

Maple Grove

Historical Preservation Society

No. 75 May 2014

Happenings

Looking for volunteers to organize display cases at city hall. If interested contact Caroline ph.763-425-2279.

Historical Society dues are due in January of each year:
Students/Seniors(65 and over) \$10
Individual; \$25 Family; \$15 Individual;
Supporting Member \$100.

Next Historical meeting is May 15, 2014, at 7:00 PM, 9030 Forestview LN.

Oxcart Site

Bricks for the Territorial site are for sale at \$50 for 4"X8" brick and \$100 for an 8"X8" brick. Contact Historical Preservation Society for details.

Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society

Vice President- Don Kisch

Secretary-Joyce Deane Treasurer-
Patty Reuter

President- Open Position

Board Members- Virginia Hoppenrath &
Earl Hoppenrath Editor- Scott Smith
763-420-8834

Mailing Address-P.O. Box 1180, Maple
Grove, MN 55311

www.maplegrovehistory.org

President's Position

Open This position on the board is open for anyone willing to donate their efforts and passion to history in Maple Grove.

HISTORY MUSEUM

The dream of a Museum is a reality and is currently a work in progress. With the help of the City of Maple Grove and Al Madsen we have 2000 square feet of space in the newly remodeled Public Works building. We have a room for storage and display as well as an office. It is located at 9030 Forestview Lane N. There is a door for the public to enter on the south side of the building. Artifacts have been moved from the Government Center to the Museum. **Our monthly meetings will now be at this location.**

A reminder that the Museum is always open the 2nd Sunday of each month from 1 to 4 PM.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

We meet monthly on the third Thursday at the new Museum located within the remodeled Public Works building at 9030 Forestview Lane

Brief synopsis from minutes of the April 19, 2014, meeting submitted by Joyce Deanne:

Caroline called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance included Don Kisch, Patty Reuter, Walter Schumacher, Roger McHugh, Joyce Deane, Al Madsen, Carl Pheil, Sue Manning and Mary Moyle.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$896.88. This included \$54.00 in memberships, book sales of \$16.00, and a donation from Paulsens of \$25.00.

Old Business

The museum was open Sunday – April 13 with Patty and Don hosting (There were 11 visitors) Volunteers are needed for May 11 which is Mother's Day.. Caroline said she will be there.

The wedding gown display is coming together nicely--- With the limited space available gowns are primarily pre – 1940 era. Photos of wedding couples will be displayed as well as brief articles of something special about the wedding. The 1930's kitchen has been relocated to the center area... Laundry display is temporarily down.

Our table at the Business Expo will need staffing. Pictures of some of the museum display will create interest, inviting visitors to our open house on Sunday. Al updated us on the gravel mining display. He has met with Christina from Tiller Corp. They will be bringing equipment to be viewed in the truck area next door. Pictures will be included of their history. Interactive activities for children will be provided. Al will also be in contact with Charlie McCrossan for history on the Anderson Aggregate Display. Hopefully they will attend our next meeting so we can hear

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all of the display plans which will be coordinated by them.

Al said he will advertise the History Museum Open House on the electronic sign during the parade .. What terrific advertising!

We need to update two display cases in the government center – perhaps advertising our summer museum displays... one could include wedding pictures of some of the older wedding couples...or? The other display case could be on the gravel pits – perhaps a Tonka dump truck –we do have jars with samples of gravel from the pits in the gov't history storage area--- Is there someone who would like to do each of these displays?????

Check your calendars at the next meeting we will be signing up for volunteer shifts and assignments---- wedding display , refreshments, etc. Buster Spears will be providing his very entertaining original songs and music.

The Eagle Scout project at the Historic Site on Territorial Road will be started as soon as it warms up. Pavers will be reinstalled with several more inches of base sand/gravel so they will stay level. We have additional \$\$\$ paid for pavers which need to be imprinted. Patti will put the form for ordering pavers on the website and Steve should include it in

the newsletter. Al said Territorial Road is scheduled to be resurfaced within the next 2-3 years.

Patty informed us of some of the signage possibilities based on the research she had done. She will check on the replacement cost of the present glass. Al suggested we get a large boulder from the pits and place a sign on that --- he will check on this. We liked that idea.

The freestanding sign for the museum should be in place by the end of April.

Patty, Al and Joyce will host the group of Cub Scouts and parents who will be visiting our museum on April 28 – 6:30p.m.

Discussion on the sleigh /cutter storage with Al suggesting it be stored in the government center in the lower lever... It will be check out to see if it will fit into the doorway. Don is doing the necessary repairs that were needed.

Roger said that he met with a man from Maple Grove Magazine and showed him the school material.. This person will be interviewing several people who went to a one room school - Jerry Scherber, Carol Emmans or Jim Weber.

Carl Pheil provided several pages of information on the Maple Grove area which his wife, Sharon had pulled together – on the landscape of MG. . We have the originals and Al wanted copies to read.

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(Minutes Continued)

A discussion was led by Roger on accepting donations and accession numbers. He brought up the example of receiving a trunk with a number of things in it. He feels the trunk should get a number and each item inside should get a related number. This would allow things to be taken out of the trunk for display and returned to the correct place. Patty found a notebook with examples of accession numbers, but Roger said he had looked at that. Roger is very concerned about this problem and wonders if we should stop accepting things until we get the numbering system correct and caught up. Patty assured him that there is a program on the computer and ways to do it.

1860's BASEBALL

Info from Caroline Schaeffer

The St.Croixs will play Team St. John's on Sunday June 8, 2014, at 2:00 PM at the St. John's Lutheran Church ball field at 9141 Co. Rd. 101, Corcoran. Come see a baseball game as it was played in the 1860's (St.John's was founded in 1864). Enjoy some pie and ice cream following the game. Donations will be taken for the Wounded Warriors Organization.

MONTHLY OPEN HOUSES *By Caroline Schaefer*

We have had our museum open every second Sunday of the month since September 2014. Over these past 8 months we have had 56 visitors as well as some special arranged times for groups.

On February 20th, we had a group of 28 OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) from Lord of Life Lutheran Church. The visit as shortened with the beginning of a snow storm.

A group of Cub Scouts with their parents visited on April 28th.

We look forward to our Annual Open House on Sunday July 13 during Maple Grove Days. A large display is being planned by companies of the gravel mining industry. We also have a display of bridal apparel from the past. Other displays such as the kitchen and farm will stay and we may add more.

Please pass the word to family and friends about our museum.

NEWSLETTER

ARTICLES Please forward me any articles, events/items and historical Maple Grove photos that you might want included in the newsletter. Your Editor, Scott Smith 763-420-8834 or email at straightshooter45@comcast.net. This newsletter is published quarterly with the next one to come out about mid August 2014. Get me articles by August 1st

SCHWAPPACH FARM ARTICLE

By Carl Pheil

Early one day, during the summer after fourth grade my mom said, "Why don't you and Frankie go out and play or ride your bikes until supper. I'll fix a lunch for the two of you."

In 1947 kids were expected to entertain themselves. My friend Frankie suggested we go and visit the Schwappach's at their farm. "Sonny, they have a huge pig farm. They have so many pigs you can't even count them all." The farm was about three and a half to four miles away. Not all that far when you have a bike and the roads are oiled.

We rode on the oiled road through the swamp to the old one room school. After a rest we took an old road through what is now the gravel pit area and eventually ended up at the pig farm. Frankie's dad knew the Schwappachs. We spent some time with the kid and looked at all the pigs.

"Well we better go, it's getting late. We have a long ride." We said our goodbyes and started our trip back home.

"Sonny, how did you like them hogs?"

"Great! There were a lot of them." I answered.

A couple of weeks later Frankie was at his Grandmother's for a few days and I was bored so I decided to go on an all

day bike hike back to the pig farm. I got up really early, packed a lunch of jelly sandwiches and filled my canteen with water. I put everything in my bike basket and took off. I rode out our long driveway, turned onto Broadway by the Perry's vegetable stand and went down about three blocks to 68th. I headed west past Panschum's mum farm and the lawyer's sheep farm. Winding through the swamp past the Peterson's farm I finally got to my old school next to Eagle Lake. I stopped to rest for a bit. I grabbed a jelly sandwich, my canteen and sat on the merry-go-round for a rest and snack. After a bit I hopped on my bike and rode through the sunny countryside. Before I knew it I was at the end of the driveway at the pig farm.

I really wanted to see all the pigs again. While I was wondering if I should ride over to the house and knock on the door this voice calls out, "Hey, I know you. You're Frankie's friend."

"Hi again. Yeah, I'm Frankie's friend Sonny! He's over at his Grandma's for a few days and I'm all alone. I thought that I'd like to see all those pigs again. That's why I came over."

"We're getting ready to go around to some restaurants and collect the old food that they would throw out. We use the food to feed the pigs."

"That sounds exciting. Could I come along?"

"I'll ask my dad. It will probably be alright."

His dad said if I didn't mind the smell and a little work I could go along. The three of us got in the truck. The truck was a

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(Schwappach Farm Continued)

flatbed with a stake body. The truck was loaded with garbage cans.

“Why all the garbage cans?” I asked.

“When we take the cans of old food we leave off empties,” my friend said.

Our first stop was the Crystal Palace on Broadway and Bass Lake Road. While the kitchen helpers and the dad loaded the full cans of old food onto the truck the two of us boys unloaded the clean empty cans and put them by the kitchen door.

Our next stop was a log restaurant on a curve on Broadway Avenue almost all the way to Robbinsdale. Again the two of us boys unloaded three empty cans and put them by the back door. While the men loading the food garbage onto the truck the train went by blasting its loud whistle. I dropped the lid to the can, picked it up and got the can to the back door.

“Sorry the t train whistle really scared me. Didn’t mean to drop the lid.”

“Don’t worry about it,” the dad called out. “It happens to all of us.”

We finally got to all of the restaurants and drove back to the farm. Some other adults helped unload the truck. Then the dad said, “It’s getting late. Let’s put your bike in the back of the truck. I’ll give you a ride home.”

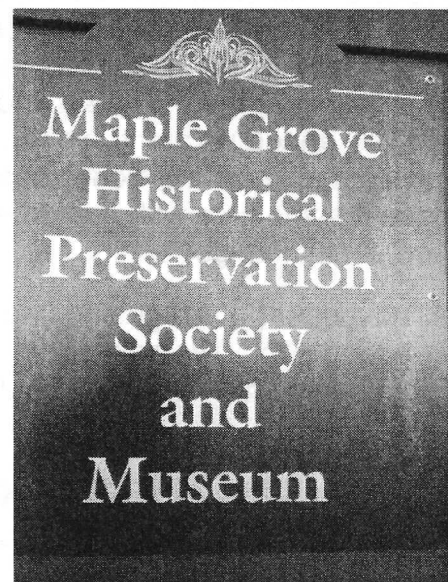
That was my first and only experience as a garbage collector for a hog farm. Frankie and I went to the pig farm a couple of times and helped feed the

pigs. The mom was a great cook, but I don’t want to be a pig farmer... ever.

(Editor’s Note: This farm was located where the Lookout Bar and Grill is currently, 8672 Pineview Lane, Maple Grove).



The OWLS bus in snowstorm 2-20-2014 while visiting museum



Maple Grove Historical Preservation Sign Posted at 9030 Forestview Lane outside the Museum (May 2013)

**MAPLE GROVE
HISTORICAL
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**Ways to volunteer
your time and talents**

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

CURRENT PUBLIC DISPLAYS:

THE HISTORIC SITE

Located on Territorial Road
(1 mile west of Fernbrook Ln.)
This is along the Ox Cart Trail that was traveled by Pierre Bottineau on the way from North Dakota to St. Anthony.

DISPAY CASES

Located at the
Maple Grove Government Center
12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway
Open Govt. Center hours
These displays show some of the many artifacts we have from the early history of the area. Changes are made periodically.

Write Newsletter articles

Design the displays in the cases

Design educational programs

Garden maintenance at historic site

Help with publicity of the organization and its events

Help with cataloging artifacts

Periodic calling of members

Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at the Maple Grove Government Center (12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway) (August & December special events)

Be a part of Maple Grove History...
purchase a paver brick to be placed at the historic site. (order forms available)

Booklets available:

- "Maple Grove Memories" \$8.00
- "100 Years of Osseo History" \$8.00
- "The Story of Pierre Bottineau" \$5.00
- Set of all three booklets \$20.00

MAPLE GROVE HISTORICAL
PRESERVATION SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1180
Maple Grove, MN 55311

MEMBERSHIP FORM
(Renewable each January)

- Annual Membership:
- \$15 Individual
 - \$25 Family
 - \$10 Seniors/Students
 - \$100 Supporting Member

I am interested in helping with:

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

Name: _____
(Please Print)
 Address: _____
 Telephone: _____
 E-mail: _____

Note: Actually meeting is at the Museum, 9030

Forestview Lane North, Maple Grove, MN