

Pipestone County Historical Society



Pipestone County Museum
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Pipestone, MN 56164

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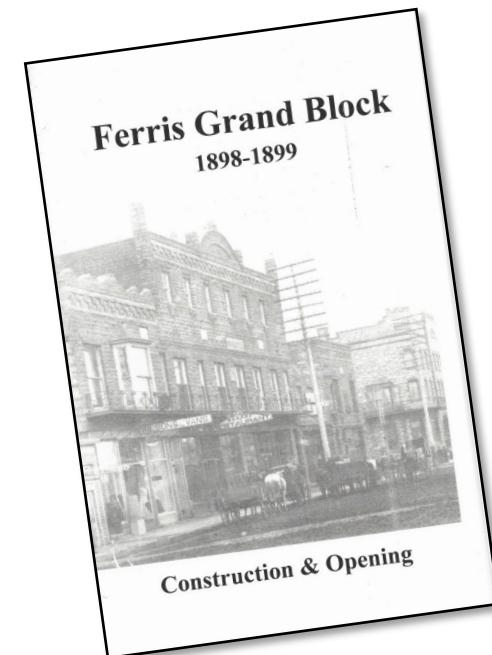


 *proceeds support the
Museum
& Its programs!*

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Looking for a very unique gift? Most of the images in the Museum's Photographic Collection can be reproduced for private use.



Ferris Grand Block, 1898-1899; Construction and Opening

This 28 page booklet covers the building of the Ferris Grand Block and opening night of the Opera Hall. Also included are short biographies of many of the characters involved....\$5.00

Pipestone County Museum
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pipetonemnnesota.com/museum
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Newsletter editor: Susan Hoskins



Prairie Traveler

Maintenance and Preservation Work Continues on the Ferris Grand Block

This month the front facade of the Ferris Grand Block was caulked to prevent water infiltration between the stone joints. PCHS wants to stress that this is not a "fix" but a temporary stop-gap (and it does seem to be working!) This particular band-aid cost about \$2500 which will come out of PCHS's budget. The 2015 re-use study of the building identified three structural areas of concern that will be pursued over the next few years-tuckpointing being one of them. PCHS plans to fund the majority of this upcoming work through grants, at which point the caulk will be removed and the mortar re-pointed. But it is watertight for now!



Community Collection: Helen Miller's Bingo Daubers

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Helen started collecting bingo daubers about 15 years ago. This interesting collection started because she liked how cute they are. The number of daubers has gradually grown over the years as she found ones she liked and added them to the group. The collection's variety includes holiday and pop culture themed daubers. She doesn't have a favorite and likes them all though. Helen enjoys playing bingo but as the number of places to play has decreased she doesn't get the chance to play that often. The collection doesn't grow much these days because Helen says she has enough. But if one catches her eye, she still might pick it up. Her dauber collection will be on display through September.

Living at the Golf & Country Club

By Gerald Petersen

In the early months of 1956, not long after I turned thirteen years of age, my parents learned that the current manager of the Pipestone Golf and Country Club, Frank Van Drashea, and his wife June, would no longer be Country Club managers. The management of the Golf and Country Club would become a full-time job for both my parents, Emery and Mary Peterson. My dad would be in charge of the bar and the pro shop, and my mother would be in charge of the kitchen, in the upper level of the Country Club. This golf club and course, was the second for the town, and was built on the corner of 7th Street SE and 8th Avenue SE, on the same corner as the present-day Casey's gas station [2019.] Just the basement level was built in 1946. It was also built with an apartment for the caretakers and consisted of a kitchen, a living room, two bedrooms and a full bathroom. In April of 1956, my parents, myself, my younger brother Dennis, and my older sister Barbara, would move from my grandparents' house into the lower level apartment and become full-time managers. We would only manage the Clubhouse, as a separate "greens keeper" was hired. We were enthused about taking on the job but had to learn as we went along. The location was in the best part of town with the Harmon Park nearby, with its pool and tennis courts. Across the highway from the County Fair Grounds, and across the street from Juba's Market. We recognized the value of living on a golf course and we took full advantage. We soon found out it was a full-time job, and someone always had to be there. The club's second floor level, built next,



Pipestone Golf & Country Club Clubhouse much later, after it had seen use as the Ewert Recreation Center.

consisted of a large kitchen, a dining hall, and an enclosed porch extension, and a ladies' restroom. It also had a working fireplace and a piano. It originally had a log-cabin appearance but was sided before we moved there. The week was full of meetings starting with Toastmasters on Monday evenings with dinner. Tuesday noon was Kiwanis and Men's Day for afternoon golf, evening dinner and card playing. Wednesday was Ladies Day, taking over the course until 4pm. Thursday's became Lion's Club meetings with dinner. The weekends were booked for class reunions, wedding receptions, dances and parties to include the annual New Year's Eve party. My mother hired a cook and waitresses to run the kitchen. She would order food from Juba's in large volumes and we could fill dozens of Green and Gold Bond stamp books and redeem the many items available. My dad supplied the basement bar with cigars, candy, nuts and chips to go with sodas and brands of beer: Hamm's, Pabst Blue Ribbon, Grain Belt, and Schmidt. Sodas were also sold by the glass, and members had a storage cabinet for their own brand of mix. We had many golf memberships, and we would collect

Remember...



Save Your

Ink Cartridges

PCHS is able to redeem them
for office supplies!



GoodSearch

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 2017 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!

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Pipestone County
Historical Society



Pipestone County Historical Society

Membership & Donation Form

Annual Membership Categories

- Friend \$15-\$24
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Donation: _____ (please fill in amount)

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.

New & Renewing Annual Members*April-June 2019* * = new member**Century**

*Gerald Peterson—Grand Blanc, MI
 Brad & Cathie Burris—Pipestone
 Jan & Donna Kennedy—Pipestone
 *Jim Hicks—Hopkins, MN

Supporting

*Jay Rasmussen—St. Charles, IL

Household

Jay Tonsfeldt—Mendota Hts., MN
 Debra Fitzgerald—Egan, SD
 Marty Peters—Cumberland, WI

Friend

*Susan Hawk—Pipestone
 Mary Ott—Omaha, NE
 *Gary Gillin—Pipestone
 *Jim & Delores Perkins—Pipestone
 *Richard Schroyer—Pipestone
 *Donna Raatz—Pipestone
 *Larry Haroldson—Pipestone
 *Barb Westbur—Jasper
 *Marie Ekdom—Pipestone



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 Logo!

**Donations**

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

April-June 2019

Doug Theel, Don Smith

**Visit the
 Pipestone County Historical Society's
 Redesigned Website!
www.pipestoneminnesota.com/museum
 With new databases, indexes
 and links to
 expanded newsletter articles!**

Pipestone County Historical Society is now on...

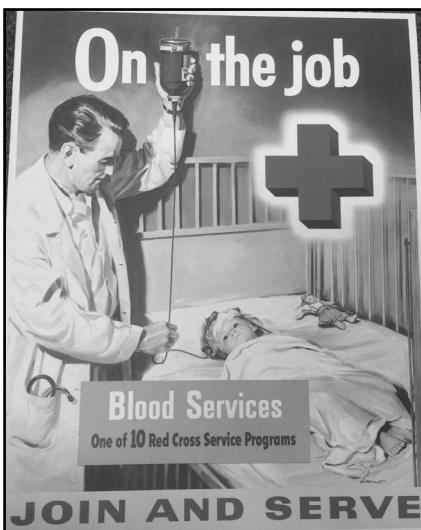
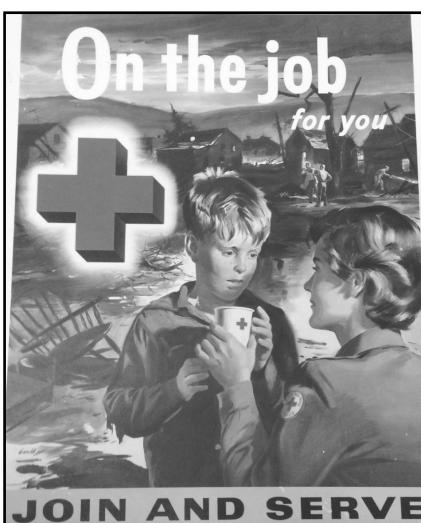
- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- Support the Pipestone County Historical Society by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

- ◆ PCHS was awarded a grant from the **Pipestone Area Foundation** to upgrade computer technology with new computers including projector and other essential programming technology—Thank You!
- ◆ The Museum office has recently upgraded its internet plan, now enjoying a higher internet speed.
- ◆ The Museum office has recently taken out a new copier contract with A&B Business, the new (used) copier should produce sharper photographs for you to enjoy in publications such as *The Prairie Traveler*!

A Peek into the Museum's Collection

By Noah Burris

The Museum recently received four Red Cross posters. The 15 x 19-inch posters each show a different image while calling for people to join the organization. The posters will be added to several Red Cross items already in the Museum's collection that mostly came from Winifred Bartlett's estate. Winifred served over forty years in the Red Cross and handled thousands of cases during that time. The collection includes everything from flags and bandages to enamel pots and photographs of the group's activities in the County.



The Pipestone County Red Cross Chapter was organized on June 5, 1917. The Chapter called a meeting and invitations were sent to every precinct in the county. Many people answered the call although no one had any experience. After working through questions together and staying in contact with Red Cross headquarters, the Pipestone Chapter was well on its way. They were very successful in membership drives and fees ranking among the top in Minnesota. Pipestone County even focused their Fourth of July program in 1918 entirely on the Red Cross. The Pipestone Chapter continued to raise good amounts of money from the various canvasses for funds and Red Cross benefit dances. The main work though consisted of knitting, sewing and making surgical dressings to ship over with other supplies to help the Army and people of Europe.

The Red Cross was formed on May 21, 1881 by Clara Barton. After finding out about the organization in Switzerland, Barton wanted to bring it over to the United States and help people. The Red Cross provides emergency assistance, disaster relief and disaster preparedness education. One of their big services is running blood drives to increase donations. They also help communities recover from disasters and offer a number of training courses that allow people to get certified in CPR, lifeguarding, and babysitting just to name a few.

Country Club Continued From Page 2

green fees from the rest of the golfing public. We sold golf balls and clubs and had rental clubs and pull carts available. In addition to the bar, there were restrooms (men's with showers), a furnace room, and a built-on locker room for members. Living in the club, we could experience the pulse of the town, and get to know the business leaders in town, city officials, the retailers, students, the working people, those out of town, those traveling through, and any other golfers or party goers. We would get to know the town's leaders, who were the best golfers, and who were the best poker players. Every summer, besides the Invitational Tournament for the best golfers statewide, we would host the City Golf Tournament. The days were always filled with things to do. But also, it became a fish-bowl type experience, as besides knowing our public, they would know us too. Now, as I look back on those eleven years, it was for me the most enjoyable, enriching, impressionable, and rewarding experience of my life. To this very day, it's still filled with many unforgettable memories.

Gerald Peterson graduated from Pipestone High School with the Class of 1961 and married Karen DeMars in 1965. He went on to St. Cloud State College and received a BA in Industrial Technology. From there he went on to teach Industrial Arts and General Science in several public schools, mostly in Michigan. He retired in 1995 and now lives in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

HPI Repairing Historic Window from St. Paul's

The stained glass window from historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church has been removed and is now "resting" before undergoing restoration.

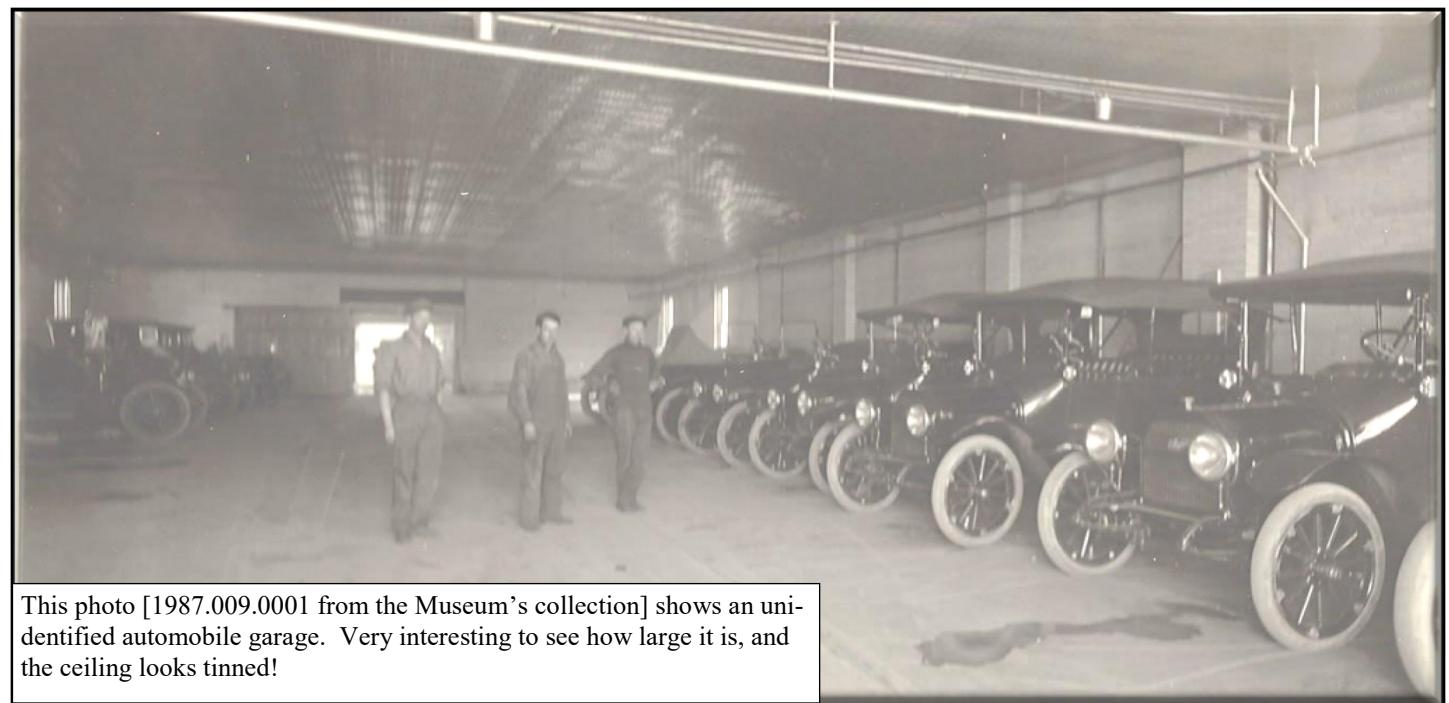
Jasper Construction found it a difficult task to remove the window from the south wall of the church hall. It was originally in the west wall of the church building, when the church was built in 1892. When the hall was built and attached to the west end of the church in the mid 1920s, the window was moved to the south wall of the hall.

Workmen then did an exceptional job of installation, being sure it was there to stay. It took many hours to remove it. The window was finally successfully removed working from outside, without damage. It was then moved to storage where it will lay flat for a period, to "rest" with glass in place for repair.

It will then be moved to the studio of Sue Parsley, who will make repairs. Finally, the window will be reinstalled. HPI members continue to cross their fingers that all will go well.

The window repair is the last stage of a project that saw the old dropped ceiling in the hall removed. The ceiling and walls were then re-done - insulated, sheetrock installed and re-painted.

Many historical society members contributed to the project, for which Historic Pipestone is very grateful. Other financing came through HPI fundraising projects, a city loan and grant program and the United Way of Pipestone.



This photo [1987.009.0001 from the Museum's collection] shows an unidentified automobile garage. Very interesting to see how large it is, and the ceiling looks tinned!

Pipestone Power Couple; Ben & Celeste Brose

Ben and Celeste Brose were a unique business couple in Pipestone, Minnesota during the early 1900s. Ben regularly showed up in the newspaper due to his 'musical entertainment' career, and Celeste did the same with her popular millinery business. Ben was successful as a travelling vaudeville entertainer as well as a more traditional businessman, operating a music store on Pipestone's main street for years. Celeste was a successful businesswoman in her own right, during an era when that was uncommon. Before they were married she owned and operated a millinery business, something she continued to do after marriage, all while raising four children and managing Ben's business when he was away. One could find their unique combined store at the corner of Olive & Adelaide Streets. [Main Street & Second Avenue North]

Celeste Neffeler and Benjamin Brose were married in Pipestone on January 4, 1892 at a surprise ceremony at her sister's home. The next year they advertised in the local newspaper of the Grand Opening of the Brose Millinery and Music Store. During that same time Ben was a partner in the Star Feed Mill and then in a short lived furniture business with his brother-in-law, J.L. Denhart. When Denhart left that business, Mr. & Mrs. Brose operated it for a time.

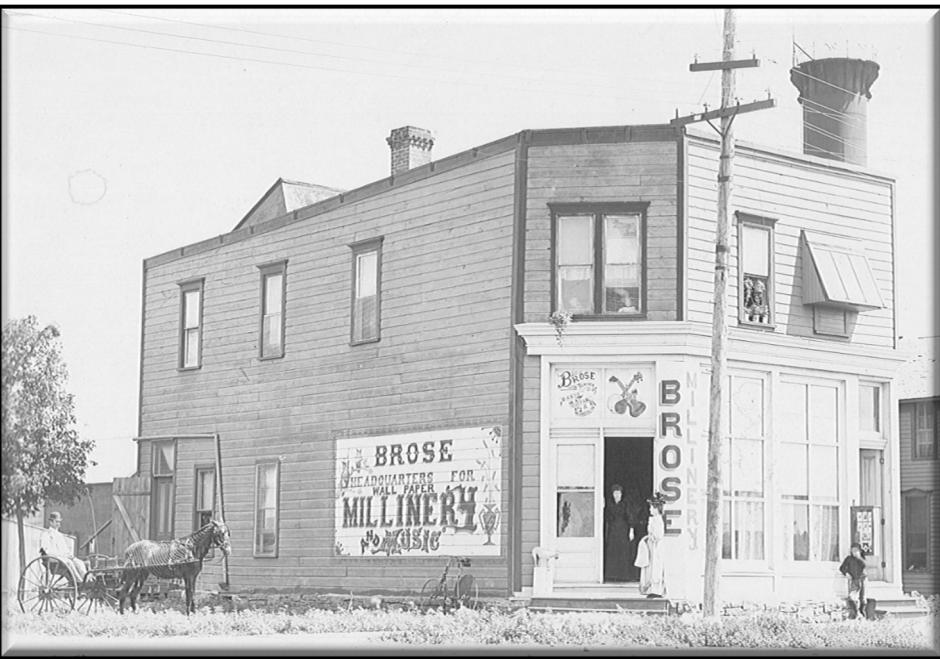
By 1901, Celeste & Ben Brose were the parents of four children; Robert, Doris, Lucille and Horace. The next year, Ben began advertising his "Wonder Music Store." It is not clear when Ben Brose began to travel as a musical entertainer on the vaudeville circuit, but by 1902 he was touting himself as a "musical comedian." In 1904 he was touring the southern states in a circuit through Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas, as well as Oklahoma Territory. That very spring, Celeste had a spectacular season opening to the millinery store by having her four small children pose in the store window. "...In among the beautiful array of millinery articles, Mrs. Brose's four charming little children were posed in a manner that made a picture most delightful to look upon. Daintily attired and as composed as waxen models...hundreds of people stopped before the window and gazed upon the picture within." [Pipestone County Star, 25 March 1904]

It is apparent from newspaper articles that Ben Brose had many artistic interests. In 1907 he opened "The Brose Wonderland" which was a museum of sorts, featuring mounted animals and birds (Brose was also a taxidermist) as well as relics and curios, with daily musical entertainment. He re-opened the business in 1908, upgrading it to a motion picture theater, museum exhibits included.

Ben Brose passed away at his home in Pipestone in 1937. He had come to Pipestone in 1891 and his career was extensive, for years operating a music store, well known as an instructor in band and string instruments, and he traveled widely as a professional musician and entertainer. He had also been involved in taxidermic work and sign painting and held extensive property interests in Pipestone.

Celeste Neffeler Brose remained in Pipestone after her husband died, and then moved to Chicago to live with her son for a few years before her death in 1942. Celeste had been engaged in the millinery business in Pipestone for decades, having come to the city in 1890. At the time of her death she owned two business places in Pipestone as well as several residences.

Both Ben and Celeste were cremated and buried at Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Two highly creative people managed to find positive outlets for their creativity and live successful lives in Pipestone, Minnesota.



Brose Millinery and Music Store, corner of Olive Street & Adelaide Street.

Look for this extended article on our website soon!

News from Reclaim Community

By Elicia Kortus

It has been a busy 3.5 years, but often feels like just yesterday that we hosted a community meeting, sent out letters, and raised support to buy the Jasper School. Since then, we have hosted 14 fundraisers, completed use of a MN Historical Society grant to place the school on the National Register of Historic Places (which received final approval on June 17th) and in 2018, we stepped in to save Bauman Hall from likely demolition. As of June 6th, we also just received a \$10,000 grant to complete a Conditions Assessment and Stabilization plan for Bauman Hall! We are SO grateful for so many supporters who have helped us accomplish this, and we hope these milestones will encourage even more support as we continue.

We are thrilled to announce our own Geraldine Pedersen, Jasper alumni, and long-time Historical Society curator, was just honored this spring with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the MN Alliance of Local History Museums for her work to preserve and document the history of Jasper and its people. Her 45 years of dedication to compiling records is remarkable, and without her work, I do not believe we would have been able to accomplish what we have so far! Her documentation was vital in completing the National Register Nomination.

During this year's Quartzsiter Days in July we will honor her with an informal reception. We will also host three more fundraisers, a Classic Car Cruise-In, a 0.5K fun "Run," and a vendor fair in the park. We hope to raise at least \$5,000. We need this in order to patch some new leaks over the gym and elementary wing roof from this year's heavy ice and snow. We also need to purchase supports and beams and complete temporary stabilization work on the wall on Bauman Hall to prevent any further movement while we complete the structural analysis and planning of the grant. We are in the process of reviewing proposals to select the historic architect and engineering firm that will complete this work. This process is expected to take 3-6 months, and will give us valuable information with which to proceed with applying for a construction grant to complete necessary structural repairs, while ensuring public safety in the meantime.

In addition, we are working on applying for a large grant to fund a Historic Structures Report for Jasper School. While we know that we need a new roof, and we badly need HVAC work to be able to climate control and eliminate moisture issues and leaking from the freeze/thaw cycles, we also have been counseled by grant staff that the best course of action is to fund an HSR because it will be an incredibly detailed, comprehensive analysis of all the structural and mechanical conditions, which will guide our steps in applying for necessary grants for renovations.

Just in case you think that isn't enough, we are also steadily working to beautify the property by removing dead trees, planting new ones, and planting flowers and shrubs. We are also planning fall fundraisers, a pontoon boat party on Lake Shetek and an evening with Susie Otto performing psychic readings, similar to ones she has done with the Pipestone County Historical Society.

We will also host our annual meeting in September, where we will facilitate a Future Forum community engagement event in order to identify needs in the city and region, and how the use of the school and Bauman Hall could be used to meet them. We will be pursuing a reuse study on the buildings, and we need to gather as much data and input, like a task force, in order to develop detailed plans for creative re-use. We expect these to involve multiple aspect including housing, business incubation, community education and arts and cultural programs. We invite you to be a vital part of this process so we can best position our buildings' futures as tools for economic growth in SW MN.

We are always in need of volunteers, as the more hands we have, the faster we can accomplish these goals. If you would like information about any of our fundraisers, to join our volunteer list, or receive our newsletters, please send us a message at reclaimcommunitymn@gmail.com or call me at 605-595-4693. I look forward to the next three years of preserving these valuable historic treasures of Pipestone County. Won't you join us? It's an exciting time to be using the past to help us look forward to a bright future!

Memorials

April-June 2019

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Doug Theel

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Chuck & Lorraine Draper

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Rochelle Everhart

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Cari Lanke

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Genevieve Lustfield

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Susan & Bill Hoskins

In Memory Ray Lingen
by Bud Winsel

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Carol Ellefson

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Bill & Judy Morgan

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Alfred Page

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Marian Carstens

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Jim & Cheri Jacobson

In Memory of Elizabeth "Betty" McCabe
by Mary Lohmann McElroy

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 mailing address.

Outreach Programming

By Kathy Fritz

Hi, I'm Kathy Fritz in charge of Educational Programming here at the Pipestone County Museum. Every month I give a presentation to residents at Ridgeview and Good Sam. I take the Museum to them. I pick topics they may have memories of or something I can intrigue their interest in. Sometimes we get great conversations going about the subject. Residents share their memories about the topic with me. I've heard some interesting stories. I love the dialogue exchange. I always let the residents know that they can suggest topics of interest they might like to hear about.

If you have an idea for a presentation, let me know. I recently received a letter from a lady about a subject that has perked my interest, something I have never heard of. I now have to research it to see if there is enough information to create a presentation. It's a challenge, but I enjoy it. I'm creating a new presentation each month. The suggestions are always welcome.

Are you interested in having a speaker come to your organization's meeting? I have created several presentations that might interest you. I have the following topics available; *The Great Starvation Experiment of Minnesota, Women in the Workforce During World War II, The Homefront World War II Rationing Food and Products, World War II POW Workforce in MN, History of Extreme Weather in Minnesota, Country Schools Through the Years, Historic Downtown Pipestone, and Early Pioneers of Pipestone County.* I'm working on researching and creating more presentations. I use the Museum's archives to create informative, visual presentations. What perks your interest? Let me bring the Pipestone County Museum to your group. Call the Museum for more information. (507) 825-2563.

For Your Consideration

Project Update... Dining Room Window Shades

Complete! With your help we were able to purchase the three roller shades necessary for the new Dining room exhibit space. They have been installed and the space is open to the public, the first two displays being on the county music scene and agriculture.



It has been determined that **District #3 Country Schoolhouse** needs to have its **Ceiling Painted** this summer. Recently several ceiling tiles were replaced due to past water damage, and others are stained. PCHS would like to paint the entire ceiling for a nicer looking schoolhouse experience. Supplies and volunteer labor is estimated to be \$300. Three donations of \$100 each or 6 donations of \$50 each would cover this expense.



2019 Brown Bag Lunch Schedule

Third Thursday of the Month April– October

April 18: Phil Berg, Sheep Production

May 16: Chuck Sendelbach, Harmon Park

June 20: Kathy Fritz, Weather

July 18: Vince Green, Wind Industry

August 15: Susan Hoskins, Construction of the Ferris Grand Block

September 19: Cliff Mulder, Elk Farming

October 17: TBA

Meets at Noon at the Museum

PCHS is looking for high school annuals from **Ruthon, Jasper and Edgerton High Schools** along with the following years

from **Pipestone High School**: 1981, 1984, 1985, 1992, 1994, 1995, 2002– to the present: For the Museum Collection.

Does anyone have a photograph of the “**Pink Elephant**” restaurant that operated in Ihlen? It became the Glass House for years and recently reopened as Split Rock Burgers & Brews. At the time of the Pink Elephant it was painted pink—maybe with elephant shapes?!

Patrons have requested the following Pipestone County history books for sale in the Gift Shop: 1898 or 1914 Atlases; Edgerton Centennial book. Also looking for a Historic Museum Ornament.

2019 PCHS Board Members

Bob Buffington—President, Curt Hess—Vice President, Judy Oldemeyer—Secretary, Steve Schulz—Treasurer. Paul Everett, Mary Schroer, Linsey Prunty, Chuck Ness, Deb Fitzgerald

Pipestone County Museum Staff

Susan Hoskins—Executive Director, Trava Olivier—Museum Aide, Noah Burris—Museum Aide, Kathy Fritz, Museum Aide

Directories as a Genealogical Tool

By Trava Olivier

The research library area of the Pipestone County Historical Society Museum contains a variety of Phone Directories and County Directories dating back to 1904 through present day; though not all years are represented. The community of Pipestone is well represented in this collection with scattered coverage of the smaller communities of the County until the onset of Regionalized directories in the mid 1960’s. Why do I bring this up? Because these directories can be useful tools in one’s genealogical research!

When a genealogist comes in knowing their ancestors once lived in Pipestone, staff here at the Museum is able to look in these old directories in an attempt to ascertain a street address. Once the address is located, the genealogist can then drive to the site and view the home their family once inhabited. While the earliest directories do not have house and street numbers those demographics are included by 1914. Looking through several years of directories can reveal if the family or business changed locations and provided a range of years in which the family resided in Pipestone County. If the relative lived on a farm, that information is included and we can turn to our collection of County Plat maps to try to locate the site of the farm. Family owned a business? We can find that information too using the same method. These directories also included ads for many of the businesses within the pages!

The City Directories often provide even more information than the local phone books! Let’s look at a sample excerpted from the 1961 Pipestone City Directory:

Schluter David H (Eliz M) ⑧ molder Pan-O-Gold Bkg Co h 806 2nd Nw Δ 825-5190
Schlump Donald J constn wkr r 111 5th Ne Δ 825-3219
Schlump Elsie wtrs Eagle Cafe r 111 5th Ne Δ 825-3219
Schlump Henry C (Bertha L) ⑧ auto Salvage Mel Johnson h 111 5th Ne Δ 825-3219
Schmidt Bettie M (Mrs V C) (Bettie’s Tots to Teens) r 1105 5th Av Sw Δ 825-3126
Schmidt Clara A (wid Emil) ⑧ h 602 2nd Nw Δ 825-5380
Schmidt Fred W (Lydia H) ⑧ h 322 3rd Sw Δ 825-5208
Schmidt Gertrude opr Calumet Beauty Shop r 105½ N Hiawatha
Schmidt Helen K (Mrs R W) reporter Pipestone County Star r 732 6th Av Sw

Entries are listed alphabetically by surname then given name followed by the spouse or widow’s name in parenthesis. The circled *H* represents home ownership. The next item on the line is the occupation of the person who the listing is under and where they are employed. The lower case *h* represents “head of household” and the lower case *r* signifies that the person is a “roomer.” Each address could only have one head of house so wives were classified as “roomers” though she could have her own entry if she had gainful employment outside the home. Following that is the street address for the individual listed. The last item included was a bell symbol representing the presence of a phone line and the phone number if the party had one. These directories were not limited to only those who had phones but included all the adults living within the city limits.

These directories from years ago provide information that isn’t found on web based genealogical sites. That is why their preservation is significant to our mission of preserving the history of Pipestone County and to our efforts to help genealogists learn more about their family lineage.