



SUMMER NEWSLETTER JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 2019

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048

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402-296-4770

website: www.casscountynemuseum.org/

2019 Board of Directors

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*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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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.

Summer has arrived in beautiful Cass County and the rivers continue to be bank full or overflowing. The Platte River has cut a new channel at its mouth and now is 400-500 feet wide and 17 feet deep in places and runs right up against the railroad levee. It now looks much like it did when Lewis and Clark and their Corp of Discovery navigated up the Missouri at the confluence on July 21, 1804. Their journey of 8000 miles and 863 days was extremely challenging on the wild Missouri. There were sunken trees that created snags as well as numerous sandbars to navigate around. Today they might find floating camper trailers and kitchen appliances and household trash in the river as a result of our spring floods! Their transportation was provided by a 55 foot Keel Boat that had a 30 foot mast with sail and a White Pirogue which was approximately 39' long and 8' 8" wide. That boat had a small sail and an awning at the stern, which sheltered one or both of the captains from the sun and rain. On the return trip in 1806 Lewis replaced the torn canvas awning with stitched together elk skins. The Pirogue had a crew of 8 men and had a cargo capacity of 8 tons. The epic journey resulted in the discovery of 178 plants and nearly 100 previously unknown species or sub-species of vertebrates. Of those, 40 percent are now endangered and several species are now extinct.

As usual, my curiosity turned to "food", wondering what they ate on the trip. They had a wild, strange and surprising menu. The Keel Boat was stocked with 7 tons of dry goods including flour, salt, coffee, pork, corn, sugar, lard and 93 pounds of dried soup. However, 4 deer or 1 elk or 1 buffalo were eaten every 24 hours. Each of the 31 men consumed 9 pounds of meat each day which provided them with the strength to pole through the shallow parts of the river and to carry heavy backpacks when on land. Many dogs were also purchased from Native Americans and Lewis especially liked the flavor of their meat--ugh!

Our museum has purchased a replica of the White Pirogue as well as a Corps of Discovery exhibit. The boat's christening will occur on July 20th in Plattsmouth. We hope that you can attend. Refreshments will be provided, but don't count on Elk, Buffalo or Dog to be on the menu!!

Enjoy summer in beautiful Cass County Nebraska.

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.

Lewis and Clark

June 25 - August 25, 2019

This collection of educational items relating to the Lewis and Clark expedition was recently purchased with Memorial Funds. You will see a copy of the 1802 map used by Lewis and Clark, prints depicting the uniforms worn by the crew, replicas of the peace medals given to the Native Americans and examples of items carried by the crew.

Plants of Lewis and Clark

June 25-August 25, 2019

In 2002 and 2003, Linda Barnard Duncan gathered specimens and took photographs of plants native to Cass County and mentioned in the journals of Lewis and Clark. We are exhibiting six of the photographs and specimens, along with Linda's photograph of the Mouth of the Platte.

Korn Karnival Memories

August 27 - October 6, 2019

Each year, visitors in town for the Harvest Festival enjoy seeing photographs and memorabilia from the past Cass County King Korn Karnivals. The exhibit will give a history of the Karnival from its beginning in 1932. New this year will be some photographs from the 1960s just donated from Martha McQuin's estate.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Living History Day

July 20, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Dedication of replica of Lewis and Clark's white pirogue and living history demonstrations.
See enclosed handout!

Rock Bluff School Open House

July 21, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Our annual summer open house.
See enclosed handout for details.

Pie Sale during Plattsmouth Harvest Festival September 6 and 7

As always, we will have our sale of home-baked pies during the harvest festival. Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. Income from the pie sale benefits our general operating budget.

New Roof on Rock Bluffs School

Thanks to many donors between October of 2018 and May of 2019 and the Martha McQuin Memorial Fund, the old roof was taken off the school on May 13, 2019 and a new roof was installed! In addition to donors from here in Nebraska, we also had people contribute from California, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

Nebraska Country School Conference

The Nebraska Country School Association will be holding their annual conference in Nebraska City July 19. On July 20, at 9:00 a.m., they will tour our Rock Bluffs School.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society

The LLCGS will hold their annual conference in Lincoln on July 13. The theme is "German Genealogy, DNA and the Frontier" For additional information, visit their website www.LLCGS.info

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Donation in Honor of Lyle Hild

Martha Carneal Chandler
Thomas W. Carneal, MO

Donation in Memory of the Halmes Family

Shirley Beine McDonald, CA

Donation in Memory of Robert (Bob) Moore

Janet Moore, CA

Donation in Memory of Rose Retelsdorf

Kathy Spidel

Donation in Memory of Vivian Tunnell

Janet Moore, CA

Donation for Paper Supplies

Patsy Sawyer

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Margaret M. Ball

James & Stephanie Ball

Don Skalak

H. Margo Prentiss
Steven & Marlene Rishel

Virginia Spangler
Elton (Tony) DesLesDernier, VA

Sophia Bierl Vinduska

H. Margo Prentiss
June Ann Wagner
Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

Jeanene Wehrbein

Roger R. Wehrbein

Memberships and Donations

Received between April 5 and June 28, 2019. Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

CORNERSTONE CLUB

Granite

Plattsmouth State Bank
Lori Schneider, President
David Schneider, Vice-President

Sandstone

Cornerstone Bank
Russ Henning

Rishel & Pfeifer,PC
Steven Rishel,CPA

Stock Seed Farms,Inc.
David Stock

MEMBERSHIPS

Benefactor

Douglas V. Duey

Century

William & Sandra Allgeier
Barbara York Baker, WA
Mel Luetchens
Dean & Marilyn Meisinger
H.Fred & Patricia Meisinger
David & Lori Pankonin
Jerry & Mary Reinholt
Paul & Susan Rice
Walter J. Smith, TX
Diane Duey Strokan
Richard Wassinger

Promoter

Judy Attebery
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Thomas W. Carneal, MO
Jim Case
Dale & Joan Clark, new
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Don Gappa
Leigh Jean Koinzan & John Sullivan
Jim & Claudine Mitchell, MO
Janet Moore, CA
Vincent & Melladee Perry, MO
Dean Podoll
Jean Sayles-Jacobson
Charles & Evelyn Schafer
Roger Schuette
John & Christine Trost
Steve & Marlene Wehrbein
Emerson & Norma Wiles

MEMBERSHIPS,continued

Booster

Connie Deminski
Carl & Linda Glup
Joyce Heim
Joann Hill
Doris Landon
Del & Diana Puls
Steve & Marlene Rishel
George H. Sayles
Elizabeth Thorpe, UT

Friend

James & Stephanie Ball
Ken Beckman
Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell
Eleanor Box, TX
Michael Farmer
Betty Fischer
Eldonna Forrest
Brian & Nancy Heineman, IA
Betty Holmstedt
Donald Jacobson, IA
Gladys Jones
Tony LaHoda
Shirley Beine McDonald, CA
Maureen McGrath
Paul & Nancy McManis
Kay Strong-Nicolas
Mary Frances Reinke
Daisy Richards
Linda Ries, ID
Patsy Sawyer
John S. Schleicher

Tell your friends who are not members about "Smithsonian Museum Day" Saturday, September 21. Museums across the country, including Cass County Museum, will be open for free that day. The theme this year is "Music" so musical instruments in our collection will be highlighted and visitors will be hearing music throughout the day!

DONATIONS

Daisy Richards
Riverview Club
June Ann Wagner

Genealogy Donations

James Hobbs, OH
Patricia A. Page
Evelyn Tipton, MD

Donations toward new roof at Rock Bluffs School

Frederick J. Eriksen
Penelope Moore,
in memory of Joann Moore.
Plattsmouth Conservancy
Roy & Sharon Smith
and
the Martha McQuin Memorial Fund

In-kind Donation for new roof at Rock Bluffs School

Glenn and Sharon Eager

Rock Bluffs School Fund

Cass County Retired Educators
Paul & Nancy McManis

Donations toward shelter for White Pirogue Replica

Larry N. Campbell, MO

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.)

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 _____