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Newsletter of Woodbury Heritage Society

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WOODBURY DAYS

It has been decided to have the Heritage Society represented in the Woodbury Days Parade on Sunday, August 29th.

Barry Brown will be driving his tractor and pulling a hayrack which will act as a float for some of our members to ride on. The plan is to have those people dressed in clothing that would look a bit like what was worn in years gone by.

As an example, suitable attire for the women could be long dresses or skirts with aprons and maybe even sunbonnets while the men could wear bib overalls, plaid shirts, kerchiefs, and straw hats.

If anyone has any type of clothing they think might be appropriate to lend to those participating in the parade, please call Ken Wolterstorff at 455-3840 and let him know.

"QUILTED STEPPING STONES"



This is the title of a Washington County Historic Courthouse Sesquicentennial exhibit co-sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society.

Quilting is one of the oldest continuously pursued art forms in our country with roots dating back to Colonial times. Quilts have been crafted of countless types of fabrics and materials and in numerous patterns, both standard and highly individualized. They represent an important expression of the hopes, desires, frustrations, exaltations and even sorrows of Americans over the last 200 years.

At this exhibit, Washington County's history is illuminated through antique and contemporary quilts all made by local quilters with ties to Washington County between the years of 1850 and 1997.

The exhibit opened June 9th and will run through September 30, 1999, on Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by appointment (651) 430-6233 at the Washington County Courthouse, 3rd and Pine Streets, Stillwater, MN. Sounds like a good activity for a summer or fall day.

MUCH INTEREST SHOWN IN HERITAGE HOUSE



The volunteers who have hosted the monthly open house of the Heritage House and Garden have been pleased with the interest and number of people going through. The numbers have varied from sixteen to about thirty-nine on a given day.

One day a young man came into the house to look around and noticed a framed marriage certificate on the wall. He said he was sure that it was his girlfriend's grandparent's certificate. As it turned out, he was right.

His girlfriend had recently visited the Heritage Room to photograph her grandparents' wedding clothes. When she did this, she found out that the Heritage Society had much more information about her family. She was really excited to find out that there was a source for this kind of information right in Woodbury.

There is a new sign now at the house showing the day it is open and the hours, which is the second Sunday of the month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., from May through October.

We will need volunteers of two people each time for the next year, hosts as well as hostesses, and would like to set up a sign up sheet at one of the future meetings. That way we will be sure the open house will be covered.

It's really interesting talking to the people, young and old, and the time goes by pretty fast, so give some thought to volunteering next year.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION WEEK

The following letter was received from the City of Woodbury:

Dear Woodbury Heritage Society:

The week of April 18-24, 1999, has officially been proclaimed Volunteer Recognition Week in Woodbury. This event coincides with the celebration of the 26th Annual Volunteer Recognition Week as well as the State of Minnesota's Recognition Week.

Volunteers serve "Every Day in Every Way" in our community, which is this year's statewide theme. They continue to strengthen the City's tradition of caring by contributing their time and service in ways that maintain Woodbury's high quality of life. In the past year over 200 Woodbury volunteers contributed their time and efforts to make Woodbury a better place to live.

To honor our dedicated volunteers and celebrate our volunteer programs, the City will be recognizing our volunteers publicly throughout the week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the contribution that your organization makes to the City of Woodbury and to request that you thank your own volunteers.

Again, we greatly appreciate your organization's contributions. Have a great Volunteer Recognition Week!

Sincerely,

Bill Hargis
Mayor

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1998-99 ANNUAL MEETING

For those of you who were unable to attend the 1998-99 Annual Meeting of the Heritage Society, the following summary of the activities of the last year will bring you up to date:

The financial report through April 30, 1999, showed:

Money Market Savings balance - \$5,291.08
 Money Market Checking balance - \$1,615.53
 Total Revenues for 1998-99 - \$2,287.93
 Total Disbursements for 1998-99 - \$6,148.88
 (\$4,000 was transferred from the Money Market Checking Account to the Money Market Savings Account during the year)

Forty-eight items were added to the Society's collection housed in the History Room at Woodbury City Hall. These items included a 1902 issue of The Farmer magazine by Alice and Frances Nippoldt; a grain flail and wooden yoke by Marlin Chinnock; a walking cultivator by Greg Hayne, two Bemis sacks by Beatrice Radke, a manual clothes plunger by Marion DeRose, and china by Eileen Krueger. An electric typewriter was donated by Don Scheel for use in the History Room. Local and out-of-state visitors came to the room searching for information regarding their families. Valley Crossing School and Bailey School were visited by members telling the students about Woodbury's history.

Much time was spent preparing the Heritage House for the Open House held July 26, 1998. Special care was given to the flowers and vegetable garden and the house was finished and exhibits put in place. Len Czikkalla loaned us furniture for the day. A brochure was designed giving information about the history of the Heritage House and Gardens.

About four hundred people attended the Open House. The League of Women Voters maintained a table with information on the sustainability Project and Education, and the Master Gardeners were present to answer questions. In December the Elmer Rath's family decorated the outside of the house for the holidays.

At the annual meeting Eileen Krueger and Ken Wolterstorf were reelected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Lloyd Scheel chose not to take another term and John Seeman was elected to fill that position.

ORVILLE BEILENBERG

Orville Bielenberg, charter member of the Woodbury Heritage Society, died August 1, 1999.

He was born and raised in Woodbury and lived there most of his life. He had a strong interest in the City of Woodbury serving first on the Woodbury Town Board and then became Woodbury's first mayor when it was incorporated as a City.

He served in many capacities of the Woodbury Heritage Society. He was the first President of the Heritage Society and served many years as a member of the Board. He was instrumental in seeing that all the early family histories were recorded and put into the records of the Heritage Society. He worked hard to see that the Woodbury House and Garden Project came into existence.

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED

The Board of Directors has been meeting monthly over the summer months. In May officers of the Society were elected with Ken Wolterstorff as President, Bud Urtel as Vice President, Vonnie Stutzman as Secretary, and Richard Pribnow as Treasurer.

Bernice Bielenberg remains as coordinator of the History Research Room at City Hall and Eileen Krueger as Refreshment Coordinator and Board Representative to the Washington County History Network. Additional Board members are Don Lindeman, Lorraine Raths, John Seemann, Margaret Slater, and Ferd Stoltzman. Della Pribnow assists us with putting HERITAGE HAPPENINGS on her computer.

Don Scheel is our representative to the History Network Grants Committee who researched and selected MINNESOTA BEGINNINGS Records of St. Croix County Wisconsin Territory, 1840-1849 as the project to undertake as a Minnesota Territorial Sesquicentennial Project.

GARDEN ADDITION

We now have a planting of asparagus in the Heritage Garden planted this spring thanks to Ken and Betty Wolterstorff.

Memorials

The Heritage Society wishes to acknowledge memorial contributions received in recognition of Clifford Wolterstorff and Carl Dale. Thank you to those who made the contributions

Heritage Happenings

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Heritage Happenings is the newsletter of the Woodbury Heritage Society



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