

ANNUAL MEETING

BECHS Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 1992 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center.

We encourage you to attend this meeting and vote for your choice of candidates for the 1992 Board members.

Linda Nussbaumer, of Linda's Custom Interiors, will be our guest at this meeting. Linda is attending MSU for her Masters Degree in Interior Designs and is doing her thesis on the restoration of the Hubbard House. Ms Nussbaumer will give a short introduction on the interior design sketches she has done of the Hubbard House. Her beautiful designs will also be on display for you to view after the Annual Meeting. We feel very honored that Linda is willing to share her drawings with us and she has also agreed to become a member of the Facilities Committee.

Be sure to mark June 16, on your calendar to attend the Annual Meeting! Jeff and I would enjoy the opportunity to visit with you.

Membership News

Hugh Belgard Family
Judith Pries
Jean Carlstrom
Eldon Marks
Ramona Fitzloff
Peg Ganey
Robert Junge
John & Ann Christenson
Robert McTigue Family
Chesley Kroon & Chambers
Jim Murray
Larry Norman
David Pederson
Phyllis Mullin
Jack & Carol Regan
Dr & Mrs William E Lass
Leona Schweim
JoAnn Kastner
James Spenger Family
Susan Duane
Cindy Miller
Theresa McLaughlin

YOUNG HISTORIANS

Jeff Kroke

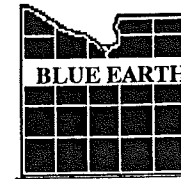
Young Historians for the month of June will be a trip to Williams Nature Center on Tuesday, June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. Tom Fish, a local science teacher, will be our guide as we examine how the land around us looked and what plants and animals lived on it before European settlers arrived. For information on this activity please call 345-5566.

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BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

June 1992

Calendar of Events

- June 16 *Annual Meeting - 7:00 pm, Heritage Center, 415 Cherry St.*
- June 21 *Father's Day*
- June 23 *Young Historians*

BECHS NOTES

Linda Henry, Executive Director

It is hard to believe the month of June is almost here and the year is half over. It has been an extremely busy time for the Society and a lot of things are happening. We have taken a copy of the Hubbard House specs to the city engineer and upon his approval we will start advertising in the paper for bids to do the roof, air conditioning, and electrical.

The Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 16, 1992. I urge you to attend and become an active member in your Society!

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Curatorial Notes

Jeff Kroke

This month I will address preserving your family photographs. The three most common early types of photographs which might be in your family collection are the Daguerreotype, Ambrotype, and Tintype. The Daguerrotype was the first successful process developed. The image resembles a mirror mounted on a highly polished copper sheet and is usually stored in a case. This process was used from 1839 until the 1860's. Ambrotypes are glass negatives backed by a dark paper. If the paper backing is removed the image looks like a negative. These are stored in a protective case and the process was popular in the 1850's and 1860's. Tintypes are the easiest to identify because the image is put on a thin metal sheet. This process was used from the 1850's until the 1920's.

The development of light sensitive printing paper lowered the cost and the ease of making a photograph. Because of this, more people began having portraits made. There were different types

of methods for printing on paper. The methods which you might find in your family collection are Albumen Prints, Cabinet Photos, and Cyanotype prints. Albumen Prints are printed on very thin paper and usually glued to a piece of cardboard. These prints are brown or yellow in color and were used up to 1895. Cabinet Photos are the most common type of early photos. They were popular from 1860 to the early 1900's.

Following are some suggestions on how to care for photographs. These suggestions can be applied to old photographs and modern prints.

Do

- have clean hands when handling photographs.
- identify the people in the picture before you forget who they are.
- use a soft pencil to write on the back of the photograph. Pen ink tends to bleed through and is high in acid.
- handle the photos carefully and on the edges.
- keep your negatives and prints clean.
- have all non-safety film copied. Safety film has "Safety Film" written on the border

of the negative. Non-safety film can decompose with time.

- copy photos on black and white film. Black and white film will keep the image longer. If you have color prints from the 60's and 70's you may have noticed that they have become faded or yellowed. Color print film is not as stable as black and white.
- store photos larger than 8x10 flat with acid free paper over the image.
- store prints and negatives separately.

Don't

- use glue or adhesives to mount your photographs.
- expose photographs to direct light for long periods of time.
- store in damp basements or hot attics
- use the plastic lift off photo albums. The adhesive will cause the photographs to become yellowed and brittle. The above guidelines are just a few considerations you can take when attempting to preserve your old photographs. If you have any special problem or other questions, please call me at the Heritage Center.

Program Update

Linda Henry

The 7th Annual Heritage Dinner was a fun time for all. The Society sold a total of 219 tickets to the dinner, which made this the largest Heritage Dinner yet! Our expenses were approximately \$3000.00 and our income was an approximate \$4800.00. This gives us a net profit of \$1800.00!! (I have used approximate because I have rounded it to the nearest hundred.) We are in the process of printing the Carlstrom Family History Books which will give us another \$500.00 of profit. Thank you everyone for your wonderful support to this event.

We had a beautiful warm spring day for our Mother's Day Plant Sale which was also a success! Our expenses totaled \$700.00 and our income was \$1,000.00 in sales and \$300.00 in donations. Our special thanks to the many volunteers who worked the sale and/or donated plants. The Master Gardeners were also a great help answering everyones questions. The American Bank, First Bank of Mankato, and Norwest Bank were kind enough to donate \$100.00 each towards the cost of the plants. THANK YOU!