

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

Kay Lamb, Mankato
Mark and Nancy Zallek, St. Peter
Dwile and Dorothy Kwasniewski, New Ulm
Kathleen Trauger, Mankato
William Radichel, Mankato
Jeffrey Kolnick, Davis, CA
M.C. and Dorothy Florine, Madison Lake

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.

Membership

Public support and participation make possible the fine educational programs and exhibits offered by the Blue Earth County Historical Society. For information on how you can become a member and support Blue Earth County history, please call Mary at 507/345-5566 or write her at 415 Cherry St. in Mankato.

Board of Trustees

Below is a listing of the current Board of Trustees following the June Annual Meeting:

President - Susan Stevens Chambers
Vice President - Tom Weigt
Secretary - Dean Pettis
Treasurer - Chuck Christiansen
Past President - Barb Maher

Board Members:

Helen Jones	Tricia Nienow
Bill Radichel	John Christenson
Joe Kubicek	Fred Cords
Lee Williams	Kathy Trauger
Lyle Jacobson	Joe Richter
Kay Lamb	Nancy Zallek

Curation Notes

- Audrey K. Burmeister-Hicks

The BECHS possesses a large and historically significant collection of textiles and clothing. This collection, ranging from wearing apparel

to bedding to fine linens, represents many facets of life in Blue Earth County from the 1850's to present.

During the coming months the BECHS collections staff will begin refining the records of our textile collection to prepare them for computerization. This refinement will include the identification of the fabrics and techniques used in the production of each piece, as well as determination of their style and approximate date of origin.

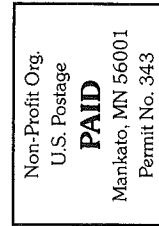
To aid us in this project we could use the help of persons who have a knowledge of fabrics, clothing construction techniques, and the various types of textile handiwork. The type of "experts" we are looking for are individuals who know the difference between dotted Swiss and satin brocade, between tatted lace and embroidery, between a raglan sleeve and a puffed sleeve. In other words, those of you who sew your own clothing or do textile handiwork have the necessary knowledge to help us.

If you or someone you know has an interest in this project and would be willing to work with us for a couple hours at your leisure or on a weekly schedule, please call Audrey (345-5566). We guarantee that you will find working with this significant collection of textiles intriguing and satisfying.

With the beautiful month of September upon us, we again invite our members and friends to join us for a pleasant outing in rural Blue Earth County as part of the County Cemetery Project. We will be meeting at the Heritage Center in Mankato on Thursday, September 14, at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to the cemetery. In case of rain, we will meet at the same time the following Wednesday, September 20. For more information on the project, call Audrey at 345-5566.



Blue Earth County Cemetery Project volunteers, August 1989



Blue Earth County
Historical Society
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Mankato, MN 56001
Address Correction Requested

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BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

September 1989

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 13 *Leadership Mankato, History Day at the Blue Earth County Historical Society.*
- Sept. 14 *Blue Earth County Cemetery Project.*
- Sept. 16 *Young Historians hand-made paper workshop call 507/345-4154 for information and reservations.*
- Sept. 30 *Southern Minnesota Historical Assembly Annual Meeting, Call for details.*
- Looking ahead.....
- Oct. 14-15 *Theatre in the Woods, "Ghosts from the Past"*
- October 6, 13, 20 *Arnoldus Gruter Workshop, "Antiques International"*
- Nov. 11 *"Man on a Mission", 1965 spy thriller movie.*
- Dec. 3 *Christmas Open House at the Hubbard House.*

Notes from the Director

-Susan M. Monk-Kjos

Thanks to the volunteers who worked at the Blue Earth County Fair in Garden City last month. Our exhibit featured 20th century farming equipment, a 1915 Detroit Electric Car and lots of information about special events sponsored by the Historical Society. We also offered for sale items left over from our Silk Stocking Sale in July. We were pleased to talk with the thousands of fair goers over the beautiful four days of the event. The staff and board of the Historical Society bid a fond farewell to Barbara Lamson who left the Society after three years as Programs/Membership Coordinator. We will all miss Barbara, her enthusiasm and positive attitude but wish her the best of luck in future endeavors. Thanks to Hubbard Milling Co. for donation of an Apple Computer. We now own three computers which are constantly in use. The year is moving so quickly and we have achieved many of the goals we set out to accomplish in 1989 so I thought I'd recap some of the highlights for our members who don't live in Blue Earth County and can't see the progress first hand.

(Notes Cont.)

Specified donations given during the fund drive have resulted in three completed rooms this past year. The Archives/Map Room was finished in March with a Grand Opening taking place in June; the Executive Director's office was completed this summer and the Bookkeepers office was furnished in April. A contract was recently awarded for construction of the Heritage Center gift shop and Exhibit Gallery lighting, all to be completed by December. Finally, Jo Blatti of St. Paul was hired to complete the exhibit gallery research and writing of text for the finished gallery. We are working toward a late 1990 completion date for the Heritage Center Exhibit Gallery. Meanwhile, on the Heritage Center, drawings have been completed for a new entrance facade with groundbreaking hopefully coming this fall, or next spring if the weather turns nasty. The Hubbard House has been getting spruced up with removal of some old, large display cases and cleaning up of rooms, woodwork, windows, etc. Once work at the Heritage Center is complete, restoration of the Hubbard House will begin. It has been less than one year since we completed the capital fund campaign and it's so rewarding to look at all of the successes this past year. Even more exciting is looking toward the advances that will be made over the next few years. If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting in June and would like a copy of the 1988 Annual Report to summarize all that went on at the Society last year, please give me a call at 507/345-5566 and I'll see that you get a copy. In addition to all of the construction, the Heritage Center is being painted! This project includes painting all of the sprinkler pipes, ceilings, radiators and walls. The Orientation Room is being painted first and it looks beautiful!

Dear Members

Probably the most difficult column I've had to write for the monthly newsletter is this one. After much consideration I have resigned my position as Membership and Programs Coordinator.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your dedication and support over the past three years. Your willingness to volunteer for special events, bake goodies, and help with a variety of other things that are so necessary to the growth of the Society has been most appreciated.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Lamson

BECHS Opportunities

MEMBERSHIP - BECHS members receive unlimited free admission to the Hubbard house, free admission to The Young Historians, 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 country. Pick up a brochure on the Young Historian 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.

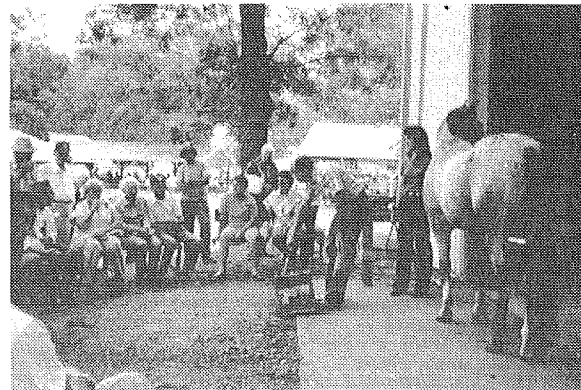
ARCHIVES - Our Archives collection houses books, maps, pamphlets, diaries, and photographs from Blue Earth County's past and present. The Archives are open Tue.-Fri. from 1-5 pm with unlimited free use to BECHS members during this time. Call weekday afternoons for more information, 507/345-5566.

GHOSTS FROM THE PAST Theatre in the Woods

"Ghosts From the Past" will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 14 and 15, 1989. If you are interested in volunteering for this program, we are in search of actors, actresses, guides and help with costumes, props, parking and refreshments. Join the excitement as we recreate bits and pieces of Blue Earth County History in a beautiful outdoor setting. For more information, please call Susan or Greta at 507/345-5566.

Young Historians

The September workshop for children in grades 3-6 will take place on Saturday, September 16, 2 pm at the Hubbard House, 606 S. Broad St. in Mankato. This class is a unique and unusual opportunity to create your own hand-made sheets of paper. This workshop will be a demonstration and hands-on experience. Call 507/345-4154 for reservations. Admission is free to BECHS members!



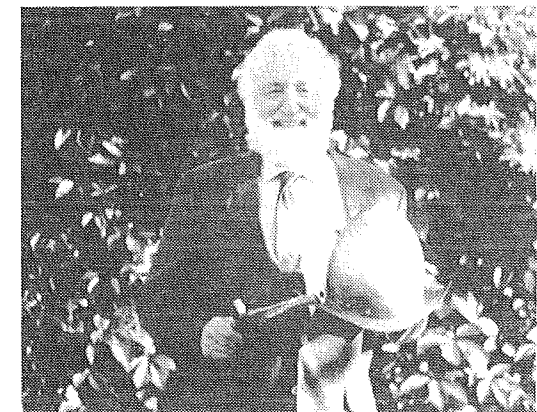
Blue Earth County Fair, August 1989, Young Historians Program presented by Gary Meurer, Farrier.

Do You Remember The Year 1965?

CAN YOU RECALL THE MOVIE PREMIERE OF "MAN ON A MISSION?" The Blue Earth County Historical Society and The Rotary Club of Mankato are reviving this World War II Spy Thriller just in time for Armistice Day, November 11, 1989. We are in search of members of the cast and crew, costumes and props from the movie. So if you answered yes to the above questions, and are able to give us any insight or information dealing with the movie, please call Greta at the Blue Earth County Historical Society, 507-345-4154, or 345-5566. And, if anyone asks, please entertain your family, friends and neighbors with a delightful story from the past.

ANTIQUES INTERNATIONAL

Local artist Arnoldus Gruter will present a workshop focusing on his personal art collection from Africa, China, New Guinea, the Middle East and the America's. The workshop will be held on three Friday evenings, October 6, 13, 20, 7:30 - 9:00, with emphasis on several topics such as stained glass, weaponry, Eskimo objects, manuscripts, brass, ceramics, coins and watches. The cost is \$25.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members, with all proceeds going to the Historical Society. For more information please call the Blue Earth County Historical Society at 507-345-4154 or 345-5566.



Arnold Gruter, 1989.

Memorials

In memory of R.S. "Rudy" Qualset given by Dean and Ruth Wykoff
In memory of Rosella Norman given by the Norman family
In memory of Manda Stoll given by Al and Ruth Scheidel

Donations

Thanks to Mrs. Elizabeth Confer for her donation to the upcoming "Man on a Mission" program in November.