

Since 1901 the Blue Earth County Historical Society has been the only institution entirely dedicated to collecting, preserving, and exhibiting Blue Earth County History. There are now more than 15,000 objects of historic value in the Society's care, plus documents, written records, photographs, and biographical information that comprise the archives. It's entirely possible that your family or business is represented in our collection.

Nearly 10,000 people visited or made use of the Society's resources in 1987. They came from as far as Ireland and Australia, California, New Jersey and Texas.

Expansion and vitality do not come without cost. The new Heritage Center needs extensive remodeling to turn it into a facility appropriate to the county it reflects and the purposes it serves. Restoration of the Hubbard House will also be expensive, as anyone who has renovated an old house can attest. In addition, all this growth and progress require additional staffing and equipment.

The Blue Earth County Historical Society has tremendous potential. The people of the county will be enormously proud to have such an attraction right here at home. You will want to bring your friends and relatives to both facilities when they come from out of town to visit. Together we can make it happen.

In our 87-year history, we've never before asked the public or our members for capital funds. We've been working on this campaign for just about a year. We can wind it up quickly if everyone will take a minute now to fill out a pledge form or make out a check. (If you've lost your brochure with the pledge form in it, call 507/345-5566 and we'll send you another.)

But please—the deadline is upon us. It's urgent. Don't wait another day if you haven't already pledged. Let's go over the top and celebrate!

## Membership

Welcome to the following new members:

James E. Juser	Endicott, New York
Ann Hoffman	Mankato
Dr. & Mrs. Lee C. Jones	Lake Crystal
Kristin Strom	North Mankato
State Bank of Vernon Center	Vernon Center
Joseph Willaert, CPA	Mankato
Edward P. Sweere, D.C.	Mankato
Shelly Goettl, Rescome Realty	Lake Crystal
Town and Country Interiors	Mankato
Chuck & Marilyn Christiansen	Lake Washington, Kasota
Mathes Printing	Mankato
Ramona Fitzloff	St. Clair
Ervin & Helena Slind	Burnsville, MN
Save Mor Antiques and Jewelry	Mankato
Mico, Inc.	North Mankato
Keepers RV Center	Mankato
John Roise, Norwest Bank	Mankato

Harvey & Karen Loe, Loe's Oil Co.	Mankato
Helen Griffith, Grandma's Store	North Mankato
Teri Stoneburner	Mankato
Tim Solie, Solie Sales	Mapleton
Mrs. Curtis Basel	St. Paul, MN
Best Western Garden Inn	North Mankato
Don Linder, Travel Center	Mankato
Office Specialties	Mankato
Clear with Computers	Mankato
Bill Webb, State Farm Insurance Co.	Lake Crystal
Elda Dubke, Printing Productions, Inc.	Mankato
Jerry Pietz, Kato Moving and Storage	Mankato
Survey Services, Inc.	Mankato
Tire Associates	Mankato
Anthony & Mary Ann Giefer, Northridge	
Family Medical Clinic	Mankato
Wornson-Polzin Dental Lab	Mankato
Blethen, Gage and Krause	Mankato
David Cole, Motivation and Training Resources	Mankato
Marlyss Johnson, J&J Auto Crushing	Mankato

## Memorials

Memorials Received:

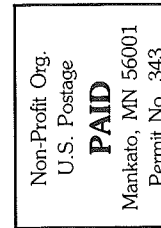
In memory of Maysel H. Footh from Mrs. Orris M. Johnson, Douglas W. Johnson and Norma A. Footh.

In memory of Ogden P. Confer from Dr. & Mrs. Eustermann, Anita Stone, Pam & Vern Stisser, The Andreas Foundation and Patricia Youngs.

In memory of Cora Thro from Dr. & Mrs. John Eustermann

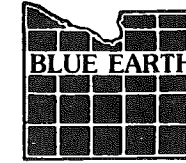
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Frenz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rich McCosh  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Jackowell  
 Mr. & Mrs. R. McTigue  
 Paul & Ede Frost  
 Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Kroon  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vern Orcutt  
 Paul & Dorothy Mulready  
 Muriel Penne  
 Gregory & Barb Larson  
 Janet & Ben Schmidt  
 Grace Cliff  
 Mary Swan  
 Mrs. Wm Luwe  
 J. Rollin and Jean Lander  
 Dr. & Mrs. Ben Geurs  
 Jack Hunziker

\*Please note that if we received your memorial or membership after the 15th of the month when our newsletter goes to press your name will appear in next month's newsletter.



Blue Earth County  
 Historical Society  
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 Mankato, MN 56001  
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BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

## November 1988 Calendar of Events

- Nov. 5 **Young Historians program.** Traditional American Indian Dance, 9 am at the Heritage Center. Reservations are needed, call 507-345-4154.
- Nov. 24, 25 **Blue Earth County Historical Society is closed for Thanksgiving.** Regular hours resume on Saturday, November 26.

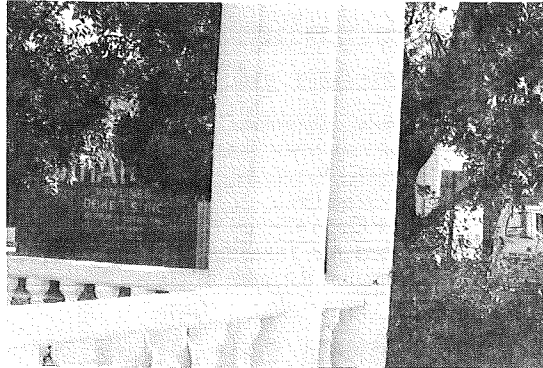
## Notes from the Director

-Susan M. Monk-Kjos

Thanks to board member Helen Jones of Lake Crystal who spearheaded a special business membership drive. A mailing to all businesses in Blue Earth County went out last month. The response has been great, welcome to all of our new business members! Thanks to Anita Stone and the McLean Peterson law firm for volunteering the time consuming job of typing thousands of mailing labels. Thanks also to the volunteers and staff who stuffed and mailed all those envelopes. We were all saddened by the sudden death of Ogden P. Confer. Mr. Confer worked so hard to preserve the history of Blue Earth County. In addition to the money he donated, he also gave a precious commodity, his time. We will miss him. A generous memorial from the Andreas Foundation has been received in memory of Mr. Confer. A new brochure on Prairie School Architecture, National Register Sites in Southern Minnesota has just been completed. The old First National Bank building in Mankato is included. This brochure was produced by the Southern Minnesota Historical Assembly and funded in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, through the Minnesota Historical Society under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended. Please stop by and pick up a free copy. As we mentioned last month, Barb Lamson is on a leave of absence until January. If you have membership questions, please contact Susan Monk-Kjos and program questions, contact Greta Hurlbut, both can be reached at 507-345-4154. Finally, the new Sandon historic plates have arrived and are on sale at the Hubbard House gift shop, hours Tuesday-Sunday 1-5 p.m.

## Scrapbook of Recent Events

Since many of our members live out of the County, we are featuring photos of two recent events at the Historical Society. Photo one was taken on the final day of our Phase II "Move to the Future". Artifacts (except those in displays) have been moved from the Hubbard House to the Heritage Center. The next four photos illustrate some of the fun people involved in another sell-out "Ghosts from the Past".



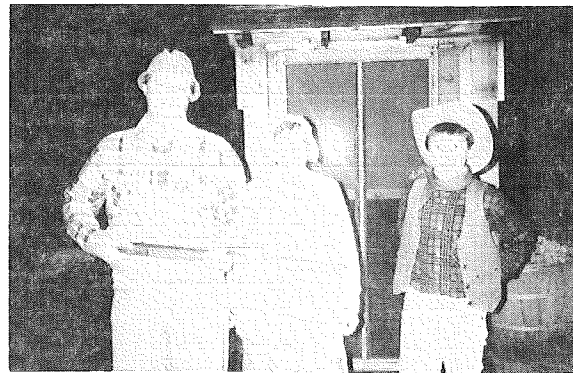
**Phase II move ended in September with most artifacts going to the Heritage Center. Thanks to Deike Transfer & Storage of Mankato and Kato Moving & Storage, Mankato.**



**Use of a shuttle bus was sponsored by the Leon Thomas & Lydia F. Jefferson Memorial. Courtesy of Ms. Grace Jefferson, St. Paul, MN.**



**Characters in The Woods at "Ghosts from The Past". Left to right: Kristin Strom, Steve Michels, John Christenson, Jim Mans.**



**And some more characters . . . Mike Lagerquist, Betty Cords, Peter McGuire.**



**Eugene Braam from Hamburger Heaven in Mankato graciously donated the after tour treats.**

## Thanks

Thanks to the following people for volunteering their time and talents at "Ghosts From The Past," October 1 & 2, 1988.

Betty Cords  
Mike Lagerquist  
Peter McGuire  
Jim Mans  
Roy Cook  
Mike Bonner  
Faye Mattison  
Kelly Reuter  
Shelby Reuter  
Eleanor Wittrock  
John Wittrock  
Jack Kolars  
Jane Kolars

Andy Kolars  
Joe Kubicek  
Phyllis & John Votca  
Bruce & Marsha Danielson  
Jon Trish & Jamie  
Lamson-Buscho  
Bill Bessler  
Dick, Susan & Christinia  
Chambers  
Win & Shirley Grundmeier  
Dean Pettis  
Tom Marks  
Kathy Dorn

## Curation Notes

Audrey K. Burmeister-Hicks

Have you ever wanted to explore the attic of a house in which memorabilia has been accumulating for half a century? Have you ever wondered what we really kept in the Hubbard House attic?

The artifacts from the "county attic" are now being temporarily housed in the Heritage Center's auditorium while they are being cleaned and the records updated. Ordinarily museum storage areas are closed to public viewing, but we've decided to make an exception during our transition period. We'd like to escort you on a stroll down rows and rows of Blue Earth County's yesterday.

And while at the Heritage Center we'd also like to show you the plans and drawings for the new exhibit gallery. You will be getting a glimpse of both the past and the future! Staff members are on hand Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., so come in and introduce yourself.

Two more talented individuals have joined BECHS this fall to aid in the updating and computerization of artifact records. Sheila Blees is serving an internship through the MSU History Department and will be with us through December. Sheila's interest is in art history so she is working with the Society's art objects—primarily paintings and prints. Ken Knutson, Mankato, has filled the curatorial registrar position and will be preparing records for incoming artifacts and refining records of items already in the collection. Ken's widely-varied experience and knowledge is proving to be a great asset to us due to the diversity of items represented in the collection.

Welcome to BECHS, Sheila and Ken!

## Is Your Heritage Worth 92 Cents A Day, More or Less?

The fund drive has reached a watershed point! By the time you read this, we will probably need only 92 cents a day over three years from about 115 people (\$1000 each) to qualify for the \$150,000 Hubbard/Confer/Koehler challenge grant and to make our goal.

However, we must have those pledges by November 15. Time is short!

Let's review the situation.

After 50 years of "temporary" housing in Mankato's historic Hubbard House, your Society has found a permanent home. Purchase of the upper level of the Summit Center, 415 Cherry St., was made possible last year with a bequest from Mary Schultz Gray of the Twin Cities.

The new Heritage Center is in addition to, not instead of, the Hubbard House. The Hubbard House will be restored to its turn-of-the-century magnificence. The 12,000 sq. ft. Heritage Center will house a modern, professionally designed museum and research facility. Both will be leading visitor attractions for the area, important economic assets.

David & Barbara J. Lamson	Roger Engelshorn
Susan Monk-Kjos	Grace Jefferson
Steve Michels	Bernice Perry
John & Ann Christenson	Harry & Marjorie Barnard
Kris Strom	Sandy Gemlo
Audrey Burmeister-Hicks	Ron Affolter
Pam Johnson	Paul Anderson
Mary McGrew	Jean Carlstrom
Elmer & Beulah Goodrich	Marion Lichtenberg
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Barnard	Eugene Braam
Alma Severson	

We gratefully acknowledge the following businesses and organizations for their help and support:

Hamburger Heaven  
Salvation Army  
Community Theatre  
American Red Cross  
Mankato Free Press  
Blue Earth County Parks Dept.  
K.E.Y.C. TV  
K.T.O.E. Radio  
K.M.S.U. Radio  
Leon Thomas & Lydia F. Jefferson Memorial

## Christmas Program

Dear Member:

As the holidays are fast approaching, plans for the Christmas Open House are under-way. There's talk of music and food in the air, but to finalize the plans we need your exciting ideas and much appreciated volunteer time.

Please give me a call at the Hubbard House if you are interested in providing ethnic baked goods, musical talents, costumes or Christmas decorations.

I'm looking forward to meeting you and sharing the holiday spirit.

Sincerely,  
Margaret-Greta Hurlbut

## Young Historians Workshop

Traditional American Indian Dance  
Saturday, November 5, 1988, 9:00 a.m.  
at the Heritage Center.

Program is free and open to children in grades 3-6. Please call 345-4154 for reservations. Class size is limited—so hurry!