

## Gift Shop

The gift shop at the Hubbard House has received a new shipment of Maud Hart Lovelace books just in time for summer reading by Blue Earth County children. Both hardcover and paperback books are available. Remember, if you show your Blue Earth County Historical Society membership card you receive a 10% discount on purchases in the gift shop! In addition, we have received some beautiful cloth covered buttons handmade by Margaret Hurlbut of Mankato. These buttons will highlight any project you are working on this summer. Gift shop hours of operation at the Hubbard House are Tuesday-Sunday from 1-5 pm. For more information please call Faye at 507/345-4154.

## In Print

From Preservation News, May 1989, the monthly newspaper of the National Trust for Historic Preservation comes this new book: **BARN AGAIN!** A guide to Rehabilitation of Older Farm Buildings, by Mary Humstone. Now that the cows are gone, what do you do with that old dairy barn? This four-color guide from the National Trust and **Successful Farming** magazine will aid farmers and others interested in converting historic farm structures for modern uses. Showcasing nine barns renovated by farmers for such diverse uses as hog farrowing and grain storage, the guide also includes a barn rehab checklist, tips on repairing foundations, roofs and siding, and information on nominating structures to the National Register and applying for rehab tax credits. The booklet is one of the products of the two-year national **BARN AGAIN!** program sponsored by the Trust and **Successful Farming**. Copies are available for \$2.00 postage/handling from National Trust for Historic Preservation, 511 6th St., Suite 700, Denver, Colorado 80202.

## Plant Sale Outstanding Success

-Barbara J. Lamson

A perfect summer day, numerous busy hands, and thousands of flowering annual and perennial plants attracted countless plant lovers to the Society's first annual plant sale, May 13, 1989. By 1 pm we had sold all but a few of the plants and had made an excellent profit for the Society.

Thanks to those members and friends of the Society who donated plants, potting soil, planting pots, money, and volunteer time. We appreciate the support of those who attended the sale and encouraged their friends, relatives, and neighbors to purchase plants as well. Plans are underway to make next year's sale even bigger.



**The gardens surrounding the Carriage House were the location of the May plant sale sponsored by the Historical Society.**

**Blue Earth County  
Historical Society**

415 Cherry St.  
Mankato, MN 56001  
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Mankato, MN 56001  
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**BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**NEWSLETTER**

## June 1989 Calendar of Events

- June 14 **Blue Earth County Cemetery Project**
- June 17 **Young Historians Workshop**, call 507/345-4154 for reservations.
- June 20 **Annual Meeting of the Historical Society membership**, followed by the Open House of the Archives/Map room at the Heritage Center. Annual meeting will begin at 6:30, open house is scheduled from 7-9 pm. Call 507/345-5566 for more information.
- June 24 **Time and Taste, the Next 100 Years**. Preservation workshop, rescheduled due to March snowstorm.
- LOOK AHEAD . . .
- July 8 **Third Annual Tour of Historic Homes.**

## Notes from the Director

-Susan M. Monk-Kjos

Thanks to all of the volunteers who made last month's plant sale such a huge success! We had so many helpers who guaranteed that we would have a successful sale. Special thanks go to volunteers Stacey Luiken, Robin Groebner, Marci Maes and Brenda Smallfield who cut out over 1000 paper tulips advertising the sale. Although most of us took a turn at snipping the paper tulips, we couldn't have done it without the high school girls donation of time and talents. The Blue Earth County Master Gardeners rounded off the sale by providing information for the plant buyers. We are all excited about the completion of the new Archives/Map Room at the Heritage Center. You will be receiving an invitation in the mail inviting you to the Annual Meeting and Open House of the new research facility on June 20. Hope you can attend and see the progress we are making at the Heritage Center. For those of you who registered for the Preservation Workshop last March, it has been rescheduled to June 24. You should be receiving information in the mail from the Minnesota Historical Society. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call. Thanks to our members who let us know in advance that they are moving. We received many newsletters last month with a change of address. Since we send the newsletters bulk-mail, we have to pay 25¢ for each returned newsletter and then pay another 25¢ to forward it to your new address. Just give us a call or send a copy of your mailing label prior to your move and we will change your address and your newsletter will arrive uninterrupted. Congratulations to Kathy Wright of St. Louis Park, Minnesota who won the beautiful hanging plant raffled off at last month's plant sale!

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Edited by Susan Monk-Kjos

## Curation Notes

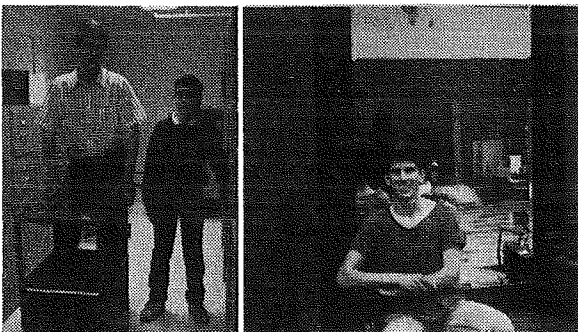
-Audrey K. Burmeister-Hicks

The Blue Earth County Historical Society congratulates Kevin Sweere, Mankato, for his achievements in the Boy Scout organization and thanks him for the valuable assistance he has provided the Historical Society.

As his Eagle Scout Service Project Kevin chose to assist BECHS in it's development of the Heritage Center. Kevin recruited Scouts from Mankato Boy Scout Troup #24 and supervised them throughout the project. They organized the archives and artifact storage rooms and provided hours of manual labor in moving hundreds of artifacts from the Center's auditorium to the appropriate storage areas. Kevin took 3,000 square feet of randomly-placed large artifacts and boxes and placed them in organized, space-saving order in the storage rooms.

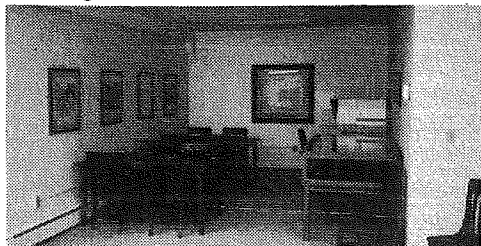
It was a delight to work with Kevin, and his crew, including Mark Schabert, Dan Pfeffer, Paul Keefe, Ben Willaert, Josh McCabe, Josh Casper, and other young men from Mankato Scout Troup #24.

The June session of the County Cemetery Project will be held on Wed., June 14, and in case of rain will be held the following Wed., June 21. Participants would meet in the Heritage Center parking lot between 8:30 and 9:00 am to carpool to the cemetery.



Kevin Sweere and Dan Pfeffer organizing the Archives storage area.

Eagle Scout volunteer Kevin Sweere of Mankato.



Portion of the new Archives/Map Room at the Heritage Center.

## Young Historians

The June Young Historians workshop will be held on Sat., June 17, 1989, 9:00 am at Sibley Park in Mankato. Participants will construct a topographical map similar to the mounds in Sibley Park. This fun and exciting class will be instructed by Shelly Cords-Swanson, cartographer and artist. Class size is limited and reservations are needed. Please call 507/345-4154 for reservations and further information. Remember—BECHS members are FREE! Nonmember charge is \$1.50.

## BECHS Opportunities

**MEMBERSHIP** - BECHS members receive unlimited free admission to the Hubbard House, free use of the Archives, Tue.-Fri., from 1-5 pm, discounts on programs and gift shop merchandises, advance invitations to special events, along with our monthly newsletter. Call 507/345-5566 weekdays for more information.

**EDUCATION** - From Anthropology to zithers, for young and old alike. You are invited to attend one of the monthly Young Historian workshops for children in grades 3-6, including programs throughout the county. Pick up a brochure on the Young Historians program at the Hubbard House, Heritage Center, or call Greta at 507/345-4154. Teachers and school children may wish to take advantage of the various tours and programs available to school groups throughout Minnesota. Please call Faye at 507/345-4154 for tour information and rates.

**VOLUNTEERS** - Like to spend more time at the Historical Society? Join our volunteer staff. Work with school children, assist behind the scenes with programs, Archives, artifacts and membership, help out in the offices. Be a character out of history at "Ghosts from The Past." Information is available at the Heritage Center and Hubbard House or call 507/345-5566 or 507/345-4154 weekday afternoons.

**ARCHIVES** - Our Archives collection houses books, maps, pamphlets, diaries, and photographs from Blue Earth County's past and present. The Archives are open Tue.-Fri. from 1-5 pm with unlimited free use to BECHS members during this time. Call weekday afternoons for more information, 507/345-5566.

## Tour of Historic Homes

Be sure to mark your calendar now, for Sat., July 8, 1989, the date for the third annual "Tour of Historic Homes and Renovation Concepts." We need volunteers to help host & hostess homes on the tour as well as donate cookies and bars. If you are willing to help out please call either 345-4154 or 345-5566.

This year's tour will feature five outstanding homes as well as provide an opportunity to meet and talk with vendors who sell various goods and services used in remodeling of homes.

## Newsletter Sponsors

Several individuals have expressed an interest in giving a donation to the Historical Society that would be of benefit to all members. Sponsoring the production cost of a monthly newsletter would be such a wide-ranging donation. If you are interested in sponsoring one month of our newsletter please give Susan a call at 507/345-5566.

## Annual Meeting Archives/Map Room Open House

The 1989 Annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 1989, 6:30 pm at the Heritage Center. A quick wrap up of the past year together with a tour of the new facility will be given. This meeting is immediately followed by an open house of the new Archives/Map room from 7-9 pm. Please call 507/345-5566 for more information. Hope to see you there!

## School Tours

Literally thousands of school age children toured the Hubbard House and Carriage House this past school year. While most of the children came from Blue Earth County, others visited from towns outside of the county such as St. Peter and St. James. We thank all of the guides who worked so hard during the busy spring tour season. Special thanks go to Faye Mattison who handled all the complicated tour arrangements. We also appreciate the patience of some teachers who had groups come to the museum on extremely busy days and found their visit to be a bit more hectic than expected.

We are always in need of new tour guides to work with adult group tours as well as school groups. Please call Faye at 507/345-4154 if you are looking for an exciting way to get to know Blue Earth County History.

## Membership

Welcome to the following new members:  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ries, Madison Lake  
Arthur & Jean Hogenson, Robbinsdale  
Carl Genz, Madison Lake  
Iona Bursaw, Mankato  
Theodore & Evelyn Roemer, Madison Lake  
James & Ann McGuire & Family, Mankato  
Dan Demars, Mankato  
Viola Holbrook, Mankato  
Special thanks to Jo Schultz, Madison Lake, MN and her Membership Committee for the time and effort they have put forth to enroll new membes from the Madison Lake area.

## Donations

Thanks to the following for donations this past month:

David Weaver  
DAR, Anthony Wayne Chapter  
Town of Mapleton  
Art History Club  
BECHS Board of Trustees  
Township of Shelby  
Ruth Confer  
Town of Medo  
Joanne Bierbauer Dewitt

## Memorials

In memory of Kelsey Johnson, given by Leone Myers

In memory of Don Dahl, given by Hal Natvig

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