



**WINTER NEWSLETTER**  
**January, February, March, 2022**  
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402-296-4770  
[www.casscountynemuseum.org](http://www.casscountynemuseum.org)

## 2022 Board of Directors

### OFFICERS:

#### PRESIDENT

**Roger Wehrbein**, Plattsmouth

#### VICE- PRESIDENT

**Brad Ksiazek**, Plattsmouth

#### SECRETARY

**Pat Meisinger**, Plattsmouth

#### TREASURER

**Alicia Garbers**, Plattsmouth

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Sandra Allgeier**, Plattsmouth

**Susanne Astley**, Plattsmouth

**Judy Attebery**, Murray

**Roger Behrns**, Louisville

**Diane Berlett**, Plattsmouth

**George Eledge**, Plattsmouth

**Lanny Glup**, Plattsmouth

**Del Hervey**, Plattsmouth

**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 Lutchens**, 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.....

Moving on from my last column about the “new” Cass County Centennial Fairgrounds, I thought I would discuss more about the decision to move out of Weeping Water and the resulting controversy. On November 1, 1965, at a specially called membership meeting, it was voted 36 to 27 to purchase 40 acres north of Weeping Water. However, a two-thirds positive vote was needed, so it did not pass. Much discussion occurred for the next few days, and then on November 8, at the annual fair board meeting another vote to purchase was proposed and it again failed. Needless to say several meetings and discussions continued throughout the county, some going late into the night (2 am). There were several newspapers editorials both for and against the move and interest was strong. Finally again on Thursday, January 27, 1966, a special meeting of the Cass County Agricultural Society was held at the Agricultural Auditorium in Weeping Water for the purpose of considering the purchase of 40 acres of land from Herman Rauthe for a new fairgrounds. The vote to purchase was 76 to 27, with two-thirds vote needed to pass. The expected development cost was estimated to cost \$56,000 to start with a goal of dedication being August 16, 1967, and as a Nebraska Centennial project. The next step was to select a fund-raising committee and chairman. Richard Tritsch of Plattsmouth was appointed and then selected Roger Hild of Plattsmouth and Dale Hendricksen of Murdock to help him. Several meetings were held in February to discuss fundraising plans and ideas. The state and county centennial committees were very helpful in providing ideas and resources. The decision was made to have a major fundraising dinner on March 1, 1966, at Winterset Inn in Plattsmouth. 136 from across the county attended and an enthusiastic crowd went to work the next day. The source of most of this information comes from a scrapbook kept by Donna Tritsch and from a personal diary that Jeanene and I kept for many years. The scrapbook is available for viewing at the Cass County Museum. More next time!

*Roger Wehrbein, President*

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**See inside for coming events and mark your calendars.**

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## TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

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

### **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.

#### **Hair Wreaths, Hair Jewelry, Pocket Watches and Victorian Era Valentines** **January 25 – March 26,2022**

The recent donation of a hair wreath from 1892 prompted us to prepare an exhibit with the other wreaths in our collection, along with hair jewelry, men's pocket watches, and a few Victorian era Valentines.

**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](http://www.casscountynemuseum.org) and go to the page "Make a Donation".**

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

## **\*\* SPECIAL EVENTS\*\***

### **Brown Bag Programs**

The programs will start at 12:00 and will be over by 1:00. They are free and open to the public. No refreshments will be served, but those attending are welcome to bring their lunches.

Tuesday, February 8 - "Hair Wreaths", speaker: Margo Prentiss

Tuesday, February 22- "Uncovering Local Artists" Speakers: Doug and Leslee Wilkerson. The owners of Wilkerson Art Works will talk about their gallery in Plattsburgh and the many local artists who have had exhibits or are scheduled for exhibits at the gallery.

Tuesday, March 22 - "Timber Rattlesnakes" speaker John Lokke  
If you missed the program in October, be sure to mark your calendar for this one. John has added more about Cass County to his program, including interviews with Cass County residents.

Tuesday, April 12 - "Ghosts of a Pioneer Cemetery" speakers: Sandra Allgeier, Jeanie Brookhouser, Leigh Jean Koinzan, Pat Meisinger and Susanne Astley.

Tuesday, April 26 - "The First Winery in Nebraska" speaker: Cindy Drake.

## **ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS**

Our Annual Meeting took place November 4 at the First State Bank..

An election of Board Members was held during the business meeting. Officers elected for one year terms were: Roger Wehrbein, President; Brad Ksiazek, Vice-President; Pat Meisinger, Secretary, and Alicia Garbers, Treasurer. Re-elected to the board with terms expiring in 2024 were Susanne Astley, Judy Attebery and Julie Schmale. Del Hervey was elected to fill Brad Ksiazek's board term which expires in 2023. Mel Luetchens has resigned from the board and Roger Behrns was elected to fill his term which also expires in 2023.

Cindy Drake, from History Nebraska, gave a presentation about her research which has revealed that the first winery in Nebraska was in Cass County in the 1890s.

The evening closed with a program "Fiddle Origins: From Wales to Weeping Water". Deborah Greenblatt demonstrated several types of stringed instruments and gave a history of their origin and use.

**Memberships, Donations, and Memorials**  
**Received between September 23, 2021 and January 12, 2022**  
**Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.**

**MEMBERSHIPS**  
**CORNERSTONE CLUB**

**Limestone**

N&B Henry Rentals

Betty Henry

W-M Farms, Inc

Robert & Jacqueline Meisinger

**Sandstone**

Brian P. Harvey Funeral Home

Brian P. Harvey

Henry/Hobscheidt Motors

Jeffrey Henry

McKnight Family Dental

Dr. James A. McKnight

Pankonin's Inc.Farm Equipment

David Pankonin

**INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES**

**Century**

Diane Berlett

Kevin Bertrand,CA

Wendy Bouvier, IN, new

Jim & Alice Bryant

Beverly Hirz

David & Sharon Lybarger

James Peterson

Julie Schmale

Tom & Della Sullivan

William M. Wehrbein

**Promoter**

Bill & Susanne Astley

Roger & Linda Behrns

Mary Berner

Kathleen Bestor, CA

George & Arlene Eledge

Dennis & Donna Keil

Leigh Jean Koinzan

Marcia Kriskey

Paul & Patty Lambert

H.Margo Prentiss

Frank & Joyce Swanson

Renee Hart-Thakur

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

Virginia Wickham, MO.

**MEMBERSHIPS,continued**

**Booster**

Larry Biederman

Mike & Marilyn Cahalane

Cindy Drake

Alicia Garbers

Herb & Nancy Heil,CA

Gene & Evelyn Meier

Pam Osthus

Patti & Robyn Prime,CA

Andrea Randall, MN, new

Betty Reichart

Bill & Brenda Todd

**Friend**

Karen Allen

Randy Anderson, new,gift

Dan & Patty Cunningham, gift

Linda A. Duncan

Terry & Julie Duncan, gift

Myrna Esluer

Susie Fredericks, new

Carol Gray

Fran Guthrie, OR, gift

Duane & Susan Hennings

Ruby Moss, gift

JoAnn Pryor, CA

Mary Frances Reinke

Minnie Mae Sayers

David Seay & Deborah

Greenblatt, new, gift

June Ann Wagner

**DONATION**

**REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM**

Plattsmouth HyVee

**DONATIONS**

Jim Elworth

Linda Ries, ID

**DONATIONS**

**ROCK BLUFFS SCHOOL FUND**

Diana Wiles Capaldi

Donna Clear Schultz

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Bequest from the Joe  
and Jan Matisco Family Trust,CA

**MEMORIAL FUND**

**in memory of**

**Kathy Draper**

Paul & Susan Rice

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

**Maurice & Mary Rogers**

**Hammons**

H.Margo Prentiss

Paul & Susan Rice

**Bev Harter**

Betty Reichart

**Roger Schuette**

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Betty Reichart

Paul & Susan Rice

Ted & Carol Wehrbein

**Rock Bluffs School Fund**  
**in Memory of Jim Furlong**

Bill & Sandra Allgeier

Diane Berlett

Maxine Hild

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Bob & Bev Morris

H.Margo Prentiss

Janet Schoech

Elizabeth M. Snodgrass

Mark & Laurie Spangler

June Ann Wagner

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

Ted & Carol Wehrbein

Jean Wiles

Brian & Susan Wooters

PHS Class of 1959

**Rock Bluffs School Fund**

**in Memory of**

**Donna McCormick Weatherby**

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Paul & Susan Rice

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**

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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* \_\_\_\_\_