

MCHS Newsletter

P. O. Box 61, Slayton, MN 56172

Summer 2005

Happenings

In spite of the strange weather we have been having, the museum has been the venue for a number of events in the past three months. Sunday afternoon, April 24, 2005 the third annual Hobby Show and Bake sale was held. Although we did not have as many attendees as in the past we did have some excellent hobbies and collections on display. These included oil and watercolor paintings, photographs, quilted items, African handicrafts, and collections of cats, salt and pepper shakers, candy boxes, toy tea sets, nesting hens, roosters, desk sets, unusual eggs, scale model engines, scroll saw art, furniture, a steam engine and Al Moline's model airplanes.

MCC 5th Graders came to the museum on May 13th and 16th for a Civil War scavenger hunt. Various items from the museum's collections that had some relationship to the Civil War were placed in unusual places and when located, the students were able to learn

about the items from attached information sheets.

On May 17, students from the Edgerton Christian School toured the museum and enjoyed demonstrations of butter making, rope making and story telling in the log cabin.

The most recent event took place on Sat., June 25 when participants in the 2nd annual Road Tour of Murray County stopped by for a look at the museum. We had quite a lineup of motorcycles in front of the museum.



Throughout the year we have visitors who are researching their family histories. Thanks to our collection of family files, microfilms of county newspapers and census and naturalization records, and numerous scrapbooks and other resources we are often able to provide them with more information than they had hoped for.

Upcoming Events

Ladies' Day Out

The latter part of July the museum will be hosting another Ladies' Day Out event. The theme we have chosen is "Putting on the Ritz" and will feature fancy dresses and accessories from our collections. Please watch the local newspapers for time and date. All ladies are invited and may wear their fancy dresses for the occasion. As always refreshments will be served.

For the Guys

The 1926 Caterpillar 60 is going to come to life again in early August. Irv and John Busman are going to get the Cat started and drive it out of the Sierk Building which is located to the west of the museum. All you guys who like the roar of big machinery are welcome. Check the local papers for date and time.



Looking Ahead

Smithsonian Exhibit Coming to Slayton

Put this on your calendars now! Just in time for the 2006 Murray County Fair our museum will be the second site in Minnesota to host the Smithsonian *Museum on Main Street* exhibit "Key Ingredients". This large exhibit is all about FOOD – how we grow it, prepare it, preserve it, and enjoy it. The exhibit is scheduled to open on August 12, 2006. To go along with the exhibit we hope to have some special programs and demonstrations. If you have some ideas and would like to help plan the special programs please contact Caryl or Diane at the museum. WE NEED YOU.



It is an honor to have been selected to host this exhibit and we will need the active participation of the members of the Historical Society to make it a success.

Murray County's Sesquicentennial

Murray County will be 150 years old in 2007. To commemorate that occasion the Murray County Historical Society is in the process of producing a pictorial history book of the county. We are working with The Donning Company Publishers. Once again we need your help in locating suitable photographs to include in the book. We are especially looking for family action pictures – picnics, farming, sporting events, school events, church events, having fun, being serious – pictures that you probably have in your photo albums. Dates we are interested in would be from 1950 to the late 1990s. We will arrange to have copies made of your originals so that we don't have to send the originals to the publishers. So please dig out those albums and bring them to the museum. We would especially like the stories that go with the pictures. Pictures should be sharp (not fuzzy or blurred) and tell a story. If you have the negatives that would be even better.



Something Old



Washington Printing Press

This old printing press was used in the early 1900's to publish the "Lake Shetek Courier" in Currie. E. J. Conrad was the editor for that paper from 1902 to 1907. He was married to Helen Currie, daughter of Neil Currie. Conrad, at age 14, was the youngest editor in the state in 1902. Prior to being used to print the "Courier" the press was used in the 1880s to print "The Cyclone", which later became "The Southwest Minnesotan". It is believed that this press is one of three in Minnesota. It is in need of restoration.

Summer Hours

The Museum is open Monday through Friday from 10 until 5 and also on Saturday from 1 to 4 until Labor Day. If you have out of town visitors and would like to bring them to the museum at another time, please give us a call at 836-6533 so we can make arrangements for someone to be here.

Something New

A Blanket for the Goat

The goat, which was the basketball trophy for the Slayton versus Fulda games, now has something to wear. The red felt blanket with black fringe and letters "FHS" and "FULDA" was found in an office at Fulda High School. If Fulda won the series of games during the season then they had the goat and dressed it in their school colors. If Slayton won then the goat wore purple and white. It was donated by Fulda High School.

Football Jersey

A red, white and blue Slayton High School football jersey, number 65, which was worn by Paul Moran, Ronald Johnson, Mark Muesing, and Jerome Ehleringer from 1947 to 1951,

was donated by Jerome Ehleringer.

Bison Uniform

Thanks to Wanda Daniels for donating this baseball uniform. It was worn by Ben Daniels in 1994 when he played for the Lake Wilson Bisons.



Thank You

Thank you to the Murray County Horticultural Society for planting the window box in front of the museum and putting more plants around the log cabin.

Thank you to the State Bank of Chandler, Currie State Bank, MinnWest Bank South Slayton and Murray County Economic Development for sponsoring the forthcoming pictorial history book.

Thank you also to our volunteers; we are counting on you again this year.