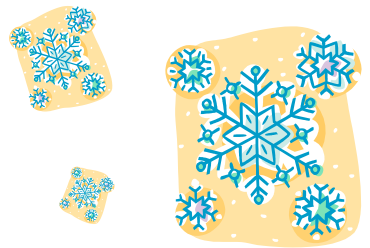




SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Henderson, Minnesota 56044 Ph: (507)248-3434

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Volume 15, Issue 4



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Calendar of Events

Check our website for 2011 programs. The March issue of the newsletter will have the programs listed

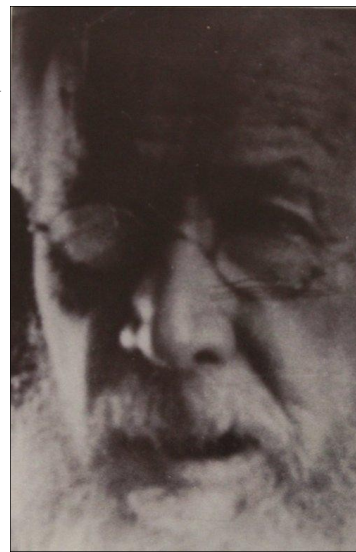
- **NOTE NEW STARTING TIMES—7PM**
- If you have suggestions or comments on upcoming events Contact Judy Loewe 507-248-3345 **Calendar Subject to Change.**



The Woodbury Chronicles

By Charles W. Erickson

Have you ever thought how special it would be to have a chance to sit down and enjoy an armchair, in front of the fireplace, face to face chat, with someone that was a living participant and witness to the historical settling of the Minnesota Territories? Of course all of us realize that in life, as we know it, this chat is not possible. However, I have been blessed with the opportunity to have this conversation through ancestral documentation. My name is Charles Wesley Erickson Jr. and I can assure you that I was completely thrilled and captivated as their personal stories and experiences were related to me.



C.W. Woodbury

My great-great grandfather, Charles Wesley (C.W.) Woodbury and wife Martha Elizabeth were original settlers of the Minnesota Territories. They maintained a hand written journal from 1854 through 1892. The journal provides a true vision of what their lives were like as they settled in Minnesota. Although many events of the day were routine or repetitious, there were many days when they faced life-threatening challenges. On many occasions their faith and strength to survive was tested beyond imagination. They experienced blessings as well as tragedies, gladness and sadness, as their lives unfolded at that time. In addition to the journal there are letters from C.W. to his sister Clarissa in New Hampshire and from Clarissa to C.W. in return. For the moment I would like to share a small

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The Prez Sez

by Jerome Petersen

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

I don't think 2011 can beat 2010 at SCHS. It has been wonderful to move into our new facilities and to have space to work. And to think we even have drawers! (not referring to underwear) We can put paper and pencils in them. There is room for our genealogy material and microfilm reader. We accomplish much more with the added space. I have to thank our members for the support you gave us for this big project.

If you are able, try to visit for our Holiday Open House. The museum will be decorated for the holidays. The music room is restored, and there will be music provided by people playing

our newly tuned old piano, and singing. Refreshments will be served in the new addition.

More big news. We have a new website. We had Harriet Traxler come to our board meeting and tell about her website. She agreed to help us to get ours up and running. The next 3 Tuesdays Dorothy and Harriet built the site. Steve and Becky Briggs added the Ostrom Pages and helped refine and enhance the site. I think it is a gem. The old site will also be active until the money runs out. The people in CA that were managing that site, told us how much time it takes to add pictures or do editing, but we could take classes for several hundred dollars and learn to do it ourselves. Harriet gave us classes and we gave her a

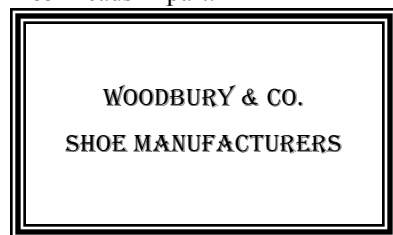
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sample of excerpts from the journal and the letters with all of you. The selections I've chosen are their written words and spelling. The use of capital letters and punctuation is inconsistent. I have added a period here and there in an attempt to make reading a little easier.

C.W. Woodbury came from a long lineage of Woodbury's that immigrated from Somersetshire, England to Massachusetts, in 1624. According to history, John Woodbury was one of the "Old Planters" of Naumkeag, now known as Salem, Massachusetts.

C.W. Woodbury was born in Salem, New Hampshire on January 22, 1823, to parents David and Clarissa Woodbury. (Note: Later, C.W. also had a sister named Clarissa.) As a young adult, C.W. became a shoemaker by trade. His business card of 1854 reads in part:



He married Martha Elizabeth in the summer of 1846. In 1847 they were blessed with the arrival of their first child, Martha Alice. Two years later Clara Augusta entered into their lives and they were blessed again with Charles Edmond in 1854. That same year, with their three children in hand, they headed for Minnesota and on August 2, 1854, arrived in Eden Prairie Minnesota Territory on the steamship Globe. On August 18, C.W. bought a claim from William Thoms for \$135. The views were stunning in all directions. He proceeded to build a small house, bought a pair of oxen, a pig, and two hens. With this, Charles Wesley Woodbury and Martha Elizabeth began a life of raising children, crops and livestock.

(Their property was located west of what is now known as the Flying Cloud Airport (Eden Prairie, MN) in Sections 21, 28 and 29 Township 116 Range 22. A topographical description of the area would be a wonderful blend of tillable acreage transforming into rolling hills and valleys that slope towards the river, with stunning views in all directions. The future saw a portion of their property to the south being developed into a golf course. My son and I had the opportunity to walk this entire area as we played the course. I have revisited the property several times. The golf course is gone now and multiple housing is on the horizon and approaching rapidly. My first impression of this area is that part of it would have been a great location for a vineyard. It is very remindful of the pictures I've seen that show the beautiful wine country in Italy. The terrain is such that the ninth and final hole on the course had an elevator that the golfer would use to return to the clubhouse and parking level. Grace Church, a mega church by today's definition, has been erected on a northern part of the property. I had the privilege of being involved in the

construction of this structure so I've been on this land often.)

C.W. loved Eden Prairie and expresses this in a letter to his sister Clarissa and husband Timothy S. Jacobs in Manchester, New Hampshire, dated 11/12/1854.

The prairie is 20 miles long and from 2 to 6 wide on the river. We are on one end. It is almost one by it self. It is 4 miles long and 3 wide of clean prairie. Prime land easy cultivated. My farm is on the west end of the prairie (which runs west) next to the woods which extent back a great many miles. My clame has about 185 akers prairie & from 40 to 50 of timber. There are some 12 to 15 ponds within 3



BACK ROW; Charles E. Woodbury, Will Firl, Martha Woodbury holding Baby Benjamin Woodbury, Miss Speed (Teacher), Eliza McEwen Delger, Clara Woodbury, Mary McEwen
FRONT ROW; David Woodbury, Charles Firl, Alec Phillips, Charlie Phillips, Cyrus McEwen, Matthew McEwen, Sarah Phillips, Harvey Cook [Koch], Bessie Gertrude Woodbury, Maggie Cook [Koch] District 36, Sibley Township, 1866 This is a copy of a tintype photo
Woodburys paid 75 cents

miles of me and 6 miles there is one 40 miles long. Thes are all full of ducks, geese, fish, mink, otter, etc. The land is high & dry enough though one could suppose from the number of ponds that it would be low, sunken & unhealthy. But it is one of the most heathey places on the globe. There is a fine spring of pure cold water running through my place where we get our water.....I like first rate. It is a very pleasant place. We are 2 miles from the steam boat landing and they pass wright in sight every day so you can come from Manchester to within 2 miles of my place by steam. I can make money here hand over fist.....We

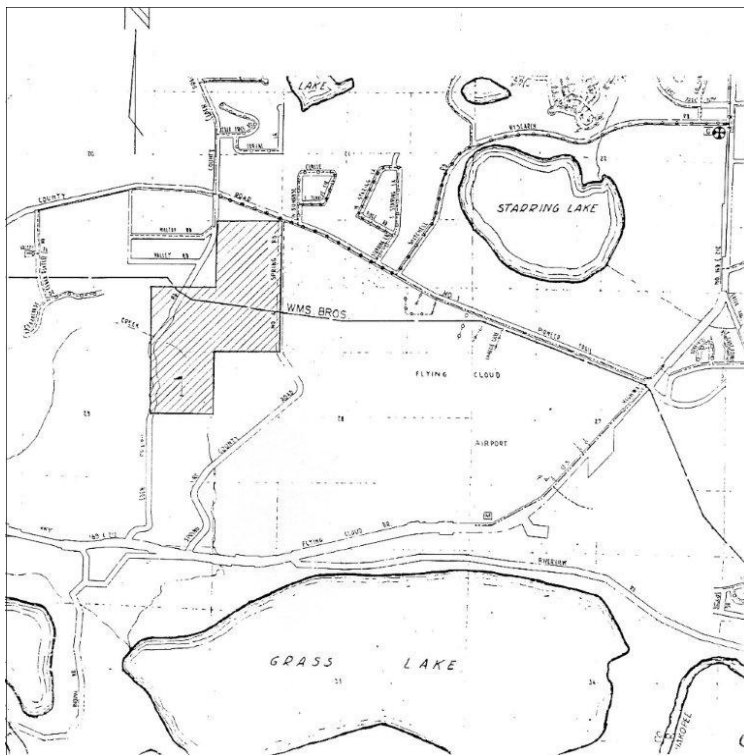
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have to work pretty steady for a while in the fall but the spring & summer is not hard. A man can live as well again & not work more than a 1/3 as hard as in the East. Every body is well and hearty here..... The longer I stay the better I like. We all like it.

(I have visited the site of the spring that he makes reference to and have tasted the water. The Dakota name for this creek was Winohinca Ktepi, meaning



This present day map show the location of the Woodbury property in Eden

"the creek where they killed the woman." The name recalls an attack by Ojibways on a woman here who was scalped and left for dead. The woman survived the attack; explorer Joseph Nicollet heard in 1838 that she then had children who had grand children and great-grand children. White settlers called the stream Riley Creek, named after a family that settled in Eden Prairie in 1853. Dakota Indians occupied this creek valley even after the surrounding country was settled by whites. The creek drains from Riley Lake and the spring is still used by the general public today. They arrive with a variety of containers to be filled and used for their personal home consumption.)

Issues regarding crops, weather, amusements, Indians, community involvement, pests, and family, (newborns and the passing of elders) were recorded daily as they occurred. In some cases months passed between the exchange of letters from C.W and Martha

and the replies from relatives in New Hampshire. Those out east read about the activities of the Indian population and could not be convinced that Minnesota is the great place that C.W. claimed it to be.

Regarding crops and weather he continues on in the same letter.

I lost about 100 bushels potatoes & 4 tuns hay. The one by frost. The other by fire..... We had about 2 in. snow last Thurs. night and it has been cold enough since to freeze hell over. Thursday morning was warm & pleasant & had been all fall.

From a letter written by C.W. to sister Clarissa in New Hampshire dated 2/12/1855 he tells them about a part of their social life.

This winter we have a singing school once a week. A party or ball every two or three weeks. These with what other amusements we can find make the time pass very well.

In the same letter C.W. mentions the Indians.

They are very civil to the settlers. They will come in armed with guns, hatchets, knives, bows & arrows, sit down without saying a word, look around at everything in the room. (We have the room papered with Gleason's pictorials. They take the attention of the Indians.) Some times ask for something to eat. Others sit a while and go off. There are some very handsome squaws among them. The Sioux (Sous) & Chipaways are always at war. They have a martial hatred of each other & never meet without fighting.

The Chipawas live N & E of the St. Croix which is the line between. They had a fight last week between St Paul & Stillwater. The Sioux are having a pow wow now about 2

miles from here at their camp. They make the damnest noise that you ever heard. We can hear it here plain as if close to.

In yet another letter to sister Clarissa from both C.W. and Martha dated 2/03/1856, Martha tells her about their community organization, Lyceum.

We have a Lyceum of 32 members. One night there was 53 present & one says where do they all come from. We have discussions, dialogues, etc every Wednesday evening.....I forgot to mention that our Lyceum has a paper and Charles has been Editor but has resigned his office or rather his term was out. Every office serves four weeks and then they choose new.

In the Journal, C.W. describes the 'grasshoppers' in picturesque de-

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tail.

May__1857 Planted about an acre of corn. The grasshoppers are hatching some places on the breaking. They as thick as can be. If they are as thick when they get their growth they won't be able to all light on the ground at once.

July__1857 The grasshoppers are leaving fast. They rise into the air as high as one can see. The air is full of them about noon on clear days. They get to their growth in about five weeks. When full grown they are one inch and an eight long. Their wings are about two inches and a half from tip to tip and white like tissue paper. They have an outside case to their wings which is brown. When about grown it is of a velvety coulor and has two spots close to the roots of the wing. They are very handsome or would be if they had not eat nearly everything for me. The blackbirds are coming back. I hope they will pitch into them.

August__1857 The grasshoppers have left

As noted previously, the first mention of Indians was in the journal entry dated 2/12/1855. In short, from that date on, the actions of the Indians became more feared by the Woodbury family as well as the other settlers. Graphic and sometimes gruesome descriptions of the aftermath of battles between opposing tribes and the killing and kidnapping of whites can be found as the terror mounted. The last entry regarding this subject, while they lived in Eden Prairie, was dated 4/26/1858.

Through the journal and letters to the family, C.W. and Martha express their thoughts regarding the planning and location of the railroad. They and others felt tremendous excitement about the opportunity to have access to a safer, faster way of travel, along with the availability of a broader selection of goods and services.

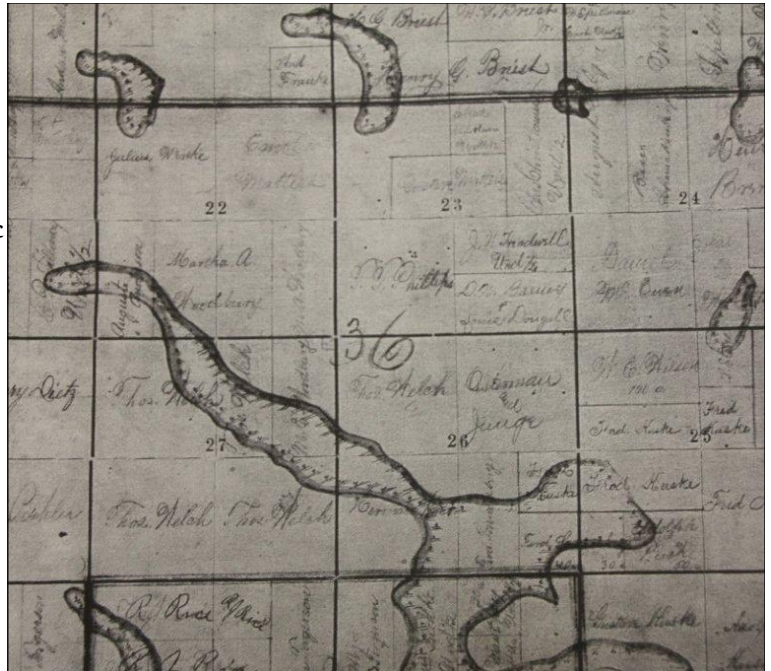
(Can you imagine how exciting it must have been for them to be living right there and then as that portion of Minnesota was developed? A new bridge or highway constructed today could never compare to their experience.)

As I close on their chapter of life in Eden Prairie, 8/02/1854 to 7/17/1860, I would like to add the journal entry from 9/05/1859:

Monday. The wife of Charles W. Woodbury was safely delivered of a Boy which weighed 10 ¼ lbs. It was born about ¼ to 2 o'clock P.M. David Willard Woodbury.

A journal entry by C.W. on 7/17/1860, tells about their new start.

Tues. Sold my place in Eden Prairie for 1550\$. Debts amounted to about 900\$ leaving about 600 net. I went to Illinois to get a place where I could raise fruit but a fruit farm was good for nothing else and there was too much sickness. Every little town had its grave yard to thickly settled. I returned to Minnesota and in Shakopee saw a Mr. Stoun of Kelso, Sibley County, 12 miles from Henderson who talked so hiley of his country that I went up with him and bought 80 acres of him & 80 of a Mr.



This plat shows the Woodbury property in Sections 22 and 27 in Sibley County. At this time the property was in Kelso Township. In 1864 it was divided off into Sibley Township. The large area is the woods known as Norwegian Grove

Thompson in Section 22 & 27 Township 112 Range 28.

He makes it official on 8/18/1860.

Sat. Bought farm 18th of August 1860.

Charles Wesley and Martha Elizabeth Woodbury couldn't say enough good things about their new life. It is well to mention the journal entry dated 8/20/1860.

Mon. Commenced to build a house.....The land cost 332\$ Taxes & cost 10.50 whole cost 342.50\$ House 110 = 452.50\$. We have commenced anew with the experience of our other place. Some farther from market but with better land and more see room now, I will with

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good health and decent good luck, have me a farm as good as any in the county, if not in the state, and as productive in 10 years. I have as good a place as any in this town, which is not yet organized into a town.

C.W. was a party to the development and organization of an agricultural group as is noted in the journal on 3/19/1861.

Wed. Had a meeting at Daniel Whips to organize an agricultural society. A constitution was adopted and the following named persons were chosen officers. President H.L. Thomas, - Vice Presidents J.Q.A. Grant & Arnold Delger, - Recording & Corresponding Secretary C.W. Woodbury, - Abraham Searl Treasurer, - Directors L.S. Reynolds, Ben Tipton, E.M. Gordon, C.O. Colby, Gideon Searl. The society is called the Kelso Town Agricultural Society.

(I have translated the names noted above as written in the journal. Other variations of the spelling might be found in other records or publications.)

The entry on 4/13/1861 states that a committee was chosen to draft a constitution.

On 4/20/1862 C.W. describes their new farm with the following words found in the journal;

Sat. Planted some potatoes, peas, asparagus & cabbage. The first on our new place. The first time an agricultural tool of a white man was ever used on the land. It was with curious sensations of pleasure, pride and awe that I planted this afternoon. Pleasure that we had a prospect of again raising our own living, that the land was so rich and mellow. It was gratifying to think that I could walk over the ground in summer and see the crops growing so green and luxuriant. It was with pride that I could think the land was ours, absolutely ours, all paid for. It is ours from the center of the earth four thousand miles deep, and as high up as we are a mind to go. It is a small thing to be proud of I suppose but can't help it. I live in hopes of having more and better.

It was with a kind of awe that I thought I was the first white man that had put seed into the ground that had laid quiet since the creation. It was just as it came from the hands of the creator.

(I have read this piece of the journal over and over. I find his thoughts and feelings extremely profound, poetic, heartwarming and touching, far beyond taking everything for granted and far surpassing our own imagination and emotion when expressing our own personal fortune and happiness. The way he describes the depth and height of his property is beyond what I could ever put into words. It would have been wonderful to experience a Thanksgiving Day with them as they truly realized the blessings that were bestowed upon them. I have been on this property, Sections 22 and 27 in Township 112 Range 28, and found myself trying to be there as he described their lives.)

It is written in the journal on May 1, 1861:

Wife had a child born at ½ past 8 in the morning (a girl)

(Although it was not mentioned at that particular time, the baby was named Minnie May Woodbury or Little May as they later referred to her.)

Even as they consistently praised their farming way of life and the blessings of that life, relationships with the Indians took a turn for the worse. It is recorded in the journal on Wednesday 8/20/1862:

Report came at 12 o'clock last night that the Indians was coming, killing and destroying as they come. We dressed and left home in a hurry.

In the same entry C.W. mentions the families of Mr. Whips, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Grant, Mr. Manuels and Mr. Gleason, as they fled from the horror of the attacks together.

There are many other entries in the journal describing the terror and savageness that they and their neighbors faced almost daily. An entire article could be written incorporating these entries. At this time I will close writing about the Indians with the following selections.

On 10/05/1862 sister Clarissa Woodbury Jacobs, Manchester, New Hampshire, sent a letter to C.W. that expresses her concern for their safety.

It is a long time since we have heard from you and we feel very anxious to hear from you as we hear that the Indians are murdering the settlers and destroying their property. We hear that they have burnt Henderson and have been all over the country in that direction, and we hear that you may have lost your property. I think of you a great deal but hope things are not as bad out there as the papers represent.

C.W. replies to Clarissa's letter on 11/20/1862.

I will give you a short condensed history of things here since the 19th of Aug. At 4 o'clock Tuesday p.m. I put the last bundle of wheat into

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shock. I had 19 acres. At ½ past 11 that night a courier came full speed and told us to flee for our lives as the Indians were killing & burning the settlement clean as they went and were within a few miles of here. I put a few things in the wagon got the family in and started at mid-night. We went about five miles east to a large log house where all the neighbours were collected. We fortified the house & staid there 3 days when the Indians came into the neighborhood, killed a woman and 3 children, burned the house, hay & grain stacks. We saw the smoke about 4 o'clock p.m. and fled for LeSeuer on the river.....The Indians came no further that way.....(You say you hope things are not so bad as the papers represent? For once the papers have not told the whole, nor half the worst. Such inhuman barbaricts as I have never heard nor thought of. I will not try to tell of the cursed cruelties and as such seans as is not fit to be seen.....Heaps of blackened rubbish, broken and charred furniture, wagons, cattle & horses mark the roads for 150 miles. I never expected to see such seans, and hope I never shall again.) I don't feel like writing more now.

On October 21 Martha sent for a doctor to attend to their Little May. The following day Doctor Mayo arrived from LeSueur but it was too late to do any good. October 23 found May getting worse and on 10/24/1862 Little May, the daughter of C.W. and Martha passed away.

C.W. expresses their feelings of deep sorrow regarding the death of Little May in the same letter.

We have met with a lose. Our Little May is

dead, (my pet) & died too while I was gone. She has been sick sometime but we had not thought much of it as she was cutting her



Undated photo of Charles and Martha Woodbury

teeth and the day I went away she was so much better. I thought she would be all well when I came back and I pictured to myself, while I lay camped on the ground at night, how pleased she would be to see me but - how shall I write it. Instead of the joyous prattle I found her locked in the icy arms of death. Poor May. It was like cutting soul and spirit asunder, but she is in her little grave in a little grove of poplars close to our garden. There at her rest, the little bud.

(When I read about her death and burial, I couldn't help but wonder how many folks were buried on farm sites or areas similar to what he described in his letter. How many of those final resting places have been obliterated unknowingly, leaving no trace, by changes in ownership over time, leaving no trace, It gives a real

meaning to the phrase 'dust to dust'.)

Continuing on from the same letter, C.W. addresses the death of his father.

How different with our Father. Whatever of talents was given him, he like an honest man improved and like shock of corn fully ripe has been gathered to his long home. Father and Mother, they lay side by side. I had hoped that he would have lived a few years longer.....If there is any living hereafter I not only have the hope but the shure faith of meeting all, my May, Father, Mother & all in that happy land.

The letter also contains further detail that describes fleeing the Indian attacks and the loss they and others suffered as a result. It also expresses more of their feelings in regard to losing Little May. Although life at that time can be good, there continues to be obstacles, hardships, and heartbreak.

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

On Friday, December 19, 1862, the journal notes that it was the day set for the hanging of thirty-nine Indians.

The last date I want to mention from the journal was entered by Martha on 12/26/1862, Friday.

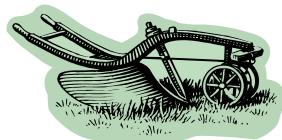
Pleasant & thawing. Wind N.W. Charles picking over the potatoes in the cellar. 38 of the Indians hung that was to be last week.

In closing this article I feel that it is important to repeat Martha's summarization of the year 1862 as written.

The reign of the year 62 is over it but leaves sad memories behind not soon to be forgotten. Especially to the present inhabitants of Minn. in connexion with the Southern War, the sudden attacking by the Sioux Indians upon the White Settlers at New Ulm to Yellow medicine.....Men, Women and Children hardly without a moments warning brutally murdered by the Knife of the Savage while living on their farms in Peace and Plenty apparently with nothing to molest or make them afraid. Others that escaped with their lives left destitute, their Property destroyed, their years of hard labor lost.

Disease & Death has also done its work among us. It has visited alike the Stately Mansions and Humble Dwelling. With us we could bear our loss in crops but when Death came and took our youngest, our Little May from us it left A wound where time nor human skill can not heal. The oldest of our family connexions Father Woodbury ripe in years had been laid in the grave. Our Little May was soon called to follow her grandpa to another world. Though they never saw each other on earth, we trust they have met in heaven.

This article spans the time beginning in 1854 and extends through December of 1862. There are many other entries of interest in the journal and letters that provide additional detail beyond what I have offered thus far. Continuing into 1863, new adventures with additional names, actions, organizations, education and challenges are recorded. It would be my pleasure to share more of their true experiences with you in the future.



(Continued from page 1)

cup of coffee. Better deal! I used to think Harriet could not be any nicer but I was wrong. Same with Dorothy, here is a photo of these two ladies, who are very generous with their time, talent and treasure. When you visit our site, wait until the photos download. There are several scrolling photos. We welcome comments and suggestions.



Dorothy Peterson and Harriet Traxler

Mary Petersen has been voted to be a new board member. She is one of the Tuesday regulars doing filing, cleaning decorating and other tasks. There are rumors she has been sleeping with the SCHS president. All true. There is an effort to replace him with someone more suitable and talented.



For years we have been plagued with bugs: box elder bugs, bees, wasps, Asian Beetles etc. This year we decided to hire a pest control specialist. We still have many bugs, but they are dead. We have found some dead mice too. Wasps are in the log cabin, and there was a concern that someone could have been stung and had an allergic reaction. There were honey bees around the front porch. The entry was crawling with miscellaneous bugs, many ended up in the light fixtures. They were on the window sills and littered the floor. We will see if the expert will solve these problems.

One last part of the new addition is the landscaping and planting grass where the lawn was dug-up for new water lines. We also plan to have river rock between the retaining wall and the building, and the area between the library, kitchen and addition walls. We hoped to get the work done this fall but with the early snow it now seems unlikely.

There was some mix-up with due dates on some of your newsletters last issue. When Ray made the labels, he had to change two and a whole page got changed. We did not realize it until someone pointed out that they had paid and it was not showing on the due date. And we thought no one even looked at that. We highlight it if you are over due sometimes.

We had two excellent programs since our last newsletter. Judy always does a superb job of arranging interesting programs. In August it was "Haunting Experiences" by Chad Lewis. He told us there is a haunted house in Henderson. He has written several books about haunted places in Minnesota and the surrounding states. If I stayed in a haunted house and encountered a ghost, my drawers would need changing. (Not the kind where you put pencils). There were over 100 people at the program. We had to hold it at the Community Building.



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I am often surprised by the amount of interest in the books and so glad that I had the opportunity to do this and for all the encouragement that I received as I have been working on it.

Thanks to Todd Newton of the Fairfax Standard/Gazette who gave me his pictures of the fire. I have them in the *Moltke Barn Book*

Update to; Barns of Sibley County Project

By Harriet Traxler

It is hard to believe that 5 years have gone by since I first began photographing the barns in the county. When I first started I was only going to do the barns in the township that I grew up in (Faxon) but ended up covering all of the townships over the next few years. What I thought would be about 500 barns turned into over 1100 barns in the county! Many of those that I have photographed over the years have already disappeared - some demolished, others just collapsing and some by fire. Most notable of the last is the beautiful Jaus barn in Moltke township which was destroyed by fire on September 9 of this year. Such an enormous loss as this almost 100 year old barn was still being used for dairy production by Martin and Loretta Jaus. I spoke with Loretta recently and they are in the process of rebuilding and I will certainly add the photos of the new barn to the Moltke township book and also on my website, <http://www.barnsofsibleycounty.com/> when it is finished.

We displayed the books at the Sibley County Fair for the second year in the Sibley County Historical Society's building. It was a warm few days but we had lots of interest in them again and I am still getting requests from people who saw the books asking for copies of the books. I found out about some barns that I had missed while out photographing the barns and found out people are disappointed when their barn is not in a township book. So I did go out and find those barns and they are now in the books.





Harry W Kreger	Ocean View DE
Roman Jaus	Winthrop MN
Marie A Kreft	Arlington MN
Bernice V Hanson	New Brighton MN
Merlon Lagerstedt	Gibbon MN
Dorothy & John Johnson	Gibbon MN
Gail & Steven Herschman	Gibbon MN
Diane & Brian Fredin	Winthrop MN
Steve Kleist	Richfield MN
Steven Mallen	Waldport OR
George Doheny	Prior Lake MN
Carrie L Johnson	Poolesville MD
Darlene E Heise	Gibbon MN
Robert & Jo Ann Schwartz	Chanhasen MN
Lowell & Bonnie Nagel	Arlington MN
Carolyn Norman	Henderson MN
William Mickelson	Columbia SC
Elden Egesdal	Gaylord MN
Eugene Hackert	New Ulm MN
Barbara Congdon	Wenatchee WA
Terry & Janet Dempsey	New Ulm MN
Good Samaritan Society	Arlington MN
Karol A Erickson	Olympia WA
Arlene Moore	Gaylord MN
Jen Weinlaeder	Juneau AK
Larry & Rita Friederichs	Gaylord MN
Richard Trocke	Arlington MN
John Berger	Lafayette MN
James Berger	Minnetonka MN

THANK YOU

That is a big thank you. Thanks to the following who donated to your funds for operating the society. County Fair Jar, Harriet Traxler, Fr. John Berger, Gaylord Cognizance, Earl V. Hebeisen, Good Samaritan Society—Arlington, and Henderson United Charity Fund. A very special thanks to Marlene Nelson who passed away this year and left us a very generous gift. We will have an article about her in an upcoming issue. She was instrumental in getting this newsletter started 15 years ago, and has been a faithful member even in failing health.

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The September program was held at the Gibbon Library, and the presenter was Ron Bolduan of New Ulm talking about things to see along the Minnesota River Scenic Byway. He had pictures of a company that nets fish (with the approval of the DNR) and hauls them live to New York. In a distance of a half mile or less they netted TONS of fish. He had photos of rock formations and wild life.

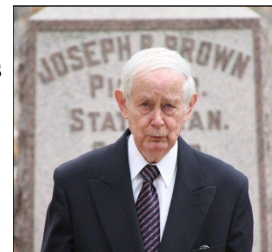
We are trying to put together a policy for genealogy charges. The people doing research are volunteers, but we have other operating expenses; heat, lights, phone, computers, microfilm reader and other expenses. There is a lot of time involved scouring newspapers or census microfilm. Most things you can do yourself, but if you want someone at SCHS to do it we are starting a policy of charging \$20 up front, and \$10 an hour after that. Neighboring societies have similar charges. There are more details on the website, and also a request form to fill out with an outline of charges.



Ron Bolduan



There was a re-dedication of the Joseph R. Brown Memorial at the Joe Brown Cemetery in October. It was a perfect fall setting with a golden leaf cover on the ground. Among the distinguished guest speakers were Earl Renneke,



left, and Terry Dempsey, right. A program followed at the Henderson Com-

(Continued on page 10)

Membership Form

I would like to become a member of the Sibley County Historical Society.

NAME _____ SCHS TREASURER

ADDRESS _____ 49858 316 ST

_____ Winthrop MN 55396-2038

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Individual--\$20, Family-- \$25, Business-- \$50 Send to:

Check your due date on the mailing label. Membership dues are as stated on the form. Please use it to renew your subscription or pass it along to anyone who is interested.



Regular meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, March thru November at the museum in Henderson. The public is invited. The museum is open to the public for tours on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. June thru October and by appointment.

Send articles, announcements, photos and comments to the SCHS Newsletter, P.O. Box 407, Henderson, MN 56044 or Email: schs1@frontiernet.net



SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

700 Main Street

P.O. Box 407

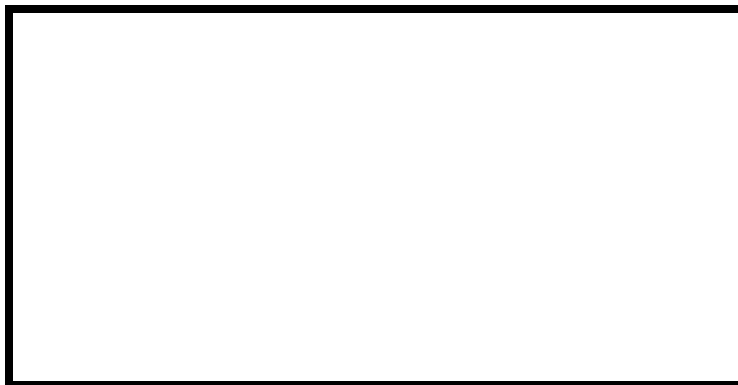
Henderson, MN 56044

Phone: 507-248-3434

Email: schs1@frontiernet.net

SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Jerome Petersen	President
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Dorothy Peterson	Secretary
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Sharon Haggemiller	Curator
Judy Loewe	Marie Main
Millie Johnson	Sharon Shimota
Ruth Ann Buck	Mary Petersen



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munity Center with topics covering the Sioux Uprising et. al.

Our thanks to Charles and Karen Erickson for contributing the story, *The Woodbury Chronicles*, that was derived from the handwritten journal of C.W. Woodbury. What a great piece of history! We are hoping the Ericksons will submit some more articles from this wonderful journal.



New Board member, Mary Petersen

Nelson Norman has written in our newsletter before, and he has more to tell too. His great grandfather's name is in the ledger from the 1850s as part of the ox cart crew taking supplies to North Dakota. Nelson's *father* graduated from Henderson High School in 1898. Note: not his *grandfather*. His family has been on this continent for centuries.

Just enough room to thank you all for the support you have given the society. I will mention our regular Tuesday crew; (in alphabetical order-politically correct!) Arlene Busse, Sharon Haggemiller, Millie Johnson, Marie Main, Mary Petersen, Dorothy Peterson, Sharon Shimota. Jack Bovee has helped for the lasts few months. And Harriet Traxler, Steve and Becky Brigs are major assets. Y'all make it fun to be there. ...and I get to take Mary home with me.

COME TO OUR:

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY JANUARY 2, 2011

1:00 till 5:00

See the restored music room

Holiday music provided by various musicians and vocalists each hour for 20 minutes. Then time for you to explore.

Holiday decorations in all the rooms

Check out the new addition;

Genealogy Center - Storage Room

Break Room and Computer Room

Have some refreshments and view the slide shows on the computers. And don't forget the summer kitchen renewal—new old floor and displays