



Woodbury Heritage Society

Volume 26 No. 4 Winter 2009-10

From the desk of the President...

Every year at this time we reflect back on the year and remember those who have given of their time and talents in service to the Heritage Society. I would especially like to thank the officers of the board: Ruth Duncan (secretary), Richard Pribnow (treasurer), and Wayne Schilling (vice-president). Wayne also did an outstanding job in bringing the Burr Oak project to fruition. Also, a special thanks to Dick Rath, Earl and Lorraine Rath for keeping our office running smoothly. I would be remiss if I did not mention the endeavors of Sheila Rath House, Kathryn Ho, and Bill Schrankler for their help with other special projects.

And most of all, I want to express a very special note of appreciation to all of our members for their continued support in helping to preserve the heritage of Woodbury. I invite you to continue your support by renewing your membership for 2010. I would also invite you to become an ambassador and encourage others to become members of the Society.

On behalf of the board and myself I would like to extend our best wishes to you and yours for a joyous Holiday Season and a most prosperous and Healthy New Year.

John Seemann

President



BURR OAK MARKER TREE EXHIBIT DEDICATION

The lights at City Hall were burning brightly early on the evening of Wednesday, September 23rd. The lobby was bustling with a crowd of over seventy people, ranging from youngsters to senior citizens. Included in the throng were city and state dignitaries. They were all there to celebrate the dedication of the Burr Oak Exhibit.

Upon entering the venerated venue, all were greeted by a bevy of Girl Scouts from Girl Scout Troop 52486, with their leader Rachel Petronack and advisor Kathryn Ho. Programs were handed to the guests and they were invited to partake of a delicious assortment of refreshments prepared by Sheila Rath House of the Woodbury Heritage Society.



(l to r) Clara G., Lauren A. and Rachel P. from Junior Girl Scout Troop 52486 getting ready to unveil the Burr Oak Exhibit, covered by Kathryn Ho's quilt.

In view, under the stairwell, was a large object covered by a beautiful hand made quilt, sewn by Kathryn Ho, emblazed with the Woodbury Heritage Society logo. This object, the Burr Oak exhibit, was the main attraction of the evening.

The program started promptly with Wayne Schilling, the committee chair, tracing the many hurdles that were encountered in the cookie's (slice of the tree) journey from Radio Drive to City Hall. Schilling thanked all the individuals who had contributed to the planning and construction of the exhibit. He recognized the support of Washington County, the City of Woodbury and the Woodbury Heritage Society.



Mayor Bill Hargis (left) accepting the gift of the exhibit from WHS President John Seemann.

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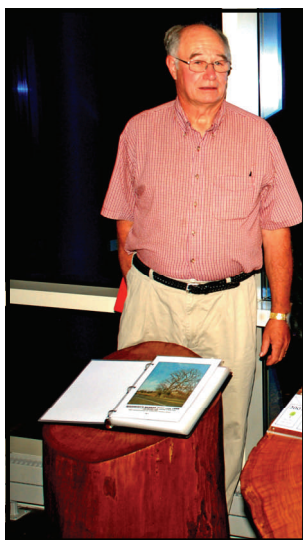


John Seemann, president of the Society, made the formal

presentation of the exhibit to the city of Woodbury. The quilt was dramatically unveiled by the Girl Scouts. A spontaneous round of applause came from the audience.



Senator Kathy Saltzman discussing the exhibit with WHS Prez John Seemann.



Wayne Schilling explains the exhibit's notebook.

Woodbury Mayor Bill Hargis, on behalf of the city, accepted the gift from the Society and offered his gratitude for the Society's efforts. State Senator Kathy Saltzman added her accolades to the Society's efforts in preserving this bit of Woodbury's history.

The City

Council officially accepted the gift at the council meeting immediately following the ceremony. You are invited to stop by City Hall and experience the Burr Oak exhibit.

Antique Appraisal

On Sunday afternoon October 11th, library patrons at the Stafford Library were bewildered as they saw old muskets, moonshine jugs, musty books and a plethora of items from the antiquity being carted into Central Park. They were witnessing the Woodbury Heritage Society's 3rd annual Antique Appraisal event. Over 50 people from Woodbury and its environs carried old stuff from their homes in hopes that maybe they had an original Monet painting or Prussian Chocolate Set inherited from grandma that was a forgotten treasure trove. The appraisers, Mike Krantz and Dick Richter, are the proprietors of Midtown Antiques Mall located at 301 Main Street South. It was a fun event, organized by Society members Sheila Rath's House, Wayne Schilling, Kathryn Ho and Bill Schrankler. Boy Scouts served as ushers, "numeral flippers" and the photographers' assistant. The appraised value of some of the items:

- Stack Bookcase - \$700 to \$800
- Victorian Table - \$1200 to \$1500
- Jar of glass marbles - \$400
- Toy Japanese made friction airplane - \$200
- 1930 "soapstone" sculpture - \$250 - \$300

This event became the Society's "Stimulus Package." The affair was so delightful that the date of 4th Annual Appraisal Fair has been set. Mark your calendars - Sunday, October 3, 2010 for the Woodbury Heritage Society's Annual Antique Appraisal; 2:00 to 5:00 pm at Central Park. Remember, WHS members get two free appraisals, which makes becoming a member a "no brainier."

Second Graders Visit House and Garden

The Woodbury Heritage Society was pleased to again this year have close to two hundred second graders visit the house and garden in late September. The classes from Middleton and Red Rock Elementary Schools walked to the house from their school, and then spent thirty minutes getting an

Heritage Happenings is distributed quarterly by the Woodbury Heritage Society

President - John Seemann
Vice President - Wayne Schilling
Secretary - Ruth Duncan
Treasurer - Richard Pribnow

Special thanks to Kathryn Ho for proofreading the *Heritage Happenings*. It is with her help that this issue is minus many errors.

Heritage Happenings is edited and published by Bill Schrankler. Contributions from members and other interested parties are welcomed. Contact Bill at 651.738.1836 or email: bschrankler@comcast.net. Email or snail mail is preferred in the interest of accuracy.
6821 Lydia Lane
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Upcoming events!
Members and Guests
Pot Luck
Sunday, January 10
Noon
WHS Board Mtg
Dec. 3, 9:30 am
City Hall

Program by Emily Wolterstorff
"Reflections of the 4H Clubs in Woodbury"

Click on the WHS website for the latest information.

www.woodburyheritage.org

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Winter

introduction to what life was like when Woodbury was first being settled. It's always a fun time for all—volunteers and visitors alike.

In the garden, children get to try their hand with the corn planter and the yoke, and in the house they learn about what life was like before video games and indoor plumbing. The students who visit us now were all born post 9-11-01, so their world is even more removed from the settler days of Woodbury. These days, many children have little understanding of where their food comes from, and many of the students had never even heard of the significance of their schools' names. Being able to see and touch things that were used over one hundred years ago, and imagine themselves in a one-room schoolhouse (and even meet someone who attended school in a one-room schoolhouse) helps connect them to their Woodbury roots. Each student gets a Woodbury Heritage Society pencil and a homework assignment—to start asking about the stories of their own family history and begin writing them down! We are grateful to Vonnice Stutzman for taking the initiative to arrange for the school groups to visit and helping make sure we have volunteers to greet them when they come. Our crew of volunteers included Bud Urtel, Don Lindeman, John Seemann, Wayne Schilling, Patty Minehart, Kathryn Ho and Vonnice Stutzman. If you would be interested in helping with this important part of our mission, please contact a board member. It doesn't take a great deal of time, but it does leave a big impression with the students as they learn about their heritage.

Garden Volunteers Deserve BIG Thank You



It was a fun year for me in the Woodbury Heritage Garden. My octogenarian mother-in-law, Kwoh-I, who was visiting from California, helped me pick out plants for the wooden tub and got a big kick out of coming into the

Kathryn Ho discussing pioneer homes



"No arm so weak but may do service here" from the hymn "Come, Labor On"

garden with her walker and planting them herself. I don't know if you know this, but another octogenarian, Bud Urtel, is the person who each year starts the pumpkin plants and diligently tends them



Bud Urtel with a few pumpkins from this year's bumper crop.

until they are safely tucked into the garden bed. As you can see from the picture, he did a great job! Wayne Schilling generously gave us some great composted material to amend the soil in the garden, and even brought over his small tractor and tilled it in. I was also blessed to have the help of Kate and Emma, two Girl Scouts who planted and tended the herb garden all summer long for their Bronze Award Project. They also made the scarecrow, made a garden "Bingo" game for children to play when they visit the Heritage House and Garden, and attended many of the summer open houses and played games with children in the garden. Sam and Dave, two Boy

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Scouts, helped with some trimming and painting. And how can we forget the volunteers from Globe University who came in May and did our bidding all afternoon, helping with fence maintenance, cleaning the inside of the house, and doing a lot of really hard jobs in the garden! (I'm pretty sure there's at least one lady who is still sore from the sod kicker.) Sometimes, working with heirloom plants can be frustrating, and the platoon of deer and rabbit that sabotage a lot of the garden on a regular basis don't make it easy to grow anything there, but with the help of all these volunteers (and some moms of volunteers) it manages to be the beautiful, peaceful place where I love to get dirty. I always have more work (and ideas) than time, so if you would like to help, or know of a group or a Scout who needs a service project, be sure to let us know.

Kathryn Ho, Volunteer Gardener



Out and About... DENMARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM EXPLORES HISTORY OF POINT DOUGLAS

The Denmark Township Historical Society invites the public to a free program on the history of Point Douglas, a

pioneer village once located at the intersection of County Road 21 and Highway 10, on Tuesday, January 19, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Guild Hall, 8435 S. St. Croix Trail in South Washington County.

Society archivist Wayne Boyd will show photographs and tell the story of Point Douglas based on the research and writings of Harryette Hansen, a well-known writer and historian in the area. The lumbering village grew from one log home built in 1838 into a busy town with several hundred residents, two hotels, a post office/general store, four grain storage warehouses, a sawmill, a school and more. The village faded into a ghost town when the supply of big trees ran out, and the buildings either burned down or were moved to neighboring farms. Today all that remains of Point Douglas are a couple of homes and the Valley School, built in 1852 and still standing on its original site on St. Croix Trail.

The Denmark Township Historical Society was founded in 2000 with the mission of preserving its traditions, stories and historical buildings. Anyone interested in joining or finding out more about the group can contact president Jean Boyd at jeanmboyd@msn.com (phone 651-436-8031) or membership chair Sharon Lewandowski at lewan009@umn.edu (phone 651-436-5664).

from Mavis Voigt 612-823-4934



**Washington County
Historical Society
Saturday December 12th --**
Holiday Author Book Signing
at the Warden's House
Museum in Stillwater. Noon
to 4pm - authors include

Robert & Nancy Goodman, Scott Schell, Duane Thein, Brent Peterson and Mary Bakeman from Park Genealogical Books. Music & Refreshments. For more information contact Kirsta Benson Sanchez at 651-439-5956 or visit www.wchsmn.org.

Saturday January 23rd -- Winter Ice Cream Social in South Lowell Park in Stillwater. Free Ice Cream Cones handed out from Noon to 3pm. For More information call 651-439-5956 or visit www.wchsmn.org.

Brent Peterson

Washington County Historical Society

Items Needed



Board member Don Lindeman demonstrates an early flail used for threshing grain.

In order to provide the children visiting the Heritage House with a better understanding of pioneer farming we are looking to acquire a hand corn sheller and a hand grist mill. If you have one or both of these items and are willing to donate or loan them to the Woodbury Heritage Society please contact Barry Brown at 651-735-7321 or otelia456@msn.com

