

SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter - July 2022

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700 Main Street – P. O. Box 407 – Henderson, Minnesota 56044

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Words from the President

Greetings:

Our Annual meeting was held at Hahn's Dining in Winthrop following a delicious meal. We enjoyed a Presentation by Dwight Grabitzke from the Arlington Historical Society about Genealogy.

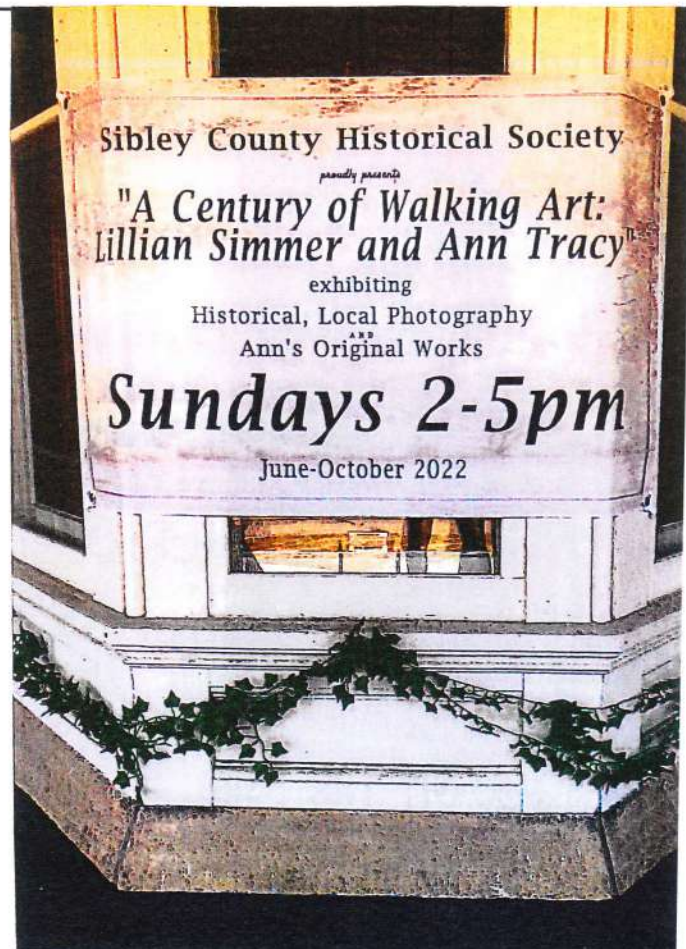
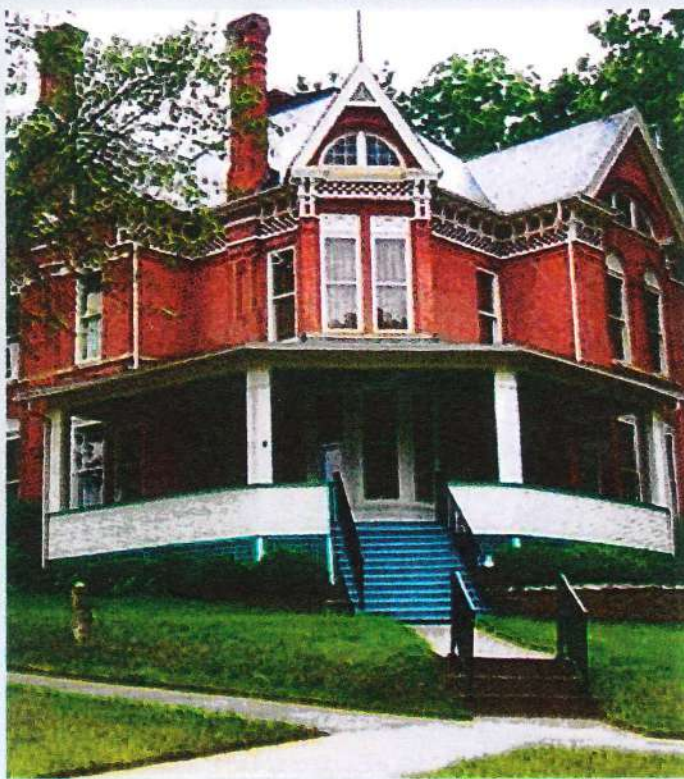
Best of all, we recruited two new board members at the Annual meeting—Becky Briggs and Verne Schlueter; we are most happy to have them onboard. We currently have one more opening if anyone is interested or knows of someone who would be interested.

We are fortunate to have many volunteers at the museum. They work on genealogy, do computer work, arrange displays and clean—just to name a few things. We are always looking for more volunteers. Anyone interested can contact the museum or any board member.

We had an excellent attendance at our recent Ann Tracy event and part of her display will remain for the summer.

Our porch painting is lined up and we are looking forward to it being done in early summer. Volunteers are busy gathering items for our display at the Sibley County Fair themed 'Music Through the Years in Sibley County'. Be sure to stop and visit us there.

Joy Cohrs, Board President



A drum A baton A photo A boy

Author of this story was Win Working of Blakeley Township. He lived across the Minnesota River from Henderson where he graduated from high school in 1903. He left for a career at various newspapers, returning home to work as a free lance journalist and historian in the 1920's and 30's. He submitted articles based on interviews, signed as Midland Feature Service, to papers in Sibley, Le Sueur and Scott counties.

The photo was taken in the City Park in Henderson, in about 1898. It shows George Foltz Jr. holding the large baton with which he directed the G.A.R. Drum Corps standing behind him.

Story of a Drummer Boy who was in the Civil War was an article headline in the February 13, 1925 Henderson Independent. No photograph of the boy in uniform exists but the article about him does depict his years of service. The story begins :

George Foltz of this city who claims the distinction of being the youngest Minnesota veteran of the Northern Armies in the Civil War recently celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday. Mr. Foltz joined the army when he was 12 Years old and served throughout the war, most of the time as a drummer boy. He packed his drum over muddy roads and across swollen streams on the memorable march from Atlanta to the sea, and he was 16 years old when he was mustered out in April, 1865, a seasoned veteran.

It was the custom then for the drum corps to proceed the troops when going into action, falling back when firing began. This was enough to try the nerves of an old campaigner, but Mr Foltz does not recall a single instance of a drummer showing the "white feather." "We were too busy to be scared," he said. "Our work was by no means ended when we were ordered to fall back. We laid aside our drums and went to the assistance of the wounded, carrying water and bandages, often bandaging wounds."

to be continued...



SEE YOU AT THE FAIR

Millie was the last one picked up on Rommie's long trek to the Museum each week, but certainly was not the least. Where there was Millie, there was laughter. She could tell a story better than anyone. She was precise. She had to be as she had a career in banking, before becoming a volunteer at the Museum.

Unusual Donation

Susan Mathwig recently spotted an unusual piece of glass at the Two Old Goats shop in Arlington. As a volunteer at the Sibley County Museum in Henderson, she knew where the green glass celery stalk she had purchased belonged. Proper display required using the old pattern glass, celery vase found in a china cabinet at the museum.

There were celery vases in most sets of glassware from the mid nineteenth century to the early 1900s. The museum, once the home of August and Emily Poehler, very likely had a celery vase available. The problem might have been the availability of celery. Wikipedia states, "Celery was introduced from the Mediterranean in the early 19th century... hard to grow, making it a luxury food item". No information has been found indicating the grocery departments of early Henderson general stores had celery for sale.

When celery was available, it was placed in a celery vase on the dining room table as a center piece. During a formal dinner party, it would have been enjoyed with the salad course.



Board of Directors:

President – Joy Cohrs

Vice President – Diane Fredin

Secretary – Shirley Black

Treasurer – Tom Frauendienst

Board Members at Large:

Holly Harjes

Mike Reinhardt

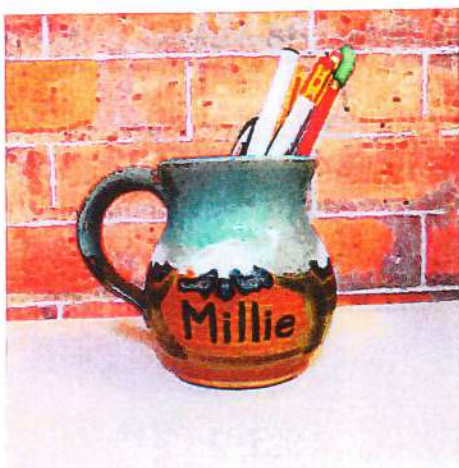
Verne Schlueter

Becky Briggs

Vacant Seat

SCHS AT THE FAIR

Visit us at the SCHS building and view our exhibit.



She used that quality to help index Three Community History Books. Her presence remains at our Museum in that endeavor and also her handwriting in the ledger as she recorded accessions.

Millie Johnson's work lives on for the enjoyment and convenience of all of us.

We miss you Millie & always will!



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Send articles, announcements, photos, and comments to the
SCHS Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 407, Henderson, MN
56044 or email: schs1@frontiernet.net

*All memberships are due and payable by February 2022, will
be valid until February 1, 2023.*



Memorial Day through
Labor Day, 2022

**A Century of Walking Art:
Lillian Simmer & Ann Tracy**

Sibley County Museum Henderson, Minnesota

Let's Make Some
Memories

At the



AUGUST 3-7