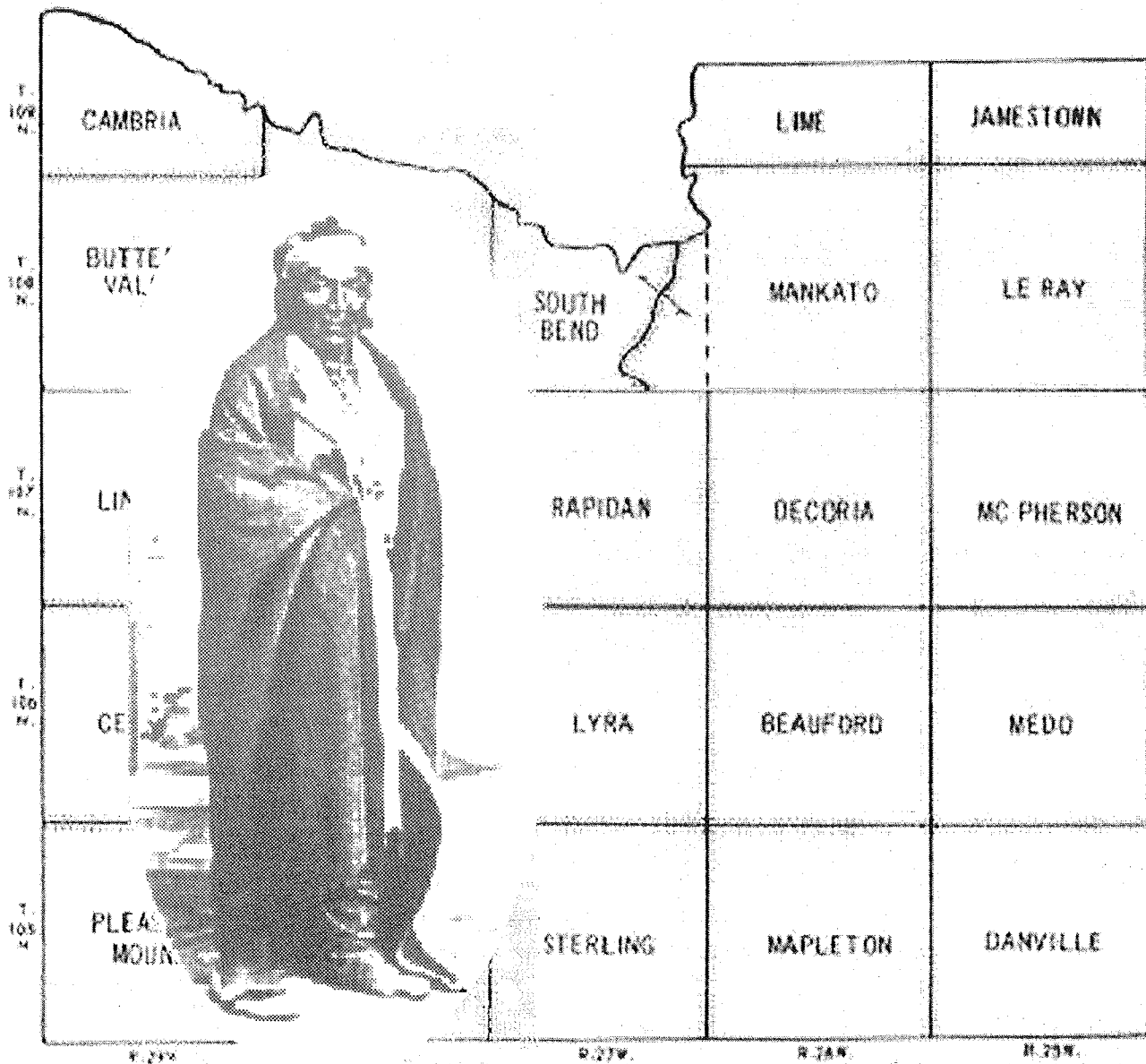




The Blue Earth County **Historian**

A publication of the Blue Earth County Historical Society

Winter 2003



In this issue:

The Winnebago in Blue Earth County

**The Blue Earth County Historian
Winter 2003**

The Blue Earth County Historian is published quarterly for the members of Blue Earth County Historical Society. BECHS has the mission of collecting, preserving and publishing material relating to the history of Blue Earth County.

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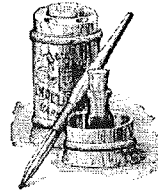
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**Blue Earth County Historical Society
415 Cherry Street
Mankato, MN 56001**



*From the Executive
Director...*

Greetings to you from the Blue Earth County Historical Society. We hope that everyone enjoys a happy and prosperous

New Year. Here at BECHS we spend the start of the year looking back at the previous year as we wrap up the financials and work on the annual report. The year 2002 was a successful one for the society. We hosted or participated in over 40 events during the year, including speakers, events, parades, and bus trips. We created 28 exhibits that included monthly displays at the library for the Young Historians programs, the winter festival, exhibit gallery, and the county fair. Our Research Center helped find answers to over 1,400 research requests. In all, over 9,200 people were served by BECHS during the last year. The year's financial figures are still being prepared and the audit will be completed by the BECHS Annual Meeting in March. We anticipate the final accounts to be close to the break-even point.

We are looking forward to 2003 as another big year for BECHS. The Board of Trustees has decided to undertake the significant task of raising funds to increase our ability to offer services to the widest range of people. We established a Development and Marketing Committee (DMC) that meets very regularly. This Committee will be making reports in the coming issues of this quarterly publication. Among the decisions made is to take our year-end fund drive and extend it throughout the year. It is recognized that fund raising needs to be an ongoing activity, done in a variety of ways. We will be sending out additional letters to reach prospects in the business community. The DMC will be actively seeking funding sources. The potential of the society can be met with additional funds and the Board is boldly moving forward to achieve this goal.

The Board of Trustees will have vacancies due to term limits and resignations. A Nominating Committee was named and is reviewing suggestions to make a recommendation to the Board. If anyone is interested in serving on the Board, DMC, or other committee, or has any questions about what the requirements are, please contact outgoing Board President Jane Tarjeson, or give me a call at the museum office. The new Board will take over after the annual meeting. We hope to see many of you at our various events and programs in 2003!

James Lundgren, Executive Director

Cover photo: Chief Little Hill, ca 1865. Photographer: Whitney Gallery.
Courtesy of the Blue Earth County Historical Society

The Winnebago in Blue Earth County

Jeanne DeMars

*Librarian, Traverse des Sioux Library System
and BECHS Volunteer*

The Winnebago Indian's tenure in Blue Earth County from 1855 to 1863 seemed doomed from the beginning. Even before they set foot on their newly designated homeland, the white community was resentful and angry. Historical records provide no clear indication of why this particular area of Minnesota was selected and much finger-pointing between politicians ensued when unhappy white settlers were vacated (with compensation) from land they had homesteaded.

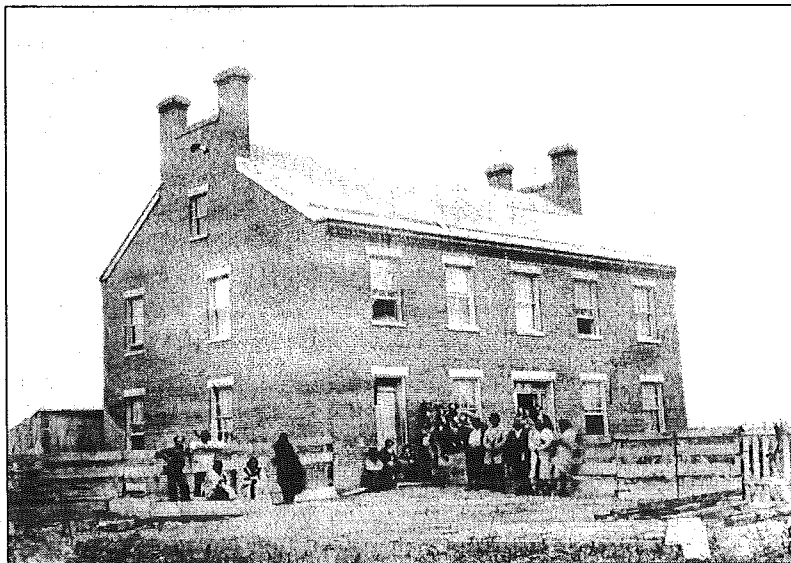
The Winnebago tribe's original home was near Green Bay, Wisconsin. As white settlers encroached their territory in the early 1800s, friction increased. The Government forced their relocation to northeast Iowa as a temporary solution. The Winnebago resisted this move, which would place them in close proximity to tribes hostile to them--the Sauk and Fox.

In the late 1840s, the Winnebago were removed to Todd County, near Long Prairie. Their presence in the area was to be a buffer between the warring Sioux and Chippewa. Many Winnebagos simply refused to go and remained in Wisconsin or Iowa, despite government treaties and threats. It is estimated that less than half the tribe ever went to Long Prairie. Meanwhile, the lumber industry had its eye on the reservation's timber resulting in pressure on Washington to negotiate a new treaty for a permanent homeland elsewhere.

As a result, the Treaty of 1855 was negotiated and over 2000 Winnebagos were resettled in Blue Earth County. The reservation was thirty miles long (east to west) and thirteen miles wide—about one-third of Blue Earth County, including the current townships of Rapidan, Decoria, McPherson, Lyra, Beauford, Medo, and the southern tier of South Bend, Mankato, and Le Ray.

The Agency was headquartered at what is now St. Clair. A handsome two story red brick building, situated about a half mile south of St. Clair near the

Le Sueur River, was built. In addition to the Agency headquarters, there were several other brick and log buildings including a stable, a physician's house (although a physician was rarely in attendance), warehouses, a carpenter shop, a blacksmith shop, dwellings for agency employees, and a school. They also rebuilt a sawmill that had been built on the river before the establishment of the reservation but was damaged when a dam broke.

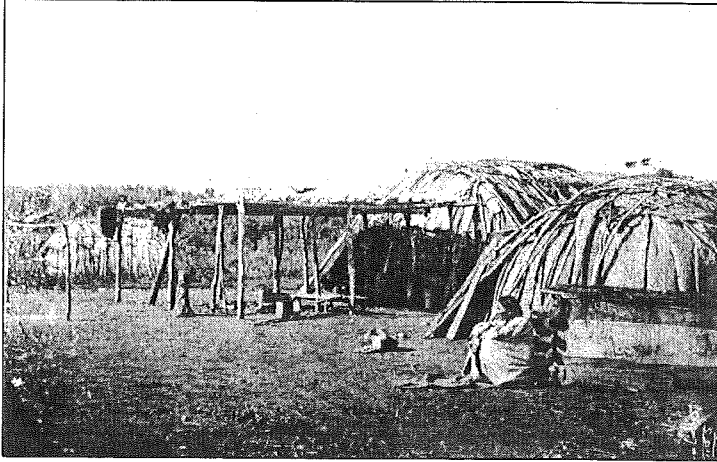


*Winnebago Agency, ca 1862, Photographer: B. F. Upton .
Courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society*

When the Winnebago arrived in 1855, no structures had been built to house them, nor had any provisions arrived. Despite ill health from exposure to the elements and from whooping cough, they began to build lodges. The lodges were made of bark or rush mats attached to a frame of poles. Each lodge housed five or six people.

Provisions were often slow in coming. If the river was low, the full allocation did not make it to the reservation. The twelve-mile overland road, from Mankato to the Agency, was bumpy and very narrow. It was said to take twelve hours to travel the distance from Mankato to the Agency. Wagons would break axles or get stuck between trees. Often only one-fourth to a half of the supplies reached Indian hands. When the provisions had to be bought locally, the prices were frequently exorbitant and the goods inferior. The scattered bands often battled against hunger.

Winnebago villages were scattered throughout the area: one near the present village of Good Thunder, another three miles east of the Agency on the south bank of the Le Sueur, another 18 miles southeast of the Agency on the river, the southwest quarter of section 35 of Mankato township, and, the largest, on the south side of the Little Cobb river halfway between St. Clair and Mapleton. There were several



*Winnebago Indian seated near wigwams, ca 1858.
Photographer: Benjamin F. Upton.
Courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society.*

other settlements around Rice Lake and scattered throughout the reservation—usually on a high spot above a lake or river in the summer and down into timbered areas for a supply of firewood in the winter. By 1859, a number of villages had added contemporary housing of brick and lumber, particularly for the chiefs.

The goal of the Agency head was to make the Indians self-sufficient farmers. To aid in the process, Agency employees helped them break ground, with a horse and plow, which was then planted to hay, wheat, oats, corn, potatoes, beans, turnips and other garden vegetables. In 1855, 600 acres were plowed. By 1859, the total plowed acreage had grown to 1,972. The Office of Indian Affairs felt the Winnebago were making great progress and could succeed as individual farmers. However, just two years later, the acreage under plow had dropped to 675 acres.

In 1859 a new treaty was negotiated that would have sold the western half of the reservation land in return for farm implements and livestock in order to continue

the progress they had made. The remaining land would be allocated so that each head of family would receive up to 80 acres of land and each male over the age of 18 would receive up to 40 acres. The Indians, with the exception of Chief Winneshiek and a few others, generally agreed this to be a good thing. However, a clause in the treaty made the Indians permanent wards of the government and stated that there would be no more treaty engagements. The United States government was given “full power to modify or change any of the provisions of former treaties with the Winnebagos in such manner and to whatever extent he may judge to be necessary and expedient for their welfare and best interest.”

Congress did not ratify the treaty until 1861. During this time, payments given to the Indians as a result of previous treaties had expired. Since the new treaty had not been ratified, no money was available to replace broken farm implements or to run the sawmill and the grainmill. The Indians became distrustful and did not want to develop land that had not been legally allocated to them. Health problems increased due to poverty and starvation. Small pox reached the reservation, resulting in over 45 deaths. Traders and land surveyors took advantage of the Indians. By the time the treaty was ratified, the Indians had become extremely distrustful and felt the government would not fulfill the terms of the agreement. A sense of hopelessness prevailed.

The Dakota Conflict of 1862 sealed the fate of the Winnebago in Minnesota. Even though there was no evidence that the Winnebago participated in the uprising in any way, the white community wanted all Indians out of the area. There were rumors among whites that an attack was to take place from the Winnebago Agency.

There was no evidence for that rumor, and the Winnebago feared for their own safety. Militia was stationed at the Agency to ensure the peace. Thirteen Winnebagoes were arrested for participation in the Uprising but were released without a conviction.

Their release angered the white community. A clandestine organization, The Knights of the Forest, was formed with the goal of the removal of all Sioux

and Winnebago from Minnesota. In 1863, Congress acceded to their wishes. On April 10, 1863, the Winnebago were notified that they would be forced to vacate their lands once again. The promises of the recently ratified treaty were never fulfilled.

Just days before the Indians were to depart, members of the tribe murdered two Sioux warriors near Elysian, and cut out the tongue of a third. The heads, arms, and hearts of the Sioux were brought to the agency and about 800 Indians held a dance, declaring war on the Sioux. It appeared to be an attempt to distance themselves from the Sioux and convince the government that they were loyal and should be allowed to remain on their land.

On May 9 and 10, the departures took place as scheduled from Camp Porter (behind what is now Hubbard Milling). Boats intended to carry 75 passengers carried 350 to 400 Winnebagos. They were forced to make the journey to their new reservation in Nebraska by boat, down the Mississippi to the Missouri and back up, a journey of over 1,300 miles—overland, a distance of only 300 miles. Their tight confines on the boats resulted in a large number of deaths—three or four a day for weeks. When they arrived in Nebraska they found nothing but the blazing heat of the barren plains, with no housing, no farm implements, and rotting food. Soldiers patrolled the area to prevent them from leaving to hunt for food or to seek help from other tribes.

A few Winnebagos remained in Blue Earth County. Four had served in the Second Minnesota Regiment and received land allotments. Others, who agreed to break with their tribe, were eligible for land. According to Harold Shogren in *A History of the Winnebago Indians in Blue Earth County*, there is no record of the allotments ever being occupied by the Indians, except for Chief Lasallieur who returned, for a short time, before returning to his tribe in Nebraska.

The Agency headquarters was sold in 1863, and was used as a hotel for a number of years. It later passed into the hands of several families who used it as their homestead for farming the surrounding land. In 1924, the old stables and outbuildings were demolished.

The Agency building was abandoned in 1982. Although efforts were made to preserve the structure, no funds were available and a fire destroyed the building in 1986.

Resources

Estabrook, Joseph Theodore. *The Winnebago Indians, 1634-1863*. Thesis. University of Minnesota, 1936.

Shogren, Harold Andrew. *A History of the Winnebago Indians in Blue Earth County, 1855-1862*. Thesis. Mankato State University, 1968.

Haack, John. "How the Winnebagos Settled in Mankato," (3-part series). *Mankato Free Press*, Jan. 28, Feb. 3, Feb. 6, 1967.

Cole, Julie. *Settlement Patterns on the Winnebago Reservation, 1855-1863*. Typed paper. 1982.

Terrell, John Upton. *The Sioux Trail*. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1974.

Enter our
**Name the Newsletter
Contest**
and win a \$25 gift certificate
for the Museum Store

As we enter BECHS second century, we are considering marking this landmark event by changing the name of the newsletter to better reflect our county's heritage.

Send us your suggestions by March 1. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate for the Museum Store. In case of duplication, there will be a drawing of the winning entrants for the prize.

Phone: 507-345-5566,
e-mail: bechs@juno.com
Mail: 415 Cherry St. Mankato,
MN. 56001

Notes from the Collections Manager...

Like many people in the museum field, I have many jobs associated with being a Collections Manager: Curator, Archivist, Exhibit Technician, Educator, Internship Mentor and Volunteer Coordinator. What does all this mean?

A curator role is responsible for the care of the three-dimensional collections. This is where we manage and store textiles, bicycles, shoes, hats, furniture, etc. I currently have five hardworking volunteers that help to manage the collections. Each one has a unique area of interest and expertise. This comes in very handy when working on large projects. Currently, we are reorganizing all of our artifact boxes and hat collection.

As archivist, I am responsible for the management of the archives where all the paper documents, books, photographs, and scrapbooks are kept. In the archives, visitors are greeted by the Archives Assistant Shelley Harrison. We not only manage the papers in the archives but also assist people conducting research on Blue Earth County topics. We have over ten volunteers helping with different projects in this area. Currently, we are inventorying the photograph and book collections, as well as clipping newspapers for our various files.

As the exhibit technician, I design and build new exhibits with the help of the Exhibits Committee. Currently, we are working on a new exhibit that will replace the Vietnam Veteran's Exhibit. The new exhibit titled "That's Entertainment" will open in March 2003.

Everyone associated with BECHS is an educator in one way or another. The volunteers teach us so much with their varied backgrounds. I serve as an educator with our Young Historians program that was created for children grades 3-6. This is a great opportunity to share history with them and make it fun! I also enjoy educating people on preservation of their family treasures.

One of the more rewarding parts of my job is as an internship mentor. I have the opportunity to work

with college students and teach them about the museum studies field. Every semester we have students from either Bethany Lutheran College and/or Minnesota State University, Mankato, take part in our internship program. They get hands-on experience working with objects, organizing a manuscript collection or building an exhibit.

Besides "other tasks as assigned", I also have the opportunity to work with volunteers of all ages and backgrounds. I loosely say "coordinate" because they really coordinate themselves. I just provide projects and a little guidance for them. BECHS is very fortunate to have such a dedicated volunteer team.

As you can see, my tasks are many and widely varied. I dearly love the work and enjoy all the different opportunities presented to me on a daily basis. Thank you to all who have made my job(s) a little easier!

Jessica Potter,

BECHS Collections Manager

New exhibit to open in the Heritage Center
Gallery March 2003

"That's Entertainment" is a new exhibit featuring entertainment in Blue Earth County that will open in March 2003. The Vietnam Veterans exhibit will close on January 31, 2003, making room for this brand new exhibit.

The Exhibit's Committee is currently looking for stories, photographs and items relating to entertainment in this area. Did you spend your Saturday nights at the movies? Roller rink? Dance pavilion or ballroom?

Please contact Jessica Potter, BECHS Collections Manager, for more information about the upcoming exhibit and how you may become a part of it.

2002 Sesquicentennial Minutes

These "Minutes" were bits of Mankato history written to celebrate Mankato's Sesquicentennial. They include everything from businesses to people and events. Some specific topics included were the 1909 Fourth of July, the ban on dancing, and the Oasis Drive-In. The bits were played on KTOE throughout the year 2002 and are now available on CD. You can purchase a copy of the CD for \$10.00 in the Museum Store at the Heritage Center.

These spots were written by: Pete Steiner and Kandi Demaray, KTOE staff; Win Grundmeier, Shirley Grundmeier, Jo Schultz and Scott Nelson, BECHS volunteers; Matt Helm and Pete Grubbs, BECHS interns; Jessica Potter, Collections Manager and Jane Tarjeson, Board President. None of this would have been possible without the help of these people.

A special thanks to everyone involved.

Shelley Harrison,
Archives Assistant

Volunteers Are Always Needed

If you have some time to spare to help us preserve history, please give us a call. We can find a project to suit your interests and skills. Some examples are:

clipping and indexing newspaper articles
data entry to help automate our collection
records
filing
guiding tours
helping with special events and programs
researching and writing articles
helping in the research center
cataloging the archives collection.

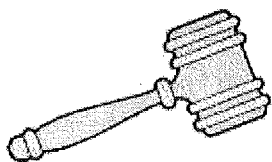
BECHS Volunteers since the last issue

Aaker, Claudia
Aaker, Don
Acharya, Ina
Anderson, Sandi
Anderson, Marian
Apitz, Darrel
Baer, Marcia
Baird, Jane
Barrett, Mary
Bartsch, Glenn
Bergquist, Roger
Boyce, Dave
Burns, Inella
Burton, Ronnie
Carlberg, Anne
Coleman, Mary
Cotton, Rose
Decker, Audrey
Demars, Jeanne
Diersch, Joan
Dooley, Mary
Elias, Deb
Falencykowski, Lona

Francis, Pat
Frederick, Michael
Graham, Jeanne
Goff, Harley
Goschy, Deb
Graham, Joanne
Griffith, Helen
Grothe, Johanna
Grundmeier, Shirley
Grundmeier, Win
Hadley, Paul
Hagen, Tom
Hanson, Kathryn
Havelka, Ben
Hennessey, Jackie
Hennessey, Erica
Herbst, Gordon
Hopman, Edith
Jansen, Steve
Jensen, Orv
Jensen, Mary Ann
Kagermeier, Jordan
Keir, Grace

Kloss, Sarah
Kennedy, Sue
Kubicek, Joe
Lavitschke, Jo-an
Lundblad, Larry
Madsen, Jack
McComb, Mary
McGowen, Jack
McLaughlin, Theresa
McLaughlin, Tom
Mellon, Paul
Nelson, Scott
Niu, Dana
Niu, Myra
Norman, Beth
Norman, John
Nussbaumer, Linda
O'Clock, Clara
Ohlenkamp, Ora
Patterson-Lundgren, Molly
Potter, Brad
Quade, Henry
Ries, Bill
Rodvik, Angie

Salsbery, Tom
Sandon, Buzz
Schmidt, Jonathan
Schmidt, Roberta
Schorer, Bruce
Schorer, Mary
Schultz, Jo
Shortall, Christian
Smith, H. Roger
Sofchalk, Helen
Tarjeson, Jane
Twilight Garden Club
Voda, Charlie
Wangness, Roni
Wangness, Wayne
Webb, Donna
Wenner, Stan
Wilson, Bernadette
Wittrock, Eleanor
Wright, Lorraine
Ziegler, Ken
Zielske, Dan
Zimmer, Beth



From the President

I want to thank all who contributed to our end of the year appeal. Your generous donation in support of BECHS is truly appreciated. BECHS is looking forward to some exciting programs in the following months - the Young Historians, annual meeting, and a special book-signing event to name a few. Staff and volunteers dedicate many hours to the preparation for these events, and your support is appreciated.

For various reasons, two of our Board of Trustees members, Mary Barrett and Dave Boyce, have resigned from the board. I want to thank Mary and Dave for the time they were able to share with us and for their contributions to BECHS. The Board of Trustees is a diverse group of people – each sharing unique talents for the best interests of the society and preserving our heritage for future generations.

Jane Tarjeson,
BECHS President

Madison Lake Area Historical Society

For many years, the Native Americans fished Madison Lake and roamed the heavily forested area around it. Their name for the lake was Waukensika meaning “Mystery Waters” or Evil Spirit.” One prominent feature of the lake was the big point, which was inhabited long before the village of Madison Lake was founded. In the 1870s, people in Mankato realized many beautiful lakes were within easy carriage driving distance. One early structure was built on the point about 1877. In 1882, J. M. Barclay built a two story building on Point Pleasant that attracted visitors from several nearby states.

The land near the point in Section 34 of Jamestown Township was patented to Rodger Wells, Jr. in September 1858. He held the title until October of

1881 when it was deeded to Lucetta S. Barclay. The land she bought from Mr. Wells did not include the point. She sold the north 75 acres about 15 months later in 1883 to Lewis Fitcher who platted the Madison Lake town site and filed the plat on January 17, 1885. The village was finally incorporated on December 15, 1891. Point Pleasant became part of the village at that time.

The other well-known resort in the area was Prospect Park. Chauncey H. Austin built this park in 1878. The area was on the west side of the main part of the lake about 1½ miles from Point Pleasant. Mr. Austin was the grandfather of Maude Hart Lovelace. In her Betsy-Tacy books, she refers to the lake as “Murmuring Lake”. In August of 1880, a post office was established here and named “Park.” Mr. Austin was the first postmaster. Park was short-lived and Madison Lake eventually became the town and the post office.

Jo Schultz,
MLAHS Secretary

Rapidan Heritage Society

The first anniversary of the Rapidan Historical Society is approaching and we are thankful for a productive first year. Efforts to return the depot to its original location were realized, and work was begun on restoring it. The Currie bus trip was a success, and the Rapidan Historical Society archives have received some interesting donations. One of the artifacts donated is the Rapidan High School bass drum, which resounds with school days memories. Rapidan Historical Society’s Holiday Party will be later this month and the annual meeting will be in March.

Jane Tarjeson
RHS Secretary/Treasurer

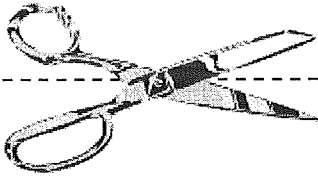
Renewed Members

Bassett, Mr/Mrs William
Bernard, Charles and Marilyn
Bessler, Bill & Marilyn
Dooley, Mary
Dubke, Duane
Erickson, Glenn and Helen
Habein, Dr. and Mrs.
Hamer, Nancy
Hanson, Norma
Hedstrom, John
Hopman, Edith
Leeman, Harold

Mohr, Harley and Ruth
Neumiller, Robert
Nuessle, Ruth
Powell, Nancy
Roscoe, Don
Ryan, Thomas
S. S. Peter and Paul
Jesuit Community
Smith, Anne and H. Roger
Sofchalk, Helen
Steele, Ramona and Richard
Vetter, Willard and Doris

New Members

Balcomb, Helen
Coleman, Mary
Evenson, Bill
Fleming, Dan
Fleming, Nancy
Kroenke, Sharon
Manthe, Lois
McGuire, David
Nerem-Roth, Katie
Oehlen, Dick
Otto, Ruth
Peterson, Anna
Schmitz, Joan
Smith, Emmett
Springer, Christa



Membership Form

Blue Earth County



Yes, I would like to become a member of the
Blue Earth County Historical Society!

Member Level		Donor Level	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Student	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Booster	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$1000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$5000.00

*Businesses are not eligible for Individual and Household Levels. For Business Membership information, contact the BECHS office.

BECCHS Membership Benefits:

- Support preservation of our heritage
- Free admission to the Hubbard House and Old Jail
- Free access to the Research Center
- Invitations to special events
- 10% discount at the Museum Store
- Reduced admission to special programs
- Quarterly history publication

To become a member of BECHS, please complete and return this form to:

BECCHS Membership
413 Cherry Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Name

Address

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

E-mail

(E-mails used only for event notification)

☐ Please send me information about volunteering for BECHS.

Archives and Artifact Donations

October - December 2002

BECHS: Thermos - MN Vikings, Cup - Happy Chef, Photos (2) Mankato High School graduates

Patricia Benson: Scrapbooks (4) Mankato High School Class of 1948

Frank Brown: Booklet - Weber's Annual Catalog, 1920

Verona Burton: Fountain Pens (3), Papers - Mankato Assoc. for Retarded Children, BEC Public Opinion Poll results 1972

Brian Eggersdorfer: Pennant - Mankato Winter Carnival

Joe Elfert: Chair used at Depot

Mike Frederick: Mug - Mankato Symphony Orchestra, Can Holder - Mankato Mashers, Plastic Cup - MN Vikings, Plate - Morson-Ario VFW Post 9713, Lunch Box - Hubbard, Key Rings (7), Magnet - ISJ Clinic, Can Opener - Mankato Brewing Co., Compact Disc - Know My Way, Sweatshirt (2) - MSU, Book - SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church 1999, Book - Heavenly Delights - St. John the Baptist Catholic Church cookbook 1997, Postcard - Red Jacket Bridges, Postcard - MN and Blue Earth Rivers, 1951, Photo - Promotional - Bromley Printing and MN Vikings, Mug - 100th Anniversary OES Chapter, Mktto, Plate - 100th Anniversary OES Chapter, Mktto, Poster - Women's Show '02, Poster - MSU Theatre - Footloose, Photo - Minnie R. Thompson, Photo - Walter Kelly, Photo - John, Eng? and Julie Enger, Photo - Charles B. Miller 20th Anniversary, Photo - Ida B. Darson, Paper Bag - Nina B., Cup - Judson Implement, Cap - Katolight, Clipboard - Bells Maid-Rite Cafe, Pocketbook - William Steiner Insurance, Ashtray (6), Thermometer - Midwest Refrigeration, Ice Scraper - Bellig's Spur Station, Magnet - Gerald Frederick, Buttons (16), Pencils (18) Pens (17)

Julie Frederickson: Book - Otaknam (1933-1936), Otaknam (1945-1951)

Carlienne Frisch: Photos (6) - Ruth Schellberg

Shirley Grundmeier: Graduation Gown - MSU, Master of Music Gown, Mortar Board Tassels (3), Nightgown, Photograph

Win Grundmeier: Book - Henry Wellcome by Robert James, Paper/Disk - "The Remarkable Men from Garden City" by E. Winston Grundmeier, Button - TLB 9, Button Mahkato Pow Wow, 2002, Booklet - Requiem Mass for Myrtle Lagow

Tim Hayes: Standard Film Projector

John Hedstrom: MSU Parking Pass, 1999

Gordon Herbst: Minneopa Cemetery Association index and plat maps

Robert Hodapp: Hat boxes (7), Women's Hats (10)

Grace Keir: Shoes - Women's Tan, leopard print, Women's Brown, lizard, Women's Navy and White, Women's Brown leather, Women's Black patent leather,

Women's Brown, alligator, Purses - Brown, alligator, Navy and White

Richard and Grace Keir: Shoes - Men's, Women's Navy, Women's Brown leather and suede, Women's Brown suede

Lyle LaFavor: Slides (7) - J.C. Penney Co. in Mankato

Lois Manthe: Nurses Uniform and Cape, Book - "From the Beginning: History of Immanuel St. Joseph's Hospital"

Steve and Laurie Marsh: Rockey and Mayer family papers, Photos (6) - Rockey family

Mary McComb: Photo - (2) Belleview School, Medo Township

Marjorie Meredith: Bag (2) - Madsen's Foods

Bill More: Egg Basket

Katie Nerem Roth: Print - The First 150 Years, Coaster - Sesquicentennial, Lapel Pin - Sesquicentennial

Beth and John Norman: Canning Jar, Tongs - logging

Loraine Remus: Photo - Erna Bergemann, Book - Immanuelite 1925

Floyd Roberts: Buttons - Arbor Month (3), Earth Day (3), Greater Mankato Bicentennial, Bend of the River Festival (10), Mahkato Pow Wow (29)

Caroline Salsbery: Dress - Woman's, Blue Taffeta, Child's Slip (2), Shoes - Black, Woman's, Baptismal Gown, Dress - Child's, White (2), Skirt - Woman's Blue, Slip - Woman's White (2), Coat - Child's Blue, Coat - Woman's Fuchsia, Dress - Child's Brown, Spats, Shoes - Child's, Hat - child's, Romper - Child's Blue, Snowsuit - Child's

Paul Schmidt: Officers Ammo Pouch Bag/Belt, Book - Civil War Collectors Encyclopedia

Jo Schultz: T-shirt - BECHS, 1988

Lance Schwartz: Print - "One Thing Needful" by Marian Anderson, Bethany Lutheran College Picture Cube, Bethany Lutheran College Reports

Julie Schrader: Photos (5) Passage of Time unveiling, Announcement (3) Passage of Time

Jane Tarjeson: Hubbard Milling Co. Annual Report (2), North Star Concrete newsletter, 1997, Photos (3) St. James Railroad Museum, Mug - A&W, Ashtray - Meyer and Sons, Hoop Skirt & under skirt, Photos - Transportation Parade 2002, Photo - Johann Baptiste Hagen, Mug - Mankato Fire Department, 1998, Mug - Year of Reconciliation, 1987, Program - Loyola High School Graduation, Program (11) - Area High School Graduation Invitations/Announcements, Photo - (4) Hubbard House, Photo - (4) Masonic Temple, Photo - Parking Ramp, Photo (10) - Bretts, Photo - (6) Lake Crystal, Postcard of Daniel Buck Hall, Ad for Mankato Chamber of Commerce, Mug - Veterans Memorial Bridge, Bib Apron (1)

Jeanne Thompson: Family History - Annie Gilbertson Thomson

Gwen Tjernagel: Calling Cards (53)

Robert Utermohlen: Book - Booth's Township Manual 1939, Book - Booth's Township Manual 1921

Recent Financial Donations

Up to \$25

Anderson, Verna
Barrett, Mary
Boehne, Patricia
Boyce, Dave
Burns, Inella
Carlson, William
Carr, Margaret
Erlandson, Teresa
Freyberg, Lynette
Hodapp, Frank
Holbrook, Viola
Howard, Don
Jefferson, Grace
Jenkins, Margaret
Johnson, Barbara
Land to Air Express
LaFavor, Lyle
Lees, June
Mathiason, Renee
Medalen, Ethel
Pond, Patricia
Rezmerski, John

Rose, Luella & Robert
Shurtleff, Linda
Wigley, Francys
Wilmes, Brad
Zielske, Dan

\$26 to \$50

Anonymous
Apitz, Darrell
Buck, Margaret
Goff, Harley
Griffith, Helen
Hill, Phyllis
Jensen, Orv
Miller, Julie & Ted
Moe, Kathryn
Snilsburg, Lee & Loretta
Svendsen, Sigvald
Webb, Donna
Wolverton, Lorraine

\$51 to \$100

Hubbard, John

Lundblad, Larry & Karen
Madsen, John
Phelps, Dean
Smith, H. R.
Softchalk, Helen
Vosbeck E. J.

\$101 to \$500

Baer, Jim & Marcia
Cramer, Donald
Fischer, George
Goodrich, Bruce
McLaughlin, Tom & Theresa
Schultz, Jo & Robert

\$501 and Up

Anonymous
Blue Earth County
Grundmeier, Win & Shirley
Jacobson, Lyle & Kay
Jones, Eldon & Helen
Tarjeson, Jane

Thank you All Very Much

A view to the past, 1902:

- ✓ The average life expectancy in the United States was forty-seven.
- ✓ Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.
- ✓ The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- ✓ Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
- ✓ Only 14 percent of the homes in the United States had a bathtub.
- ✓ The average wage in the United States was 22 cents an hour.
- ✓ There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire United States!

Wish List

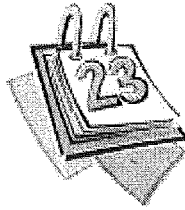
- ❖ Flat bed scanner.
- ❖ Digital camera to use for collections documentation.
- ❖ Circulating or box fan for volunteer workroom.
- ❖ CD player to use in the Museum Store and at programs.

Upcoming BECHS Events

Please mark your calendar and join us.

February 8, 10:00-12:00
Young Historians Program
Victorian Period
American Girl Samantha 1904
Hubbard House

March 8, 10:00-12:00
Young Historians Program
World War I
BECHS Heritage Center



Coming in
March
BECHS
Annual Meeting

April 12, 10:00-12:00
Young Historians Program
Great Depression
American Girl Kit 1934
Blue Earth County Library

The Blue Earth County Historical Society's Heritage Center Gallery, Museum Store and Research Center are open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:00.

You can call us at 507-345-5566



Blue Earth County Historical Society
415 East Cherry Street
Mankato MN 56001

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Preserving and sharing Blue Earth County's history since 1901