

❖ Heritage Happenings ❖

Volume 15, Issue 2

Newsletter of Woodbury Heritage Society

March 1999



MARCH MEETING WOODBURY HERITAGE SOCIETY

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 30, 1999

Salem Lutheran Church
7825 Bailey Road, Woodbury

The TITANIC will be the topic of the evening. It should be very interesting with all the publicity of the exhibit in St. Paul and the blowing of the ship's horns.

Joan Daniels, curator at the Warden's House Museum in Stillwater, has a special interest in the TITANIC and will be our speaker for the evening. Joan has studied the subject for years.

Please join us for an interesting evening. Refreshments will be served after the program with time for socializing.

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HERITAGE HOUSE SCHEDULE



The Board of Directors have decided to have the Heritage House open to visitors on the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning in May. Hours will be from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

If you have free time on the second Sunday afternoon of the month, please call Ken Wolterstorff at 455-3840 and volunteer to be a host or hostess. It's an interesting afternoon meeting people and answering their questions, discussing exhibits, or just visiting.

We are still in need of old furniture. We would appreciate your calling us.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

About thirty-five people enjoyed the Holiday Potluck dinner at St. John Lutheran Church January 3. After a delicious meal, games were played and there were puzzles to test one's skills. Singing of Christmas carols was also enjoyed.

WOODBURY'S SURVEY

"Since the Continental Congress created the Public Land Survey in 1785, its employees have surveyed more than one billion acres of the United States, including all of Minnesota. Any real estate that is bought today in that vast expanse is just a small piece of the large, rectangular squares--the original townships--laid out by those surveyors. While a straight line through the outback still can be hard work, it's not the task that the early surveyors faced."

Woodbury Township was first surveyed in 1847 by Government Surveyor, Issac N. Higbee. He described the land as Subdivision of Township 28, North of Range 21, West of the Principle Meridian, Wisconsin. The survey commenced November 13, 1847, and was completed November 16, 1847.

The men made notations as they measured the lay of the land, describing the kinds of trees, roads, and buildings seen. Measurements were done by metal measuring chains 66 feet long and they weighed from four to ten pounds or more.

"For doing all this work the deputy surveyor, the man in charge of the survey crew, was paid \$2 to \$4 for each surveyed mile during the mid 1800's. In turn he had to provide transportation and provisions and pay the other crew members. They each got about \$1 a day."

The records went to the Land Office in Stillwater and from there people could make land purchases.

Woodbury's survey shows roads and trails running diagonally from Section 1 to Section 30 and from Section 6 to the border of Sections 35 and 36. Shorter roads ran diagonally through Sections 7, 8, and 18, through swamp in 5 and 8, around the south end of Markgraf's Lake, from 14 to 15, from 23 to 25, and between Sections 24 and 25.

The men spotted one house in the northeast area of Section 26.

One of the markers used still stands as an old burr oak tree on Radio Drive one-half mile north of Bailey Road. In 1847 it was noted that the tree's circumference was twelve inches. In 1971 it was forty-two inches.

Mr. Higbee in his General Description at the end of the survey describes the township as 2nd rate rolling land, timber burr oak and black oak scattering 2nd rate. Some good land in the SE corner with areas in Sections 23 and 26 designated as very good. His report was notarized in Dubuque County Iowa on the 28th day of January, 1848. He and Wm. Cleveland were the chainmen and John (?) was the marker.

If anyone is interested in looking at the survey, we have a copy at the History Room.

Excerpts from Star Tribune 1994

Woodbury A Past To Remember

MINUTES OF MEETING
WOODBURY HERITAGE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 4, 1999, 9:30 a.m.
History Room, Woodbury City Hall

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Woodbury Heritage Society was held March 4, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. Present: Bernice Bielenberg, Eileen Krueger, Don Lindeman, Richard Pribnow, Lorraine Raths, Lloyd Scheel, Margaret Slater, Ferd Stoltzmann, Bud Urtel, Ken Wolterstorff. Absent: Vonnice Stutzman.

The secretary's report was approved as read. A thank you card from Marlene DeBoef was read thanking us for our contribution of \$25 to her retirement gift. The treasurer's report was given with a balance of \$1,426.92 in the checking account and \$5,282.80 in the Money Market account.

John Seeman was present to explain the progress that has been made on the request for a prairie restoration grant. An information sheet is attached. The cost of the project has increased since 1997. John asked the city for an additional \$1,000 but they felt they were not in a position to give the additional amount. After some discussion, Richard made a motion and Don seconded to delay work for one year and explore more options as to grants and getting the work done.

Regarding the landscape committee talked about at the last meeting Ken will call Vonnice Stutzman regarding a committee for this project. Vonnice may contact her neighbor who is in landscape work about helping.

Lloyd reported that Dick Stafford, County Commissioner, had called him again about a County Heritage Committee being organized. Wilmer Holtz of Cottage Grove has volunteered to be on the committee.

The secretary read a letter from Anne Arthur of Eden Prairie regarding a book she is writing for tourists on historically interesting sites and events in the state. She requests brochures and information that we may have about Woodbury. It was decided to send her information.

A letter was read from Rosewood Baptist Church of Woodbury inviting us to a meeting of church representatives and the City of Woodbury about the future of their church building, the former Woodbury Community Hall. No action was taken.

The annual meeting will be held May 6. Eileen will call Creative Memories to inquire about a program they have offered on mounting and preserving pictures in albums.

The next board meeting will be April 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bernice
Bernice Bielenberg, Secretary

M57/	M57/
T 28th. R. 21. N. 4th Mer.	T 28th. R. 21. N. 4th Mer.
North between Sections 26 & 27 ... 40.00 Set 1/4 Section point ... 50.00 Enter Prairie 78.00 Enter Timber 80.00 Set post corner to Sections 22, 23, 26 & 27 ... Land rolling soil 2' note Timber Burr, B&H Oak	East Rowdon between Towns 23 & 26 ... 79.90 Enter at N.W. corner 7' back South of post West. Corner between Towns 23 & 26 ... 15.00 House 200' to South 32.00 Rowdon near N.W. SE 29.57 1/4 Set 1/4 Section point ... 55.00 Enter Field near N.W. 71.50 Leave Field N.W. 79.90 Section corner Land rolling soil first note Timber Burr, B B&H Oak

Pages from Isaac N. Higbee's notes regarding Woodbury's 1847 survey. Note the mention of a house on page 137

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION 1998-1999

The Heritage Society membership year begins June 1 and ends May 31. Please review the membership categories which were adopted at the Annual Meeting and are shown below. Check your membership preference and send your check payable to the Woodbury Heritage Society to Richard Pribnow, Treasurer, Woodbury Municipal Building, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125. Contributions to the Heritage House Project may also be sent to Treasurer Pribnow.

Membership Categories: Individual Membership \$6 per year _____ Family Membership \$10 per year _____

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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ PHONE _____

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Have you read your February 23 issue of the Review? Several members of the Society were interviewed for memories of their school days in one-room schools in Woodbury. A few weeks ago visits were made to Bailey School and Valley Crossing School to explain to the children the differences in living in Woodbury in the early years and the present time.

HISTORY QUIZ

1. What was the former name of Powers Lake? Why was it named so?
2. What musical instrument did Moses Cross play? What were some of the popular tunes he liked to play?
3. On May 18, 1918, a tornado swooped down on the Hof Nelson farm. What damage did it do to the barn and what was in progress when this happened?
4. What were some radio programs young boys and girls listened to before the advent of television?
5. What happened in Woodbury on November 11, 1941?

All answers can be found in Woodbury A Past To Remember.

Heritage Happenings

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

Heritage Happenings is the newsletter of the Woodbury Heritage Society



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