



FALL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2025

646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE. 68048

ccohsm@windstream.net

402-296-4770

www.casscountynemuseum.org

2025 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Roger Wehrbein, Plattsmouth

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Del Hervey, Plattsmouth

Jim Peterson, Eagle

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 we move closer and closer to decision time on the museum renovation project, we hope you will give serious consideration to help us with the funding, as many have already done. To date, we have raised over \$2million out of our goal of \$4million. Admittedly, we have a ways to go, but we hope to close the gap this winter. We have always said we are going to do something, so you can rest assured we will move ahead with a plan.

We still have several large donors yet to respond in addition to the ones we already have. All donors are listed in this newsletter. Hopefully, with the coming harvest, many will take advantage of selling some grain to the local elevator in the name of the Cass County Historical Society Foundation, thus avoiding the taxes on that income. Please see your tax accountant for details. We are hoping that many will give at the family history giving level. These stories need to be told and preserved. What better place than the Cass County Museum? (Cass County is one of the oldest counties in the state.) Please consider families going together to honor their mutual heritage, as you can see several have done. Also, IRAs can be used to donate money without tax consequences, see your tax accountant.

Again, we are appreciative of the strong support we have had thus far.

Roger Wehrbein, President

See enclosure for an updated list of donors to our new building fund.

We now have a You-Tube account and are 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 are also posting an "Artifact of the Week" on our
Instagram page. The Instagram link is also on our website.

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.

Memberships, Donations, and Memorials
Received between June 17 and September 23, 2025

Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

Exhibits & Events

Temporary Exhibits
in Davis Conference Room:

“United in Harvest”

August 26 – November 1

History of the Plattsmouth Harvest Festival is told through photos and memorabilia from the beginning of the Festival in 1932 until the 1990s.

“Before GPS: There were Paper Maps”

November 4, 2025 -

January 10, 2026

An 1894 Cass County Map was recently donated to the museum. It was one we did not have in our collection, so we have put together an exhibit of other early maps of the county. Come and see how the county has changed.

“Celebrating the Holidays”

November 4, 2025 -

January 10, 2026

This exhibit includes Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years postcards and objects related to those holidays.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rock Bluffs School

Open House and Hot Dog Roast

October 19, 2025

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

This is our annual fall event at our one room brick schoolhouse. Hot dogs and potato chips will be served.

Donations are welcomed to help with maintenance and upkeep of the school.

Trick or Treat on Main

Friday, October 31

4:00 to 5:00

We will be giving out apples at the Cook Log Cabin.

At the museum, trick or treaters will receive a special history related item.

MEMBERSHIPS
CORNERSTONE CLUB

Sandstone

DC's Waterhole

Denise Zych

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Benefactor

Roger & Linda Behrns

Investor

Spencer & Vivian Davis

Mel Luetchens

Century

Judy Attebery

Ken Aylor

Barbara York Baker, WA

Lanny Glup & Lori Good Baker

Julie Bear

Phyllis Buell

Craig & Marjorie Buescher

Carl & Linda Glup

Bill Knorr, Jr., MI

Elizabeth Miller, FL

Nathan & Ashley Mueller

Don B. Rhoden

Leigh & Julie Schmale

Steve & Lori Thompson Sloup, MO

Laraine Young

Promoter

James & Geraldine Byrk

Dan Hall

Jean Sayles Jacobson

Merlin & Ellen Olson

Dewayne & Mary Prince

Norm & Meredith Schoch

Kathy Solomon

Emerson Wiles

Booster

Tom & Cindy Dougherty

Eric & Amy Evans

David Libershal, MD

Del & Diana Puls

Betty Reichart

MEMBERSHIPS, continued
INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Friend

Carol Gray

Virginia Hanke, RI

Duane & Susan Hennings

Daniel & Lori Huebner

Portia Iverson

Mike & Sue Tabler

Patricia A. Wagner

Lois Witte

MEMORIAL FUND

in memory of

Ronald Ballinger

Irene Warga

Vicki Chebatoris

Roger Wehrbein

Connie Diggs

Carl & Linda Glup

George and Rheta Humphrey

Marie Hobbs, GA

Doris Landon

Betty Reichart

Cash Donations from Landon family

Jeanette Timmerman

Roger Wehrbein

Marlys Wehrbein

Carl & Linda Glup

Irene Warga

Roger Wehrbein

Steve Wehrbein

Del & Glenda Hervey

DONATIONS

Donation to Rock Bluffs School

Stephanie Kielian

Pie Sale, in lieu of baking a pie

Joyce Heim

Janet Konkler

Barb Krejci

Betty Reichart

June Wagner

Pie Sale, in Memory of Diane Berlett

June Wagner

SPECIAL EVENTS

Brown Bag Programs

The brown programs begin at 12:00 and are usually over by 1:00. No refreshments are served, but those attending are welcome to bring their lunch.

Tuesday, October 14:

“Quilting-One Piece at a time”

Speaker: Lori Pankonin

Lori will share a little history on quilting and how the methods have changed over the years.

Tuesday, October 28:

“Joel Bees”

Speaker: Joel Cronk

Joel Bees is led by 14 year-old beekeeper Joel Cronk, who raises honeybees and harvests and sells his Premium Raw Honey. Joel has won top awards at the Nebraska State Fair and loves sharing his passion for bees, honey and small business with the community

Tuesday, November 11

**“Restoring North Elmwood Cemetery
and Research into Civil War Veterans buried in
Cass County”**

Speaker: Stanley Laughlin

Stan will talk about cleaning up North Elmwood Cemetery at 274th and Mill Road. Relatives of some of the people buried there served in the Civil War, so Stan began researching Civil War Veterans buried in Cass County and has found over 500.

Tuesday, December 9

“Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky”

Speaker: Ann McGee

This presentation is about an intrepid group of women, and some men, whose mission it was to deliver books in the Appalachian mountains of Kentucky during the Depression.

Tree Lighting in Museum Courtyard

Saturday, December 6

5:00 p.m.

During Victorian Christmas on Main

The big Blue Spruce Tree in our Courtyard, planted in 1981, will light up for the holidays! New lights have been purchased for the tree using funds donated in memory of Diane Berlett. After the tree lighting, the museum, log cabin and caboose will be open until

8:00 p.m

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, November 6, 2025

**Murray Christian Church,
304 W. Young, Murray, NE.**

6:00 Social Hour and Silent Auction

6:30 Dinner

7:15 Business Meeting

8:00 Program

A social hour will begin at 6:00 with a Silent Auction.

Dinner, catered by HyVee at 6:30. The menu will be roast beef, roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, garden salad, dinner roll and cheese cake. Cost of the meal is \$20.00.

At 7:15, there will be a short business meeting including an annual report and election of officers and board members.

At 7:45, we will move into the sanctuary for a program by Gail Blankenau about her new book Journey to Freedom: Uncovering the Grayson Sisters' Escape from Nebraska Territory. The book won the Nebraska Book Award in History in 2025.

For reservations, fill out the form below and bring to the museum or mail to Cass County Museum, 646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE. 68048 The deadline for reservations is 4:00 Wednesday, October 29..

**ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATIONS,
NOVEMBER 6, 2025**

Enclosed is \$ ____ for ____ dinners at \$20.00 each

Name _____

Address _____

____ I will bring something for the silent auction.

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 entitles you to Free Admission to Cass County Museum as well as the Countil Bluffs, Iowa, Museums: The Squirrel Cage Jail, Bregant House and RailsWest Museum.

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 _____