



Volume 96

August 2019

9030 Forestview Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369 763-494-5983 Open 2nd Sunday of the month

Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society

OFFICERS

President: Al Madsen

Vice President: Caroline Schaefer

Secretary: Joyce Deane

Treasurer: Patty Reuter

Newsletter Editor: Pat Ruffing

Web page designer: Steve Briggs

<http://www.maplegrovmnhistory.org>

Purpose: To collect and preserve information and artifacts and to educate the community of the history of Maple Grove, MN.



REGULAR

EVENTS

Open house: the Maple Grove History Museum hosts an open house on the second Sunday of every month from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Monthly Meeting: The third Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the History Museum. Anyone with an interest in history is welcome to join us!

Quarterly Newsletter:

Nov., 2019 MG lakes for 4 seasons— your stories and photos of life and adventures throughout the year on Maple Grove Lakes, ponds and streams

Feb., 2020 Prohibition, stills and moonshine in MG

**Ox Cart site and territorial downtown Maple Grove
15310 Territorial Rd (0.7 mi. w. of Fernbrook Lane N. Maple Grove, MN.**

**Pierre Bottineau House Elm Creek Park Reserve:
12400 James Deane Parkway, Maple Grove, MN.**

**4 history display cases at M.G. Government Center
12800 Arbor Lakes Pkwy N. Maple Grove, MN.**



August 15, 2019 6: 00 p.m.

At the Maple Grove Historical Museum

Bring your family and friends Come and enjoy the fellowship and reminisce of the Good Ole

Then and Now Days!!!!

Members have already signed up to bring the potluck food at the July meeting.

From Personal Recollections of Minnesota and its People by John H Stevens written in 1890

Louis P Garvais and Wm M. Ewing were the sole occupants of Maple Grove up to this year, when they were joined by Harvey Abel, A.O. Angell, Wm. E. Evans, Patrick Devery and O R. Champlin... Mr. Evans was from Vermont, and in search of a country where he could plant a colony from his native state. He thoroughly explore the then wild west, and wisely selected the beautiful fertile wilderness in Maple Grove, where he, and those who came after have made the place blossom like roses."

"(In 1854) Osseo village was occupied ...by Warren Sampson, Isaac Labisiniere, Clark Ellsworth, S. Brown and D.B.Thayer, though the immediate country had been settled before by Messrs. Bottineau, Potvin, Raiche and Garvais." p253

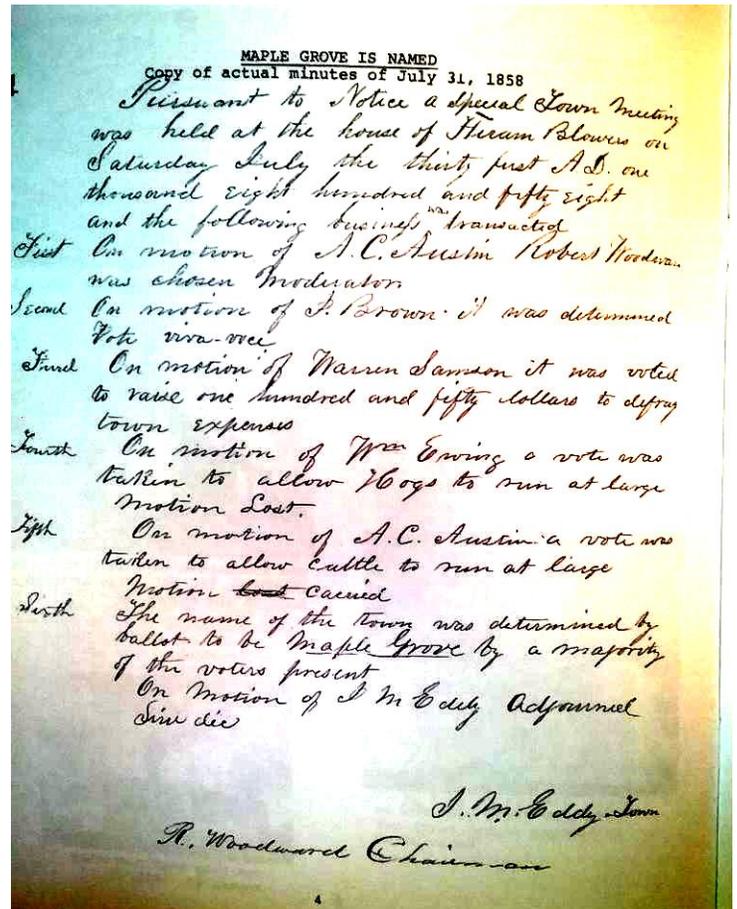
Welcome to Maple Grove

When Gotlieb and Gotlieben Koehler arrived in Maple Grove with their 2 month old daughter, Julia, on June 4, 1855, they had heard a lot of the stories of how bad and dangerous Indians were. Savages. They built their log cabin without a door. Instead they climbed in and out through the small window using a small ladder which they pulled into the cabin for safety at night.

After they had lived there for a week of two, they awoke one morning to find a freshly killed deer hanging from a nearby tree, a gift from the Indians. They realized then that the Indians were not to be feared and cut a large hole for a door to the cabin.

As time passed, friendships developed. Often a small group of Indian women would come to see them. They especially liked the freshly baked bread Gotlieben baked in her outdoor beehive oven.

On their visits they were especially interested in baby Julia. For some unexplained reason they paid special attention to her tiny hands and feet. This worried Gotlieben. Were they planning to kidnap the baby? No. On a subsequent visit they brought a beautiful decorated pair of baby moccasins that fit perfectly on Julia's tiny feet. Now Gotliebem knew why all the fuss and attention had been given to her small feet.
Emily Koehler Amann



Maple Grove was a Township from April 11, 1858- May 1954; a Village 1954- 1973 and a City 1973 to present.

According to Wikipedia



"Maple Grove is a city in Hennepin County, Minnesota, United States. The population was 61,567 at the 2010 census but has been growing rapidly since then, as 2018 US census estimates rank Maple Grove as Minnesota's eighth largest city with 71,807 residents. Maple Grove serves as the retail, cultural and medical center of the northwest region of the Minneapolis–Saint Paul metropolitan area. One of the Twin Cities' largest shopping centers, is The Shoppes at Arbor Lakes."



Mayor Steffenson (far right), Councilman Leith, (far left) Al Madsen and a hippie at Maple Grove Days open house.

Maple Grove



In 1989 was the first parade in Maple Grove and the route began at the old library and ended at the post office. The parade had the Osseo Sr. band, the Special Olympic torch bearer, volunteer of the year; Dorothy Schoenmann and a few other celebrities. A kiddie parade was also included.

In 1990 the first official parade was named after Pierre Bottineau. The route went from Central Fire Station (across from the old library) on Elm Creek Blvd. to 91st Ave. The weather unfortunately brought a down pouring rain. It should have been canceled but people came.

In 1991 the route was changed to 89th Ave due to the difficulty of rerouting traffic on Elm Creek Blvd. In 1996 Boyer Palmer portrays Pierre Bottineau as the mascot. He passes away in Dec. 2012, and was 90 years old. His portrayal of Pierre Bottineau in his authentic leather and fur hide hunters gear will be a standing trade mark of the parade. He had been the mascot for 16 year.

In 1999 is the 9th annual parade that had 70 units with 5 marching bands, each band receives a donation of \$100 and a participation trophy. Over 1000 enjoyed the parade.

By 2000 there were 7 bands performing.

The 4 military branches were honored as the grand marshals for the parade in 2003.

In 2005 the parade is moved to a start time of 6:30.p.m so more of the parade is during the day light. Grand Marshals were Senior Volunteers Jean Morehouse, Kris Orluck and Brenda Krapfl.

In 2006 the parade grand marshal is Deb Syhre and each band gets a stipend of \$200.

Dorothy Schoenmann's last year as a parade announcer and she always had such wonderful history notes for the viewers.

In 2008 the parade band stipend was increased to \$1500.

By 2009 there were 105 units in the parade.

Estimate of 9,000 people are in attendance at the parade in 2010 and a vintage plane flyer over to begin it.

Over the years other routes have been looked into but for now going down 89th is the best.

In 2013 Joel Skagerberg from Beyond the Yellow Ribbon was Grand Marshal.

Al Madsen retired as City Administrator in 2015 and was the Grand Marshal.

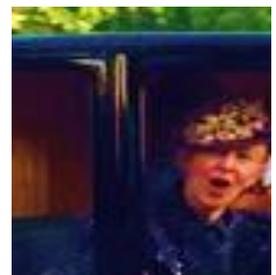


In 2017 there was a mix up as the parade was starting and a fire truck got before the color guard but was soon corrected. The Rotary was the Grand Marshal and they help with the staging of the bands and making sure everyone in the parade has something to eat.

In 2018 Maple Grove staff that had been with Maple Grove for over 30 years were honored as Grand Marshals. The parade was almost cancelled because of a bad storm that afternoon but by 6pm the skies had started to clear; about a 1/3 of the units did not show and most were not in order.

In 2019 marked the 30th official parade.

By Mary Pruhs



Maple Grove becomes the



On December 16, 1985
Mark Dayton, Minnesota

Commissioner of Department of Energy and Economic Development honored Maple Grove officials and guests at Pulaski's Palace and presented the official "Star City" plaque. The Star City Program encouraged communities to get involved in economic development, when earned the Star City emblem can be displayed by the city. This was a symbol that the city will be able to attract the attention of business and industry.

At the celebration present were most of the city council, many city staff, Maple Grove's three lawmakers Sen. Tad Jude, and Rep Bill Schreiber, and Dale Clausnitzer, Metro Council Rep Jo Nunn, and members of the Economic Development Commission.

Maple Grove Police



Ted Gelle was the first police officer in Maple Grove. He started in 1952.

Eric Werner is the current Police Chief

"The Maple Grove Police Department was officially created in 1954 with the election of two constables. By 1962, the department had grown to four part-time police officers.

Today, the Maple Grove Police Department consists of a Police Chief, Captain of Patrol, Captain of Services, Captain of Professional Standards, Investigative Sergeant, Safe Streets Sergeant, Jail Administrator Sergeant, Patrol Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Investigators, CSOs, Crime Prevention Officer, Reserves, Explorers, Crime Analyst, Property and Evidence Technician, Range Coordinator, and a Records Management Team". From web page



At Maple Grove Days Open House SWAT team and fire rescue

Fire Rescue from web page

Tim Bush

is the Fire Chief/ Emergency Manager

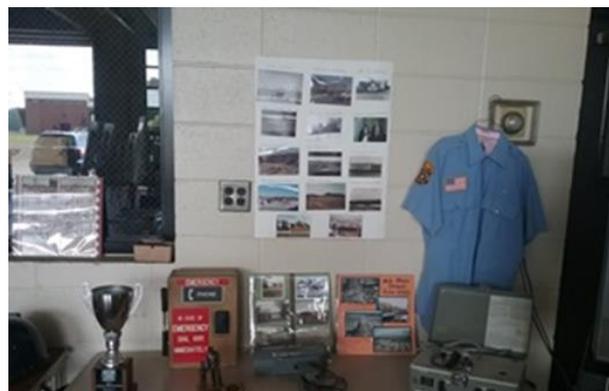


"The Maple Grove Fire-Rescue has been serving the community with a on-call staff since 1975. ... On May 6, 1974 a Citizen Long Range Improvement Committee (CLIC). .. recommended ...establishment of a volunteer fire department in conjunction with the city of Osseo...

The department was first formed with 20 volunteer firefighters and a paid Chief, operating out of one station on the south side of the city. ...The department responded to 123 calls during the first year. At that time, the city had a population of 10,039. The Osseo Fire Department continued to provide service to the northern part of Maple Grove.

With the rapid growth of Maple Grove...additional fire protection was needed, and in 1978 the old City Garage was converted into the second station. With the addition of this station, fire insurance rates for homeowners were lowered. In 1986, with the passing of a bond issue, one station was closed and two new ones were built.

Today, the department operates out of five stations with over 95 men and women serving their community. They cover a 36 square mile area, with a population of more than 70,000."

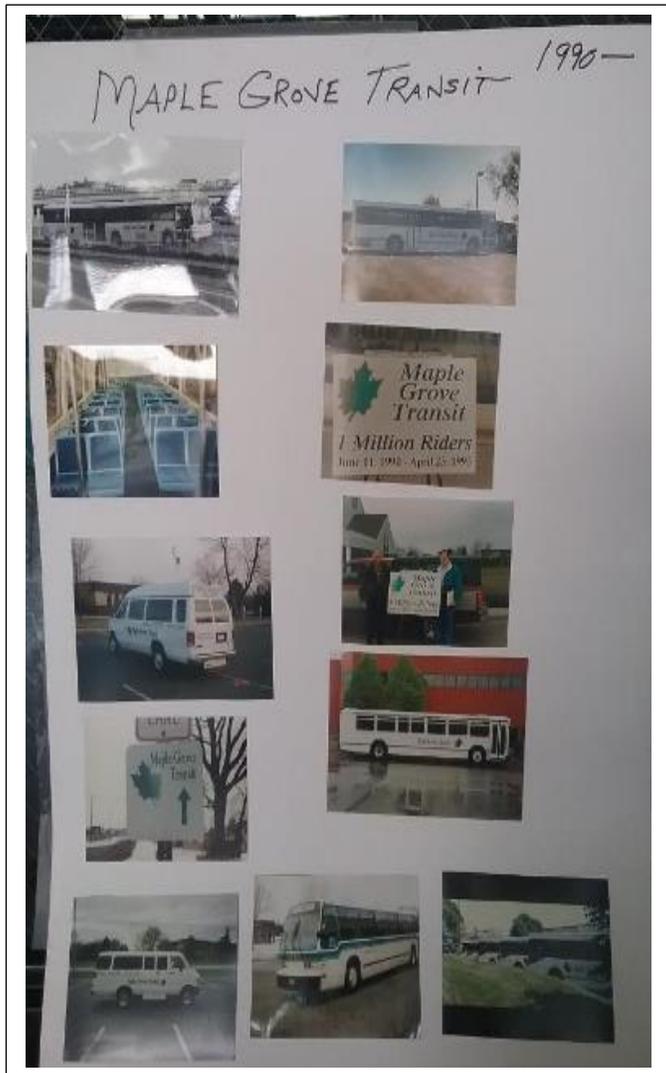
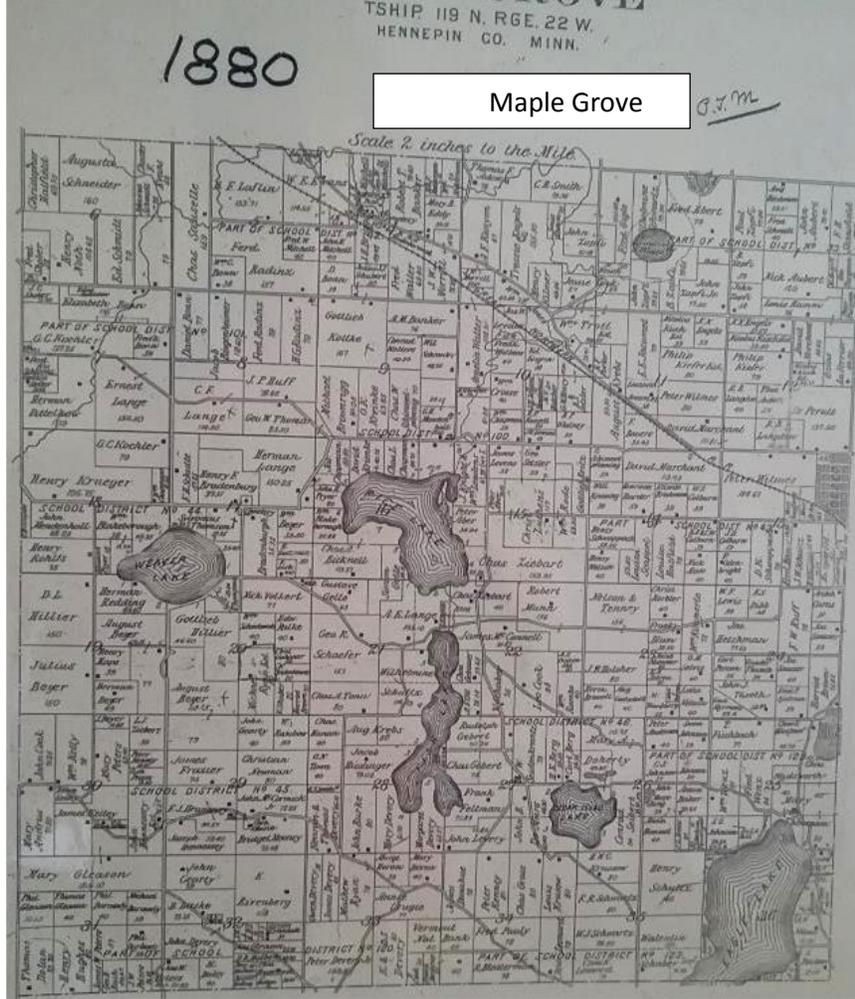


Maple Grove Transit

"Maple Grove consistently provides over 830,000 rides per year and has provided over 15 million rides between 1990 through 2018. [One Million Riders Served -April 1995] Five Million Riders Served -June 2005 (15years of service) } Ten Million Rides Served - May 2015 (25 years of service)" from web page

Milestones

"The City of Maple Grove established Maple Grove Transit (MGT) in 1990 under special legislation that allowed certain suburban communities to "opt-out" of the Metro Transit system to plan, manage and control their own locally based transit system using public transit funding: •Maple Grove Transit does not receive any City of Maple Grove general fund dollars. •From 1990 through 2002, operating funds come through transit property tax levied in the City by the Metropolitan Council. The 2002 amount was \$1.3M. •For 2003, MN State Law changed the funding source to a statewide pool of motor vehicle sales taxes dedicated for transit system in Minnesota."



Simple Truths

And as I get older, I realize:

- #1 - I talk to myself, because there are times I need expert advice.
- #2 - I consider "On Trend" to be the clothes that still fit.
- #3 - I don't need anger management. People need to stop pissing me off.
- #4 - My people skills are just fine. My tolerance for idiots needs work.
- #5 - The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
- #6 - I have days when my life is just a tent away from a circus.
- #7 - These days, "on time" is when I get there.
- #8 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid - but it sure does muffle the sound.
- #9 - Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?
- #10 - Lately, I've noticed people my age are so much older than me.



The Ball-Point Pen

It was the mid 1940's when the ball point pen became available to the public. Loren Gelle brought one to school (district # 44) to share. The aluminum pen was a pale candy-apple red and the size of a kindergarten pencil. Very heavy in our small hands. Loren let each of us write a few words revealing the pale blue ink.

In only a few years the now familiar "click pen" was available replacing the \$18 heavy metal pen. My father got one of them from the Osseo Feed Mill for advertising, then as now. This was *his* pen. He kept it in his dresser drawer between his socks and hankies. My mother and I were not to use it, and you guessed it. Soon the ink was dry and the pen was useless.

Ervin Amann also received one of those aluminum pens as a special present from his big brother. Proudly he took it to school where his teacher told him the only proper writing instrument was a fountain pen. We've come a long way. Emily Koehler Amann



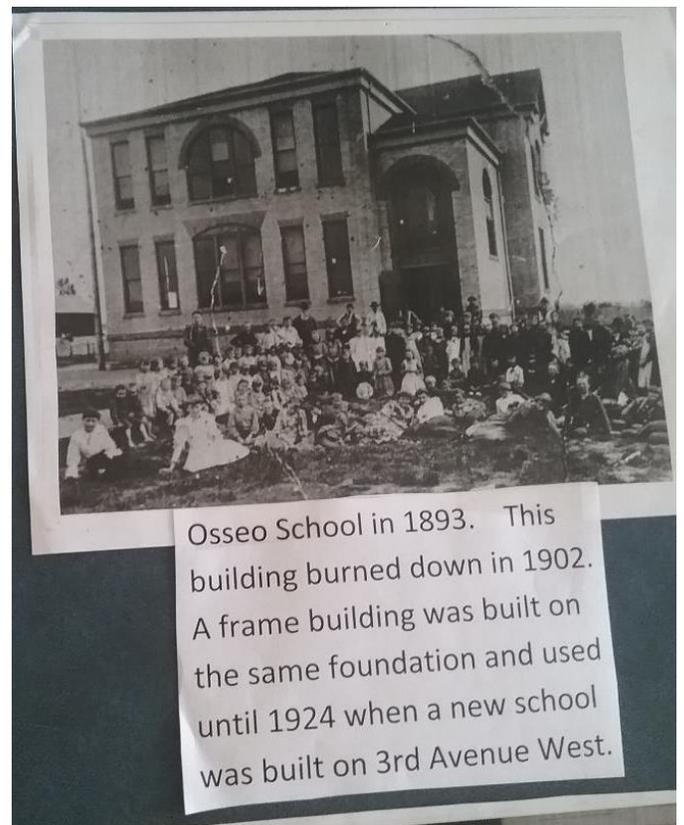
At MG Days open house in the school memories room

Artifacts Discovered at Osseo Middle School.

Work had to stop in June at Osseo Middle School tennis courts after artifacts were unearthed on the Wilmes' family farm near County Road 30. The farm appeared in the 1967 Osseo Year Book and was believed to have a barn that many art classes sketched over the years before the barn burned in 1967.

Several members of the Historical Society remember attending parties at the farm and dancing on the blue tiles that were found.

This site was also the original site of the Pierre Bottineau house before it was moved.



Osseo School in 1893. This building burned down in 1902. A frame building was built on the same foundation and used until 1924 when a new school was built on 3rd Avenue West.



- Built in 1854, the house originally was located just north of the Osseo High School tennis courts.
- It was moved to the location just north of Zachary Square sometime around 1908.
- It was moved to that location, using logs as rollers.
- It served as a granary on the Peter Kisch farm.
- It was discovered on the Kisch farm in the 1980s and verified as the Bottineau house.

RIP

On Tuesday July, 24, 2019

4 members of the Osseo Rod/Gun Conservation Club Jim Sable, Bruce Hansen, Darold Steffen, and Gerald Kothrade laid a marker at the Maple Grove Historical Site to mark the passing of a group that served the community since 1934.



Then & Now



Welcome Committee
Verdell Schlieff and Virginia Hoppenrath



Mary Moyle on wash day!



Lee Schreiber playing musical favorites by request of guests at the MG Open House



Hatching baby chicks

Studying MG History



How did you spend your winter snow days?



Joyce Deane and Mary Pruhs



Joe Hanf explaining his scaled display of Maple Grove along Territorial Rd. in early 1900's



Washing the dishes- no running water? No dish washer?



Old time musicians in front of MGHPHS booth at business expo



New Veteran's Memorial Park in Maple Grove Central Park Dedicated July 14th 2019

St Vincent's Landmark Steeple in Osseo is gone!!!!

According to the St. Vincent de Paul website, Pierre Bottineau and others built the first Catholic church in 1856 and it was named the Church of St. Louis. It was the first Catholic Church built in Hennepin County west of the Mississippi River.

In 1864 the second church was built and named St. Vincent de Paul on the Main Street in Osseo on land donated by Peter Gervais. A new steeple was added in 1890 to house the church bell.



Photo from St. Vincent's website

In 1921 a third structure was built.

The current church, the 4th structure, was dedicated on June 10, 1989 and is across the street now located in Brooklyn Park.

Old St. Vincent's Church at 625 Central was converted to a residential facility in 1998 and the steeple was over the top of front of the building.

On May 23, 2019 the steeple was removed due to water damage and safety concerns.

Photo from Osseo Press



MAPLE GROVE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

City of Maple Grove Government Center
12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove MN 55369-7064

MEMBERSHIP FORM

(renewable each January)

Annual Membership (tax deductible)

- \$15 Individual/Senior
- \$30 Family
- \$100 Supporting Member

I am interested in helping with

- Writing article
- Historic site maintenance
- Displays
- Educational Programs
- Publicity
- Cataloging artifacts
- Calling

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

