

# NEWS SLEETTER

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August, 1975

## FIRST DISTRICT HISTORICAL ASSEMBLY

The annual meeting of the First District Historical Assembly will be held September 6 at the Olmsted County Historical Society in Rochester. Group sessions will include: The Bicentennial--How county societies can relate; Utilization of the resources of County Societies; The "How" in setting up displays. Luncheon speaker will be Prof. William Crozier, Chairman, Dept. of History, St. Mary's College, Winona, who will speak on the topic: "The Salt of the Earth: A History of Winona, 1880-1905". A tour of Mayowood will include the program.

Cost is \$5.00 per person. For further information, call Betty Cords, Assembly Vice-President, 726-2744.

## DISPLAYS

A special Bicentennial-4th of July flag display was prepared, showing some of the flags at the Museum. The Anthony Wayne Chapter of the DAR presented the society with a silk 13 star flag. Also on display are a 15 star and 15 stripe flag (the kind still in use during the War of 1812), a 46 star flag, a 48 star flag, and a 50 star flag.

The Council of Garden Clubs has asked us to display examples of Victorian handwork at the YMCA on September 6 in conjunction with their flower show. Simultaneously, we will have a display at the Museum of additional handwork of the Victorian era.

## HOUSECLEANING

Think of the Museum when you're cleaning your attic or basement. Did you know that we would like to have journals and ledgers of early businesses in the County, early school records, books of the minutes of clubs, organizations, and churches? These records, when studied by trained researchers, give much valuable information about the character of our county and state. If you offer us something that we can't use, we may refer you to the Minnesota Room at Mankato State University or to the State Historical Society.

## CARRIAGE HOUSE

Copies of architectural plans and specifications for the Carriage House Restoration are in the Museum office. You may stop in to look at them. At the moment, the Federal Highway Department is reviewing them; if they approve, then contractors will be invited to bid. Hope fully, advertising for bids will start September 1. If you would like to see the Carriage House, the Museum staff will be glad to show you around.

## STAFF LOUNGE

We are setting up a staff lounge in the basement of the Hubbard House, where tour guides and staff members can have a bit of privacy. The walls have been painted by a volunteer; carpeting has been purchased; and as soon as an electric outlet can be installed, we will be ready there in time for the fall tour season. Does anyone have a small refrigerator to donate for the lounge?

WORKSHOP ON MUSEUMS AND SCHOOLS

Marcia Schuster attended a one day workshop of the Minnesota Museum Education Roundtable on August 15 on the general topic of the Museum and Schools. There were many new ideas on how museums can work with the schools. We were pleased to learn that Blue Earth County Museum has done much more in this field than many museums. Hopefully, we can put some of these new ideas to work to make our program even better.

GIFT TO MUSEUM LIBRARY

Mrs. W. A. Nichols of Lake Crystal has made the Museum a gift of a fine, old atlas--the 1874 Andreas Atlas of Minnesota. It is a magnificent book and contains much information not ordinarily found in an atlas, such as pictures of prominent persons and of city buildings, as well as detailed maps.

Interestingly enough, just a week later, the Winona County Historical Society sent us a notice that they are sponsoring the republishing of this book, in a smaller size. Pre-publication price will be \$16.00 per copy and post-publication price will be \$18.00. It will be ready in the fall. Brochures and order blanks will be available at the Museum if you wish to order one.

NEW PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Robert Swafford, a native of Texas, is Mankato's new Parks and Forestry Superintendent. He was formerly the director of recreation for the city of Denton, Texas, and is a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. He arrived in Mankato for an interview just following our January blizzard and still wanted to come to Mankato to live! The Hubbard House property is maintained as a "park" under the city of Mankato.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR(S) NEEDED:

This issue of the Historical Society Newsletter is an interim one, just to keep you posted on current happenings. If you would like to work on the newsletter staff regularly or know of someone who might want to, please call the Museum office and let us know. 345-4154

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The Museum staff is preparing an application for the Hubbard House to be placed on the National Register of Historic Sites. We are presently on the State of Minnesota Register.

UNIDENTIFIED PICTURES

The Museum library has two boxes of old pictures on which they would like to put names or locations. Can you help us? Stop in and browse through the boxes? Maybe you'll know who these people are. You might even find one of your ancestors.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Marcia Schuster has replaced Betty Cords as Museum Director, starting June Betty has returned to the Board of Directors and will continue working with the Museum on special projects. Marcia's position on the Board of Directors as secretary has been filled by Marion Carr.

Mary Keefe is new to the Museum library on a part-time basis, working with Ruth Ann Engstrom.

WE WELCOME Two New Life Members:

Eldon D. Jones, Lake Crystal  
Elsie Hildeen-Goetz, Minneapolis