



Volume 84

August 2016

9030 Forestview Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369 425-2279 Open 2nd Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

Doug Ohman

Author* Photographer* Storyteller



Saluting the Civil War

Minnesota's Role

October 6 2016 - 7 PM
Maple Grove Council Chambers

Why do we celebrate Veterans Day on Nov. 11? During World War I, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, an armistice went into effect and all fighting between the allied nations and Germany ceased. It officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed June 28, 1919., President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the Armistice Day on Nov. 11, a to celebrate the end of "The Great War" On 1938, Congress made Armistice Day a legal federal holiday. On June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name of Armistice Day, , to Veterans Day, in order to officially recognize veterans who served our country in all wars. <http://navylive>



She left Maple Grove for Minneapolis - she has returned to Maple Grove Museum-Dora Bredenberg piano from 1890's-

August Meeting and Picnic

August 18th

5 P.M.



Spouses & significant others invited (at the Museum.) Bring your special Picnic dish!



Poppy Girl



The day I was born in 1943, I was signed up for the American Legion, where my mother and my father were very active. My dad was a World War I veteran having served in France and Belgium in the Artillery. His job, he told me was to pick dead bodies off the battle field. I attended many Memorial Day events and programs as a child, but I remember being a Poppy girl, the most. Around Memorial Day or the opening of fishing season, I would go with my siblings to stand outside the local restaurant with a poppy can and poppies in my hand and hoping it would not rain on my crepe paper. Donations were accepted for the Veterans. The American Legion Memorial Poppy was the only one I promoted, as our “sort of” rival organization was the VFW, which had many World War II veterans as members, with their Buddy Poppies. Both organizations raised money to help veterans in need.

Many years have passed. The last World War I (1917-1918) veteran died in 2011. My dad had died in 1987. Most of the World War II Veterans, (1941-1946), the dads of most of my classmates in school, are deceased. My older brother was in the Korean War (1950-1955). My husband was in the Vietnam War (1961-1975). The longest war of all the Persian Gulf+ Global War on Terrorism 1990- to the present still rages, and I, the Poppy Girl, no longer belong to the American Legion Auxiliary, nor do I stand on the street promoting the Memorial Poppy. I do gladly donate to either the Memorial or Buddy Poppy Legion member. Maybe I am still the “Poppy Girl”! by Pat Ruffing

1. The U.S. entered [World War II](#) in December 1941,
2. Fort Snelling was the induction point for more than 300,000 men and women.
3. World War II ended in 1945.
4. More than 7,800 Minnesotans lost their lives. ftsnelling@mnhs.org.

Museum Display at the Maple Grove Gov't Center Teddy Bears' Picnic

“If you go down to the woods today
You're sure of a big surprise...”“The Teddy Bears' Picnic” the melody by American composer John Walter Bratton, was written in 1907, and lyrics added by Irish songwriter Jimmy Kennedy in 1932. It remains popular as a children's song. The first recording of was by the Edison Symphony Orchestra, made at Edison Records. Bing Crosby did a recording in - (1950) and Anne Murray (1981) From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Please send in articles of Holiday memories- any holiday- for our October edition!

Radio in the Good Old Days



By Carol Emmans

On those days when you are searching for some good radio listening—when you are tired of sports talk, horrified by the political conversations, don't feel like smiling enough for the Christian music station, do you sometimes long for the days of radio soap operas?

Those dramas were only 15 minutes long, used a little time at the beginning to review, and a little time at the ending to conclude, plus a commercial. They could pack a lot of action into the remaining 7-8 minutes of drama. This is what I remember- 11:00 Wendy Warren, the woman reporter. Pretty progressive for her time. 11:15 –Aunt Jenny, a recipe show sponsored by Spry, I think—maybe Crisco. 11:30- this was the BEST! Helen Trent, can she still find love after 35? Of course, there was always Gil Whitney! Occasionally, Gil would give Helen a piece of jewelry: it would be described in detail. We knew that listeners would have the opportunity to order that piece of jewelry (unbelievably cheesy junk—I know, my mother ordered a blue flower pin with a hidden place for perfume). Helen Trent and Gil Whitney have been kept alive by Roger Erickson and Charlie Boone and more recently, Dave Lee and crew from WCCO.

11:45-- Our Gal Sunday. Can a girl from a mining town in the west find happiness with a wealthy lord from England? Lord Henry Brinthrop was his name and he was the ultimate snob.

Noon—I think Cedric Adams took over for the half hour with news and the market reports from South St Paul.

12:30 – Ma Perkins. She and friend Shuffle ran the lumber yard with son-in-law Willie. They also solved the problems of the little town.

The rest of the afternoon included—

-- Mary Noble, her husband Larry, a Broadway actor, cheated on her constantly.

--Stella Dallas, she vowed to stay out of her daughter's life because she married "up" but she meddled at least once a day. --Lorenzo Jones, the eccentric inventor-- Just Plain Bill another guy who solved the problems of the world.

The After School Specials included—

Sergeant Preston and his mighty dog, King; The Lone Ranger and his horse Silver and his Indian friend, Tonto! The Lone Ranger never got into any trouble because he shot guns out of culprits' hands and always left a silver bullet...

The children's programs also offered wonderful surprises that listeners could receive. My brother faithfully collected Little Crow seals from Coco Wheat boxes sent for their Play Set and then waited for the truck to arrive with an enormous box. When the mailman delivered not a box, but an envelope filled with cardboard items to punch out- reality hit hard!

Sunday afternoons—Remember- this was before the popularity of the NFL and MLB. The radio was our entertainment. "The Shadow" could cloud men's minds so that he appeared invisible. "Sam Spade" and "Johnny Dollar" solved crimes and addressed women in politically incorrect ways—Doll Dame. No one objected. Does anyone else remember the show at 3 PM during which music was played and a whole bunch of canaries sang along?

Saturday mornings brought "Let's Pretend" and "Grand Central Station". They always announced "its high noon on Broadway". Well here, in MN it was only 11 AM. For years I thought that the term "high noon" meant 11 o'clock. "Inner Sanctum" (or as we called it—"the squeaky door"). Compelling mysteries that I remember to this day. A man with a stop-and-go heart installed a phone in his casket so he could call if his heart began to beat again and the final moments had the wife going out immediately followed by the phone ringing and ringing...

Chatting about how easily entertained we were, one of my friends said "And we didn't need a picture".

Indeed, we knew what every one of those characters looked like: we could image Fibber McGee's closet as it tumbled down every week. It was a different time.

School Burns After Safety Talk

By Bernard Casserly in Minneapolis Sunday Tribune



A lecture on fire prevention was held in Hennepin County District 101 School Tuesday night- a few hours before the one room school burned to the ground. As a result, 18 boys and girls had a brief vacation from three R's the day before Thanksgiving, but their enforced holiday to end next week. School board members said Monday they hoped to start classes Tuesday morning in the home of school teacher Mrs. Kaldahl, a half - mile east of the burned building.

A group of parents and children was gathered in the white framed school in Maple Grove Township Tuesday to discuss fire prevention while the first snowstorm whirled around the building. Mrs. Kaldahl discussed fire hazards and showed a movie on fire safety as a feature of Fire Prevention week in the district. A lunch was served and everyone headed home by 11 p.m.

Adolph Schober, whose wife Irene, is chairman of the District 101 school board, awakened about 4 a.m. Wednesday to see sparks flying past his window.

The schoolhouse across the highway was ablaze.

The Osseo Volunteer Fire Department was called but the storm caused a power failure and the fire siren could not be blown. The operator reached five firemen by telephone, however, and they were able to keep the blaze from spreading. The fire was caused by an over heated chimney, Mrs. Schober said. The school was so far gone that nothing could be saved.

The building was more than a half a century old, she said, but it was in good condition and had inside toilets, hot running water and an oil heater.

Although, the problem maybe solved temporarily by holding classes in the living and dining rooms of Mrs. Kaldahl's home, Mrs. Schober said long range decision will have to be made.

The fire brings to a head the controversy over dissolving the district and merging it with joining Osseo School District 43. The district has voted twice on dissolving and merging with Osseo. Dissolution was first approved and then disapproved.

"We will have to have another school district meeting", Mrs. Schober said, "to decide whether to replace the school or to reorganize the district".

1949 Dist.46 Fish Lake School.



Fish Lake school
Dist 46 - 1949
First day of
school & wearing
the red, not the
blue sweater.

**THE RED,
NOT THE
BLUE,
SWEATER
INCIDENT**

...Sharon Hopkins.

The second week of August 1949 was upon us. This year both I, (Sharon), and my younger brother Billy would both be attending Mrs. Shiffmann's one room Dist. 46 Fish Lake School. That week the family went into Osseo to shop for new clothes especially for Billy and I who would be off to school in a few weeks. Shopping began. A beautiful blue cardigan sweater with Mary and her little Lamb was bought for me. The same sweater in red was bought for my younger sister Dianne. I liked the red one best but Mom always said "blue for blondes and red for brunettes". I didn't care, I wanted the red one even though I wasn't a brunette. That shopping trip finally ended with a trip to the Osseo hardware store to pick out lunch pails which we both did.

Finally the first day of school 1949 arrived. Billy in his new pants and light jacket and me in my new dress and red Mary and her little lamb sweater. Whoops, me in my sister's red Mary and her little lamb sweater. It had taken a lot of convincing on my part to talk my

mom into letting me wear it instead of the blue one. I promised that I would take very, very good care of it so she said ok. This year mom didn't have to walk with us because Billy, I and the neighbor girl across the road, Carol Seibert, could walk down the almost mile long dirt road to District 46 Fish Lake school together and be safe. During that walk all I thought about was taking good care of that red sweater. We got to the school and out in the playground while the other kids were playing I stood by the school door so as not to get any dirt on that new red, Mary and her little lamb, sweater. Finally our teacher Mrs. Shiffmann rang her hand bell and school began in earnest.

After about an hour a toilet break was needed on my part. I raised my hand for permission to go to the outhouse. Now Mrs. Shiffmann had a rule and that rule was that no one went out to the outhouse without a partner. This was a good rule as the person in the desk next to mine, my best friend Kathy McKee also in 2nd grade raised her hand to go too. Out we went, laughing and having a great time. We arrived at the outhouse and although it had two holes we still argued who would use it first and who would wait outside I won. In I went, now ever mindful of that red sweater and the trust that had been laid upon me to take care of it, carefully took off the sweater, folded it neatly and laid it down just out of reach of the toilet hole. After completing the reason I was there it was my friends turn to come in while I waited outside. Just as I was reaching to unlatch the hook that kept the door locked from the inside I brushed against that beautiful red sweater with Mary and her little lamb on the front and YES!!! down the hole it went. NO!!! yes!!! Kathy and I looked at each other, then we looked down that hole, then we looked at each other again. This was not funny. I was supposed to take care of that sweater and there it lay floating in the bottom of the hole in a wet slurry of rotten, gag refluxing smelling yuck.. NO!!! No, no, What to do? Neither of us could come up with an answer. I was near tears.

All of a sudden there was a knock on the door. It was our teacher Mrs. Schiffmann) "girls is there a problem?" Well, yes there was. We unlocked the door and showed Mrs. Shiffmann) what happened. Now I was totally in tears. Mrs. Shiffmann looked down the hole then looked at the both of us. "Stay here she said, I'll be right back" and she was, this time, with a metal

coat hanger. She opened that coat hanger up and now she had a long wire with a hook on the end. She carefully reached into the deep dark hole, hooked that beautiful red sweater with Mary and her little lamb on it, and lifted it out of the hole. It was ruined, I was sure of it. It smelled BAD!! I cried harder, I had failed in my task.

My sister's sweater was ruined. I was sure of that. It was my fault. What would I tell my mother? Mrs. Shiffmann realizing my discomfort said "Don't worry, we will drape it over a bush to dry during the rest of the day and then I will wrap it up for you and you can take it home.

The school day finally came to an end. Dear Mrs. Shiffmann wrapped that still damp and no longer beautiful red sweater with Mary and her little lamb on it in newspaper tied it with string and handed it to me to carry home. Have you ever walked almost a mile on a warm September afternoon carrying a package that smelled like? Well you know what. My dear brother Billy and friend Carol, from across the road, refused to walk by me. They ran ahead and were heard laughing, at a safe distance, at my humiliation. Then after all that and knowing I was going to have some explaining to do to my mother I arrived home? Once there I explained the whole sordid story. Was she angry? No!! no? No, she burst into laughter. "That's ok" she said, in between peals of laughter, "Not to worry, the sweater is cotton and it will wash up nicely "It did. Hooray!"

Following that awful, dreadful and smelly experience, believe me when I say, I only wore the blue, MY, blue, Mary and her little lamb sweater the rest of the year while attending Maple Grove's District 46 Fish Lake school.

Maple Grove Goes Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Local volunteers seek to care for military families and veterans... yellowribbonmg@gmail.com



World War II photo of service members from the Osseo/Maple Grove area.



Pierre Bottineau Parade July 14th



Maple Grove Business Expo July 16th



Maple Grove Days 2016



Kids playing on fire truck



Roscoe Mr-Hiuh and Ken Waschak



Butter display and butter making by shaking heavy cream in canning jars



The Welcome Committee at Museum open house July 17th.



**From the Civil War
thru
Vietnam – Display
at the Museum**

**Thanks to
Caroline Schaefer and
Lois Foggia**



Earl Hoppenrath greeted visitors to the Museum and shared his World War II experiences, his uniform and rations



Clay Christian , a new MGHPs member shared his knowledge on wars throughout history . He displayed his Civil War pistol , sword ,and picture of the 1st Minnesota regi- ment to volunteer for the Civil War. His great grandfather served in the Cuban Campaign with Teddy Roosevelt ,and his the long gun and certifi- cate from Spanish/ American War are on display. His father’s WW II medals and his own medals and uniform from Vietnam are on display.

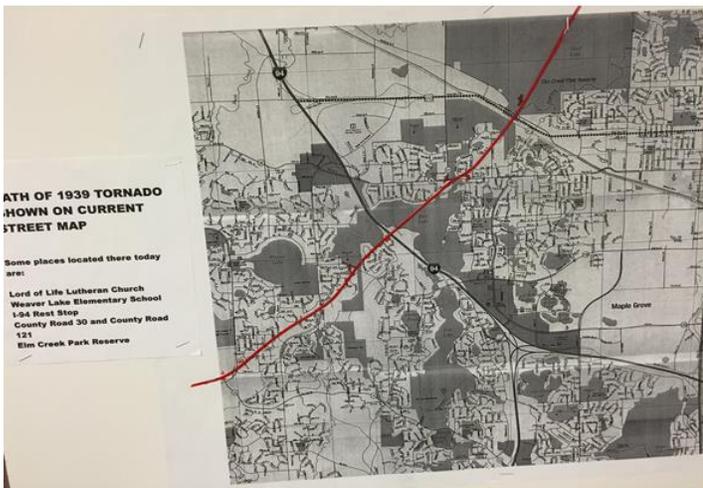


Bill Foley was World I veteran and father of MGHPs member Pat Ruffing. (photo from 1917)



Jim Weber is the Korean War Veteran and a MGHPs member.

Weather Events



At the Public Works Building is a weather monitor ; to find the Maple Grove weather report go to: Hennepinwestmesonet.org . Then go to Maple Grove mesonet.org



Sarah Karel Meteorologist Hennepin County Emergency Management and Kurt Kramer Deputy Fire Safety Chief for Maple Grove

