



**Crow Wing County Museum
& Research Library
Restored Sheriff's Residence**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Crow Wing County Historical Society is committed to preserving the history and telling the story of Crow Wing County.

STAFF

*Pam Nelson
Director/Administrator
Newsletter Editor*

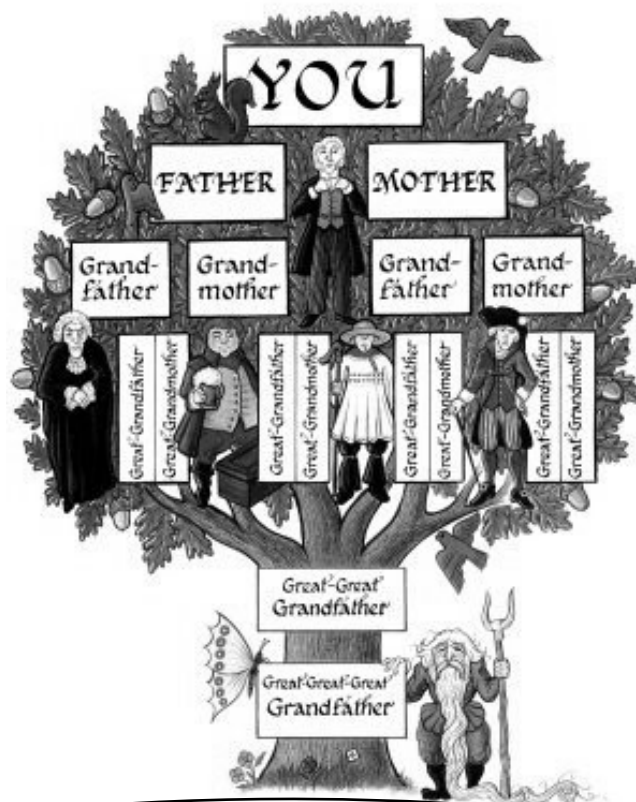
*Lynda Hall
Assistant Administrator*

*Darla Sathre
Administrative Assistant*

Experience Works Staff

*Carol Brouillet
Lyn Lybeck*

NEWSLETTER



**Exciting News for genealogists and researchers:
We have purchased a new Microfilm Scan to PC System!**

**Thanks to a Legacy Grant and generous donors!
The new ScanPro 2000 Digital Microfilm Scanner
replaces our old microfilm reader.**

Some of the features are:

- High Speed Scanning in One Second-get more done in less time
- High Quality Images-fine detail in grayscale or black & white
- Scan All Microforms-roll film, fiche, cartridges, micro opaques
- Easy to Use-customizable software perfect for public use
- Zoom Lens-7X to 105X to capture hard to read images

"This project has been financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund."

President's Report

The year is flying by. It's already almost fair time and as usual we need volunteers to help out. We are nearing a decision concerning the Carbine House at the fairgrounds. The 1880's log home is deteriorating. It needs to be totally refurbished or it must come down. We will continue to look for donations and ideas to help us restore it. But, as of this date it doesn't look good. The museum has been busy with a lot of visitors, including over 300 school students and chaperones. In the past couple months, Pam Nelson and I have given three presentations about the society and museum to various groups. We have also welcomed a new board member, Ted Kotyk, who has volunteered many hours for the museum. I hope everyone will feel free to give us any advice and ideas. Have a great summer!

Don Samuelson,
Crow Wing County Historical Society
Board President



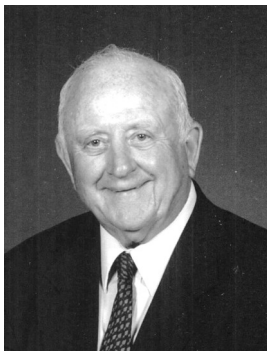
Crow Wing County Fair

*Tuesday, July 31st
thru
Saturday, August 4th
10 am—10 pm*

Volunteers Needed!

See you at the fair!

Crow Wing County Historical Society/Museum BOARD OF DIRECTORS



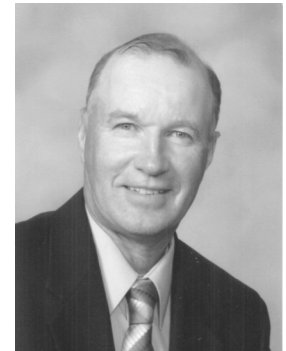
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2012 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Greetings

From Pamela Nelson,
Director/Administrator

I have taken on a new role at the Crow Wing County Historical Society as the new executive director/administrator. I have been with the society for six years, first as an assistant to our former administrator Marilyn Anderson, and as of December, part-time director. I have been a life-long resident of Brainerd, and my family homesteaded in this area. My main priority is to organize our collections so that they can be accessed more easily. This project can only be accomplished with the help of staff and our capable volunteers.

Lynda Hall, who has volunteered in our research library for over two years, is now our Assistant Administrator and doing a fine job! She was instrumental in getting a Legacy Grant for our new Microfilm Reader. We have submitted another grant application to renovate a large painting of Lyman P. White. It was in need of restoration before we could put it back on display. Lynda continues to help out in the research library as well as doing other office duties. Administrative assistant Darla Sathre continues working in the accessioning department and does research. We all give tours of the sheriff's residence.

Since January we have been in the process of organizing the artifacts stored in the attic. When the artifacts are in their locations, new carpet will be laid on the upper level. That will enable us to open a new exhibit area. We have several very large artifacts such as a loom and an ox cart that will have to stay so they will be part of the exhibit. Hopefully we will be able to display some items that have been in storage.

Our plan is to have the Lyman P. White Portrait as the center of the Exhibit. Who is Lyman P. White, you might ask? He is considered the "Father of Brainerd" by historians. Mr. Lyman helped lay out the town of Brainerd. He was president of the first town council and served as the second mayor.

Please check out our website. Board member John Van Essen has attached photos of our county fair buildings that were taken in the past. John is also a historical newspaper aficionado and has been using the digital microfilm reader at the Brainerd Public Library to make digital copies of the weekly Brainerd Dispatch newspapers. Issues from 1883 through 1899 are now available as PDF files, kindly hosted by the City of Brainerd on their website. Google "Brainerd" (the city website is the first hit), go to that website and select *History* from their *Help & About* menu item.

The Historical Newspapers link will take you to the page with links to the PDF files. Some issues of interest:
Sep 14, 1883, p. 3 - Celebration of the N.P.R.R. Golden Spike
Jul 24, 1896, p. 1 - Execution by hanging of murderer John Pryde
Jun 3, 1898, p. 1 - Brainerd twister causes lots of damage



Lucille and Lynda

The Genealogy Conference presented by the Brainerd Public Library on Saturday May 5th was a huge success with over 100 in attendance. The conference was held at The Lodge in Brainerd. Speakers talked about oral history, internet research, and genealogy techniques. I heard an attendee proclaim that "it was an enjoyable and very good day." Lynda Hall and Lucille Kirkeby were responsible for the museum's display. One of the presenters said that it was the largest gathering of its kind outside of the Twin Cities.



We had our annual volunteer appreciation luncheon in January. We celebrated Marilyn Anderson's retirement at the same time. Marilyn plans on volunteering here at the museum. Maybe we will see her at the fair! Happy retirement, Marilyn!

2012 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



By: *Lucille Kirkelby*

In my last article, I wrote about rationing and how it was operated by the government and local rationing boards. I covered what was rationed and how rationed items were allotted.

How did people handle these restrictions?

Remember, there was a government campaign to get everyone to comply. There was no question that sacrifice was expected from everyone. Ad campaigns, posters and radio messages emphasized that everyone needed to conserve to maintain supply levels for the troops. Your patriotism was in question if you did not join in the war effort.

Laura Larson, a retired Brainerd elementary teacher, recalls rationing. Because her parents lived on a farm near Fort Ripley, getting meat and vegetables were never a problem. Laura did mention how difficult it was to get flannel diapers. (Remember, we did not have any type of non - cloth diapers). Washing diapers was also a monumental job since soap powder that could be used to wash diapers was in short supply. Even getting a washing machine was difficult. You had to get on a list, and it would take some time before a machine was available. Until you finally got the washing machine, there was the good old fashioned washboard. Laura and her husband had one car. He worked in Duluth in a defense plant; she taught school at Fifty Lakes. They took turns using the car. A trip to Duluth at 35 miles an hour seemed to take forever. They were in luck since there was train transportation available. Laura recalls that farmers were allotted more gas for their tractors. Sometimes her father had a little left over to help out her and her husband.

One woman, a college student during rationing, recalls that when she enrolled at the University of Minnesota, she had to give her dorm kitchen supervisor her personal ration books so that the supervisor could purchase the items that this student was entitled to.

Others recall that one pair of shoes a year was allowed. It was possible to get cloth shoes with a plastic sole. These required no stamps. For young women, silk stockings were a fashion item. Cotton and rayon stockings were easier to get, but when a store advertised that silk stockings were available there was a mad rush much like we see at Black Friday sales during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Since ready-made clothes could also be in short supply, women were forced to do more sewing. Some of you may remember the flour sacks that came out in prints. One could fashion items of clothing, curtains, etc. from these sacks. Of course, you had to find more than one sack with the same pattern on it. Some sacks were printed for specific purposes like for pillow cases.

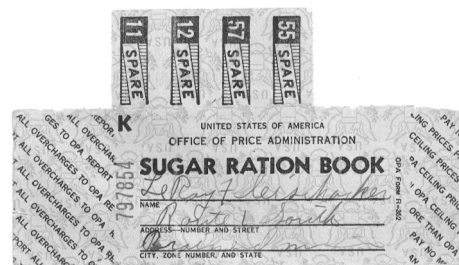
With the growing of fruits and vegetables, much canning was done. A person could go to the local rationing board and get permission to buy additional sugar for canning. The government allotted one pound of sugar for each four quarts of fresh fruit. Also one pound per person was allowed for jams and jellies. Applicants had to state how many quarts were canned the previous year, number of quarts in possession and supply other information so that the rationing board could determine the reasonableness of the request.

In an old World War I scrapbook, a newspaper published a letter from a woman in Sandstone, MN. In this letter, she tells of how she dealt with war time rationing. She speaks of serving cornmeal, fried, as mush or with milk as part of at least seven meals during the week. Oatmeal was used to make a sack of flour stretch so far that you hardly recognized the flour. Living in a small town, the family was able to have a garden so they were well stocked with vegetables. They even grew a small patch of wheat which they harvested and ground into flour by hand.

The family had a novel way of conserving sugar. They would tie the sack so tightly with string that it would take time to open. This made it easier to do without than to open the sack. The most obvious method of conserving sugar, of course, was using less of it. Rhubarb was a favorite for pies and sauce. To cut down on the amount of sugar needed, rhubarb could be brought

to a boil, then drained and new water added.

This way some of the strong flavor would be gone and one did not need quite as much sugar.



The family had heated with coal in the past, but had changed to wood. Their thinking was that it was better to save the coal for someone else who did not have an available wood supply.

We can conclude that everyone survived the hardships imposed by rationing, and most people were healthier for it.

SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT...



DARLA SAYS. . .

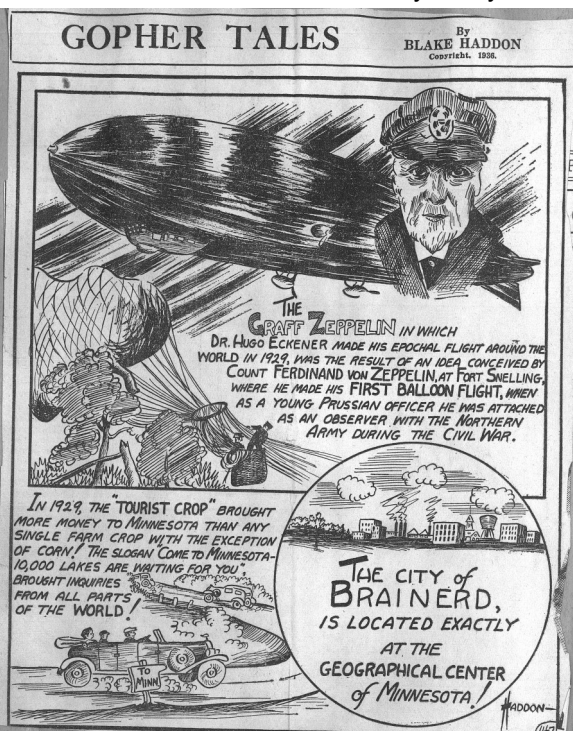
YOU HAVE TO SEE THIS. . .

Do you like scrapbooking? If so, you're in good company. Mark Twain and Thomas Jefferson were both scrapbookers. Even if you don't make your own, I'm sure you enjoy looking at others; it's amazing the items you find in scrapbooks. We have dozens of old scrapbooks in our archives. Let me tell you about just a few of my favorites.

Brainerd celebrated its centennial in 1971, and we have a scrapbook (82.78.4) of memorabilia from that celebration. There are newspaper clippings, song sheets, stickers, photos, programs, a calendar, and more. It should be a wonderful resource when it comes time to plan Brainerd's bi-centennial celebration.

Related to that scrapbook, we have one of early Crow Wing and Brainerd history (73.845.1). It's chock full of historic newspaper clippings ranging from 1902 to 1948. The best thing about this scrapbook is that somebody has typed an index, so it's easy to find topics you are most interested in.

Our mainly 1938 scrapbook (73.768.1) contains many "Gopher Tale" Minnesota history newspaper clippings, many of which have tidbits of local history. They're fun to read.

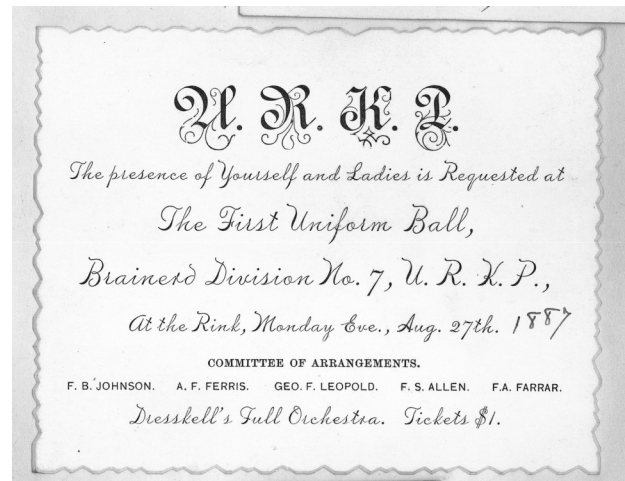


Also included are general Brainerd newspaper history articles. A wonderful aspect of this scrapbook is the "Mark Twain's Scrapbook" sticker inside the front cover. Mark Twain was such an avid scrapbooker that he devoted his Sun-

days to that hobby. He even patented his invention for pre-pasted scrapbook pages.

Another Mark Twain brand scrapbook (73.778.1) we have is filled with a conglomeration of trade cards, poetry, magazine pictures, and Brainerd newspaper clippings, many dated in the late 1800's.

Merrifield resident Martha Ann Bronson put together a scrapbook (73.699.1) full of interesting information – some of it local, some not. There are tickets, programs, trading cards, and invitations, as well as the ubiquitous newspaper clippings. Many of the newspaper clippings refer to the formation of the Crow Wing County Historical Society, including its activities, people, and artifacts.



The above scrapbooks are all in commercial scrapbook format. In my accession office, I keep a 1910 catalog (2007.045.1) for reference purposes. About a hundred of its almost 800 pages have glued on newspaper clippings – some local, some not, ranging from the 1920's to the 1940's. The subjects range from Lindbergh and Byrd to war and other current events including flooding and other major weather stories. On the original pages, behind the clippings, the advertisements for watches, jewelry, and other assorted goods peek through. The compiler of this scrapbook certainly ascribed to the "waste not, want not" philosophy.

Some scrapbooks have themes. The last three scrapbooks I'll tell you about are compiled by three graduates of Brainerd High School in 1910, 1917, and 1922. The title of Georgia Lucille Brown's scrapbook is "School Girl Days" (74.1.22) which was compiled in 1910. "The Girl Graduate" is the title of the scrapbooks compiled in 1917 and 1922. The 1917 scrapbook (85.80.1) is by Sigrid Stendal and the 1922 scrapbook (2011.096.001) is by Irene Brose. All three contain photographs, autographs, newspaper clippings, tickets, name cards, and so much more. Both Georgia and Sigrid included pressed flowers. Sigrid included a chewing gum wrapper and even a piece of unwrapped pink candy!

If you come to our research library to see any of these, tell us the accession number which I've included in the description to help with faster location. Also come to our museum gift shop where we have a limited supply of scrapbook papers for sale at only a nickel a page; come pick out yours while supplies last!

Business & Organizational Members and/or Donors

THEY SUPPORT US. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM.

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- AAUW (American Association of University Women)
- Antiques & Books—Staples, MN
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- Brainerd Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Brainerd Savings & Loan
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- Carole Paulson & Associates
- Cragun’s Conference Center & Golf Resort
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- DJ Hall Sign & Design
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- Schaefer’s Foods
- Scotch Pine Tree Farm
- Stifel Nicolaus
- Syantis Technologies
- The Copier/ECR Service
- The Real Estate Company of Crosslake
- W. W. Thompson Concrete Products

WELCOME AND FAREWELL

We have new faces at the museum. They are Lyn Lybeck and volunteers Brian Marsh and Jessica Williams. Lyn is an Experience Works person. She is a greeter, gives tours of the sheriff’s residence, cleans and does other duties. Brian has organizing our map collection. Jessica has focused on data entry as well as other projects. They are doing a great job!

With sadness we say goodbye to our treasured Experience Works person, Carol Brouillet. We all will miss her! We wish her luck on her next job.

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- **NEW MEMBERS** □
- We thank you □
- for your support! □
-
- Family Member □
- Sandy Ash □
-
- Supporting Members □
- Nancy C. Anderson □
-
- Individual Members □
- Di Ann Easterby □
- Colleen Morgan Hess □
- Brian Marsh □
- Jim Miller □
- Mary Sather □
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- Sharon Wetteland □
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Supporting County/Municipalities

- City of Baxter
- City of Brainerd
- Crow Wing County
- Townships:
- Crow Wing Platte Lake
- Fairfield St. Mathias
- Irondale Garrison
- Long Lake

**CROW WING COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETIES/ MUSEUMS**

Crosslake Historical Society

Phone: (218) 692-5400

website: www.crosslakehistoricalsociety.org

Crow Wing County Historical Society and Museum

Phone: (218) 829-3268

website: <http://www.crowwinghistory.org>

Cuyuna Iron Range Heritage Network

Depot museum in Crosby

Phone: (218) 545-6178 or (218) 545-1166

Website: www.cuyunaheritage.org

Nisswa Area Historical Society

Phone: (218) 963-3570

Northern MN Railroad Heritage Association

"Home of the Northern Trackers"

Phone: (218) 692-1900

Website: northerntrackersrrclub.com

Pegquot Lakes Area Historical Society

Phone:(218) 568-5708 or (218) 568-4205

**MONETARY DONATIONS
AND GIFTS IN KIND
THANKS!**

Barbara Charnstrom
gift membership for Dan Lapham

Jaycees
towards display case

Lucille Kirkeby
for research library book

Don & Nancy Samuelson
towards volunteer luncheon

Undesignated Donations:

Mark & Cathy Gray
Smith-Holt Lake Association
Ron Meyer

Contributions towards microfilm scanner:

Crow Wing County Historical Foundation

Sertoma

State Farm Insurance Company
(for Lois Jubie's volunteer hours)

John Van Essen

Thank You to Our Volunteers !

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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| <i>Ross Hoffmann</i> | <i>Jessica Williams</i> |
| <i>George Hooper</i> | |

Memorials

Thank you...

to the following people who have
given gifts to the Society
in memory of friends & relatives.

In Memory of: Irene Fisher

Given by: Susan Fisher

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

We need someone who is friendly to greet visitors and answer the phone. Just one day a week for a few hours would be great! We especially need someone on Saturday from 10 am - 3 pm. Please call the museum at 829-3268 and ask for Pam or Lynda.

CROW WING COUNTY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM & LIBRARY - EST. 1927

320 LAUREL STREET PO BOX 722
BRainerd, MN 56401

2012-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE CROW WING COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM,
SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE AND RESEARCH LIBRARY
IS LOCATED NEXT TO THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

PHONE: 218-829-3268 FAX: 828-4434 E-MAIL: history@crowwing.us (new address)

WEB: <http://www.crowwinghistory.org>

HOURS: TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY 10 AM - 3 PM (Closed Major Holidays & Holiday Weekends)

Call the museum to schedule appointments or tours after hours.

CWCHS Yearly Membership Levels:

\$500.00 - Patron	\$40.00 - Family	Business:
\$250.00 - Benefactor	\$40.00 - Non-Profit Org.	\$50.00 for 1 to 10 employees
\$100.00 - Booster	\$30.00 - Supporting Individual	\$75.00 for 11 to 25
\$50.00 - Sustaining	\$20.00 - Individual	\$100.00 for 26 to 50
		\$200.00 for over 50

PLEASE SUPPORT CWCHS
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

To become a member of the Society, send your name, address, and telephone number along with your membership dues to the *Crow Wing County Historical Society, P.O. Box 722, Brainerd, MN 56401*. If you would like to give a gift membership to the Society, please send the name and address of the person for whom the membership is intended. Memorials of loved ones are also accepted. Donations can be sent to the same address and are tax deductible. Membership forms are available on our website or at the Museum.

Listed on the National
Register of Historic Places.

