

FALL NEWSLETTER
October, November, December 2021
646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE. 68048

ccoahsm@windstream.net

402-296-4770

www.casscountynemuseum.org

2021 Board of Directors

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Brad Ksiazek, Plattsmouth

Mel Luetchens, Murdock

Julie Schmale, Murdock

*The Board usually meets the fourth
Tuesday of the month.*

CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Dave Pankonin, President

Pat Meisinger, Secretary

Leigh Jean Koinzan, Treasurer

Mel Luetchens, Board Member

Roger Wehrbein, 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.....

Since the Cass County Fairboard (aka Cass County Agricultural Society) has just finished another very successful fair at the (new?) fairgrounds north of (the present location) Weeping Water, I thought I would reminisce a bit. The Cass County Agricultural Assn was first organized August 30, 1856 with H. C. Wolph president, William H. Davis secretary, and Timothy Gaskill treasurer. The early fairs of 1856 and 1857 were held in Rock Bluff. They were interrupted by the Civil War, but it was reorganized in 1869 and held in different locations around Plattsmouth. Horse racing and high wheel bicycle displays were popular events. The fair interest waned again until it was reorganized in 1921 and the fair was located in Weeping Water in the buildings of an old lumber yard. Many came from around the county to repair and re-roof, and then to participate. Thus we consider probably 1921 as the forerunner of the current county fair. After restarting in 1921 in Weeping Water, the fair grew by leaps and bounds. The town was full of people and activities and the streets were crowded. Many of you probably remember the buzz of activity. The Queen contest was held on the street just west of the Methodist Church, and carnival filled the main street. The old lumber yard sheds were filled with livestock and old Extension Office and Auditorium were used for 4H and open class exhibits. Beginning in early 1960's discussion began to increase about relocating the fair. An offer was made on a 40 acre parcel 3 miles north of Weeping Water (the present location) and for 400 dollars per acre, the land was purchased. The fairboard at that time were Malcolm Pollard, Laurance Gregg, Melvin Todd Jr, Sterling Ingwerson, DeForest (Buzz) Brown, Walt Patton, Herb Kraeger, Merle Buell, and Roger Wehrbein. Clarence Schmadeke was county extension agent. I will relate more in the next newsletter about the move. The source of some of this information was in the 1967 fairbook in a brief history written by Alice Perry, Editor and president of the Cass County Historical Society.

Roger Wehrbein, President

See inside for all that is going on here and mark your calendars:
Brown Bag programs start October 5 & continue through October
Rock Bluffs School open house October 17
Halloween Parade October 29
Annual Meeting and Program November 4
Tree Lighting December 4

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

There is always something new to see in the museum! Exhibits are changed quarterly in our Davis Conference room.

Autumn!

Time for Football and the Harvest Festival!

August 31 – November 20, 2021

On one side of the room is an exhibit about Plattsmouth High School Football. The other side of the room has photographs and memorabilia about past Harvest Festivals (previously called the Kass Kounty King Korn Karnival).

Winter!

November 23-January 22, 2022

In this exhibit, you will see photographs and paintings of winter scenes as well as objects such as skates, hats, quilts, and jackets.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Harvest Festival.

91 pies and 7 loaves of bread were donated. All sold for a total of \$1,470 plus \$255 in donations.

The book sale brought in \$53 plus \$8.00 in donations.

Attendance in the main Museum building totaled 243; in the courtyard: 152 visited the Farm building and 107 visited the shed. At the end of Main, 240 visited the log cabin, caboose and pirogue

Visit us on Facebook.
We post an
“Artifact of the Week”
on Wednesdays.

**** SPECIAL EVENTS****

Brown Bag Programs

Tuesdays, October 5, 12, 19, and 26, 12:00 noon

Our Brown Bag Programs will start again on Tuesday, October 5. The programs start at 12:00 and are over by 1:00. This year, no refreshments will be served, but you are welcome to bring your lunch or your own drinks or a snack. Here is the great line-up of programs:

October 5: “Go Blue Devils! A History of Plattsmouth High School Football” Speaker: Jim Elworth.

In conjunction with our Football exhibit, Jim Elworth, author of the book “Go Blue Devils!” will talk about some highlights in PHS football history from 1893-1979.

October 12: “The 1940s” Speaker: Sandra Allgeier

This power point presentation will be a look back at the 1940s – music, pictures of life in the 40s, World War II and more.

October 19: “The Amazing Secrets of the Statue of Liberty” Speaker: Darrell Draper

This year marks the 135th anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty. Darrell Draper will reveal the secrets of the history of the Statue of Liberty that will give you a new perspective on this American icon. For example, did you know that two American Presidents turned down the gift of the statue from France and that it was never intended to be a welcoming monument for immigrants?

October 26: “A History of the Timber Rattlesnake in Nebraska” Speaker: John Lokke

John Lokke has been researching Timber Rattlesnakes for over 20 years and is writing a history. They were first documented in 1938 as a result of rock quarrying and were extirpated by the late 1960s.

Halloween

Friday October 29

The annual children's Halloween parade will start on Main Street at 4:00 p.m. We will be giving out apples at the log cabin.

Is the date highlighted on your address label? If so, it means your membership is due. Please fill out the form on the back and mail with your check to the museum.

There is also an option to use PayPal to pay your membership or make other donations. To use PayPal, visit our website www.casscountynemuseum.org and go to the page “Make a Donation”.

**Memberships, Donations, and Memorials
Received between July 1 and September 22 , 2021
Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.**

MEMBERSHIPS
CORNERSTONE CLUB
Sandstone

Farm Bureau Insurance
Lori Good Baker

Cornerstone Bank
Angie Jameson

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES
Century

Barbara York Baker, WA
Keith N. Bystrom
Joni Coniglio, CO, new
Spencer & Vivian Davis
Frank & Nora Eyster
Elizabeth Miller, FL
Roy & Sharon Smith
Dr. Charles & Bev Stoehr

Promoter

Jim & Gerry Byrk
David & Vicki Chebatoris
Mike & Shelia Coen
Dan Hall
Jim & Christine Hess
Evan F. Holly
Ann Knorr Snider
Charles & Evelyn Schafer
Grace Wiles Simard

Booster

Jeanie Brookhouser
Dale & Joan Clark
Lanny Glup & Lori Good-Baker
Joyce Heim
Linda & Bud Lewis, gift
Sheryl Oviatt
Larry Vallery, gift
Nancy Wehrbein, new

Friend

Sharon Cook Chamberlin, NM
Jean Gammell
Shirley Beine McDonald, CA
Paul & Nancy McManis

DONATION

Midlands Community Foundation

DONATIONS
during Harvest Festival

Kola Curtright
Karen Nieto
Dr. Don Rhoden
Sharon Smith
Irene Warga

DONATIONS

GENEALOGY DONATIONS

Dave Canfield, CA
Jonathan Tucker, MA
John Wamser, WI

DONATIONS FOR
TIMELINE EVENT

Mary Sullivan Berner
Plattsmouth Lions Club
Lanny Glup & Lori Good-Baker
Paul & Nancy McManis
Doug Schema, IA
Roger Wehrbein

Midlands Community
Foundation

In August, Cass County Historical Society was the recipient of a \$5,000 donation from the Midlands Community Foundation Golf Tournament. Every year, the Foundation shares part of the proceeds from the tournament with non-profit organizations that provide services in Sarpy and Cass County. Sarpy County Museum and TeamMates Mentoring Program also received donations this year.

MEMORIAL FUND

in memory of
Maurice Hammons
Roger Wehrbein

Bev Harter
Glenn White, FL

Ricky Lee Isham
Doris Landon

Meg Knorr
Glenn White, FL

John Kriskey
H. Margo Prentiss

Phil Pankonin
Jim Elworth

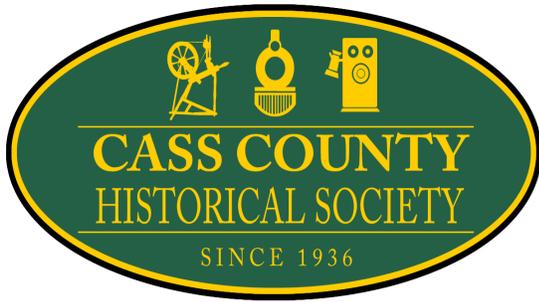
Pete & Caroline Rauen
Frank & Mary Rauen
Verna Rauen Fillmore
Maureen McGrath

Margaret Rhylander
Bill Knorr, Jr
Ann Knorr Snider

Roger Schuette
Roger Wehrbein

Bob Wagner
Fred & Pat Meisinger

Bob Winters
Glenn White, FL



ROCK BLUFFS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 17, 2021
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Admission is free,
donations will be accepted to help with
maintenance and repair of the building.

The one room brick school building is 151 years old.
It opened as “Naomi Institute” in September, 1870.

For additional information, contact
Cass County Historical Society
646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE.
402-296-4770
ccoasm@windstream.net



View from the swings, Rock Bluffs School

ANNUAL MEETING
and PROGRAM
Thursday, November 4
7:00 p.m.
In the First State Bank community room
4th and Main, Plattsmouth

Again this year, the meeting will not include a dinner or silent auction.

The meeting is free and open to the public, but reservations are required so that we know how many are attending. Please call the museum 402-296-4770 before November 2 to make reservations.

The evening will begin at 7:00 p.m. With a business meeting, annual report and election of officers and board members.

At 7:30, a program entitled "Fiddle Origins: From Wales to Weeping Water" will be presented by Deborah Greenblatt
This entertaining, musical journey explores a diversity of bowed string instruments from mid-1100s to today. You will hear a Nykelharpa (Swedish keyed fiddle) as well as a pocket fiddle made by Dr. Kunkel of Weeping Water, NE.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
Saturday, December 4, 6:30 p.m.

The lights on our blue spruce tree will come on at 6:30 p.m. December 4, during Plattsmouth's Victorian Christmas on Main.

The museum will be open until 8:00 p.m.
No refreshments will be served.

Our log cabin and caboose at the end of Main will also be open until 8:00 p.m.

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.

MUSEUM HOURS:

Open All Year

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

To renew your membership or to become a member for the first time, please fill out the form below and mail with your check to the museum. There is also a PayPal option on our website.

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 _____