

❖ Heritage Happenings ❖

Volume 13, Issue 1

Newsletter of the Woodbury Heritage Society

Fall 1996

Circle October 17th on your calendars — **Heritage Society Fall Meeting Set**

The Woodbury Heritage Society's Heritage House and Garden project will be the topic of the fall membership meeting set for 7:30 p.m., October 17, 1996, at the Salem Lutheran Church, Bailey Road, Woodbury.

Of special interest to all of us will be the presentation of the history of the dwelling known as the Heritage House, now being restored for the community by the Heritage Society, and of those who owned the land on which the house was originally located.

At the last meeting of the Heritage Society Board of Directors, Bernice Bienenberg agreed to organize a committee consisting of Lillian Elm, Bernice Fredin, Vonnie Stutzman and herself to do research for the program. The committee members all are descendants of the pioneering families involved. The committee has pulled together their family histories and will present them to us on October 17. This

information will also be used for the historical exhibits which will be prepared and included in the Woodbury Heritage House when it opens hopefully next summer.

The committee as part of their research was also asked to develop some suggestions for an "official" name for the Heritage Project. In the past several years, both the names Heritage House and Heritage Farm have been used. As we get closer to completing the project it is important that the most fitting name be used on signs, etc. Our members will be asked their opinions on October 17.

Please join us for what promises to be another interesting program, with an opportunity to visit with friends over refreshments after a brief business meeting and the program.

If you have questions, please contact Co-presidents Ray Slater (739-9047) or Ken Wolterstorff (455-3840).

How Did Our Garden Grow?

We hope you had a chance to visit our Heritage Garden over the past spring and summer. There is no question that the land within our Heritage Project is fruitful! The vegetables did well in spite of the dryness and the deer who had many an evening delicacy compliments of the Heritage Society.

The perennial flowers donated by many of you in the community were beautiful.

Cannas, purple and yellow coneflowers, bachelor's buttons, and bee balm added color for much of the summer. The heritage seeds called "Outhouse" hollyhocks which Bienenbergs purchased from Seed Savers in Decorah were a delightful surprise with plants that bloomed robustly the first year.

Thanks to all who worked to keep the garden looking great!



News in this issue:

Summary of Annual Meeting

History Quiz

Reminder to Members about Dues

Update on History Room Activities

Comments please:

Please give us your opinions on the new format for our newsletter.

Suggestions are welcomed.

Highlights of the 1995-96 Annual Meeting document a productive year for Heritage Society

For those of you who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting of the Heritage Society, the following summary of the activities of the last year will bring you up to date:

At the annual meeting held on May 9, 1996, Richard Pribnow, Lloyd Scheel and Ray Slater were re-elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

During 1995-96 the improvements completed on the Heritage House included a new roof and chimney repairs, exterior painting, fencing, and a handicapped-access ramp.

The Woodbury/Cottage Grove League of Women Voters has included the Heritage House Project of the Heritage Society in a grant application. The Heritage House will be used as an illustration of sustainability of our resources, and grant funds will be used to prepare brochures about the Heritage site.

Seventy items were accessioned into the collection of the Heritage Society housed in the History Room at Woodbury City Hall. These items included the records of the Woodbury 4-H Club from 1933 thru 1984, the wedding clothing of John and

Dorothea Lindemann, and a lap robe from Margo Shellack to mention a few items.

The financial report through May 7, 1996 showed:

Money market savings balance - \$1,197.73

Money market checking account 1995-96 beginning balance - \$5,404.48

Total revenues for 1995-96 - \$1,903.09

Disbursements for 1995-96 - \$4,051.93

Balance on hand May 7, 1996 - \$3,255.24.
(Checking account balances include donations to the Heritage House.)

Donations to Heritage House Project as of May 7, 1996 - \$7,082.45. Project costs totaled \$6,215.45.

A list of those who have made financial contributions, donated heritage plants or contributed time and skills to the Heritage Project was distributed to those at the meeting. Contact Julie Seemann if you would like a copy.

Heritage Society History Room Usage Increases

Since the Heritage Society's History Room was established, the collection has grown steadily in materials acquired, in usage and in prestige. People visiting the History Room to do research are excited and amazed at the scope of the information available.

Just in the last month a couple from the southern United States visited us whose ancestor held the land patent on property in rural Woodbury. The ancestor was given the property by the U.S. Government in appreciation of his service in the military. The couple was pleased that we could furnish the land tract ledger which showed this transaction.

A valuable addition to our research materials will be the microfilm of the 1920 Federal Census for Washington County which has recently been released to the public. It has been ordered and should arrive in our History Room by mid-October. It will be a boon to family history researchers, providing more information on families.

Another project well underway is the clipping of newspapers for articles on Woodbury. We will now begin the indexing of the items clipped.

Stop by on Tuesdays after 1 p.m. or call Bernice (735-5014) or Julie (738-3675) to arrange a visit.

Co-Presidents Slater and Wolterstorff Present 1996-97 Goals to Board

Since the Heritage Society's 1996-97 year began in June, the Board of Directors has been quick to take action.

Officers of the Society were elected with a change from the past years, when a President and Vice-President of the Board were chosen. This year, Ray Slater and Ken Wolterstorff were elected as co-presidents; Richard Pribnow was re-elected as treasurer, and Julie Seemann will serve as secretary with newsletter responsibilities.

Since the annual meeting, the trees donated by individuals and Bailey Nurseries were planted in their final locations.

In planning for the fall and spring 1997, the first priority will be to complete the installation on the doors to the Heritage House. After this is completed work will begin to restore walls and other repair work in the interior of the building.

Co-Presidents Slater and Wolterstorff have set **Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30** as regular work days on the Heritage Project. Anyone interested in helping is invited to stop by with tools. Any amount of time you could spend at the site would help a lot and will lighten the work load for everyone.

Also planned for fall is seeding grass in the open areas of the yard. The weeds have been a problem for the past two summers. Hopefully as grass grows it will in time eliminate the weeds.

In addition, we must take measures to protect the young trees during the coming fall and winter from the deer which already find them a tasty treat. We plan to encase the tree trunks with some sort of protective covering. Does anyone have a good method to do this?

A sub-committee will be established to begin work on the exhibits for the Heritage House. If you are interested in helping with this phase of the Heritage project, please call Bernice or Julie.

The Heritage Society will also be working closely with the City of Woodbury as the final plans are made for the road and park land adjacent to the Heritage Project. With the help of City staff, we may apply for a grant to buy and plant wildflowers and grasses in the field east of the project to restore some of the habitat for wildlife.

Please call either of the Co-Presidents Ray Slater (739-9047) or Ken Wolterstorff (455-3840) if you would like more information about work to be done or work schedules.

Some Memberships in the Heritage Society have lapsed... please renew

A review of our membership list reveals that some members have forgotten to send in their \$4 membership fees for 1996-97. Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. The date shown indicates the expiration date of your membership. To renew your membership or to contribute to the Heritage Project, please send your check payable to the Woodbury Heritage Society to Treasurer Richard Pribnow, Woodbury Municipal Building, 8301 Valley Creek Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125.

I would like to join or renew my membership in the Woodbury Heritage Society _____

I would like to support the Heritage House Project with my donation of _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ PHONE _____

HISTORY QUIZ!!

How much do you know about Woodbury?

Test your skill by answering the questions shown at right. Bring your answers to the meeting on October 17.

Prizes will be awarded!!

1. When did Woodbury become a village?
2. Why was the Military Road named as it is?
3. What year was Woodbury first surveyed?
4. How many homes did the surveyors see during this survey?
5. Where was the first town board meeting held?
6. How did Woodbury get its name?
7. How many rural schools were located in Woodbury?
8. When was I.S. D. #833 formed?
9. There were three original churches. What were they?
10. How many churches are there now?
11. What was the first store in Woodbury where a loaf of bread could be purchased?
12. What was the first community organization in Woodbury?
13. Where does Woodbury's first post office building now stand?
14. Which was the first housing development in the city?
15. On what date was electricity first provided to Woodbury?

Heritage Happenings

Woodbury Municipal Building
Woodbury Heritage Society
8301 Valley Creek Road
Woodbury, MN 55125



Heritage Happenings is the newsletter of the Woodbury Heritage Society



Fall Issue

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