

**SUMMER NEWSLETTER**  
**JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2023**  
646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE. 68048

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402-296-4770

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

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

**CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY FOUNDATION**

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**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 sat in the farm building recently amid the many many artifacts we have at the Cass County Museum, I am reminded of how many years of history are covered in our displays. Cass County was definitely a home for several native Americans, going back to early historical times. Many of our displays convey that message, thanks to many donor collections over the years.

With the coming of the European settlers, production agriculture began in earnest in Nebraska and Cass County. As the prairie was broken (e.g. Prairie Jake Vallery) and cultivated, new tools and machines were constantly being invented, many of which are represented in our museum.

Advancement in household appliances is also indicated, as manual methods gave way to electricity. Sometimes it is hard to believe the ingenuity and practicality our forebears used in their daily lives. I am also amazed at the fragility of some the farm machinery. It is no wonder a runaway horse could cause so much damage and even death. Much of what I am talking about can be seen in the farm building and farm shed. However we have much more that is not on display because of lack of room. We do have on display two very early tractors, a 1927 John Deere "D" used by a Cass County farmer, and 1938 Farmall "F-20".

We are also trying to increase our viewing hours on weekends, by having more open houses. Volunteers have helped us greatly in this regard and attendance has increased. THANK YOU.

In addition to the museum, we have the Cook log cabin, a Burlington caboose, and a Lewis and Clark pirogue at the end of Main Street. You will also want to "discover" about the spat between Nehawka and Plattsmouth about an 1860s 880 pound cannon that originally came from Battle Creek.

Please consider this as an "updated" invitation to come and view our history and displays, several of which are updated monthly.

*Roger Wehrbein, President*

## TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

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

### History of Newspapers in Cass County continuing thru August 19

This exhibit was scheduled to close in June but we are leaving it up until August 19 since visitors have enjoyed learning about all the newspapers that were once published in Cass County.

### Merritt Beach

#### June 27 – September 30

A trip down memory lane to Merritt Beach, a popular recreation area that was in operation from the 1930s through 1989. Come and enjoy the photographs and memorabilia.

### Plattsmouth Harvest Festival

#### August 22 – October 28

Our annual exhibit about the history of the Harvest Festival, since its beginning in 1932. On display will be photos of some of the past kings and queens, parade entries, posters, programs, and souvenirs.

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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"



### **“UNCOVER THE UNEXPECTED”**

Cass County Historical Society is one of 20 attractions, businesses, stores and shops in Cass and Sarpy Counties participating in “Uncover the Unexpected.” Participants will receive an entry form that will be stamped at a certain number of businesses. No purchase is necessary to receive a stamp. Prizes will be awarded at different levels. The program has been created by the Cass and Sarpy County Tourism Teams and runs until July 31, 2023.



### **WanderNebraska**

Our museum is part of the WanderNebraska program that started on June 1 and continues all year. A list of all the sites is on the 2023 WanderNebraska website. The program is sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation.

### **SPECIAL SUMMER HOURS**

During June, July and August, the farm building and shed in the courtyard, and the cabin, caboose and pirogue at the end of Main Street will be open on Fridays and Saturdays from 12:00 to 4:00. Admission will be free. (Volunteers are needed to help host these buildings. If you are available, call the museum 402-296-4770)

The main building at 646 Main is open all year, Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 to 4:00.

**Memberships, Donations, and Memorials**  
**Received between April 4 and June 28,2023**  
**Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.**

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

**Benefactor**

Scott & Linda Sparks

**Century**

William & Sandra Allgeier

Judy Attebery

Julie Bear

Jim & Alice Miller Bryant

Keith Bystrom

Thomas W. Carneal, MO

Kristin Friedrich, CA

Roger Hild, (new)

Chuck & Kathy Jordan

Bill Knorr, Jr., MI

Fred & Pat Meisinger

David & Lori Pankonin

Bill & Pam Reinsch

Steve & Lori Thompson Sloup, MO

Mel & Sharon Todd

John & Christine Trost

Lynn & Jeanice Vinduska

Roger Wehrbein

William M. Wehrbein

Laraine Young

Ken & Meg Zarybricky

**Promotor**

Susan Clizbe, NC

Paul & Patty Lambert

Jim & Claudine Mitchell, MO

Merlin & Ellen Olson

George H. Sayles

Norm & Meredith Schoch

Michael Schuldt

Ann Knorr Snider

**Booster**

Millard & Janice Carnes

Tom & Cindy Dougherty

Eldonna Forrest

Don Gappa

Doris Landon

David Libershal (new), MD

DeWayne & Mary Prince

Del & Diana Puls

Steve & Marlene Rishel

Kathy Solomon

**MEMBERSHIPS, continued**

**Friend**

Randy Anderson, gift

Ken Beckman

Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell

Carol Gray

Greg & Rita Hartel

Mike & Sue Tabler

Tom & Mary Ann Toman

**MEMORIAL FUND**

**In memory of**

**Shirley Adamonis**

H.Margo Prentiss

**Bill Babbitt**

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Carl & Jayne Ofe

Paul & Susan Rice

June Wagner

**Duane Heim**

Paul & Susan Rice

**Daisy Richards**

Bill Knorr, Jr., MI

H.Margo Prentiss

**Steve Rogers**

Paul & Susan Rice

**Marie Sand**

Dave & Sharon Lybarger

**Roy Smith**

Larry Vallery

**Verl & Donna Steinshouer**

June Wagner

**Nancy Siemoneit Teague**

June Wagner

**DONATION**

Annika Phillips

**GENEALOGY DONATION**

Hector Wilbur, CA

**DONATIONS TO ROCK BLUFFS**

**SCHOOL FUND**

**in memory of**

**Dorothy Buffington**

Jnay Marlett

Jackie Fry

Sandy Vernich

**DONATION TO CABOOSE**

**FUND**

**in memory of**

**Theodore Libershal**

David Libershal,MD

**DONATIONS TO CABIN**

**FUND**

Cash donations from descendants of

Joseph and Mary Cook

during the Cook Family Reunion

**DONATIONS TO TIMELINE**

**EVENT**

AfterMath Enterprises, LLC

Larry Campbell, MO

Fred & Pat Meisinger

Roger Wehrbein

See enclosed insert for information about our August 26-27 Timeline Event. If you would like to make a donation to help with expenses for the event (speakers fees, travel expenses and meals for the re-enactors) please mail your check to Cass County Historical Society and note on the check that it is for the Timeline Event There is also a PayPal option on our website.

## *A Walk Through Time*

***August 26-27***

***Saturday, 9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m.***

***Sunday, 9:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.***

at the Rockhill Windmill Event Center.  
5910 Ranch Road, Plattsmouth

During this living history event, you will walk through history and talk to 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

In addition to the re-enactments, the following programs will be presented. Funding for the two Saturday programs is provided by Humanities Nebraska, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the NE Cultural Endowment and private donations.

August 26, 11:00 a.m. “Lewis and Clark:What was their Worth”  
speaker: Renee Hunt

3:00 p.m. “Train Songs and Tales”  
presented by David Seay

August 27, 9:00 a.m and 1:00 p.m. “John Colter and the American Fur Trade” presented by Sterling Fichter

Go to the “Special Events” page on our website  
[www.casscountynemuseum.org](http://www.casscountynemuseum.org)  
to view a short video about last year's timeline event.

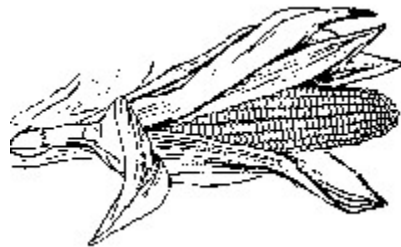


**ROCK BLUFFS SCHOOL  
OPEN HOUSE  
Sunday, July 16, 2023  
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

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

The one room brick school building is 153 years old.  
It opened as “Naomi Institute” in September, 1870.

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**PLATTSMOUTH HARVEST FESTIVAL  
September 7-10**

On Friday, September 8 and Saturday, September 9, the Museum will be open extended hours, 10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m and on Sunday, 12:00 to 4:00 pm.  
The farm building, shed, cabin, caboose and pirogue will also be open.

**ANNUAL PIE SALE !**  
September 8 and 9, 11:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.  
Our Pie Sale during Harvest Festival is a major fund-raiser every year  
Only whole pies will be sold.

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* \_\_\_\_\_