



WINTER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2023

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www.casscountynemuseum.org

2023 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

Judy Attebery, Murray

Roger Behrns, Louisville

Diane Berlett, Plattsmouth

George Eledge, Plattsmouth

Jim Elworth, Nebraska City

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 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....

As I reflect on the past year, I am going to mostly comment on the weather and its impact on our daily lives. As we are supposed to learn from history in order to be more prepared for future events, I would observe that weather is still a significant factor in most of our daily lives. I arrived at this subject as I reflected on my mother's family history. Her grandmother (my great grandmother) homesteaded in a shanty on 320 acres in northwestern Kansas (Hoxie) in 1886 with three small children while her husband attended seminary in Toledo, Iowa. He was very land oriented and eventually ended up with a 1200 acre ranch in Custer County, Nebraska, where my mother was raised in a sod house.

Life was not easy in those long ago years and blizzards and drought were big factors. They coped in many cases by "rugged individualism" but were well prepared for the circumstances for that time. The weather events today are not new but probably the severity is.

Today we are very much still vulnerable to weather events, especially if the electricity goes off (no heat, no food, no water) and we need to help and support each other more than ever. My point is this: we rightly recognize the difficulties our pioneer ancestors faced and appreciate how they coped. With the climate becoming more volatile, we are having to learn to cope in different ways and acknowledge even in these modern times Mother Nature is still in control. Perhaps the Boy Scout motto is still the maxim: BE PREPARED!

Roger Wehrbein, President

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Board has designated the month of February as "Cass County Historical Society New Membership Month".

If you know of someone who is interested in history but is not a member, invite them to join. Memberships start at \$15.00; the categories are listed on the back page of the newsletter.

Last year during February,
27 people joined and donated a total of \$4,590.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

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

Recent Acquisitions through January 28, 2023

New items are always being donated to the museum, come and see some of the most recent additions.

Dolls and Valentines

January 31 – April 1, 2023

Several recently donated dolls will be exhibited with a selection of Valentines from our large collection ranging in date from the 1880s to the 1960s.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Historical Society's annual meeting was held November 10. During the business meeting, Roger Wehrbein, Brad Ksiazek, Alicia Garbers and Pat Meisinger were re-elected to one year terms as officers. Elected to three year terms on the board of directors expiring in 2025 were Diane Berlett, George Eledge and Lanny Glup. The evening ended with an excellent program “Footprints and Handprints: Days on the Farm in the 19th Century” presented by Renae Hunt and Sandra Bottger.

**** SPECIAL EVENTS ****

BROWN BAG PROGRAMS

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

Tuesday, February 14

“Show and Tell-The History of Valentines”

Speaker: Leigh Jean Koinzan

Leigh Jean will talk about the evolution of Valentines from the 1700s through the 20th Century. She will show examples of Valentines from her personal collection including some quite rare and unusual items.

Tuesday, February 28

“Recycling 101 by Keep Cass County Beautiful”

Speaker: Dana Stahl.

Americans love to recycle and many will go to great lengths to do it. But are you recycling the right way? Does what you recycle really get recycled? Dana will talk about all these things and several ways you can do something better than recycling-reduce your waste and live a more sustainable lifestyle for a healthier lifestyle and a healthier planet.

Tuesday, March 14

“Scatter Joy Acres”

Speaker: Joy Bartling

Come and learn about the 15-acre urban Animal/Therapy/Rescue ranch in Murray, NE. They rescue and foster abused, neglected and abandoned animals. Those that do not find a loving forever home are trained to become therapists in the Animal Assistant Therapy (AAT program). The certified AAT program provides help for at-risk children, the developmentally disabled, seniors, homeless, mentally ill, veterans and those re-entering society.

Tuesday, March 28

“Southeast Community College”

Speaker: Lyn Belitz, Learning Center Coordinator

Lyn will update us on all the new programs and buildings throughout the Southeast Community Center Campuses.

Tuesday, April 25

“What's new at the Library?”

Speaker: Karen Mier, Library Director

Karen will talk about new programs at the Plattsmouth Public Library and their outdoor musical instruments.

Researching your Family Tree?

National Genealogy Day 2023 will be March 11, 2023.

The Greater Omaha Genealogical Society is making plans to celebrate that day. There will be a program and speaker at their new Genealogy and Local History Room at 3020 South 84th Street in Omaha. Go to our website for more information.

Memberships, Donations, and Memorials
Received between October 4, 2022 and January 11, 2023
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

Henry Hobscheidt Motors
Jeff Henry

McKnight Family Dental
Dr. James McKnight

Pankonin's Inc Farm Equipment
David Pankonin

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Century

Bill & Susanne Astley
Roger & Linda Behrns
Diane Berlett
Renee' A. Hart-Thakur
Beverly J. Hirz
H. Margo Prentiss
Sharon Smith
Dr. Charles & Bev Stoehr
Tom & Della Sullivan

Promotor

Kevin P. Bertrand, CA
Kathleen Bestor, CA
Mike & Marilyn Cahalane
Cindy S. Drake
A.Dale & Loretta Draper
George & Arlene Eledge
Pam Osthus
Charles & Evelyn Schafer
Frank & Joyce Swanson
Ginger Wickham, MO

MEMBERSHIPS, continued

Booster

Mary S. Berner
Alicia Garbers
Herb & Nancy Heil, CA
Marcia Kriskey
Sheryl Oviatt
Paul & Johanna Pankonin, new, gift
Minnie Mae Sayers
John & Carol Schreiner

Friend

Dan & Patty Cunningham, gift
Linda Duncan
Terry & Julie Duncan, gift
Myrna Esler
Fran Guthrie, OR, gift
Darlene & Elbie Lamb, new
Ruby Moss, gift
Jo Ann Pryor, CA
Daisy Richards
Kristi Shotkoski, new, gift
Larry Vallery, gift
Laura Weakley, new, gift

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"

DONATIONS

Paul & Susan Rice

Donation for use of Conference Room

Delta Kappa Gamma Tau Chapter

Donation in honor of Janet Snell

on her 90th Birthday
Jim & Sandy McKnight

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Karen Keil Albert
Fred & Pat Meisinger
George H. Sayles

Joann Felker

Jim & Carol Elworth

Ella Mary Kerns

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

Roy Smith

Jim & Diane Mayfield

Glenn White

Sam & Jennie Hardy
Will & Jess Heidbreder, IA
Bill Knorr, Jr., MI
Margo Prentiss
Irene Warga

In 2022, we had visitors from 22 states and three foreign countries (Canada, Venezuela, and Japan)

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 _____