



Volume 92

August 2018

9030 Forestview Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369 763-494-5983 Open 2nd Sunday of the month 1-4 pm

## **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:**

**Needed: articles for November 2018 issue- roads of Maple Grove and memories of planes, trains , and cars**

**-Feb and May 2019 issues subjects t.b.d.**

- \* **Ox Cart site and territorial downtown Maple Grove**  
15310 Territorial Rd (0.7 mi. w. of Fernbrook Lane N).
- \* **Pierre Bottineau House Elm Creek Park Reserve:**  
12400 James Deane Parkway, Maple Grove, MN.



**Potluck - bring your favorite dish to share**  
**Thursday, August 16**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**At the History Center**

### **Plus**

**-----Stump the Chumps -----**  
**bring something from your home that only you know what it is ...can be small, can be big ...can be old, can be new...Maybe you will have the item that no one can identify and win a**



**I loved school and learning new things.....**

My dolls were my students as well as my unwilling younger brothers, but the beginning was not a pretty sight. Dressed in my new plaid dress, shoes polished, not a hair out of place on my head, I was delivered to school.. Frequently we were picked up by Miss Setzler as she lived close by. As I walked up the side walk by the gym/ auditorium my teeth would actually chatter and my stomach would be doing flip flops... I was terribly shy. I was so shy that getting to Miss Lauer’s first grade room had me in tears... After so many tears with Miss Lauer trying to console me, she would call my mother.. Mother would call Grandpa Trombley and he would drive to Osseo in the Model T to rescue me and take me home... I even remember my big dad sitting on a little chair next to my desk trying to convince me to stay. Mother even tried sending candy, so I would share it at recess with other girls... I remember Annette and Emily were very nice to me - trying to make me feel welcome or maybe they were being nice because they knew I had an older brother... I don’t remember how long it took, but some time in my first year, I came to love school and could not wait for each day. By Joyce Deane

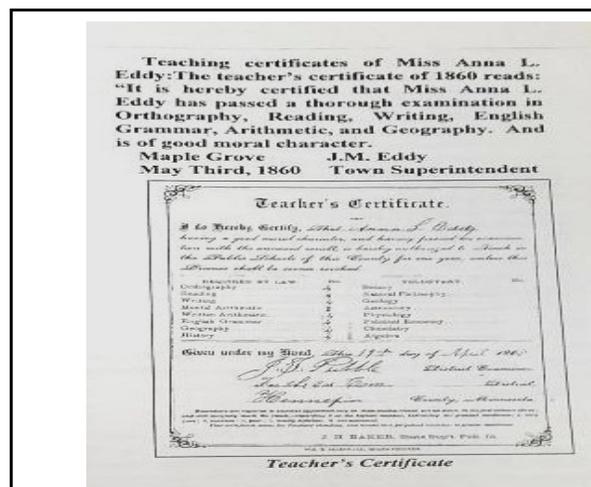


Maple Grove Historical Society invites you to attend a Brainstorming Session of Local History Groups

July 28 --- 9:30 - 11-30am

Guest Speaker - Dustin Heckman

Dustin spoke about the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums MALHM which has been the voice of local history communities in Minnesota since 1991.



**Weaver Lake School District #44 School Board Meetings**

The annual school board meeting in the 1940’s was one of the social events of the summer. The whole family attended! Even if they didn’t have children attending the school...The mystique of the schoolyard in summer held its own special allure. This was the only time during the summer all of the students of District #44 got together...After the meeting everyone gathered in the school house to watch the movies Herbie Lange had taken during the previous year...he was uncanny: if the cows got out , he was there!. After the movies... potluck... Coffee in the big granite coffee pot.. Bernice Gelle...salmon salad sandwiches; Varena Bredenberg angel food cake. Emily Koehler –MG newsletter #30 July 2005

**A Washington Birthday Party**

Our teacher, Gladys McGown, lived with her parents in the Fred Mitchell house across the road from the school... In mid afternoon on Washington’s birthday in 1933... Mrs. McGown came to our school room and said she needed help for a few minutes....( she borrowed a couple of the older boys) when she returned...they were carrying a roaster full of baked beans, a huge bowl of potato salad, a “mountain” of sandwiches and a big bowl of Jello... we had a feast... None of us needed supper that night! MG newsletter # 28 March 2005 by Lillian Weber Havel

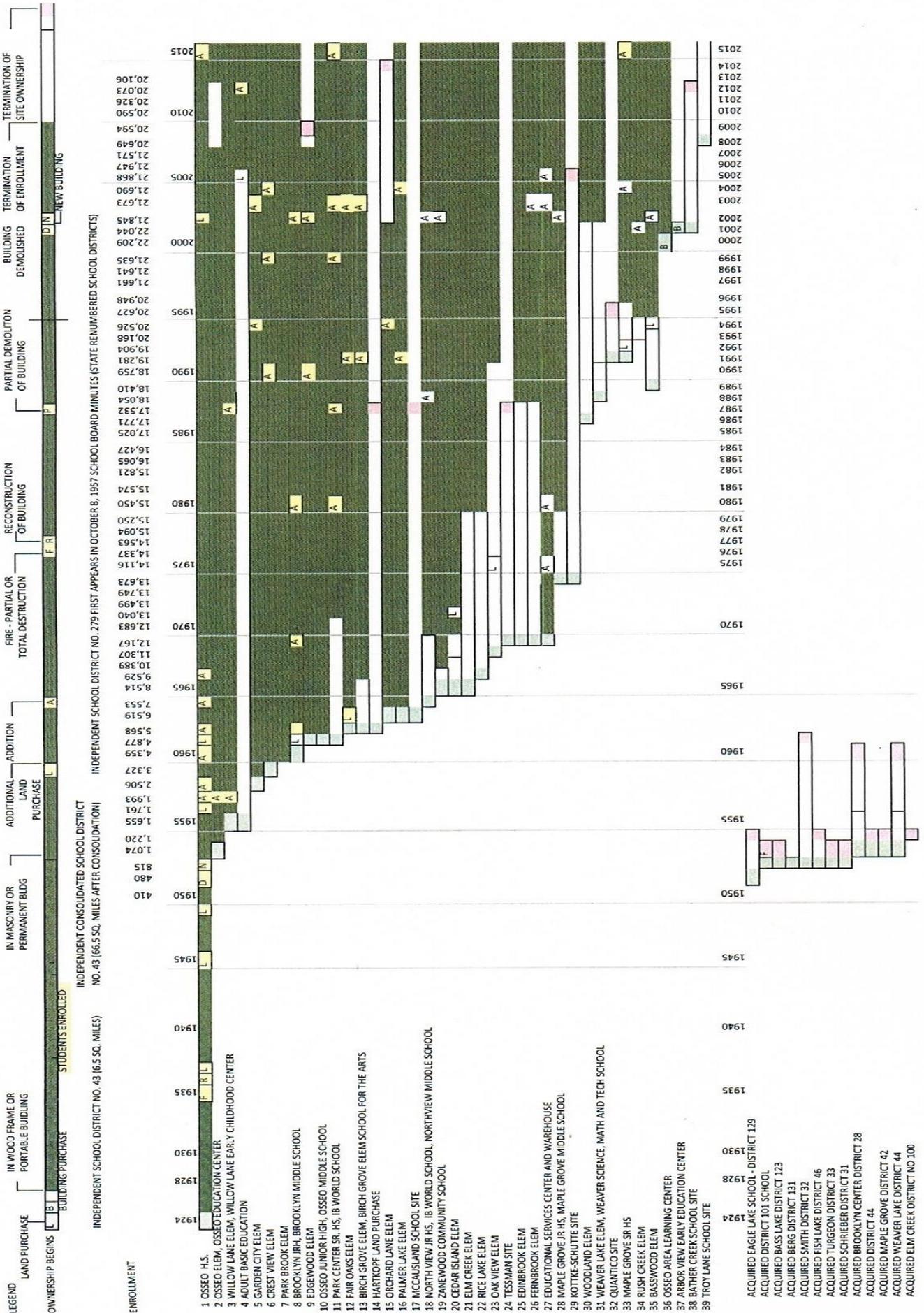
**My Mackinaw**

When winter arrived my mom had a new coat for me. It was a plaid Mackinaw. It was heavy and warm with a belt around the middle with a big square buckle. The plaid was white with dark blue and black. It as the best looking coat in the little room( grades 1-4) . I wore the coat for two winters before I out grew it. P162 Jim Weber I

Osseo Area Schools 1824-2015

A history of past and present schools and site showing terms of site ownership, duration of enrollment, school building construction

- in order of opening enrollment



When my great grandparents, Daniel and Henriette (Lange) Krienke, arrived in Minnesota in 1875 with their five children, they soon settled on the area that would become the Krienke farm in Maple Grove. There must have been considerable excitement when, two years later, a baby sister, Lydia, was born. Her oldest brother, August, was already 25 and preaching in German Methodist Churches. My great Aunt Lydia probably had a lot of attention and she heard many stories from her mother about their life in Neunkirchen, Pomerania. Lydia listened - and remembered- those stories, writing them in a booklet in later years. *"Many a winter evening, she (Henriette) sat spinning wool into yarn or knitting the yarn into warm woolen stockings or socks, and at the same time, telling me incidents that happened in Germany in her childhood up until the time she left at age 47."*

So it is no surprise that Great Aunt Lydia would choose to become a teacher, entering Normal School and then teaching in many rural schools.



She taught in Maple Grove schools, Districts 32 and 42. She also taught at 107, Burschville. The *North Hennepin Pioneer Society* was instrumental in the restoration and preservation of this rural school. My mother, Victoria Krienke Joyner, had a personal interest in this as Lydia was her aunt. There were many meetings of these dedicated people working to preserve this school.

Aunt Lydia taught until 1922 when she married Charlie Ziebarth Jr of Maple Grove at the Krienke farm. (At that time, married women were normally not accepted as teachers).

After Charlie's death in 1955, Aunt Lydia lived with her step daughter, Elsie Norris in Minneapolis. Again, her love of teaching became apparent when she hand wrote all the stories she had heard from her mother when she was a child, like the account of her grandfather Michael Lange in Napoleon's march into Russia

or the Native Americans who came to her aunt Christine's cabin in Maple Grove for food, and her father's love of sheep. Daniel Kienke had been a shepherd in Pomerania and Lydia said that he continued to keep a few sheep after arriving in Maple Grove.



Lydia taught at Burschville School in 1897

Aunt Lydia concluded her writing of memories by saying: *From the time of my grandfather's birth in 1787 until the present in 1964, 177 years have slipped by. What a change in this world during those years! There is no comparison in the way our ancestors lived in Germany or even in the early years here in this country. What changes may be anticipated for the near future?*

And remembering one room schools, I recall the Elm Creek, District 100 school in Maple Grove where my brothers, Al and Lyn, and I attended in the 1930's. (See picture of all eight grades in 1936). One of the highlights of the week would be on Friday noon. We always brought our own lunch, but on that day, one of the parents would bring something special for us to enjoy. I remember that Mrs. Dodds would bring 'glorified rice' -rice with pineapple and cream--my favorite! Mr. Scott, the Hennepin County School Superintendent would stop by now and then. My brother, Lyn, remembers this especially because of the car Mr. Scott drove--a Pierce Arrow! He would also give us some books that we could keep. I remember in first or second grade there was a book, *Three Little Kittens*.

The Hennepin county book truck would also make a monthly stop. Miss Fennyfos would come by to teach music. She had a curl down onto her forehead. This was to identify her from her twin sister who had the same curl on the other side of her forehead!

We can recall some of our Elm Creek teachers, Miss Albertson, Miss Timmons, Miss Koehler, and Mrs. Thomas at District 100--who, like my great Aunt Lydia, with many skills, not only taught the curriculum to all eight grades, but kept the classroom warm in winter, played baseball with us, and tended to our health.

Back row: Albert Joyner; Kenneth Rush; Gordon Jobes; Ed Morehouse; Bill Leadens

Middle row: Orlyn (Lyn) Joyner; Lorraine Leadens; Jean Morehouse; Eldon Walter

Front row: Teddy Leandens; Gwen Joyner; Bob Morehouse.

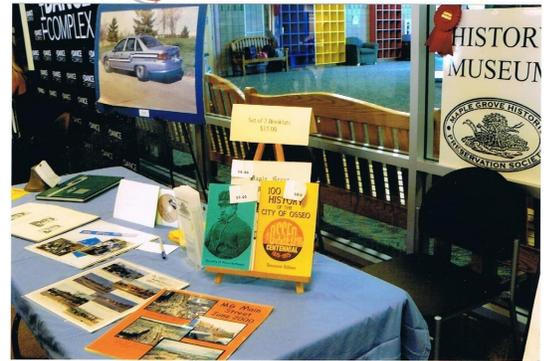
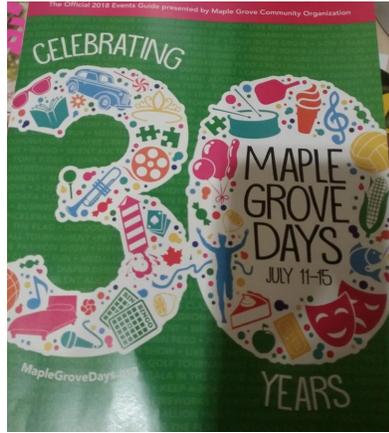
Teacher: Miss Albertson?



# Maple Grove Days 2018



**Thursday Maple Grove Parade**  
It was raining when the parade lineup started and the 3 vintage cars and the MGHPs participants stayed in the safety of the garage!



**MGHPs table at Maple Grove Business Expo**

**Winners of Our Town Video by CCX Media**  
Tom Danielson. At business expo pictured on right.  
Open House Our Town winner Terry Fachant.



Memories



**Hassan and Osseo History Displays**



**Kids making Pinwheels and spool necklaces**



# I LIKE BEING A COUNTRY SCHOOL TEACHER

By Alice Kuntz

Teacher at Fish Lake School, District 46, near Cloud



My Fish Lake school near Cloud is typical of one-story rural schools throughout the state. Their number is fast decreasing. There are 1,054 one-teacher rural schools in Minnesota this year (as in 1936).



I am a country school teacher—one of the 4,000 teaching one-room rural schools in Minnesota. My pupils, to whom I am reading above, are typical of some 100,000 Minnesota children receiving elementary education in such schools this year. Like other country teachers, my job ends for

teaching pupils in eight grades. (This year, however, I have no pupils in the eighth grade.) My pupils have a six-month term, as do two-thirds of Minnesota's rural schools. The other third has eight-month terms. There was when rural schools had limited winter sessions of 10 to 15 days.



Each morning I walk a half-mile to school. I arrive at 7 o'clock, an hour before school takes up, in order to make any preparations necessary for the day's program.



Reading time is a teacher's daily recurring duty in many country schools. In mine, however, a janitor relieves me of this task during the six coldest months, from November to April.



Hot lunches for the rural school pupils in boarding were common throughout the state. In my school the Fish Lake Mother's club provides the lunches I serve the pupils from December to April.



Several instructors insist on the rural school teacher. Among other things she must supervise physical training (above). About 50 per cent of the rural teachers have qualified for their teaching jobs through the post-graduate teacher-training departments in 24 Minnesota high schools. About 30 per cent have completed a two-year teachers college course, such as I did at St. Cloud.



Although this is my 20th year as a country school teacher, I have found that, whatever fields they may have, the one-room rural schools have one advantage: the teacher may adapt the educational program to individual differences because she works with small groups (above). Country teachers' monthly salaries range from \$90 to \$125, with \$77 the median.



Country school is not all a job, but the teacher's day may continue until 5. She has papers to grade, her following day's program to plan, and, in most cases, the sweeping to do. Like many other rural teachers with two years college training I plan to complete four through summer school, and soon set foot in the city. (The right view is the living a country school teacher. PHOTOS BY THE MUSEUM.)



# Our Town

A video by CCX Media (<https://cxmedia.org>) with the help of The Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society. Take a 34 minute trip back through the history of Maple Grove In the words of CCX Media website:

“The story of Maple Grove’s history is told in the words of a wonderful mix of people well connected to the city. Interviewees include Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society Members Al Madsen, Joyce Deanne, Caroline Schaefer, Roger McHugh, Virginia Hoppenrath, current Mayor Mark Steffenson, Former District 279 School Board Member Patience Gall, Former Maple Grove Parks and Recreation Director Terry Just, and Tiller Corporation Owner Gary Sauer.”

The video includes ...the early settling of the area ..., early industry and activities ..., the start of village and city development, the growth of schools ..., the significance of the gravel mining ... and present day development and future planning.”



Carol Gelle Emmans, age 80, of Osseo, graduate of Osseo High School. Carol taught elementary grades in various Osseo buildings for 37 years. Her memorial was June 18, 2018, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church.

In MG Newsletter #30 in July 2005 Carol wrote:

## Fifty Years Ago

May 26, 1955, was indeed a momentous day at Osseo High School. Sixty-nine seniors, the largest class in the school’s history was scheduled to graduate. Because the class was so large, commencement exercises were to be held outdoors-at Memorial Park– another big first for OHS.

But, you guessed it? RAIN forced the ceremony indoors- this time to the old gym....Finally, in 1986, District #279 officials conceded defeat and rented the Minneapolis Target Center ...

The class of 1955 was composed of three groups of students-some had attended Osseo from grade one; others came into town as wide-eyed ninth graders from the various rural schools in the areas; another group “open enroller”.– Do you want to attend North High, a double shift at Robbinsdale or Osseo High?... All were housed in the big brown building on 2nd Ave NW in Osseo.

Pat Kisch attended Berg School 1st-4th grade. She attended Brooklyn Center from 4-6th grade and then was to go to Schreiber School. She was there 4 days when her name was picked to go to Osseo to School. Her friends remained at the Schreiber School!

## Memoires of My Early School Days. by Pat Kisch

I attended a one room school in Brooklyn Park. It was called Berg School District #131.

It was a farm country at the time there were no school buses. I walked the 2 miles with other children. As we walked others would join I until we had a large group. Some biked if they were lucky to have a hand me down bike from an older brother of sister.

I remember one winter a blizzard started in the middle of the day. It was too deep for us to walk home and cars couldn’t get through. My father had a large farm truck that could make it through the snow. He delivered the children home that afternoon. Of course, we had to ride in the open box of the truck. By the time we arrived home everyone was snow covered.

On cold winter days at recess someone was always dared to put their tongue on the metal bar of the merry-go-round. Many times the teacher had to come out to help get someone unstuck. We know there would be a lecture after recess.

We carried our lunch from home- no hot lunch program. There was no refrigeration so it was warm milk with lunch. I brought my milk to school in a pint jar which didn’t keep it cold. I decided I didn’t like warm milk so I didn’t drink it. I would dump it in the creek on the way home. It worked for a while until a neighbor saw me and made a report to my parents. I got the “starving children” talk and remember being grounded.

The hair style for girls was braids in the hair. The braids were always getting pulled, stuck in the ink well of the desk and some even got cut shorter.

The older boys would put coal in the furnace for the teacher. If they decided they wanted a day off they would close the damper and the school would fill with smoke... Of course, that ended the school day.

These are my memories of my early school days!

## Memories of Elementary School

My sisters Leona, Arlene, Lorraine, and I attended School District 101 from 1942 until 1950. It was a one room school house for grades one through eight. One teacher taught all eight grades. My father, uncle, and aunt had also attended this school.

I was five years old when I started first grade. I had a hard time adjusting, but my twin sister Leona attended also so that made it easier.

The school was one mile from our home. There was no bus service so we walked or our grandparents, who gave us a ride. In the winter we tunneled through the snow banks to school.

Some of the fun things we did during recess was play ball, annie annie over, tag, swing. In the winter we made tunnels in the snow.

Since we had no running water at school we would carry water from the farm across the road that belonged to Adolph Schoeber.

We brought hot chocolate from home and put it on the kerosene stove to keep warm. One day we forgot to take the cover off. The hot chocolate overheated and blew up, splattering all over the ceiling.

Our teacher Miss Turney would take us on a field trip in the woods. We looked for different trees, leaves, flowers, vegetation.

When I was in the first grade, we had a ball game with another school. The kids were much bigger in size than we were. I was the only one who scored a run that day. I felt pretty good about that.

A special memory was when our class put on the play, A Christmas Carol. I was Marly and Gary Kreig was Cratchet.

At the end of the school year we received a bottle of Coca Cola, pencils and some balls. We also went to Excelsior Park to celebrate the end of the school year.

At the end of eighth grade we had to go to Osseo to school. I felt lost, everything was going to change.

By LeRoy Bonn

# T

## he Beautiful ART Project

Mine was truly a work of art – Somehow a phonograph record was warmed so it became pliable. Mine had up and down curves all around the out side... Then came the pink paint – my favorite color, and next I painted flowers randomly on this work of art.. They were set on a radiator to finish drying... At the end of the day, Mr. Ward, the superintendent came in to see what we were up to....He picked mine up and admired it saying how creative it was... I was pleased. It was only later I realized my work or art now had the superintendent's rather large thumbprint embedded on a lovely flower. The paint was not dry!

By Joyce Deane

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

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
(Renewable each January)

Annual Membership: (tax deductible)  
\$15 Individual/Senior  
\$30 Family  
\$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: \_\_\_\_\_