



NCHS Annual Meeting— note location change!

Please join us for the Nicollet County Historical Society's annual meeting on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at the Treaty Site History Center. This past year has seen a lot of updates and changes within the Treaty Site and the organization, and we want to share them with you! The 2016 annual meeting will feature an open house of the Treaty Site, hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, the business meeting and a program featuring our to-be-unveiled new website and highlights of upcoming exhibit changes! Open house at 3 p.m., program at 4:30, business meeting to follow.

Cost for the open house and program is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. For details and registration call Elaine at 507-934-2160. Reservations with payment are due by January 15, 2016.

Treaty Site changes winter hours!

Please note! The Treaty Site History Center has updated its winter hours. We will not be open on Sundays from November through February. The Treaty Site will also be closed for the holidays from December 20, 2015 through January 10, 2016. Archives and group tours available during this time by appointment only.

Proposed Changes to Membership Structure

Your NCHS board is proposing the following changes to the Membership Structure of your Historical Society and will ask for your approval at the upcoming Annual Meeting on January 23, 2016.

- 1) the addition of a Senior Membership (+65) category at the \$30 yearly membership rate
- 2) the increase to \$40 for a yearly Individual membership
- 3) the increase to \$50 for a yearly Family membership

Business membership benefits have been adjusted also, primarily due to printing, mailing, and utility increases, plus technology advances for outreach were added (web vs. newsletter ads). These are the adjusted benefits proposed for your approval:

\$200 Yearly Advocate Business Membership

- 10 site/event passes
- Listing and link on the NCHS website as an Advocate Business Member
- Listing as an Advocate Business in our newsletter & annual report
- One room rental at the Treaty Site History Center at a 25% discount

\$500 Yearly Benefactor Business Membership

- 25 site/event passes
- Listing & link on the NCHS website as a Benefactor Business Member
- Listing as a Benefactor Business Member in our newsletter & annual report
- One room rental at the Treaty Site History Center at a 50% discount
- Business "History Twist" — an article with an historical "twist" about your business will be featured in one issue of the Society's newsletter, *The Crossing*, after initial enrollment.

\$1000 Yearly Champion Business Membership

- 75 site/event passes
- Listing & link on the NCHS website as a Champion Business Member
- 100 - 20% merchandise discount cards
- Listing as a Champion Business Member in our newsletter & annual report
- One free room rental at the Treaty Site History Center
- Business "History Twist" — an article with an historical "twist" about your business will be featured in one issue of the Society's newsletter, *The Crossing*, after initial enrollment.

Thank you for your input and vote on these proposed membership levels and benefits.

Director's Column

On behalf of the staff and volunteers at the Nicollet County Historical Society, I would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and holiday season! This is my favorite time of year—a time to reflect on the wonderful year behind us and feel excited for the year ahead. As I think about the past year I cannot help but feel pride in the amazing amount of things NCHS has accomplished. Our staff and volunteers work very hard and their dedication shows. For example, you'll notice the new logo and design of "The Crossing" and you've heard about the upcoming Smithsonian exhibit we were chosen to host. Also, we're sprucing up the interior of the Treaty Site History Center and our sites held over 70 events this summer! Your support and friendship helped us in these endeavors and in many others; we appreciate you all so much. I hope that you and your families are happy and have a wonderful holiday season.



Alyssa Auten

SEASONS Greetings from NCHS!

With appreciation for your support and our warmest wishes for a happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year.



Snow Removal in Lafayette, on a much more typical Minnesota winter.

NCHS Board Announces 2016 Slate for Board of Directors

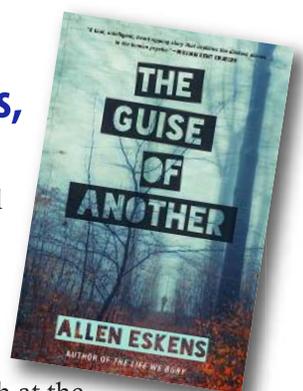
The Nominating Committee of your Nicollet County Historical Society presents the following slate of board members for the 2016 term. We encourage you to attend the annual meeting to show your support for the Society and these dedicated volunteers.

Tim Bartelt, St. Peter
Tom Brown, St. George
Amanda Frie, St. Peter

President, Joe Urban
Vice President, Scott Hermanson
Treasurer, Marie Dranttel
Secretary, Pam Morson

At TSHC St. Peter Reads, Eskens Event

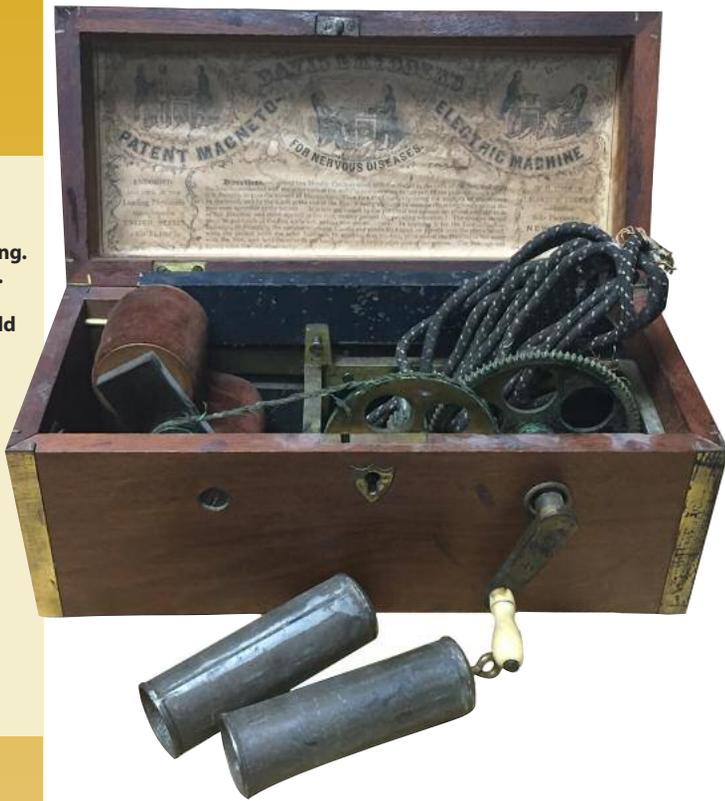
Allen Eskens, local author of *The Life We Bury* and *The Guise of Another*, is slated to speak at a free event on Thursday, March 10th at the Treaty Site History Center. Books will be available at the Treaty Site, Book Mark, and St. Peter Businesses. The event is sponsored by St. Peter Reads, the Treaty Site and The Friends of the St. Peter Public Library.



Collections Corner

Magneto Electric Machine for Nervous Diseases, circa 1890s. Made by W.H. Burnap Manufacturing. Donated by Mrs. Theodore Moline.

The operator of this electromagnetic generator would place handles in the patient's hands or elsewhere on the patient's body and then turn a crank to deliver a 'mild' alternating current to the patient. The force of the current depended upon the speed with which the crank was turned. The makers claimed that it could relieve pain, as well as cure numerous diseases, including cancer, consumption (tuberculosis), diabetes, gangrene, heart disease, lockjaw (tetanus), and spinal deformities.



Upcoming Events

Dec. 20–Jan. 10: NCHS and Treaty Site History Center closed

Jan. 1: New Year's Day Bloody Mary Bar
Cox House, 4–6 p.m., *pre-event ticket purchase required*

Jan. 14: Documentary Film Series
Farmland, 7 p.m., Treaty Site, *Free*

Jan. 23: NCHS Annual Meeting, 3 p.m.,
Treaty Site, *registration required*

Jan. 30: Night at the Museum
family movie night, film TBD, 6 p.m., Treaty Site

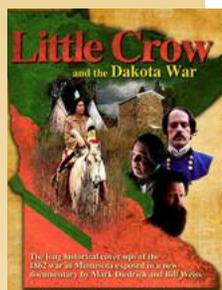
Feb. 4: Documentary Film Series
Iron Range: Minnesota Building America,
7 p.m., Treaty Site, *Free*

Feb. 6: "A Special Evening of Urban Blues"
concert, 7:30 p.m., Treaty Site, *pre-event ticket purchase required*

Feb. 7: Winterfest and History on Tap
Closing activities at the Treaty Site

Mar. 3: Documentary Film Series:
Little Crow and the Dakota War,
6 p.m. (*NOTE TIME CHANGE*), Treaty Site, *Free*

Mar. 10: St. Peter Reads Author Talk:
with Allen Eskens, *The Guise of Another*, 7 p.m.,
Treaty Site, *Free*



Documentary Film Series: Films on First Thursdays

The Nicollet County Historical Society will once again partner with St. Peter Community and Family Education to present our seventh season of documentary films starting in September. They're shown every month from September through May. Admission to the film series is free for all! The Treaty Site History Center is located one mile north of downtown Saint Peter at Highways 169 and 22, across from the Mankato Clinic.

Farmland

Jan. 14, 7 p.m., Treaty Site History Center
Free. No Registration required.

77 min., not rated. Many Americans have never stepped foot on a farm or even talked to the people who grow and raise the food we eat, yet are increasingly passionate about understanding where their food comes from. *Farmland* takes the viewer inside the world of farming for a glimpse into the lives of six young farmers and ranchers in their 20s including Ryan Veldhuizen, a farmer from Edgerton, Minnesota. This film is being shown in partnership with the Nicollet County Farm Bureau who will host a short discussion after the film.

Iron Range Minnesota Building America

Feb. 4, 7 p.m., Treaty Site History Center
Free. No Registration required.

56 min., not rated. Unknown to most people, Minnesota's Iron Range was fundamental in shaping America. Eighty percent of the iron used to create U.S. icons from railroads to skyscrapers to iron-fortified bread came from the 100-mile long, 20-mile wide swath of land in northern Minnesota. This land supplied late 19th and 20th century America with the iron needed to fuel industrialization, economic expansion, and military might. The history of the Iron Range tells the history of America; it is the story of immigrants, of conflict and assimilation, of people creating lives for themselves, their families, and for others. And yet, the Iron Range appears as only a footnote in treatments of American histories.

Little Crow and the Dakota War

Mar. 3, 6 p.m., (PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE)

Treaty Site History Center, Free. No Registration required.

153 min., not rated. The 1862 war between the white settlers and the Dakota began in western Minnesota. Little Crow, the Dakota leader, was largely blamed for the outbreak. Film director and historian Mark Diedrich states, "There was a decade-long period of massive corruption which greatly affected the treaty relationship between the Dakota and the U.S. government. The facts, as laid out in this documentary, will show that Little Crow used every possible, peaceable means to gain justice for his people. He did so until his people were so angry and maddened and being in a state of starvation, decided to go to war." After the film, join film director, Mark Diedrich for a short discussion.



Shown here is the newly-installed welcome television, purchased in part by a grant from the Saint Peter Chamber of Commerce Tourism and Visitors Bureau. Also shown are the newly-installed barn doors that will close off the new television room when guests view our museum film. Doors donated by Todd Melcher and installed by Brian Oviatt. Thank you to everyone who made these exciting updates possible! Make sure to attend the Annual Meeting on Jan. 23 to see more of the coming changes!

New Year's Day Bloody Mary Bar at the Cox House

A party.
A benefit.
A service brought to you by the
Arts Center & the Historical Society.

Friday, Jan. 1, 2016, 4-6 pm
At the Cox House Museum
Admission: \$20
[Gets you 1 trip to the bloody bar.
Additional trips \$10, while supplies last.]

Barkeep & DJ: Alyssa Auten
Tarot reader: Ann Rosenquist Fee

Tips for bar & tarot services benefit
the Arts Center of Saint Peter &
the Nicollet County Historical Society

21+. Tickets:
acsp.org/support/happynewyear

Annual Meeting Registration Form / Saturday, January 23, 2016

Enclosed is my/our check for the amount of:

\$ _____ for _____ reservation(s) at \$15/person (members)

\$ _____ for _____ reservation(s) at \$20/person (non-members)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

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

Return by **Friday, January 15** to: **Nicollet County Historical Society, 1851 North Minnesota Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082**

An Open House event at the **Treaty Site History Center**

Open House at 3 p.m., program at 4:30 p.m., business meeting to follow.

My check is enclosed Please debit my credit card

Acct. Number _____

CVV Code _____ Expiration Date _____
3 #s on rev-VISA, MC, Disc, 4 #s on rev-AE

Expiration Date _____

Authorized Signature _____