



WINTER NEWSLETTER **January, February, March 2019**

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048

ccohsm@windstream.net

402-296-4770

website: www.casscountynemuseum.org/

2019 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Douglas Duey, Plattsmouth

VICE PRESIDENT:

Del Hervey, Plattsmouth

SECRETARY

Pat Meisinger, Plattsmouth

TREASURER

Diane Berlett, Plattsmouth

BOARD MEMBERS

Sandra Allgeier, Plattsmouth

Susanne Astley, Plattsmouth

George Eledge, Plattsmouth

Don Gappa, Plattsmouth

Bev Hirz, Plattsmouth

Brad Ksiazek, Plattsmouth

Mel Luetchens, Murdock

Roger Schuette, Plattsmouth

Roger Wehrbein, Plattsmouth

*During the Winter Season ,
the Board will meet the fourth Tuesday
of the month at 4:00 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

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..... by Douglas V. Duey, President

Here we are during the Season of Light and at the beginning of a New Year. Some evenings I drive around our county to observe how families and business owners decorate their buildings for the holidays. It is the "lights" that raise my spirits. Light has been a part of Christmas time for generations. Candles and fires burned to light the long, dark nights and symbolize the coming light of springtime.

Our museum had a wonderful evening during Hometown Holidays in Plattsmouth. Although it was a rainy, cold evening we had a large number of visitors. I enjoyed working at the Cook Cabin and this year was especially impressed by the enthusiasm expressed by our guests. Children inquired about all sorts of things. They wondered if cabins were always so dimly lit, with only kerosene lamps, and wondered how they could do their homework with such little light. Del Hervey, one of our directors, had once again prepared wassail for our guests and several people asked what wassail was before drinking it. I explained that it is made from apple cider, cinnamon sticks and cloves and that the custom of wassailing originated in England primarily as an agricultural ritual focused on apple orchards. To recognize the trees in the middle of winter and to ensure a good crop for the following spring and summer, a group of children went wassailing through the orchards, singing along the way, sprinkling wassail on the apple trees as they walked. Everyone enjoyed the wassail and cookies. Several children asked where the kitchen was in a log cabin and I told them that they were looking at it. I explained that there were no kitchen counter tops, but rather that all food preparation took place on the kitchen table. I went on to say that prior to electricity that the wood burning kitchen stove was perhaps the most valuable possession for a pioneer family. It cooked all of the food and boiled the water for baths, etc.. Our young visitors seemed to gain a greater appreciation for modern conveniences. We had a large number of visitors from Omaha this year and it struck me that they were searching for the Christmas Spirit and that they found it that evening in our 19th century community and found magic in our cozy old log cabin.

I believe that there is a renewed interest in the history of our country and that our museum plays a role in communicating that important knowledge of what was, what is, and what the future may hold. As Mark Twain said, "history may not repeat itself, but it rhymes pretty well". As we enter a new year I wish you all peace and happiness and that this Season of Light will fill your hearts.

Temporary Exhibits

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

World War I:

Remembering those who served October 2, 2018- January 5, 2019

November 11, 2018, marked the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. We have on display some recently donated photographs, uniforms, and other items used by Cass County soldiers who served in the war.

John Falter

January 8 - March 2

We will exhibit a selection of prints and Saturday Evening Post Covers by Plattsmouth native, John Falter. Also on view will be a painting "The Heights" donated by Falter in 1969.

Women Who Made History in Cass County and "Rightfully Hers" March 5 - April 28

March is "Women's History Month". We will have on exhibit photographs and information about women who were important to the history of our County. Also on view will be a "Pop up exhibit" entitled "Rightfully Hers" commemorating the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment. It has been made available to us from the National Archives.

Results of Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting, November 8, Doug Duey, Pat Meisinger and Diane Berlett were re-elected to their positions as President, Secretary and Treasurer. Del Hervey was elected Vice President to replace Susan Rice who retired after 32 years on the Board.

Susanne Astley and Roger Schuette were re-elected to three year terms on the board. Roger Wehrbein was elected to a three year term to fill the position held by Del Hervey. Brad Ksiazek was elected to fill the remaining two year term of Jon Oliver expiring in 2020. Volunteers were recognized for donating a total of 620 hours.

Following dinner, a program was presented by Butch Bouvier and Sterling Fichter. Mr. Bouvier told about the return of the white pirogue and Mr. Fichter portrayed John Colter of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

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. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

"View from the Standpipe: John Falter's World"

In conjunction with our Falter exhibit, we will show the 1980 NET interview with John Falter.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

"The History of our House: 968 Years of History"

Speaker: Judith Bell

Mrs. Bell has written a book about the history of her house in Cass County. Families who lived in the home previously include the Coles, Spanglers and Wiles.

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

"Women who Made History in Cass County"

Speaker: Margo Prentiss

The Museum Curator will talk about some of the women important to Cass County History.

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

"Nebraska Women Artists before 1945",

Speaker: Lonnie Dunbier

Mrs. Dunbier has been researching Nebraska women artists active before 1945 and, so far, has found over 600! The focus of her program will be artists from our area, such as Ione Dovey

Remembering Mr. Haswell

Joy LeRoy Haswell passed away November 29 at age 90. As a former Paint Shop Foreman for the Burlington Northern Railroad, he took great interest in our Caboose. He remembered when the Caboose was first given to us and when we needed funds in 2016 to renovate the Caboose, he started donating. For the past two years, he made a donation every month to the caboose fund, thus building up a nice balance to help with future repairs.

Memberships....Donations....Memorials

Received between Oct.1 and December 18,2018. Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

CORNERSTONE CLUB

Limestone

N & B Henry Rentals

Betty Henry

W-M Farms,Inc

Robert Meisinger

Sandstone

Brian P. Harvey Funeral Home

Brian P. Harvey

Duane L. Hobscheidt

Henry Hobscheidt Motors

Jeffrey Henry

McKnight Family Dental

Dr. James McKnight, DDS

Pankonin's Inc

David Pankonin

MEMBERSHIPS

Century

Tom & Kathy Copmann, FL

Elton E.DeLesDermier, VA

Frank & Nora Eyster

David & Sharon Lybarger

Paul & Janet McCartney

Jim & Colleen Peterson

Virginia & Debby Hennings, CA,
in memory of Gerald Hennings

Promoter

Roger & Linda Behrns

Diane Berlett

Richard & Stella Ruth Boettcher

Jim Case

Glenn & Sharon Eager

George & Arlene Eledge

Jim Elworth, IN

Kristin Friedrich, CA

Evan Holly

Margo Prentiss

Bill & Marilyn Rishel

Julie Schmale

Jon & Dee Schuetz

Michael Schuldt

Tom & Della Sullivan

Frank & Joyce Swanson

Charles & Irene Warga

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

MEMBERSHIPS,continued

Booster

Louis & Lola Austin

Larry & Elly Biederman

Mike & Shelia Coen

Kola Ann Curttright

Renee Hart-Thakur

Doris N. Hirz

Terry & Georgia McCarl

Marilyn Maines, AZ

Garry & Becky Martin

Gene & Evelyn Meier

Donald Skalak

Ted & Carol Wehrbein

Virginia Wickham, MO

Cynthia Wilcox

Deb Woster

Friend

Jeanie Brookhouser

Jim & Alice Miller Bryant, new

Millard & Janice Carnes

Judi Cook

Dan & Patty Cunningham,gift

Mark Current, new

David Duey, gift

Linda Duncan

Terry & Julie Duncan,gift

Natasha Duran, NM, gift

Cierra Earl, KY, new

Myrna Esler

Sterling Fichter,IA, new, gift

Fran Guthrie, OR, gift

Carol Gray

Greg & Rita Hartel

Carroll Hudson

Ruby Moss, gift

Carl & Jayne Ofe

JoAnn Pryor, CA

Betty Altschaffl Root,CA

Minnie Mae Sayers

Laura Strickland,NJ,gift

Mike Tabler

Bill & Brenda Todd

Sophia Bierl Vinduska

June Wagner

Patricia A. Wagner

DONATIONS

Daisy Richards

Caboose Fund

Joy Haswell

Caboose Fund in memory

of Joy Haswell

Diane Berlett

Douglas V. Duey

Margo Prentiss

Genealogy Donations

Craig Coberly, FL

Cierra Earl, KY

Jim & Lori Stewart

Donations toward new roof

at Rock Bluffs School

George & Beverly Sullivan Ebersole

Larry & Cheryl Henry

Margo Prentiss

Employees of Plattsmouth State Bank

Donation for a Basket

for Annual Meeting

Jan Matisco, CA

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of

Evelyn Christie

Nancy Siemoneit Teague

June Wagner

Jack Fullerton

Glenn E. White, FL

Martha McQuin

Diane Berlett

Jeanie Brookhouser

David & Sharon Lybarger

Ellyn Meisinger

Margo Prentiss

Betty Reichart

Steve & Marlene Rishel

Eileen Morehead

Douglas V. Duey

Eleanor York

David & Sharon Lybarger

Donation in memory of

David & Wilma Duey

for purchase of Replica of

Lewis and Clark White Pirogue

Douglas V. Duey



New Roof needed for Rock Bluffs School

Our 1870 one room school house, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is in need of a new roof. The current roof was installed in 1989.

We hope to raise funds by March 1 so that the work can begin in the Spring.

We already have a pledge of \$500 plus \$475 donated between October and December.

If you would like to donate to this project, please make out your check to Rock Bluffs School Fund and fill out the form below. Mail or deliver to Cass County Historical Society, 646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE.68048.

Thank you in advance for your support of this project.

*Cass County Historical Society is a 501-C3 not for profit corporation.
Contributions are tax deductible since the value of benefits received is minimal*

Yes, I would like to donate to the Rock Bluffs School Roof Project!

Amount enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State and zip _____

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:

November through March:

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

April through October:

Tuesday through Sunday: 12:00 to 4:00 pm
Closed 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 _____