

CONNECTIONS

Fall 2009

Serving Scott County

- Belle Plaine
- Blakeley
- Credit River
- Elko
- Lydia
- Jordan
- Marystown
- New Market
- New Prague
- Prior Lake
- Savage
- Shakopee
- St. Benedict
- St. Patrick
- Belle Plaine Township
- Blakeley Township
- Cedar Lake Township
- Credit River Township
- Helena Township
- Jackson Township
- Louisville Township
- New Market Township
- Sand Creek Township
- Spring Lake Township
- St. Lawrence Township

SAVE THE DATE - OCT. 16

Cool Night - Hot Music

Call all your friends and family to join you for a musical treat Friday night, October 16. Listen to great music provided by the *Wolf Brothers* "Blues" band and *Cruiser and the Eddys* "Rock & Roll" band (cash bar).

We are collecting items for the evening's silent auction. Please give us a call if you have something to donate. Some unique items donated include...one-dozen cookies a month for a year, original art work, a Toro lawn mower, a basket of toys, and much more!

Tickets are limited and cost \$10 (\$15 at the door), get yours at SCHS. Proceeds benefit the Scott County Historical Society.

Friday
October 16
7:00 - Midnight

COOL NIGHT HOT MUSIC




Wolf Brothers "Blues" Band
7:30 - 9:30 pm

Cruiser & The Eddys
"Rock & Roll" Band
10 - Midnight

Silent Auction 7-9:00 pm

Turtle's 1890 Social Club,
Shakopee
Tickets \$10 (\$15 at door)
Cash Bar

952-445-0378
info@scottcountyhistory.org
www.scottcountyhistory.org

Proceeds benefit the Scott County Historical Society

EXHIBIT OPENING



The public has spoken! In our last exhibit you voted for the next exhibit topic & the winner is....Fabulous Fifties.

Opening September 24, you can "Read All About It." Discover (or re-live), 1950s Scott County through newspaper headlines.

From a walk-in fallout shelter to a soda fountain, from early television to the explosion of car culture, from queen candidates to Barbie™, visitors will have tons to explore.

The exhibit includes many hands-on interactive components, and is designed to meet benchmarks in Minnesota Standards in teaching History. Book a tour by calling the museum.

Special opening celebration September 24 6:30-8pm includes fun contests including yo-yo, marble, stilt walking, bubble-gum, rock/paper/scissors & Best Costume.

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From the Director's Chair

By Kathleen Klehr

This summer we hosted four college interns. Below are their stories.

Katie Glasoe: *Having graduated with a history degree, my career options are as endless as they are ambiguous. This internship has given me practical experience in at least one area I can use my degree- in exhibit work.*

Over the course of the last month and a half I have completed work on the county fair exhibit- a brief history of food and the utensils that have been used to prepare food within the last century. Also, I have started work on a clothing exhibit dealing with women's formal wear.



Rachel Simmons: *I have learned so much in the few short months I have been at the Stans Museum. I feel like this was a very well rounded program and I have learned everything from collecting artifacts to cataloguing to setting up displays. I was able to handle real artifacts from the museum's collection, preserve, number, and catalogue them, and then design a portion of the Fabulous Fifties exhibit. Theresa and Kathy really trusted me and gave me more responsibility than I would have had in other museums. Theresa even invited the interns to attend a meeting of the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums where we were able to get an insider's perspective on some of the real concerns facing small museums. This internship has been invaluable and will really help me in my future career as a museum curator.*

Stephanie Wojtanowicz: *I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to work at the Stan's Museum in Shakopee this summer. As an Exhibits Intern I was entrusted with conducting independent research for the 1950s exhibit in the Stan's Museum as*



well as putting together two small scale exhibits for display at the Shakopee Community Center and the Prior Lake City Hall. The two smaller exhibits that are currently on display outside the museum both focused on sports. Being that sports is an area that I know little about, it required more time, research and patience. I enjoyed every minute of it. For the 1950s exhibit I chose to research children's toys that were popular during that decade, and the Korean Conflict. I immersed myself in these two topics and strove to find every detail I could for each portion by researching at different libraries and on the internet.

In addition to my responsibilities at the museum, Theresa invited the other interns and I to a meeting of the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums. This was a valuable experience that I would not have otherwise had. I was surprised and pleased at the amount of responsibility I was given at the Stan's Museum. Because of this I feel that it has been a truly unique experience that is unequalled in value.

Chelsie McGuire: *Interning at the Scott County Historical Society for this past summer has been an extremely rewarding experience. I currently work with the educational programs offered by the institution, but am lucky enough to work close with Kathy and Theresa as well as with three other interns. This then enables me to be more involved and somewhat understand the overall processes of the Society as a whole.*

I began the summer reviewing the educational programs we presently offer. After looking over these as well as the Minnesota Educational Standards for teaching History, I am now working on creating another program for kindergarten through third grade. It will be focusing on German



immigration to Scott County in the 1800s. It includes a costumed interpreter as well as an authentic immigrant trunk containing hands-on artifacts. In addition to this Immigrant Trunk program, I have also been working on the Car Culture portion of the 1950s exhibit. This section will touch on aspects of the 1950s Car Culture from the Interstate Highway Act, to rebellious teen greasers, to an actual car from the 1950s on display. I would not

Continued on page 3

(May 1 – July 31, 2009)

THANK YOU New and Renewing MEMBERS!

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Haferman Water Conditioning,
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Water filter installed for silent
auction

Hennen's Shell, five coupons for
premium car washes for silent
auction

Lion's Tap, three \$10 gift
certificates for the silent
auction

Lowe's, Pump & Paint and
Dobie pads

Skateville, Sixteen free passes
for silent auction

Toro Company, lawn mower for
silent auction

SCHS strives to ensure our member and donor lists are accurate. We sincerely apologize if your name was missed. Please let us know so we may make a correction.

Interns Continued

have imagined that making an exhibit on something as common as cars would have been so challenging. However, with the help of Kathy and Theresa, the exhibit is coming together and I am excited to see the final product.

Because I work with the educational aspects of the museum, I will be writing up a Kids' Tour as well as a Spy Kids game..., and will enable the speaker to present the information in the exhibit to a younger audience while still meeting the educational standards set by the state. The Spy Kids game, on the other hand, is meant more as an interactive which will help guide children through the museum as they try to figure out clues by reading the information on the walls, touching the hands-on artifacts and drawing their own conclusions through the information that is both given as well as discovered.

This internship is absolutely beneficial for me and my future goals. I will be graduating from the University

of Minnesota with a degree in History and hope to continue to graduate school, and eventually onto a career in education. Working with the educational programs could not have better prepared me. I now have more of an understanding of how to present history to a group of students of different age ranges. In addition, I know the Minnesota Educational Standards that must be met in the classroom, and through working in a museum, I have seen the importance of teaching and learning history through a variety of methods: lecture, reading, visual clips and images, hands-on activities, etc. So, for all of this I would like to thank Kathy Klehr, Theresa Norman, and the Scott County Historical Society for providing me with this opportunity. Thank you!

Internships are offered year round. To apply, please send a resume, letter of interest and two references to:
Kathleen Klehr, Executive Director, Scott County Historical Society, 235 Fuller Street South, Shakopee, MN 55379

Curator Corner

Summer is in full swing and once again the SCHS will be changing out its largest exhibit gallery. We said goodbye to *From the Hill to the Valley; A Landscape in Politics* exhibit and welcome the exhibit *Read All About It: 1950s Scott County Headlines*. This new exhibit focuses on topics of the Cold War, the Korean War, television, rock-and-roll, toys, women's roles and car culture. *Read All About It* explores life in America during the 1950s as told through local newspaper headlines. Visitors to the exhibit will see a classic Metropolitan Nash automobile, walk into a fallout shelter, try their hand at hula hoops, help decorate an oversized Mr. Potato Head, play "I Spy", pretend to be Miss Scott County, try on spy disguises, single-handedly save the world from communist destruction, and much more!

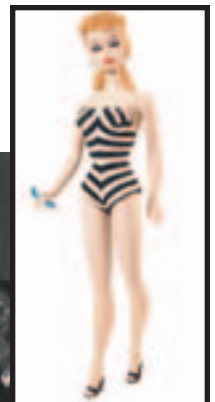
In addition to great interactives, the exhibit includes numerous artifacts such as a Korean War uniform from Belle Plaine, the 1957 Shakopee queen coronation dress, the soda fountain counter from Boppel's drug store, a Roadmaster Sky rider bicycle from New Prague, signs from Raceway Park, and Scott County Civil Defense pamphlets and safety gear.

Come reminisce and make new memories at the **exhibit opening on Thursday, September 24**. The opening starts at 6pm and the evening's festivities include contests galore such as...

- * Yo-yo contest - can you "walk the dog?"
- * Bubble gum blowing - How big is too big?
- * Stilt walking
- * Hop-scotch
- * Double-dutch jump rope - remember the rhymes? and
- * the best 1950s Costume - pass the Brylcream!



The Shakopee Heritage Society (SHS) is conducting a Home/Site Tour of Shakopee Houses September 12, 2009 from 10am - 4pm. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the Scott County Historical Society / Stans Museum.



Barbie photo
courtesy of
Mattel.

From the Programs Desk

Fall will be a busy time for the SCHS as many exciting programs will take the society through the rest of 2009. September kicks off with a walking tour of New Prague at 7pm on Wednesday, September 2. The tour will begin at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church and then head up and down Main Street, ending at Suel Printing. Just over three weeks later, the SCHS's newest exhibit *Read All About It: 1950s Scott County Headlines* opens with a Fabulous Fifties Bang!

A variety of different programs will be held in October including two quilting classes (one making a Christmas tree ornament and one making a quilted pin cushion - see the Shakopee

Community Education catalog for more details and to register), the SCHS fund raiser *Cool Night - Hot Music* on October 16, quilt appraisals with certified appraiser Jean Carlton on October 17, MN Greatest Generation preserving family history workshop on October 22, and old fashioned trick-or-treating at The Landing on October 25.

November and December will again focus on more traditional programs, including a gingerbread house workshop on November 21 and German themed Christmas Teas on December 10, 12, and 17.

THANKS TO GENEROUS DONORS, MORE HISTORY SAVED, PRESERVED, SHARED

- Souvenir tie from Dan Patch Days (Evelyn Crane)
- 2009 reprint of "The Shakopee Story" (Shakopee Heritage Society)
- Large framed image of the Shakopee High School Class of 1943 (Harriet Pink)
- Coverplate from the Shakopee Foundry (David Liemohn)
- Patchwork quilt (Virginia Ringgenberg)
- Sixteen mugs from the Prior Lake Bakery (Dean Reeve)
- Photographs from the Shakopee queen coronation in 1956, promotional items from Dan Patch Days, family books, and World War II ration books (Laura Radermacher)
- Official portrait of Prior Lake titled "Verticalville" (Patricia Larson)
- Edison disc phonograph and 30 records (Fred Marschall)
- Two commemorative buttons from Canterbury Downs (Patrick Shannon)
- Surveying level and tripod used in New Prague (Laura Emerson)

- Record albums, knick-knacks, cook books and so on from Scott County churches and businesses (Clifford Johnson)
- Numerous photographs of the Belle Plaine area (Leo Albrecht)
- 1964 reproduction of "The Indians' Revenge" (Nan Ochs)
- Family genealogy "Mares Vlasak Family Tree and History" (Eugene Pexa)
- Three political handbills (Dennis Dvorack)
- Clipboard advertising the Shakopee Beverage Co. (Winnie Lindmeier)
- Postcard of Shakopee High School and two decks of cards used as promotional items by the First National Bank (Irene Bursey)



Donations help to tell our story. Please consider donating items to help fill in the gaps in the SCHS collection. Give us a call. We accept most items that have a Scott County connection.

From the Research Library

This issue we welcome an article submitted to SCHS by member Rod Wideman. As you can see, Rod has a unique way to “dig” up local history. Thank You Rod!

When the Sokol Came to New Prague

By: Rod Wideman

One of the enjoyable aspects of metal detecting is that one discovery often leads to another. This recent find is a good example, and one that brings to light a bit of local history. This watch fob was recovered during the summer; it commemorates the 2nd Annual Sokol Meet which at New Prague in June 1920.

Sokol is a social, cultural, educational, and gymnastic organization. According to the Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota website (<http://www.sokolmn.org>), American Sokol grew out of an international movement founded in 1862. Joe Landsberger, President of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, states that “Sokol Minnesota is 127 years old and our membership is at an all time high.”

The Sokol meet that took place in New Prague was, according to the New Prague Times, a State Meet that took place June 11th-13th, 1920. Several local Sokol delegations were present, and delegations ranged in size from fewer than 10 registrants for the smaller towns to 80 from St. Paul and 184 from New Prague.

The turnout to watch the event was very large and the paper stated that “thousands of people attended.” The event was filled with various gymnastics contests, drills, and exhibitions, as well as parades, speeches, banquets, plays, and dances. One highlight was a “moving picture studio” being contracted from Minneapolis by the New Prague Sokol (at an expense of \$700) to

come and film much of the event, with the films to be shown at New Prague and in the Twin Cities. They were to also be told to include footage of “the most important buildings and chief points of interest in New Prague.” What a treasure it would be to find those films today!

Watch fobs were commonly used in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when men carried pocket watches (wristwatches had not yet been invented). The watch was kept in a pocket and the fob was attached to the end of a chain or leather strap. It was used to retrieve



Watch Fob

the watch from the pocket. This particular fob was made by the Whitehead & Hoag Company of New Jersey. It uses a “stock” design surrounded by the custom wording for the event (perhaps one of the Sokol groups arranged to have the fobs made). Finding items like this is a fun way to both preserve and connect to a bit of history.

If you are interested in submitting an article for *Connections*, please contact Kathy at info@scottcountyhistory.org or 952-445-0378. Articles should be approximately 400 words, include a photo (if possible), and relate to Scott County History.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

For additional information call 952-445-0378 or email info@scottcountyhistory.org

- **Downtown New Prague walking tour.** Wednesday, September 2 at 7pm. Register by calling us at 952-445-0378 or e-mailing us at info@scottcountyhistory.org.
- **Quilted pincushion class, part I.** Thursday, September 17 at 6pm. Register through Shakopee Comm. Ed.
- **All Things Minnesota book club.** Thursday, September 17 at 6:30pm. "1st Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota 1871-1991" by Grace Terry
- **Exhibit opening for *Read All About It: 1950s Scott County Headlines*.** Thursday, September 24, 6-8pm
- **Scott County Crazy Quilters.** Thursday, September 24 at 6:30pm.
- **Kids' Kraft = *Sweet September*.** September 26 at 10:30am. We will read "Paul Bunyan's Sweetheart" by MaryBeth Lorbiecki and then do seed art. Registrations required.
- **Crazy quilt Christmas tree ornament class.** Thursday, October 8 at 6pm. Register through Shakopee Comm. Ed.
- **Quilted pincushion class, part II.** Thursday, October 15 at 6pm. Register through Shakopee Comm. Ed.
- **All Things Minnesota book club.** Thursday, October 15 at 6:30pm. "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson
- **Cool Night-Hot Music** fund raiser. Friday, October 16 at 6:30pm.
- **Quilt appraisals** with Jean Carlton. Saturday, October 17 at 10am.
- **Scott County Crazy Quilters.** Thursday, October 22 at 6:30pm
- **MN Greatest Generation Preserving your Family History Workshop** with Bob Herskovitz of MHS October 22 from 6:30-8pm
- **Old Fashioned Trick-or-Treating** at The Landing. Sunday, October 25
- **Kids' Kraft = *Saying Thanks*.** October 31 at 10:30am. We will read "Thank You" by Janet Riehecky and then write notes and send small care packages to troops serving overseas.
- **Exhibit opening** for *What To Wear: Women's Formal Wear and Etiquette*, November 14
- **All Things Minnesota book club.** Thursday, November 19 at 6:30pm. "Christmas in Minnesota" by Ziebarth Horrigan
- **Gingerbread House workshop.** Saturday, November 21 at 10:30am and 2:30pm.
- **Kids' Kraft = *Christmas Time*.** November 28 at 10:30am. We will read "When Cows Come Home For Christmas" by Dori Chaconas and then make advent calendars.
- **Adult Christmas Tea**, a traditional German holiday. Thursday, December 10 at 6:30pm.
- **Girl's Christmas Tea**, a traditional German holiday. Saturday, December 12 at 1pm. and Thursday, December 17 at 6:30pm.

There is no Kids Kraft in December, it resumes January 30, 2010

SCHS WISH LIST

The following items would make wonderful in-kind donations! Contact us at 952-445-0378 E-mail at info@scottcountyhistory.org, or stop by!

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| * Conference table | * Scanner |
| * LCD Projector | * Copy paper |
| * HP Photo paper | * Cleaning supplies |
| * Step Ladder | |

Crazy Quilters

Come & join us as we stitch! Learn how to crazy quilt or bring any hand-stitching project to work on (quilting, cross-stitch, knitting, etc.). Lots of free fabric, trims, threads, tips, fun and friendship, all for just annual dues of \$15 - includes individual membership at SCHS! For more information contact Sandi at (248) 868-4058.

*Fourth Thursday of each month
6:00-8:00p.m.*

*Special Quilt Appraisal event October 17.
Jean Carlton, AQS Certified Quilt Appraiser will be at SCHS - call Jean to reserve your time 763-420-7229*



235 Fuller Street South
 Shakopee, MN 55379
 Phone: 952-445-0378
 Fax: 952-445-4154
 info@scottcountyhistory.org
 www.scottcountyhistory.org



Hours:
 T, W, F 9am - 4pm
 Th 9am - 8pm
 Sat 10am - 3pm
 Closed: Sunday, Monday and
 Major Holidays

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Ice Cream Social



Clothing Mount Workshop



Painting Stans House



SCHS - Stans Museum

SCHS Membership Application

Name _____

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YES! I would like to support SCHS at the following level (please check one).

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Mail to: Scott County Historical Society,
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