

Pipestone County Historical Society



Pipestone County Museum
113 South Hiawatha Avenue
Pipestone, MN 56164

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Pipestone, MN 56164
Permit #002

Pipestone County Museum
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Pipestonemuseum.com
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Newsletter editor: Susan Hoskins



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& Its programs!

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TALES FROM THE GRAVE OLD WOODLAWN CEMETERY 2015-2019



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one tale at a time!

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What's Been Happening at the Pipestone County Museum?

We have hired a new part time Museum Aide—look for details on page 5!

Fingers are still crossed and awaiting word on the “Legacy” grant that we applied for through the Minnesota Historical Society. This grant will help to fund the construction documents by a historical architect that are needed before the tuckpointing repair work on the Ferris Grand Block.

The Membership Drive is right around the corner. Look for our letter in the mail soon. This year we will be sending a membership survey out to you upon your renewal. Please fill it out and return it to help us better understand how to serve you!

We have stepped up our game on Facebook, so check us out there. We are hoping to use this social media platform to keep you more informed about what is happening here in all aspects; programming, collections, exhibits, fundraising, building preservation, etc.

The Quilt exhibit will be coming down at the end of the year. Look for a Sioux Quartzite exhibit featuring some of Pipestone County's gorgeous stone buildings. With apologies for the late newsletter this quarter, we hope you will enjoy this one!

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Museum Collection: Toys



A portion of the Museum's Toy Collection will be on display through December.

Thomas Edison's Amberola

Phonograph was Thomas A. Edison's word. He invented the word, and it applies to a sound reproducing device manufactured by one of the successive companies under Edison's control. There's no such thing as an Edison Victrola; Victrola was a trademark of the Victor Talking Machine Company. The Columbia Graphophone was a competing company to Edison; they made a similar product.

Edison began mass-producing cylinder phonographs with external sound horns in the late 1890s. These machines employed a brown/tan wax cylinder that played for a span of two minutes.

By around 1905, however, the cylinder trade was in decline as flat disc 78rpm machines began to outsell their cylinder competitors. In 1906 his competitor, Victor Talking Machine Company (later to become RCA), threw the horn inside the cabinet in a machine dubbed the Victrola. Although acoustically inferior to outside horn machines, internal horn Victrolas quickly replaced outside horn machines as fashion won out over function.

By 1909 the cylinder business was becoming increasingly sluggish, with Edison the only remaining major player in the United States. Ever loyal to his faithful cylinder record clientele, Edison introduced a record called the "Blue Amberol" which extended the playing time from two to four minutes.

In 1909 Edison made the decision to bring out an internal horn cylinder phonograph, even though he would have to defend against a number of Victor patents. This machine was called the Amberola, 'Amberol' after the new four minute records, 'ola' as this had become a de facto designation for an internal horn product.

There were two separate series of Amberola machines: The first, a Roman numeral series (Amberolas I through X) was introduced beginning in 1911. These machines were beautifully and substantially made, at least at the outset, although later on Edison used less expensive components and cheaper cabinetry. The second series, the Amberolas 30, 50 and 75, date to after an Edison factory fire of 1914. The quality of these machines was constrained by price, and although not highly collectable they remain an excellent and relatively inexpensive device to play four minute records. *The model numbers referred to their original retail sale prices in dollars.*

Almost any Amberola you are likely to find will be a straight four minute machine. **Caution!** The only cylinder records you should be playing on these machines are the "Blue Amberols" or the four minute "Indestructible" label. These machines geared exclusively for the four minute records, but also because they are equipped with a diamond stylus. They will destroy the sound of old soft black wax four minute Amberols or two minute brown wax records. You can distinguish the true "Blue Amberols" by their brilliant blue celluloid exterior and plaster of Paris core.



By Dave Rambow



Edison Amberola on exhibit now at the Pipestone County Museum. It was donated to the collection in 1979 by Bill Farmer.

Remember...



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PCHS is able to redeem them
for office supplies!



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

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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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- Supporting \$50-\$99
- Century \$100-\$249
- Patron \$250-499
- Benefactor \$500 & Up

Additional Donation: _____ (please fill in amount)

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Address: _____

Email: _____

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*July–October 2019* * = new member**Benefactor**

Janice North– Mankato, MN

CenturyMargaret Davids– Pipestone
Lyle & Marjorie Oye– Pipestone**Household**Ron Beckering– Edgerton
*Don Linnemeyer– Sioux Falls, SD**Friend***Ed Loll– Pipestone
*Linda Johnson– Pipestone
*Linda Schulze– Holland
Jean Anderson– Jasper
JaNeil Peschon– Pipestone
Shannen Muller– Pipestone
Leland & Marcia VanderPoel– Fresno, CA
Mary Haraldson– Apple Valley, MN
Zara Seine– Pipestone
Melvin Veldhuizen– Loveland, CO**New & Renewing Business Members***July–October* * = new member

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Pepsi Cola Bottling Company
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Sturdevants Auto Parts
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Olsen Electric
O'Neill, O'Neill & Barduson
Pipestone Indian Shrine
Christensen Broadcasting
Quist Plumbing & Heating
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Pipestone Veterinary Services
Pipestone County Medical Center
First Bank & Trust in Pipestone
Dynamic Health Chiropractic, Ltd.
Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce
Stout & Evink Plumbing & Heating
Sweet Township Mutual Fire Insurance
Raymond James– Eric Brockberg
Gerehl's Nursery & Taylor'd Landscaping
First Farmers & Merchants National Bank

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



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!

**A Peek into the Museum's Collection**

By Noah Burris

A lamp carved out of Catlinite arrived at the Museum with a partial but interesting story attached to it. The lamp has a Native American head carved into it along with various other decorative features. The story with the lamp is that it was traded to Marsh's Clothing during the Depression in exchange for a pair of work boots. It provides a good example of people having to trade for items they needed rather than paying for them during the hard times of the Great Depression. It then sat in the office at Marsh's for years after. The lamp and trade bring up many more questions that we unfortunately do not currently have the answers to, like who carved it, was it originally given as a gift or purchased somewhere, and how the trade came to be. Marsh's Clothing store was located at 109 West Main Street for many years. The lamp was donated to the Museum by Steve Spark.

Another item recently added to the Museum's collection is a unique quilt. World War II was a stressful and emotional time for families in the United States as they wondered about their loved ones fighting overseas. One family in Pipestone, Ben and Bessie (Mabel) Shane had to deal with five of their six sons serving active duty during the war. After the war, Bessie made a quilt for each of the 5 sons using their military uniforms and other pieces of cloth.

We are not sure which son this quilt belonged to. Four of the five are in the WWII Service Record Book. Delwin R. Shane entered the Navy in 1937. He worked neutrality patrol in the Panama Canal and was scheduled to be discharged on December 8, 1941. That did not happen due to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and he served on various aircraft carriers in the Pacific Theater where he was awarded a

field commission and became responsible for aircraft squadrons. Lieutenant Junior Grade Delwin Shane returned home and continued serving in the Navy until 1957. Paul H. Shane entered the Army in April of 1942. He served overseas from February 1944 until May 1945. Paul saw action in Normandy, France, the Rhineland, and the Ardennes. He was awarded the Purple Heart and was discharged from the Army in October 1945. Harry V. Shane was in the Navy and began his service in 1942. He served 41 months in the European Theatre and was torpedoed twice. Robert James Shane also served in the Navy starting in September 1944 for almost 31 months. He served as a Prisoner of War guard at Farragut Naval Training Station in Idaho. Farragut was the second largest naval training center in the world during the war behind the Naval Station Great Lakes near Chicago. The Station was built in response to the Pearl Harbor attack and was in operation from 1942 until 1946, with 293,381 naval recruits receiving their basic training there. In 1945, the base started housing German prisoners of war. The fifth brother who was serving during WWII was Ralph Shane, and Clifford Shane was the sixth brother who did not serve in the military. The quilt was donated by Jim Shane son of Delwin and Alida Shane.



“Beatles” Pipe on Loan

By Noah Burris

In June 1964, the Pipestone High School band went to the New York World's Fair for their band trip. The previous fall when it was decided to accept the invitation to play at the World's Fair, it was determined at least \$13,000 would be needed to send the around 100 band members on the trip. The estimated cost of \$130 per student was to cover transportation, lodging, and most meals. Parents, community members, and businesses gave money to the fund, and throughout the year, the band members with help from the Pipestone Band Parents Association went about trying to raise the money. Many fundraisers were held including selling Christmas wreaths and Fanny Farmer Candy and holding a turkey dinner. Auctions and raffles were also held to raise money. Pipestone High School Art Teacher Allen Ronning painted a picture of Winnewissa Falls, that people could bid on, and George Bryan carved a peace pipe and donated it to be raffled off as the prize. The pipe was different than others as Bryan carved the four faces of the Beatles into the bowl. The raffle raised \$53 for the trip and the pipe was won by Charles Debates. He has had the pipe ever since and has loaned it to the Museum, where it is now on display. You can view the pipe in a small exhibit on the 1964 PHS Band Trip through the end of the year. The raffle helped the band reach their goal of \$13,000. The Pipestone High School Band was able to go on the trip where they got to do plenty of sightseeing and performed at both the World's Fair in New York City and on the Capitol steps in Washington D.C.



6th Annual Pipestone Paranormal Weekend

What has quickly become one of our most lucrative FUNdraisers went off without a hitch on October 11-12, 2019. Well, there was the hiccup with the weather, but participants and volunteers alike powered through it. This weekend uses the Halloween season with its ghosts and paranormal activity as the hook to bring people in for opportunities for learning some local history. We ended the weekend with 195 total tickets sold and an estimated income of around \$5,000—a wonderful boost to our annual budget.

The line up this year included the famous **Pipestone Ghost Walk**, the only tour available this year; the popular group session called **Bedtime Stories** where participants get a chance to share their own ghost stories with others; a **Historic Cemetery Tour** featuring symbolism found on tombstones; a presentation on **Ghosthunting 101**, explaining all the gadgets available; a presentation on **Local True Crime**, featuring some of the more shocking crime stories in the history of Pipestone County; an author talk by **horror novelist Coleen Liebsch** of South Dakota; the popular **Psychic Gallery Reading** with medium Susie Otto; the **Tales From the Grave** cemetery tour featuring local actors portraying the interred; and the anchor event, a **Ghost Hunt**—this year in five different locations.



for donating their time and abilities to the cause, including presenters, actors and tour guides. And we were thrilled to connect with Mark Thode Design for our marketing design, posters, rack cards and t-shirts! A great event!



New this year we also hosted an Exhibition Hall featuring a wide variety of exhibitors from the Boyd House (a haunted house in St. Croix available to rent) to Those Blasted Things of Luverne which offers a wide variety of rocks, crystals, etc.

We would like to thank all of our presenters

“From Scarf the Druggist” in Early Pipestone

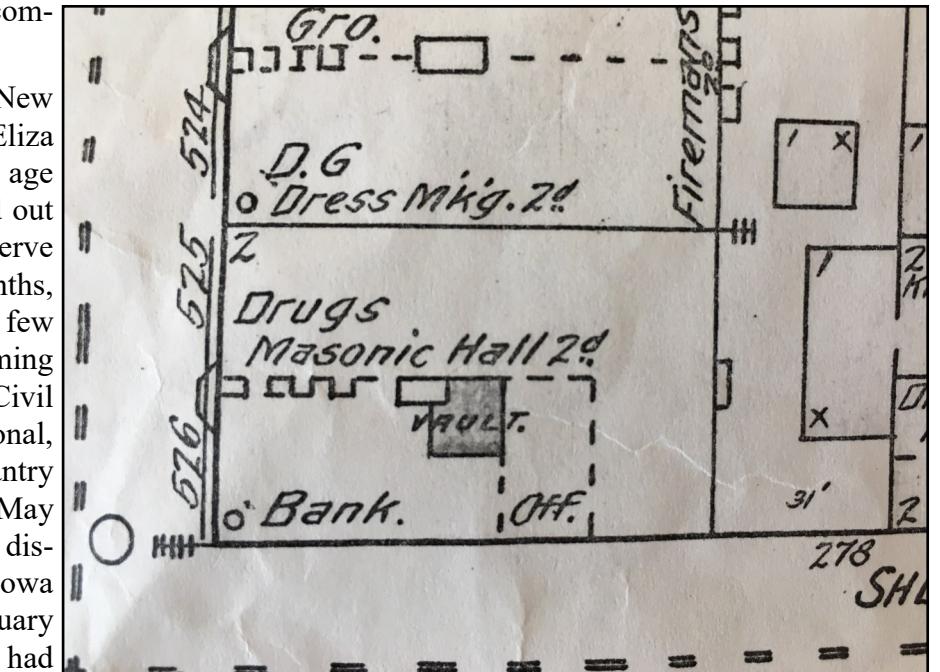
Robert Scarf was an early businessman in Pipestone City, the owner and proprietor of Scarf Drug. The Museum has many minor documents that have his name on it, as he not only ran one of the first drug stores in town, but participated in many groups and committees.

He was born January 23, 1846 in New York, the son of William and Eliza (Hamilton) Scarf. He was orphaned at age 9 and along with a brother, was bound out to a farmer, with whom they were to serve until of age. Robert stayed ten months, then worked at the printers trade for a few years. When grown, he tried farming around McGregor, Iowa. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted from National, Iowa, in Company E, 27th Iowa Infantry on August 13, 1862 and served until May 30, 1863 (nine months). After his discharge, he enlisted in Company F, 9th Iowa Cavalry, which he served in until February 1866. By the end of his service, he had attained the rank of Corporal.

After his discharge he returned to McGregor, Iowa, and worked in the grocery business for a year, and then began moving around. He spent a short time in Julesburg, Colorado, then two and a half years in Cheyenne, Wyoming, before heading to Nebraska where he bought Railroad land. He spent several years in Nebraska and Iowa, later moving to Lyle, Minnesota, where he got into the drug store business.



“From Scarf the Druggist, Pipestone, Minn.” from the Museum’s Collection.



From the 1892 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: the footprint of the old Pipestone National Bank Block with the bank at the corner of Main & Hiawatha and the Drug store wrapping around it. The Masonic Hall was at one time on the second floor of this building. It was razed in the 1970s.

In 1872, Robert Scarf married Nellie Cook of St. Angsar, Iowa. They raised five children; Zillah, Henry, Ralph, Robert and Joyce. In August 1879 the Scarf family moved to Pipestone, where Robert operated Scarf Drug in several different locations. It is not known where he was located initially, but by 1887 Scarf Drug was at 118 West Olive (Main) Street where today [2019] the Alton Building is located. By the early 1890s, Scarf Drug was operating out of an “L” shaped room with storefronts at 103 East Olive (Main) Street and 103 North Hiawatha Avenue.

Robert was also heavily involved in local politics. He was a member of the school board and Justice of the Peace, among other offices. He was a charter member of the Pipestone G.A.R. post, as well as a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Odd Fellows fraternities. His name is inscribed on the 1901 Soldier Memorial Monument on the Pipestone County Courthouse lawn.

Robert Scarf lived his last two years in Dickinson, North Dakota, where he died in October of 1906. His wife Nellie died in 1922. Both are buried in Old Woodlawn Cemetery in Pipestone, along with daughter Zillah and son Henry.

Memorials

July-October 2019

Elizabeth “Betty” McCabe

by Todd Hanson

Elizabeth “Betty” McCabe

by Mary Ott

Mildred Weinkauf
by Maynard Winsel

Lorraine Halbersma
by Marian Carstens

In Honor of the Ruthon Class of 1960

by Leland & Marilyn Erickson

Mildred Weinkauf
by Lois Hansen

Fred VanderWal
by Golden Club

Norman VanderPoel
by Maynard Winsel

Dorothy Anne (Kotchain) LaBrune
by Leland & Marilyn Erickson

Rachel Kroontje
by Marian Carstens



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.

Staff Change-Ups

Sue Post is joining the staff as a Museum Aide! Her position will be focused on Membership and the Gift Shop and she will be a front-line face to recognize!

Trava Olivier has moved into the Programming and Education position. You’ll see her in her new capacity leading programming around the Pipestone County community.

Noah Burris remains as the point of contact for the Collection, as well as Exhibits.

Susan Hoskins is entering her sixteenth year as Executive Director.

Donations

July- October 2019

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

Kimberly Ernst, Rosemarie Loose (schoolhouse painting), Pipestone Class of 1951, Erik Hadden & Brenna Jones (schoolhouse painting), Hart Nelsen, Bruce & Barbara Jensen, Pipestone County Medical Center (schoolhouse painting.)

2019 Holiday Fair Fundraiser

The 15th Annual Holiday Fair craft show & vendor fair took place Saturday, November 4 at the Pipestone High School commons. This is one of our biggest Fundraising events and went off without a hitch this year with over 40 vendors and cooperation from Mother Nature with a beautiful day! In addition, we held a Silent Auction with the generous donation of local businesses and members. We have some great bidding and many happy shoppers. Thanks to all the volunteers who make this event possible and the community for supporting it!



Last day for the exhibit
"Sign of the Times; Signature Quilts of Pipestone County, 1910s-1980s"
 will be
 Tuesday, December 31, 2019

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 and a historic Courthouse Ornament.

PCHS is looking for high school annuals from **Ruthton, Jasper and Edgerton High Schools**

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; Sue Post—Museum Aide

The Legacy of Arthur P. Rose

By Trava Olivier



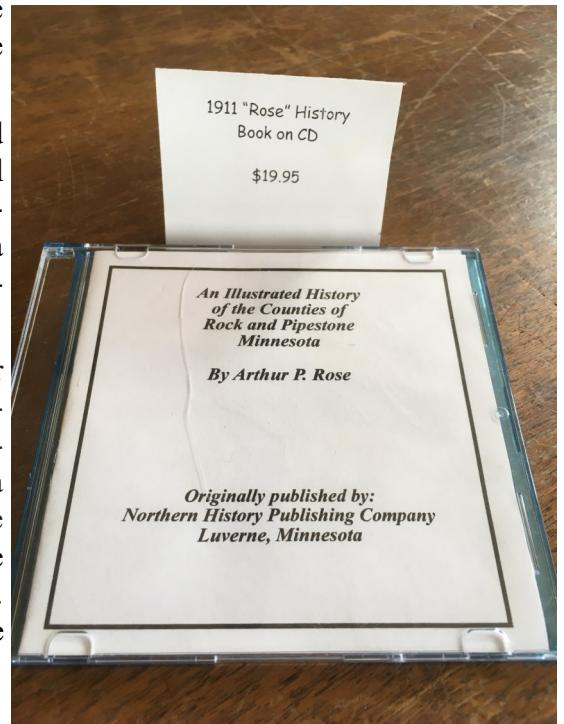
In the early 1900s, Arthur Rose published a series of books on the history of southwest Minnesota. One of these books, *A History of Rock and Pipestone County*, records the history of the region from the time prior to the European settlement of the area until its publication in 1911. It outlines the exploration, organization, settlement and development of the villages and townships of Pipestone County. It documents the grasshopper plagues that impeded the growth of the area during the mid-1870s, the arrival of the railroads that brought rapid growth to some settlements and led to the demise of others. As the staff at the Pipestone County Museum strive to understand the history of the county this book proves itself to be a resource that offers a plethora of information.

Apart from all the above information the Rose history book (as Museum staff refer to it) is a treasury of genealogical information. Mr. Rose used legal documents and newspaper accounts gathered in a systematic manner to document the earliest settlers in the area. He compiled the gathered information into biographies of those settlers that genealogists use today to trace the ancestors who once called Pipestone County home. Not every settler's bio appeared in the book. Fortunately, the gathered information of those who did not appear in the publication was preserved in scrapbooks and those scrapbooks made their way to the archives of the Pipestone County Historical Society. These scrapbooks as well as book itself have been indexed and are included in the Museum databases. When a family researcher comes to the Museum, we are able to

search the database by family surname and if their ancestors were included in the book or the scrapbooks we are able to quickly locate the information and photocopy it for the researcher.

The biographies often provide the names of parents, spouse and children of the subject being discussed, the vocation the individual is engaged in, and where the person lived prior to arriving in Pipestone County. Knowing where they arrived from can often assist a genealogist in expanding the search area and successfully discovering new avenues to pursue in their pursuit of their family history.

When you think about legacy, it's something that is left behind after a person has passed. In this instance Mr. Rose left behind an account of Pipestone County. An account that has proven to be a resource useful to the understanding of the overall history of the area as well as a genealogical tool for many families who ancestors once settled here. It is unlikely Mr. Rose knew that the information he was recording would be a legacy 108 years after it was published. Nonetheless, the comprehensive scope of the contents within the pages of *A History of Rock and Pipestone County* make it such.



The Rose history book is out of publication. We do not currently have any copies available in the Museum Gift Shop on our local items shelf. However, we have a searchable CD of this publication available in the Museum Gift Shop for \$19.95.