

the CROSSING

a publication of the **Nicollet County Historical Society**

Winter 2023 | Volume 28 / Issue 1



SAVE THE DATE!

NCHS ANNUAL MEETING ON MARCH 26

The Annual Meeting covering 2022 will be held Sunday, March 26, 2023, at the History Center.

More details and registration information will be mailed to you as the date approaches.

This year's featured speaker is Steve Ketcham. Steve is a retired language arts teacher who has spent the last 50-plus years collecting antique bottles, stoneware, and related advertising. He has served numerous terms as president of the North Star Historical Bottle Association and as president and board member of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, a national bottle collecting organization.

Throughout the Nineteenth Century, the sale of spurious medicines to the American public was a booming business. Millions of dollars were made by snake oil salesmen, quacks, mountebanks, who preyed on a gullible public selling products bearing names such as Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root, Kidney, Liver, and Bladder Cure; and Hood's Sarsaparilla. Minnesota was no exception, and dozens of would-be doctors and druggists pawned off questionable medicines until the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906 began to slow the flow of injurious and useless medicines. We will explore both the local and the national patent medicine industry during our visit to yesterday's medicine cabinet. Numerous examples of period bottles and advertising will be shared.

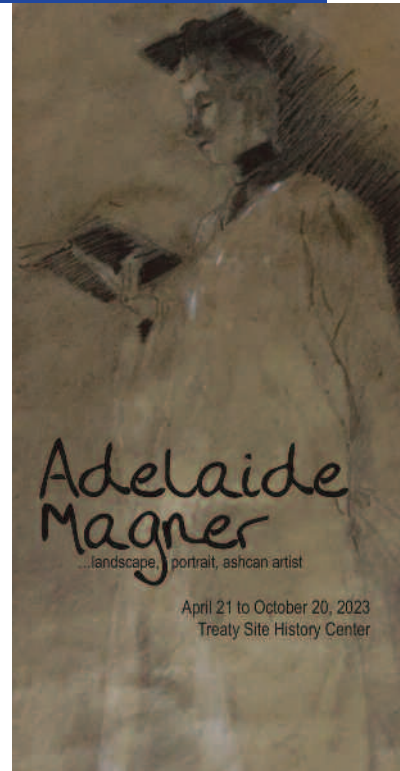
NEW EXHIBITS OPENING SOON!

Adelaide Magner by Eileen Holz

Adelaide Anne Magner was born to John and Mary (Donahue) Magner on 28 May of 1872 on a farm near Nicollet. When she was about one her parents moved to what would become known as the "Magner Farm", one-half mile west of St. Peter in Oshawa Township, Nicollet County.

At a very young age, Adelaide started experimenting with pencil sketches and garnered compliments. She was educated in the parochial schools of the county and attended St. Peter High School. Early on she demonstrated an artistic talent and after graduation from high school, she became the student of Robert Koehler at the Minneapolis School of Fine Arts—now the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

Magner continued on page 10



A Century and Sesquicentennial Farm Exhibit Coming to the History Center by Denny Schmidt

The Nicollet County Farm Bureau has undertaken a project with the Nicollet County Historical Society to create a display highlighting the history of agriculture within our county by recognizing the Century and Sesquicentennial Farms. Currently, 194 Century and 33 Sesquicentennial farms have filled out applications for recognition in the state programs.

This display will take over the History Center's township room and focus on recognizing these farms categorized by our 13 townships. This gives us an excellent

Farms continued on page 10

ORGANIZATION INFO

NCHS Board

Executive Board Officers

Kate Martens, President, St. Peter
Tami Skinner, Vice President, St. Peter
Ken Rossow, Treasurer, St. Peter
Dana Melius, Secretary, St. Peter

Directors

Eric Annexstad, St. Peter
John Chamberlain, St. Peter
Alma Forst, West Newton Township
Ray Jacobson, St. Peter
Dave Johnson, St. Peter
Joe Metzen, St. Peter
Bob Sandeen, St. Peter
Denny Schmidt, New Sweden Township
Jon Smithers, St. Peter
Loren Sundboom, St. Peter

NCHS Staff

Executive Director: Jessica Becker
 director@nchsmn.org
Operations Coordinator: James Ihrke
 office@nchsmn.org
Research Coordinator: Ruth Einstein
 research@nchsmn.org
TSHC Museum Assistants:
Sara Busse & Erica Smith
Custodian: Robert Weber
Cox House Manager: Kate Roberts
 cox@nchsmn.org

NCHS Sites information

Treaty Site History Center
 1851 N. Minnesota Ave.
 Saint Peter, MN 56082
 Phone: 507-934-2160
 Hours: Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 E-mail: info@nchsmn.org

E. St. Julien Cox House
 500 N. Washington Ave.
 Saint Peter, MN 56082
 Phone: 507-934-2160
 E-mail: cox@nchsmn.org

Traverse des Sioux
 Adjacent to the Treaty Site History Center
 1851 N Minnesota Ave.
 Saint Peter, MN 56082
 Open dawn to dusk year-round

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



Jessica Becker

Dear members,

As we welcome a new year, I want to convey my gratitude for your continued support of the Nicollet County Historical Society. Because of you, we can continue to preserve and share the rich history of Nicollet County.

NCHS finds itself at a crossroads coming out of the lingering pandemic. We are different from the organization now that we were in 2020. And that's okay. All of us are different from before. But we learn from the past and gain insights from it, helping us make more informed and effective decisions for the future. That's what NCHS is doing right now.

We are giving our organization the proper attention required to attain our goals for a successful future within our communities. Over the last year, the staff and Board have been creating a roadmap for our future; work on strategies to help NCHS grow and thrive. Our direction includes further financial stability planning, building value in our communities, and finding new ways to engage with our communities.

As such, we are trying new endeavors and have projects planned that we are eager to share with you. From new exhibits to engaging events and programs, we are dedicated to providing diverse and enriching experiences that bring history to life. Please read more about some of them in this newsletter and hear more at the annual meeting in March.

History is not just about what happened in the past but how we can use that knowledge to shape a better future. Thank you again for being a part of our future.

Jessica Becker

Executive Director

Now you can purchase or renew memberships online!
 Visit nchsmn.org/support/membership for details.

KNUJ AM 860
 • 860AM • knuj.net • 97.3FM •
"Your Friend in Southern Minnesota"

Tune In!

Hear Executive Director Jessica Becker on Community Affairs every fourth Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. on KNUJ Radio! Turn your dials to 860 AM, 97.3 FM, or listen online at knuj.net.

MEMORIALS

received by NCHS from 10-16-2022 to 12-31-2022.

In Memory of

Tim "Minnow" Bartelt

Given by Gregory & Patricia Albers

In Memory of

Eunice Holz

Given by Joyce Gardner

In Memory of

Melba Gieseke Hopp

Given by Andy Hopp

In Memory of

Diane Kroeger

Given by Benjamin Kroeger

We remember...

with honor the following friends and members whom we lost since our last newsletter.

- ◆ Bernard "Bernie" Benedict Bastian
- ◆ Helen Christianson
- ◆ Janet Hoffmann
- ◆ Dale Mowbray
- ◆ Linda Swenson

Members we lost in 2022

- ◆ Tim "Minnow" Bartelt
- ◆ Bernard "Mike" Bidelman
- ◆ Richard "Dick" Gardner
- ◆ Lorraine Gatchell
- ◆ Beverly Gustafson
- ◆ Arlene Raye Hilding
- ◆ Eunice Holz
- ◆ Dr. Craig Nelson
- ◆ David Nelson
- ◆ Barbara Olmanson
- ◆ Linda Swenson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As president of the Nicollet County Historical Society, I have the privilege of serving on several committees. In committees, the significant work of the Historical Society is done, where our Mission and Vision move forward.

The Membership Committee is currently high on my mind. The revenue from memberships like yours is a significant portion of our budget. Retaining our current members while recruiting new members is a strong theme this year. We have worked to create value for your membership by maintaining excellent exhibits and programs incorporating various segments of our county's history. Last year we certainly appreciated seeing so many members at our Members-only presentation by Karen Humphrey on the story of Sam Haugdahl's award-winning butter. We also offered a Members-only event at the Cox House with Santa. Members-only offerings are only one way we are trying to better serve and attract members under discussion.

The member survey is still open. It is a genuine attempt to discover what you value, like, or would change about membership. We'd also like to hear from you about some new proposed membership benefits. So, if you haven't done so yet, please take five minutes to complete that survey.

Finally, I will remind you that participation on our committees (where the work is done!) is open to others besides Board members. The Programs, Exhibits, Buildings and Grounds, and Membership Committees, welcome new member inquiries. Please feel free to contact me or our Executive Director, Jessica Becker, with any questions.

Looking forward to seeing you throughout the year.



Kate Martens, President
NCHS Board of Directors

MONETARY DONATIONS

received by NCHS from 10-16-2022 to 12-31-2022.

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

American Legion Post #37

Mildred Anderson

Eric Annexstad

Marshall & Janet Anthony

Alyssa Auten

Pam Bidelman

in memory of Mike Bidelman

Claude & Sandra Brew

Steven & Becky Briggs

A. Nannette Chambers

Elsa Cornell

Mel Craig

Lois Currier

Arden & Marilyn DeBoer

Marie Dranttel

Jackie Feldman

in memory of Gail Wik

Andrea Fish

Audrey Gatchell

Lisa R. Gault

JoAnn F. Gieseke

Marcia Gustafson

Greg Hanson

Scott Hermanson

Donald & Rhonda Hermanson

John & Linda Hickman

Lynnette Hoffman

Stephen & Elizabeth Hogberg

eholz graphix

Eileen Holz

Richard Holz

Bill & Jane Horton

Mary Lou Ihrke

Robert & Leona Isenberg

Lori Ann Lahlum

Diane Lochner

Emilie Lokensgard

Kate Martens

Dana Melius

Cindy & Larry Mohr

Robert & Kay Moline

Sharon Monnot

Margaret Muchow

Bruce & Marci Norell

Lorraine Olson

Garrett Paul

Elizabeth A. Peters

Andru Peters

Carol Peterson

Marlin Peterson

Steven Poncin

Lawrence W. Potts

Ken & Patsy Rossow

Sara Samuelson

Helen Schauer

JoAnn & Dennis Schmidt

Doug & Judy Schultz

Karen & Jon Smithers

Evelyn J. Solo

Jane Stark

Loren & Roxane Sundboom

Judy C. Teigen

in memory of Karen Rodning

Betty Thompson

Mary Louise Topp

Mary Vinquist

Donald E. Watts

in memory of Eliza Watts Ellis
& her family

Jerry Weldy

Buster & Nina West

Richard & Janet Wettergren

Barbara Wilkinson

Brad Wilmes

David & Linda Witte

SITE REPORTS

History Center Report

by James Ihrke,
Operations Coordinator

Busy in 2023

The Treaty Site History Center has seen a lot of activity these past few months. Our guided tours especially continue to draw strong interest from area schools. During field trips, students learn about the Dakota people and pioneer times. Our docents do a wonderful job bringing that to life.

Attendance at events such as "Shadows at the Crossing," "Sam Haugdahl, the New Sweden Creamery, and World Champion Butter," and our monthly documentary film series is rebounding nicely. We hope that trend continues into 2023. We are excited for everyone to check out our new conference and event room, made possible by a generous grant from the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation.

We have a few new faces around here. Lynn Hanson and Jeanne Groebner have been helping at the front desk and in research and 3-D collections. Along with our other stalwart volunteers, we are making real progress on our to-do list. Please reach out to us if you are interested in volunteering!

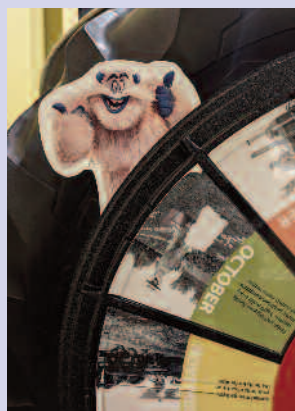
We are excited to share new experiences and new exhibits with our visitors this year!



James Ihrke
Operations Coordinator



A full house of members was in attendance for Karen Humphrey's program on November 17.



Super Snow Saturday on February 4 was full of free family fun like our "Smallfoot" themed scavenger hunt.

Cox House Corner

by Kate Roberts,
Cox House Manager

Finishing 2022 Season

October through December was a very busy and fun time at the Cox House. Ending October was the very old ghost of a woman who treated many youngsters for Halloween. November saw former President Theodore Roosevelt, as portrayed by Adam Lindquist, in two events a Friday Christmas at the Cox House harkened back to Victorian Days.

On Friday, our Christmas by Candlelight evening was wonderful, with candles and oil lamps all over the house, which was filled with beautiful Christmas



Kate Roberts
Cox House Manager



Young visitor Valin with Theodore Roosevelt

music by Ben Marti. Saturday was filled with the music of Katherine and Karl Davis as guests did a self-guided tour. Sunday was focused on children with the exploration of what Christmas would have been like in the Victorian era. With artist Takara Olson's guidance, all children could make decorations to take home, as well as a goody bag of treats. The season ended on December 20, with the Cox House hosting the St. Peter Chamber's Business After Hours event.



Cox House Manager Kate Roberts enjoying the music by Ben Marti.



Katherine & Karl Davis provided beautiful music for Saturday's Christmas event.

Many thanks go out to volunteers Dave Johnson, Kate Martens, Tami Skinner, Ken and Patsy Rossow, Susan Hynes, Takara Olson, Athea Olson and Valin Roberts-Grove for all their help during the 4th quarter events.

We are looking forward to seeing you when we open for our regular season.

ARCHIVES DONATIONS

Artifact & Archival Donations as of 10-2022:

Robin Wettergren Bauer: Photo of Peachy Egli in costume for the Minnesota Centennial, 1958; postcard, Kasota Road during the 1908 flood.

Barbara Bergstrom: Phone used on the Arno W. Bergstrom Farm, Bernadotte Twp.

Blue Earth County Historical Society: Materials relating to the Anders Anderson family of North Mankato.

Winnis Renneke Buesing: Tin cup from the New Sweden Creamery formerly owned by Mayme and Davis Renneke.

Jeanne Cox: Horse tack from Walter Wilking farm, rural Nicollet.

Mark Davis: Scrapbook compiled by Mary Hahn Davis of photos and clippings relating to Johnson & Company, later Johnson Uniform Company, Saint Peter, early 1930s. Mary and her sisters Inabelle Hahn Maoss and Maybelle Hahn Overson worked there.

William B. Dunphy: Homestead deed issued to William Dunphy, 1861, for land eventually sold to Nicollet County and now part of Seven Mile Creek Park.

Jacquelyn Burg Feldman: Digital photos relating to the Burg and Giefer families of Nicollet.

Audrey Gatchell: Deposit bag, Valley National Bank, North Mankato; sweatshirt commemorating the 100th anniversary of North Mankato, 1898-1998.

Sally Gleason: Clothing and photos relating to the Russell & Lucile Gleason and Elmer & Delores Gleason families of Nicollet.

David W. Goodell: Vietnam-era pup tent, duffle bag, and TA-50 web gear.

Lori Heslep & Julie Turtle: Materials relating to Gottlieb & Emma Anderson family; objects formerly owned by Gerold Laumann.

Andy Hopp: Materials formerly owned by Melba Gieseke Hopp, Nicollet; including print and digital photographs, documents, and genealogies; a chair caned by Melba and caning supplies; promotional items from Nicollet County businesses, including items formerly owned by Delores Gleason; anniversary publications of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brighton and other area churches.

Marlin Peterson: Digital photograph, gathering, New Sweden, 1906.

Marshall Peterson: Materials relating to the Marlin Peterson & Florence Henning Peterson family; District No. 6 School, New Sweden; Lone Danielson (Vogel, Behan); Scandian Grove Lutheran Church; and St. Peter High School shop projects of Marshall Peterson.

Doug & Judy Schultz: Book, *Polled Pioneers: A History of Naturally Hornless Dairy Cattle in North America*, by Ronald F. Eustice, which includes substantial chapters on Walter Schultz and Shur-Poll Farm, Nicollet.

Bonnie Sellner: Promotional bowl from the New Sweden store formerly belonging to George and Alta Tostenson; reproductions of share certificates of New Sweden Rural Cooperative, 1949-1958.

Victoria Walch & Emily Rogers: Trunk formerly owned by Dr. Jared W. Daniels of St. Peter.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

by Ruth Einstein

Research Coordinator

Among the treasure trove of print and digital photographs, genealogies, documents, and business items included in recent donations by Andy Hopp of materials once belonging to his late grandmother, Melba Gieseke Hopp, were records that filled a lamentable hole in our collections: Materials from Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brighton Township.

A cabinet card photograph found in the collection was identified as showing Rev. Theodore Schleuter, Teacher Kirschke, and boys: Peter Seibel, John Ulrich, and William Gieseke. I set out to discover the identity of Teacher Kirschke and to satisfy my assumption that this was a photo of a Zion Lutheran confirmation class. Learning any details about any of the individuals pictured would be the icing on the history cake.

Andy donated his grandmother's collection of Zion Lutheran's 50th, 75th, 90th, and 100th anniversary publications, which include church history, pictures of pastors and teachers, history of the parochial school, voting members, communicant members, confirmations, baptisms, marriages, and burials. The three boys are listed as making up the confirmation class of 1905. The church history offers information about Mr. Kirschke and Rev. Schleuter:



Confirmation class, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brighton Township, 1905. L-r, seated: Peter Seibel, John Ulrich; standing: Eduard (Edward) Kirschke (teacher), William Gieseke, Rev. Theodore Schleuter.

"In the year 1902 Mr. Edward Kirschke, a retired German school teacher settled in the community together with his family and he was asked by the congregation to serve as teacher for the religious instruction of its young to which Mr. E. Kirschke consented.

"After the pastor serving the congregation died in 1904, Theodore Schleuter, who was the pastor at Immanuel in Courtland, came twice a month and Edward read a sermon to the congregation on the off weeks.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church continued on page 8



Ruth Einstein
Research Coordinator

2022 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Your membership is not just a financial donation. By supporting local history organizations like NCHS through membership, individuals like you play an active role in ensuring that our County's history is remembered and appreciated for generations to come.

We thank our current members who continue their commitment to NCHS.

NCHS makes every effort to provide an accurate listing of our current members. If we made a mistake or if you have questions about your membership, please contact us at 507-934-2160 or membership@nchsmn.org.

\$1000 Crossing Circle

Life Members:

Mildred Anderson
 Roberta Bartholdi
 Larry & Judy Biederman
 Peg Bindner
 Steven & Becky Briggs
 Shari & James Brostrom
 Verlin Carlson
 Mel Craig
 Mark & Mary Davis
 Eleanor Depuydt
 Marie Dranttel
 Garfield Eckberg
 Julie & Sam Gault
 Lisa Gault
 Tom Hagen
 Eileen Holz
 Gretchen Koehler
 Robert & Sally Lambert
 Emilie Lokensgard
 Maria Lokensgard
 James & Patricia McPherson
 Brian Oviatt
 Marlin Peterson
 Bob Sandeen
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Schmidt
 Loren & Roxane Sundboom
 David & Linda Witte
 Val Youngblom

Life Members:

Lois Annestad
 Marshall & Janet Anthony
 Willis & Rachel Anthony
 William Dobbs
 Lorraine Gatchell
 Bruce & Sue Gray
 Fred Hanson Jr.
 Arlene Hilding
 Janet Hoffman
 Eunice Holz
 Carl & Susan Johnson
 John Kvamme
 Mrs. William Lager
 Ben Leonard
 Elgene Lund
 Eugene Majerowicz
 Beatrice Martinson
 Robert & Kay Moline
 Barbara Olmanson
 Jan Olmanson
 Lorraine Olson

Dennis Paschke
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pettis
 Herbert & Louise Poncin
 Judy Scholl
 Linda Swenson
 E.A. Swenson & Sons
 Norseland General Store
 Betty Thompson
 Mr. & Mrs. Volk
 Margaret Wenner
 Ed Wetherill

Corporate

Business Member:

Ursula McRostie

\$1000 Champion

Business Members:

Pioneer Bank

\$500 Benefactor

Business Members:

Gustavus Adolphus College
 Patrick's on Third

\$200 Advocate

Business Members:

Arts Center of Saint Peter
 Brighton Township
 eholz graphix
 New Sweden Mutual
 Insurance Company
 St. Peter Lumber Company
 St. Peter State
 Hospital Museum

Supporter Members:

Nita & Paul Aasen
 Bill & Deb Dixon
 Ryan Kupcho
 Joy Lutz
 Kate Martens
 Bill & Durene Pedersen
 Marie Renneke
 Gene Retka
 Evelyn Solo

Patron Members:

Joni & Neal Anderson
 Tim Bartelt
 Al & Mary Behrends
 Mike & Pam Bidelman
 Elsa Cornell

Scott Dobie
 Cindy Freeman
 Beverly Gustafson
 Marcia Gustafson
 Eric Hendrickson
 Scott Hermanson
 Stephen & Elizabeth
 Hogberg
 Leona Isenberg
 Ellis Jones
 Lori Lahlum
 Jill & Larry Potts
 Janet Prehn
 Harold Rodning
 Ken & Patsy Rossov
 Kris & James Sack
 Dave Solheim
 Buffalo Commons Press
 Glenn Stryker
 Roland & Edi Thorstensson
 Dean & Jane Wahlund

Sustainer Members:

Frani & Mark Anderson
 Allen & Mary Hildebrandt
 Adam Malamen
 Terry & Martha Morrow
 Sarah Nelsen
 Burt & Kelly Norell

Family Members:

John & Julianne Allerson
 Jessica Becker
 Marilyn & Bill Bessler
 Ken Bloch
 Mark & Laura Boomgaarden
 Patty & Darryl Breitenfeldt
 Claude & Sandra Brew
 Sarah Busse
 Gary & Mary Campbell
 Katha & John Chamberlain
 Duane & Brenda DeBlieck
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 Elaine & Dan Deschaine
 Charles & Carol Eggert
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 Dennis & Kristen Frank
 & Simon-Frank
 Bill Gronseth
 Stuart & Mary Ann Hanson
 Paul Hanson
 Jim Haugdahl

Brad Haugdahl
 Donald & Rhonda
 Hermanson
 Lori Heslep
 Bill & Jane Horton
 Lisa & Philip Isenberg
 & Friedlund
 Ray & Liz Jacobson
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 Dave & JoAnne Johnson
 Janis Kemp
 Jack & Jane Kolars
 Peggy Kreber &
 Warren Wagner
 Bill & Meg Lindberg
 Mary & Gordon Long
 David & Jenny Luepke
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 Joe, Kay & Cordelia Metzen
 Carolyn & John Meyer
 Warren & Terri Michels
 Tuff & Ginny Miller
 Gary & Joanne Miller
 Cindy & Larry Mohr
 Dale & Kay Mowbray
 Dr. Craig A. Nelson
 David Nelson
 Mitchell & Laura Nelson
 Laura Nelson
 Thorild & Ardith Nelson
 Donna Nelson
 Janet and Byron Nordstrom
 Byron & Jill Norell
 Bruce & Marci Norell
 William & Mary O'Brien
 Elizabeth Peters
 Kathryn Roberts
 Helen & David Schauer
 Dennis & JoAnn Schmidt
 Doug & Judy Schultz
 Jeff & Tami Skinner
 Erica Smith
 Karen & Jon Smithers
 Howard & Jane Swenson
 Richard Tostenson
 Daniel Tostenson
 Kevin & Meghan Velasquez
 Anna Versluis

Jeff & Melanie Wettergren
 & Melanie Lynard
 Gerald & Peggy Wolfe
 Rick Wright

Individual Members:

Eric Annestad
 Haley Ashwood
 Ruth Brandel
 Dwight DeBoer
 Michael Frederick
 Brian Fremo
 Jay Hanson
 Greg Hanson
 Paul Honken
 Sara Leadholm
 Amanda Malkin
 LeeAnn McMillan
 Rebecca Novak
 Brad Parks
 DeNel Richert
 Karen Robison
 Brandon Stolt
 Robert Weber
 Brad Wilmes
 Michelle Wolfe
 Margaret Zeren

Senior Individual

Members:

Michael Annestad
 Ida Mary Asleson
 Leigh Baer
 Bernie Bastian
 John Berbrich
 Howard Bode
 Thomas Brown
 Winnis Buesing
 Nannette Chambers
 Helen Christianson
 Melanie Covell
 Lois Currier
 Barbara DeZuani
 Jackie Feldman
 Lorie Fetzik
 Carol Forbes
 Alma Forst
 Richard & Joyce Gardner
 Audrey Gatchell
 JoAnn Gieseke
 Daniel Groebner
 Marlene Groves
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 Lynnette Hoffman
 Richard Holz
 Karen Humphrey
 Susan Hynes
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 Vickie Johnson
 Marjorie Johnson
 Maurine Johnson
 Bradford Johnson
 Charles Johnson
 Jane Klein
 Ruth Klossner
 Donna Kowal
 Willis Lindquist
 John Luepke
 Harriet Mason
 Carol Moline
 Jennifer Monke
 Margaret Muchow
 Catherine Neitge
 Arnold Nimps
 Bonnie Norman
 Andru Peters
 Marshall Peterson
 Carol Peterson
 Steven Poncin
 Tim Pulis
 Donna Resner
 Karen Reyelts
 Marvin Robinson
 Ronald Roselli
 Kenneth Saffert
 Mary Ann Scharf
 Bonnie Sellner
 Agnes Stensby
 Marty Sterner
 Terry Sveine
 Evie Swenson
 Judy Teigen
 Bernard Thieman
 Linda Vogel
 Judy Voss
 Jerry Weldy
 Diane Wild
 Roger Wilkinson
 Barbara Wilkinson
 Nancy Zins

HISTORY BITS

Admission Rates for 2023

After a market analysis and much discussion, the Society has raised admission rates for 2023. Admissions revenue supports everything we do, from programs and exhibits to research and collections preservation. NCHS has not raised its general admission prices since 2016. We want to continue to offer high-quality visitor experiences and events, and this incremental adjustment will help us do that.

At the same time, we are also modifying our admissions policy to broaden access. We are decreasing the age requirement for seniors from 65 to 55 and expanding free admission long provided to children aged four and younger, extending it to all children aged 17 and younger.

Free admission is always included in membership, so this change will not affect NCHS members.

New General Admission structure

Adults:	\$7
Seniors:	\$6
Archives:	\$7
	(nonmembers)
Children 17 and younger:	Free
Members:	Free

Announcing a New Admission Program for Low-Income Families



The Nicollet County Historical Society wants to ensure everyone has access to its local history collection and is now offering free admission for SNAP participants. Through the *Museums for All* program, visitors with a valid EBT card and ID can have free entrance into either the Cox House or Treaty Site History Center.

The Historical Society's *Museums for All* program offers:

- ◆ Free admission to individuals and families presenting an EBT card and matching ID.
- ◆ Rate is offered for up to four guests per EBT card.
- ◆ Admission discount is available during normal operating hours.
- ◆ Does not include special events or field trips

Museums for All is a way to broaden a museum's visitor base and reach out to underserved communities. A museum visit can inspire the development of new skills and interests, ignite creativity and enrich social connections.

Museums for All will help expand access to museums and raise public awareness about how museums in the U.S. reach their entire communities. By removing the financial barrier, *Museums for All* also removes the social and academic barrier families face when they are not exposed to high-quality museum experiences.

To learn more about *Museums for All*, please visit www.museums4all.org.

To learn more about the Nicollet County Historical Society, please visit www.nchsmn.org



The Nicollet County Historical Society needs some things to help its operations! Here are several items which would be put to good use at the Society.

- ◆ White sheets and pillow cases, no pattern, natural fibers only
- ◆ Washable kids markers
- ◆ Twist ties
- ◆ Command Picture Hanging Strips



HISTORY BITS

New Faces at the History Center

Welcome, Lynn Hanson!



Lynn Hanson

I have wonderful memories of childhood in Granite Falls where dad instilled a stellar work ethic and mom taught me how to bake a killer apple pie. I graduated from Moorhead State University too long ago to remember when.

As a recent retiree from a 26-year career in probation, the historical society offered a perfect

change of pace in the company of a wonderful staff. I have two dear sons and Ron; my partner of nearly 24 years. I love nothing more than waking up in our tent and hiking through Minnesota's many state parks. Thanks to connections made at the museum, I recently learned that my great, great grandfather sold land eventually incorporated into a portion of the Sakatah Trail. History is awesome!

Welcome, Jeanne Groebner!



Jeanne Groebner

I retired in 2015 after working in financial services at a variety of companies. I have a degree in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with an emphasis on cultural studies.

My volunteering background includes Vine and the inaugural Board for the Living Earth Center, a sponsored ministry of the School

Sisters of Notre Dame. Currently, I serve on several committees for the Living Earth Center (event, finance, and Earth Conference Planning Committee).

After reading the NCHS newsletter requesting people to volunteer, I applied to help at History Center's front desk.

I enjoy gardening, knitting, cooking, baking, canning, and spending time with family and friends. Continued learning is a passion.

We've been selected by the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program!

We are so excited to share that the Nicollet County Historical Society has been selected to benefit from Hy-Vee's Reusable Bag Program, which makes it easy for customers to contribute to their local communities.

For the months of March and April, whenever a \$2.50 "My Heart" Reusable Bag is purchased at the Hy-Vee located at 1002 Old Minnesota Avenue in St. Peter, Minn., \$1 will be donated to NCHS. This is a great way to broaden awareness of the Society and help our mission and vision.

Let's get started! Share the news with friends and family and share our social media posts. The more people who purchase the "My Heart" Reusable Bag in March and April, the more we can raise!

To learn more about this program, please visit hy-vee.2givelocal.com.



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church *continued from page 6*

"In May 1927 the Lord terminated the services of his servant, Mr. Ed. Kirschke who had labored faithfully and diligently as teacher and organist of this congregation for twenty-four years and his remains were laid to rest in the little cemetery just east of the church, the land having been donated to the church for that purpose by Mr. Louis Fluegge."

Church records, such as anniversary booklets and ecclesiastical registers, are invaluable resources for genealogists and historians. These anniversary publications of Zion Lutheran will allow the Research Center at NCHS to serve our researchers more effectively.



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in the present.

DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES

NOW AT A NEW TIME!

We know everyone is busy and that winter weather can be tricky for nighttime programs. Therefore, we are trying something different to serve our attendees better and moving our nighttime programs to afternoons. Starting with our March 2 documentary, we will begin showing our films at 2 p.m. in the afternoon. They'll still be free and open to the public, just no more nighttime driving or late nights. While the Documentary Film Series is free, please note there is an admission fee to view the exhibits. Mark your calendars!

The Nicollet County Historical Society and Saint Peter Community and Family Education present our fourteenth season of documentary films! These documentaries inform, challenge ideas, and create conversation. Films are shown at the Treaty Site History Center and are free to the public.

The 2022-23 Films on First Thursdays Documentary Films Series is generously sponsored by the William R. Witty American Legion Post 37.

Craft in America: Music March 2, 2023, at 2 p.m. | 55 minutes

Craft in America, the Peabody Award-winning documentary series, is an inspirational journey to the artists, objects, techniques and origins of American craft.

Music focuses on how fine handmade instruments are crafted and the world-renowned artists who play them, demonstrating the perfect blend of form and function. The hour features interviews and performances from Joan Baez, Rhiannon Giddens, Director of the Count Basie Orchestra Scotty Barnhart, banjo master Tony Ellis, L.A. Philharmonic timpanist Joseph Pereira, and virtuoso ukulele player Jake Shimabukuro.

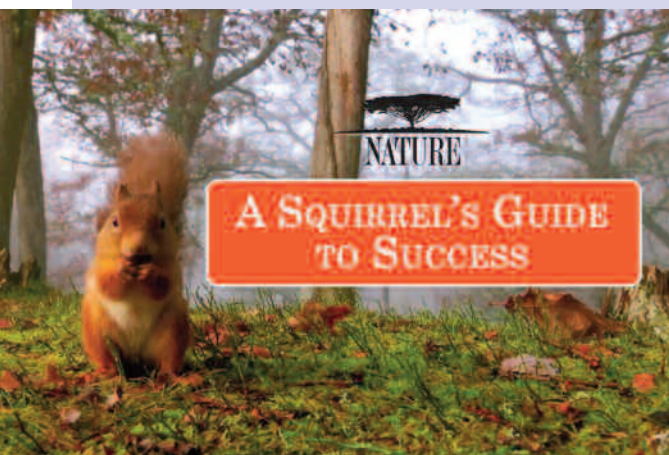
By exploring how various instruments are perfected, *MUSIC* also offers viewers a unique journey through our country's past, detailing the contributions of jazz and Appalachian roots music to the American cultural landscape, as well as the intersection of the guitar and political activism, and how the legacy of West African instruments is embedded in the American banjo.

Guerilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst April 13, 2023, 2 p.m. | 90 minutes

The Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA) wreaked havoc on the West Coast and our national psyche, leaving behind a rich trove of paranoid recordings and scores of violent acts, including the kidnapping of heiress Patty Hearst who would subsequently join the SLA under the alias "Tania."

A Squirrel's Guide to Success May 4, 2023, 2 p.m. | 60 minutes

The squirrel family, from tiny chipmunks to big prairie dogs, is one of the most widespread on Earth, so what is the secret to their success? There are almost 300 species of squirrels that can glide through the air, outwit rattlesnakes, and survive the coldest temperatures of any mammal. Uncover the extraordinary abilities of these cheeky nut lovers as a filmmaker puts their problem-solving to the test on a specially designed obstacle course. Join some of the world's top squirrel scientists who are making groundbreaking discoveries—from the brainy fox squirrel who can remember the location of 9,000 nuts, to the acrobatic gray squirrel whose tree-top leaps are the basis of new designs in robotics. And see the world through the eyes of an orphan red squirrel called Billy, as he grows up and develops all the skills he will need to be released back to the wild.





UPCOMING EXHIBITS CONTINUED

Magner continued from page 1

In 1901 Adelaide left her home for the Chase School of Art alternatively known as The New York School of Art in New York City (today known as the Parsons School of Design) to become the student of Robert Henri for portraiture and his new "ashcan" style of art; and Douglass John Connah for instruction in landscape painting.

Adelaide went on to garner awards and prizes for her artwork; traveled to study further; became a well-respected professor of art and lecturer; but always remembered her home and returned here to paint—often in the ashcan style—a detail of one of her many self-portraits is shown at the right. Another self-portrait on page 1 shows her at graduation.

A member-only event for the exhibit opening will be on April 21 at the Center and the show will continue for the public to October 20, 2023. Join us to learn more about this prolific Nicollet County artist.



Farms continued from page 1

opportunity to highlight the history of the settling of our county and the role that agriculture has played and continues to play in the vitality of our communities.

The display will be a major attraction for about six months starting in July, and we hope to hold several events while the exhibit is up. Gatherings for the Farm Bureau, the Century and Sesquicentennial Farms, and the community to showcase agriculture and the fact that we have been sustainable now since the county was organized in 1853.

We are seeking volunteers to serve on a steering committee to make this an exceptional exhibit. We have applied for and have received a grant through the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation that will assist us financially, but there is much to do and more minds planning the event would be welcome.



No exhibit is complete without items to see. To tell each township's agricultural story, we would like your help finding photographs, memorabilia, awards, and other items of interest to be displayed through a loan or donation.

If you want to volunteer with this project, please contact Denny Schmidt at 507-276-2002.

If you want to loan or donate items, please contact Jessica Becker at 507-934-0593.



2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS: All events are subject to public health recommendation

Event/Program information:

TSHC: Treaty Site History Center events are free for NCHS members unless stated otherwise.

continuing on display

Brewers & Bottlers: A Refreshing History of Beer and Soda Making in Nicollet County,
through March 25, 2023

History Center

March 26 NCHS Annual Meeting, see story on page 1

History Center

March 2 **Documentary Film Series** | *Craft in America: Music*, 2 p.m., see story on page 9

History Center

April 13 **Documentary Film Series** | *Guerilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst*, 2 p.m., see story on page 9

History Center

April 20 Adelaide Wagner Exhibit Opens, see story on page 1

History Center

May 4 **Documentary Film Series** | *A Squirrel's Guide to Success*, 2 p.m., see story on page 9

History Center

July Century and Sesquicentennial Farm Exhibit Opens, see story on page 1

History Center

Please watch the NCHS website, Facebook & Twitter for further events and details for additional programming.



ATTENTION NCHS MEMBERS:

NCHS MEMBER SURVEY



Scan the code with your
phone's photo app to
participate in our survey!

SURVEY RESPONSE DEADLINE EXTENDED!

Thank you so much for being a Nicollet County Historical Society member. Your support is necessary for us to continue to gather, preserve, and share Nicollet County's history.

We have designed a survey to help determine what our members value about their membership. *This survey should take 5 to 7 minutes to complete.*

Instructions:

1. To begin the survey, scan the QR code with your phone or navigate to surveymonkey.com/r/nchsmembership
2. Complete the survey by the end of the day on **March 31, 2023**.

If you would like to request a paper copy of the survey, please contact James at 507-934-2160 or membership@nchsmn.org.

Thank you for participating!

***Please note: **All answers are anonymous** and will NOT be identified with any individual.

NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

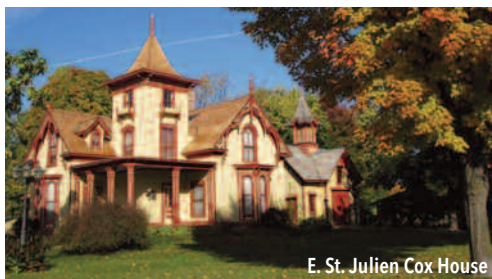
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HISTORY DISCOVERY PRESERVATION KNOWLEDGE

E. St. Julien Cox House • Traverse des Sioux • Treaty Site History Center



E. St. Julien Cox House



Traverse des Sioux Townsite



Treaty Site History Center

— NCHS Membership Application —

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

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®

Authorized Signature _____

☐ Please save mailing costs, I will read my newsletter online.

Yes! I would like to support my Nicollet County Historical Society in 2023 at the following level (please check one).

<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+)	\$ 30
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 40
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$ 200
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member	\$ 1,000
Business Memberships	

call or
e-mail
for info

Please make checks payable to:

Nicollet County Historical Society

Membership applications should be mailed to:

**Nicollet County Historical Society
1851 North Minnesota Avenue
St. Peter, MN 56082**

PAPERLESS?? Now you can purchase or renew your membership online! Visit nchsmn.org/support/membership for details.