



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 2026

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402-296-4770

www.casscountynemuseum.org

2026 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

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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

Roger Behrns, Board Member

Mel Luetchens, Board Member

Roger Wehrbein, Board Member

MUSEUM STAFF

Margo Prentiss, Curator

Michelle Kleist, 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...

Hello:

To start with, I will update the activities of the Building Committee. They are actively looking at ideas and possibilities to fit within our funds available and are meeting regularly.

On a different front for this column, I am going to call it "Lamentations of an Old Man" or "Stop and Smell the Roses".

As the usual whirl of summer activities goes rushing up, I would urge you to think about the "now". Our kids and grand kids grow up so fast, you wonder where their growing years went. They fly by and become lost in the passage of life. So, I am saying enjoy the moment as you watch a ball game or a swimming meet for example. I am reminded everytime I drive through Nehawka about the summer evenings watching our children and grandchildren play ball, as well as visiting with our friends and neighbors. Those times passed quickly and I/we are left with fond memories.

I really appreciate my diary now, as it brings back at least some of the memories: 4H, The County Fair, ball games and picnics are all gone now but we can at least enjoy our remembrances and our friends and family of old and provide new memories for our children and grandchildren. The Museum is one of the places we can display our (your) local history, remembering we today are making our own history and a footprint for our future generations.

Roger Wehrbein, President

Memberships, Donations, and Memorials
Received between May 21 and July 21, 2026

Donors live in Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

Exhibits & Events

Temporary Exhibits
in Davis Conference Room:

“America 250”

January 10- September 2026
In celebration of the U.S.
Semiquincentennial, we are
exhibiting items from our collection
that relate to the American
Revolution, the Declaration of
Independence, and our Founding
Fathers.

“Wildflowers of Cass County”
Photographs by

Linda Barnard Duncan

June 30 – August 29, 2026
Linda had a strong interest in
wildflowers and photography.
In 2006, she put together this exhibit
of photographs of native plants
mentioned in books by
Bess Streeter Aldrich.

“Harvest Festival History”
Celebrating American Harvest,
Hope and Freedom

September 1 – October 31, 2026
This exhibit of photographs and
memorabilia going back to the start
of the festival in 1932 will follow
this year's theme of Harvest, Hope,
and Freedom.

Front Display Case:
“Remembering Beautiful Merritt
Beach”

May 8 – September 26, 2026
This is a selection of photographs
and memorabilia from the popular
recreation area that closed in 1989.

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 it with
your check to the museum.

MEMBERSHIPS
CORNERSTONE CLUB

Sandstone

Cooke Construction Inc
Chad Cooke

Edward Jones
Brad Ksiazek

Brian P. Harvey Funeral Home
Brian P. Harvey

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Investor

Rich & Lisa Propst

Century

Judy Attebery
Jim & Alice Miller Bryant
A.Dale & Loretta Draper
Jim & Carol Elworth
Roger Hild
Dennis & Donna Keil
Rodney Keil
Paul & Patty Lambert
Dave & Sharon Lybarger
H.Fred & Pat Meisinger
Raymond Newton & Susan Lorence
William & Pamela Reinsch
Paul & Susan Rice
Laraine Young

Promoter

George H. Sayles
Jean H. Sayles-Jacobson
Kirk & Glenda Linder
Merlin & Ellen Olson
Norm & Meredith Schoch
Michael A. Schuldt
Kurk & Kristyn Shrader

Booster

Jeanie Brookhouser
Kola Curttright
David Libershal, MD
Nola Marcy, TX
Kathy Solomon

Friend

Maureen McGrath
Dean Podoll
Lois E. Witte

DONATIONS

Gary Schoening, UT
Dale Young

MEMORIAL FUND

in memory of

Mary K. Caverzagie

Larry & Missy Ofe Fleck
Katherine Solomon

Dale Fleischman

Jeanie Brookhouser

George “Bud” Good

Carl & Linda Glup

James Malfait

Carl & Linda Glup

Emerson Wiles

Cornerstone Bank, Angie Jameson
Sharon Crowley
Sherrill & Christine Dashner, IA
John & Nancy Gamache
Mary & Marlan Johnson
Albert & Kimberly Kaffenberger
David & Judith McClellan
Ronda Motykowski
Gene & Barbara Noell, AZ
Karen Tesarek Parsons
Gary & Anna Plank
Margo Prentiss
Del & Diana Puls
Paul & Susan Rice
Patty Scarlett
Jean Simard
Sharon Smith
Irene Warga
Marvin Wiles

Margie “Marge” Ellen Wilson

Terry & Susan Bejot
Sharon K.Cook, ILL
Mark & Cathy Ebers
Jim & Carol Elworth
Debra A. Feller
Bob & Joni Finley
Larry & Missy Ofe Fleck
Gregory & Jodean Gesell
Darline Glushenko
Ellyn Meisinger
Mary Russell, MO
Michael & Lori Russell, FL
Laura Schneider
Bruce E. Simpson

EVENTS, RECENT ACQUISITIONS, NEW BUILDING FUND



**Wander Nebraska
Continuing through
September 30, 2026**

Cass County Historical Society is part of the "WanderNebraska 2026" program which is sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation. This year, 254 museums, historical societies, libraries and state parks are part of the WanderNebraska network.

Other Cass County locations are the Bess Streeter Aldrich House in Elmwood, the Plattsmouth Public Library and the Plattsmouth Historic Main Street District.

A booklet listing all the sites is available at the museum.



Go to the Nebraska 250 Website to learn about events across the state celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States.

CASS COUNTY FAIR AUGUST 5-8 WEEPING WATER

We will have a booth in the Expo Building at the County Fair.
Stop by for a visit!

PLATTSMOUTH HARVEST FESTIVAL SPECIAL HOURS

On Friday, September 11 and Saturday September 12, the Museum, Farm buildings, Cabin, Caboose and Pirogue will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
On Sunday, the 13th, all the buildings will be open from 12:00 to 4:00

ANNUAL PIE SALE!

We will once again have our pie sale during the Festival, September 11 and 12 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Only whole pies will be sold.
Last year the pies brought in \$1,400.

BOOK SALE

During the Harvest Festival, September 11 and 12, we will have a book sale in our Conference Room. The books include some that were recently donated but are duplicates of ones we already have in the collection. There are also books that do not relate to Cass County history.

DONORS TO NEW BUILDING FUND

A list of all the donors was in the June newsletter. Here is a list of donations received since May 20:

(\$25)

In memory of Terry Glup
PHS Class of 1967

(\$50)

In memory of Emerson Wiles
Roger Wehrbein

(\$500)

**Raymond Newton &
Susan Lorence**

(\$2,700)

Dan & Cheryl Grimshaw

RECENT ACQUISITION

The Family of Bill and Mena Toman recently donated "Little Red" to our Historical Society. It is a garden tractor built in 1953 by Bill Toman and his brother John. Many parts were used to fabricate the tractor including:

a 1929 Model A Ford rear axle, a 1942 Wisconsin ADH engine and a 1946 Chevy truck transmission.

"Little Red" is on display in the window of the Old Community Center on Avenue A in Plattsmouth,

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 _____