



**SPECIAL NEWSLETTER  
JUNE, 2022**

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE. 68048

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402-296-4770

[www.casscountynemuseum.org](http://www.casscountynemuseum.org)

**2022 Board of Directors**

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**PRESIDENT**

**Roger Wehrbein, Plattsmouth**

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**Brad Ksiazek, Plattsmouth**

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*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.....**

This is the last segment of a history of the current "new" Cass County Fairgrounds that was relocated from downtown Weeping Water to a new location three miles north in 1967. In the last issue I told about a county-wide fund drive kickoff dinner, in which we had broad participation. All donations were published in The Plattsmouth Journal. By fair time on August 17, 1966 \$30,336 had been raised. The 1966 entries set a new record {downtown Weeping Water}, and enthusiastic plans were made to dedicate the "new" fairgrounds in the 1967 Nebraska centennial year. During the winter and spring many volunteers worked at tearing down old buildings and cleaning up the property. After bids were received, a construction contract was signed on March 13, 1967 with Stormor for \$35,300. Cass County Soil Conservation and Northern Natural Gas helped with surveys and site layout. Construction of the new buildings commenced on April 12 and continued all summer. Cass County Roads Department did extensive dirt work, preparing building sites and grading the horse arena. The old buildings in downtown Weeping Water were sold by auction on May 18 by Rex Young, Auctioneer. Finally on Thursday August 17, 1967, the time came for dedication and opening of the fair. A large crowd came, first to a BBQ sponsored by the Murray Grange. Several dignitaries from the state and county attended and participated in the ceremony. The parking lots were full and people were everywhere. Over the years, the Cass County Fair has been operated by very dedicated and hard-working board members, donors, and volunteers. I believe having new membership frequently helps keep the fair vibrant and current on its programming and activities. Buildings have been updated and modernized. Today, they are heavily used year round by people across the county. THANK YOU to all the fairboards, donors and managers over the years. May many of you see a one hundred celebration! It was estimated that after ten years(1977)that \$60-70,000 was raised,(which would be a much larger sum in today's dollars). The source 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 located in the Museum and a copy is also in the Plattsmouth Library.

***Roger Wehrbein, President***

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**See inside for coming events.**

**TEMPORARY EXHIBITS**

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

**Baseball in Cass County continues through July 30**

Since the exhibit was installed in March, some photos from the '60s, '70s and '80s have been donated. So the exhibit will continue through July 30.

**Barns of Cass County May 24 – August 27, 2022**

We have many images of barns in our permanent collection. For this exhibit we have chosen paintings by Ed Olson and Frances Amick and photographs by Chester Fulton Harris, Kevin Larson and Ric Carlson.

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

**Sunday, July 17, 2-4 p.m. Open House at Rock Bluffs School**  
This is our annual summer open house at the one-room brick school house built in 1870.

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**Saturday and Sunday, August 27 and 28, "A Walk through Time" ,**

Living history timeline event at Rock Hill Windmill Event Center, 5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth. You will be able to walk through history and hear re-enactors from the Lewis and Clark Expedition, US Army: Fort Atkinson, Mountain Man Era, Oregon Trail and the Civil War.

The event is free and open to the public.

Hours will be 9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, August 27 and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to make a donation to help with expenses for the Timeline Event, please mail your check to Cass County Historical Society and note on the check that is for the Timeline Event.

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**Friday and Saturday, September 9 and 10, Annual Pie Sale during Plattsmouth Harvest Festival.**

**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.**

**Our Fiscal Year ends June 30, your renewal before that date would be appreciated.**

**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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Our last "charter member" , Flora Belle (Mead) Wehrbein passed away March 30 at the age of 99. We always loved to hear Flora Belle tell about attending the first meeting of the Cass County Historical Society.

On May 20, 1936, her sister, Evelyn, had a dental appointment in Weeping Water. Dr. George Gilmore asked if he could ride along to go to a meeting. Flora Belle, age 13, went along for the ride, thinking it would be more fun than staying home. The meeting resulted in the organization of Cass County Historical Society. Dues were set at 25 cents and Dr. Gilmore paid the memberships for Evelyn and Flora Belle.

**Memberships, Donations, and Memorials**  
**Received between April 1 and May 25, 2022**  
**Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.**

**MEMBERSHIPS**  
**INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES**

**Investor**

Dave & Lori Pankonin

**Century**

Bill & Sandra Allgeier  
Thomas Carneal, MO  
Kristin Friedrich, CA  
Bruce & Mary Nolte, MN, new  
William & Pamela Reinsch  
William & Marilyn Rishel  
Laraine Young, new  
Ken & Meg Zarybnicky

**Promotor**

Frederick Eriksen  
Del & Diana Puls  
Steve & Marlene Rishel  
Grace Simard  
Steve & Marlene Wehrbein

**Booster**

Connie Deminski  
Tom & Cindy Dougherty, new  
Richard & Leigh Ann  
(Huebner) Eggert, new, gift  
Doris Landon  
Merlin & Ellen Olson, new  
Nancy Olson

**Friend**

Ken Beckman  
Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell  
Maxine Hild

**DONATION**

**ROCK BLUFFS SCHOOL FUND**

**in memory of Jim Furlong**

Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell

**DONATION: From Plattsmouth**

**Community Foundation**

by Steve Wehrbein, Citizen of the Year

**DONATION from Reusable Bag**

**Program** Plattsmouth HyVee

**DONATION: Genealogy Research**

Alison McClintic, IA

**DONATION: Benefit through TIAA**

William Wehrbein

**TIMELINE EVENT**

William & Susanne Astley

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Bequest from  
Joe & Janice Matisco  
Family Trust, CA

**MEMORIAL FUND**

**in memory of**

**Arline Anderson**

Carl & Linda Glup  
Fred & Pat Meisinger  
Roger Wehrbein  
Ted & Carol Wehrbein

**Janice McArdle Gesiriech**

Roger Wehrbein

**Donna Haverkamp**

Doris Landon

**Dean Meisinger**

Bill & Sandra Allgeier  
Diane Berlett  
Mary Berner  
Michael & Marilyn Cahalane  
Carl & Linda Glup  
Ellyn Meisinger  
Fred & Pat Meisinger  
Omaha Community Foundation  
through the Wm & Judy Startzer Fund.  
H.Margo Prentiss  
Dewayne & Mary Prince  
Amy Recker, IA  
Steve & Marlene Rishel  
Sharon Smith  
Elizabeth Snodgrass  
June Ann Wagner  
Dan & Marlys Wehrbein  
Ted & Carol Wehrbein  
Roger Wehrbein  
Glenn White, FL

**George Meisinger**

Sharon Smith

**Deloris Schroeder**

Mary Berner

**Roy Smith**

Bill & Sandra Allgeier  
Mary Berner  
Mike & Marilyn Cahalane  
Lydia Cole  
Carl & Linda Glup  
Keith & Roberta Hightree  
Roger Hild  
Alan & Denise Horn  
Dean & Linda Jeanneret  
Barry & Mary Jose

**MEMORIALS, continued**

**Roy Smith**

Charlotte Lawrence  
Dave & Sharon Lybarger  
Ellyn Meisinger  
Fred & Pat Meisinger  
Joann & Rick Murtha  
Merlin & Ellen Olson  
PHS Class of 1957  
Tom & Colette Pittman  
H.Margo Prentiss  
Del & Diana Puls  
Bruce & Mary Ann Ramge  
Paul & Susan Rice  
Gary & Linda Ricke  
Steve & Marlene Rishel  
William & Marilyn Rishel  
David Ruffner  
Elizabeth Snodgrass  
Tom & Della Sullivan  
Bill & Brenda Todd  
Lynn & Jeanice Vinduska  
Katherine Walter  
Irene Warga  
Dan & Marlys Wehrbein  
Roger Wehrbein  
Justin & Jennifer Widick  
Jean Wiles  
Jeff & Vicky Wiles

**Flora Belle Wehrbein**

Diane Berlett  
Michael & Marilyn Cahalane  
Ben & Ann Darling, IA  
Carl & Linda Glup  
Dan & Cheryl Grimshaw  
Thomas & Patricia Hall, WI  
Halmes Inc.  
Maxine Hild  
Alison Morris & Gareth Hinds, MD  
Bill Knorr, Jr., MI  
Ellyn Meisinger  
Jim & Margie Morris, PA  
H.Margo Prentiss  
Laura Price, KS  
Del & Diana Puls  
Dean & Prudence Rabel  
Steve & Marlene Rishel  
William & Marilyn Rishel  
David Ruffner  
Michael Schuldt  
Sharon Smith  
Elizabeth Snodgrass  
June Ann Wagner  
Dan & Marlys Wehrbein  
Douglas & Karelene Wehrbein  
Roger Wehrbein  
William M. Wehrbein  
Alan & Cindy Wohlfarth

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* \_\_\_\_\_