

❖ Heritage Happenings ❖

Volume 17, Issue 4

Newsletter of Woodbury Heritage Society

October 2000



In this Issue:

October Meeting

Woodbury Heritage House

1999-00 Annual Meeting

Board Officers Elected

Christmas Exhibit at Historic Courthouse

Recent Acquisitions

Woodbury Days

Memorials

Woodbury - Its Beginnings

OCTOBER MEETING WOODBURY HERITAGE SOCIETY

7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 19, 2000

Salem Lutheran Church
7825 Bailey Road, Woodbury

Jesse James will be the topic of the evening and John Koblas of Apple Valley will be the speaker.

Mr. Koblas is the author of the **THE JESSE JAMES NORTHFIELD RAID: CONFESSIONS OF THE NINTH MAN**. The book is the product of sixteen years of research on the part of the author. He is the author of six books and more than 500 short stories, articles, and verse published worldwide.

Join us and hear about Jesse James. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

WOODBURY HERITAGE HOUSE

It has been a pretty active season at the Heritage House this summer with as many as sixty people going through in one day alone.

Quite a bit of interest was shown by young people as well as the older ones both in the house as well as the grounds outside.

Some of the new plants that were purchased were Catnip, Bee Balm, Forget-me-nots, Gas Plants, and Balloon Flowers. Three new rose bushes were added, and we even have pumpkins and potatoes.

You may have noticed while driving by that the house has been newly painted by volunteer men from our organization. Those helping were Earl Raths, Bill Krueger, Richard Pribnow, Bob Horn, John Seemann, Theo. Hanssen, and Richard Raths. The fence, too, has a new coat of paint that was put on by Bud Urtef and a group of young people from St. John Church.

Plans are being made to make a new handicap ramp for the Heritage House. This will replace the old one on the south side of the house.

1999-00 ANNUAL MEETING

The financial report through April 30, 2000, showed:

Money Market Savings Account - \$5,376.69
Money Market Checking Account - \$2,419.97
Total Revenues for 1999-2000 - \$2,207.08
Total Disbursements for 1999-2000 - \$1,402.64

Ninety-two items were accessioned to the collection of the Society during the past year. Researchers continue to come to the History Room looking for information on their families, and school children call asking for information regarding the history of Woodbury.

Richard Pribnow, Lorraine Rath, and Vonnie Stutzman were unanimously elected to continue on the board.

An enjoyable afternoon was spent touring the Dakota County Heritage Village in Farmington in December. A Christmas potluck was held at St. John Lutheran Church in January. Society members participated in the Woodbury Days Parade. A twelve foot banner was made for each side of the float. A new sign was made for the entrance to the Heritage House.

Money was allocated to replace flowers that had winter-killed, and people have offered to help with the weeding in the gardens.

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED

The Board of Directors met in May after the annual meeting to elect officers for the coming year. Ken Wolterstorff was elected as President, Bud Urtel as Vice President, Vonnie Stutzman as Secretary, and Richard Pribnow as Treasurer.

Bernice Bielenberg continues to coordinate the work at the History Research Room. Eileen Krueger is Refreshment Coordinator and Board Representative to the Washington County History Network. Additional Board members are Don Lindeman, Lorraine Rath, John Seemann, Margaret Slater, and Ferd Stoltzmann. Della Pribnow assists us with putting HERITAGE HAPPENINGS on the computer.

CHRISTMAS EXHIBIT AT HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

Plans are being made to have a Christmas exhibit during the Holiday Season at the Historic Courthouse in Stillwater.

They are currently looking for items relating to early Christmases which would be shown in a display case in the exhibit room.

If anyone has Christmas articles they would be interested in displaying, please contact Donna Siemers at the Washington County Historic Courthouse 651-430-6233.

Plans are to offer this exhibit beginning Thanksgiving weekend and run it through January 14, 2001.

RECENT ACCESSIONS

Book, MINNESOTA BEGINNINGS, Records of St. Croix County Wisconsin Territory 1840-1849 by History Network of Washington County. Handy sewing kit in round leather tube, Eileen Krueger. Rug, hand braided chenille, made by Mrs. Hulda Pribnow, Richard Pribnow. Leaflet, WOODBURY METHODIST CHURCH CHARACTER SKETCHES & REMINISCENCES by William F. Fritze, 1940, Jeanette Warnke. Aerial maps of Woodbury and Maplewood, City of Woodbury. Billfold, Betty Nelson.

WOODBURY DAYS

The Heritage Society took part again this year in the Woodbury Days Parade. Barry Brown drove his tractor and pulled the wagon used as a float. Riding on the float on bales of hay were Bill and Eileen Krueger, Lucille Kargel, Elmer and Janet Schultz, Gerald and Carole Heinbuch, and Alisa Brown. Ken Wolterstorff and Emily and Bud UrteI rode in the antique car owned and driven by Ken Gross.

MEMORIALS

Memorial contributions have been given in recognition of Glen Oehlke, Robert Garbe, Pat Merger, Bill, Tillie and Clara Polzin, and Elmer Rath. Thank you to those who made the gifts.

WOODBURY - ITS BEGINNINGS

The following is part of the Origins and Growth section of a paper written by Julie Seemann on the history of Woodbury. It is part of Woodbury's Comprehensive Plan:

In the next years more people came to Woodbury to stake their claims (This period of time was soon after the 1847 government survey of the town); by 1855 all the land in Woodbury had been purchased. By 1865 there were 614 people here, growing to 1,158 by 1875. Then the population stayed at about 1,000 people for the next 100 years. By 1960 the population had grown to 3,014 after the first housing development was built. Most of the people moving to Woodbury were emigrants from Germany, with some from Ireland, Canada, Sweden, England,

(continued on page 4)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION 1999-2000

The Heritage Society Membership year begins June 1 and ends May 31. Please review the membership categories which 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: _____

Heritage Happenings

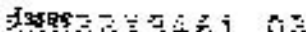
Woodbury Heritage Society
Woodbury Municipal Building
8301 Valley Creek Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

Heritage Happenings is the newsletter of the Woodbury Heritage Society



Eileen and Bill Krueger
9737 Neal Ave. S.
Hastings, MN 55033



October 2000 



Woodbury - Its Beginnings continued:

Scotland, Denmark, and Norway. Most were farmers. They left their native lands for a variety of reasons - some to get a chance to own land in America; others to avoid the army; some to practice their religions as they chose.

The emigrants' journeys to the United States sometimes were long and dangerous. Eleanore Biebighauser, wife of John Henry Kernkamp, in her family history said, "After my mother died, my father and five brothers and sisters and I came to America on a sailboat, a journey which took 52 days. We had a large stone jar with a lid filled with butter and zwieback (toasted coffee cake) to eat, soaked in water to soften it. We were so glad to have this food." Another Woodbury family, the Fred Bothes, mention in their family history of being attacked by pirates on their journey.

Many of the settlers coming to Woodbury during these years had immigrated to America earlier and settled in Missouri, Iowa, or New York for a number of years before moving north and west. When they moved the second time, they brought cattle, horses, some machinery and household goods with them on a prairie schooner or covered wagon. In the later years, some newcomers arrived by train. Many had learned trades such as blacksmith, stonemason or carpenters. These tradesmen were in demand in the territory to build wagons, sleighs, plows, small implements, or help with construction of buildings. As tradesmen came, they set up shops.

(Continued in a future issue)