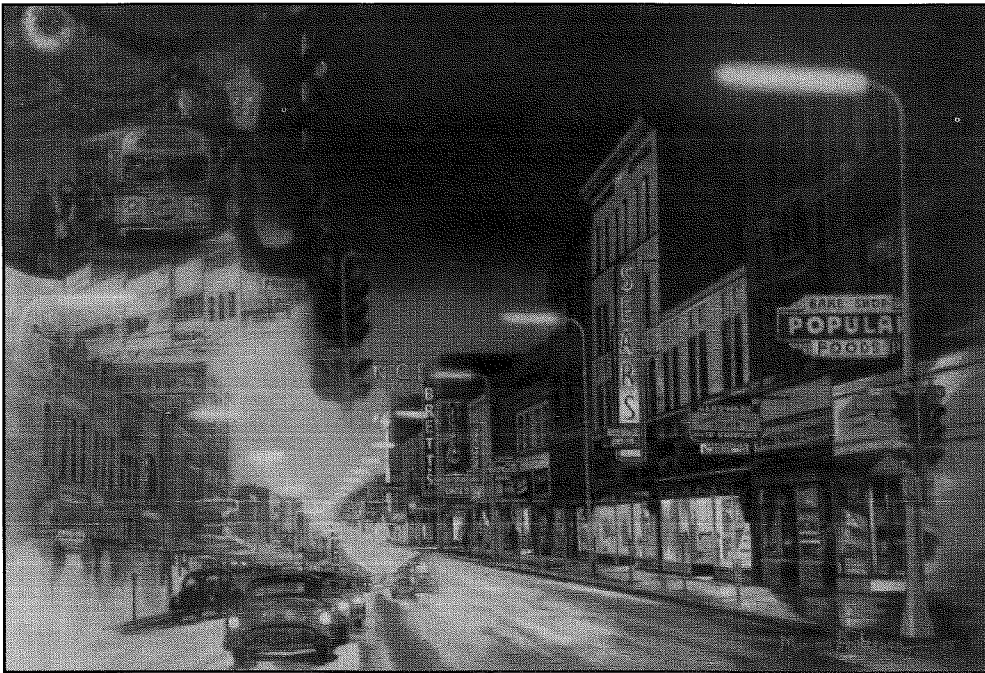


Blue Earth County Historian

Blue Earth County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 1996



“Closing Time” by Marian Anderson.

Get a Head Start on Your Christmas Shopping

• Marion Anderson has just released the third print in her series of historical paintings. The Society is very fortunate to still have a limited number of the second print of the series, *Closing Time*, (above) available in the Heritage Center Gift Shop. The prints are an exceptional value at \$75.00 and artist proofs are \$140. A portion of the proceeds from *Closing Time* is being donated to the Historical Society.

• The 1997 *Historic Places Calendar*, (see back page) featuring magnificent sketches of twelve historic sites in Mankato, is also now for sale in our gift shop for only \$8.00. Each month's ink sketch is suitable for framing.

Visit the Museum and Gift Shop

- Betsy-Tacy books and collectables
- *Heritage of Blue Earth County* Publication, a limited number of editions remain

NEW

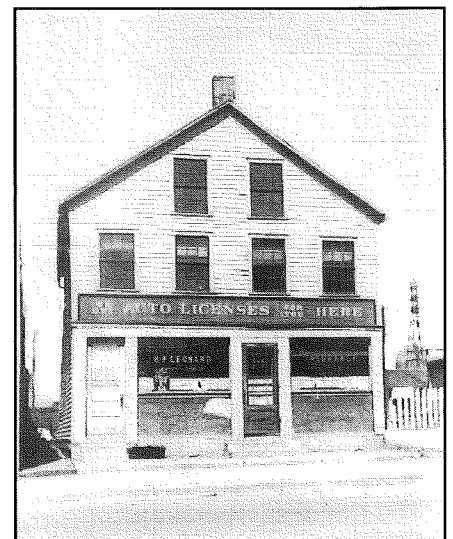
- Wildfire Pottery by Bill Macemon of Lake Crystal, MN
- Children's book and tape based on a true story by Joe Marcotte
- Verna's Daughters Baskets, Candles, Soaps, Woodcrafts



Licensing an Auto in 1908

In 1908 when you bought an automobile, let's say a Ford, Model "N" Runabout, for about \$600.00 you had to go see H.F. Leonard. He was the Notary Public and he issued auto licenses. The licenses cost \$2.00. One dollar was retained by Mr. Leonard for his services and the other half was paid to the treasury of the municipality.

Then, you could drive your automobile, but you had to remember to obey the speed limits. Eight miles an hour was the maximum in settled portions of any city or village with 4 mph in crossings. But, once out on the open road, 25 miles an hour was the acceptable speed. Of course, the roads were such that you wouldn't have wanted to go faster. Oh, but if you could afford to buy a Ford Model "K" Roadster for \$2,800, the license was still the same, two dollars.



License Bureau in Mr. Leonard's Insurance Office.

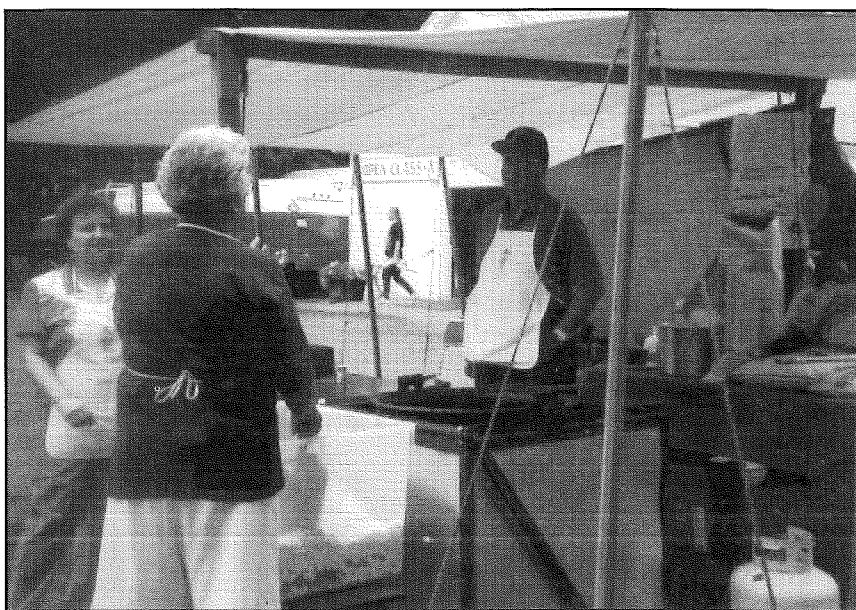
Meet Your Volunteer....Jo Schultz



Jo Schultz has been a volunteer since January, 1988. She is Secretary of the Board of Trustees and is responsible for indexing old newspapers. Jo faithfully comes to the Heritage Center at least once a week and indexes newspapers, types file cards, and assists in training new volunteers. She also clips news

articles, obituaries, anniversaries, governmental issues and human interest stories every day from her home. Jo comments, "I have read practically every newspaper from 1896 to 1940, not to mention current issues."

Jo and her husband, Bob, have been married for 44 years and live on Madison Lake. They also have two grown children, Greg, from Crystal, also has two children, Chandos, 20 and Justine, 18 years old. Their other son, Grant, lives in Bloomington, Minnesota. Jo enjoys fishing, boating, being "Grandma" to the neighbor kids, yard work and, how could you guess, also has a passion for history and history novels. Thank you, Jo, for all your hard work and dedication.



Kettle Korn A Hit At The Fair

Thanks to all who assisted with making, selling and purchasing Kettle Korn at the Blue Earth County Fair. Over \$500 was raised for the Society. The popcorn was a huge success and we were asked to please return next year. Mmmmm, delicious!!

Volunteer Opportunities

The Hubbard House will remain open during the Holiday Season for tours. Anyone wishing to donate a short amount of time to being a tour guide should contact the Heritage Center at 345-5566. A staff person will be present during the tour and guide manuals can be checked out through BECHS office. There are several other volunteer opportunities. Just fill out this form and return it to the BECHS office.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Day Phone _____

I am most interested in:

PROGRAM EVENTS:

- ___ Betsy Tacy
- ___ Heritage Dinner
- ___ Mother's Day Plant Sale
- ___ Tour of Homes
- ___ Blue Earth County Fair
- ___ Ghosts from the Past
- ___ Hubbard House Events
- ___ Other Program Events

COMMITTEES:

- ___ Membership
- ___ Marketing/Programs
- ___ Collections of Artifacts
- ___ Exhibits
- ___ Finance
- ___ Newsletter
- ___ Restoration/Facilities
- ___ Long Range Planning
- ___ Personnel

OTHER VOLUNTEER WORK:

- ___ Tour Guiding
- ___ Filing
- ___ Light Cleaning
- ___ Computer Data Entry
- ___ Heritage Center Activities
- ___ Hubbard House Activities
- ___ Artifact Labeling
- ___ Other Volunteer Work

Thank You! The Society appreciates the time you took to fill out this card. If you are interested in volunteer work, PLEASE RETURN this card to: BECHS, 415 Cherry Street, Mankato, MN 56001 or call (507)345-5566.

Secret of a Long Life

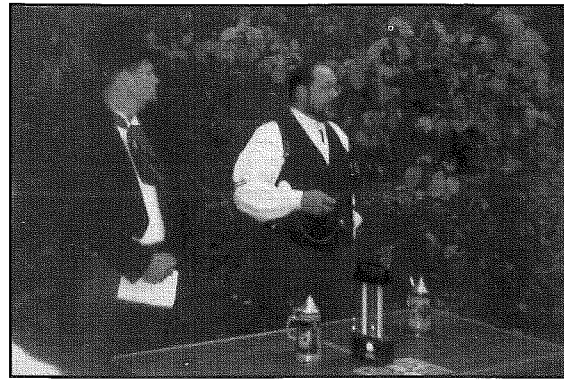
Appeared in the
Blue Earth County Enterprise
 November 8, 1901

You sometimes see a woman whose old age is as exquisite as was the perfect bloom of her youth. You wonder how this comes about. You wonder how it is her life has been a long and happy one. Here are some of the reasons: She knew how to forget disagreeable things. She kept her nerves well in hand and inflicted them on no one. She mastered the art of saying pleasant things. She did not expect too much from her friends. She made whatever work came to her congenial. She retained her illusions and did not believe all the world wicked and unkind. She relieved the miserable and sympathized with the sorrowful. She never forgot that kind words and a smile cost nothing, but are priceless treasures to the discouraged. She did unto others as she would be done by, and now that old age has come to her and there is a halo of white hair about her head, she is loved and considered. This is the secret of a long life and a happy one.—Selected.

Research Library

Visit our library for an extensive collection of resources including:

- ★ Cemetery listing – all cemeteries in Blue Earth County have been transcribed and indexed on computer. Information listed is name, birth & death date, cemetery, location of plot, and any military service.
- ★ Genealogy research
- ★ Obituary listings
- ★ Micro-film – newspapers dated as early as 1857, through 1990.
- ★ City directories
- ★ Extensive photo collection
- ★ Vertical file subject and biographical newspaper clippings.
- ★ County & community listings
- ★ Maps, and plat books.



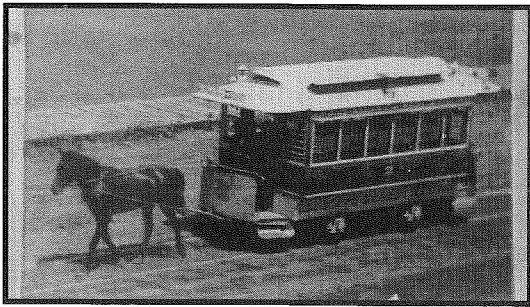
Ghosts Have Another Successful Year

The *Ghosts from the past* presentation was held on October 5th and 6th at Williams Nature Center. This year we celebrated "Business in Blue Earth County". Volunteers became historic characters acting out their roles and telling stories of times past. The Stahl House Hotel, Mocol's Grocery Store, Lily Creamery of Lake Crystal, Mankato Breweries, Lizzie Hunt, contractor, and Sheriff Frank Cords were

the featured places and people in history. Costumed guides conducted tours through the past offering attendees an opportunity to experience a piece of Blue Earth County history. Refreshments were served after tours. A special *thank you* to each of the 30 volunteers who donated your time and efforts to another fun-filled experience that raised dollars for the Society.

Cost of Goods & Services in days of old

Year	Goods & Services	Costs
1896	Wheat, per bushel	.53
	Corn, per bushel	.20
	Smoked Ham, per pound	.085
	Spring Chickens, per pound	.065
	Old Chickens, per pound	.05
	Dozen Eggs	.12
	Butter, one pound	.25
	100 lbs. corn meal	1.60
1908	Ford Automobile Model "N" Runabout	\$600.00
	Ford Model "K" Roadster	2,800.00
1924	Studebaker, Light Six Model	\$1,045.00
	Seed packets	.05
	Brown elk-leather sandals	2.95
	Free Press newspaper - per week	.15
	- per month	.50
1939	Heated three room apartment, kitchen furnished	\$25.00

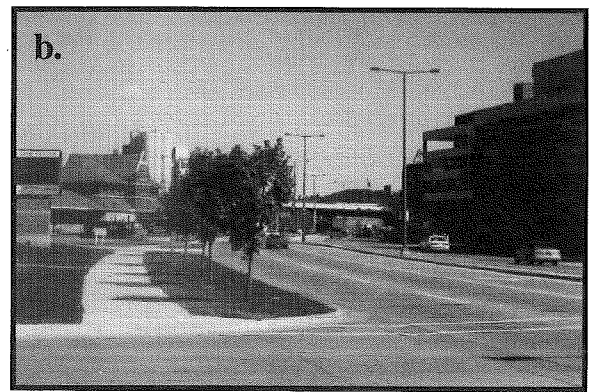


Public transportation-
Mankato Street Trolley,
1910's.

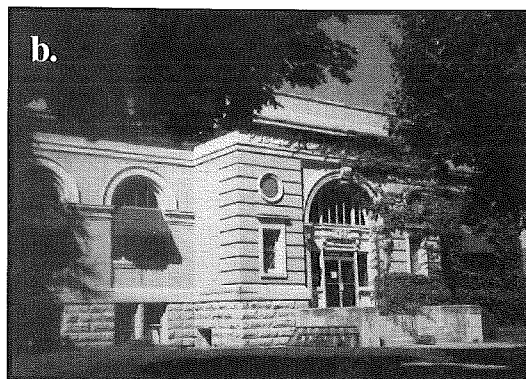
Then &

A Mankato resident of long ago would certainly
Some places they would recognize, others
Mankato is still the beautiful,

a. Parking Lot
behind J.C. Penny
Co. in foreground,
train tracks with
Pike Street running
past the depot.



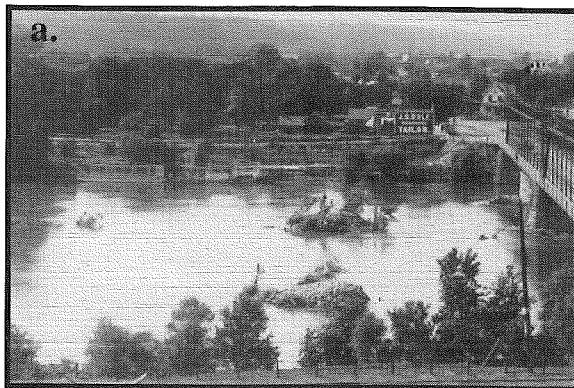
b. Now the
Mankato Place
Parking Ramp and
Riverfront Drive.



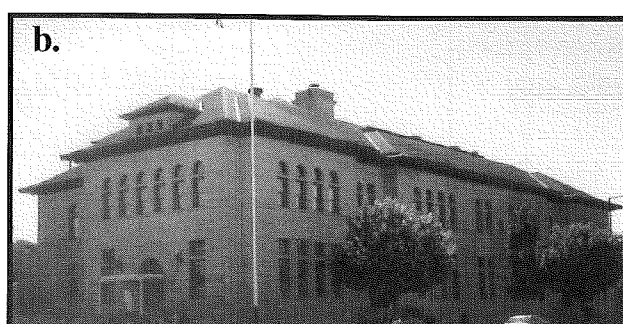
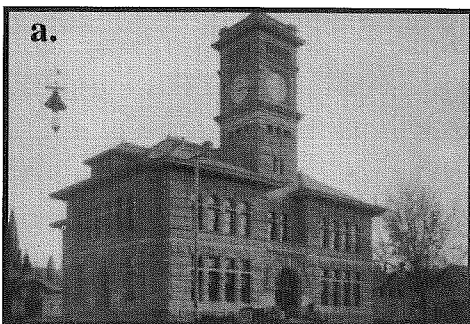
a. Carnegie Public Library
1902.

b. Carnegie Art Center
today.

a. Main Street
bridge over the
Minnesota River in
1909.



b. Today's new
overpass bridge.



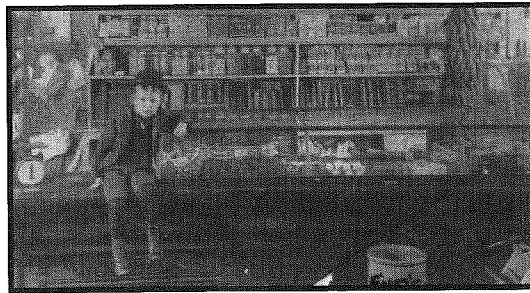
a. Mankato Post Office,
1910.

b. As it is today with addi-
tional wing expansion and
removal of the clock tower.

& Now

see a lot of changes in coming back today.
y would have to scratch their head, but
valley village it always was.

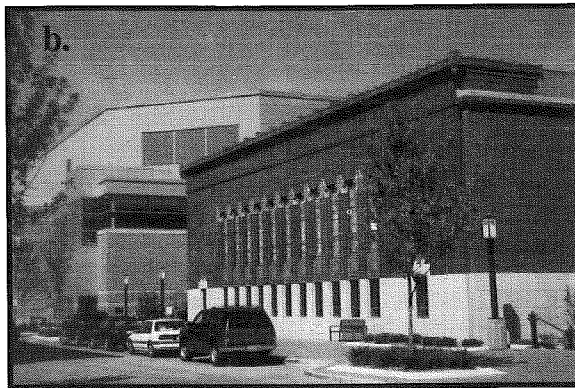
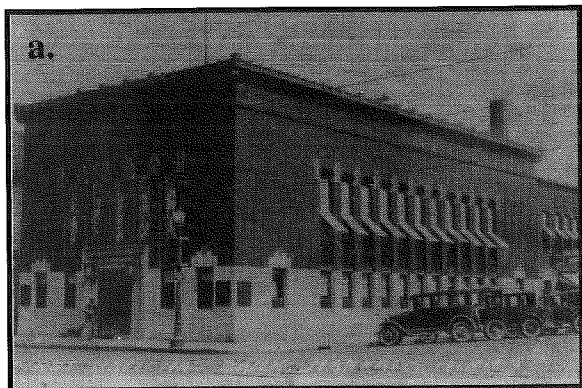
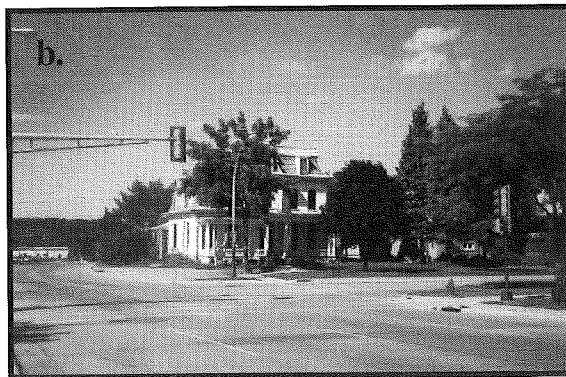
Local Enfield's Store 1903 (in
business 113 years). They
sold tobacco, newspapers,
magazines, and candy from the
twelve foot long candy
counter. Pictured is George
Enfield, (Father of Jo Schultz).
The building is now the
Designing Den on Riverfront
Drive.



a. Intersection of
Warren and Broad
Streets prior to
1977.

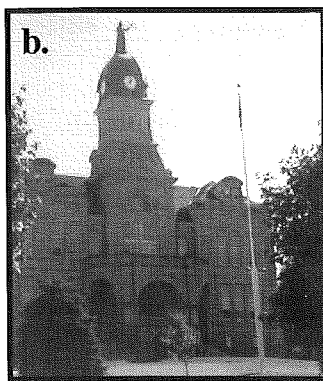
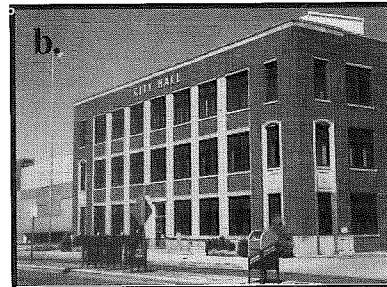
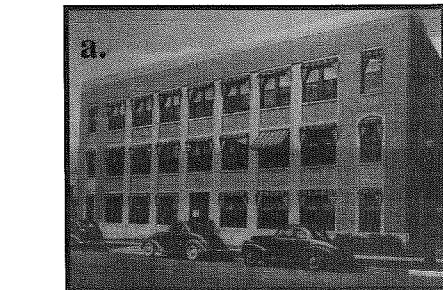
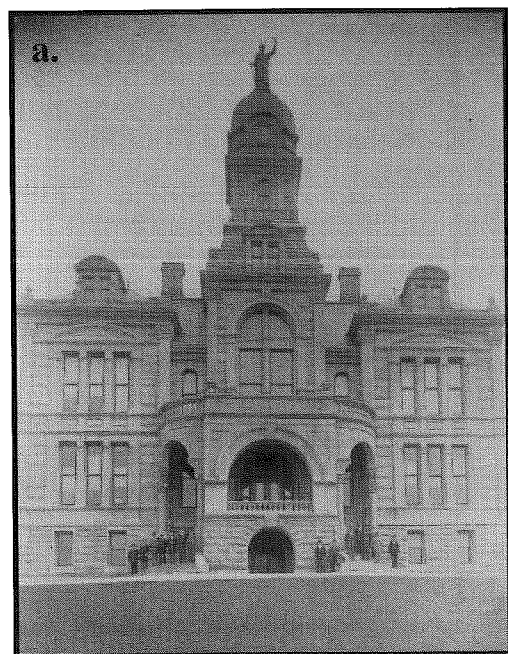


b. Today, with
Hubbard Carriage
House moved and
Warren Street
extended through
the Hubbard



a. First National
Bank Building,
1920's.

b. The bank building
exterior was pre-
served and incorporat-
ed as part of the
Mankato Civic Center
in 1995.



Above:

a. Standard & Oil Company 1939.

b. Current City Hall Location.

Left:

a. Blue Earth County Court House, 1920's.

b. One building, the Court House, has

Membership News

The following members have renewed their memberships.

July

Harry & Marjorie Barnard
Dr. & Mrs. G.W. Fischer
Mary Ellen How
MGA/Home Magazine
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mitchell
Kelly Nelson
George & Mary Smith
Linda Commiskey Vik
Dr. J. VonDrasek

August

Charles & Marilyn Barnard
John & Ann Christenson
Aileen V. Eick
Mrs. Edward Epple
Lona Falencykowski
Ken Gertijeansen
Dr. & Mrs. H.C. Habein
Norma Hansen
Ms. Edith Hopman

Ray Jackson
Earle Koeble
Miss Bernadine Kopischke
Dwight (Rex) MacBeth
Ruth J. Nuessle
Paul Schumann
Mrs. William VanLanen
Lorraine Wright

September

Mark Adkins
Bernard Altenburg
George Anderson
Gertrude Bates
Louise Leonard Bradshaw
F.B. Clements Foundation
Mrs. J.J. Dobie
Donna Fostveit
Margaret Jenkins
Mr. & Mrs. Eldon D. Jones
Jeraldine Mondloch
Alvis & Carol More
Catherine Neitge
Patricia Pond
Jerry & Judy Reich
John Rice

Verona Roberts
Carl Roberts
Donald Roscoe
Alma Severson
Jane Targson
Bob & Anne Thompson
William & Doris Vetter

BECHS welcomes the following new members:

Clare Precnel
Bob & Anne Thompson
Donald Roscoe
Jeraldine Mondloch
Catherine Neitge
MGA/Home Magazine
Craig Roberts
Dwight (Rex) MacBeth
Dr. & Mrs. H.C. Mabein
Gertrude Bates
Shirley Davis
Linda Waggoner

() Yes, I would like to become a member of the Blue Earth County Historical Society in order to preserve and promote to the history of Blue Earth County.

Enclosed is my tax deductible membership.

- Student \$15
- Individual \$20
- Family \$30
- Patron \$100

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

- Associate (less than 10 employees) \$25
- Affiliate (10-50 employees) \$50
- Sponsor (over 50 employees) \$100

Gift Memberships also available

Please make checks payable to:

Blue Earth County
Historical Society

The Blue Earth Historical Society

The *Blue Earth County Historian* is published quarterly by the Blue Earth County Historical Society.

The Blue Earth County Historical Society is a non-profit organization and has been collecting and preserving artifacts of historical significance to the people of the South Central, Minnesota since 1901.

BECHS is the only organization or institution entirely dedicated to the collection, preservation and exhibition of the Blue Earth County History.

BECHS also operates the historic R.D. Hubbard House. Built in 1871 by Rensselaer D. Hubbard, founder of the Hubbard Milling Company, the elegant mansion and brick carriage house contains many displays and artifacts which are open to the public.

The Hubbard House is owned by the city of Mankato and has been operated by BECHS since 1938.

Articles, Stories or information are welcome and can be submitted to:

BECHS
415 E. Cherry Street
Mankato, MN 56001

*Barnes & Noble
Book Fair
Monday,
November 25th
6:00-9:00 p.m.*

A special register will be designed as a fundraiser for the Historical Society. Purchase items that night between 6-9 p.m. and 10% of the total will be donated to the society.
Mark your calendars!

Director's Corner

Dear BECHS Members and Friends:

Each day brings new excitement to the Historical Society. A renewal of a membership or the addition of a new member, volunteers dedicating time and effort that encourage new individuals to join the team, committees working hard to achieve growth and success within the Society and staff members taking pride in knowing the work they do is for historic preservation.



I was recently privileged to meet a couple from out of state who were here doing some research on their family history. It was their first visit to the Mankato area and they marveled at the beauty surrounding them. After spending a couple of days here, they were ecstatic to discover so much information regarding their family; all the pieces were fitting together. They also commented on how superb the Hubbard House and Museum were and how helpful the staff and volunteers were to them. They said they felt "compelled" to make a nice donation to the Society.

After watching the delight and excitement with each new find, I realized just how many years of dedication and work it took within the Society to make those visitors' search a rewarding reality.

I invite members and friends to experience all the Society has to offer. There are thousands of topics, photos, artifacts and articles in our files: newspapers from the 1850's, a museum filled with rich history right from our own back yard, and the marvelous Hubbard House. BECHS has been collecting and preserving history since 1901 with your support, present and future generations will share in these opportunities.

Have a wonder Fall!

Liz Brown

Liz Brown

Holiday Events

Hubbard House

Deck the Halls Tour

Come join in the Holiday festivities and see the dazzling array of holiday trimmings created by volunteers and local florists. There will also be holiday entertainment and refreshments

- December 2 and 3
- 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- \$3.00 per person
- \$10.00 per family

BECHS Bake Sale

- Saturday, December 7
- 9:00 a.m.
- Madison East Center

Blue Earth County Historical Society

Board of Trustees

Harley Goff, President
Glenn Bartsch, Vice President
Tom Salsbury, Treasurer
Jo Schultz, Secretary
Betsy Winn
Winston Grundmeier
Lona Falencykowski
Elmer Goodrich
Shelly Schulz
Nancy Solie
H. Roger Smith

Staff

Liz Brown, Executive Director
Carol Oney, Archives Librarian
Bryce Stenzel, Museum Aide
Rebecca Shusta, Museum Aide
Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Sween
Layout & Design by: SCTC
Graphics Students

Wish List

The society would really appreciate receiving the following articles needed for daily operations. Anyone wishing to donate new or used items should contact the Heritage Center at 345-5566.

- 3-hole paper punch
- 3-ring binders
- Typewriter, movable carriage style
- Garden tools
- Fax machine
- Articles dated to the 1905 period

water • police • fire • land transactions • education • housing • build and maintain roads • rural septic systems • wastewater • parks • drivers licenses • elections • land records • urban forest • recreation • plan and maintain orderly growth • human services • snow removal • recycling • garbage removal • economic development • drainage

Mark Your Calendar...

It's time to attend a meeting to talk INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Thursday, January 23, 1997 7:00 P.M.

The time is now

Whether the topic is regional transportation needs, sharing facilities such as All Seasons Ice Arena, sharing equipment such as telecommunications and land records data base, or sharing staff...we need to hear your ideas on how you want local governments to work together to better serve you and save money.

ATTEND THE MEETING LOCATION MOST CONVENIENT TO YOU:

- ✓ Mankato Civic Center, Mankato
- ✓ South Central Technical College, North Mankato
- ✓ Nicollet School, Nicollet
- ✓ Maple River High School, Mapleton
- ✓ Lake Crystal Elementary School, Lake Crystal

Local media personalities will moderate the public meetings.
Written comments are welcome.
Send to:
Intergovernmental Cooperation Customer Relations
P.O. Box 3368
Mankato, MN 56002-3368
e-mail: cmanagers@city.mankato.mn.us
For more information, call: (507) 387-8692

Working Together • Serving The Citizens
• Getting Things Done
• Spirit of Cooperation



Union Depot
Belltower
Old Main
Hubbard House

County Courthouse
First Baptist Church
Post Office
Saulpaugh Hotel

Carnegie Library
Bandrup House
Hubbard Milling Company
St. Peter & Paul Church

1997

Mankato Area Historical Sites Calender is now available in our Gift Shop.

\$8.00

The magnificent ink
sketches, created by
Ron Hunt, are suitable
for matting and
framing

A wonderful gift.
Come visit us soon.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Blue Earth County Historical Society
415 Cherry Street
Mankato, MN 56001
(507) 345-5566

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