyle, learn about the beliefs and get to know its people. The 12-part series, 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 strengthen partnerships for the future. It also recognizes the 150th Anniversary of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862.

The series began in January and will conclude December 2012. Recent past programs included the art behind Dakota poetry, the founding of the Mahkato Wacipi (powwow) which celebrated its 40th anniversary in September and the history and legacy of the tall grass prairie in October.

In total over 650 people have taken part in this year-long educational series. It has been very well received by participants who have been eager to learn more about Dakota culture.

Remaining Discover the Dakota programs include:

Film: *Dakota War of 1862*, November 3, 10 a.m.

Join us for a public viewing and discussion of the PBS film *Dakota War of 1862*. A facilitator will be hand to lead a discussion following the film.

Traveling Exhibit *Commemorating Controversy: The Dakota-U.S. War of 1862*,

Opening event December 1, 10 a.m.

The traveling exhibit, *Commemorating Controversy: The Dakota - U.S. War of 1862*, was produced by Gustavus Adolphus College students, in conjunction with the Nicollet County Historical Society. The twelve panel exhibit explores the war's causes,

voices, events and long-lasting consequences. The exhibit will be on display at the Heritage Center during the month of December.

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.

Special thanks for our presenters who made this series possible: Joe White Hawk, Dave Larsen, Maza Kute Drum and Dance group, National Eagle Center, John Rezmerski, Christina Shortall, Dakota artisans, Mike Yeoman, and Dave and Sarah Brave Heart.

This project has been made possible in part by a grant from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Commemorating Controversy:

The Dakota-U.S. War of 1862

The Dakota-U.S. War was a violent and divisive period in our history. For some families of victims it still represents a living wound. For all of us what happened in 1862 continues to matter today.

This exhibit was produced by students in the course *Commemorating Controversy: The Dakota-U.S. War of 1862*, taught at Gustavus Adolphus College, in conjunction with the Nicollet County Historical Society. The students spent January 2012 immersed in the war's literature, voices, primary sources, and sites.

These panels reflect that student work and exploration. We hope that it communicates their efforts to comprehend this period of national history. It cannot speak for all people and perspectives, and does not necessarily reflect the views of our supporters. This history is emotional, complicated, and difficult. While the

focus of this exhibit is on six weeks in 1862, the entire story is much, much more than that. We encourage each of you to do your own research, visit historic sites, and talk to Dakota Elders.

Our work was funded by Gustavus Adolphus College, Nicollet County Historical Society, Minnesota Humanities Center, and the people of Minnesota through a grant funded by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. We would also like to acknowledge special help from our guest lecturers and Elders from the Lower Sioux Community.

"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

Minnesota Center of the Olafson and Olafson Foundation on the St. James River near Fort Snelling, 1862. (John S. Sweeney) (1862-15)

Nicollet County Historical Society
www.NicolletCountyHistoricalSociety.org

Minnesota Humanities Center
www.MinnesotaHumanities.org

Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
www.ArtsandCulture.org



Fingerprints and Footnotes

Footnotes and Fingerprints, the History and Genealogy Club, is always growing; and newcomers are always welcome. In August we had an exciting adventure with the Madison Lake Area Historical Society and a wonderful potluck. The food was fabulous, and we had a blast getting to know everyone better.

In September, Dr. William E. Lass presented "The Histories of the Dakota War of 1862". He described changing perspectives of the war from 1863 to the present. It was very interesting and we had a great crowd. This month we invited everyone to the Historic R. D. Hubbard House Carriage House. We had fun with Larry Kortuem as we strolled through the carriage house and traveled back in time to discover the history of the vehicles.

These and many interesting tidbits can be had at any of our meetings. If you have any ideas for topics or tours, or if you have any interest in presenting a topic, please let Shelley know.

Footnotes by Beth Zimmer

Did your ancestor file to become a citizen? The census records of 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940 state whether he was naturalized or an alien. Once you have the year, you can file for naturalization papers of your ancestor. These papers are valuable sources of personal data concerning the individual and his family.

Future Meetings:

November 8 (note the date change): The Making of the Remembering Front Street Exhibit

December 4: *The Dakota Uprising: A Pictorial History*, a presentation and book signing by Curtis Dahlin

January 8: *The Wagon Wheel Project*, Dave Engen presents his new book

HERITAGE CENTER ART GALLERY FEATURED ARTISTS

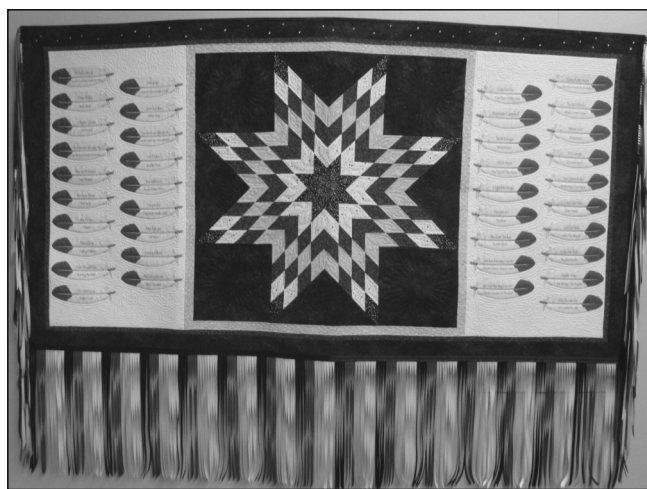
Native American Artisans

In association with our Series "Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage" we are able to showcase some amazing American Indian artisans featuring the artistry of Eagle Wolf, Joe White Hawk, Glenn Good Thunder and others. All of the pieces are original works of art and appropriate for all ages to enjoy, include painting, quilting, drawing, and much more.

Artist and historian T. Carter will give a special presentation on her piece *Dakota 38: A Quilted Dance Shawl* (featured to the right) on Thursday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center.

Native American Artisans on display at the Heritage Center now through December 2012.

Front cover: Star Quilt by Benjamin Leedom



Quilted Dance Shawl by T. Carter

Next Featured Artist—January 2013
Terri DeGezelle

Research Center

Heather Harren, Archives Assistant

It is fall once again and hard to believe that I have been working at BECHS a year already. It has been great getting to know all of the wonderful people who have visited the Research Center, and I look forward to meeting more people in the future. If you have not been to the Center lately, stop by and check out the new layout of the room. I have moved the tables into a new arrangement, which seems to be working well. Another great addition is Obituary Book 104, which has obituaries through the end of August 2012. We have also placed a box in the research center to



collect ink cartridges. We recycle at Office Max to help defray office expenses like copier paper.

Over the past few months, you may have noticed a few changes made to the website. We are in the process of converting to a different program for editing. With these changes, the Upcoming Events tab now only lists the date and time for future events. Each event has a link that will take you to another page that has more information about the event, the costs, the location and the contact person. We still have several pages to update, so many of the pages still have the old side bar on them, but we're making progress.

At the end of July, we got our 300th Facebook fan. Thank you to everyone who supports us on this social media site. What things would you like to see us continue or add on our Facebook page? Next time you are there, leave us a message telling us what you would like to see more of from us and make sure to check the page often to see what new items have been posted!

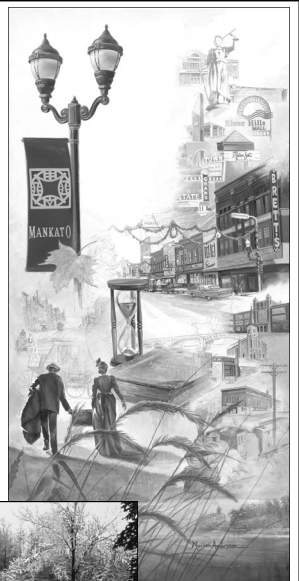
Marian Anderson Fine Art Prints

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.



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: *Seasons of Life: Summer* available in main edition prints (\$81) and note cards, *Winter Solitude* available in main edition prints (\$66) and note cards, and *Mankato: First 150 Years* available in main edition prints (\$81).

In Search of the Elusive Mrs. Rablin

By Jane Tarjeson

Maria Rablin, who are you and what secrets are you holding? Many times in genealogy research we encounter at least one elusive ancestor. Such is the case of the mysterious Mrs. Rablin.

St. Paul, pre-1852—Maria Rablin worked as a hired girl for P.K. Johnson. P.K. Johnson advertised in *The Minnesota Democrat* as a “Merchant tailor selling shirts, handkerchiefs, cravats, neck-ties, collars, under shirts, drawers, socks, suspenders, gloves, hats, &c.; the store located on Jackson Street.” Maria’s husband, James, worked for Henry Jackson who had a trading post on Jackson Street. He had earned the name “Rum River Jim” from working as a lumberman on the Rum River by Anoka. In 1851 their first child, a daughter, was born, and they named her Rebecca.

P.K. Johnson and Henry Jackson formed the Mankato Townsite Company. On April 23, 1852, making their first trip on the Tiger up the Minnesota River, they arrived at the new town site of Mankato. With them was James Rablin, an employee of the Townsite Company. P.K. Johnson described James Rablin as “a hard drinker and rather reckless, daredevil sort of fellow.”

On April 28 the Tiger left St. Paul on its second trip up the Minnesota River. On board with a destination of Mankato, were Mrs. James Rablin and Rebecca. Maria Rablin became the first white woman to settle in Mankato and Blue Earth County.

Mr. and Mrs. Rablin were given possession of the second shanty built in Mankato. It was a grand shanty, 12 ft. x 14 ft. and high enough so a man could stand upright in it without hitting his head against the joists! It had a window and a door and a roof of slabs or clapboards. It stood about 100 feet north of the Hubbard Flour Mill and about 100 feet west of Front Street. That summer the entire population of Mankato boarded with the Rablins in this shanty.

The Rablins moved to Lime Township in July 1852 and were the first settlers there. A son, John, was born in 1853 – the first white child born in Lime Township.

In July 1854, James apparently borrowed \$100. A Quit Claim Deed is recorded for the consideration of \$100 in hand – James Rablin quit claim to Quartus B. Abbott for land described as “premises situated in Blue Earth County, and Territory of Minnesota, to wit – beginning at a stake in the center of a Lane near the landing on the Minnesota River, on the 160 acre claim formerly taken and occupied by said Rablin, thence running South 91 rods to a stake designating the South West corner of said Rablins original claim thence East 160 rods to the South East corner of said claim, thence North 69 rods to a Burr Oak stake blared on two sides, thence on a strait line to the place of beginning the same containing 80 acres be the same more or less.” By the end of July the \$100 was repaid and a Quit Claim releasing the land back to James Rablin was recorded.

A third child, Minnie, was born in 1856. James Rablin disappears from the records between 1856 and 1857. Did they divorce or did his life of hard drinking and fighting catch up with him? The 1857 Minnesota Territorial Census lists a Maria Abbott, age 30, with children Rebecca, John and Minnie. Is Abbott, Maria’s maiden name? How did Maria support her young family during this time? Her options were limited so she turned to something she was good at – making liquor – ‘forty-rod’ whiskey. A dangerous occupation, in the 1850s laws were passed making it illegal to sell “spirituous liquor” to an Indian in Indian country (reservation). General Fletcher, the Winnebago Agent, had Mrs. Rablin arrested and taken to St. Paul for selling liquor.

Maria Rablin appeared in the Report of Financial Condition of Blue Earth County – sums drawn on County Treasurer for 1858. In December the following bills were presented: E K Bangs Esq., bill in case of



Rablin children's tombstone

state of Minnesota vs. Maria Rablin, Dutch Mary and Rufus Bargher \$4.10; E K Bangs Esq., bill in case of state of Minnesota vs. Emory Williams \$2.65; Team and driver used at arrest of Maria Rablin \$2.50; Boarding Maria Rablin's children for county \$4.00.

On December 29, 1858 Maria Abbott was married to Emory Williams, and in November 1859 a son, George A. was born. A second son, Richard, was born in 1860. Were Maria's whiskey making activities over?

Apparently not, as the June 1860 District Court minutes record charges against Emory Williams and Maria Williams "with the crime of selling, trading or bartering spirituous liquors to the Indians." Bail for each was set at \$300.

The July 23, 1861 *Mankato Semi-Weekly Record* reports

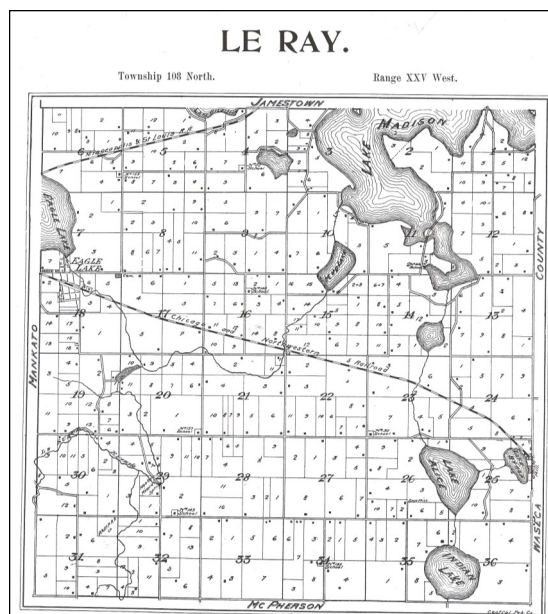
"Officer Conner, on Sunday succeeded in caging a brace of worthies. A Sioux engaged a Winnebago squaw to get him some whiskey. He gave her a dollar, with which she succeeded in buying a pint of home-made, forty-rod whiskey, of one Emory Williams and his wife. Williams, his wife, and the Sioux were arrested. The whiskey was found on the person of the Indian. The squaw escaped to the agency. The parties were committed to jail."

Three days later the paper reported "Mrs. Williams, charged with selling liquor to Indians, was tried on Monday afternoon and convicted. The evidence was direct and positive and in consideration of the fact that she is an old offender, Justice Johnson sentenced her to three months imprisonment in the county jail and a fine of \$100. Her husband, Emory Williams, was not implicated in the transaction, and was discharged."

Mrs. Williams served less than a month and then was discharged, because of material defects in the papers upon which she was arrested and committed.

In 1862 a third son, Edward J. was born to Emory and Maria. As the Civil War continued and recruits were needed to fill the county's quota, Emory Williams, at the age of 46, enlisted in Company E 2nd

Regiment Cavalry in December 1863. Maria was left on the farm in LeRay Township with six children under the age of 11 to care for and support. Emory was mustered out in December 1865.



LeRay Township, Blue Earth County Atlas, 1895

With Emory home, life returned to normal – until March 1, 1872 when George died. In September of 1875 a torrential rain flooded the streets of Mankato and all the rivers were swollen and over their banks. Edward attempted to swim across the LeSueur River near his home, probably to get a boat which had broken loose, but he drowned. However, rumors circulated that he had intentionally drowned himself. Edward is buried in Tivoli Cemetery in LeRay Township next to his brother George.

The 1875 state census lists daughter Rebecca at home, but she is not listed in the 1880 census. A marriage is recorded in Nobles County on December 28, 1875 of John P. Newberry (Newbury) and Anna Rablin in Worthington. Witness was John Rablin. A death is recorded in September 1876 in the Town of Hersey, Nobles County for a R. Newberry. An early plat of Tivoli Cemetery reveals a grave next to George and Edward Williams labeled Rebecca Newbury. Was her body brought home to rest? The newspapers of the time offer no information; they are filled only with news of the Northfield robbers.

In 1876 a harvester was purchased from J. I. Case Co. of Racine Wisconsin. A Mortgage Deed was recorded for \$653 on the SW ¼ of Section 29 T108 R25W, 160 acres between William & Maria Williams and J. I. Case Company. The deed was signed by Emory Williams, J.P. Newbury and an X for Maria Williams mark. Maria could not write her name! It is not until March 1892 that a Satisfaction of Mortgage was filed releasing this lien.

The fall harvest looked promising; *The Review* reported that in 1876 "250 harvesters sold in the county." However, the following issue of the paper reports the invasion of the grasshoppers in Blue Earth County and reports of the devastation caused

by the hoppers. Wheat yields in LeRay Township were averaging about 20 bushels to the acre; LeRay Township had the least amount of bushels lost due to the grasshoppers in Blue Earth County.

January 2, 1880 was a joyful day for the Williams family. John Rablin was married to Belle Kiffe and his sister Minnie Rablin married Charles Newberry. P. K. Johnson, Justice of the Peace, performed both ceremonies.

Maria's first grandchildren were born in 1881, a son to John and Belle in July and a daughter to Minnie and Charles in December.

In about 1883 Emory, Maria and their family moved to Otter Tail County, where Emory Williams died in January 1889.

Was it the call of the pioneer or civilization closing in on their farm in LeRay Township that made the family decide to move to Otter Tail County? Otter Tail in the early 1880s was in the early stages of being settled. Perhaps this was a way to get away from reputations and rumors that would

or could not be quieted. A fresh start, perhaps not so much for themselves but for their children.

Servant, wife, mother, moonshiner, farmer, Maria Rablin-Williams is one of the many unnamed pioneers on whose shoulders was built the city of Mankato and County of Blue Earth. Receiving no credit for her part, she nevertheless was instrumental in the shaping and success of Mankato and Blue Earth County.



Jane Tarjeson
portraying Mrs. Rablin

Sources:

State and Federal censuses

Blue Earth County Land, Birth, Death & Marriage records

5th District Court Records, MHS archives

Hughes, Thomas *The History of Blue Earth County*, 1907

Mankato Review & Mankato Record newspapers

Old Settlers Stories, BECHS archives

Join the Fun! Join the Team! Make History Happen!

Volunteer Opportunities

Kiwanis Holiday Lights

Looking for volunteers to represent BECHS at the community Kiwanis Holiday Lights at Sibley Park December 27, 2012. A variety of shifts and duties available. Please contact Jessica at bechs@hickorytech.net to volunteer.

Education Programs

Looking for educators (retired or still working) to assist with development of curriculum to accompany field trips to the Hubbard House and Heritage Center Museum.

Data Entry

Entering information into museum management databases. Must be detail-oriented.

Volunteer Coordination

Assist staff with development of volunteer program as well as recruitment, orientation and coordination of BECHS volunteers.

Collections Aide

Assist with small hand-sewing or knowledge of antiques.

Research Center Aide

Assist with the daily operation of the Research Center helping researchers and answering research inquiries.

Audio/Visual

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

Writer

Looking for writers and researchers for regular article series and BECHS publications.

To volunteer, stop by the Heritage Center or go online at bechshistory.com to complete a volunteer application.

BECHS Donations

July—September 2012

Anonymous
Bartsch, Janet
Burns, Inella
Dobie, Sheryl
Fitzloff, Shirley
Higginbotham, Jack and Shirley
Hynes, Susan K.
Jensen, Mary Ann
Johnson, Marlyss
Kalvig, Ann
Karow, Linda
KMSU 89.7 FM, Minnesota State
University - Mankato
Kunkel, Denise and Mike
Lagerquist, Michael
Lake Crystal High School Class of
1962 (50th reunion)
Leeman, Harold
Lutes, Duncan
Marks, Tom
McLaughlin, Theresa and Tom
McLean, Edward F.
Medo Township
Miller, Jo
Nordland, Kyle
Norman, Beth
Nussbaumer, Linda and Jerry
Piepho, Shirley and Mark
Rezmerski, John

Saffert, Kenneth
Salsbery, Lucinda and Tom
Sassenberg, Eunice
Schaub, Shirley
Smith, Lynette and Norbert
Webb, Donna and Jerry
Williams, Jerry and Vee
Zellmer, Randy

SPECIAL GIFTS

*In Honor of the Marriage of Emily
Green and Daniel Dinsmore*
Dinsmore, Randall
Saba, B. J.

In Honor of the Leslie Peterson
Lawther, Jane and Joe Flood
Roca, Joan and Elaine Lilly
Ruhland, Christopher
Schwartzkopf, Louis and Rebecca
Wegman, Jerry

In Honor of Jack Madsen
Katoland Connection All Inclusive
Reunion Group

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Don Broadwell
Schrader, Julie and Ken

In Memory of John Croswell
Swenson, Glenn & Helen Rachel

In Memory of Shirley Lamphere
Garlow, Darrell and Sandi
Lavitschke, Dean and Jo-an
Oldenburg, Chris and Steve
Potter, LeDonna

In Memory of Helen Marti
Marti, Jed and Kathie
Marti-Dingman, Jill and Gordon
Mathiason, Renee

In Memory of Julie Miller
McGregor, Byron and Karen

In Memory of Glen L. Owens
Davis, Don and Lois

IN-KIND

Alliance Pipeline
I & S Group
Indian Island Winery
Keir, Grace
Lavitschke, Jo-an
Mankato City Center Hotel
Red Door Creative
Schaub, Shirley
Sinn, Gunter

WISH LIST

- **Used Ink Cartridges** (to be recycled for Office Max credit)
- **Flat Panel Computer Monitors** (working order)
- **Office chair on casters** (good condition)
- **Countertop Microwave** (working order)
- **Two-drawer filing cabinet** or small cart with drawers
- **Two matching ivory garden urns** (approximately 12.5" tall x 8" top diameter and 4.5" at base) for Hubbard House Christmas
- **Strings of blue LED lights, history themed holiday ornaments** and/or **100' outdoor extension cord** for Kiwanis Holiday Lights to decorate our BECHS tree—ideas welcome.

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.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you to the individuals whose donations fulfilled the following wish list items: new tables and chairs for the meeting room, video camcorder and gently used farm toys for the Museum. Thank you!

Twilight Garden Club Celebrates 50 Years of Gardening

By Shirley Hoelscher,
Club Secretary

The Twilight Garden Club held a 50th Anniversary Open House on September 11, 2012, where city officials, members, former members and some of the general public attended.

Formed in 1962 when several ladies who were stay-at-home moms at the time, wanted an evening to themselves. Gardening has always been this group's focus. When the ladies first gathered they worked in gardens at Sibley Park, carrying water over from the then Mankato Lutheran Home (now Pathstone Living). In 1977 they began caring for the gardens at the historic R.D. Hubbard House.

Membership was originally held to 12 people, but today we have over 30 members, (with only about a dozen fully active). We have one charter member remaining active in our club. Joyce Nelson has been with the club since its inception, and has held all positions of office, including President, Secretary, and Treasurer. She not only works in the Hubbard House Gardens, but still tends to the gardens around the Pathstone Living facility. It has been a tradition for this club to have a summer potluck, guest speakers and a Christmas Party. One or several members plan each event and everyone gets a turn at hosting.

Our club currently meets at the Hubbard House gardens every Tuesday from April into October where we weed, move plants and enjoy each others company. Once a month during the year we hold a meeting to discuss places to visit, plants that are new to the market and new plants we would like to try in the gardens.

The only requirement for becoming involved in the Twilight Garden Club is to show an interest in gardening. We do have several Master Gardeners who answer many questions for those of us not quite



Twilight Garden Club Open House September 11, 2012

so informed; and we are always looking for additional volunteers to join us, even if one cannot meet at the gardens weekly.

If you would like more information, give Karna Swenson-Stock (507-317-0510) a call. If you would like more on the history, Joyce Nelson would gladly help you out (507-388-8278).

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who hard work make the Hubbard House gardens so beautiful each year! -BECHS Staff and Board of Trustees

**GIVETODAY.
MAKEHISTORY.**

The Blue Earth County Historical Society stands on the 111 year tradition of collecting, preserving and presenting Blue Earth County's rich heritage. You can make history happen today by donating to the **2012 Year-End Drive to raise \$25,000**. Donations will support 2012 expenses and help us reach new heights in 2013 with building improvements, exterior signage and expanded programming.

**Watch your mailbox for details or give today at
www.bechshistory.com**

BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Visit www.bechshistory.com for more details or call 507-345-5566.

BECHS Membership

July - September 2012

New Members

Anthony, Dorothy
Anzures, Paula
Blanshan, Dale
DeGezelle, Terri
Foster, Candace
Hendricks, Tom
Jackson, Don and Barb
Jacobs, Yvonne
Johnson, Michael and Jennifer
Jones, Karl
Laird, Kevin
Revering, Wilfred and Julie
Sageng, Hans and Beth
Small, Bob and Marilyn
Vaubel, Trevor
Wingate, Sheila

New Business Members

Mutch Hardware, David and Sandy Mutch

Renewing Business Members

Burkhardt and Burkhardt, Mike Burkhardt
Community Bank Mankato, Mike Ogaard
Goodrich Construction, Ron Goodrich
Insty-Prints of Mankato, Bob Shibilski
Piepho Moving & Storage, Inc., Mark Piepho

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

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YOUNG HISTORIANS

The 2012-2013 year of Young Historians is underway with the theme "The Story of U.S. in the 20th Century." Each month kids in grades 3-12 will explore a different decade or set of decades to learn more about U.S. History. These free hands-on history workshops take place the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to Noon.

The big group project this year is a timeline of events that took place during the 20th Century. These might be inventions that were made, new toys for children, celebrities, political changes and anything else the Young Historians think is important.

In September, the Young Historians learned more about American Indian culture and made drums. In October, they learned about the 1900s by visiting the Hubbard House, where our favorite tour guides (pictured to the right),

Katherine Hubbard (Alex Oldenburg), Mrs. Cannon (Susan Hynes), and Mary Esther Hubbard (Laura

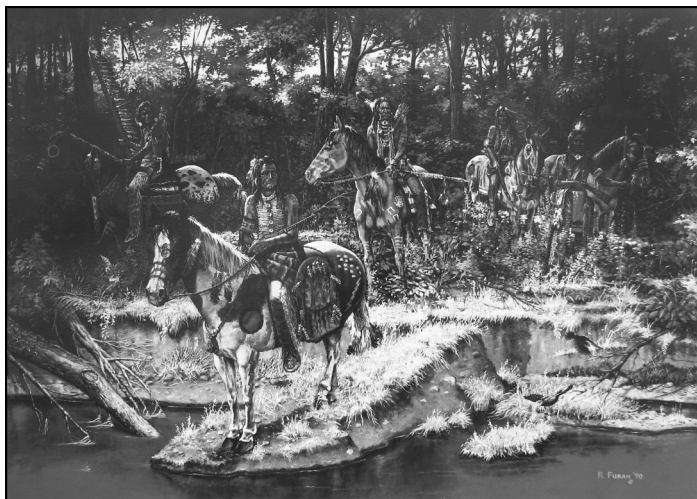


Garlow) gave a tour and explained what life was like in 1909. Check out the calendar on page 19 for upcoming hands-on history workshop topics.

Days before the first Young Historians meeting of the year, the new meeting room tables and chairs were delivered to BECHS. In 2010, Young



Historians set out to raise the funds needed to replace the aged equipment, so it was fitting that they were the first group to use them. Thank you to all who donated to this project to make this purchase possible!



SUMMER OF SIXTY-TWO By Artist Rod Furan

Summer of Sixty-Two depicts a Dakota Indian hunting party on the banks of the Minnesota River during the summer of 1862. A limited supply of signed and numbered prints are available for \$100 through the South Central College Bookstore and Blue Earth County Historical Society. Proceeds will benefit the South Central College Foundation and Blue Earth County Historical Society.

The original painting was unveiled at ceremony on December 6, 1990 with Chief Ernest Wabasha and hangs in Heritage Hall at South Central College. The full-color reproduction measures 18" x 24".



About the Artist: Rod Furan was the first Commercial Art instructor for South Central College. He was hired in the spring of 1968, with the charge of writing the curriculum for a completely new approach to teaching Commercial Art. He began the new program that fall, and continued teaching until there was a need for his family to move to a warmer climate in April of 1979. Rod Furan is an accomplished commercial and fine artist with more than fifty years of professional experience. Today, he specializes in oil and acrylic paintings depicting the traditions of the American West. Rod's work has been presented in shows and galleries throughout the U.S.

An Invitation to Big History

The invitation seeks to identify and bring together people who have an interest in something called Big History and form what may be called the Macro Historical Society of Southern Minnesota.

Big History or Macro History, is a multi-thematic approach to history not ordinarily thought about in our daily lives looking at almost everything from the beginning of the universe until now as an unfolding narrative of events organized along a historical timeline. The secret is to look for trends. Big History by its nature tends to focus on events that played out vast periods of time. While both micro and macro historians want accurate details, macro historians never what to loose sight of scale. They want to see both the forest and the trees.

A proposed group would come together to share resources, watch films and compare notes. Please email me at tmarks@hickorytech.net if you are interested. Let the adventure begin! - Tom Marks

111 YEARS OF HISTORY

A celebration of more than a century of our past.

Anniversary Open House

Join us at the Heritage Center for refreshments, door prizes, **FREE Museum admission** and Holiday Gift Shop Specials including **double shopping discount** for BECHS Members.

Fri., November 9, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat., November 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Heritage Center is located at
415 Cherry Street, Mankato

Give History for the Holidays
Marian Anderson Art • Collectibles
Books • Vintage Holiday Décor
Memberships • Donations

BECHS member 20% discount at Heritage Center Gift Shop this weekend ONLY. Does NOT include consignment or sale items, online purchases, memberships or to be combined with any other offer.



BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Visit www.bechshistory.com for more details.

Collections and Exhibits...

Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager

Spark your curiosity and indulge your interests in the Heritage Center's engaging new exhibits. From the beloved Maud Hart Lovelace to the newest exhibit, you will be exposed to rich history and an interactive learning environment.

The Blue Earth County Historical Society is pleased to announce the opening of our newest exhibit, "Remembering Front Street." Join us in exploring Front Street through shared stories and pictures about all these places in our lives and let it transport you back to the beginning of the 20th Century. As you stroll along the streets of the exhibit, you will encounter old-fashioned storefronts and businesses like Hagen Hardware, Engwolson Brothers General Store and the Silver Grill Cafe. Come in and rediscover Front Street.

There are several new features we have also added to the Exhibit Gallery. We have revamped our Native American Indian displays to go along with the series "Discover the Dakota Culture & Heritage". These exhibits now showcase our most significant and earliest examples of Dakota artifacts. The Society wants to celebrate our American Indian heritage with these exhibitions.

A few of our traditional exhibits have been refreshed and expanded as well, such as our Maud Hart Lovelace exhibit which now features Maud's



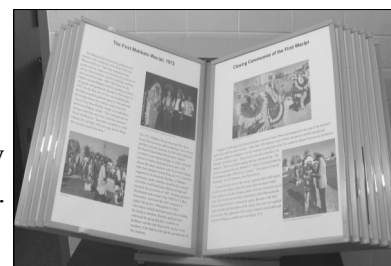
Remembering Front Street on display now at the Heritage Center Museum

and places that made a grand impression on her childhood and made their way into to her beloved books. Also, check out the case centered around Maud and her family, including a look at her 1910 High School scrapbook.

A popular new addition to the exhibit gallery, 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. The Holberg Cabin was built in 1873, constructed with notched log ends and dove tail corners that

eliminated the need for nails. There is an exciting heritage to explore and discover in this kid-friendly interactive exhibit.

We also have a brand new traveling exhibit that explores the 40-year anniversary of the Mahkato Wacipi. This visual display highlights the history of the annual event held to honor the 38 Dakota warriors who were executed in 1862. One of its major pieces is a display of many images that have been collected throughout the years of Wacipi.



New Mahkato Wacipi Exhibit

As you venture around the Heritage Center look for these "I'm New" signs to quickly spot new additions. In support of these exhibits, the Historical Society also presents educational programming in conjunction with all our exhibits. Come in, see what is new, we have a little something for everyone!



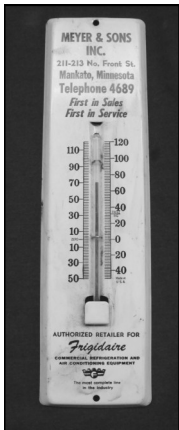
Maud Hart Lovelace Exhibit

article "I Remember Mankato" from the 1952 *Mankato Free Press*. Pictures and objects tell the story of the local people

Every object has a story...

Blue Earth County Historical Society's permanent collection consists of over 50,000 three-dimensional objects, photographs, books, maps/atlasses.... The items in our holdings were donated by individuals and families; people who wanted to make sure Blue Earth County's story, and their own stories are never forgotten. For example, your grandfather's World War II letters or your aunt's graduation photo are as important to Blue Earth County's story 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 collection:



Thermometer - 1950s Metal Advertising Thermometer from Meyer & Sons, Inc., 209-213 North Front Street

Meyer & Sons, Inc. opened in Mankato in 1931, owned by Fred, Theodore, Arnold and Alfred Meyer at 117 E. Jackson Street, selling Frigidaire appliances. In 1937 Meyer & Sons moved to 227 North Front Street and expanded a year later to 209-213 North Front Street. Meyer & Sons moved to the corner of Broad and Mulberry Streets in 1984.

1960s Ebony Coat with Stand-Up Fur Collar from Queen Frocks, 302 South Front Street

Queen Frocks opened in 1938 and sold ladies apparel. It was owned by Lawrence A. and Beatrice J. Hirshberg. In 1966 they sold the store and moved to Florida. Queen Frocks closed its doors in 1973.



Both of these items were donated at the "Remembering Front Street" exhibit opening weekend. If you are interested in donating a piece of Front Street or Blue Earth County history, please contact Shelley Harrison, Archives Manager.

BECHS

give TO THE MAX **DAY** NOV. **15**

giveMN.org

Join us on November 15, Minnesota's Give to the Max Day, and help us win a \$1,000 Golden Ticket. By partnering with GiveMN—an safe and secure online giving website for Minnesota nonprofits—BECHS will have 25 chances to maximize your gift on Give to the Max Day! By making a donation on Give to the Max Day, **your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more could help us win an extra \$1,000** for our work in the community. One name will randomly be drawn at 11:50 p.m. to win a \$10,000 Golden Ticket.

Together, we hope to raise more than \$5,000 on Give to the Max Day and we're counting on your help! Each year, Give to the Max Day helps thousands of Minnesotans come together to support their favorite charities. Last year, thousands of donors logged on to GiveMN.org and gave over \$13 million to Minnesota charities in just 24 hours on Give to the Max Day!

Make donations throughout the 24 hours of November 15th to increase our chances of winning a Golden Ticket. Then follow us on Facebook and Twitter throughout the day for updates on our progress.



QR code for easy, secure giving on your mobile device

To donate, go to www.bechshistory.com and click on the

DONATE NOW

button.

Around Blue Earth County



Have you driven by the depot recently and seen its fresh coat of paint? It looks great! Work has been slow on the caboose – our volunteers have been busy with their regular jobs and commitments.

“Ghosts in the Depot – Spooks in the Caboose!” The Depot will be open on October 31 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to treat visitors of all ages.

Santa will make his appearance in the Depot on December 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. Young and young at heart are invited to visit with Santa and enjoy cider and cookies in the town hall.

The harvesting on the farms has been in progress for most of September and the elevator in Rapidan has been busy! A word of caution – watch for farm trucks, combines and tractors pulling equipment on the roads. They are slow moving vehicles and take up more of the road! Talk at the elevator today is how big the ears of corn are and how many bushels of corn to the acre harvested. Times have not changed too much.

A July 19, 1932 news item in the *Mankato Free Press* reads:



Rapidan Depot, photo courtesy of Rapidan Heritage Society.

“Herman Pischner’s corn which is 8 feet and 4 inches tall is mere fodder compared with the corn in a field on the Carl Bindig Jr. farm south of Rapidan which is 11 feet high.

Three stalks from the field of yellow dent variety are on display at the Farmer’s State Bank at Rapidan.

Two stalks are exactly 11 feet tall while the third is 10 feet and 8 inches tall. Each stalk has two ears.

The four acres of corn from which the specimens were taken was planted on May 8. The soil is sandy, being in a valley near the Blue Earth River.

Mr. Bindig no longer is worrying about receiving a poor corn crop, but his worry now is whether he must use a stepladder to husk it.”

Now that is some tall corn!

Ghosts From the Past STILLS, SPEAKEASIES AND SHADY LADIES

Blue Earth County in the Prohibition Era

Friday, October 26, 6:30-8:00 PM

Saturday, October 27, 5:00-8:00 PM

1700 Third Avenue, Mankato

(Goodrich Construction Warehouse)

ADVANCE TICKETS

\$7.50 Adults

\$5.00 Children 12-18

Not intended for younger audiences

Tours leave every 1/2 hour

SPACE IS LIMITED.

Purchase or Reserve Your Tickets Today



BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For information, call 507.345.5566 or visit www.bechshistory.com

**Give the gift of a
BECHS Membership this
Holiday Season!**

Calendar of Events October 2012 - January 2013

OCTOBER

- 25 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. BECHS Update on Talk of the Town
- 26-27 Ghosts from the Past: Stills, Speakeasies and Shady Ladies**, Goodrich Construction Warehouse Third Avenue, Friday 6:30-8 p.m. or Saturday 5-8 p.m., shows begin every 1/2 hour

NOVEMBER

- 3 Discover the Dakota: Film "Dakota War of 1862"**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.
- 8 Fingerprints and Footnotes: The Making of Remembering Front Street**, Heritage Center, 6 p.m. *Please note change of date due to Election Day.*
- 9 111th Anniversary Open House**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
- 10 111th Anniversary Open House**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 10 Young Historians: 1910s**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m. Pre-registration required.
- 15 Give to the Max Day at www.GiveMN.org**
Minnesota's one day non-profit fundraising campaign.



- 15 Third Thursday Gallery Walk**, Heritage Center Art Gallery, 5-7 p.m.
- 17 Madison East Non-Profit Holiday Craft & Bake Sale**, Madison East Center 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Looking for donated baked goods packaged and priced. Donations can be dropped off at the Heritage Center Friday, November 16 by 3 p.m. or at Madison East Center by 8:30 a.m.
- 22-24 Heritage Center Closed**
- 23 Kiwanis Holiday Lights Parade and Opening Night**, 6 p.m. Can you spot BECHS's holiday tree and "float" in the parade?
- 29 Tune in to KTOE 1420-AM** at 1 p.m. BECHS Update on Talk of the Town



DECEMBER

- 1 Discover the Dakota: Traveling Exhibit "Commemorating Controversy: The Dakota-U.S. War of 1862"** Opening, Heritage Center, 10 a.m.



- 1-2 Christmas at Hubbard House**, Historic R.D. Hubbard House, Saturday 3-7 p.m. or Sunday 1-4 p.m.
- 4 Fingerprints and Footnotes: The Dakota Uprising: A Pictorial History**, a presentation and book signing by Curtis Dahlin, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.
- 8 Young Historians: 1920s-1930s**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m. Pre-registration required.
- 8-9, 15-16 Historic R.D. Hubbard House Open**, 1-4 p.m.
- 20 Third Thursday Gallery Walk - Presentation by Artist T. Carter**, Heritage Center Art Gallery, 5-7 p.m.
- 22-25 Heritage Center Closed**
- 26-29 Heritage Center Open Holiday Hours** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 27 BECHS Night at the Kiwanis Holiday Lights**, 5-9 p.m., Sibley Park—volunteers needed.

JANUARY

- 1 Heritage Center Closed**
- 8 Fingerprints and Footnotes: The Wagon Wheel Project**, Dave Engen presents his new book, Heritage Center, 6 p.m.
- 12 Young Historians: 1940s**, Heritage Center, 10 a.m. Pre-registration required.

Check out 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.

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 _____

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Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Levels

Individual Senior (62+) \$20

Individual \$25

Household \$35

Contributor \$50

Supporter* \$100

Booster* \$250

Advocate* \$500

Benefactor* \$1000

*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

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



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