

The Blue Earth County *Historical Society's* **WEXFEST**

First Edition

CRAFTS SHOW

The festive event of the year marking the opening of school and the approach of the glorious fall season, will be the Crafts Show. It will be held on the Hubbard House lawn and in the basement of the Episcopal Church across from the Museum, on Sunday, September 10, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is 50¢ for adults, 10¢ for students and free for all Society members. Children under 12 who come with their parents will also be admitted free.

Special events will include chamber music inside, provided by Mr. Walter Hawkey, cellist, and square dancing on the lawn outside the Hubbard Mansion, presented by the Circle 8 Square Dance Club. These events will run periodically throughout the afternoon.

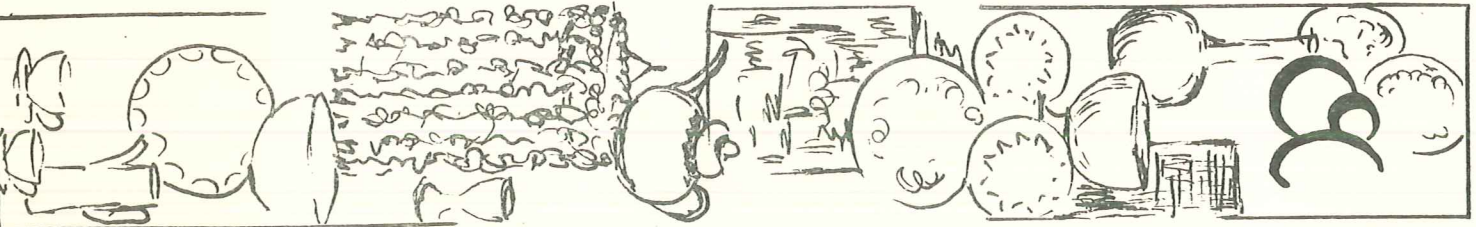
One of the high points of the afternoon will be a raffle at 3:30 p.m., the winning ticket to be drawn by Mayor Vern Lundin for a quilt made by the women of Orness Plaza. Tickets for the raffle are 50¢, and will be available at the Museum and at Madison East Mall, September 2nd and 3rd.

Crafts which will be shown and demonstrated are :

crocheting	dried flowers	needlepoint
knitting	hooked rugs	peasant painting
china painting	wood carving	chair caning
stuffed dolls	crewel	corn flowers
spinning	quilting	leather crafts
wood turning	tattooing	pottery
	macrame	

Co-chairmen for the Crafts Show event are Marcia Confer and Janet Goff.

Sunday, September 10, 1972



County Awareness

By Kim R. Kasling

"AWARENESS," a word much in use today, describes the growing involvement of people in many formerly forgotten and neglected facets of life and society. And so it is with history, and the people of Blue Earth County. The current telephone directory cover (the old Seppman mill), last month's AAA Minnesota Motorist, and nearly-weekly articles in the Free Press all represent a growing national and regional awareness of America's history and heritage by individuals, groups, and societies such as ours.

What will be our purpose as the Blue Earth County Historical Society *Newsletter* and how may we contribute to a growing county-wide historical awareness? We hope to foster interest and enthusiasm on the part of as many people as possible by informing and, hopefully, by being informed. We will seek to keep members and friends abreast of the Society's events and activities, and we will vigorously solicit county-wide information on historical activities of every type. We hope readers will contribute factual material on historical events or remains *per se*, opinions and ideas of all types for operating and improving our Society, and support in arousing the interest of the general public in our work.

For example, here are four major Society projects dealing with Society facilities and membership: 1) Restoration of the Hubbard House to historical authenticity; 2) Restoration of the Carriage House with remodeling to permit permanent display of the Society's fine antique cars, coaches and buggies; 3) Procurement of space to permit a separate museum of Indian and early pioneer artifacts now in the Hubbard Mansion; and 4) Recruitment of new members. We urge members and any interested parties to help with the support and planning of these and other future projects.

We look forward eagerly in helping with the work of the Society in Blue Earth County. If we are to capitalize on a growing regional historical awareness, then success depends on us all---the identity of a region is as much in its people as in its past. Here is our first issue---let us hear from you!

SOCIETY OFFICERS

President	<i>Bert Burns</i>
Vice President	<i>Kathryn Hanson</i>
Secretary	<i>Betty Cords</i>
Treasurer	<i>George Sugden</i>

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor	<i>Helen Girard</i>
Assistant Editor	<i>Theresa Kasling</i>

REGIONS Board of Trustees

Submitted by Betty Cords

With so many things happening, the Board of Directors felt a *Newsletter* would be an ideal way of letting members of the Society know what was going on. We will begin sending out a newsletter bi-monthly and/or if something urgent comes up. Helen Girard will be the editor and do the art work, Tess Kasling will be the assistant editor and do research and help with technical problems.

Brochure. Mr. Leroy Schwan has been working on the layout of a brochure for the Hubbard House. These can be printed at the college for a cost of about \$10.00 per 1,000. This is another first that we hope to have ready to go by Sept. 10 for our Craft Show.

Miss Anna Wiecking's book, The Blue Earth County History from 1700-1900, has gone into its second printing. Copies are again available at the Museum for \$1.00 and will also be available at the Chamber of Commerce.

Tape Recordings. It has been decided to make tape recordings of our music box as a money-making item. The college Audio-Visual Department has agreed to make the recordings, and it is hoped that we will have the first ones available for the public in time for our Craft Show, Sunday, September 10.

Mankato, Kansas Centennial. The Historical Society and the city of Mankato sent a window display to Mankato, Kansas for their Centennial. This was on display in their hospitality building and will remain on display throughout the summer and will be returned by September.

Museum Sunday. Our Spring Festival was held June 11, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Planning this event were Betty Lou Cords, Kathryn Hanson, Marcia Schuster, publicity, Pat Schwan, Harley Goff, old cars. Our activities were held outdoors--an antique car display in St. Johns' parking lot--25 cars!--with their owners picnicking on the grounds. An outdoor program began at 1:30 p.m., with Mrs. Marjorie Mongeau playing organ music. From 2:30-3:00 there was pioneer dancing by students from Wilson Campus School under the direction of Mrs. Janovy, and Indian dancing by Boy Scout Troop 24 under the direction of Al Diedrichsen, and from 3:00-4:00, a band concert by musicians from local 477 under the direction of Bob Northenscald. Refreshments were served by a troop of Campfire Girls. Approximately 900-1000 attended.

Annual Memberships. Annual memberships are \$5.00, and will run from January

ary to January. Life-time memberships are \$25.00 and Patrons are \$100.00. For any special Society activity for which there is an admission charge, such as the Craft Show, all members will be admitted free and children of life members will also be admitted free.

At our April meeting, the Board decided that we needed a plan of action for our future. An Action Committee was formed to look into this, they are: Bert Burns, Betty Cords, Kathryn Hanson, Marcia Schuster, Helen Girard, Ogden Confer, Harley Goff, Jack Hodapp and Ted Nydahl. They have been meeting all summer.

Indian Culture Center. A group representing the Historical Society, the City, the Chamber of Commerce, and the County Board, met Tuesday, June 27, at the Chamber of Commerce to discuss our overall plan of action: 1) Renovation of the Carriage House for display space; 2) Establishment of an Indian Culture Center near the site of the Sioux hanging; 3) Renovation of the Hubbard House as a mansion of its period. The reaction was a very favorable one and it was then suggested that a broad base task force be organized to get the ball rolling. This idea was presented to the Action Committee, Tuesday, July 11, 1972. The Action Committee gave its approval and asked Mr. Jack Hodapp to head the Task Force Committee subject to the approval of the Board. The Board gave its unanimous approval. This Task Force would be responsible to the Action Committee---who in turn is responsible to the Board of Directors---who in turn is responsible to the Society. The Task Force would work for the 3-fold object of restoring the Hubbard House, the Carriage House and an Indian and Pioneer Culture Center---to be established near the hanging of the Sioux. Mr. Roger Davis of the M.S.C. Urban Studies group has agreed to help us in this area---he has the inside track on what funds might be available to us.

Lease Agreement. The Action Committee presented the Board of Directors with a rough draft for a lease agreement to be made with anyone taking articles home for renovation. In this agreement, it clearly states that anyone taking such an item will be responsible for and pay all charges for upkeep and storage and improvement or repairs, to be returned when the Society has suitable storage and display space and requests its return. It also states that the written consent of the Society or its Officers and/or Director must be obtained before any person can undertake alterations or repair---thereby controlling how they are renovated.

Museum activities

Mrs. Shirley Broden retired as Museum Director on January 1, 1972, and Mrs. Patricia Schwan was chosen to take her place. The Society is grateful and wishes to thank Mrs. Broden for the six years of helpful service she has rendered.

Mrs. Schwan, in connection with the Art Department at Mankato State College, chose three students to serve as interns at the Museum---helping in any capacity necessary. They are:

Jane Holm, a senior and an art major who is also interested in art history, spent some time as an intern at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts working in the slide library, education department and in other museum functions. She hopes to do museum work after graduation. One of her ideas is to work up programs for children including the use of the park opposite the Museum.

Barbara Roulier, a senior and an art major in crafts and water color, is from St. Paul, and is in her third quarter as an intern at the Museum in Mankato. She is involved with the restoration of some of the furniture in the Carriage House. One of her hopes is to preserve the park area opposite the Museum for use by the townspeople---to put in benches, etc. for their convenience and pleasure.

Charles DASHOW, from Rochester and majoring in studio art, is a newlywed working part-time. He hopes to teach after completing his student teaching this fall quarter and graduating winter quarter.

Mrs. Schwan stated that recently some artifacts had been added to the Museum and some interior changes made.

Other items of interest include the making of slides of the Museum for a Carousel for the Task Force to further the renovation, etc., of the Carriage House, and restoration of the Hubbard House. Also, tapes of the old music box in the Museum have been made and will be on sale there.

A special note of thanks and appreciation goes to the Printing and Duplicating Service at Mankato State College, and in particular, to Mr. Russ Amling, for co-operation and invaluable help in printing this, our first *Newsletter*.