

# Heritage Happenings

W O O D B U R Y H E R I T A G E S O C I E T Y

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## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

During the preparation of this edition of the Heritage Happenings, a theme emerged—we've had a *lot* of help recently, and it has really made a difference. From all the work at the Heritage House and garden over the course of the summer to the launch of Project Preserve, we've been reminded of a phrase our first mayor, Orville Bielenberg, used to describe what Woodbury was like, "a place where neighbors helped neighbors." It is heartwarming to see that in this day and age, we can still use it to describe the goings on in Woodbury. The Woodbury Heritage Society has so much to be grateful for in this season of giving and receiving. Our last Open House of the season was on-par with the first, so popular we even needed a little "help" from the Woodbury Police Department because parking was in such demand! The additions of a butter churn that can only be described as "stunningly beautiful" and a school desk from the days of our one-room schoolhouses, along with renovations of the indoor laundry rack and dry sink have left the interior of the house never looking better, to match the beautiful renovation and paint on the exterior. We look forward to celebrating our thirtieth anniversary as the keepers of Woodbury's past and hope you will join us in making it the best year yet!



Butter churn, a gift of the Garbe family.

## Holiday Potluck

Join us on Sunday, January 13, 2013 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1975 St. John's Drive, Woodbury, for our Annual Members Meeting and Potluck. The Potluck will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the program will begin about 1:15 p.m. The program will feature a presentation of some of the first photos that have been digitized in our Project Preserve! Don Lindeman, Barry Brown and Dick Bielenberg will share duties leading what is sure to be a lively discussion. You won't want to miss it! Any questions? Please call our office (651) 714-3564 and we'll get right back to you.



History is a vast early warning system. *Norman Cousins*



### Project Preserve off to a Promising Start

It really is true that a picture is worth a thousand words, and there are volumes and volumes said through the thousands of photographs we have been entrusted to preserve. The early response to our Project Preserve fundraising effort has been very encouraging—we've already received more than 40 donations for a total of over \$1,000 so far. The goal of digitally preserving all the photos we have in the Woodbury Heritage Society archives is a lofty (and expensive) one, but anyone who has sat down and looked at the photos quickly understands the importance of the project. We thank all those who have already donated, and encourage everyone else who is able to join in this worthwhile endeavor. Many thanks to all the members who have been working hard on this project, especially Ruth Duncan, Dick Bielenberg, Sheila Hause, Bill Schrankler, Barry Brown and Don Lindeman.

As in most things, timing is critical and the time is now to help us preserve this important part of Woodbury's heritage. Please contact us if you have any questions about Project Preserve. You can call the office at (651) 714-3564 or drop us an e-mail at [woodburyheritage@ci.woodbury.mn.us](mailto:woodburyheritage@ci.woodbury.mn.us).



### *In Sympathy*

We join the family and friends of Maxine Scheel and Dorothy Ratslaff in mourning their passing. Our condolences.



**A BIG  
THANK YOU!**

### WOODBURY HERITAGE SOCIETY

The general purpose and plan of operation of the Woodbury Heritage Society shall be to research and study the history of Woodbury; to provide for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge and information; to provide for the collection and preservation of papers, books, records, relics and other things of historical interest; to display such materials in appropriate exhibits; to acquire, hold, own, operate and provide for the marking and preservation of historic sites and buildings; to publish materials which shall bear upon the history of Woodbury; and, in general, to carry on all activities appropriate for a Heritage Society.



### Volunteer with the Woodbury Heritage Society

We could fill an entire newsletter with the list of tasks, jobs and ideas that we need more help in order to complete. If you have time and energy to share with us, please contact the Woodbury Heritage Society office and we will let you pick from our long To-Do List! Need a little exercise? We'll be working on the picket fence, installing a beautiful new arbor, and renovating the front stoop of the house next spring. Desk job more your cup of tea? We have many, many hours of work going through files and researching subjects. Like this newsletter but think it could be better? You could be writing the next one! Call the office at (651) 714-3564 or send an e-mail to [woodburyheritage@ci.woodbury.mn.us](mailto:woodburyheritage@ci.woodbury.mn.us). We look forward to hearing from you!

## JOIN US!

Membership dues are for an individual, and cover the calendar year (January—December).  
 Already a member? Invite a friend, relative or neighbor to join the ranks.  
 Your support and participation in the Woodbury Heritage Society is greatly appreciated!

### Application for Membership 2013

(Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$10 per individual

Additional donation for Project Preserve: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send application and check or money order to:

Woodbury Heritage Society, c/o Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125

### Recapping the Summer at the Heritage House and Garden

*The following Letter to the Editor appeared in the October 31st edition of the Woodbury Bulletin under their title, Woodbury's 'little white house' was a hit this year:*

The Woodbury Heritage Society had one of our busiest summers ever at the “little white house.” We were fortunate to have several important donations of support which contributed greatly to the renovations that took place at the Heritage House and garden. The house will look beautiful for years to come thanks to donations from Sherwin Williams and XIM Corporation. Heins Nursery graciously donated the labor and materials for a gorgeous new path up to the house. We are grateful as well for the hard work and dedication to detail of A Reichert Paint and Texture and Mark Phillipi Construction in completing the renovation work. As always, we appreciate the support and cooperation of the City of Woodbury in the work we do to preserve the heritage of Woodbury’s rural past. Sam’s Club and Kowalski’s Market also graciously donated to help make our final Open House a bash to remember.

We look forward to more visitors next summer, when we will be open on the second and fourth Sundays of the month from 1-4 p.m., June through September. Admission is free.

If you have roots in Woodbury or are growing them, we would love to have you join us. New members in the Woodbury Heritage Society are always welcome. For more information about the Woodbury Heritage Society, readers can go to [www.woodburyheritage.org](http://www.woodburyheritage.org).

Wayne O. Schilling, President, Woodbury Heritage Society Board of Directors



Each month, the Woodbury Heritage Society contributes “A Moment in Time” on the South Washington County Telecommunications Commission show, *Woodbury Citystyle*. Recent subjects have included old fashioned games, history of streets and places in Woodbury, Doc Steen, water before indoor plumbing, the Valley Creek Barn and even Milky Way, our demonstration milk cow. If you don’t have cable television, you can see the current show online at [www.swctc.org](http://www.swctc.org), or view archived episodes on [www.vimeo.com](http://www.vimeo.com).

## Woodbury Heritage Society

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www.woodburyheritage.org

Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WoodburyHeritageSociety](http://www.facebook.com/WoodburyHeritageSociety)

WoodburyHeritageSociety

Woodbury Heritage House and Garden is located at the corner of Radio Drive and Lake Road, in Marsh Creek Park.

### Dates to Remember



January 13, 2013

Holiday Potluck  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
1975 St. John's Drive  
12:30 p.m.

## A Helping Hand



The renovation work this summer temporarily displaced the holder for our American flag. Luckily, Bob Elm was on hand and said "I can figure something out." In short order he had rigged a temporary holder with a few screws from his car toolkit that worked wonderfully to hold the flag, one of the best indicators to visitors of the house being open. His quick thinking and can-do spirit led to several other collaborations over the course of the summer, restoring and repairing artifacts in the house. Bob also volunteered as an Open House host and helped during the School Field Trip visits. We very much appreciate his willingness to lend a helping hand.

*I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."*

*Albert Schweitzer*

## Eagle Project Adds to Garden's Appeal

Jeff Clinton, a Woodbury Boy Scout, completed his Eagle Scout project this summer by installing six signs in the yard that share interesting information about the Heritage House and garden. This will help further spread the word about the work of the Woodbury Heritage Society, since the garden is open whenever Woodbury parks are, not just when we have an Open House. Jeff even arranged for the first sign, just inside the gate, to have one of those new-fangled QR codes that will allow visitors with a smartphone to access the Woodbury Heritage Society website for more information! Jeff and his crew of helpers also prepared the site for concrete pads for a picnic table and trashcan that the City of Woodbury installed just east of the fence, to further allow visitors to enjoy the beautiful views of the park. It was a long process, with a lot of details that Jeff had to keep track of, but his hard work will benefit Woodbury for years to come.

