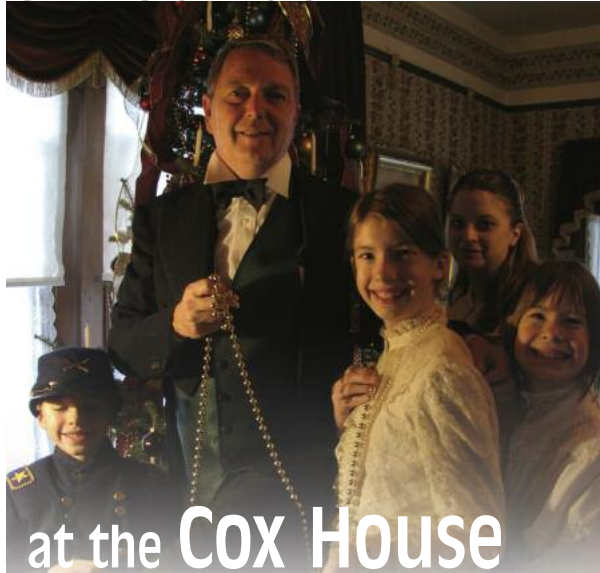




## Christmas



### at the Cox House

**M**r. and Mrs. Cox cordially invite you to attend the annual Christmas at the Cox House Open House. Richard Tostenson and the Minnehaha Questers Chapter of St. Peter have transformed the house into a Victorian holiday celebration. Costumed interpreters will portray the Cox family. Local musicians will play beautiful Christmas music and sing-a-longs are encouraged! Mulled cider and homemade cookies will be provided in the kitchen each afternoon. Join us from 7–9 p.m. Thursday, December 8th or Friday, December 9th; or 1–4 p.m. Saturday, December 10th or Sunday, December 11th.

#### Musicians for Christmas at the Cox House

Thursday, December 8 7–9 p.m.

Dorothy Lutz, piano

Friday, December 9 7–9 p.m.

James Bakken, reed organ, piano

Saturday, December 10 1–4 p.m.

Amari Lambert, piano & Sophie Erickson, piano

Sunday, December 11 1–4 p.m.

“Heartstrings” Diana & Kenneth Stoll, stringed instruments

Christmas at the Cox House is truly a St. Peter tradition. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for 13–18 year olds and free for children 12 and under. As always, Nicollet County Historical Society members are free. If you would like more information, or have any questions, please contact 507-934-2160 or [jessica@nchsmn.org](mailto:jessica@nchsmn.org).



Santa distributes Christmas gifts to children gathering on Nassau Street in St. Peter in this circa 1930 image from the photo collection of the Nicollet County Historical Society.

## Director's Column

**O**n behalf of the staff and board of the Society, I would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and holiday season. I may not always love the temperatures, but I do love taking the time during the holidays to give thanks, and to recognize those that mean so much to us. We couldn't make the Society work without you. In economic times like these, we rely more on you. We appreciate your support so very much. Thank you—not just for being members, but for being our friends, neighbors, teammates, merchants, and contractors too. We hope that you and your families are all healthy and happy. As I think about the last year it's less about what I did and more about who I did it with.

Cheers,

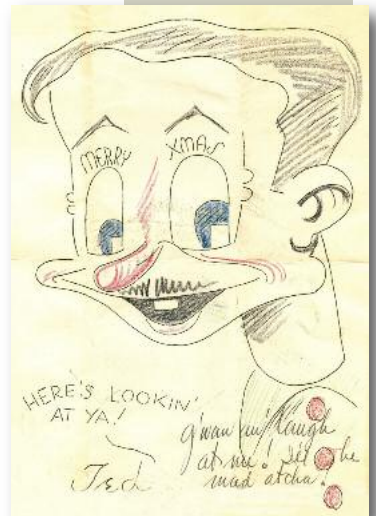
Ben Leonard, Director



Ben Leonard

## Collection Spotlight

**T**his Christmas card was sent by friend Ted Lepon to Lafayette resident Russell Malmberg during his service in WWII. Russell joined the U.S. Air Force on January 21, 1942 as an engineer gunner on a B-25 bomber. He was stationed in Corsica, Italy, and flew 64 combat missions as a member of the 57th Bomb Wing. Russell Malmberg passed away in 1998 and buried with full military rights at the Bernadotte Lutheran Church cemetery.



## Dakota History Lecture Series

**J**oin the Society and Gustavus Adolphus College as we welcome reknowned scholars to discuss Dakota culture, history, and the War of 1862. This series is made possible by the generous support of Gustavus Adolphus College, Minnesota Humanities Center, the Society, and funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

All lectures will be held at the Linnaeus Arboretum on the Gustavus Adolphus College campus from 4–5:30 p.m. All are free and open to the public.

**Wed., Jan. 4: Dr. John Peacock**

*War of Words: Writings by Dakota People In Their Own Language and Later in English During and After the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862*

Dr. John Peacock is Rinehart is Professor of Language, Literature, and Culture at the Maryland Institute College of Art. A member of the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation, his writing has been published in *American Indian Quarterly* and *American Indian Literatures*.

**Thurs., Jan. 5: Glenn Wasicuna**

*A Dakota Way of Life*

Glenn Wasicuna is the Director of Dakota Studies, Tiospa Zina Tribal School. He was the Editor/Publisher of *The Dakota Times*, a Canadian newspaper, for more than a dozen years. He will discuss every-day Dakota culture, customs, and world view.

*Lecture Series continued on reverse*



Art Credit: *Medicine Dance of the Sioux or Dakota Indians on the St. Peters River near Fort Snelling, 1847, Seth Eastman (1808–75), from the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.*

# Film Series Continues

The Nicollet County Historical Society teams with Community and Family Education, River Rock Coffee, and the St. Peter Food Co-op for our third-annual documentary film series. These award-winning films will be shown at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at the Treaty Site History Center.

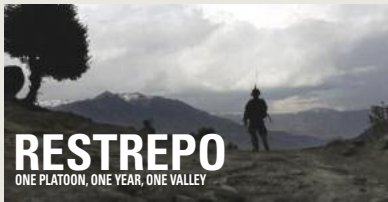
## Thurs., Jan. 5, 7 p.m.: Okie Noodling

For centuries, a unique breed of fishermen has been catching monster catfish with their bare hands in the rivers and lakes of Oklahoma. Today, the tradition of "noodling" still has Okie anglers hooked. This documentary by Bradley Beesley features interviews with hardcore handfishing veterans as well as footage of real noodlers in action. Set against an original musical score by rock band The Flaming Lips, *Okie Noodling* offers an anecdotal look at a most unusual piece of Midwest American culture.



## Thurs., Feb. 2, 7 p.m.: Restrepo

*Restrepo* is a feature-length documentary that chronicles the deployment of a platoon of U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley. The movie focuses on a remote 15-man outpost, "Restrepo," named after a platoon medic who was killed in action. It was considered one of the most dangerous postings in the U.S. military. This is an entirely experiential film: the cameras never leave the valley; there are no interviews with generals or diplomats. The only goal is to make viewers feel as if they have just been through a 90-minute deployment. This is war, full stop. The conclusions are up to you.



## Thurs., Mar. 1, 7 p.m.: Exit Through The Gift Shop

This is the inside story of Street Art—a brutal and revealing account of what happens when fame, money and vandalism collide.

## Thurs., Apr. 5, 7 p.m.: The Real Dirt on Farmer John

The epic tale of a maverick Midwestern farmer.

## Thurs., May 3, 7 p.m.: Black Gold

While we continue to pay for our lattes and cappuccinos, the price paid to coffee farmers remains so low that many have been forced to abandon their coffee fields.

Lecture Series continued from page 1

## Tues., Jan. 10: Dr. Gary Clayton Anderson *The Dakota War Trials: Travesty of Justice or Reasonable Retribution?*

Gary Clayton Anderson is Professor at the University of Oklahoma. His books include *Kinsmen of Another Kind: Dakota-White Relations in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1650-1862*, and *Through Dakota Eyes: Narrative Accounts of the Minnesota Indian War of 1862*.

## Tues., Jan. 17: Thomas Maltman *Based on a True Story: Researching a Controversial History to Create Fiction*

Thomas Maltman is the Visiting Artist in Creative Writing at Normandale Community College. His debut novel, *The Night Birds*, was based in large part on historical events of the U.S.-Dakota War.

## Tues., Jan. 24: Corinne Marz *Aftermath of the 1862 War: Reviewing the Years from 1862-1866*

Independent historian Corinne Monjeau-Marz will discuss her *Minnesota's Heritage* article, "Alexander Ramsey's Words of War," and books *The Dakota Indian Internment at Fort Snelling, 1862-1864*, and *Trail of Tears: Minnesota's Dakota Indian Exile Begins*.

## Thurs., Jan. 26: Dr. Gwen Westerman *We Are Still Here*

Dr. Gwen Westerman is an English professor at MSU-Mankato and serves as the Director of the Native American Literature Symposium. Gwen has published her poetry in *Yellow Medicine Review*, *Water-Stone Review*, and other journals. Her lecture will focus on the lives of modern Dakota and their special place in Minnesota.

# Holiday Shopping

The Treaty Site Museum Store is a great place to find unique books and gifts. The normal 10% member discount has been doubled for the rest of 2011. Don't want to visit? We can mail your purchases for you. Don't have what you need? We may be able to order it.

No room for books? What about a gift membership to the historical society? The lucky recipient gets a whole year of free admission and programs to all of our sites, plus free admission to the Minnesota Historical Society through the Time Travelers program.

### Feature Books:

#### *The Treaty of Traverse des Sioux*, by William E. Lass

Recently published by NCHS, it thoroughly covers the 1851 Treaty while illuminating new details about the treaty's place in the political argument over free and slave states. A must have for anyone living in this area or interested in the history of Minnesota.

#### *The Last Hunter: An American Family Album*, by Will Weaver

Minnesota's Will Weaver has been a hunter since he was a young boy, following in the footsteps of his father, a dedicated and seasoned outdoorsman. As he writes, "in the fall, when Canada geese came through and when partridge season opened, [we] heard the far-off thudding report of shotguns—and in November the heavier boom-boom! of deer rifles." Hunting frames Weaver's childhood memories, his relationship with his father, and his own definition of self. And although one side of his family lineage includes men who would not hunt, or go to war, or carry a rifle, Weaver is caught off guard when his son and daughter show no interest in upholding the tradition of the hunt.

# NCHS Annual Meeting

Please join us for the Nicollet County Historical Society's annual meeting will be **Sunday, January 22, 2011** at **Gustavus Adolphus' Jackson Student Union banquet hall**. The dinner service will begin at 1 p.m., business meeting at 2 p.m., and program at 2:30 p.m.

Historian John LaBatte will examine causes of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, including why some Dakota wanted war while others opposed it. LaBatte has both Dakota and white ancestors who were involved in all different sides of the war. A resident of New Ulm, John has researched the Dakota War for many years. John has spent the last two summers writing extensively on Fort Ridgely State Park and presenting many programs at the state historic site.

Cost for the dinner and this remarkable program is just \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, and \$5 for those wishing to attend the program only. For details and registration call Jessica at 507-934-2160. Reservations with payment are due by January 13, 2011.

## Annual Meeting Registration Form / Sunday, January 22, 2011

Enclosed is my/our check for the amount of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) at \$15/person (members)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) at \$20/person (non-members)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) for the John LaBatte program (3 p.m.) at \$5/person

The event will be held in **Jackson Campus Center, Gustavus Adolphus College, with the meal starting at 1 p.m.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

My check is enclosed  Please debit my credit card

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Acct. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to: **Nicollet County Historical Society**

Return by **January 13** to: **Nicollet County Historical Society, 1851 North Minnesota Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082**