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**The Woodbury Chronicles
Part II**

By Charles W. Erickson
SCHS Member

Please allow me to re-introduce myself. I am Charles Wesley Erickson Jr. and Charles Wesley (C.W.) Woodbury is my great-great grandfather. The December 2010 issue of the



Charles W. Erickson

SCHS Newsletter contains an article that describes some of the challenges and hardships that the Woodbury family experienced while adapting to a new life in the Minnesota Territory. The article spanned the months of August 1854 through December 1862.

Part II contains more of their journey using excerpts from daily hand written journals and letters to and from relatives in New

Hampshire. I have chosen to use their written words and spelling. Due in part to the writer's style and the clarity of the documents, the use of capital letters and punctuation is inconsistent. A few of the excerpts that appeared in the December article have been repeated and condensed. New selections from 1854 through 1862 have been added.

**EDEN PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA,
HENNEPIN COUNTY**

In August 1854 C.W. and wife Martha Elizabeth, along with children Martha Alice, Clara Augusta and Charles (Charlie) Edmond, arrived in the Minnesota Territory. Charles W. bought a claim in Eden Prairie, built a home, and began farming. The location and boundaries of the property are described in the December article.

On April 15, 1856 and May 31, 1857 C.W. wrote to his sister Clarissa in New Hampshire telling her about the future plans of the railroad in Eden Prairie.

They have got an act of incorpo-

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Calendar of Events

Check our website for 2011 programs.

JUNE 28 Hauntings Henderson Community Center

JULY 26 St. Peter Regional Treatment Cent. 10AM at St. Peter

AUG 23 1862 Dakota Uprising beginnings 10AM at Litchfield—a BIG Day!

See page 10 for more info

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

The museum is now officially open for the 2011 season. The group of volunteers have been busy the last couple of months cleaning and getting the new displays ready. The theme for this year is *Hobbies and Collections*. There is needlework samplers, an angel collection, Elvis memorabilia, vintage post cards, shadowbox hair wreaths, schenschnitte (and be careful when you say that), a mini quilt collection and much more. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War we are featuring some artifacts in the Military Room from that conflict; A Union uniform, weapons, a US flag and the sword of Adam Buck (who was a Union officer and later representative) as well as other interesting items.

We will be open Tuesday evenings throughout the summer in conjunction with Henderson's Classic Car Rollin, unless that event is rained out.



Our annual meeting in Gaylord was a success, and courthouse basement meeting room was the perfect place for it. It has, lots of room,

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ration from the legislature and a company is started to build a railroad from St. Paul by way of Minneapolis to Dubuque and are viewing the routs. One of the proposed routs goes down my creek to Shakopee. The leading men say that it will go that way as it is thickly settled and the nearest and best roading. If it does then will be a depot close to my house as there is two roads crossing and a place to water and the right distance from St. Paul 35 miles by the way it will go.

The legislature have located the routs of 5 roads and Shakopee is to be the junction of two of the most important and one of them runs through my place within bout 20 rods of my house. The depot will be within 70 rods of me. Quite near enough. These roads run to connect with the eastern road. The Company has five years to compleat them.

In two more letters to Clarissa in 1857 dated March 3rd and again May 31st he expressed his thoughts and opinions regarding morality and government affairs.

I have looked in all the papers expecting to see the death of Uncle Isreal. He is one of the last of that Gallent Band that fought for his country. Knowing no North or South. We this way hurrah for Buchanan. It can't be expected that where such men as Chs Sumner Garrison etc will go for the Union when they are meeting in open conventions for the purpose of breaking it up. I say hurrah for the Union and Buchanan. "All the Christianity the dicing and morality as the Rev Isaac Hallock, a main law and Fremont Stump speaker said "Wint? for Fremont" dat is goot, decency, morality, Hallock's morality I suppose, don't you feel proud of your compeny. I see by the Congressional proceedings that they done past a bill giving the officers of the reveloution a further recompence for services. One of the members said it would be about \$16000 to each Lieutenant.

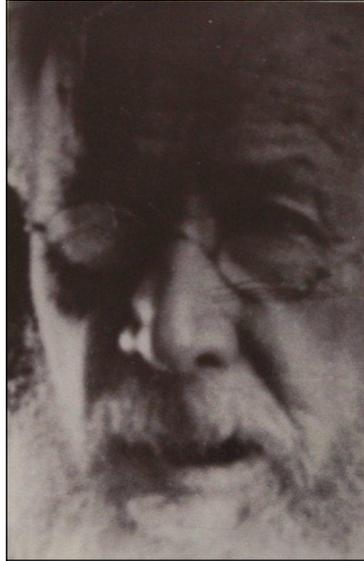
It seems you have given up Politics. Well I hope you are some like the boys Fremont pups, "getting your eyes open". We vote tomorrow for delegates to a convention to form a State Constitution. It is a great complaint in Kansas that the County Commissioners are all border ruffins and have the power to appoint all the judges of Election and have appointed all ruffins. So that they won't allow the free statesmen to vote. Well in this county the Commissioners are all "paupers" and have apointed all "paupers" for judges of election. Nearly half were Democrats but they have all been removed. If there is any crime or raskality in such doings in Kansas, I can't see why there out here. It may be all right for free state men and ministry to rob, steal other men's wives etc. I don't know. Religion and decency are always right.

On September 5, 1859 Charles W. and Martha E. became the parents of their fourth child, David William.

In July 1860 C.W. sold the Eden Prairie farm and traveled to Illinois wondering what life would be like there. Not liking what he saw, he then returned to Minnesota.

KELSO, MINNESOTA, SIBLEY COUNTY

Charles Wesley purchased property in Sibley County. It is described in the journal on July 17, 1860.



C.W. Woodbury

I returned to Minnesota and in Shakopee saw a Mr. Stoun of Kelso, Sibley County, 12 miles from Henderson who talked so hiley of his country that I went up with him and bought 80 acres of him & 80 of a Mr. Thompson in Section 22 & 27 Township 112 Range 28.

The purchase was made official on August 18th and on the 20th they began to build their house. By September 10th the house had been boarded and shingled so they moved in. It was noted that Section 14 was their timber.

A daily record of the weather was kept in the journal as were issues regarding the sowing, reaping, and marketing of crops. It was not unusual to lose a number of livestock due to the cold, snow, and winter winds. As soon

as winter would end, spring would arrive bringing with it the threat of prairie fires, torrential rains, flooding, crop failures, and pests. The journal entry dated January 28th and the summary for the month of February, offer a brief description of the winter of 1860-1861.

Wind blowing a gale air full of snow. Since Sat 19. It has been blowing and snowing every day but two. The roads are impossible. Snow is eighteen inches deep in woods.

Feb. has been a cold stormy month taking together more snow this winter than any since /57. Impossible to get around on the prairie. So has blowed so fill the roads every-day.

The month of May 1861 saw the birth of the Woodbury's fifth child, Minnie May. It was also a month of planting as noted by several entries in the journal.

16 Thurs. Sowed tree seed in the following order. First row Scotch Fir, 2d Silver fir, 3d black Austin Pine, 4th Norway Spruce, 5th Large locust, 6 small locust.

Wed 22 Planted potatoes. About 2500 hills.

Thurs 23 Commenced to plant corn

Sat 25 Planted garden beans, King Philip

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Corn about 75 hills, squashes etc.

It is recorded that they raised strawberries up to four inches in circumference. Their list of available food items and crop production is a lengthy one. It includes but is not limited to the produce noted above plus apples, barley, butter, carrots, cheese, grapes, hay, hazel nuts, milk, maple syrup, oats, plums, sugar cane, tomatoes, turnips, and wheat. Beef, poultry and pork could be added under food items as well.

The journal describes a delightful spring day in April 1862.

Tue 15 Warm morning. Clear the pleasantest morning we have had this year. Birds of all kinds are singing. A lark came and sang on the woodpile. Ground birds have got back

Charles and Martha suffered the loss of their youngest child, little Minnie May. Martha Elizabeth wrote a letter to Clarissa and her husband Timothy on November 2, 1862 expressing their grief.

We was intending to write you soon to inform you now of the loss of our little May. She died just one month after father. It would be needless to describe our feelings. How lonely our home is, for yourselves has had the same sad experience although we have so many left there is a loneliness felt that we can hardly realize but our baby is only gone before us. Our other little one is quite slim but we are hoping for the best. I am pleased to hear that your health is better and that you have a little one. I wish you joy and success in raising it.

This sad note completes the months from 1854 through 1862. Please revisit the December article for additional history regarding other events of that time. Charles Wesley was thirty-one years old when he came to Minnesota and thirty-nine years old when the Indian uprising occurred. As hard as I try, I cannot relate to the courage they displayed while living amongst all of the travesties that occurred during that time. They could easily have returned to their eastern roots but they stayed the course and remained in Minnesota.

Clarissa responded to Martha Elizabeth's November 2nd letter when she wrote back on February 1, 1863.

It was with feelings of sympathy that we heard of your affliction and yet we could but rejoice that it was no worse. O how little value property seems when our little ones "our pets" are taken from us and yet we feel the first bitterness of parting is past that it is well with the child, for it has gone to that land where there is no sin and no sorrow and where the little feet can never go astray. Let us strive to become as little children for we know and feel that of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Can you feel the emotion in their letters? Both families have suffered the loss of a child. I can sense the feelings that they shared with each other. Geography dictated that mutual consoling hugs had to be expressed and felt through their choice of words. The emotional and compassionate manner in

which they are written are unique as compared to how most of us would express our thoughts when writing in a sympathy card today.

The soldiers were preparing to build a barracks south of the Norwegian Grove. Later in February 1863, Charles Wesley and his team worked for the soldiers. Then on February 27th, upon arriving at the Grove expecting to find work, C.W. discovered that the soldiers had received orders to leave for Henderson. They did promise to pay him two dollars per day for past work. In March he returned to work for the soldiers and by the middle of the month the work was completed. The journal entry on March 11, 1863 makes the following note about the fort.

Can see fort from the house. Capten Sanders company was ordered away and Capten Phillips takes his place and he moves the fort from the Norwegian Grove to another grove three miles North from here eight miles south from New Auburn and twenty or more from any other.

Charles Wesley worked on the construction of several bridges, one being over by the Norwegian Grove. He also worked on the building and maintenance of roads. Over the years Charles W. spent day after day in the woods cutting fence posts and rails. So much time in fact that he built a small cabin complete with stove that allowed him to stay the night without having to return home. The fencing was not only for his use, but C.W. sold posts and rails to others for their use.

March was the month that Charles W. and Martha E. brought their sixth child into the world, Bess Gertrude.

While life was going on around them, there remained lingering issues regarding the Indians. In July 1863 the following entry can be found in the journal.

Wed 8 The Indians are working in behind the Soldiers that have gone after them. The State Authorities offers a bounty of twenty five dollars for every Indians scalp taken.

I hesitated to put this in the article, tried to soften the language, and then thought that the journal was written in all candor by them and should not be compromised by me. This is another one of the things that I have a difficult time comprehending.

Another July notation addresses a major event regarding the Civil War.

Thur 9 Today St. Peters celebrates the victory of the north in the taking of Vicksburg Miss by firing Cannon & Illuminating the houses.

An August entry is the last one written in the journal pertaining to the Indians and it does have historical significance. The Minnesota Woodbury family learned about this through the papers.

Sun 23 The papers state that Little Crow, the hostile Souix Chief is killed. Was shot by Mr. Lamson & son the second day of July and that Sibley had got Little Crows son and drove the rest of the Indians across the Missouri River and was on his way back

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I recently had the opportunity to read 'The Shooting of Little Crow HEROISM or MURDER'. The article is written by Walter N. Trenerry in a very graphic, gruesome and colorful manner and basically promotes the idea that Nathan and Chauncey Lamson were murderers as defined by the legal system at that time. I also read 'The SIOUX CAMPAIGN of 1862 Sibley's Letters to His Wife' written by Kenneth Carley. My opinion for what it's worth is that the death of Little Crow started months before the fatal shot was fired. It was just a matter of who and where. Had you or I been there in 1862 the things we would have read about, heard about, or experienced might have placed that rifle in our hands in 1863 and the outcome could have been the same.

Timothy, Clarissa's husband, wrote the following in a letter to C.W. on November 22, 1863.

This is the Sabbath day and I have been to church and heard a good sermon from the text found in Genesis 7:1 "Come Thou and all Thy house into the ark" I have thought of you. Is not the Lord calling after you to come and all your family into the Arke of Safty. My daly Prayer to God is that you and all your children may enter that arke that will carry you safely through all stormes of afflictions into that haven of rest and unbrocen family in heaven.

On June 8, 1864, seventeen men from the area received their draft notice. Mr. Cook was one of the drafted ones. He paid \$300 to get out of serving in the Union Army, an option that was available at that time. Mr. Barclay was drafted and intended to go. Nereson was drafted but didn't want to go. Charles Wesley went over to Neresons to swear in some witnesses in regards to Neresons health. C.W. went to the enrollment in St. Peter but was personally given an exempt status on account of his blind eye. It was diagnosed and written that he was afflicted with neuralgia.

The following journal entry is also from June 1884 and written by Martha Elizabeth.

Wed 22 Got our town set off from Kelso and held the first town meeting today at Mr McEwins. Charles went. It is named Sibley.

SIBLEY, MINNESOTA, SIBLEY COUNTY

Throughout the years the journal describes the digging and cleaning of wells, the seasonal drawing of dirt to bank the house as winter approached, the removal of the banking as spring approached, and drawing out manure. Farming tools and equipment were either borrowed from or loaned to neighbors every day, even things as small as a pitchfork. In one case someone even borrowed two sheets of paper and envelopes. All of the items were returned in a timely manner including the paper goods. Equipment breakdowns, oxen and horses included, happened daily. C.W. was constantly taking something into town for sharpening or mending. Many things he fixed or attempted to fix himself.

Charles Wesley sold one acre of section 27 to School District 36 for one dollar. Then on July 13, 1864 he and some of the neighbors went to draw logs for a new schoolhouse. Construction was scheduled for September and October. There are several dates in the journal that speak to this construction.

Sept Mon 26 The day appointed to put up the logs to the school house but the boss was gone.

Oct Tues 18 Charles with others after the roof of the school house.

Oct Sat 22 Went with team to help draw the roof of school house. Got the logs put up today.

In March 1865 Benjamin H. Woodbury was born. He was the seventh child of Charles Wesley and Martha Elizabeth. Work on the schoolhouse was completed in June and in July they hired their first schoolteacher.

Wed 5 Mr. Parks in this morning to say he found a teacher for our school. Charles & Mr. McEwin went to Mr. Andrews to see her. They have engaged her to teach for eighteen dollars per month.

Mon 10 School began today. Twelve scholars attended. The teacher Miss Pettejohn & Mr. McEwin came in.

On July 16th a meeting was held in the schoolhouse to form a Sunday school. They referred to it as a Sabbath school. Only a few attended the initial meeting but from that point on attendance grew and the Woodbury children attended every Sunday, weather permitting.

The election in November found fifteen votes cast, eight Republican and seven Democrat. The fall term of school began on the 13th and Charles Wesley was hired as the teacher for four months at twenty-five dollars per month.

After reading the writings of Charles Wesley in the journals and letters, and the manner in which some of it is written, it might be hard to imagine him as a schoolteacher. What qualified him to teach in his time was that his own knowledge exceeded most others. He had the desire and ability to read and learn more, and felt the calling to pass that knowledge unto others.

Later in the month a Lyceum was held at the schoolhouse. The agenda included the following item as noted by Martha.

Discussion, which is the most injurious to the human system tobacco or whiskey. Discussed by Parks & friend. Did not make much of it.

Continuing into 1866, Charles W. remained as the teacher instructing nine constant scholars. The weather was a key factor when determining if school was to be held on any particular day. Getting to the classroom and home on a snowy blustery day made it impossible for most to attend. Attendance and cancellations are noted daily. Often on days when school had to be canceled, C.W. would go to the woods to cut fence posts and rails.

As previously noted, winters were a time of great discomfort and a struggle not just to the Woodbury family, but also to all of their friends and neighbors as well. The following notes describe a portion of the 1865-1866 winter.

January

Thur 11 A damp driving snow storm from N.E. commenced about 1 o'clock p.m.

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Fri 12 The storm continues. No school kept today.

Sat 13 Cloudy & colder. The snow has blocked us in on all sides. The drift on the north side of the house is six or seven feet high.

Fri 19 A driving hard snow storm commenced about noon with blustering west wind.

Mon 22 Heard that a Frenchman named DeBo perished in the last storm not far from his home.

The summary for the month of January notes that 18 inches of snow fell, a low temp of minus 27, and a number of citizens perished in a storm on January 19th. The weather for the month of February continued to be disagreeable. The severity of it did not let up.

February

Sat 3 Snow with blustering wind in afternoon & evening....The air was so thick with snow that we could not see but a very little way.

Sun 4 Pleasant & cold. The snow blew into the west room & the chamber floor & roof is white with it.

Wed 14 A gale blew all night with snow. Today very blustering & thick with drifting snow. Cannot see but a short distance. The house was never so full of snow before by one storm.

Thur 15 Clear & cold. Thermometer 37 degrees below zero in morning.

Teachers at the school changed quite often. After Pettejohn and C. W. there is a host of names recorded throughout the journal, too many to list but a couple of things to note. Mrs. Speed had a photograph taken of her and the class on November 9, 1866 by photographer Mr. Pierce. Laura Shipley was hired in 1870 but quit within a week of her hire because she had heard that School District 36 could not pay her the \$20 per month salary. Mary Stegnier replaced Laura and finished the school term but she left in July of 1871 after only three months of school had passed.

Even though Clarissa and Timothy wrote to Charles and Martha often, letters in response grew few and far between. Clarissa's health started to fail in 1865 and got progressively worse and in the spring of 1868 the doctor diagnosed it as consumption. She often wrote expressing her deep wish at the hope of seeing her brother Charles Wesley one more time before her death but inside she knew that it would never come to pass. In a letter to C.W. and Martha dated March 11, 1868 she wrote in part the following.

I thought I would take the first chance and write to you a few words as I thought you would like to have me as we cannot see each other again in this world.....I am glad that you think you can come here next fall, but it will be too late to see me. I should have been so glad to see you once more.

I have failed very fast this winter and they

tell me that I can live but a very short time.

This is the 13th and I will sign my name today for fear I never shall get courage to take it up again. I hope you may all put your trust in Jesus that we may meet in a brighter world.

Your sister Clarissa

Charles and Martha received a letter from Clarissa's husband Timothy dated April 2, 1868. He wrote the following sorrowful and heartfelt words.

It is with feelings of deep sadness that I attempt to write you today. She who used to sit by my side and join with me in sending my messages to you can sit there no more to be heard by mortal ears.....She lived and suffered until the 29th of March half past seven in the morning. The mesenger of death came and she quietly fell asleep in Jesus.....She was very patient during all her sickness and had her senses to the very last and but few minutes before she died she wished me to tell you to meet her in Heaven.....I hope I shal hear from you soon and that you can still feel to owne me as your brother. My prayer is that if we do not meet againe in this world we may all meet around the throne of God in heaven.

If the journal and letters would end right here, the years from 1854 to 1868 would make an exciting, wonderful movie touching every human emotion. It is heart wrenching just to read the words in the documentation leading up to and after all of the events that occurred during those years. Their journal and letters take us through fourteen trail blazing years directly pertaining to the settling, development, and the civilization of several areas. A person could not imagine and write a better script without this kind of real life description.

The entry for the November 3, 1868 Election Day noted that there were 58 voters and only 8 of them were Democrats.

Each spring the journal refers to the 'sugar bush' or the tapping of trees for sap in order to make syrup and sugar. In April 1869 Martha Elizabeth explained this annual undertaking.

Sat 10 Charles & I came back from the woods today. The sap has not run very well since last Tuesday. We brought out one hundred and odd lbs of sugar & three galls of surup made in three days. Have three hundred & fifty trees taped.

April Made 130 lbs maple sugar 20 gallons surup.

Friends and neighbors called on Charles W. regularly for assistance in a number of ways. When asked, he would read to and write for those that were less literate. C.W. would advise and even accompany others that needed assistance regarding legal matters into the courthouse. It was often noted that he completed the paperwork for many of his friends and neighbors regarding their deeds, warrants, and lawsuits. Charles W. acknowledged bonds and was an agent for medicine distribution. He served as a

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juror and grand juror time and time again at a number of locations. At one time, Charles was notified that he was nominated for Justice of the Peace. Martha Elizabeth thought he would turn it down because he had once said he would not have anything to do with town office.

She often wrote in the journal that Charles was "out among the neighbors." Pick a topic to discuss or debate and he enjoyed the role of playing devils advocate.

On Thursday, October 21, 1969, Charles bought eighty acres of land for \$400 at ten percent interest from Mr. Stone, a New



BACK ROW; Charles E. Woodbury, Will Firle, Martha Woodbury holding Baby Benjamin Woodbury, Miss Speed (Teacher), Eliza McEwen Delger, Clara Woodbury, Mary McEwen
FRONT ROW; David Woodbury, Charles Firle, Alec Phillips, Charlie Phillips, Cyrus McEwen, Matthew McEwen, Sarah Phillips, Harvey Cook [Koch], Bessie Gertrude Woodbury, Maggie Cook [Koch] District 36, Sibley Township, 1866 This is a copy of a tintype photo
 Woodburys paid 75 cents for the photo

Yorker. He had purchased eighty acres from him the previous year for the same price. The total acreage of the Woodbury farm increased to 320.

Having a few years to rethink his earlier statement about avoiding any involvement with town office, in March 1871 C.W. went to see the Town Clerk, Mr. Frank Moores, to qualify as Justice of the Peace. Then in September, as Justice of the Peace, he officiated at the wedding of Calvin Shields and Lavina Rice. The journal describes the bride and groom as a youthful couple, he 19 and she not yet 15.

July 4th celebrations were recorded as a day with fireworks, maybe a dance, and sometimes a picnic. The journal offers a wonderful description of just such an event in 1871.

Mon 3 Went to help put up a swing and get ready on the Sat 1 Had evening meetings all the week at Mr. Moores planing a picnic for the fourth picnic ground. McEwin young folks & Philips all came in evening and staid till eleven o'clock playing their fiddle & dancing.

Tue 4 Our picnic passed off quite pleasant-

ly. There was sixty one present. Had two tables set with enough and to spare. Thirty one of them came here in the evening to have a dance. Erastus French was fiddler.

A final synopsis for the month of October was written in the journal and contains some historical significance.

Had about one inch of rain. Snow fell on three different days but with rain & snow it was not enough to check the fire horse. Oct 1871 will long be remembered by the destruction of lives & property by fearful raging fires. All the business part of Chicago, ILL was reduced to ashes the first of the month. New York and Wisconsin had great losses by fire and Minnesotas prairie fires have been raging to a fearful extent. Over a hundred & fifty miles farmers have lost. Some all they possessed by the consuming element. Finished pulling the carrots. Got about two hundred bushel.

Thanksgiving was a wonderful time for family and friends as noted in 1871.

Thur 30 Thanksgiving Day we invited the neighbors to take dinner. Mr. & Mrs. French, Phillips & Moores, Rileys, besides the young folks. Took a sleigh ride in the evening. There was twenty eight of us in all. When shall we meet again.

As the school year came to a close in March of 1872 a program of celebration was in the making.

Sat 2 Our fall term of school finished yesterday. The teacher is making preparations for a grand exhibition.

Tue 5 Well our exhibition last night was quite a success. Had a drama....a master piece besides singing. Mary McEwin, Alice Moore & Sarah Phillips represented the three graces, Love, Purity, & Fidelity. The drama acters was Mr. French, Mary Bosworth the teacher, four McEwins, Wm, Ed, Mary & Cyrus, Ole Sanford, John & Louise Rice, Maurice French, Alice Moore, Sarah Phillips, & Gertrude Woodbury. The school house was filled with spectators.

Martha Elizabeth made the following touching note in the journal towards the end of September.

This is the last that I shall try to write in this book for it is so old and dirty that I have to scratch two or three times before I can make a mark. So Good bye old book. If there is any good in you I am satisfied.

When Martha wrote this I am sure she had no idea the impact that the journal would have on future relatives, non-relatives, and historians. She could never imagine the 'wow factor' of the documents.



(Continued from page 1)
 many tables, no distractions, first class audio/video equipment and a big kitchen. There was a good turnout, an excellent meal and an interesting program about the history of Sibley County Offices beginning in Henderson. Arlene Busse prepared the script, Dorothy Peterson put it on PowerPoint did the editing and Eldrene Ebert and Lisa Pfarr narrated the history while Dorothy projected the pictures. We had an array of photos spanning 100+ years to accompany the script. (Continued on page 8)



Mrs. Fred Hoppenstedt (Marie Kreft) was distressed that the Sibley County Courthouse would be moving from Henderson to Gaylord (1915). Having to move the kids to another school, how frustrating! And they don't even allow women to vote! It is all so unfair!



Eldrene Ebert, retired County Recorder, Margaret Hoffmann, former SCHS Curator, Ruben Ebert



Marie Main



Sharon Haggemiller



Lisa Pfarr, County Auditor She is smiling because she is so happy to be an SCHS member



Mary Petersen and Jan Lundgren
 In the background is Chuck Lundgren and old what's his name - me



Dorothy Peterson and Arden DeBoer



Landscaping around the building





Thanks!

Thanks to all who continue to support our society with donations and memorials. Thanks to Eldrene Ebert, Roger and Holly Harjes (memorial for Veronica Graham), Sharon Haggemiller (Memorial for Veronica Graham), Henderson United Fund, Edgar Taggatz, Charles Meyer (Memorial for Marly Lindstrand), Virginai Routzon, Randall Bach, Marie Main (In honor of Irene Novosad's birthday), Elaine Thies (Memorial for Jim McDonald), David and Marie Main (Memorial for Irene Hahn), Millie Johnson (Memorial for Irene Hahn) and Harriet Traxler. Where have I seen her name before?!

(Continued from page 6)Check our website. Steve and Becky Briggs have been doing a lot of changing. Steve regularly puts the Ostrom photos on line that have been in the newspapers and ID'd. He gives credit to the people who have called or sent IDs. We are adding information to the FindAGrave website. You can link to Sibley County Cemeteries in the links section, then select the cemetery you are researching.

We started using Plunkett Pest Control last fall. Our attic always had lots of bugs when the weather got cold in the fall and warmed up in the spring. This year; none! Mice? Trapped! Wasps? Auf wiedersehen! Boxelder bugs? Boxed! Moths? Down in flames. Bats? Still hanging around. ...they don't do bats. We have a fan blowing in the attic to irritate the buggers, hoping they might move. The technician said if you disrupt their patterns with light or a fan, you can discourage them. I remember an SCHS meeting some years ago when a bat started flying around in the dining room. The meeting ended abruptly, and the people left in a hurry. Luckily the bat didn't get in someone's hair and then they would have to get it all cut off to get the bat out! We all know how terrible that would have been. Or is that an old wives' tale?!



Harriet Traxler provided door prizes of her barn photos at our annual meeting



Irene Penk Hahn

August 29, 1904 - May 28, 2011

Irene was a member of SCHS. She started her career as a teacher at age 17, teaching in Gibbon, MN, Montana and South Dakota. She married Edwin Hahn of Gaylord in 1934. They had one daughter, Coletta. After studying for her BA, she taught 2nd grade in Gaylord until 1969. Irene was featured at one of our SCHS programs where she told of her life experiences including a trip to the Grand Canyon in 1932 with two friends. She kept a journal of this road trip which was made into a booklet and donated to the county libraries and SCHS. Read more about this interesting Sibley County resident in an upcoming issue.



HELP!!!

Would you like to meet interesting people from around Minnesota and even out of state? Do you have a Sunday afternoon free to spend with an experienced guide at the museum? We NEED you! Please leave a message at the museum (507-248-3434) or send an email to; schs1@frontiernt.net We could use your help.



NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

G.R. Durenberger	Henderson MN	Virginia P Routzon	N Richland Hills TX
Le Anna M Sutherland	Grand Rapids MN	Pat Judd	Waseca MN
Doug & Iris Parrott*	Gaylord MN	Margaret Hoffman	Hutchinson MN
Phil & Connie Delzer	Minneapolis MN	Bert & Arlene Karels	Henderson MN
Wayne Pettis	Hutchinson MN	Howard & Frances Armstrong	Gaylord MN
David & Dee Czech	Arlington MN	Terry L Goettl	Mankato MN
Tom & Lisa Pfarr	Arlington MN	Viola J Lang	Winthrop MN
Arlene & Edward Pinske	Gaylord MN	Joan A Ewald	Brownston MN
Edgar Taggatz	Gibbon MN	Patricia A Pinske*	Gaylord MN
Mary & Edward Krska	Naperville IL	Arlene Marek*	Arlington MN
Leo J Berger	Henderson MN	Ursula & Darren Kroells*	Green Isle MN
James Huelskamp	De Pere WI	Sharlene Friederichs*	Brooklyn Center MN
Beverly J Woods	Gibbon MN	Arden & Marlyn DeBoer	Lafayette MN
Harold & Lorraine Steeber	Platteville IL	Fred W Lobitz	Hamburg MN
Patsy J Clark	Woodbury VA	Kathryn K Kelly	Olivia MN
Arthur & Barbara Straub	Le Sueur MN	Marlys Gaucher	Arlington MN
Charles F Woehler	Arlington MN	Don & Gail Nuessmeier	Arlington MN
Merlon Lagerstedt	Gibbon MN	Glenn D Kiecker*	Burnsville MN
Kenneth & Donna Gleisner	New Ulm MN	Clara Heberle	Hooper CO

Membership Form

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

NAME _____ SCHS TREASURER

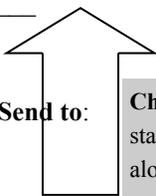
ADDRESS _____ 49858 316 ST

_____ Winthrop MN 55396-2038

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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



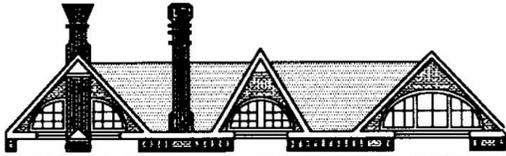
Check your due date on the mailing label. Membership dues are as stated on the form. Please use it to renew your subscription or pass it along to anyone who is interested.



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





SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

700 Main Street
P.O. Box 407
Henderson, MN 56044
Phone: 507-248-3434
Email: schs1@frontiernet.net



SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Jerome Petersen	President
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Sharon Haggemiller	Curator
Judy Loewe	Marie Main
Millie Johnson	Sharon Shimota
Ruth Ann Buck	Mary Petersen



LANDSCAPING

Gisela Meyer (left) and Ray Meyer (below left) planted a variety flowers and other greenery from their stock at home. Al Rostberg and I planted hostas and geraniums. There were many natural flowers on the hillside, thistles and dandelions among others. Al comes to town twice a day to water the new lawn and flowers. The photo below shows the new seeding done by Pro Landscaping of Gaylord. They hauled in black dirt, planted and covered it with mulch. The area between the retaining wall and the museum was leveled and covered with landscape fabric to keep the weeds down, and then a layer of river rock. It was a job well done, and a fine finishing touch on our new addition.



JUDY'S PROGRAM INFO.....

June 24 TUESDAY 7PM Minnesota Beyond The Veil Hauntings by Kathy Machowski, founder of *Beyond The Veil*. This will be held in THE HENDERSON COMMUNITY BUILDING Classic Car Roll-In night.

JULY 26 TUESDAY St. Peter Regional Treatment Center and Nicollet County Museum. Meet at Museum by 9:00 am or at City Bar and Grill (used to be Country Kitchen) at the North end of St. Peter. To enter the Regional Treatment Center, everyone must present a photo ID.

AUGUST 23 TUESDAY The Beginning of the Dakota Uprising, Acton, MN, Meeker County Museum, Litchfield, MN, GAR Hall, Food and Admission \$10. We need to be at Litchfield by 10 am. It is about an hour and a half drive from Henderson. .

For up to date information on these programs check out our website;
<http://www.sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com/>
Judy also emails pertinent information a few days before the program.