



E. St. Julien Cox House • Fort Ridgely • Harkin Store  
Traverse des Sioux • Treaty Site History Center

# 2019 Annual Report



Historic Fort Ridgely.  
photo by John Cross

# Our Mission



*The mission of the Nicollet County Historical Society shall be the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge about the history of Nicollet County and the State of Minnesota.*

We are small but mighty. Every day we make history accessible to learners of all ages by providing information and opportunities to connect our past to our present. As an organization that interprets five historical sites, we certainly encourage our members and the public to visit these sites and attend programs and special events to form a deeper connection to our shared history. With a long winter, wet spring, and road construction, we weren't able to share as much history as we would like. However, we hope the 11,440 people who were able to visit our historic sites in 2019 enjoyed their experiences and felt that deep connection.

Right: Executive Director Jessica Becker speaking at a Rotary meeting about what's happening at NCHS



But we're not just about our sites, and our mission isn't either. You don't have to visit one of our buildings to be served by the Society because chances are we'll reach you through publications, over the airwaves, through the magic of television, and also online.

In 2019 we worked with municipalities like the City of North Mankato to curate an exhibit, state agencies like the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to offer programs, and special interest groups like Southern Minnesota Tourism Association to advocate the importance of heritage tourism.

Bottom: NCHS hosted several programs during the 2019 St. Peter Winterfest celebration, including our annual Night at the Museum, where we watched the 2002 classic *Ice Age*.

The digital era has allowed nonprofits like us to reduce printing costs, yet reach more individuals than ever before. Through social media, our history, stories, and heritage are taught throughout the county, across Minnesota, and around the world. NCHS has a presence on Facebook, Twitter,

and Instagram. We continue to grow our followers every day. Find us and follow us to know more!

In 2020 we're looking forward to opening new exhibits at the Treaty Site, celebrating 150 years at Harkin Store, and 50 years of preservation at the Cox House.

Our mission is to discover, preserve, and disseminate the history of Nicollet County. The Society has shown that one doesn't have to visit our sites to be affected by the work we are doing.





# NCHS 2019 at a Glance

## 11,440

thousands of people from all over the world experienced history at our sites this year.

### VISITORS



## 40

states

## 18

countries

### FROM WHERE



### RADIO LISTENERS



## 296K

NCHS news and updates were broadcast over the airwaves at KNUJ and KTOE radio stations.

## 10,380

people visited our website for all different types of information.

### WEBSITE VIEWS



### MINNESOTA REFLECTIONS



## 5,874

times our online photo, manuscript, and map collections was viewed.

## 1,000+

hours were logged by our dedicated bunch of volunteers during the course of the year.

### VOLUNTEER HOURS



### SOCIAL MEDIA REACH



## 438+

people, businesses, and organizations were reached through Facebook, Twitter & Instagram.

## 67

movies, talks, demonstrations, plays, walks, tours to learn about Nicollet County.

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



### NEW NCHS MEMBERSHIPS

**JOIN US**

## 29

neighbors, family & friends joined to support preserving history in Nicollet County.

We track physical visitors to our sites, our online visitors and followers, radio listeners, and also our traveling exhibit outreach separately to get a more accurate number of those we serve, and a better understanding of our audience.

Below, top: Business After Hours at the Cox House.

Below, bottom: A volunteer tends the landscaping at Fort Ridgely during Park Day, an annual volunteer event sponsored by the American Battlefield Trust in an effort to help keep our nation's heritage not only preserved but pristine.



## Director's Report



Jessica Becker  
NCHS Executive Director

Many people believe history and museums are about the past when really they're about change. Our world changes every day. History is about documenting and interpreting the decisions people have made and making it relevant to the present. The Society has changed a lot over time and will continue to do so in the next year and over the next decade, but there are some things I hope don't change.

County and community support remain high. Our partners provide NCHS with new connections to the community and a wider audience reach as well as a fresh approach to storytelling. Partnerships like that with St. Peter Community and Family Education for our documentary film series, or the Department of Natural Resources to present free and educational nature programming with an area Naturalist.

2019 was a year of successes on many levels. We forged new partnerships, offered new programs like A House in Mourning at the Cox House, and met returning friends like at the Harkin Reunion at the Harkin Store. We stayed debt-free throughout the year, and through generous donors, we were even able to add some cushion to our coffers to get us through future lean times.

But none of what I do or the Society accomplishes would ever be possible without the hard work and dedication of some awe-inspiring and dedicated people, and I'd like to thank them.

I would be hard-pressed to find a better Board than our current one. We're really going to miss Tom, Eileen, Ruth,

Maria, and Gabriela. They are a pleasure to work with, and we're much better off because of their leadership.

Thank you to our impressive staff. We are fortunate to have such personable, diligent, flexible, and selfless people employed at NCHS. I am amazed at what they can accomplish with the available resources.

And a special thank you to our dozens of volunteers. These tireless and driven people freely contribute their time, talents, and energies to NCHS. They researched, greeted visitors, gave dozens of tours, pulled weeds or maintained trails, swung hammers, and so much more. We've said it before, and we'll say it again - we can't do what we do without volunteers.

Though change is inevitable, I hope as we embark on a new year and new decade, we are always fortunate to have the support of our members, friends, and partners.

Jessica Becker  
Executive Director

## President's Report



Maria Lokensgard  
NCHS Board President

Hello from the 2019 Board of Directors. I am happy to report another busy and productive year for our Nicollet County Historical Society. So I have many people to thank.

First, I want to thank all of the board members - they have been working hard in the areas of membership, site improvements, and growth. Second, a lot of work goes into preparing for tours, planning exhibits, networking, posting on social media, and keeping the research materials available. I wish to thank the dedicated staff who are on-site many long hours to ensure this work gets done. Their passion for history and preservation is impressive, and I ask you to personally thank them every chance you get.

Through donations, grants, and additional income, the Society was able to stay on budget and increase wages

this past year. The 2020 budget plans for new equipment, upgrades to the Cox House, and continued roof improvements. Thank you for your continued support for our mission through your donations, volunteerism, time and talents.

May we continue to improve and grow as the new decade begins.

Maria Lokensgard  
NCHS Board President



## Harkin Happenings / Site Report

Ruth Grewe,  
Harkin Store Site Manager

Our year was very interesting with the extended road closures sending people on roundabout detours and full of the stories that were told when they finally found us. We had 4,024 visitors from 37 states, and ten countries visit the store this year. They came as tour groups, families, and individuals.

Our program days, which are every Sunday afternoon, seem to be the best attended. Music and holiday weekends see the highest visitors every year. We try and have a variety of topics about life or things going on during the 1870s because people are genuinely interested in how things were back then.



We have a young man that came in 2017 for his birthday with some buddies and his family, and he has been coming back every year. Our music programs are done by a variety of different people with different types of music-most have been coming for over 15 years. In 2011, a father and a few of his teenage children came for a tour. He asked the children to bring out their instruments and play on the porch too, and he would record them for their mother. We had an opening program, so they played that season- Carver Creek has been coming back every year and all five siblings and now some spouses, too.

In 2020, the store will be 150 years old, and we hope to have more fascinating programs. We hope to see you in 2020 and are thankful for those who come, work, or offered programs for us this past year.



Left: It was a Harkin family reunion at our 1870s Fashion Day program presented by Lorna Runck, Alexander Harkin's great grand-daughter.

## Ridgely Report / Site Report

Amber Bentler, Ridgely Site Manager

The seasons pass by quickly at Fort Ridgely. This past year was like all the others that came before. It brought many visitors from different states and as far away as Japan. We had good turnouts for many of the events and loved getting to meet new people and visit with repeat visitors who stop in every year. They just love the peaceful scenery, wonderful hiking, and history at the Park. The new people that visit are always surprised at all the Park has to offer, and they all promise to make a return trip in the future.

We have been working hard on educating visitors on the "Dakota War of 1862" as well as other aspects and different eras that were also important to the site. There has been increased interest in the Civilian Conservation Corp, and all the program did for Fort Ridgely. Developing a hiking tour and talking about the photographs of the camp that was stationed there, from 1933 - 1936, has been a highlight to many visitors whose family members served in the CCC. It gives them a connection. That connection is what keeps them coming back year after year and bringing friends and family back with them.

The programs have been a draw to visitors, and a few stand out more than others. Scott Kudelka's programs about the "Minnesota River" and "Wild About Wildlife" were both well attended this year. Scott does a great job of educating visitors of all ages and keeping things interesting. We appreciate all he does, and he will be returning in the new year with more great programming for our visitors.

The New Ulm Battery made sure the season ended with a bang, and we had quite a crowd. The Battery members are always knowledgeable about black powder and very willing to answer any and all questions from the excited crowd.

We are busy planning for next year and look forward to seeing everyone again. The roaring twenties look promising at Fort Ridgely, and we are looking forward to the season of the decade.



*Everything at  
the Fort is  
friendly and  
knowledgeable.  
Thank you!*

~ Anonymous review

## Cox House Corner / Site Report

Tom Hagen, *Cox House Committee member & NCHS Director*

It was a successful year as the Cox House Committee continues its vision to welcome visitors to relive and share the history of Victorian daily and to move forward with the new interpretive model outlined in the *E. St. Julien Cox House Interpretive Plan*.

In the Spring, the dollars raised at the Annual Heritage Plant Sale fundraiser was a bit disappointing due to the weather being cold with rain. In the house, a new on-loan table setting was installed, generating lots of visitor questions about how all the unusual serving pieces were used in Victorian times.

As the summer came on, the Cox House Committee moved forward with the plan laid out in the interpretive plan. Arrangements were made to remove two trees on the property, providing more sun to the garden area as well as to protect the house from pesky squirrels. Talks continued about further repair proposals needed, including house painting and fence replacement and the dollars to fund these projects.

In the Fall, a successful "House in Mourning" program took place as well as the usual Halloween festivities. In preparation for the preservation-focused year ahead, NCHS and Rethos (formerly the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota) applied for a grant from the Historic Preservation Education Foundation to offer a workshop series about repair on windows, limestone foundation,

wood rot, painting with lead safety, and fencing. We are awaiting word on that grant decision.

The end of the fall season shifted focus to Christmas. Volunteers quickly prepared for the 2019 festivities, and a first attempt was made at self-guided tours with the use of a preliminary brochure. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we feel this model holds merit.

Preservation is the focus at the House in 2020, but the Committee is considering many ideas for programs, events, displays, and usage for the upcoming year. Money has been set aside to try out the idea of an intimate catered dinner at the house as a fundraiser. Consideration is also being given to a Victorian tea or ice cream social. The highlight of the year came with a substantial gift for the upkeep and maintenance of the beautiful old house.

We look forward to the challenges of the coming anniversary year!



Left: Mourners came calling to the Cox House to pay their respects to Mrs. Cox at the wake held for her husband, Eugene Cox.

Photo taken by Amanda Johnson.

Right: Historic interpreter Susan Hynes presenting her program "Potions, Powders & Patent Medicine: Women's Health & Beauty Secrets from the Past" happening at the Cox House on June 27.





## 2019 Board

The Nicollet County Historical Society has been fortunate over the years to have a board of directors that are supportive, dedicated and invested in the success of the organization. We are very grateful for those currently on the board, those retiring from the board, and those who have volunteered to join the board in 2020; thank you for your service.

### Executive Board

Maria Lokensgard, Norseland,  
President (2nd term ends 2019)  
Eileen Holz, Saint Peter,  
Vice President (2nd term ends 2019)  
Gabriela Roemhildt, Saint Peter,  
Secretary (Jan. '19–Oct. '19,  
1st term ends 2020, Resigned)  
Matthias Leyrer, North Mankato,  
Secretary (Nov. '19–Jan. '20,  
2nd term ends 2021)  
Loren Sundboom, Saint Peter,  
Treasurer (1st term ends 2020)

### Directors

Tim Bartelt, Saint Peter  
(2nd term ends 2021)  
Tom Brown, Saint George  
(2nd term ends 2020)  
Tom Hagen, North Mankato  
(1st term ends 2019)  
Ruth Klossner, Bernadotte  
(1st term ends 2019)  
Kate Martens, Saint Peter  
(1st term ends 2021)  
Joe Metzen, Saint Peter  
(1st term ends 2021)

## 2019 Staff

We know exactly how lucky we are to have the staff that we do. Spread out across Nicollet County and beyond, and worth their weight in gold, they consistently give so much effort, expertise, and excitement. Through their hard work and some dedicated volunteers, NCHS answered thousands of phone calls and emails, talked to audiences all over creation, helped genealogists find lost relatives, preserved historical treasures, and cleaned toilets more times than we care to think about. Any thank you is inadequate, but we'll say it anyway.

Executive Director: Jessica Becker  
Research Coordinator: Ruth Einstein  
Office Manager: Elaine Deschaine

TSHC Museum Assistants: Amanda Johnson  
Erica Smith  
Robert Weber

Harkin Store Site Manager: Ruth Grewe  
Harkin Store Site Guides: Donna Dose  
Justin Grewe  
Robin Grewe  
Glenn Stryker

Fort Ridgely Site Manager: Amber Bentler  
Fort Ridgely Asst. Site Manager: Cory Becker  
Fort Ridgely Site Guides: Opal Dewanz  
Annaliese Endorf  
Charlotte Nack

*As a person who has deep roots in Nicollet and LeSueur counties, it is amazing the way your displays bring that period to life. The detail of the art and photography and the documentation make you feel as if you are present at the events as they took place. Thank you for doing such wonderful work!*

~ Darryl Finn

Below left: Gustavus History 200 students explored the archives with Research Coordinator Ruth Einstein and Archives Research Assistant Bob Sandeen.

Photo credit Kate Keller

Below right: Local historian and NCHS board member Tom Hagen presenting during "North Mankato: History Revealed" on April 17.





## 2019 Activities & Programs

This past year NCHS collaborated and partnered with a large number of community organizations. Some of these included the New Ulm Battery, the Arts Center of Saint. Peter, the Department of Natural Resources, St. Peter Reads, Lonesome Ron, and many others. Visitors and audiences went back in time to experience the thrill of artillery fire at Fort Ridgely, toured ghost towns across Nicollet County, celebrated Christmas in July at Harkin store, paid their respects at a Victorian wake, and many other educational events and programs.

Top: In celebration of the Society's 90th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Treaty Site History Center, some very special folks performed a re-enactment of our first meeting at the Nicollet Hotel in 1928. Pictured left to right: Herb Poncin, Craig Nelson, Tom Hagen, Val Youngblom, Dave Solheim, Don Gustafson, and Rob Meyer.



Center left: Mourners came calling to the Cox House to pay their respects to Mrs. Cox at the wake held for her husband, Eugene Cox.



Center right: "Shadows at the Crossing: Spirits of Old Traverse des Sioux" returned this fall with reenactors like Al Behrends portraying historical figures telling their dramatic and humorous stories about their lives and experiences at Traverse des Sioux over 160 years ago.



Bottom left: Harkin Store Site Manager Ruth Grewe sharing the history of the Store with visitors.





## 2019 Activities & Programs continued



Top: North Mankato: a stroll through 120 years exhibit celebrating our neighbor to the south.



Center: a visitor to Fort Ridgely studies the exhibit panels in the Commissary building.

## 2019 Volunteers / Gift of Time

Each year many volunteers contribute time, expertise, and energy to NCHS. They researched, greeted visitors, gave dozens of tours, pulled weeds, swung a hammer, and so much more. All these tasks and more translate into literally hundreds of things we couldn't have done without them.

*Thank you!*

Below left: Each year our sites welcome dozens of tours and field trips. At the Treaty Site History Center, docents like John Chamberlain volunteer their time to educate others, like these students from St. Mary's School in Madelia, MN.



## 2019 Monetary Donors

**NCHS** treasures each and every donation that arrives in support of local history. Collectively, every dollar adds up and makes an enormous difference. Thank you so very much to everyone who gives according to their ability.

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Charles Boeder  
John & Rosemary Braun  
Ilene Bussler  
Carol Dearholt  
Carolyn M. Dobler  
Douglas Eaton  
GP Engineering, PLLC  
E. Lorraine Gatchell  
Tom Hagen  
Jason & Jackie Harrell

Scott Hermanson  
Eileen Holz  
Joseph Kastantin  
Marta Kurak  
Diane Lochner  
James McPherson  
Beatrice Martinson  
Cindy & Larry Mohr  
Robert & Kay Moline  
Nupa  
Lorraine Olson  
C.M. Peterson  
Herb & Louise Poncin  
Michaelle Rees

Marie Renneke  
Janet & Angel Ruiz  
SouthPoint Financial  
Credit Union  
Douglas & Judy Schultz  
St. Peter Ambassadors Club  
SPHS Class of 1969  
Loren & Roxane Sundboom  
Linda Swenson  
Betty Thompson  
Susan Trimbo  
Mary Vinquist

**End of Year Donations**  
Rebecca & Steven Briggs  
Melvin Craig  
Bill & Deb Dixon  
First National Bank  
Sam & Julie Gault  
JoAnn Gieseke  
Eileen Holz  
Eunice Holz  
Gretchen Koehler  
Emilie Lokensgard  
Barb Olmanson  
Harold & Louise Rodning  
Ken & Patsy Rossow  
Jon & Karen Smithers  
David & Linda Witte

## 2019 Memorials

**D**uring a time when you were remembering another, you also thought of our organization and for that we are grateful.

Anonymous  
In Memory of  
**Carl E. Anderson**  
Given by  
Mildred Anderson

In Memory of  
**Verda Beatty**  
Given by  
Lorraine Olson

In Memory of  
**Mary Christianson**  
Given by  
Helen Christianson

In Memory of  
**Bonita Covell**  
Given by  
Eileen Holz  
William & Marilyn Robertz  
Judy Scholl

In Memory of  
**Stan Davis**  
Given by  
Janet Anthony  
Thomas Ferris  
Marlys Knutson  
Riley-Tanis & Assoc., PLLC  
Harold Rodning  
Judy Scholl  
Richard & Janet Wettergren

In Memory of  
**Daniel Johnson**  
Given by  
Pamela Morson

In Memory of  
**Bud & Corinne Johnson**  
Given by  
Richard Holz

In Memory of  
**Gerald Johnson**  
Given by  
Sally Webster

In Memory of  
**Vreely Nelson**  
Given by  
Ardith & Thorild Nelson

In Memory of  
**Doug Nygard**  
Given by  
Janet Hoffmann  
Nygard Family  
Herb & Louise Poncin

In Memory of  
**William Robertz**  
Given by  
Marilyn Robertz  
Ed & Bev Wetherill

In Memory of  
**Marilyn Rodning**  
Given by  
Kathy Cuthbertson  
Janet Lindstrom  
Dan Rodning  
Karen Rodning  
Ken Rodning  
Doug & Judy Schultz

In Memory of  
**Arlene Sandeen**  
Given by  
Nita & Paul Aasen  
Michael & Michelle Fischer  
Friends of Bob Sandeen  
Eileen Holz  
Bill & Marilyn Robertz  
Jayne Sjostrom  
Marty & Carol Sterner  
Dean & Jane Wahlund  
Anonymous

In Memory of  
**Dorothy Schultz**  
Given by  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schultz

In Memory of  
**Owen Swenson**  
Given by  
Gerald & Jan Albrecht  
Ardith & Thorild Nelson  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schultz

In Memory of  
**Milo Wills**  
Given by  
Ardith & Thorild Nelson

In Memory of  
**Gerturde Wright**  
Given by  
Ed & Bev Wetherill



# 2019 Collections Donors

Ruth Einstein,  
Research Coordinator

11

Seventy-eight donations of historical materials that illuminate the lives of Nicollet County families, businesses, churches, and organizations became part of our archival collections in 2019.

Research requests are made regularly, most often concerning family history. Thanks to the efforts of our magnificent volunteer Nita Aasen, we have an index of every obituary published in local papers for which we have microfilm. She has also recently compiled a database of our family history and genealogical materials and is organizing our cemetery records from around the county.

Bob Sandeen is an invaluable volunteer in the archives several mornings a week, and Mike Bidelman is continuing his research on early St. Peter businesses. Marlin Peterson and our wonderful intern, Mitch Meyerhoff, have cleaned and reorganized the back archival storage room. We are also grateful to the members of our Collections Committee: Nita Aasen, Eileen Holz, Brian Oviatt, and Bob Sandeen.

Nita & Paul Aasen  
Martin Anderson  
John Applin  
Susan Berg  
Melissa Blackstad  
Blue Earth County  
Historical Society  
Donald Borcharding  
Jeff Brand  
John Braun  
Melanie Covell  
Bob Douglas  
Carolyn Dry  
Michael Frederick  
Bruce & Sue Gray  
Jane Haala  
Tom Hagen  
Chris Harris  
Lori Heslep

Janet Hoffmann  
Eileen Holz  
Charles Hurd  
Ray & Liz Jacobson  
Marti Jancoski  
Bev Johnson  
Robert Lambert  
Loren Lindsay  
John Luepke  
Nancy Luker  
Joy Lutzi  
Keith Mathews  
Maryetta McCarty  
LeAnn Peterson Metzger  
Robert Meyer  
Barb Michels  
Dee Dee Michels  
Dale Miller  
Kay Mowbray

Marcy Muchow  
Tom Nelsen  
Gary B. Olson  
Brian Oviatt  
Marlin Peterson  
Patti Pherson  
Marion Pomplun  
Sandy Robbins  
Bill & Marilyn Robertz  
James Robinson  
Bob Sandeen  
Doug Schultz  
Emily Stark  
Lucy Tanner  
Jane Timmerman  
Judy Tostenson Teigen  
Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner  
Michele Vogel  
Warren Wagner

& Peggy Kreber  
Bonnie & Michael Webster  
Sally Webster  
Ed Wetherill  
Marlene Willson  
Nancy Woods  
Mark & Nancy Zallek

*I had a wonderful experience working with Ruth via e-mail. She was knowledgeable, friendly and went above and beyond answering my questions. Also very quick responses! Thank you!*

~ Ruth Brittain

Below: Hedwig Bauermeister Altmann and Anton Altmann of Lafayette Township, celebrating their 50th anniversary, 1951.



Left: Eagle "puppet" from The Gathering, a theater event created by Cherry Creek Theatre director David Olson, St. Peter, August 1981. Images were donated to NCHS by Charlie Hurd in 2019.



# Memberships

Your membership is not just a financial donation, but a declaration that you believe local history plays a vital role in the community by preserving the story of the path we walk together. We thank our current members who continue their commitment to the operation of NCHS and look forward to welcoming new members. Help us increase our numbers by inviting a friend to join today!

## \$1000 Crossing Circle

### Life Members:

Marian Anderson  
 Roberta Bartholdi  
 Steven & Becky Briggs  
 Verlin Carlson  
 Mel Craig  
 Mark & Mary Davis  
 Marie Dranttel  
 Garfield Eckberg  
 Sam & Julie Gault  
 Lisa Gault  
 Tom Hagen  
 Emilie Lokensgard  
 Maria Lokensgard  
 James McPherson  
 Brian Oviatt  
 Arlene Sandeen (dec.)  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Schmidt  
 Loren & Roxane Sundboom  
 David & Linda Witte

### Life Members:

Carl Aanonsen  
 Ken Albrecht  
 Mildred Anderson  
 Lois Annexstad  
 Phyllis Annexstad  
 Marshall & Janet Anthony  
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 Marian Babcock  
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 Fred Hanson Jr.  
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 Carl & Susan Johnson  
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 Mrs. William Lager  
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 Beatrice Martinson  
 Robert & Kay Moline  
 Mrs. Herbert Monke  
 Barb Olmanson  
 Dr. & Mrs. Vern Olmanson  
 Lorraine Olson

Dennis Paschke  
 Carol Peterson  
 Marian Peterson  
 Marlin Peterson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pettis  
 Herbert & Louise Poncin  
 Bill (dec.) & Marilyn Robertz  
 Marilyn Rodning (dec.)  
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## Corporate Member:

Mrs. Clair McRostie

## \$1000 Champion Business Members:

Crown Underground  
 Gustavus Adolphus College

## \$200 Advocate

### Business Members:

CCF Bank  
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 Saint Peter Food Co-op & Deli  
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### Benefactor Members:

Larry & Judy Biederman

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Joy Lutzi  
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 Bill & Jane Horton  
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 David Solheim  
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 David Bendy  
 William & Marilyn Bessler  
 Mark & Lauren Boomgaard  
 Patty & Darryl Breitenfeldt  
 James & Tracie Lea Benzmillier  
 Claude & Sandra Brew  
 Duane & Brenda DeBlick  
 Arden & Marilyn DeBoer  
 Dwight & Geni DeBoer  
 Bob & Judy Douglas  
 Charles & Carol Eggert  
 Mark Ehlers  
 John Hall  
 Stuart & Mary Ann Hanson  
 Don & Rhonda Hermanson  
 Lori Heslep  
 John Hickman  
 Lisa Isenberg & Philip Friedlund  
 Robert & Leona Isenberg  
 Ray & Liz Jacobson  
 Dennis Kemp  
 Robert & Sally Lambert  
 Lucy Lowry  
 Mike & Maryetta McCarty  
 Carolyn Mager

Malcolm & Phyllis Maxwell  
 Joe Metzen, Kay Brandt,  
 and Cordelia  
 John & Carolyn Meyer  
 Jim & Dee Dee Michels  
 Tuff & Ginny Miller  
 Cindy & Larry Mohr  
 Joel & Carol Moline  
 Dale & Kay Mowbray  
 Terry Morrow  
 David Nelson  
 Thorild & Ardith Nelson  
 Janet & Byron Nordstrom  
 Gail & Roger Norland  
 William Riebesell  
 Harold & Louise Rodning  
 Ronald Roselli  
 Ken & Patsy Rossow  
 Rich & Colleen Ryan  
 Doug & Judy Schultz  
 Jeff & Tami Skinner  
 Jonathan & Karen Smithers  
 Evelyn & Harry Solo  
 Marty & Carol Sterner  
 Howard & Jane Swenson  
 Jeff Wettergren  
 & Melanie Lynard  
 Gerald Wolfe

## Individual Members:

Joni Anderson  
 Eric Annexstad  
 Susan Austin  
 Maria Erling  
 Julie Ferrell  
 Michael Frederick  
 Brian Fremo  
 Paul Honken  
 Bradford Johnson  
 Ryan Kupcho  
 Matthias Leyrer  
 Dana Melius  
 Trudi Olmanson  
 DeNel Potter Richert  
 David Vavreck  
 Brad Wilmes



## Memberships continued

### Senior Members:

Margaret (Peg) Bindner	Lynnette Hoffman	Margaret Muchow	Agnes Stensby
Janet Boese	Karen Humphrey	James Muyres	Terry Sveine
Thomas Brown	Charles Johnson	Catherine Neitge	Judy Teigen
Herbert Brunner	Marjorie Johnson	Revae Nygard	Bernard Thieman
Helen Christianson	Maurine Johnson	Arnold Nimps	Mary Topp
Melanie Covell	Vickie Johnson	Elizabeth Peters	Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner
Barbara DeZuani	Patricia Judd	Marshall Peterson	Linda Vogel
Gail Dummer	Ruth Klossner	Ranae Peterson	Rick Wright
Carol M. Forbes	Gretchen Koehler	Tim Pulis	Diane Wild
Alma Forst	Donna Marie Kowal	Karen Reyelts	Barbara Wilkinson
Audrey Gatchell	Robert Lambert	Sharon Robinson	Nancy Zins
Daniel Groebner	Sally Lambert	Kenneth Saffert	
Marlene Groves	Sara Leadholm	Sara Samuelson	
JoAnn Gieseke	Willis Lindquist	Mary Ann Scharf	
Elaine Hermanson	Mary Long	Helen Schauer	
John Hickman	Harriet Mason	Yvonne Spletstoesser	
	Dee Dee Michels	Victoria Steinhaus	

### Brick Purchase

JoAnn Gieseke



*An effective presentation of well-researched historical information, accurately conveying the impact of the 1851 Traverse des Sioux Treaty, and the transition from native lands to homestead farming in southern Minnesota.*

~ Michael Griffin

## 2019 NCHS Financials

We were able to operate within our means and despite a long winter and a wet spring, major disasters were not to be found. 2019 was a good year for the Society. We were blessed with generous monetary donations, including a significant bequest from the estate of Mr. Ralph P. Odegard. Since NCHS was already well-positioned financially, the Board of Directors will continue to diversify investments to ensure Society dollars are properly leveraged.

It is with deep gratitude that NCHS acknowledges the role played by Nicollet County in continuing to fund a large portion of our operations. Without this core support, NCHS couldn't maintain the professional standards of research, preservation, and heritage we're known for. These funds help us create the outreach and educational opportunities found in this report, as well as a multitude of daily tasks too large to list.

Fort Ridgely, Harkin Store, and Traverse des Sioux are important to the Society and our shared history. The funding the Minnesota Historical Society provides us to operate these sites means NCHS has a strong foundation from which to interpret them.

And to all of you who supported us this year, we offer our deepest thanks.

*The financials you see, on the following two pages, are not complete but provide a general snapshot of revenues and expenses. If you would like to see full financials please contact Jessica Becker at 507-934-2160.*

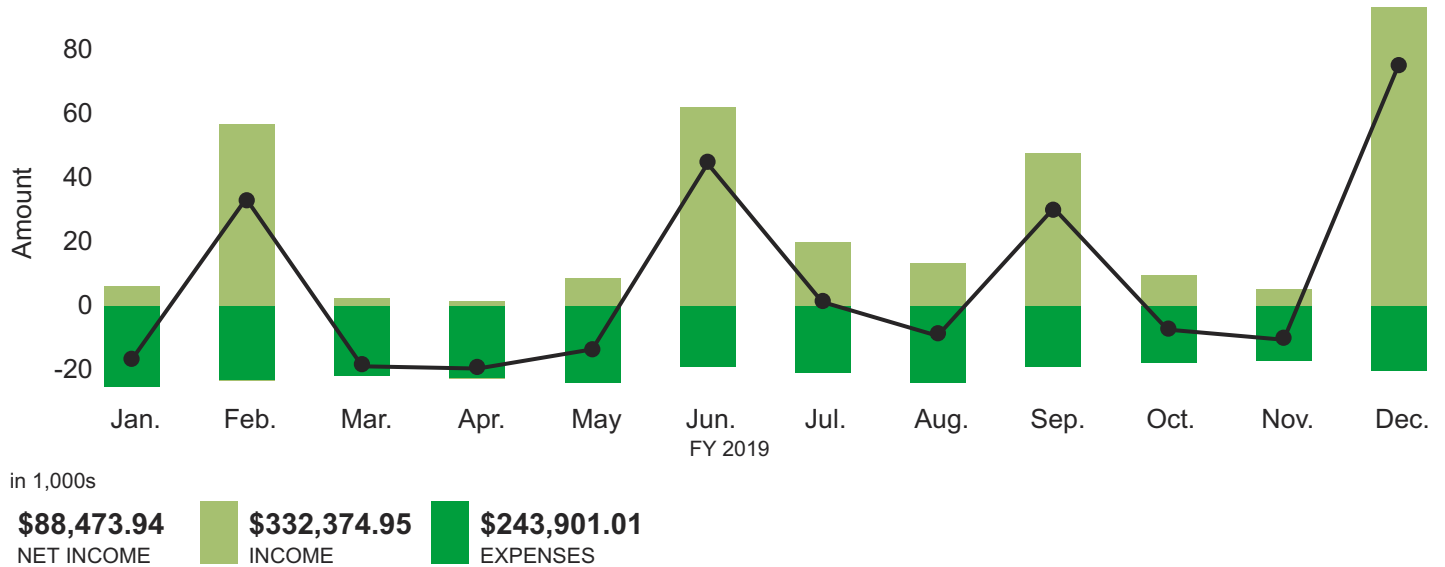
# NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday, January 17, 2020

## Profit & Loss

Jan. 01, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019

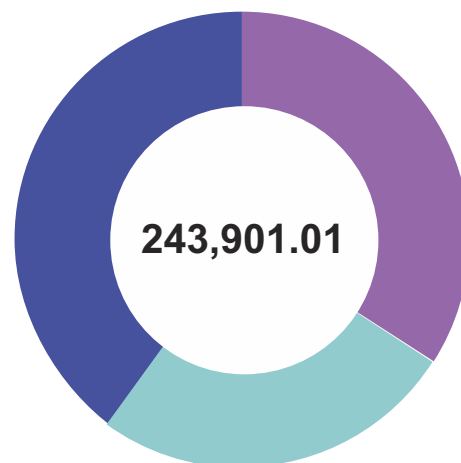
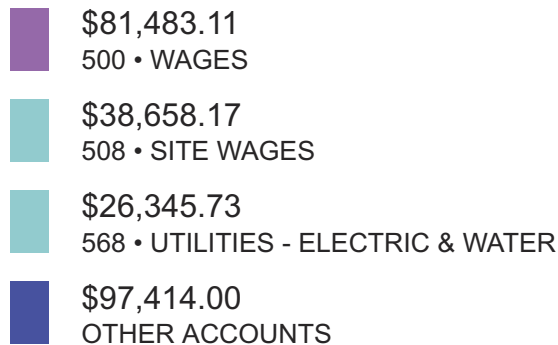
Accrual Basis



## Expenses

Jan. 01, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019

Accrual Basis





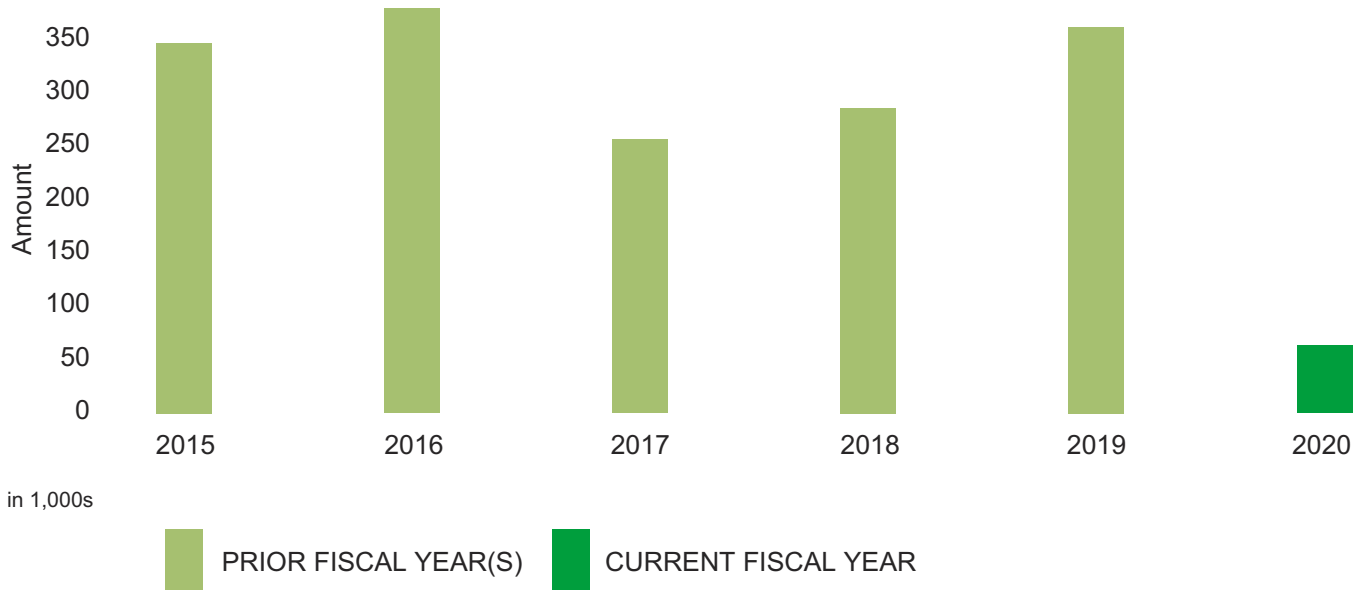
# NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Friday, January 17, 2020

## Previous Year **Income** Comparison

All Accounts | Yearly Comparison

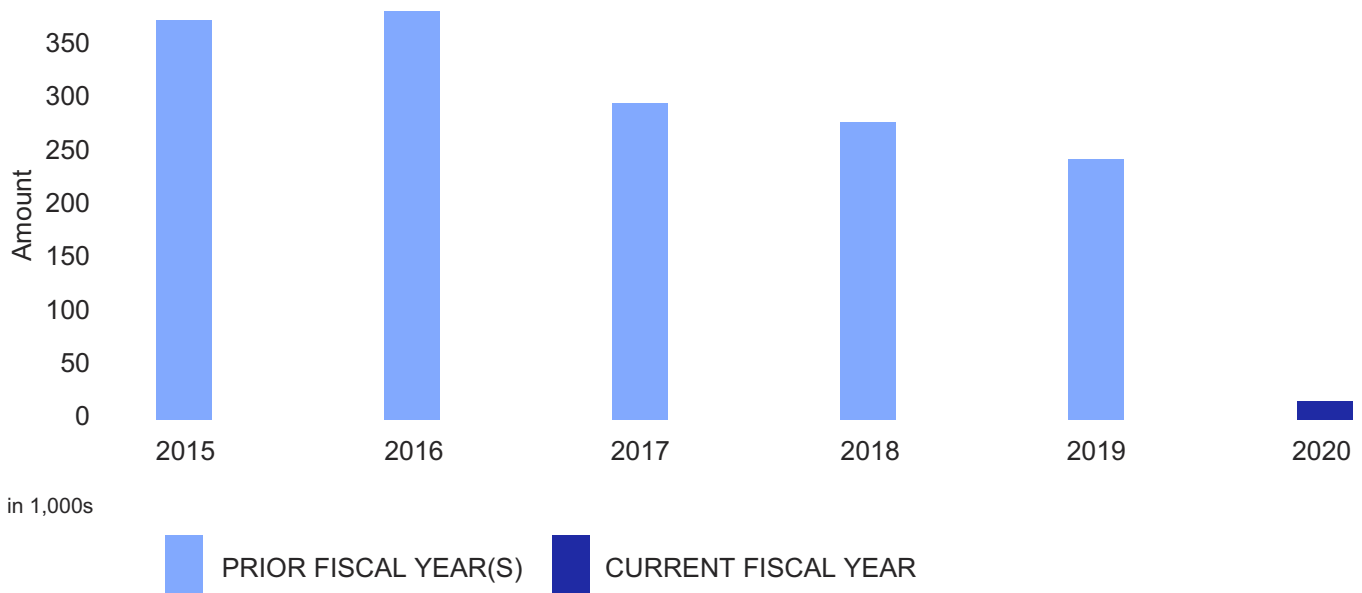
Accrual Basis



## Previous Year **Expense** Comparison

All Accounts | Yearly Comparison

Accrual Basis



Upper right: In October, attendees enjoyed a morning bus tour of several Nicollet County ghost towns with local historian Bob Douglas, including this stop at Kerns.



Left: Sutler selling his wares during Company B Weekend at Fort Ridgely, the end of winter.



Center right: Carver Creek has been performing bluegrass music at Harkin Store since 2011.



Bottom left: Clearing the snow away from the building was a big task by

Bottom right: NCHS members and friends attend Marlin Peterson's presentation on the "Sod Fort" constructed west of Norseland. The program was held at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church, Norseland, just yards away from the original fort site.



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Phone: (507) 934-2160 • Fax: (507) 934-0172  
Hours: Exhibits: Tue.–Sat. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Archives: Tue.–Fri. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.



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Archives information: [research@nchsmn.org](mailto:research@nchsmn.org)  
Website: [www.nchsmn.org](http://www.nchsmn.org)