

Blue Earth County Cemetery Project

The Cemetery Project crew will travel to Danville Township/Minnesota Lake on Wednesday, August 8 to record the transcriptions at the Oak Grove and Peace Cemeteries. Participants will meet at the Heritage Center, 415 Cherry St., Mankato at 8:30 a.m. and at the Oak Grove Cemetery, rural Minnesota Lake at 10:00 a.m. In case of inclement weather, the session will be held the following Wednesday at the same time and place.



B.E.C. Cemetery Project, 6/13/1990 Calvary Cemetery, Madison Lake. Left to Right: Craig Roberts, Elmer Goodrich, Cheryl Foster, Debbie Porter, Alma Severson, Betty Cords, Marilyn Berg.

Artifact Storage Needs

We are still in need of a used, but usable hanging coat rack and always need cardboard boxes with telescoping lids for the storage of artifacts. If you have either of these, please drop them at the Heritage Center or call Audrey (345-5566) for pickup.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

-Mary Brown

General Donations

Thanks to the following for their support this past month:

Art History Society, Mankato
Norwegian American Laget, Mankato

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

Bob & Terri DeGezelle, Mankato
Alice Gerth, Mapleton
Harry & Alene Greenland, Bishop, CA.
Todd Bodem, Mankato
Mrs. Corrine VanStelter, Mankato

Memorials

In memory of Bland Ballard given by Dean & Ruth Wykoff

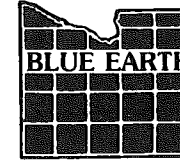
Public support and participation make possible the fine educational programs and exhibits offered by the Blue Earth County Historical Society. For information on how you can become a member and support Blue Earth County history, please call Mary at 507/345-5566 or write her at 415 Cherry St., Mankato, MN 56001.

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.

Blue Earth County
Historical Society
415 Cherry St.
Mankato, MN 56001

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COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

August 1990

Calendar of Events

- Aug. 2-5 **Blue Earth County Fair**, stop by the Ag Heritage Building for a visit.
- Aug. 3-5 **Homestead Player Performances** at the County Fair. Call 345-5566 for schedule.
- Aug. 4 **Young Historians at the fair**. Call Jane at 345-5566 for more information. Open - Homestead Player Performance.
- Aug. 8 **Blue Earth County Cemetery Project**. Call Audrey at 345-5566 for more information.
- Aug. 21 **Annual Meeting and GRAND OPENING** of the Exhibit Gallery at the Heritage Center.

Notes from the Director

-Susan M. Monk-Kjos

Summer seems to be going faster than ever this year and we seem to be busier than ever! Thanks to all the visitors and volunteers who have made the summer of 90 so successful for the Historical Society. Special thanks to the volunteers who worked at this year's Tour of Homes. If you haven't been to the Hubbard House in a while, stop in and see the changes. The exhibits and cases have been removed from the first floor parlor/library and the room is big and beautiful! Thanks to Elmer Goodrich, Craig Roberts, Audrey Burmeister-Hicks and Jane Fossen for clearing out the old cases and materials. All of the display items have been safely transferred to the Heritage Center storage area. We are continuing our search for original Hubbard House furniture during our restoration of the house. Many of our members have mentioned that they own or know owners of original Hubbard House furniture and would like to donate it to the Society at the appropriate time. Please call Audrey or Susan at 507/345-5566 if you are such a donor. The Heritage Center exhibit gallery will begin weekend hours of operation after the Grand Opening. As such, we are in need of a few additional Museum Aids to staff the Hubbard House and Heritage Center. If you are interested in working from 1-5 pm on Saturday and Sundays, please call 345-5566 or 345-4154 and ask for a job application.

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Edited by Susan Monk-Kjos

"From **Preservation News** (April 1990), the monthly newspaper of the National Trust for Historic Preservation"

The anchor of our culture

Perceiving and preserving the historic house

(continued from last month)

By *Mario di Valmarana*

The center's goals are modeled on those of the European Center for Historic Homes in Brussels, although the constitutions and bylaws of each institution are fundamentally dissimilar. The European center is more a "social" institution concerned with monumental residences. Its houses cover a broader historical spectrum than those of its American counterpart and are qualified by a more complex set of rules. While in America the private sector remains the driving force behind the preservation movement, in Europe — with the exception of Great Britain — government agencies carry out a much larger percentage of the preservation projects. My own experience in restoring the Villa Capra, known as the Rotonda, designed in the 16th century by the architect Andrea Palladio near Vicenza, Italy, was a tour-de-force that wound its way through the labyrinths of government bureaucracy, local regulation, and official ineptitude. The results of the restoration were positive, however, thanks to skillful labor, alert professionals, and persistent and dedicated owners.

In Europe the definition of historic significance may vary greatly as a consequence of varied cultural backgrounds and should not be equated with a seemingly analogous American cultural scenario. The similarity one finds on both continents is that the preservation process is motivated by the same consciousness of the past

In America as well as in Europe the constant transformation of the social framework, with all its contingent social values and cultural meanings, has broadened immensely the role of preservation as a reference point for change. It is not that society rejects the new; it is that society is uncomfortable with it and is unsure of it. Preservation, therefore, is our ultimate reliable source of social and cultural values, the soothing element linking the old, which is liked and understood, the new, which is questioned, and the future of which we

are not sure. The historic house, among other historic constituents, is the cultural anchor of our society, the time dimension that bridges the past into the future. The historic house is memory, without which our cities and our countryside would suffer the emptiness of a barren continent.

PROGRAM UPDATE

- Jane Kolars

Tour of Homes

Many thanks to all of you who volunteered to make the 4th annual Tour of Homes a great success and a very enjoyable day. As we look to our fifth Tour in '91, if you have ideas for potential tour homes or suggestions, please let us know. We hope to make our fifth year extra special.



Past & Present Bend of the River Festival royalty attending the 4th Tour of Homes. Volunteer Jane Fossen explains details of the home.

Blue Earth County Fair

Fair time is here and you won't want to miss the BECHS exhibit in the Ag Heritage Building. The Homestead Players will be performing throughout the weekend, see a special Century Farm exhibit by Jo Schultz and Craig Roberts, we'll be selling collectable and rummage items donated by our members, and of course, distributing lots of BECHS information. Stop by and visit!

The Young Historians will have an open program in August, you will be invited to attend one of the Homestead Players performances on Saturday during the fair.

Exhibit Gallery Grand Opening

Exciting preparations are underway for the Grand Opening of the Heritage Center Exhibit Gallery and Annual Meeting, Tuesday evening, August 21. See the new exhibit gallery, listen to some very special speakers during the program, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, and find commemorative items for sale in the Gift Shop. Watch your mail for an invitation to the Grand Opening of the Heritage Center Exhibit Gallery.

Silk Stocking Sale

Plan to join us and find some fantastic deals on collectables at the Silk Stocking Collectables Sale, Saturday, September 22, from 8 am to Noon, on the grounds of the Hubbard House. We need volunteers several days before the sale to help price items. Also volunteers are needed the day of the sale. Please call Jane Kolars at the Heritage Center - 345-5566 if you would like to help out.

Mark your calendars for "Ghosts From The Past", Saturday and Sunday evenings, October 6 and 7. We are looking for character ideas and, of course, volunteer thespians. We need your help to make this event the popular and fun program it has traditionally been.

As I complete my first month here at BECHS, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for such a kind welcome.

I look forward to meeting many of you and working with you. Thanks again for this wonderful opportunity to work with BECHS.

CURATION NOTES

-Audrey K. Burmeister-Hicks

With the Grand Opening of the BECHS Exhibit Gallery approaching, dozens of photographs and artifacts from the BECHS Collections have been put

into position to tell the history of Blue Earth County. In addition to the items from the BECHS Collections, a number of objects and images from the collections of individuals, businesses, and other institutions have been received to complete the exhibition. The BECHS thanks the following who have loaned artifacts and photographs for use in the gallery; they will also be appropriately cited within the Gallery.

Photographs loaned for copying came from the collections of: the Coughlan family of Mankato-Kasota Stone, Inc.; Christopher Densmore, Buffalo, New York; Ruth Densmore, Chardon, Ohio, Bruce & Sheryl Dowlin, Mankato; Frost-Benco Wells Electric, Goucher College Art Collection, Baltimore, Md.; Alice Hollingsworth, Lake Crystal; Mrs. Robert C. King, Mapleton; Nancy Luomala, Mankato; Samuel & Richard Boruff & the J. C. Marlow Milking Machine Co., Mankato; the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul; Minnesota Valley Regional Library, Lovelace Wing, Mankato; the Newberry Library, Chicago; School Sisters of Notre Dame, Good Counsel Hill, Mankato; Michael Scullin, Garden City.

Artifacts for display have been loaned by: Lois Champlin, Lake Crystal; Carol Dubke, San Diego, Calif.; Ernest Hansen, Garden City; Helen & Eldon Jones & Crysteel Manufacturing, Lake Crystal; Shirley Lieske, Mankato; the Madison Lake Historical Society; Alma Severson, Mankato; and the Southern Minnesota Historical Center, Mankato State University.

We thank Snell Motors and Energy Concepts, both of Mankato, and MICO, Inc., North Mankato, for special assistance rendered to the BECHS Collections Department in the past month. I would also like to personally thank a number of people who are always ready and willing to assist the BECHS staff no matter what the task or the time of day. These people are the spouses and families of the BECHS staff. When artifacts need to be moved, when supplies need to be transported to far corners of the county, when the security alarm sounds in the middle of the night, when personnel are needed at BECHS events, etc., our families are there. Thank you, spouses and families, for all the assistance and support!