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the CROSSING

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

Fall 2025 | Volume 31 / Issue 3

HISTORY DISCOVERY PRESERVATION KNOWLEDGE HISTORY DISCOVERY PRESERVATION KNOWLEDGE

A NOTE ON OUR FINANCIAL REALITY

The Situation

Our community understands that we operate as conservatively as possible to make every dollar go further. Last year at this time, we reported a lean year and, with your help, managed to avoid a shortfall. This year, however, rising operational costs, declining public revenue, and fewer starting reserves mean we are forecasting an \$87,000 deficit by the end of 2025.

Why the Gap Is So Large?

It's been an unfortunate perfect storm of factors. Earned revenue from admissions, gift shop sales, and programs has dropped by nearly 45%, and membership renewals and donations have come in lower than we expected. At the same time, the cost of nearly everything we rely on to operate has gone up. Building maintenance expenses are up more than 35%, and insurance premiums have risen about 15%, just two examples of how rising prices are affecting every corner of our budget, from exhibit materials to basic supplies.

What's Being Done?

We have already reduced expenses where we could, mostly from cutting office, exhibit, and program costs, and also reallocating funds from other less essential areas, but expenses continue to rise faster than income. To further offset costs, we made the difficult decision not to rehire our Operations Coordinator, saving about \$10,000 through the end of the year, and held a midyear fundraiser that raised nearly \$9,000. While these steps helped, they covered only a small portion of the gap.

Looking ahead, we are planning new revenue initiatives for 2026, including expanded gift shop offerings, sponsored admission days, and updated rental packages. Your support today is essential to give these long-term plans a chance to succeed.

What This Means for NCHS?

If this deficit continues, we will be forced to make painful choices that directly affect community access to NCHS.

- Reduced Access:** To manage rising energy and utility costs, we are considering closing an additional day each week. This means fewer opportunities for researchers to use the archives, for visitors to explore exhibits, and for students to experience field trips.
- Slower Services and Program Reductions:** With fewer staff, exhibit updates will take longer, programs may be scaled back, and wait times for processing memberships and donations will increase.
- Deferred Building Maintenance:** Maintenance and inspections are essential to upkeep both the Cox House and the Treaty Site History Center. Delaying necessary repairs increases long-term risks to our facilities and the collections they protect.

We are educators, preservationists, storytellers, and neighbors. Right now, Nicollet County's shared history is at risk of becoming less accessible without your help.

What You Can Do?

This community has always shown up for local history, and we need your support now more than ever to bridge the \$87,000 gap. We know that is a big ask in an uncertain economy. If you can make a year-end donation, we are deeply grateful. If not, there are still meaningful ways to help:

FINANCES continued on page 2

ORGANIZATION INFO

NCHS Board

Executive Board Officers

Dennis Schmidt, President, New Sweden Township
Tami Skinner, Vice President, St. Peter
Alma Forst, Treasurer, West Newton Township
Scott Hermanson, Secretary, St. Peter

Directors

Eric Annexstad, St. Peter
Mark Fiemeyer, Courtland
Bob Sandeen, St. Peter
Tacie Schwartz, North Mankato
Jon Smithers, St. Peter

NCHS Staff

Executive Director: Jessica Becker

director@nchsmn.org

Research Coordinator: Ruth Einstein

research@nchsmn.org

Collections Assistant: Anna Simmons

TSHC Museum Assistants:

Sarah Busse & Erica Smith

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

NCHS MISSION: NCHS gathers, preserves, and shares the varied history of the people, places, and events that have shaped Nicollet County.

NCHS VISION: To be a community asset and leader, engaging and educating the public and fostering an appreciation of Nicollet County History.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Members and Friends,

As autumn settles in, I've been thinking about what it means to stay steady through change. In this issue, you'll read about the financial challenges NCHS is facing and the steps our Board is taking to secure our future. The situation is serious, but our direction is clear.



Jessica Becker

Each week, I see the impact of your support, in a classroom visit, a researcher's discovery, or a visitor's surprise at what they find here. Those moments remind me why this work matters and why it must continue.

Much of our work right now is about balance—maintaining public access while protecting resources, meeting immediate needs while planning for the long term, and weighing every decision against what's best for both the organization and the community we serve.

Our team remains focused on what's essential: caring for collections, welcoming visitors, and planning for long-term sustainability. We're asking thoughtful questions, listening to our community, and preparing to adapt where needed.

Thank you for standing with us. With your continued involvement, NCHS will move through this season and into the next with strength and purpose.

Jessica Becker

Executive Director

continued from page 1

- Take our community survey—our input will guide our decisions for 2026 and beyond.
- Make a donation—every contribution directly supports our operations.
- Renew or upgrade your membership—your continued support sustains our mission.
- Bring a friend—share NCHS through a visit or program.
- Follow and share on social media—help us reach new supporters.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in our mission, and helping us keep Nicollet County's story alive and accessible for everyone. While many local nonprofits face similar challenges, the generosity of this community ensures that our shared history continues to thrive.

...OUR FINANCIAL REALITY



Unlocking New Ways to Experience History on Give to the Max Day

This Give to the Max Day, we're focusing on what visitors experience most- the exhibits that bring Nicollet County's stories to life.



We're raising **\$7,500** to support exhibit upgrades that strengthen how we share history at the History Center. One of our goals is to replace bulky flipbooks with touchscreens that allow us to expand the stories, photos, and maps featured in our exhibits. This change will free up space in the gallery while using technology to add new and updated content for visitors to explore.

While much of this year's focus has been on caring for the building itself, these improvements invest in what happens inside. They ensure the museum remains a welcoming, engaging, and relevant place for everyone who walks through our doors.

On **November 20**, all gifts will be **matched up to \$850** by the NCHS Board of Directors. Your donation that day goes twice as far toward unlocking better ways to experience history.

Give early or on November 20 at
<https://www.givemn.org/donate/Nicollet-County-Historical-Society>

Or scan the QR code.



BOARD MESSAGE

Fall is a season that wraps our community in a tapestry of crisp air and brilliant foliage. Watching those gorgeous amber leaves float down, enjoying a backyard campfire, and sipping hot apple cider are some of the best ways to celebrate this time of year. As cooler weather approaches, we put on our cozy sweaters and start to prepare our homes for the seasonal shift. During this time, NCHS is also preparing for one of our biggest annual pushes to support our local history.

On **Give to the Max Day** (November 20th), your generosity will be doubled, thanks to a special match donation from our NCHS Board. This means every dollar you contribute will have twice the impact, helping us further our mission. Keep an eye out for details about the exact match amount soon! By joining in, you're directly supporting our programs and exhibits, and helping us kick off one of our essential year-end giving campaigns.

A big thank you to everyone who has recently renewed your support. You are the heart of everything we do! If your renewal date is coming up, please consider renewing today, upgrading your membership, or sharing the benefits of NCHS membership with friends and colleagues. We're especially excited about our new business membership levels, which are a fantastic way for local companies to partner with us and invest in our community's rich history.

Beyond fundraising, the Board is also dedicated to strengthening the organization for the future. We're currently reviewing and proposing updates to our bylaws to enhance governance and ensure that our core policies continue to move us forward.

Thank you, once again, for being the heart of NCHS. Together, we're preserving the stories that make our history so rich. Happy fall!

Reserve Your 2026 NCHS Calendar

The 2026 Nicollet County Historical Society calendar is coming soon!

It features 13 historical photographs from our collection showcasing Nicollet County's past.

Reserve your copy by November 30, 2025, to be sure one is set aside for you in time for holiday gift-giving.

Member Price: \$20 (when reserved by November 30)
Pickup available: Early December

No payment is needed now. You'll pay when you pick up your calendar at the Treaty Site History Center in December.

Reserve your copy by calling 507-934-2160 or at the link below.
<https://www.nchsmn.org/calendar-reservation/>

NCHS BITS

MUSEUMS FOR ALL VISITOR GUIDE

COME TO THE MUSEUM ANY TIME!

Museums for All is valid during all normal operating hours.

SHOW YOUR EBT CARD AND PHOTO ID AT ADMISSIONS.

Admission is free for up to four people per EBT card.

COME BACK ANY TIME!

There's no limit to how often you can visit through Museums for All.



Museums for All at the Nicollet County Historical Society

Your SNAP/EBT and WIC cards are still valid for free museum admission, even if benefits are not loading due to the government shutdown. Showing your card proves you are eligible, and we are dedicated to welcoming all community members.

The Nicollet County Historical Society is proud to participate in the Museums for All program, making the history of our community and state accessible to all visitors. Through this program, anyone receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) can get free admission to the Cox House and History Center.

How it Works

Who is eligible for this program?

Anyone who has a SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Electronic Benefit Transfer) card is eligible. We welcome cardholders from all states.

What is the admission price?

Admission to the Cox House and History Center is free through this program.

How many people can come with me?

The Museums for All rate provides free admission for up to four individuals per EBT card.

What should I do when I arrive?

Simply show your SNAP/EBT card at the admissions desk. The card is for identification purposes only.

Our Commitment to Accessibility

The Nicollet County Historical Society believes that history should be available to everyone. We are committed to removing barriers to visitation and ensuring that everyone in our community feels welcome to explore our collections and learn about our shared heritage.

Program Partners

Museums for All is a national program administered by the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal agency.



*an initiative of the
Institute of Museum and Library Services*

NCHS VISITOR SURVEY

TREATY SITE HISTORY CENTER

WE WANT
YOUR
FEEDBACK



TAKE OUR SURVEY!

2025 Nicollet County Historical Society Visitor Survey

Help shape how we explore and preserve our shared history

NCHS is grateful for the community's role in gathering and telling our stories. We invite you to share your interests, experiences, and ideas to help shape our future.

Your responses in this brief, 8-minute survey will inform how we connect with visitors through exhibits, events, resources, and the overall museum experience. We look forward to learning from you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025-nchs-survey>

It's been a busy fall here at the History Center. Most weeks we've had multiple tour groups coming through, keeping our volunteer guides—Kate, Cindy, Al, John, and Steve—on their toes. They've welcomed visitors from Mankato, Winthrop, Belle Plaine, and other nearby communities, and we're grateful for their time and enthusiasm. There's nothing better than seeing people connect with our local history in person.

Outside of field trips, things are starting to quiet down for the season. Admission usually slows this time of year, so if you've been thinking about bringing a friend or organizing a group visit, now is a great time to do it.

Give to the Max Day is coming up on November 20, and we're asking for your help to make our exhibits more accessible and welcoming for everyone. Your support will fund upgrades that make a real difference for visitors.

On December 4, our Viewers Like Us Club will meet to watch *Remember the Magic*, a warm look back at Dayton's Christmas displays so many Minnesotans remember.

Like everyone else, we're getting ready for winter. The Treaty Site History Center will be closed for its winter break starting December 21 and will reopen on January 6.

We hope to see you here for a program or a quick visit before we take our winter break.



Above: Volunteers worked on various restoration projects during the log cabin workshop on July 12
Left: Tour guides Cindy, Al, John, and Kate prepare for the busy field trip season

Farewell James...

In August, James Ihrke left NCHS to pursue a new opportunity. During his time with NCHS, he supported daily operations at the Treaty Site History Center and helped keep things running smoothly for visitors and staff alike. We thank him for his contributions and wish him well in his next chapter.

ARCHIVES DONATIONS

Artifact & Archival Donations since last Crossing of Summer 2025:

Darrell Abrahamson: Photo of Bill's Grocery, Lafayette, c.1925.

Becky Lund Briggs: Materials from Lafayette, including a daybook ledger of the City Dray Line and promotional items from Lafayette businesses.

Ransom Bauman: St. Peter Feed Mill promotional 4-H pledge card.

Perry Dauer: Pillow covering honoring Pvt. Robert H. Zimmerman; Nicollet Volunteer Fire Department pin that belonged to Edwin A. Zimmerman and the department's constitution and by-laws.

Fred Froehlich: Nicollet town baseball team jersey worn by Gerry Compart, early 1950s.

Julie Wills Harris: Theodore Roosevelt in memoriam pin from the estate of Dennis and Ruth Ann Wills.

Eileen Holz: Leg braces and crutches used by the donor for mobility impairment resulting from polio.

Andy Hopp: Large chicken waterer, chicken ID leg rings, and cow hobble chain used on the Robert Larson farm; MVL publications; Mankato Brewery, North Mankato, cans and bottle, and photos and articles covering the brewery's final event; photo, Trinity Lutheran teachers, 2023-2025; board with stencil "C. F. Berquist of Lafayette Minn.;" Linus Beck's work badge; promotional items from Nicollet County businesses.

Muriel Wagner Horner: Photo-crayotype of August T. Wagner; baptism certificate of Walter A. Wagner; the donor's North Mankato High School letter; book, *The Heritage of Blue Earth County*.

Wayne Johnson: Family photographs.

Ruth Klossner: Tippi Hedren poster signed by Hedren; Lafayette 2000 t-shirt signed by Hedren; digital images; book, *The History of Lafayette, the Next 25 Years, 2000-2025*, by the donor; poster for a wedding dance for Hillard and Edna Klossner.

Debra Lesnar: Canvas banner reading "St. Peter Welcomes You," which was likely displayed during Capitol Days by George Lesnar outside his barber shop, c.1960.

Joel Loehmann: Dollhouse made by Claude Vosbeck for his daughter, Claudia Vosbeck, North Mankato, c.1943; rulers promoting Grandma's Store and St. Paul's, North Mankato.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

by Bob Sandeen, Research Assistant

The archives of the Nicollet County Historical Society contain an abundance of resources available to individuals with questions related to Nicollet County in some manner. Many of the questions we are asked are genealogical in nature. We can use birth, marriage, death, church, census, cemetery, land purchase, and land sale records, as well as donated family histories and a vast collection of obituaries, to find answers. We also have an extensive collection of atlases and plat books that show the properties of rural landowners and the boundaries of their properties, dating back to 1885. It is even possible that our photo collection contains some images that would be helpful. I have shown people photos of ancestors that they have never seen before, which has made quite a few people extremely happy! Our extensive book collection may also contain information about people of interest to those we are helping. Many of our books contain useful genealogical information that would be difficult to find elsewhere.

Our newspaper collection spans issues from 1855 and continues to the present day. I used the collection to find an enormous amount of information about my own family before 1924, when the farm in Oshawa Township was sold. I was surprised to read in a 1890s newspaper that my great-grandfather had purchased land in Kasota Township, Le Sueur County, along the road to Ottawa, even though his farm was located a very short distance northwest of Resurrection Cemetery on the western edge of St. Peter. I used the museum's 1898 Le Sueur County atlas to see the property location and boundaries on its map of Kasota Township.

We can provide information about businesses, railroads, bridges, ferries, schools, churches, hospitals, military units and organizations, fur traders and their trading posts, the Treaty of Traverse des Sioux, Fort Ridgely, the Dakota War, ghost towns, and many other subjects concerning Nicollet County. We also have an extensive map collection that

dates back to the 1800s. Additionally, we possess a substantial amount of information about the Civil War, World War I, and World War II, as well as their connections to Nicollet County.

The range of topics about which we are asked is impressive! Fortunately, we can provide information for a high percentage of the questions. Many people have commented that they had no idea that we have such an abundance of resources. If you have any questions for us, please come and see us!

Ambrose McCabe: Photos of Ralph McCabe with two other members of the St. Peter town ball team, with his band the Combos, and another with a drum; image, 1956 Drum and Bugle Corps; ad for a dance that includes the Ralph McCabe Band and Cliff Hermel Band.

Kay Mowbray: Wedding dress of Julia Hill Estesen, 1910.

Judy Noyd: Insignia from the military uniform of Richard Noyd; photographs.

Sheila Peterson: High family photos; clothing belonging to Mary C. High and/or sisters.

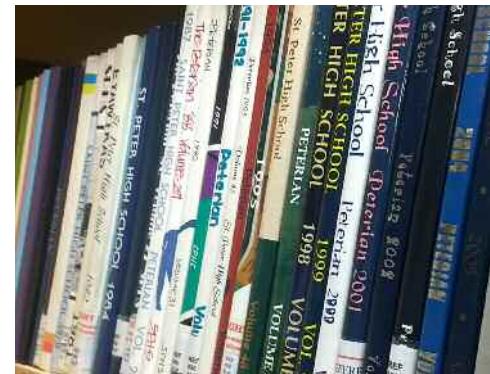
LuAnn Stueve Reding: Dairy testing bottle #170 used at the Lafayette Creamery.

Tami Sens: Composite photograph, Swedish Lutheran Church Confirmation Class, 1918.

Evie Swenson: Nicollet County Couples Club records, 1960-2025.

Judy Tostenson Teigen: Tostenson genealogy.

Dennis Wanless and siblings: Bicentennial Wagon Train scrapbook compiled by Anton "Slim" Bonnichsen and Lorraine Bonnichsen.



TRAVERSE DES SIOUX



Completed resurfacing project on the prairie loop trail

The Minnesota Historical Society and the Nicollet County Historical Society have worked together at Traverse des Sioux since the Treaty Site History Center was built. Visitors to the state historic site can walk a self-guided mile-long loop just north of the visitor center.

In June, the trail was resurfaced and a new trailhead was established. The main loop is now ADA compatible, increasing accessibility for visitors. The Minnesota Historical Society and Nicollet County Historical Society are grateful to the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation for their generous support, which made this project possible. This project was managed by David Briese, MNHS Jeffers Petroglyphs Site Manager and St. Peter resident.

A controlled burn, conducted by trained MNHS staff, is planned for the spring of 2026. This prairie restoration will target multiple aggressive invasive species and clear the dead thatch layer to make space for native seed germination.

Interpretive trail panels at Traverse des Sioux have been removed as part of an MNHS effort to replace interpretive signage across all of our state historic sites network. Many of these signs, like the ones at Traverse des Sioux, were old, faded, or missing. This multi-year project was made possible through funding provided by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008. The Legacy Amendment supports efforts to preserve Minnesota land, water, and legacy, including Minnesota history and cultural heritage. Truly a cross-institutional effort, the signage project involves staff from the Exhibits, Research, and Native American Initiatives departments, as well as historic sites staff. These stories could not be told without the close collaboration and consultation with the Minnesota Historical Society Indian Advisory Council, Tribal Partners, local historical organizations, and agencies like the Minnesota DNR.

New interpretive panels have been installed at historic sites including Lower Sioux Agency, Jeffers Petroglyphs, Birch Coulee Battlefield, and Harkin Store. New panels are under development at Fort Ridgley, with work planned for Traverse des Sioux next.

~ Several Minnesota Historical Society staff members contributed to this article.



COX HOUSE RECAP

We had a wonderful summer at the E. St. Julien Cox House. Once again, the house welcomed visitors for self-guided tours, this year featuring a special textile display. Gowns, aprons, gloves, and other pieces from the Nicollet County Historical Society's collection offered a glimpse into the styles of a bygone era. Thank you to everyone who visited, and a special thanks to Anna Simmons and Sarah Busse for spending some of their summer Saturdays greeting guests and keeping the house lively.

This fall brought something new: Dolls of the Dark, a scavenger-style after-dark program that turned the Cox House into a delightfully eerie adventure. Visitors searched the rooms by lantern light to spot antique dolls hidden in unexpected places, from the birdcage to the cellar stairs. At the end of the night, guests voted for their favorite or creepiest doll, and Mercy took the title.



Now that our 2025 season has come to a close, the house is resting while Anna continues her careful inventory work.

Thank you for making this a memorable year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2026.

COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT

by Anna Simmons, Collections Assistant

Of the thousands of articles of clothing in the museum's collection, it's surprisingly rare to see an image of the original owner actually wearing one of the garments. Every so often, however, a photograph surfaces that captures just that, giving us a glimpse of the garment as it was meant to be worn, and reminding us of its importance to the collection.

It's no surprise that wedding gowns, christening gowns, and graduation dresses are some of the more abundant examples in the collection, with wedding attire being the most often photographed. These are garments tied to milestones and are chosen with care, worn with joy, and then kept as mementos of those occasions to be treasured for years to come.

While seeing these dresses laid flat or even displayed on a mannequin can be something quite special, it doesn't give a complete picture. A photograph reveals the garment in its original splendor, showing how it fit and looked when worn, and also reminds us of its importance to the person who wore it. On the other hand, the garment itself enhances our perception of the photograph. The colors and textures of the fabrics, the architecture of its construction, and many of its intricate details can disappear into the complexity of the photo. When both the garment and its photograph survive, they tell a fuller story: one of cherished memories and moments important enough to be preserved for a lifetime.

Viewed side by side, the photograph and the garment enrich our understanding by completing the picture and providing a fuller sense of the garment's significance to the person who once wore it.



Alice Isenberg, 1923 (married Henning Johnson on May 17)

Here are three examples from Nicollet County showing a wedding costume with a photograph of it being worn.



Ida Ballman, 1918 (married Louis Hermel on January 10)



Inga Olsen, 1906 (married August Peterson on June 12)

NCHS EVENTS



hiSTORY hangout

Thursdays, November 20 & December 18, @ 10 a.m., History Center

Join us for a fun and informative hiSTORY hangout! Whether you're a seasoned history buff or just curious about the past, this event is for you. New residents, families, and everyone in between are welcome. Ask questions, listen to the discussion, and enjoy learning about local history from your friends and neighbors. Show-and-tell is encouraged, so bring any photos, artifacts, or stories you'd like to share.



Community Affairs on KNUJ Radio

November 25 @ 9:15-9:35 a.m. | KNUJ Radio AM 860 or FM 107.3

Get the latest updates from NCHS on Community Affairs. Listen to KNUJ Radio every fourth Tuesday at 9:15 am to stay informed.

Introducing the Viewers Like Us Club

*Documentary Film Series is now the **Viewers Like Us Club**. Join Twin Cities PBS, NCHS, and Saint Peter Community & Family Education to watch PBS programs and discuss Minnesota history, food, and culture.*

The **Viewers Like Us Club** is a free and thoughtfully curated program from Twin Cities PBS (TPT) designed to bring adults together around meaningful media. It's like a traditional book club but swaps out the latest best-selling novel with award-winning programs from your local PBS station.

Throughout three individual sessions, you will experience a welcoming space to watch and discuss PBS stories, featuring both local Minnesota and national content.

This all-comers opportunity is open to all viewers and at no cost. All sessions are hosted at a partnering community center, senior program, library, neighborhood group, or organization site near you.

As an attendee, you'll participate in up to three 1-2-hour sessions that include:

- An introduction to the topic
- Viewing a selected PBS program (30-60 minutes, all with captions)
- Guided group discussion
- Post-viewing reflection and resources to deepen understanding and connection

You'll enjoy a light snack and Twin Cities PBS-branded giveaways that help create a shared experience. The sessions are designed to spark conversation, encourage reflection, and foster community connection.

Facilitators from your NCHS and Community Ed will lead the sessions using easy-to-follow guides provided by TPT. Feedback from participants will help shape future programs and activities featured.

Remember the Magic

December 4 @ 2:00 p.m., runtime 50 minutes, History Center

Every holiday season, Dayton's transformed into a magical wonderland, complete with storybooks brought to life by artistry and fantastical displays. Wander back in time to the 8th floor auditorium, where countless visitors made cherished memories, and reminisce with artists, magic makers and lifelong fans who share their stories of this timeless tradition.



Art + Medicine: Disability, Culture and Creativity

February 5 @ 2:00 p.m., runtime 60 minutes, History Center

Artists and healthcare clinicians create alternative perspectives on disability, through disability, stories and performances, and redefine what we perceive as normal. Hosted by artist and storyteller Kevin Kling, Professor Jessica Horvath Williams, Ph.D., and Doctor Tsegaensh Selameab. Created in collaboration with the Center for the Art of Medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

MONETARY DONATIONS

received by NCHS since the last *Crossing* of 6-20-2025.

Eric Annexstad
 Michelle Braun-Heurung
 Steven & Becky Briggs
 Anonymous
 Larry & Judy Biederman
 Steven & Becky Briggs
 Nicole Elzenga
 Jeremy & Michel Freeman
 Audrey Gatchell
 Andris Grunde
 Scott Hermanson
 Eileen Holz
 Andy Hopp
 Mary Lou Ihrke
 Clark P. Johnson
 Kate Keller
 Jill Koehler
 Scott Kuehner
 Scott Kuehner
 Kristen A. Loken
 Maria Lokensgard
 Kate Martens
 Carolyn & John Meyer
 Warren & Terri Michels

Margo O'Brien
 Marlin Peterson
 Sandra & Verl Pettis
 Patti Pherson
 Steven Poncin
 Karen Reyelts
 Karen Robison
 Harold Rodning
 Ron Roselli
 Ken & Patsy Rossow
 Kris & James Sack
 JoAnn & Dennis Schmidt
 Doug & Judy Schultz
 Kristine Simon
 Jeff & Tami Skinner
 Gayle Smalley
 Karen & Jon Smithers
 Evelyn J. Solo
 Emily Stark
 Jane Stark
 Loren & Roxane Sundboom
 Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner
 Robert Weber
 David & Linda Witte

MEMORIALS

received by NCHS since last *Crossing* of 6-20-2025.

In Memory of **Lois Annexstad**
 Given by Judy C. Teigen

In Memory of **LaVonne Olsen**
 Given by Mr & Mrs. Gary Schmidt
 Judy C. Teigen

In Memory of **Robert "Bob" Schoeb**
 Given by Marlin Peterson

In Memory of **Mary Carol Sterner**
 Given by Marty Sterner

In Memory of **Ed Wetherill**
 Given by Lesley Schmid

REMEMBRANCES



...with honor the following friends and members whom we lost since the last *Crossing* of 6-20-2025.

- ◆ Mark Anderson
- ◆ Wayne Passon
- ◆ David Breitung
- ◆ Milton "Milt" Brostrom
- ◆ Elgene "Gene" M. Lund
- ◆ Andru Peters
- ◆ Cliff Stemper
- ◆ Ed Wetherill

MEMBERSHIP RECAP

Thank you to the following renewing and new members of NCHS since last *Crossing* of 6-20-2025.

Renewed Business Partner Member:

New Sweden Mutual Insurance Company

Renewed Business Friend Member:

St. Peter State Hospital Museum

Renewed Benefactor Member:

Renee Lund

Renewed Supporter Members:

Nita & Paul Aasen
 Scott Hermanson
 Marie J. Renneke

Renewed Patron Members:

John Berbrich
 Scott Dobie
 Marcia Gustafson
 Adam Malamen
 Margo O'Brien
 Janet Prehn
 Harold Rodning
 Ken & Patsy Rossow

Renewed Family Members:

Pam Bidelman
 Mark & Laura Boomgaarden
 Arden & Marilyn DeBoer
 Bob & Judy Douglas
 Dennis Frank &
 Kristen Simon-Frank
 David W. Goodell
 Galen Hansch
 Joe & Angel Ihrke
 Mary Lou Ihrke
 Mike & Maryetta McCarty
 Carolyn & John Meyer
 Jim & Dee Dee Michels
 Shawn Regan Parker
 Edwin Rundell
 Tacie Schwartz
 Karen & Jon Smithers
 Rick Wright

Renewed Individual Members:

Andy Hopp
 Julie Johnson
 Robert Weber

Evie Swenson
 Bernard J. Thieman
 Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner
 Linda Vogel

Renewed Senior Members:

Nancy Beck
 Margaret Brinkman
 Carol Drantel
 Gail Dummer
 Alma Forst
 Audrey Gatchell
 Donna Giefer
 Andris Grunde
 Jeanne Groebner
 Dennis Henry
 Susan Hynes
 Carol Jackson
 Charles L. Johnson
 Wayne Johnson
 Loren Lindsay
 John Luepke
 Harriet Mason
 Ardith Nelson
 Dean Oman
 Paul Schumann

New Crossing Circle Members:

Donald & Rhonda Hermanson

New Supporter Members:

Jim & Shannon Gullickson

New Patron Members:

Mike Price
 Julie Smith

New Family Members:

Alan & Linda Hewitt
 Duane & Grace Kamrath

New Individual Member:

Alvin Hammer

New Senior Individual Members:

Gwyn Lang
 Barb O'Brien
 Matt Peterson
 Billy Steiner

We make every effort to provide an accurate listing of membership renewals and donors. If we have made an error please contact us at 507-934-2160 or info@nchsmn.org and we'll make corrections.

2025 & 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Event/Program information:

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

Nov. 20	GIVE TO THE MAX DAY	Online
Nov. 20	hiSTORY hangout, 10 a.m., <i>FREE</i> <i>details on page 9</i>	History Center
Nov. 25	Community Affairs on KNUJ Radio, 9:15–9:40 a.m., <i>details on page 9</i>	on your radio
Nov. 27–29	Closed for Thanksgiving Break	
Nov. 30	Last day to reserve 2026 wall calendars	
Dec. 4	Viewers Like Us Club Remember the Magic , 2 p.m., <i>see details on page 9, FREE</i>	History Center
Dec. 18	hiSTORY hangout, 10 a.m., <i>FREE</i> <i>details on page 9</i>	History Center
Dec. 20	Last Day the History Center is open for 2025	
Dec. 21–Jan. 5	NCHS offices and sites are closed for winter break	
Dec. 31	Last day for mail to be postmarked for 2025 business	
Jan. 6	TSHC reopens for business in 2026	
Jan. 22	hiSTORY hangout, 10:00 a.m., <i>FREE</i>	History Center
Feb. 5	Viewers Like Us Club Art + Medicine: Disability, Culture and Creativity , 2 p.m., <i>see details on page 9, FREE</i>	History Center

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



Happy Thanksgiving!

from all of us at the NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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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 _____

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Yes! I would like to support my Niccollet County Historical Society in 2025-26 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
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PAPERLESS?? Now you can purchase or renew your membership online! Visit nchsmn.org/support/membership for details.