From the President's Desk......

Our Holiday Season at the Museum was a busy one. We hosted 175 visitors on November 29th. I spent the evening at the Cook cabin and Burlington Caboose. Our 102 years old Caboose continues to be a source of interest to our visitors. I was intrigued at how mesmerized the visitors were as our Board Member Del Hervey, a former railroad employee, explained to the visitors what life was like on the railroad a century ago. He explained how important it was for the engineer to keep the train on a very exact schedule to avoid collisions and how important the pocket watch was to all railroad workers.

Del's comments on the pocket watch caused me to remember my father, a watchmaker and jeweler for 25 years before becoming a banker. Sometimes he would stay at his workshop late into the night, cleaning and repairing watches and clocks. I didn't understand then how important his job really was. Engineers depended on watchmakers to keep their pocket watches running perfectly. In 1886, standards were developed requiring that railroad watches be accurate within 30 seconds each week. They had to have a white dial and Arabic numerals. They could only be size 16 or 18 (the size of the watch movement) and had to be temperature compensated. Those watches had to stand up to the constant abuse from the jarring and swaying of those early trains. Engineers were required to have their watches inspected regularly and to submit a certificate to supervisors stating its reliability. That was my father's job: to clean, repair and inspect the watches. Staying on schedule was critically important. A wreck in 1894 which killed 9 persons was the result of an engineer's watch that was off by 4 minutes. A good reliable pocket watch was a matter of life or death for a railroader.

This time of year, when the trees are bare, the train's whistle is especially loud. Some may not appreciate hearing it but I do, especially at night. I loved the sound as a child also. It conjured up thoughts of far away places and new adventures. Next time in the museum, look at the display of pocket watches. Hopefully they will have new meaning for you.

Enjoy winter in Cass County.

--Douglas V. Duey, President
Temporary Exhibits

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

“World War I: Photographs and Memorabilia”
Thru January 24, 2015
July 28, 2014, marked the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I. We are honoring those who served from Cass County with an exhibit of photographs, recruitment posters and other memorabilia.

“Paintings and Drawings”
Thru January 24, 2015
This exhibit includes oils, watercolors and penmanship drawings that have not been on display for several years.

"Signature Quilts"
January 27 - March 28, 2015
The recent donation of two signature quilts from the 1930s prompted us to install this exhibit. First, we wanted to show these two very nice additions to our collection, but we have also brought out from storage other signature quilts that have been in the collection for some time.

"Valentines and Pocket Watches"
January 13 - March 28, 2015
In the front display case, we have installed an exhibit of 7 pocket watches and some recently donated Valentines.

"Remembering the Greatest Generation: World War II"
March 31 - June 28, 2015
August of 2015 will mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. We have had many items donated recently that belonged to Cass County veterans who served in World War II. One of the most interesting is a scrapbook compiled by Charles Tasler who was a prisoner of war.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!
http://www.casscountynemuseum.org/

Brown Bag Programs
The programs begin at 12:00 noon. They are free and open to the public. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Tuesday, February 24
"Signature Quilts"
Speaker: Margo Prentiss
The Museum Curator will talk about the quilts currently on exhibit and some other objects recently donated to the Museum.

Tuesday, March 10
"The Art of Bookbinding"
Speaker: Lucy Gierham
Lucy and Jim Gierham just opened the Perfect Touch Bindery in Plattsmouth. They use no automated machinery. Everything is hand-sewn and hand-bound, "the old school" way.

Tuesday, March 24
"Traditional Hawaiian Quilting"
Speaker: Sandra Allgeier
Sandra will talk about Hawaiian quilting and show a quilt she is currently making. She will also show a video from the Nebraska Quilt Museum.

Cass County Historical Society will be hosting the annual conference of the Nebraska Museums Association on April 13 and 14. Staff members from museums across Nebraska will be attending.

100 years ago in Cass County, January, 1915:
Hiatt and Tutt in Murray was advertising Men's sweater coats for $1.25, Women's for $1.50, and 4-Buckle all rubber overshoes were $2.65.
Fangers Dept. Store in Plattsmouth offered 20 pounds of sugar for $1.00 but the ad said: "No Sugar sold to Children"

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Members:
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 to the museum. If you have internet and would prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail, please send us an e-mail and put "electronic newsletter" in the subject line.
### CORNERSTONE CLUB

**Marble**
- Bruce & Annette Wiles

**Granite**
- Plattsmouth State Bank
- Lori Schneider

**Limestone**
- Johnson Law Office
  - Roger K. Johnson
- N & B Henry Rentals
  - Norm & Betty Henry

**Sandstone**
- Jeff Henry Chevrolet
  - Jeffrey N. Henry
- Edward Jones
  - Brad Ksiazek
- W-M Farms, Inc.
  - Robert Meisinger
- Main Street Dental
  - Dr. William Moseman, DDS
- Pankonin's Inc
  - David & Lori Pankonin

### MEMBERSHIPS

**Century**
- Elton E. DeLesDernier, VA
- Del & Glenda Hervey
- Roy & Sharon Smith

**Promoter**
- Bill & Susanne Astley
  - Diane Berlett
  - Jim Case
- David & Vicki Chebatoris
  - Paul & Patty Lambert
  - Kirk & Glenda Linder
  - Mel Luechens, new
- Paul & Janet McCartney
  - Nancy Olson
  - H. Margo Prentiss
- Jerry & Mary Reinholdt, new
- Norm & Meredith Schoch

**Booster**
- Kola Ann Curtright
  - Ruth Lillie, NC, in memory of Harold Lillie
  - Dorothy Meisinger
  - Frank & Joyce Swanson
  - Deb Woster

### Memberships, continued

**Friend**
- Allen CO. Public Library, IN
  - Joan Barnard
- Sara Thimgan Begley, IA
  - Eleanor J. Box, TX
- Millard & Janice Carnes
  - Glen Comer
  - Linda Duncan
  - Terry & Julie Duncan
  - Eldonna Forrest
  - Duane & Susan Hennings
  - Doris N. Hirz
  - John & Marcia Kriskey
  - Bud & Linda Lewis, gift
  - Carl & Jayne Ofe
  - Mary Frances Reinke
  - Linda Ries, ID
  - Art & Jackie Schleicher
  - Sharon Shelley
  - Larry & Rita Vallery, gift
  - June Ann Wagner
  - Pat Wagner

### DONATIONS

#### Genealogy Donations
- David & Susan Atherton, SD
- Delbert & Judy Beins
- Kathleen Huston, TX
- Betty M. Lau, WI
- Liz Robb, IN
- Evelyn Tipton, MD

#### Rock Bluffs School Fund
- Don Baker
- Tom & Della Sullivan
- Charles & Irene Warga
- Numerous cash donations during October open house.

#### Special Donations
- Ruth A. McMaster
- Darrel Draper
- The Questers Inheritors
  - Chapter #771
  - Evelyn E. Stewart

### MEMORIALS

#### In memory of John Blotzer
- Bill & Sally Babbitt
- Jean Howland
- Paul & Susan Rice

#### In memory of Jeanette Jackson
- Norm & Betty Henry

#### In memory of Margo Prentiss
- Norm & Betty Henry

#### In memory of Paul & Susan Rice
- Charles & Irene Warga
- Clark & Jean Wiles

### DONATIONS

**Hot Dog Roast**
- Sandra Allgeier
- Del Hervey
- Pat Meisinger
- H. Margo Prentiss
- Susan Rice
- Del Stites
- Della Sullivan

**Apples for Halloween Parade**
- Plattsmouth HyVee

#### Donations in honor of Paul & Susan Rice on their 50th Wedding Anniversary
- Fred & Pat Meisinger
- Virginia Spangler

#### Donations for advertising
- Dave & Sharon Lybarger
- Paul & Susan Rice

#### SPECIAL DONATION
- Anonymous

#### MEMORIALS

**In memory of Jeanette Jackson**
- Paul & Susan Rice

**In memory of Delmar Kesterson**
- Maxine Hild

**In memory of Frances Krejci**
- Norm & Betty Henry

**In memory of Dee Lewis**
- Bill & Sally Babbitt

**In memory of Donna Meisinger**
- Doris Landon

**In memory of Ruth Parkening**
- Norm & Betty Henry

**In memory of Michael Rice**
- Bill & Sandra Allgeier
  - Jean Howland
  - Paul & Susan Rice

**In memory of Naomi Rhoades**
- Norm & Betty Henry

**In memory of Michael Rice**
- Bill & Sandra Allgeier
  - Jean Howland
  - Paul & Susan Rice

**In memory of Naoma Rhoades**
- Norm & Betty Henry

**In memory of Ona Thimgan**
- June Wagner

**In memory of Doris Wondra**
- Evelyn Allen
  - Doris Landon

#### In memory of Richard "Dick" Gochenour
- Jerry & Carol Burgess

#### In memory of Joseph Hostetter
- LaVonne Beil
  - Fred & Pat Meisinger
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 our the form at right and return to the museum.

**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)

**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.