



# SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

Henderson, Minnesota 56044 Ph: (507)248-3434

MARCH 2011

Volume 16, Issue 1



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## SCHS ANNUAL MEETING

**WHEN; Sunday April 10, 2011**

**12:00 - 3:00**

**WHERE; Sibley County Courthouse Annex Basement**

**MENU; Buffet—Roast Pork, Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Tip included**

**COST: \$15.00 per person**

**PROGRAM; Sibley County Courthouse History from Henderson and on to Gaylord. Presented by Eldrene Elbert (retired county recorder) and Lisa Pfarr (County Auditor)**



## Calendar of Events

**Check our website for 2011 programs. The next issues of the newsletter will have the programs listed**

- April 10 12:00 PM Annual Meeting. Courthouse Program, at the Courthouse in Gaylord
- See next newsletter for upcoming programs, or website
- **NOTE NEW STARTING TIMES—7PM**
- If you have suggestions or comments on upcoming events ... Contact Judy Loewe 507-248-3345 **Calendar Subject to Change.**



## The Prez Sez

by Jerome Petersen

It is annual meeting time again. We started having an annual meeting with dinner in 2004. When we were planning the very first meeting we were apprehensive if people would turn out. When would there be a program? When would be a good time? Where to have it? Would people hesitate to come for fear of being corralled for a job? Lots of questions to be answered. We decided Gaylord is centrally located making it easier. A program would be good. And people did come! Since that time we have had a meeting in each town and have had very good attendance. We are back to square one, and starting over in Gaylord. And we hope to continue to have a good turnout. There is more information in the box above and also one page 7.

Our Holiday Open House was a success. The weather was much better than last year when the temps started out 20 below zero, and still the hardy Minnesotans came to have home made ice cream. This year our guests and members were

treated to musical numbers by several people. The program was repeated each hour and took place in the newly redone music room. What a transformation! Last year it was full of computers, file cabinets, tables and miscellaneous office machines.

There are those who might have even characterized it as *messy*! Ya hadda been there! We served a variety of treats in our new addition and an ongoing slide show of happenings of SCHS was playing on the TV.

The Christmas decorations are down, and the new 2011 theme is beginning to take shape. The museum crew is cleaning as they go and organizing displays.

Our dining room floor was in dire need of refinishing. We contracted to have it



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## Nelson Norman mid 1800 Chronicles

By Grandson Nelson Norman

Additional Information by Arlene Busse



Dottie and Nelson Norman in their El Cajon CA home. The mantel clock was once in the home of his grandparents, Nelson and Ann (Ford) Norman in Jessenland

Historical society member Nelson F. Norman, of El Cajon, California is 90+ years young and long retired as a professor at San Diego State University. He has Sibley County roots and has been asked to tell the story of his great grandfather, Nelson Norman's (aka Narcisse Normand) settlement in Jessenland Township and of the travels of his young grandfather also named Nelson Norman.

An extensive family history containing facts and suppositions has ancestors of the Jessenland pioneer having origins in Scandinavia, then living in France.

Nelson writes: *Legends attach to the family tree like ornaments at Christmas. We visited lovely Normandy to see the locale of our roots. The family was well regarded, soundly established, and prominent enough to rate two plaques on the church wall, proudly shown to me by the resident priest. Why depart? Father-to-son lore says that family members had sailed with Jacques Cartier under whom they saw and came to love Quebec. Two branches of the family emigrated in the 1640s.*

A descendant of the Jean Le Normand branch, "Narcisse Normand", left Canada for New York where he was married in 1840 to Irish Mary Riley. They settled in Mc Leon County, Pennsylvania. In the early 1850s, Nelson must have been reading in area newspapers about the opening of new land for settlement in the Minnesota Territory.

He left his family, Mary and children Rosa, Nelson and Louis, behind and made his way to Henderson about 1856 or 57. He made a land claim for 160 acres in Jessenland at the land office in Henderson then sent for his family to join him. According to family history they traveled by boat "down the Ohio, up the Mississippi and up the Minnesota to Henderson".

Their Jessenland neighborhood had French, Irish and German speaking families. A Catholic church was nearby, as was a small log school. How much schooling young Nelson (nicknamed "Netty") had is not known. Boys worked at home or elsewhere as soon as they were big enough for the job available. Attending school only happened during seasons when there was no work.

Netty would have had no problem finding jobs at Henderson from where wagon trains and cattle drives originated from the 1850s to the 1880s.

From the stories known to his grandson, he may have worked out of other frontier locations. Perhaps from Red River points as Crookston, Pembina or Fort Gary in Canada.

Netty Norman returned to Jessenland, bought his own farm in 1876, then married Ann Ford in 1877. Their son, John Francis was born in 1880. He graduated from the



The 1877 Wedding Photo of Nelson Norman and Ann Ford

Henderson High School in 1898, finished medical school at the University of Minnesota and began practice at Crookston Minnesota where the contributor of this Norman history was born.

He has written the following story:

*Ox Carts, Pembina Trail and My Grandfather.*

*Punching the above two terms in Google and Wikipedia gave me three hours of excellent reading and linking. Facts sufficient there for a study. I will try to fill in the*

*(Continued on page 3)*





(Continued from page 2)

personal memories handed down to me by my namesake grandfather, Nelson Norman of Henderson, MN. They will include his drives westward to the Plains Indians and to the United States Cavalry

units. My hometown of Crookston, MN has a huge commemorative statue of a driver, his ox, and his cart, and separately, an excellent historical museum.

When I was yet a boy, my father and his father and I retraced one of the routes taken by the drovers—there were many



Sixteen Year Old Ann Ford

different routes across the prairies from St. Paul to Fort Garry, Winnipeg. Up to 400 carts would go together with their screeching ungreased wheels creating noise pollution for miles around.

These carts may have looked a bit ungainly, but they were marvelously designed for their task. They were rugged, easily repaired, and could be knocked down to become boats for fording waterways across their routes. In the absence of roads, trains, or steamboats, they were the sole means of freight hauling for several years before, during, and after our Civil War. Other routes went west and east across Canada from Ft. Garry. The Pembina Trail carried supplies and manufactured goods northward from St. Paul. The return trip could carry furs or raw materials. The round trip crossed about 800 miles of unbroken lands.

Near Crookston the wagons skirted the shoreline of ancient Lake Agassiz for it provided relatively smooth ground to cross. Each drover had up to four carts the oxen of which were most frequently fed just by grazing on the unfenced prairie. These men, recruited by entrepreneurs such as Joe Rolette, were the roughest of the rough and they made hard initiations on new comers one of their means of entertainment. Grandpa Nelson was only about fourteen years old when he hit the trail, a good age to be victimized. But many of his fellow teamsters were Metis, or as they were called then, Half-Breeds; off-spring of White, usually French, males and native Indian mothers. They, too, suffered as butts of harsh practical pranks. One story he told was about feeding an Indian all the

dried apples he could eat, then quenching his terrible thirst abundantly so that his bloated stomach was agony.

Wikipedia describes the food consumed: whatever they could fish or hunt, plus pemmican or grains they may have carried along. Grandpa described how the Metis would often be happy when a puppy would join the expedition. "By gar, he looks just about fat enough to go into the pot tonight!" Some of the carts had a bottle or two stashed away. To be roaring drunk was a rapture devoutly to be desired.

#### TURNING TO THE WESTERN FRONTIER

The Indians of [northern] Minnesota and Wisconsin were Chipewa or Ojibwa---- it is the same name as heard differently by early explorers. Grandpa lived with them long enough to learn their language, and on his death bed he spoke neither the French of his family tradition, nor his adopted English, but Indian. Clearly, those early experiences of his became deeply embedded in his being.

Whenever grandpa visited our home, a most joyous occasion, my mother Loretta Norman would gather up all of his cronies for a cigar smoke -obliterated conference in the living room and a good meal at the table thereafter. I, somewhere between six and ten years old, would sit out of the way on the floor, down where there was a bit of clear air to favor my asthma-tinged lungs. Such stories! Most of them, regrettably, are forgotten! (Evidently these men still living in the Crookston area were also veterans of the oxcart train experience ) My maternal grandmother lived with us but she never reminisced on days gone by, and I was too stupid to ask questions. Family history lost!

REVENONS A NOS MOUTONS! My French is really fractured, but in honor of the important Nelson, humor my attempt at using the language of my forebears.. It should mean, "Let's get back to the subject." literally, "Let's return to our sheep."

But these animals were cattle, not sheep. Grandpa would drive them out to either the Indians, who received them as pay from the government, or the troops stationed out west

as protection against the Indians. The troops would transform cows into steaks in much the usual way. But the Indians would build a split rail corral, put the cattle inside, stampede them to run in a circle, then shoot the critters as they ran past. It seemed to be effective, and



Grandpa Nelson Norman and Dr. Frank Norman Holding his son, Nelson Norman

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provided a link to their buffalo hunt forays.

Family legend has it that mon grandpere was ordered to tie up with Custer just prior to that last stand at Little Big Horn [1876]. But he was late.... that makes me very happy as it preserved family continuity. There is a danger in every family -- facts, legends, stories evaporate, and subsequent generations are deprived! Tell family stories at reunion dinner parities! Today we feel the need of roots, and genealogy thrives. It is worth our time to fill out the record as well as we can. Keep it a hobby, or genealogy may possess you!

Nelson Norman



The clipping is from the February 15, 1929 edition of the Henderson Independent. It is hard to read the copy and was re-typed.

#### **THIS IS THE TEXT FROM THE ARTICLE**

Fifty-eight years ago Nelson Norman, pioneer of this neighborhood, made his first trip with a Red River oxcart train to Winnipeg.

In April Mr. Norman, 76 years old, plans to make a trip by automobile, following as closely as possible the route of that early oxcart train.

"I have noticed that there seems to be some confusion concerning the principal oxcart route," the pioneer said tonight, "and I believe I can definitely fix one route."

Although he did not study the old trails during trips he has made in recent years, the pioneer is convinced he can trace the oxcart route.

"Building of railroads, growth of cities and highway development" he said, "have wrought such a transformation in the Red River Valley area that there is little left to remind one of the wild region of 50 and more years ago."

"When we first drove the oxcarts overland to Winnipeg," he recalled "we gathered the cattle, mostly unbroken steers, around here and herded them to St. cloud. There we broke the steers and loaded the carts. The first carts were the regular



two wheel affairs, but were made without a bit of metal in them, pegs being used instead of nails.

"Each cart carried 1,000 pounds of freight and there were from 75 to 150 in a train. Each driver usually looked after three or four carts. We freighted everything in the way of merchandise then in demand, including whiskey.

"We struck out from S. Cloud across to McCauleyville on the Red River and followed the stream north. We passed through Georgetown and Frog Point, frequently stopped at Fisher's Landing on the Red Lake River and went past Kelly's Landing. Neither Fargo nor Grand Forks was in existence but Pembina was a well established settlement.

"Sometimes we made the trip in a month but when bad weather or accidents delayed us we were on the road nearly two months. We did not spend much time at Winnipeg, immediately loading freight for the return trip. Our loads were lighter coming back as there was not much produced in that part of Canada then. Sometimes we carried large shipments of furs and pelts for trappers and for buyers."

Mr. Norman recalled that Winnipeg then consisted of little else besides the stockade known as Fort Garry. "The fort", he explained, "was simply a palisade made of large split logs set side by side in the ground. Inside the enclosure were block houses of log with port holes for rifles on all sides."

The trains Mr. Norman accompanied were sent out by Thomas Welch pioneer banker here and father of E.L. Welch of St. Paul and Henry Poehler who founded the Poehler commission firm in Minneapolis in the 1850s.

A son and a daughter of the pioneer, Floyd Norman and Miss Alvira Norman, are living in St. Paul. Another son, Dr. Frank Norman, is physician at Crookston. --Sunday Pioneer Press.



Grandpa Nelson Norman of Henderson, Professor Nelson Norman of El Cajon CA and Dr. John Francis Norman of Crookston MN—3 Generations of Normans

Don't be tired when you get there, let the driving to us!





## Sibley County Cemetery Files

by Sharon Byer Shimota

After many discussions about our old website, a new website was created in November: [www.sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com](http://www.sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com), with tutelage from Harriet Traxler who has her very own website. The new website is easy to edit and maintain from the museum plus photos can be added to enhance the website. After the new site was up and running, the solution of moving the cemetery files from the old website was to add our files to the FindAGrave website. We discovered that many graves are already entered there, over 9,000, and in some cases whole cemeteries. There are about 60 cemeteries in the county, some abandoned and plowed over. Many have just a few graves.

I first came across the FindAGrave site after my trip to Gettysburg in 2008. Wanting to find out more about my Byer ancestors who were born and raised in Gettysburg and lived there during the Civil War, I Googled their names and found some of them on the FindAGrave website. Both Harriett Traxler and myself had added memorials on this site and found it very easy to do. I showed Dorothy and Rommie my Great-Grandfather John F. Byer's memorial page and they were impressed with the site. I really enjoyed creating the memorial page where you can add a biography and links to other deceased family members. I have added a picture of him plus a photo of the gravestone which gives the memorial a special touch. Please look at the website for my Great-Grandfather Byer to get an idea of what you can do for your deceased family members.

Transferring this information will be very time consuming. Dorothy Peterson, Harriet Traxler, Ethel Beuch, Steve Carlson and myself have been working converting the files from Excel to F.A.G format, and checking for errors.

If you would like to check if any of your ancestors are on the FindA-

A Grave Memorial

Memorial Photos Flowers Edit

[Learn about upgrading this memorial...](#)

Birth: Jul. 17, 1845  
Gettysburg  
Adams County  
Pennsylvania, USA

Death: Aug. 18, 1932  
Egeland  
Towner County  
North Dakota, USA


John F. Byer was born at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 17, 1845. He passed away on Thursday, August 18, 1932 at the age of 87 years 1 month and 1 day. He married Adeline Plank on August 13, 1868 in Gettysburg and they were blessed to live happily together for sixty-four years. The funeral service was held at the Presbyterian Church in Egeland, North Dakota on Sunday, August 21, 1932 with burial in the Egeland Union Cemetery.

Family links:  
Parents:  
Christian Byer (1797 - 1871)  
Elizabeth Orner Byer (1817 - 1897)


Spouse:  
Adeline Plank Byer (1851 - 1939)

Burial:  
Egeland Union Cemetery  
Egeland  
Towner County  
North Dakota, USA

Maintained by: Sharon Byer Shimota  
Originally Created by: ZBonnie  
Record added: Jun 25, 2006  
Find A Grave Memorial# 14727460

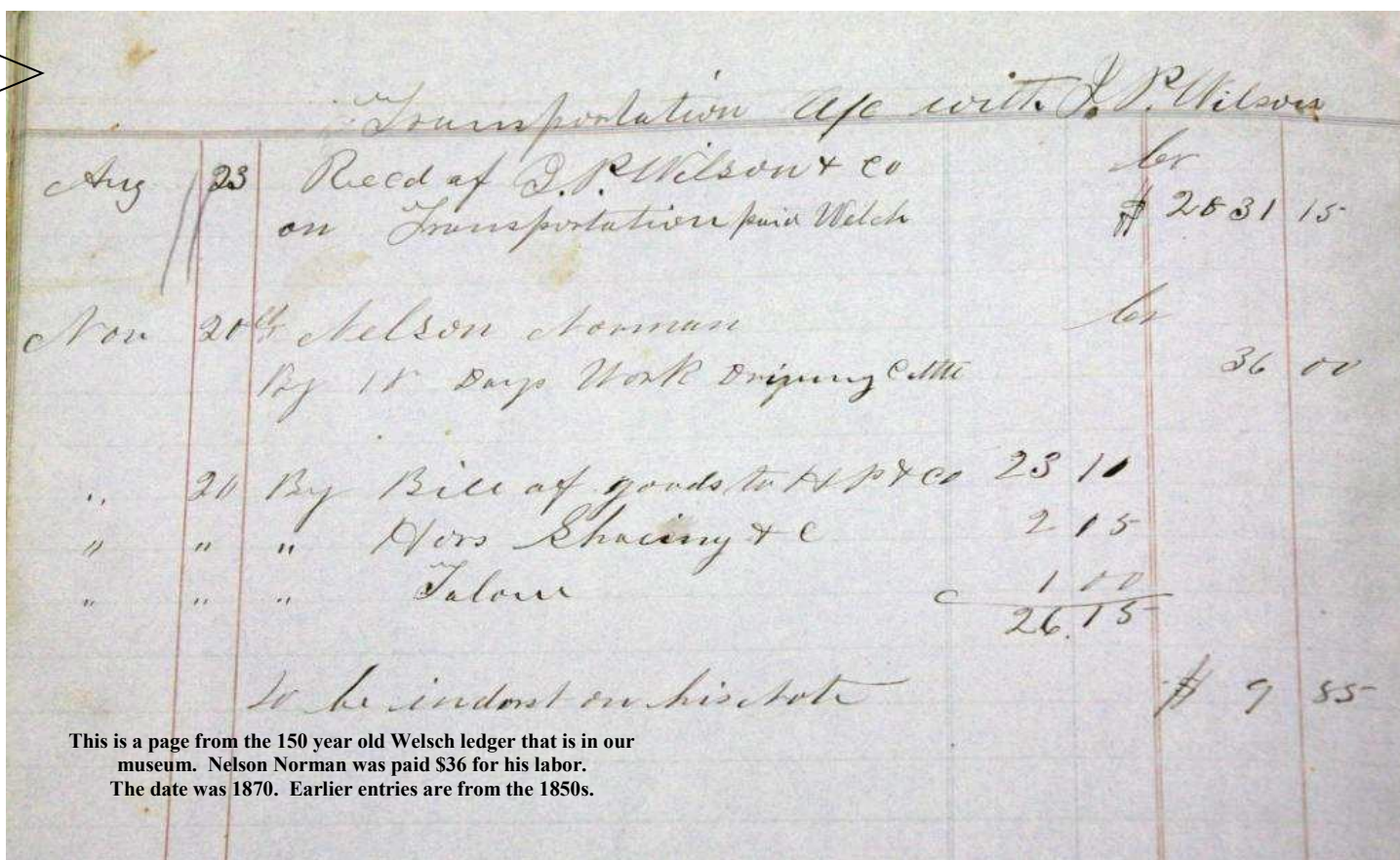


Added by: Sharon Byer Shimota



Added by: Sharon Byer Shimota

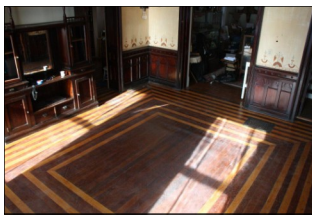
Grave, just click "Begin New Search" and enter in the name. If you enter only the last name, you will get a list of all the people already entered in with that last name. Don't forget to try different spelling variations of the last name. I have found some of my ancestors went by Byer and others as Byers. We will have a link on the new website to FindAGrave.



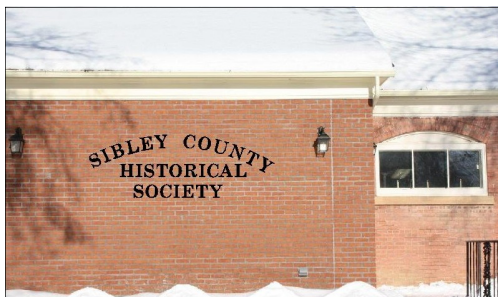




sanded and refinished. There were some other repairs needed. Some holes were nailed covered with a ptin can lid of tin held down with many nails. It was a method I would have used. The refinished floor looks wonderful. As good as



it did 125 years ago. We should say like Mr. Nagel after he sanded and painted the porch floor, "Are you actually going to let people walk on it!" . The room was emptied. As the items get put back in place they are checked, photographed, and inventoried on the computer in the PastPerfect software program. I will be an old man by the time that whole job gets done. WAIT! I am an old man already.



There are some finishing touches for our new addition; the lettering on the exterior south wall, landscaping by the retaining wall and seeding grass on the area dug up when the water and tile lines were redone. There is some maintenance on the inside of the Poehler house. The floor at the bottom of the stairs is carpeted. It is worn out and the boards underneath are loose. But for its age, the house is very sound. Mr. Poehler had some great craftsmen build his home.

Our old website is no longer in existence. It was shut down on March 1st. Please visit our new site;

<http://sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com/>

There are many photos of events, some news, lots of links, a special Ostrom section, genealogy and much more. We have pictures of many of the books available, and other genealogy resources available at the museum. You are able to make comments and suggestions on the website, or even criticism. There are several pages where the photos scroll, so it takes a while to download. Steve has a variety of interesting themes of Ostrom photos; pairs, servicemen, etc. When Becky learns who the people are in the unidentified photos published in our local newspapers, Steve puts that information in too. When our old

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## Photos from our Holiday Open House



Arline Karels and Bonnie Nagel serving treats



Hail! Hail! The gang's all here. What the heck do we care. It's warm in here!



Carolyn Robbins of Gaylord played the piano. This was the first piano in this county. Wow!

Savannah Zippel of Henderson played her mandolin





## ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION AND RESERVATION

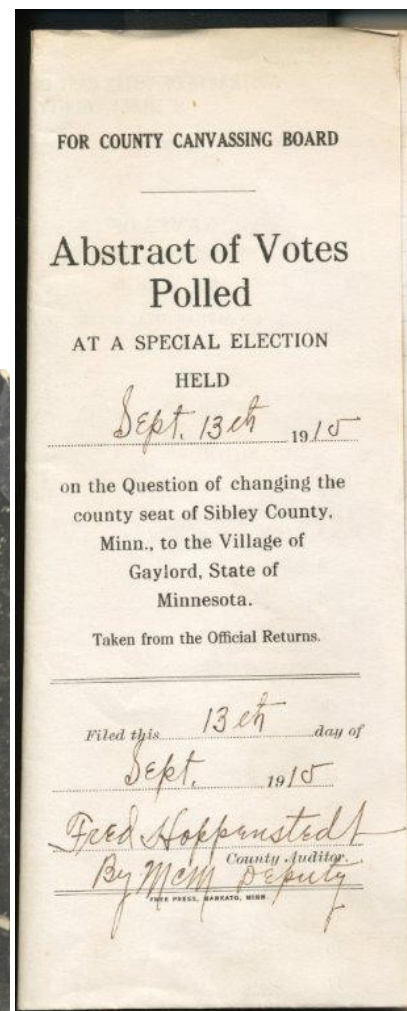
Come to our annual meeting and hear some great stories about the Sibley County Offices and Courthouses. You might know that it was in several buildings in Henderson before moving to Gaylord in 1915. Did you know one of the offices in Henderson burned down and all the records were destroyed? Did you know it was once proposed to move the courthouse to New Rome? Did you know that officials had more than one job? Did you know there was a hanging in the county? Did you know they kept the prisoner in the vault for fear angry citizens would hang the guy before the hanging? ...he would be dead before they could hang him. Why was he sentenced to death? Come and find out the answers to these and many more questions. You will go home happy. We have an



Gloria Sinell's grandfather grading the road in front of the newly finished courthouse. The new old Gaylord School is in the background. Gloria even has the horses' names; Dan and Frank. But which is which?!  
Not many houses around at that time.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATIONS TO;**  
**JEROME PETERSEN**  
**PO BOX 25**  
**GIBBON MN 55335-0025**  
**MAKE YOUR CHECK TO;**  
**SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**OR SCHS**  
**THE COST IS \$15 PER PERSON**  
**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS**  
**BY APRIL 3, 2011**

array of photos to go along with Lisa and Edrene's presentations. Arlene Busse is providing an outline and finding photos. We have the official original document with the tally of votes on whether to move the courthouse to Gaylord or have it stay in Henderson. The document is on the right, and the vote from each town and township will be revealed. What excitement!







(Continued from page 6)

site shut down, our cemetery records were no longer accessible. But we are in the process of updating the files and uploading them to FindAGrave website. Anyone can put files on that site, and many gravesites are already there. We have to go through each cemetery to be sure there are no duplications. Sharon Shimota's article explains those details. I have gotten some very good comments about this site. Steve Carlson has put in hundreds of graves. A very good example is Immanuel Lutheran in Gibbon. He has a photo of each grave-stone in addition to the birth and death information. To see this example, got to FindAGrave, on the right hand side, select Search For A Cemetery, Enter United States, Minnesota, Sibley County. Then click Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery Gibbon and click on a gravesite. What a job to photograph and upload all that information. Our hats off to Steve!



**Dottie Norman, Mary Petersen, Rommie Petersen and Nelson Norman.** A few years ago we had the honor of a visit by the Normans when they were in Minnesota. He and his family have a wonderful history, some of which he shared with us in this newsletter.

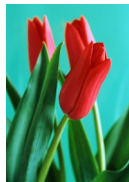
I have more to write but it will be behind the picture below or in next month's newsletter.

*Rommie Petersen*

# Thanks!

Thanks to those who have given us gifts of cash. We spend our finds very carefully, and appreciate our many contributors. We want to thank again those who supported our building project, and also to Marlene Nelson, who passed away last year and left us a generous gift from her estate. We are grateful to the Deis Family Foundation for their charitable donation in memory of Jim Deis. Thanks also to the following; Beverly Christensen, Memorial for Luther Kolstad by Marjorie Matthiae, Memorial for Luther Kolstad by Marie Main, and open house donations. Dorothy Peterson's sisters-in-law gave us a gift honoring Dorothy on her xx(special) birthday.

If your name is inadvertently left off this list some time, let us know. Feel free to blame the president. He is an old guy and we are trying to get rid of him. He is like Mubarak or Qudaffi, he just won't go away.



**Jennifer Main of Minneapolis sang carols**



**Pat Erickson from Gibbon played piano**





Eugene & Jeanette Bening	Hutchinson MN	Family Search Library	Salt Lake City UT
Melvin & Lois L Bode	Gibbon MN	Dale & Barbara Gustafson	Savage MN
Rich & Roseann Nagel	Arlington MN	Bill & Charlotte Beseke	Arlington MN
Janet Mackenthun	Glencoe MN	Rose S Knight	Colorado Springs CO
Art & Rosetta Blomquist	Mankato MN	Eunice A Beneke-Rucks	Henderson MN
Jane E Delger	Ulm Germany	Ruth Ann Buck	Arlington MN
Karen & Charles Erickson	Brooklyn Center MN	Charles & Janet Lundgren	Gibbon MN
Marjorie L Matthiae	Gaylord MN	Paul E Nelson	Owatonna MN
Davis Biebl	Gibbon MN	Diane Neubarth	Hutchinson MN
A.R. Mueller	New Ulm MN	Victor Gess	Lafayette CA
Harriet & Dayle Troidahl	Gaylord MN	Lila J Sillerud	Canby MN
Beth A Christianson	Eagen MN	Steve & Becky Briggs	Eagan MN
Herbert Poncin	Nicollet MN	Roseann Schauer	Isle MN
William Grimes	Round Rock TX	Elton & Marvel Vorwerk	Fairfax MN
Darrell Amberson	Henderson MN	Robert Fisher	Gibbon MN
Orville & Joyce Doering	Oak Park Heights MN	Mildred Doering	Minneapolis MN
Lois & Ken Ahnholz	Ankeny IA	Lynelle G Brant	Cumberland MD
Sally Webster	Winthrop MN	Roger Just	Henderson MN
Beverly Christensen	Chanhausen MN	Ron Klement	Gibbon MN
Zylpha Mueller	Winthrop MN	Carolyn Robbins	Gaylord MN
Michael Armstrong	Woodbury MN	Steve L Grosam	Gibbon MN
Bob & Mary Oconnell	Phoenix AZ	Jon & Roxanne Butler	Hamden CT

## Membership Form

I would like to become a member of the Sibley County Historical Society.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SCHS TREASURER

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ 49858 316 ST

\_\_\_\_\_ Winthrop MN 55396-2038

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Individual--\$20, Family-- \$25, Business-- \$50 Send to:



Regular meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, March thru November at the museum in Henderson. The public is invited. The museum is open to the public for tours on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. June thru October and by appointment.

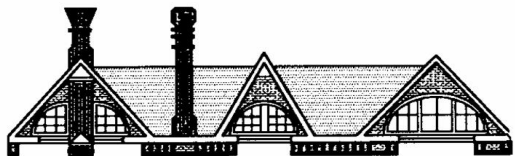
Send articles, announcements, photos and comments to the SCHS Newsletter, P.O. Box 407, Henderson, MN 56044 or Email: [schs1@frontiernet.net](mailto:schs1@frontiernet.net)

**Check your due date on the mailing label.** Membership dues are as stated on the form. Please use it to renew your subscription or pass it along to anyone who is interested.





<http://sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com/>



## SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

700 Main Street

P.O. Box 407

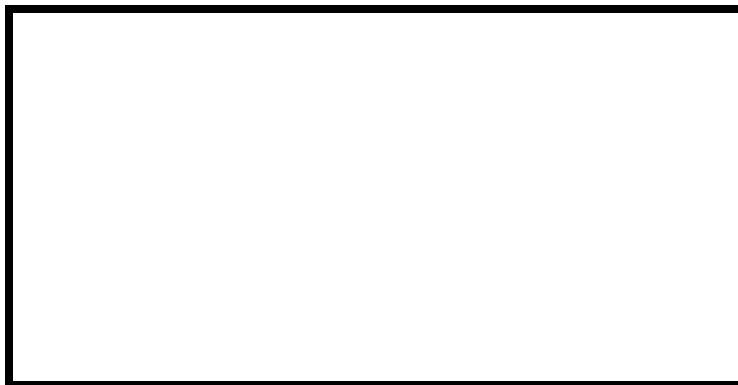
Henderson, MN 56044

Phone: 507-248-3434

Email: [schs1@frontiernet.net](mailto:schs1@frontiernet.net)

### SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Jerome Petersen	President
Dwight Grabitske	Vice-President
Dorothy Peterson	Secretary
Ray Meyer	Treasurer
Sharon Haggemiller	Curator
Judy Loewe	Marie Main
Millie Johnson	Sharon Shimota
Ruth Ann Buck	Mary Petersen



## Gone, but not forgotten!

By Sharon Haggemiller

SCHS recently received a donation from the estate of Marlene Nelson, a former member of our Board of Directors. I would like to tell you a few things about Marlene and her involvement with SCHS. In doing so I asked the help of member Phyllis Kube-Crawford, a secretary at Sibley East Schools (formerly Arlington-Green Isle schools) where she was employed.

Marlene arrived at Arlington in 1968 to assume the position of the Arlington-Green Isle Elementary School Librarian. She was very dedicated to her job as she liked being around children and reading to them. Marlene also operated an antique shop, "La Salle Yesteryears" at LaSalle, MN during the summer months. She once produced a version of Antiques Roadshow in the home of fellow co-worker Larry Gieseke. She also conducted appraisals and helped set up auctions for clients.

Marlene became a member of the Sibley County Historical Society in 1992 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1993. She was always eager to help with any

project or start new ones. In 1994 Marlene became the Society's representative to the Joseph R. Brown Organizations planning committee and helped set up the J. R. Brown Library. She worked to teach me how to use a computer. Thus, our SCHS newsletter was born with the first Issue in March of 1996. Her teaching career came to an end with a leave of absence in 1999 because of health reasons and she finally had to resign the position in 2000. Although Marlene also became legally blind, she, with the help of a friend, always enjoyed attending the SCHS Annual meetings.

And so dear friend we know that you are with us in spirit and express our thank-you for your very generous gift.



**Marlene Nelson 1946—2010**