



SUMMER NEWSLETTER
JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2025
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402-296-4770
www.casscountynemuseum.org

2025 Board of Directors

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

CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Dave Pankonin, President

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MUSEUM STAFF

Margo Prentiss, Curator

Linda Duncan, Registrar

Jadyn Anderson, Summer Intern

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....

Greetings:

As the museum goes about the normal summer activities, our fundraising committee is busy compiling a large list of potential donors to our Museum renovation fund drive. We will soon be sending a letter to a large number of residents across the county. It is important to us to get a good response, in order to further our mission to "collect, preserve, and study materials to document, interpret, and present the history of Cass County to the public."

As I drive around the county, another issue that I have noticed (over time) is the loss of farmsteads. These represented a thriving family of dreams and vision at one time. Sadly we are losing this part of our agricultural history. Our proximity to Omaha and Lincoln has helped preserve them as acreages in many cases, but the facts remain that many houses and buildings have disappeared that represent our past. As that part of history is passing, may we all resolve to keep some remembrance of it. As an example, aerial photos that were taken frequently in the past by aviation companies were then offered for sale to interested owners. Although we cannot handle many at the Museum, hopefully interested families can see fit to preserve them themselves. I would guess that many of you have several already.

Please help us preserve our history and a big thank you to those who have already participated.

Roger Wehrbein, President

We now have a You-Tube account and have started posting our oral history interviews on You-Tube.

Go to our website, www.casscountynemuseum.org and click on the link in the right column.

We have also started posting an "Artifact of the Week" on our Instagram page. The Instagram link is also on our website.

Memberships, Donations, and Memorials
Received between March 26 and June 16, 2025

Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

Exhibits & Events

Temporary Exhibits
in Davis Conference Room:
Summer!

Time to Head to the Beach!
June 3 – August 23

This exhibit of photographs and memorabilia from Merritt Beach will bring back memories of the popular recreation area that closed in 1989.

“United in Harvest”

August 26 – November 1

History of the Plattsmouth Harvest Festival is told through photos from the beginning of the Festival in 1932 until the 1980s.

Special Events

Historic Downtown Plattsmouth
Christmas in July
Saturday, July 19

During “Christmas in July”, we will have our Farm Buildings in the Courtyard and the Cabin/Caboose and Pirogue at the end of Main open from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Rock Bluffs School
Open House, July 20, 2025
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

This is our annual summer event at our one room brick schoolhouse.

Plattsmouth Harvest Festival
Special hours:

On Friday, September 5 and
Saturday September 6, the museum
will be open extended hours, 10:00
a.m to 4:00 p.m. And Sunday,
September 7, 12:00 to 4:00.

The Farm buildings,cabin, caboose
and pirogue will also be open

Annual Pie Sale!
September 5 and 6
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Only whole pies will be sold. The
Harvest Festival Pie sale is a major
fund raiser every year
(last year we made \$2,000)

CORNERSTONE CLUB

GRANITE

RJ Wehrbein Farms Inc.
Roger Wehrbein

SANDSTONE

Cooke Construction Co.
Chad A. Cooke

Harvey Funeral Home
Brian Harvey

Edward Jones
Brad Ksiazek

MEMBERSHIPS
INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Benefactor

Steve Cole, new
Historic Downtown Plattsmouth
Assoc

Investor

Lisa Metzger-Grotrian
Jim Peterson
Rich & Lisa Propst

Century

William & Sandra Allgeier
Jim & Alice Miller Bryant
Dale & Loretta Draper
Jim Elworth
Kristin Friedrich,CA
Roger Hild
Dennis & Donna Keil
Dave & Sharon Lybarger
Paul & Janet McCartney
Fred & Pat Meisinger
Dave & Lori Pankonin
Bill & Pam Reinsch
Paul & Susan Rice
Michael Schuldt
Mel & Sharon Todd
John & Christie Trost
Lynn & Jeanice Vinduska
Stephen & Marlene Wehrbein
Ken & Meg Zarybnicky

MEMBERSHIPS, continued
INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Promoter

Charles & April Cover
George H. Sayles
Anders Hedman, Sweden

Booster

Lois & Louis Austin
Jeanie Brookhouser
Jerry & Carol Burgess
Kola Curttright
Maxine Hild
Doris Landon
John Lokke
Maureen McGrath
Marilyn Maines, AZ
Evelyn Meier
Nancy Olson
Steve & Marlene Rishel

Friend

Ken Beckman
Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell
Brian & Nancy Heineman, IA
Shirley McDonald, CA
Dean Podoll

Time to renew??

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.



Operating Fund Donations, and Memorials

Received between March 26 and June 16, 2025

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of

Diane Berlett

Jerry & Margaret Ann Blackwell

Vicki Chebatoris

Fred & Pat Meisinger

H. Margo Prentiss

Dan & Marlys Wehrbein

Justin S. & Jennifer A. Wehrbein Widick

Nancy Kiroff

Fred & Pat Meisinger

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of

Paul McManis

Roger Wehrbein

Tom Winscot

Dave & Sharon Lybarger

Roger Wehrbein

DONATIONS

Tom & Mary Toman

Genealogy Donations

Joel & Allison Coltharp, MO

Sandra Lockwood Fleming, CA

Eric & Sandy Varney, MT

New Building Fund

Donations for the New Building Campaign should be made payable to Cass County Historical Society Foundation and mailed or delivered to the Museum at 646 Main Street, Plattsmouth.

New Building Fund Donations

received between March 25 and June 16, 2025

Trailblazer

(\$200,000)

Grant from The Sherwood Foundation

Homesteader

(\$25,000)

Grant from Ash Grove Charitable Foundation

Mark J. Meads, President

New Building Friends

(\$2,000)

Paul & Susan Rice

Ted & Carol Wehrbein

(\$1,500)

George Ebersole, ILL

(\$715)

Plattsmouth High School

Class of 1971

(\$500)

Steve Cole



New Building Friends

(\$500)

In memory of

Bill & Jean Howland

Bill Knorr, Jr., MI

(\$500)

in memory of Harold, Lillian,

Barbara & Jimmie Alkire

Bill Knorr, Jr. MI

(\$100)

Patrick & Tammy Reiff

DONOR CATEGORIES

Memorial (\$1 million)

Fur Trader (\$500,000 and up)

Explorer (\$250,000 and up)

Trailblazer (\$150,000 and up)

Wagon Master (\$100,000 and up)

Pioneer (\$50,000 and up)

Homesteader (\$25,000 and up)

Cass Countian (\$15,000 and up)

New Building Friends (\$10 and up)

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 _____