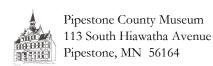
Pipestone County Historical Society

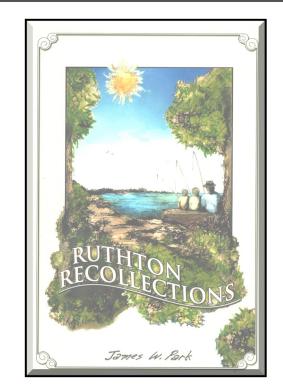


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Pipestoneminnesota.com/museum

Shop at the Museum Store proceeds support the Museum is Its programs! Members Receive 10% Off! Looking for a very unique gift? Most of the images in the Museum's Photographic Collection can be reproduced for private use.



Ruthton Recollections by James W. Park. A memoir of growing up in Ruthton, Minnesota. "Park's description of village life in the 1940s and 1950s is entertaining, delightful and suffused with more than a dollop of nostalgia for the way it was." Hardcover, 162 pages....\$19.95

Pipestone County Museum pipctymu@iw.net 507-825-2563 pipestoneminnesota.com/

Volume XXXVII, Issue II

Summer 2018





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Save the Calumet!

The Coachmen

Community Collection: Harold Totman's Wooden Models

July through September, Harold Totman, (locally known as "Totie") will be sharing his Wooden Model collection in the Pipestone County Museum's Community Collection case. Totic carved and built most of the models in the 1990s while he was "piddling" around in his shop. He did not use a pattern at



all, just had a picture of the object in front of him. On display are a hay baler, wagon sledge, doctor's buggy, covered wagon, stage coach and steam engine. Totic said the doctor's buggy was the most difficult to build because of the thin, spoked wheels!

Building Access Doorway Completed!



The new doorway between the Museum building in Gallery III and the Dining Room of the Masonic Hall in the Ferris Grand Block has been completed! Double steel doors are in place and elevation steps and landing have been built and carpeted with railings in place.

The next part of this project is to get the Masonic Hall Dining Room in the Ferris Grand Block up and ready. There is some ceiling repair to do, due to a past leak, and then the walls and ceiling will be painted, the plan being to expand Museum exhibits into this space.

One project always leads to another. With the stair and landing carpeted, options are being pursued to carpet all of Gallery III which would greatly improve the exhibit space. Page 2 Prairie Traveler Volume XXXVI, Issue III

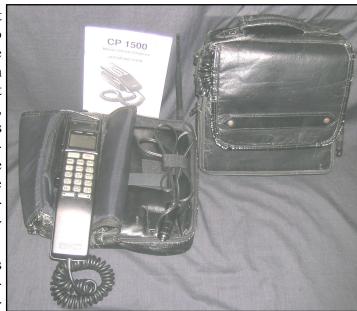
New in the Museum's Collection

By Noah Burris

Every two months the Collections Committee meets, looks through the number of interesting items that have been donated to the Museum since the last meeting, and then decide what will be accessioned into the collection. Below is a look at a couple of items that were accepted in the last two meetings.

The first isn't that old but is a lot different than what people are used to today. The Museum now has two Uniden CP 1500 Mobile Cellular Telephones more commonly known as bag phones. Now-a-days riding in the car, a passenger can use their cell phone for just about anything: communication, a camera, directions, music, games and more. Well in the 1990's it was quite different. You could get a bag phone for traveling but it could only be used for phone calls. The phone came in a case or bag. The case consists of the handset, the hang-up cradle, an antenna, and the battery or power source which pluged into the car's cigarette lighter.

Larry and Barb Rieck donated the two bag phones complete with the original operating guides. They purchased them in 1994 from ABC Phone & Video, Pipestone's authorized Cellular One agent. The phones



helped with their farming operation making communication between the two easier. These bag phones are great items to show the technological advancement of phones as it allowed people to stay in contact while traveling and also by the fact that in less than 15 years from these being used, the iPhone was invented. The phones are not currently on display but will make it into our eventually expanded telephone exhibit.

The second object is an early piece of agricultural equipment, a breaking plow. It was donated by Leone Meyer. It consists primarily of a big wooden beam with a right side angled blade on it. This plow is a horse drawn plow, where a horse would be attached to the front to pull it through the field while the farmer walked behind it holding the handles. The blade was able to cut through and break up the prairie soil of the Midwest. Plows in the style of the one here in the Museum date back as early as the mid 1800's.

The original owner of the plow was Hans Johnson of Fillmore County, Minnesota. He brought it to homestead



in Pipestone County in Fountain Prairie Township Sec. 12 NWQ. It is a good item to have in the collection as it allows people to see the tools earlier generations of Pipestone County farmers used in their fields. The plow is a bit bigger than most items that are donated to the Museum, but with the help of some of the Historical Society board members the plow made it to the Museum. It is currently on display in front of the covered wagon on the second floor.



Pipestone Ghost Walks

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May 26 - September 1 Every Saturday Night, 8pm

(No tours August 11)

Tickets \$10, call the Museum for Reservations: 605-825-2563



For the Pipestone County Historical Society at www.goodsearch.com

Use this search engine for Pipestone County Historical Society. With just a few participants we have raised over \$381 to date!

We need your involvement!

In 2016 PCHS Good Search supporters raised \$40.46. Go to your on-line retailer through the Good Shop site and they will donate a percentage of your total to PCHS—no strings attached!





Pipestone County Historical Society

Membership & Donation Form

Annual Membership Categories

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__ Household \$25-\$49

__ Supporting \$50-\$99

__ Century \$100-\$249

__ Patron \$250-499

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Donation:	(please fill in amount)
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Name:_____

Address:__

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Membership Benefits include ...

Free Admission to Exhibit Galleries & Research Archives, 10% discount at Gift Shop, Subscription to the Prairie Traveler newsletter, Discounts on Research, Copies & Photo Reprints and Free Queries in the newsletter.

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2018 Spring School Tours

Over 700 students from Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa visited the Pipestone County Museum in May. Museum staff provided guided tours of the Museum exhibits. Pictured at left, Museum Aide Trava Olivier supervises as students check out the scale model claim shanty on display. A similar claim shanty was built in 1874 to shelter town founders Daniel & Olive Sweet and their baby, along with another man. Lumber for the shanty had to be hauled up from Luverne, due to lack of available trees in the area. Many early settlers used the earth itself as shelter, creating sod houses out of dirt bricks. Students visiting the Museum also learned about World War One and the history of the Telephone, including "party lines" which blows their minds!



The Pipestone County Historical Society now has a presence on the Give MN website for easy on-line donations.

Go to givemn.org and search for Pipestone. PCHS is the first to come up- look for the Museum

Pipestone County Historical Society is now on..

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- Support the Pipestone County Historical Society by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

Visit the

Pipestone County Historical Society's Redesigned Website!

www.pipestoneminnesota.com/museum

With new databases, indexes and links to expanded newsletter articles:

>IN THE GIFT SHOP<



Dust Art Magnets

Made from locally quarried Pipestone dust and created by local native artisan, Travis Erickson.

These magnets get their underlying red color from the dust created when the Pipestone rock is carved.

...Prices Vary...

Check us out on Facebook!



Pipestone County Historical Society

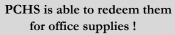


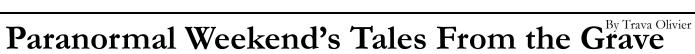
Remember...



Save Your







Prairie Traveler

Each fall, as part of our Paranormal Weekend fundraiser, the Pipestone County Museum hosts an event known as "Tales From the Grave." During this event, which happens in Old Woodlawn Cemetery, costumed actors stand beside the gravestone of an early settler of our community and relays their life in a monologue. The Museum currently has a publication available in the Gift Shop which features the stories of those portrayed in the events held in 2015, 2016, and 2017. The following is an edited version of one of those monologues, that of Katey Harrison:

My name is Katey Harrison and I lie here beside my husband Jeremiah and our daughter Frances. I was born November 27, 1858 in Germany to Christopher and Margaret Halbersleben. When I was 6 years old my family came to America and settled at Reedsburg, WI. It was there that I met my husband, Jeremiah Harrison.



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Katey Harrison on the left, taken from a large group of GAR/WRC members.

Jeremiah and I were married February 25, 1880. He was 40 and I was 22 years of age. On March 1st we departed for Sweet Township in Pipestone County, Minnesota where Jeremiah had homesteaded 2 years prior. We set up housekeeping and erected our first barn out of prairie sod. Winter arrived quickly with a blizzard in October of 1880. We had no way of knowing that winter would last for several long months, but it did. We twisted prairie hay into bundles for fuel. Food was hard to come by as blizzards came often and lasted for days; making hunting almost impossible. By spring I was grinding barley to supplement our dwindling coffee supply. When spring finally arrived, Jeremiah walked to town on snowshoes for supplies. He brought home a letter, many weeks old, telling me of the death of my father back in Germany.

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We farmed in Sweet Township until Jeremiah's death. He passed away on April 7, 1908 at the age of 68. Finding myself a widow at the age of 50, I moved myself and our 5 daughters to town. I spent the remaining 40 years of my life at that location. Barely settled into our new home and needing some happiness during a time of sorrow, I traveled to Wisconsin to visit family and friends, leaving the girls to tend to house-keeping. Frances experienced health issues and was taken to the Flandreau Hospital. I was notified and made my way back home. Sadly, I was too late as Frances had passed away from complications related to a bout of appendicitis. It had been just 4 months since her father's death and she merely 20 years old.

My daughter Carrie was born in June of 1883, graduated school and then attended Mankato Teacher's College. She taught in both the Ruthton and Pipestone areas until she married Herman Ludolph. She died in February of 1976 and is buried beside her husband here in Old Woodlawn as well. Myrtle was born in 1890 and also attended Mankato Teacher's College. She taught in the Pipestone area for 5 years then married Gene Dickey in June of 1915. Gene worked for the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad. Myrtle died in 1981 in St. James, MN. Mamie was born on January 11, 1892. She married Shelby Kiesow on April 5, 1915. She passed away on January 2, 1967. My daughter Alice, the youngest, was born in February of 1895 and only 13 at the time of the deaths of her father and sister Frances. She grew to adulthood in Pipestone and married Eugene Clark in 1919. On December 23, 1935 she took a shot gun from their home, entered a shed on their farm in Grange Township and shot herself through the neck. No can say for certain what caused such a rash act on her part. I often wondered if losing both her father and her sister at such a delicate age might have led to the despondency she seemed to experience.

I passed away on July 1, 1948 at the age of 90 after a lengthy illness. I was a member of the Presbyterian Church and active in church activities until my health declined. Rev. F. J. Petersen of that church conducted my services and grave side rites were given by the Women's Relief Corps of which I was a member for almost 50 years. At the time of my death my legacy consisted of 17 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

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By Bill Morgan

Warrington B. Brown: Pipestone's Last Civil War Veteran

On April 2, 1865, seven days before the Civil War ended, Warrington B. Brown, 19, a corporal with of the 38th Wisconsin Regiment, descended into a ditch surrounding Fort Mahone near Petersburg, Virginia, when, suddenly, a rebel soldier shot him in the head.



"...the ditch was filled with huge, x-shaped log barriers notched with sharpened stakes called chevaux-de-frise." Similar to this

eral Hospital a surgeon removed a minie ball from Warrington's skull and placed a silver plate at the base of the hole. The doctor told him that he would recover, but warned him he might lose his mind before he turned 40. According to his daughter, Anne, Grandfather worried about that eventuality well into his healthy and mentally stable early 90s.

Six days later at Washington, D.C's, Campbell Gen-

Warrington told his grandson, Stannard Morgan, Pipestone, the ditch was filled with huge, x-shaped log barriers notched with sharpened stakes called chevaux-de-frise. Grandfather said the obstacles reminded him of giant jacks, a popular children's toy.

Warrington Benjamin Brown was born in Chittenden County, Vermont, June 4, 1845. The family moved to Janesville, Wisconsin, when Warrington was 12. When war broke out, Warrington's father, Jason, en-

listed in the 2nd Wisconsin Regiment, and on July 21, 1861, at Bull Run-the first major battle of the war-Jason was killed by Union troops—an early example of death in war by friendly fire.

Jason's son had to wait three years until he was 18 to enlist in a Wisconsin unit.

After the war ended, Warrington launched off on his own to farm in the bluff country of Goodhue County, Minnesota Here, he met his future wife, Mary Halliday, who at age seven, arrived in America from Westmorland County, England, aboard a sailing ship.

In 1878, Warrington visited the unsettled prairie of future Pipestone County to study the quality of soil needed to grow crops. After spending a few days in Daniel Sweet's shanty on Main Street he filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of Grange Township's Section 30. After farming for eight years, the family moved into Pipestone where Warrington established a John Deere dealership on Main Street. Active in Republican politics, Warrington served in the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1885 and as a state senator in 1887 and 1889. He campaigned in 1900 for William Jennings Bryan in Pipestone. He also served five years as Pipestone's fire chief.

I have wonderful memories of sitting on Grandfather Brown's lap on his porch at 320 Third Avenue Southwest in Pipestone, where he promised to "take me up North in a horse and a wagon."

I remember, too, the hole in Grandfather's skull because when we played "Hide the Thimble" my cousins and I often found the thimble in that hole!



Made in Boston, Warrington B. Brown's G.A.R. sword and scabbard are in excellent condition.

Grandfather was one of the founders of Pipestone's Grand Army of the ... Continued Next Page

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The following article ran in the 23 August 1918 edition of the Pipestone County Star newspaper.

Corner Stone Placed at New School House

Informal Ceremony on Thursday Afternoon Witnessed by Only a Few Citizens

"The laying of the corner stone of Pipestone's new school building took place at shortly after three o'clock Thursday afternoon, in the presence of a few of the members of the board of education and other citizens.

J.W. Hilliard, president of the board of education, made a few remarks, explaining that owing to the strenuous condition of the times it was deemed advisable not to have a public formal ceremony at this time, but it is hoped that by the time the new building is completed conditions will be such that the people of the community will feel like entering into a grand dedication of the edifice.

At the conclusions of his remarks, a box which contained a number of interesting articles was put in the stone, and the stone was then set in place. In the box were: a list of the faculty of the city schools for the coming year; names of the architect, contractor and supervisor; names of the present board of education; other trimmings. The first story will be of the red date of the organization of Independent School District No.1; a list of the county and city officials; copies of ond story will be of pressed brick. It is the plan to the latest editions of the Pipestone County Star and the Pipestone Leader; a copy of the special "fire edition" issued by the Star on April 18th, 1917, the day the former building was destroyed; a red cross pin and an American flag pin.

The stone is a large piece of the white Bedford, which



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forms the trimming stone of the building, and bears the inscription "A.D. 1918."

Those present also had an opportunity to view the progress of the work on the new structure. Owing largely to the great shortage of laborers, however, the work is hardly more than just begun. Around the base of the structure is a border of the white Bedford stone, which will also outline the windows and form stone like the former school building, while the secconstruct the entire tower of the red stone."

Editor's Note: In speaking to Pipestone County Administrator, Steve Ewing, the County is aware of the cornerstone and has plans to retrieve it for the community before demolition.

created a new rock & roll band "The Redcoats." This new group along The Coachmen, continued... with Dan & Rich included Les Kruse on saxophone, Charles Myhra- guitar & Les holding down the lead singer position. The band's name 'The Redcoats' came about as their school speech teacher had some red blazers that the debate team wore and she let them borrow them. Les remembers the Redcoats performed for their 9th grade class party and played 4 songs, 2 of them being "Louie Louie" by the Kingsmen, and the Byrds classic 'Turn Turn." The rest of the night was spent dancing to records, it was a great time. Besides the class party the band also played a few gigs in the back of the Eagle Café. The Redcoats broke up shortly after that.

I hope you enjoyed this brief look at 2 more of Pipestones's 1960's rock and roll bands and if you have any additional info or pictures of the bands please contact the Pipestone County Museum.

Keep Rockin'

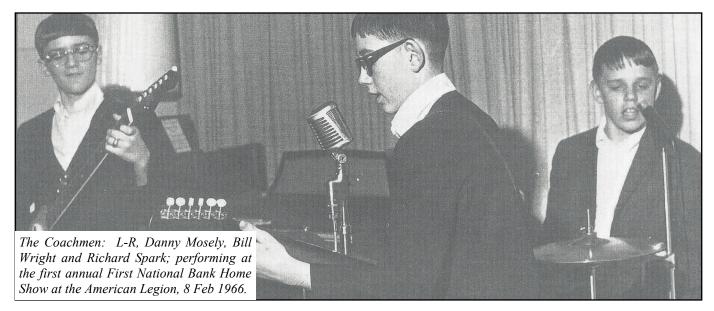
Tony Texley

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The Coachmen

By Tony Texley

...Continued Next Page



The year was 1966 and home town favorites Steve Ellis & the Starfires & the Pulsating Pilgrims continued their dominance on the Midwest rock and roll music scene, while another Pipestone R&R group was looking to make their own mark in music history.

They called themselves "The Coachmen," a trio of Pipestone 8th graders consisting of Billy Wright-lead guitar, Dan Mosley-rhythm guitar and Richard Sparks-drummer. I am told Billy was a natural guitar player and could listen to a song and play it. Billy also taught Dan how to play guitar. Now, they needed someone to keep the beat and fellow classmate Rich was the perfect addition. Rich already had a drum set that he borrowed from his dad, who himself was a accomplished drummer.

The trio started practicing at each others houses as time permitted and parents agreeing to haul their equipment around. They put together a set list containing mostly Beatles songs plus Top 40 and decided it was time for their 1st public appearance.

The local Juba's Super Valu grocery store (at this time their location was where Synder Drug store is today) was having a special sale promotion coming up and the group was invited to play a few songs in the corner of the store by the bakery department to entertain the customers. Being just 8th graders they didn't have any money for flashy matching dance outfits so a casual shirt and sport coat would work just fine. Rich recalls that one of the songs they played that day was 'Help" by the Beatles and he laughingly told me that if you listened to them play, "boy, did we need help!"

With their 1st public appearance under their belt, their next job was the local Country Club and they also played the American Legion. The Coachmen's largest audience came when they played at the First National Bank Home Show at the Pipestone American Legion in February of '66. It was estimated more than 3,000 people came through the doors. They also shared the stage that day with another teenage group from Pipestone called the "Scandinavians" a trio of 9th grade folk singers consisting of Linda Tverberg, Mary Opland and Mary Rauk.

The Coachmen were beginning to hit their stride when Billy Wright had to move out of town, effectively ending the Coachmen existence. One of the highlights of the band was when Steve Ellis and the Starfires were playing at the Pipestone American Legion and were going to take a break and allowed the Coachmen to come up on stage and use their equipment to perform during the break.

To fill their music void after the Coachmen, Dan & Rich joined up some other classmates once again and

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Memorials

Memorials are a special way of remembering a friend or loved one with your gift to PCHS. This gift is given in their memory and a letter is sent to the family of the deceased noting your gift- but never its size. Memorials of \$100 or more will be registered on plaques in the Museum's lobby.

Let us know the person to be memorialized, the amount of the memorial and who to send the memorial letter to along with their address.

In Memory of Ron Francis by Bruce & Barbara Jensen

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In Memory of Eldon Johnson by Thomas & Eldonna Hillard

Courthouse Tank Back in Place

The Sons of the American Legion's "Paint the Tank" project has been completed. Earlier this spring the tank was moved off the courthouse lawn by Dubblede Gravel and taken across town to Pipestone Auto Body to be sanded down and repainted with the addition of the white star stencil. The Sons of the American Legion's four-year project included conducting fundraisers, soliciting donations and much planning of how such a feat could be done. The tank was returned to the courthouse lawn where it sits upon a new concrete pad, right after Memorial Day and preparations were made to show it off at the Watertower Festival. As reported in the Summer 2015 issue of the Prairie Traveler, "The tank was donated to the city and moved to its current location in January 1963. The World War II M4 Sherman tank was manufactured between 1942 and 1945 along with 49,000 other Sherman tanks."



Warrington B. Brown continued... Republic (G.A.R), an organization that supported the Republican Party down to the beginning of the 20th century.

Warrington out-lived all of Pipestone County's Civil War veterans. As the surviving member of Simon Mix Post 95, he kept the organization active until it reached its 50-year mark. On the night of May 8, 1934, Grandfather turned over the club's archives to the Women's Relief Corps-- and according to family lore—closed the meeting with a toast to his comrades, a glass of wine in hand.

Grandfather left his family a handful of treasured possessions, including his musket, his uniform's brass buttons, and his ceremonial G.A.R sword. For decades, his black felt hat had sat on a shelf in our glass-front bookcase. As a child, I believed the moth hole had been made by a minie ball.

Grandfather's great-great grandson, Zachary Morgan, Missoula, Montana, now owns the musket. Recently, I passed the G.A.R. sword to Great-great-grandson Todd Morgan, Pipestone, and his sons, Brock and Kirk Morgan. As scholars and as Civil War reenactors, the boys are the obvious choice to help keep Warrington Brown's legacy alive.

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New & Renewing Members

May-June

Century

Brad & Cathie Burris- Pipestone Mary Ann VanHorssen- Scottsdale, AZ

Household

*Brenda VandenBerg- Pipestone

* = new member!

Supporting

*Gordy & Edie Aas- Jasper

Friend

*Paul Krapf– Jasper *Judy Polaschek– Hatfield

*Melissa Runk- Avoca, MN

Mary Ott-Omaha, NE

Donations

PCHS relies on the generosity of our members not only to meet the general budget but especially to accomplish special projects. Thank you.

Regular Donations

Bruce & Barbara Jensen, Paul Backlund, Suzanne Fuller



Deborah Galleher: Fred Drumm



2018 Civil War Days

August 11-12; Sat. 8am-9pm, Sun. 8am-4pm. Learning Through Living History!

Daily Battles, Cannon Demonstrations, Vintage Baseball, Civil War Ball, 1860's Fashions, Abe Lincoln, General Grant, Civil War Tea

Educational Programs, Children's Activities

Tony Texley is looking for any info on a Pipestone rock and roll group called "The Group." One member was Larry Laffrenzen. Any help is appreciated, please contact the Museum at pipctymu@iw.net or 507-825-2563 with any

information.

Jason Amundson is looking for historic photographs of the house at 403 5th Avenue SE, Pipestone. It was built around 1886. Please contact Jason at amundson1980@gmx.com.



PCHS is looking for high school annuals from Ruthton and Jasper High Schools along with the following years from Pipestone High School: 1981, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 2002– to the present.

5th Annual Paranormal Weekend

Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13
Ghost Hunt, Tales from the Grave, Historic
Cemetery Tour, Gallery Reading with a Psychic,
Tin-Type Photography by D.C. Rambow
Fundraiser for the Pipestone County Museum

2018 PCHS Board Members

Bob Buffington- President, Curt Hess- Vice President, Judy Oldemeyer- Secretary, Steve Schulz- Treasurer. Paul Everett, Susie Otto, Mary Schroer, Linsey Prunty, Chuck Ness

2018 Pipestone County Museum Staff

Susan Hoskins- Executive Director, Betty McCabe- Museum Aide, Trava Olivier- Museum Aide, Noah Burris- Museum Aide



Prairie Traveler

PCHS likes to bring you news you may be interested in from other historically minded groups in the area, such as Historic Pipestone Incorporated [HPI], Jasper's Reclaim Community, Friends of the Superintendent's House, and the new "Save the Cal" movement. These groups are not officially affiliated with the Pipestone County Historical Society, but we support the historic preservation they are working on. Whenever they have news we try to pass it on to you.

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Projects Continue at Historic St. Paul Episcopal Church

By Chuck Draper

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HPI recently completed installing new eavestroughs and down spouts on the building, at a cost of about \$2,400. The improvement aids drainage and looks much better.

A second project, re-painting the sanctuary, is to get underway shortly.

Members are researching a process to repair and protect the stained glass window in the hall. The process is involved because it sets above the ceiling in the hall. Once a project is decided on, special fundraising may be required.

The HPI board continues to work to raise funds. The group raised about \$1,000 with the brat and hot dog stand at the Water Tower Festival and plans to take the booth to the Civil War Festival in August.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 221 4th Street, Pipestone.

The church is on the locally designated list of historic places and Museum Director Susan Hoskins is researching steps to place it on the national register.

For more information contact Lorraine Draper or any HPI board member. Donations may be sent to HPI at Box 277-HPI, Pipestone, MN 56164.

Save the Calumet

A new friends group has been organized to help raise money to repair the Calumet Inn, under the name "Save the Cal."

The group first met June 14 and organized their first fundraiser, a silent auction, which opened during Watertower Festival. The group is also selling t-shirts. Information on both can be had by contacting the Calumet Inn at 507-825-5871.

Anyone is welcome to join or support the group in a variety of ways. They have started a Facebook page called "Save the Cal," and a bank account has been opened at First Farmers & Merchants bank under the name "Save the Cal."

This is not a 501(c)3 nonprofit group, but members of the community who see a need and want to make a difference. Donations will go toward the immediate repair of the south wall of the Calumet Inn, which has been estimated at \$75,000.



Alley entrance, Calumet Inn at 102 West Main Street, Pipestone.