



Summer Newsletter August, September 2015

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2015 Board of Directors OFFICERS PRESIDENT

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Nancy McManis, Louisville

Eleanor York, Plattsmouth

*The Board usually meets the fourth 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

From the President's Desk.....

Last Sunday, we had a very nice turnout for our Rock Bluffs School open house. We served complimentary ice cream because it was National Ice Cream Day. A number of children attended with their parents and they were surprised at the simplicity of the one room school house and shocked when they learned the rules for students in 1876. For instance, one of the rules was that female students must abstain from showing ankles and male students must remove all head gear before entering the building. They also learned that students must not speak unless spoken to. Even more shocking to them were the rules for teachers, including the rule that teachers each day will fill lamps with kerosene and clean the chimneys, will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's sessions. Men were allowed to take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they went to church regularly. Women teachers who married or became engaged in unseemly conduct were dismissed and any teacher who smoked, drank liquor, frequented pool halls or men who got shaved in a barbershop may be dismissed. Teachers who performed their labor faithfully and without fault for five years were given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in their pay. Golly, how times have changed.

Also, during the open house, several people remarked at how beautiful the bluffs looked and how wonderful the corn and bean crops look in Cass County. One person remarked that they thought the corn was growing so fast that they could hear it grow. That evening I drove into the country-side, got out of my car and walked close to a field of corn. The stalks towered high above me, looked like they were about 9 feet tall, were thickly planted and appeared like an impenetrable forest of green. I could smell the corn and thought I heard it growing. I wondered what pioneer farmers of Cass County would think of farming today, with corn production often times at 200 bu. per acre. Corn production from 1880 through the mid-30's did not change and averaged only 31.7 bu. per acre. It wasn't until the vast technological advances of the early 1940's that corn yields improved dramatically. Most of our readers know that Nebraska is the Cornhusker state, named so because of the way corn was processed at harvest time, with the husks pulled off the cob by hand. Nebraska continues to lead the way in corn production. So hurray for Cass County and our beautiful corn. Next time you visit our interesting museum, take a drive into the countryside and "listen to the corn grow".

--Douglas V. Duey, President

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.

**"Wildflowers of Cass County:
Photographs by Linda Barnard Duncan"
continuing through August 30, 2015**

This exhibit was originally created for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial in 2004. It includes color photographs by Linda Duncan of plants native to Nebraska and mentioned in the journals of Lewis and Clark.

**"Take Time Out and
Learn about Cass County History"
continuing through August 30**

Pocket Watches are displayed along with photographs from each town in Cass County.

**"Karnival and Harvest Time"
September 1 through October 31, 2015**

In conjunction with the Harvest Festival, we will show photographs and memorabilia from past Cass County King Korn Karnivals.

**"Saturday Evening Post Covers
by John Falter"
September 1 through October 31, 2015**

Plattsmouth native, John Falter, is best known for his illustrations of Saturday Evening Post magazine covers from 1943-1969. We have chosen a selection from our collection of 70 that pertain to the Fall season.

**Mini-exhibit, front display case:
"Cass County Archaeology"
September 1 through October 31, 2015**

September is "Nebraska Archaeology Month", so we have put together a small exhibit of objects collected by amateur archaeologists in the early to mid 20th Century and donated to the Historical Society in the 1960s.

Special Events

**Cass County Fair
August 5-8**

Stop by our booth at the County Fair in the Expo Center! We will be showing some of the oral history interviews we have recorded the past year.

**Plattsmouth Harvest Festival
September 11-12**

During the Harvest Festival, Friday September 11 and Saturday, September 12, the museum will be open special hours: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Admission will be free both days. We will also have our annual PIE SALE! Home-baked pies by Cass County Cooks - the best in Nebraska!

**Brown Bag Programs:
Fall Series begins September 22
Programs start at 12:00 noon
Coffee and cookies are served**

**Tuesday, September 22
"Nebraska Archaeology Month"**

Speaker, Rob Bozell, will give a power point presentation with a general overview of Eastern Nebraska archaeology. People are also encouraged to bring artifacts for identification. Bozell is the highway archaeology program manager for the NSHS.

**Tuesday, October 13
"The John Falter Museum"**

Janet Doherty Haws will talk about the new John Falter Museum in Falls City that just opened in May. Mrs. Haws is Curator of that museum

**Tuesday, October 27
"History of Oreopolis"**

Pat Moreno will share her research about the town of Oreopolis in Cass County.

**Did you know?
We have had visitors from 16 states during
June and July !**

Cornerstone Club.....Memberships.....Donations.....Memorials
Received between June 5 and July 23, 2015. Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

CORNERSTONE CLUB

Sandstone

Great Plains Realty Auction Co.

Randy Fleming

MEMBERSHIPS

Paid before June 30
for 2014-15 Fiscal Year

Century

Dr. Ramon & Luvonne Fusaro

Alyce Green

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Harlan & Bonnie Seyfer

Glenn White, FL

Promoter

Carol Alley

James E. Case

A. Dale & Loretta Draper

Jack & Joanne Glaze

Jim & Christine Hess

Jean Sayles-Jacobson

Marilyn G. Maines, AZ

Wm & Cheryl Pollard Mayfield

Booster

Jerry & Carol Burgess, FL

Sheryl Oviatt

George H. Sayles

John & Carol Schreiner

Friend

Rachel Bond, new

Tami Carruth, TX

Cindy Drake

Jean M. Gammell

Steve Highland, new

Shirley Beine McDonald, CA

Kay Strong-Nicolas

Volunteer Opportunities

We are in need of volunteer receptionists on Tuesdays from 12:00 to 4:00 and Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 to 4:00.

If you are available, please call the museum.

MEMBERSHIPS

PAID AFTER JULY 1
FOR 2015-16 FISCAL YEAR

Century

Spencer & Vivian Davis

Promoter

Mac & Anita Carmichael

Kevin & Lori Larson

Booster

Connie Deminski

Gene & Evelyn Meier

Betty L. Reichart

Friend

Karen L. Allen, gift

Brian & Nancy Heineman, IA

Margaret E. Rhylander

DONATIONS

Genealogy Donations

David Sizemore, IA

Cate Stadelman, NC

R.T.Swindall, FL

Special Donations

Brad Cundall, MO

Mike Davis, IA

Alyce Green

Joy Haswell

Daisy Richards

Donations in honor of
Jim & Joanne Furlong
on their 50th Anniversary

Maxine Hild

Ted & Carol Wehrbein

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 would prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail, please send us an e-mail and put "electronic newsletter" in the subject line. Those receiving the electronic newsletter will receive a notice by e-mail when their membership is due.

MEMORIALS

In memory of

John Baburek

Maxine Hild

Opal Chappell

Doris Landon

Mary Chebatoris

Dave & Vicki Chebatoris

Ronald Svoboda

Kay Cunningham

Diane Berlett

Doris Landon

Dave & Sharon Lybarger

Dean & Marilyn Meisinger

Margo Prentiss

Paul & Susan Rice

Meredith Grove

Dave & Sharon Lybarger

Linda Konfrst

Dave & Sharon Lybarger

Mary Miner

Wes Erhart

Clark Wiles

Thomas W. Carneal, MO

In memory of
1947 PHS classmates who passed
away this year:

William (Bill) Brookhouser

Robert (Bob) Gaines

Warren Kneer

Eidel (Speck) Sebade

Harry (Ray) Tincher

Glenn E. White, FL

Opal Chappell passed away June 26 at the age of 94. Mrs. Chappell worked at Cass County Museum in the early 1990s.

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 _____