



*Maple Grove*

*Historical Preservation Society*

No. 81 November 2015

## ***Happenings***

**Historical Society dues are due in January: Students/Seniors(65 and over) \$10 Individual; \$25 Family; \$15 Individual; Supporting Member \$100. Please include the flyer on last page.**

**Next Historical meeting is November 19, 2015, at 7:00PM, 9030 Forestview LN.**

## ***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.maplegrovernhistory.org](http://www.maplegrovernhistory.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.

### ***Newsletter Editor***

***Position Open*** This position is open to anyone willing to produce the newsletter 4 times per year, the next one approximately February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

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### **HISTORY MUSEUM**

The dream of a Museum is a reality. We have 2000 square feet of space in the remodeled Public Works building. It is located at 9030 Forestview Lane N. **Our monthly meetings are now held at this location.**

A reminder that the Museum is always open the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 the minutes, Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society:

September 17, 2015

The Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society met Thursday, September 17, 2015 at the Maple Grove History Center. .

The Secretary's report was approved as written. The treasurer's report included income of donation jar - \$18.00 Book Sales - \$50.00 , Memberships - \$50.00, and a 2 donations totaling \$700.00. Expenses included travel – Caroline - \$40.41, Blockades - \$120.00,. The ending balance is \$1710.98. Our money market balance is \$5067.98.

Future disbursements will include – August newsletter, supplies, memberships, web site and any advertising/ promotions we pursue.

#### Old Business

Don's truck was in the Lion's roar parade with our History sign on it.... Discussion included thoughts on having a table to sell history books next year at the event – To be discussed later.....

Newsletter- next deadline is November 1 – this will be Scott's last newsletter, so this is a great opportunity for someone in our group to be editor.

One of the display cabinets at the government center needs to be filled – suggestions?

Patti Reuter is checking on the plaque for the historic site.

Inventory is the same – very busy with summer events. The items cataloged need to be put into the computer with pictures.

October 11<sup>th</sup> Open house – June Lanners and ?????, June needs another person or two..... Roger will put up signs and let her in. Caroline and Mary had 6 very interested guests in September.

#### New Business

Members were reminded of the request of pictures of them when they were younger... We have found our albums to be up much interest when they are on display.

Next July's Open House will be on weather events in Maple Grove in past years. Caroline will be checking on the availability of Channel 4 Mobile Weather Unit. We would like to have on display items that survived previous storms/tornados in Maple Grove. There is a candle mold which went thru the 193? Tornado that was donated by Jean Morehouse. Several members shared thoughts on storms – how the animals react, red sky at night.....,wet floors, the WCCO broadcasting of 1966 tornado ,etc.

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The collection review board said they will receive no more sewing machines. Some items that have been donated recently include a scale, clock, and books.

### **The Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society met Thursday, October 15 at the Maple Grove History Center.**

The secretary's and treasurer's report were approved as given. It included 410.00 for membership and a payment of \$59.44 for open house cookies and the last newsletter printing and postage. Balance is \$1,661.54. Basically our income is memberships and donations. Disbursements include newsletter, supplies, memberships,, advertising and promotions. Budget for the year is to be established by next month. A \$500.00 memorial (Jim Deane) was received from LDI. Polly (Deane) Filing is employed there and also \$100.00 from David and Rebecca Key.

#### **Old Business**

Scott Smith is stepping down as Newsletter Editor. Joyce will talk to Kris Orluck, ( MG Senior program) on possibilities of future newsletters.

Patty Reuter is working on the historic site plaque.

The October Open house had 8 visitors, one of which was the new council member- Judy Hanson. Some visitors come because of seeing the signs. November open house will be hosted by Fred Biederman and June Lanners with Roger putting up signs. December Open House will be Mary Pruhs and Patty Reuter.

#### **New Business**

Several pictures of us (the members) are being turned in. These will be in a special album. Please try to find some of yours as well.

Next July's Open house will focus on Weather events in Maple Grove throughout the years. Al Madsen will check on the availability of the Channel 4 Mobile Weather Unit. We will be looking for items, stories that survived the storms/ tornados in Maple Grove.

Our Christmas Potluck will be December 17 at our History Center, 6:00 PM, to eat at 6:30 PM.

Roger reported on the list of items needed cataloging and also items used for display. He showed some early 1900 bar clamps which were used as a vice when items needed to be sharpened. The Joyner family will be donating an antique hobby horse which is on wheels.

Al Madsen said there will be a sign at the public works driveway directing visitors to the history center driveway.

Next meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Christmas Program at Fish Lake School** by Sharon Wolma

1948 Christmas program, An evening at Maple Grove District 46 Fish Lake School, A star and a tipsy Santa.

Every December we students at District 46 Fish Lake School put on an evening Christmas program. All parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbors were invited to attend. Our teacher, Mrs. Shiffmann, along with the help of some of the mothers wrote the program and assigned each student a part. This group was also responsible for volunteering a fellow to play Santa that evening. Every Mom who attended the meeting had been told by their husbands that they absolutely would not be available for the part. So what to do? After long deliberation a neighbor, who did not have a wife at the meeting, was picked. It was known that this fellow enjoyed a good beer or two or three, but that had never been a problem.

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### ***(Christmas Program cont'd)***

During the upcoming weeks students diligently practiced their parts. The last week prior to Christmas vacation some of the dads got together, built a stage for the performance and went out and cut down a pine tree. They set it up in the front left corner of the school room and voila the school had its Christmas tree.

Decorations for the tree were made out of paper. Each student was given a piece of white paper and instructed to draw a big circle and then inside that circle to draw a Christmas decoration of their choice along with their name. Once the circles were completed and cut out Mrs. Shiffmann took out a needle and thread, pierced the drawings and hung them individually on the tree. To finish the tree each student was given a piece of red and green paper and told to cut strips, one strip was pasted together like a ring and then another strip was added to that ring prior to it too being pasted. With all the students working together a beautiful paper ring chain was formed. Mrs. Shiffmann took that long chain and draped it over the tree and oh wasn't it just so beautiful. The day of the evening's school program finally arrived. Most of it was spent in practice and dress rehearsal. Everyone had a costume of some type to wear. The program included skits and songs and ended with the presentation of the Nativity story with all parts played by students except for baby Jesus who was portrayed by a doll. I myself had a speaking part. I was the angel at the manger. My line was "A brilliant star shone overhead"; Well with the help of my father who earlier had asked me what my line was going to be and after my speaking it for him asked me how I was going to present it? Present it? "Yes he said" You can step out and say your line or try this". He said the line and while saying it swept his right hand above his head in an arching maneuver. Oh I liked that. I would most

definitely present my line that way. I did and to this day am convinced that line and using that move stole the whole show.

OK, back to the program. The Nativity scene was finished. Quiet laughter had begun during the last few lines. Several shushs!!!!near the back of the room were heard. The last student song was sung and then a big HO HO HO was heard from the back cloak (coat) room entrance. In came Santa, singing away. Not exactly a Christmas song but fun to hear never the less. He was dressed in his finest red suit, smelled like a Grain Belt (beer) and was a jolly as could be. He reached into his bag, furnished by Mrs. Shiffman, and gave each child in the room a small decorated bag containing an apple and five pieces of candy. We were ecstatic. Candy was a treat in those days and five pieces each! WOW! Following the appearance of the jolly old elf himself, the evening ended with everyone in the room singing a rousing chorus of "We wish you a Merry Christmas" and a hearty cheer led by one of the fathers, might even have been Santa, was given for Mrs. Shiffman District 46's Fish Lake Schools' best teacher ever.

### ***OLD SAYINGS*** by Jim Sable

I was reminiscing about some of the clever sayings farmers exchanged at the bar in Willie Bredenberg's store. Gilbert Koehler would say to Bruce Hansen (his nephew) and me, "C'mon, we're going over to Willie's to talk shmart!" These are some of the more printable old sayings:

1. Don't name a pig you plan to eat.
2. Country fences need to be horse high, pig tight, and bull strong.
3. Trouble is a private thing; don't lend it and don't borrow it.
4. The weather can make a farmer look mighty smart or mighty dumb.
5. Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
6. Life is easier when you plow around the stumps.

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### **Christmas Potluck Dinner**

Our annual potluck dinner is at 6:00 PM December 17 at the History Center. We will eat at 6:30 PM.

### **Osseo Review Editorial**

October 21, 1908 Submitted by Mary Moyle

Get the stove pipes and chimneys cleaned out and see that all is made snug and safe for the long winter. If everyone will do this the percent of fire losses will be greatly reduced. Do this and do it now, or a destructive fire might do you. Keep the match box out of reach of the children.

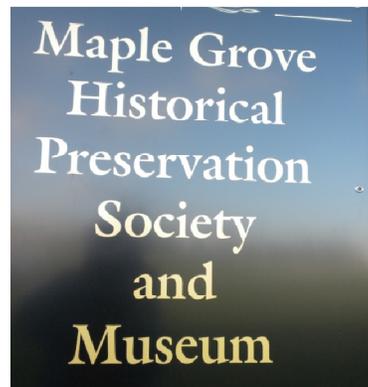
### **Osseo Review**

October 3, 1906 Submitted by Mary Moyle

Another week will see several more sheep men out west for the purpose of buying sheep. The sheep industry in these parts is now absolutely a necessity. Farmers have to have the sheep for the dressing and that alone pays them should they not come out even when they dispose of their sheep in the spring. An effort will be made to secure a man who can talk about potatoes and sheep at the next Farmer's Institute to be held here this fall.

## **NEWSLETTER**

**ARTICLES** This newsletter is published quarterly with the next expected to come out by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. How about more "Sayings"? Photographs? Or other events/items you want included in the newsletter. A new editor is needed so please contact any board member or other Society member if interested.



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

**MAPLE GROVE  
HISTORICAL  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**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.

**DISPLAY 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.

**Ways to volunteer  
your time and talents:**

- 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**