



**Special Newsletter
June, 2014**

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048
ccohsm@windstream.net

**100 years ago in Cass County...
Reported in the Plattsmouth Journal,
June, 1914**

On June 4-5, the Elks dedicated their new clubhouse on N. 6th Street in Plattsmouth. "The new clubhouse is an ornament to the city and one of the most beautiful lodge homes in the state..."

The Rural Mail Carriers met in Weeping Water on Decoration Day for the purpose of forming the "Rural Mail Carriers Association of Cass County". "The average net income of the rural carriers of Nebraska is but \$540 per year."

On Sunday, May 31, the Manley baseball team beat the Nehawka "Apple Pickers" 3 to 0.

E. G. Dovey and Sons in Plattsmouth advertised children's parasols 18 cents to \$1.25, women's corsets 20 cents and up, men's union suits 50 cents to \$1.00.

The State Legislature proclaimed the second Sunday of June as "Pioneers Memorial Day".

S. J. Reams Barber Shop in Cedar Creek was struck by lightning on June 5, but he re-opened a few days later in his home.

Eighth grade graduation exercises of all Cass County schools were held June 6 in Weeping Water at the First Congregational Church.

The Murdock Mercantile Co. opened June 9 - "the best equipped and most up-to-date general store in Cass County."

And in Murray, there was a "sidewalk boom"! Gene Boedecker, Charles Carroll and Dr. Gilmore built new sidewalks in front of their residences.

**2014 Board of Directors
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Harlan Seyfer, Plattsmouth

Del Stites, Louisville

Eleanor York, Plattsmouth

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

**CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY FOUNDATION**

Douglas Duey, Chairman

Pat Meisinger, Secretary

Leigh Jean Koinzan, Treasurer

Dave Pankonin, Board Member

Bruce Wiles, Board Member

MUSEUM STAFF

Margo Prentiss, Curator

Linda Duncan, Registrar

*The new logo at the top of this page was
designed by Carl Reichart*

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.*

Temporary Exhibits

Throughout the year, we rotate exhibits in our Davis Conference Room and highlight different aspects of our Collection and County History.

“Remembering Beautiful Merritt Beach”

June 3 through August 24

Last summer we exhibited a few photographs of Merritt Beach that were donated in 2013. This year we will expand the exhibit to include more of the photographs and memorabilia (such as a basket from the concession stand!). Merritt Beach was a popular recreation spot in Cass County from the 1930s to 1989.

“Story of the Platte as Told in Maps”

June 3 through August 24

In conjunction with the 300th anniversary of the European discovery of the Mouth of the Platte, we will exhibit a series of maps showing the development of the confluence area. Included is a copy of Bourgmont's 1714 map of the Platte, a copy of Father De Smet's 1839 Mouth of the Platte map and an 1856 Nebraska Territory map.

We have returned to summer hours!

**The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday
12:00 to 4:00 and closed on Mondays and
major holidays.**

Brown Bag Program

The program begins at 12:00 noon, is free and open to the public. You are welcome to bring your sack lunch; coffee and cookies will be served.

Tuesday, June 10

**“300th Anniversary of Discovery
of the Mouth of the Platte”**

Speaker: Harlan Seyfer

Mr. Seyfer will talk about Etienne Veniard de Bourgmont who discovered the mouth of the Platte River on June 16, 1714.

In memory....

We lost three long time friends of the Historical Society in April.

Lois Troop Bestor, who graduated from Plattsmouth High school in 1934, passed away in Oregon on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at the age of 96. In 1935, Lois Troop was crowned the first “Queen Harvesta” during the Kass County King Korn Karnival. The dress she wore is in our permanent collection.

Joann Fitchhorn Moore, passed away April 15 at age 83. She attended Rock Bluffs School and graduated from Plattsmouth High School in 1947. After a long teaching career, she volunteered at Cass County Historical Society. She was particularly interested in preservation of Rock Bluffs School.

Ona Graves Thimgan passed away in Iowa on April 24 at the age of 104. She graduated from Plattsmouth High School in 1928. She taught at several rural schools in Cass County, including two years (1948-49) at Rock Bluffs School.

Rock Bluffs School Open House

Sunday, July 20, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Our one-room brick school house, constructed in 1870, will be open for tours and we will Play Ball! Remember those school yard ball games? Come help us relive a few innings with the boys and girls of glorious summer. Bring the kids or grandkids, a ball glove, and, if you can, have them dress in traditional clothes – the kind children might have worn to a rural school 100 years ago. We'll have hotdogs and lemonade and root, root, root for the hometown kids!

Did you know....

The Institute Museum & Library Services (IMLS) announced in May that there are 35,144 museums in the U.S. Of those museums, 55.5 % fall into the “History” category.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

<http://www.casscountynemuseum.org/>

Cornerstone Club...Memberships...Memorials...Special Donations

Received between March 26, 2014 and May 27, 2104. Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted

CORNERSTONE CLUB

Sandstone
Ash Grove Cement Co.
Dave Dorris

Home State Bank
Dave Pankonin

Murray State Bank

Thank you for your support!

Is the date highlighted on your address label?

If so, your membership is due. Please fill out the form on the back and mail or deliver with your check to:

Cass Co Historical Society
646 Main Street
Plattsmouth, NE.68048

(If you are receiving your newsletter via e-mail, there will be a separate e-mail when your membership is due.)

New Roof for Cook Log Cabin

One of our goals for 2014 is to put a new roof on the Joseph and Mary Cook Log Cabin. The cost estimate is \$3,400. If you would like to make a donation to help with this expense, please send a check to Cass County Historical Society and indicate that it is for the **Log Cabin Roof Fund**.

Thank you!

2014 MEMBERSHIPS

Century
William & Sandra Allgeier
Phyllis Durand
Alyce Green
David & Lori Pankonin
Grace Wiles Simard

Promoter

Bob & Janet Moore

Booster

Thomas W. Carneal, MO
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Doris Landon
Harry & Ruth Marker
John & Carol Schreiner

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Ken Beckman
Mary Bell
Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell
Kay Cunningham, Gift
Cindy Steinhoff Drake
Fran Guthrie, OR, Gift
Joann Hill
Portia Iverson
Mary Beth Kriskey
Tony LaHoda
Shirley McDonald, CA
Betty A. Root, AL
Patsy Sawyer

SPECIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Vivian Tunnell

Bob & Janet Moore

Donation toward Exhibit Expense

Harlan Seyfer

MEMORIALS

In memory of

Lois Troop Bestor
Bruce Dicoskey, OR
Allyn Kaufmann, OR
Kass Kounty King Korn Klub, Inc.
The Narvaez Family, CA
H. Margo Prentiss

Dorothy Kraeger

Carl & Jayne Ofe

Ralph Parkening

Diane Berlett
Alyce Green
Norm & Betty Henry
Sophia Vinduska
Roger & Jeanene Wehrbein

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D.J & Mallory Meisinger, TX
Jane Meisinger, TX

Derryl Wilson

Paul & Susan Rice

Genealogy Donations

Cindy Allison, AZ
Kevin Bertrand, CA
Jim & Carol Jirousek
Brent Warren
Larry Young, NY

ROCK BLUFFS SCHOOL

In memory of Joann Moore

Evelyn J. Allen
Diane Berlett
Cass Co. Retired Educators
Albert & Shirley Dasher
Richard & Carol Ellington
Alyce Green
Larry & Cheryl Henry
Robert & Ruth Johnson
Dean & Marilyn Meisinger
Ellyn Meisinger
Janette M. Merrill
Family of Joann Moore
Kay Strong-Nicolas
Carl & Jayne Ofe
H. Margo Prentiss
Dewayne & Mary Prince
Del & Diana Puls
Paul & Susan Rice
Dolores Rozell
Herman & Virginia Scholl
Roy & Sharon Smith
Mark Sullivan
Tom & Della Sullivan
Dan & Marlys Wehrbein
Roger & Jeanene Wehrbein

Donations for Log Cabin Roof

Alyce Green
H. Margo Prentiss
and a pledge of \$1,000 from Plattsmouth Conservancy

If you have e-mail and would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, please send us an e-mail at cchoism@windstream.net and in the subject line put "electronic newsletter".



300th Anniversary: Discovery of the Mouth of the Platte River
 Saturday, June 21, Cass County Museum Courtyard
 Sunday, June 22, Schilling Wildlife Management Area, Plattsmouth

On June 16, 1714, Frenchman Etienne de Veniard Sieur de Bourgmont arrived at the Mouth of the Platte River. They were the first Europeans to set eyes on the future state of Nebraska.

In Bourgmont's report to the French colonial government, the Otoe word "Nibraskier" appeared in writing for the first time. The word meant "flat" or "shallow water" and was later translated into French as "Riviere Platte" or Flat River.

Events planned to commemorate the 300th anniversary are free and open to the public and include:

Saturday, June 21
in the Courtyard, Cass County Museum
11:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.
(Bring your own chair or blanket)

11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Children's crafts
 (the last session will start at 2:30)

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Michael Murphy:
 Native flute and Story Teller

Inside the Museum
in the Davis Conference Room
 Exhibit of maps :
 "Story of the Platte as Told in Maps"
 The exhibit will continue through August 24

Sunday, June 22
4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

At the Confluence of the Platte and Missouri
Schilling Wildlife Management Area
(Bring your own chair or blanket)

Throughout the Day: Children's Games
 Food Vendors

4:00 p.m.....Activities & Exhibits
 Dedication of Marker and Plaques
 Plattsmouth Community Band
 Fur Trapping & Trading Reenactor
 Rebecca's Indian Trading Post
 Historic Exhibits

5:00 p.m.....David Marsh
 Period Folk Music

6:00 p.m.....Program
 June 16, 1714,
 The Otoe of the Platte
 Cedric Fichpain, French Consul

7:00 p.m.....All Nations Dancers
 Demonstrations of Fancy and
 Traditional Indian Dances.

8:00 p.m.....The End
 Sunset Bonfire, Conditions Permitting

June 21-22 events are FREE and open to the public.

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 _____