



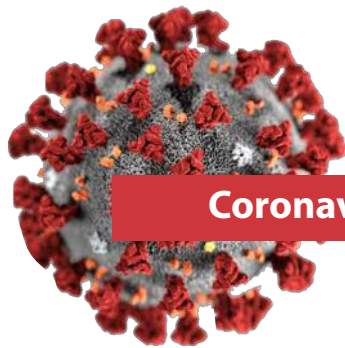
*May the
peace and joy
of the holidays
be with you
today and
throughout the
New Year.*

*Happy Holidays &
Happy New Year!
with thanks
from everyone at
NCHS!*

We remember...

...with honor the following individuals who we lost since our last newsletter.

**Marilyn Robertz
ReVae Nygard
Tom Freeman**



Coronavirus Cancellation

NCHS Annual Meeting, Canceled Due to COVID-19

Your NCHS Board of Directors voted to cancel the 2020 NCHS Annual Meeting due to coronavirus concerns. The Board explored several options, including holding an in-person meeting later in the year and a virtual meeting in January. After much discussion, it was decided the safest measure was to cancel the meeting.

We recognize that not all our members have access to the technology and Wi-Fi bandwidth that would allow them to participate in a virtual meeting. We value all of our members and want to ensure that you can take part in this meeting.

Even though we're canceling the Annual Meeting, we still have business to conduct. Per Article XIII - Amendment 1 of the NCHS Bylaws, the Board amended our bylaws to allow voting by ballot. A ballot for each voting member *listed on your membership* will be mailed in mid-January. The 2020 NCHS Annual Report will be available on our website in late January. Print copies will be available upon request.

If you have questions, please contact Board President Kate Martens at board@nchsmn.org or Executive Director Jessica Becker at 507-380-2558 or director@nchsmn.org.

Announcing a new virtual program series! hiSTORY hangout!

Join NCHS staff and volunteers for a virtual history hangout. Each month we'll talk about the people, places, events, and more from Nicollet County's history. Aired online at 10 a.m. on second Mondays, at nchsmn.org/events

January 11: hiSTORY hangout:
Nicollet County and the area before statehood,
10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

February 8: hiSTORY hangout:
Dining out in Nicollet County,
10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

March 8: hiSTORY hangout:
1998 Tornado, 10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

April 12: hiSTORY hangout:
Nicollet County Floods, 10:00 a.m.
Online at nchsmn.org/events

NCHS Board Announces 2021 Slate for Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee of your Nicollet County Historical Society presents the following slate of board members for the 2021 term.

Ken Rossow, St. Peter
Dana Melius, St. Peter
Loren Files, North Mankato
Loren Sundboom, St. Peter, running for a second term.

From the Director

Let me start by wishing you and yours warm season's greetings. This holiday season is unlike any other, to cap off a year unlike any other. We can all honestly say that we are living in history.



Jessica Becker

Times are challenging, to say the least, but through it all, you've been there for us. Whether you renewed your membership, joined us as a new member, gave a monetary gift, or expressed your support in another way, your generosity is humbling and inspiring.

You may notice your newsletter came accompanied by a card instead of a year-end appeal letter. That is because we are not sending you a letter this year. Instead, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your support of the Society during these times. You — our members, business partners, cities, townships, friends — are the bedrock of the Society.

Throughout this season, and as we move into a new (and hopefully better) year, I want to wish you moments of peace amid the difficulties, connections with family and friends, even from afar, and the warmth of memories from holidays past.

Warm regards,

Jessica Becker
Executive Director

Museum Hours...

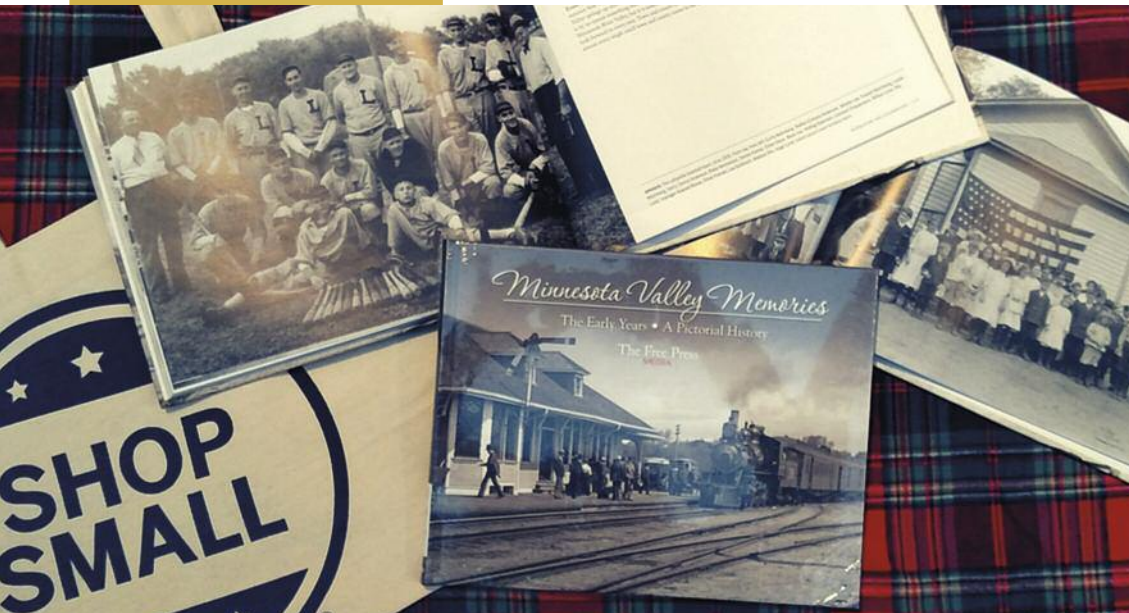
NCHS museums continue to be closed to support the effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. Please check our website and social media for updates.

President: Kate Martens
Vice President: Tami Skinner
Treasurer: Loren Sundboom
Secretary: Tim Bartelt

A very special thank you and farewell to outgoing board members Tom Brown, Marie Dranttel, and Donna Nelson. Your guidance and leadership will be missed!

Tis' the season for gratitude...

Thank you for your support during this challenging year. Your gifts mean the Society is well-positioned for entering an uncertain 2021. Your generous support truly humbles the board members and staff, and we are grateful. However, we must always work to secure our future together. Here are some ways you can continue to help.



Snowbird Address

Please remember to contact NCHS (507) 934-2160 or e-mail director@nchsmn.org with your winter address so your NCHS news reaches you in a timely manner.

Make an Online Purchase

Our Museum Store is stocked with gifts for the history lover on your list. The Treaty Site History Center Gift Shop is offering curbside pickup to our local customers. Shop from the comfort of home and bring history back with you when you pick up your order. Visit nchsmn.org and click "Shop" in the upper right corner to get started or learn more about curbside pickup.

If you are making year-end giving decisions (or already thinking about next year), here are ways you can support the Society.

Give the Gift of Membership

An NCHS membership is never back-ordered or the wrong size, and it keeps giving the whole year. Membership comes with free admission to our sites and archives, free or discounted admission to programs, a copy of our quarterly newsletter, museum store discounts, and the peace of mind that comes from knowing you are supporting an important and worthy organization. E-mail director@nchsmn.org for a Gift Membership application.

Give a Gift to NCHS

A year-end gift supports everything the Nicollet County Historical Society does, from educational and public programs to research and collections preservation. If you would like to make a financial contribution, here are some ideas.

- Mail your check to Nicollet County Historical Society, 1851 N. Minnesota Avenue, St. Peter, MN, 56082. Please make sure the envelope is postmarked by December 31, 2020.
- Make a safe and secure online donation at nchsmn.org/support/donate/
- Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA directly to NCHS (please talk to your financial advisor to see if this is right for you).
- And, if the stock market has been good to you, you may be able to transfer appreciated assets directly to NCHS (e-mail director@nchsmn.org or call for transfer information).

Thank you again for your encouragement, your help, and your support.

Reminder

Due to the size of the winter newsletter, all memberships, memorials, and donations received since the fall newsletter will be acknowledged in the spring edition.

Film Series at Home Continues

The Nicollet County Historical Society and Saint Peter Community and Family Education present our twelfth season of documentary films! Our films will not be shown in person, rather, we are providing the links for you to view these films online for free in the comfort of your own home.

Documentary Film Series | December *Little War on the Prairie*

A radio documentary produced by Mankato native John Biewen—"Little War on the Prairie"—aired on This American Life, hosted by Ira Glass, in November 2012. The documentary tells the long-overlooked story of one of the key episodes in the Plains Indian Wars of the nineteenth century, a troubling history that Biewen, a Minnesota native, says is "deeply at odds with the state's cherished tale of peaceful settlement by Scandinavian and German settlers." <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/479/little-war-on-the-prairie>

Documentary Film Series | January *Martin Luther King, Jr. in Minnesota*

A discovered tape of a speech given by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the University of Minnesota in 1967, followed by an interview of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by host L. Howard Bennett for a discussion on ideas, methods, and words of wisdom on achieving the goal of a free society for all. <https://www.pbs.org/video/martin-luther-king-in-minnesota-54jkuf/>

Documentary Film Series | February *Beautiful Equations*

Artist and writer Matt Collings plunges into an alien world of equations. He asks top scientists to help him understand five of the most famous equations in science. As he gets to grips with these equations he wonders whether the concept of artistic beauty has any relevance to the world of physics. <https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/beautiful-equations/>

NCHS Calendar

2020

Dec. Film Series at Home:

Little War on the Prairie
Watch at home. (See story at left.)

Dec. 14: NCHS Board of Directors meeting, online

Dec. 31: Last day for mail to be postmarked for 2020 business

2021

Jan. Film Series at Home:

Martin Luther King, Jr. in Minnesota
Watch at home. (See story at left.)

Jan. 11: hiSTORY hangout:
Nicollet County and the area before statehood, 10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

Jan. 30: Ballots must be postmarked by
TODAY to count (See front page for details.)

Feb. Film Series at Home:

Beautiful Equations. Watch at home.
(See story at left.)

Feb. 8: hiSTORY hangout:

Dining out in Nicollet County, 10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

Feb. 22: NCHS Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m., location TBD

Mar. 8: hiSTORY hangout:

1998 Tornado, 10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

Apr. 12: hiSTORY hangout:

Nicollet County Floods, 10:00 a.m. Online at nchsmn.org/events

Apr. 26: NCHS Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m., location TBD

