



SPRING NEWSLETTER APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2019

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website: www.casscountynemuseum.org/

2019 Board of Directors

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Roger Wehrbein, Plattsmouth

*The Board usually meets the fourth
Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.*

CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Douglas Duey, Chairman

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Leigh Jean Koinzan, Treasurer

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MUSEUM STAFF

Margo Prentiss, Curator

Linda Duncan, Registrar

Mission Statement: *The Cass County
Historical Society shall collect, preserve,
and study materials to document, interpret
and present the history of Cass County
Nebraska to the public.*

From the President's Desk.

Greetings from flooded Nebraska! Springtime is late in coming to the heartland and winter is going out like a lion this year. I wonder if most Americans realize how disastrous the recent flooding has been to our state. Historic in proportion, the flooding covered an enormous swath along the Platte, Elkhorn, Niobrara the mighty Missouri and many tributaries. The river swallowed up 3 of my classic cars but my loss is nothing compared to the losses suffered by others. The flooding took an awful toll on farmers and ranchers throughout the state with terrible losses of livestock as well as farm buildings and equipment. Many communities were completely inundated with flood waters the middle of March so large numbers of homes were seriously damaged or destroyed along with many businesses. Cass County has also been hard hit with the loss of critical infrastructure including railroads and bridges that were washed away along with water treatment plants that were damaged so badly that lots of time and money will be necessary to get them rebuilt. Unfortunately, as much as we love this large relatively unpopulated state, widespread disasters like this one are difficult to overcome. Nebraska ranks 37th in population with approximately 1.9 million residents and damages reported to be in the billions.

In times like this, I am reminded how important it is that we have a county museum that acquires, preserves and makes available to others our collections that record our interesting history. A few days ago a friend of mine whose ancestors pioneered in Cass County in the mid 1850's told me that their home was flooded and that their basement was full of antiques, photographs and family records from the early days in Cass County. He said that they couldn't be saved. I'm sorry for their loss and yet I'm thankful that the Cass County Museum is high up on a hill and that our large collection is safe from river flooding. In closing, Nebraskans are very hardy and industrious and will pull together to renew the health of our state. Thank you for your continued support, we appreciate you so much!

Douglas V. Duey, President

Temporary Exhibits

Exhibits are rotated in our Davis Conference Room and highlight different aspects of our Permanent Collection and County History.

Women Who Made History in Cass County

March 5 - April 28

March was "Women's History Month". Our exhibit of photographs and information about women who were important to the history of our County will continue through April 28.

Pop Up Exhibit: "Rightfully Hers"

The exhibit "Rightfully Hers", commemorating the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment, will be on exhibit later in the year. This exhibit is coming from the National Archives, but that organization was impacted by the government shutdown so the arrival of the exhibit has been delayed.

Recent Acquisitions

April 30- June 23

New items are always being donated to the museum, sometimes from far away places! For example, Nick Cimino, who lives in Texas found some photographs and memorabilia in an Arkansas Antique shop that relate to the Gilmore family in Cass County! He e-mailed us and asked if we would like to have them. We immediately accepted because the items relate to Dr. George Gilmore who was the founder of our Historical Society.

**On April 1, we returned to Summer Hours.
Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday
from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

We are in need of volunteers to help at the front desk on Saturdays and Sundays. If you are available, please call the museum. (We will be closed Easter Sunday April 21 and the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, May 26).

Membership Renewal Time???

Is the date highlighted on your address label? If so, it means that your membership is due! Please fill out the form on the back and mail with your check to the museum. (Those who receive the newsletter by e-mail will receive a notice when your membership is due.)

Brown Bag Programs

The programs, free and open to the public, begin at 12:00 noon and are over by 1:00. Bring a sack lunch if you like. Cookies and, in keeping with water conservation efforts, bottled water and coffee (made with bottled water) will be served

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

"Floods of the Past: 1952 and 2011"

An 8-mm film of the flood of 1952 was donated in 2002 by the family of Maxine Cloidt. It was converted to DVD by Roger Schuette who also added photos from the flood of 2011.

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

"Preserving Pioneer Cemeteries"

Speaker: Sandra Allgeier

The program will be about some of the people buried in Cass County and the evolutions as well as the work of the East Cass County Pioneer Cemetery District.

Living History Day

has been moved to July 20!

Mark your calendars for July 20!

Our Living History Day this year will coincide with the dedication of the Lewis and Clark Pirogue replica. Lewis and Clark camped in what is now Cass County on July 20, 1804 and reached the mouth of the Platte the next day. Watch the Summer Newsletter for details about Living History Day!

Rock Bluff School News

We are still raising funds for a new roof on Rock Bluffs School. As we go to press, a total of \$2,320 has been donated by people in Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Missouri and California! The cost of the roof will be about \$7,000. If you would like to donate, please make out your check to "Rock Bluffs School Fund" and mail to Cass County Historical Society.

Also, mark your calendars for the summer open house at Rock Bluffs, Sunday, July 21, 2 to 4 pm.

Memberships....Donations....Memorials

Received between Dec. 19, 2018 and April 4, 2019. Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

CORNERSTONE CLUB

Granite

Cass County Bank

Julie Schmale

Sandstone

Edward Jones Investments

Brad Ksiazek

Great Plains Realty Auction Co.

Randy Fleming

MEMBERSHIPS

Century

Del & Glenda Hervey

James M. Kraeger, IL

Roy & Sharon Smith

Promoter

Linda H. Allen, UT,new

Butch & Dobby Haws

Kirk & Glenda Linder

Linder Tire & Auto Inc.

Jan Matisco, CA

Norm & Meredith Schoch

Rick & Chris Williams

Booster

Sara Thimgan Begley, IA

Maxine Hild

John & Jill Lokke

James & Deloris Pollard, CA.

Dewayne & Mary Prince

John & Carol Schreiner

Friend

Rae D. Cacioppo

Diana Capaldi, PA

Honey Lou Cole

Glen Comer

Bud & Linda Lewis, gift

Ellyn Meisinger

Virginia Spangler

Chuck & Sherry Talbitzer

Larry Vallery, gift

Jim & Lois Witte

DONATIONS

Caboose Fund in memory of Joy Haswell

Eugene & Evelyn Meier

Carl & Jayne Ofe

Paul & Susan Rice

Dan & Marlyns Wehrbein

Donation to Caboose Fund "in memory of the several museum members who passed away during 2018...especially Joy Haswell"

Janet Moore,CA

Genealogy Donations

Jeff Clanton, TX

David Lyon, OK

Donations toward new roof at Rock Bluffs School

Louis & Lola Austin,

in memory of Joann Moore.

Don P. Baker

Diane Berlett

Kathleen Bestor, CA

Diana Capaldi, PA

Thomas W. Carneal, MO

Kristin Friedrich, CA,

in memory of Richard Friedrich.

Dan Hall

Gladys D. Jones

Ellyn Meisinger and Aimee Cooper,

in memory of Betty Meisinger.

Janet Moore, CA.

Del & Diana Puls

Patsy Sawyer

Lori Schneider

Roger Schuette

Tom & Della Sullivan

Chris A. Holubar-Walsh

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of

Peggy Brittain

Paul & Susan Rice

Glen Comer

H.Margo Prentiss

Tom & Della Sullivan

Billy Hale

Doris Landon

Lyle Hild

Eugene & Evelyn Meier

Jean Howland

Doris Landon

Ellyn Meisinger

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Carl & Jayne Ofe

H. Margo Prentiss

Elinor Mougey

Doris Landon

Virginia Spangler

H. Margo Prentiss

Paul & Susan Rice

LaNeil Stohmann

Paul & Susan Rice

Three long time members have passed away since January. Glen Comer lived in Union and was the caretaker for the East and West Union cemeteries. He was our "go to person" whenever a genealogy question arose about Union. He recently donated his father's World War I uniform and photographs and his brother's World War II uniform.

Jean Howland usually wrote a friendly note whenever she renewed her membership. She recently donated the gun cabinet that belonged to Henry Howland and matches the desk donated many years ago. Both are on exhibit in the downstairs gallery

Virginia Spangler served on our board for two terms. She also did volunteer work here and baked cookies for brown bags and pies for our Karnival pie sale. She and her husband, Charles, donated many items to the collection.

Cass County Historical Society, organized in 1936, is dedicated to a mission of telling the history of Cass County since 1854, the year the county was opened for settlement. The Society's first permanent displays were housed in two rooms on the third floor of the Cass County Courthouse. In 1960, the present museum was opened at 646 Main Street in Plattsmouth.

Approximately one third of the museum's budget comes from the County. The rest of the financial support is from Memberships, Donations, Gift Shop Sales, Memorials and Grants.

To renew your membership or to become a member for the first time, please fill out the form at right and return to the museum.

MUSEUM HOURS:

April through October:

Tuesday through Sunday: 12:00 to 4:00 pm
Closed Mondays and major holidays.

November through March:

Tuesday through Saturday: 12:00 to 4:00 pm
Closed Sundays, Mondays and major holidays.

Admission: \$2.50 for adults; children under 12 free.

FREE for Museum Members

Donations accepted

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Individuals and Families:

- _____ Patron (\$1,000 and up)
- _____ Benefactor (\$500 and up)
- _____ Investor (\$250)
- _____ Century (\$100)
- _____ Promoter (\$50)
- _____ Booster (\$30)
- _____ Friend (\$15)

Businesses (Cornerstone Club)

- _____ Marble (\$1,001 and up)
- _____ Granite (\$501-1,000)
- _____ Limestone (\$251-500)
- _____ Sandstone (\$100-250)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Zip _____

Phone # and e-mail _____