



Historic Andrew Peterson Farmstead

2022 Annual Report



TO COLLECT, PRESERVE AND INTERPRET

THE HISTORY OF CARVER COUNTY

The Carver County Historical Society is a private, not-for-profit 501(C)3 organization serving the residents of Carver County and beyond. We are located across the street from Bayview Elementary School in downtown Waconia. We have five affiliate groups: Chaska Historical Society, Chanhassen Historical Society, Willkommen Heritage and Preservation Society of Norwood Young America, the Watertown Area Historical Society and the Waconia Heritage Association. In 2022, it celebrated its 82nd anniversary. The Historic Andrew Peterson Farmstead was added in 2015.

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A Message from the President

As we roll into 2023, I'd like to start by thanking our many members who contribute every year to the Carver County Historical Society. Your contributions enable the CCHS to operate, grow, and continue to offer the many programs and resources that are available to members!

I'd also like to thank Wendy and her staff for all they have done throughout the past year in operating the CCHS through these uncertain times and through continued pandemic conditions. The CCHS is seeing some improvement in attendance numbers, but attendance is still down compared to pre-covid numbers.

At the end of 2021, long-time Librarian Marilyn Braun retired, and at the beginning of 2022 we hired Jayna Hulleman and Brenda Reister to our staff.

The year 2022 was very challenging for the CCHS staff and board members as we continued our pledge drive fundraiser for the Historic Andrew Peterson farm. The CCHS was able to participate in the Jeffris Family Foundation challenge program and had a \$500,000 goal to achieve to receive the \$250,000.00 from the Jeffris Foundation. With help from our many donors and help from Carver County, we made it! In three years, we managed to raise \$1,051,025 – with \$750,000.00 designated to the historic farmhouse. The balance will be used on the other buildings and property needs. The middle 1914 dairy barn will be transformed into an event and interpretive center. Sidenote: the CCHS was the ONLY organization of 5 organizations to complete the Jeffris challenge and meet the fundraising goal!

With the fundraising done for now, work has begun at the farm! The main project is the farmhouse, and the “newer” porches have been removed, any modern construction has been removed, and general restoration has begun in the house. Many layers of wallpaper were found, original steps were found under the visible steps (because the original was too steep), and animal hair was found in the original plaster and lathe – a technique mentioned in Andrew Peterson's diary! We also found the original log structure, which makes up the core of the house in great condition. In the next few years, it will be exciting to see the progress on the house and other structures at the farm.

Let's hear it for Wendy!! – she has done it all in the past few years – from managing the CCHS, to managing a major fund drive, managing changes in staffing, Covid challenges, she has had her hands full! Thanks Wendy, for all you do!

Sincerely,

Dan Lund
Carver County Historical Society
Board of Directors President



Welcome to 2022 in review and what a 2022 it was!

In past years and in much of my writings, I start with a quote. This year, it was impossible to find one that represented 2022 accurately. How can you accurately express the rollercoaster of emotion that occurred while trying to complete a \$750,000 challenge capital campaign- during Covid shutdowns? There was also the Covid recovery which while making progress, we are still behind previous visitation numbers. We also lost a much-beloved employee to retirement.

The beginning of 2022 marked two very challenging events. The first is that we lost Marilyn Braun to retirement. Her knowledge of the library and the families in Carver County made for some very large shoes to fill. Marilyn was and still is instrumental in organizing and making sure the newspaper indexing is up to date-and accurate. This is not a small job as there are well over 300,000 index cards that document the information in the Carver County newspapers. The CCHS wishes Marilyn all the best in her retirement, but we all know you can't hold a good person down for long. Marilyn will still be seen in the library as she continues as a volunteer, working alongside our committed library volunteers.

At the beginning of 2022, we had raised \$320,094 toward the Jeffris Family Foundation capital campaign. We had six months to go and needed \$179,906 to raise to reach our \$500K goal. If we failed, we would not receive anything from the Jeffris Foundation. Our Fundraising Committee agreed that win or lose, we would give it our all until we ran out of time.

Several of us had seen Covid funds floating around, and we discussed options about how we might tap into those. A letter arrived from a foundation that made it clear that they couldn't help as they had changed their giving criteria to giving to food shelves. It was the ammunition we needed. The CCHS had also received Covid funds due to our mandatory shutdown, giving us the flexibility to request the County designate our Q1 appropriation to the Jeffris campaign. I made the call to the County and made the sales pitch. It wouldn't cost the County anything to designate our quarterly appropriation to the campaign, as it was already in the budget. Then the fundraising committee voted to go one step further. We felt we could raise an additional \$40,000, so we would ask for an additional \$85,000 using the letter we had received that stated the change in giving priorities due to Covid. This made the argument that Covid had indeed horribly affected our campaign. A date was set for us to present in front of the Carver County Board of Commissioners.

Before the day arrived for the presentation, we struggled to dig for the remaining \$40,000. Several donations came in dropping the amount needed to \$18,000. A donor called and said he would donate \$14,000 IF we could raise the other \$4,000. A check for \$3000 came in then a check for \$650 and finally a \$400 check and the donor's \$14,000. Now, if only we could get the requested amount from the County.

The day came. The majority of our CCHS board showed up. More people showed up remotely, including our friends in Sweden. Letters of support came in. I presented. A motion was made to approve the \$85K appropriation. All commissioners agreed, THEN, Commissioner Udermann motioned to appropriate \$500,000. Commissioners Udermann, Fahey, and Workman voted in favor of the \$500,000 with Lynch and Degler against, noting that they supported the CCHS, but felt the larger amount should follow the proper procedure. Motion passed. We had the funds we needed to complete the campaign and then some. I was in shock.

The \$500,000 campaign goal was verified by the Jeffris Family Foundation and a check for \$250,000 arrived via certified mail. I held it and looked at it for a long time before depositing it.

Four other organizations started a capital campaign at the same time we did with the Jeffris Foundation. We were the only organization to succeed. Construction on the house started in the fall of 2022, almost exactly 10 years after receiving the property

Thank you to everyone for your supporter! Without you, it would not be possible to achieve all we have.

Wendy Petersen Biorn



Hello everyone!

The year 2022 has finally come to an end. With the extraordinary amount of snow that has already fallen in December, I think everyone was ready to finish up the year and look forward to an early spring.

My position at the CCHS is working with accounting, gift shop inventory, and membership renewals and databases.

We are moving forward with a number of streamlining processes that will make my job easier and more accurate. Those include paying many of our Accounts Payable vendors electronically. This reduces the time and cost of cutting checks and mailing. CCHS also moved to a different payroll service which significantly reduced our costs. We now have immediate access to the reports we use to record the payroll in our accounting software. More importantly, we lost no support by making the change. Access to W2s and year-end reports is easier and faster as well.

During the summer, Wendy and I worked with Peterson Company, Ltd, our accounting firm, to complete an internal audit. These are required by our by-laws every five years. Since most of our records are available in our Quickbooks online account, the accounting firm was able to access our records and complete most of the tasks remotely. When they requested information regarding certain accounts with hardcopy files, we were able to access and provide the reports relatively easily, electronically. The audit was completed with a positive review in early Fall.

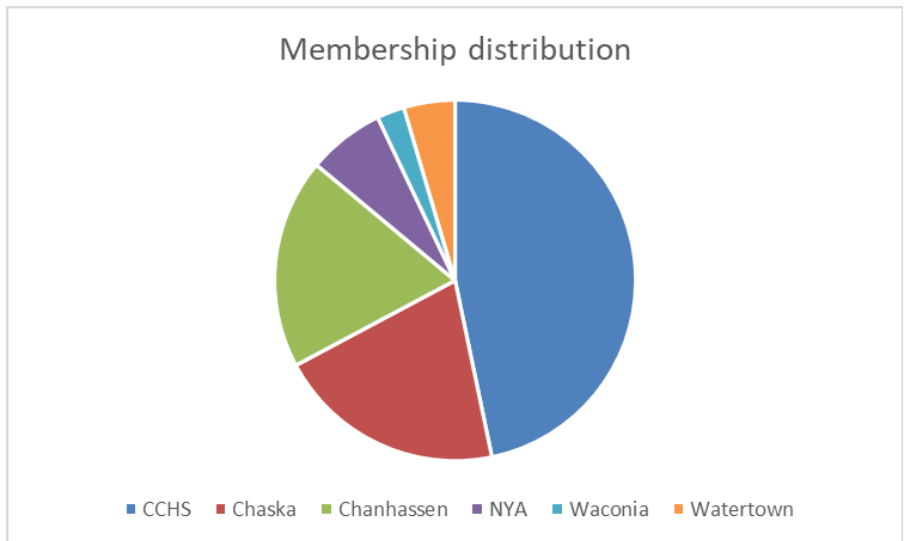
We completed the Jeffris Challenge Campaign this year. Funds will be used to rehabilitate Andrew Peterson’s farmhouse. It was so exciting to see that come together. Now that the work on the farmhouse has begun, it is so interesting to see wallpaper and linoleum that date back so many years – for me, to my grandmother’s time. It seems like the workers found new, interesting items weekly, as the work progressed.

In late November, we began our Annual Fund Drive and had a good response. We are so grateful for your support. The end of the year has been busy getting thank you letters out to our members and donors and wrapping up the year-end accounting tasks.

I am very happy to see the Annual Meeting occurring this year and look forward to seeing many of you. Over the last two years, we have missed hosting this face-to-face event and are looking forward to seeing you again and couldn’t be more pleased to see everyone in person.

Happy New Year to all. Come visit us soon and often!

Dalene Woods



A special thanks, to our affiliate organizations. These organizations are all volunteer run and do tremendous work!!

Watertown Area Historical Society, Chanhassen Historical Society, Chaska Historical Society, Willkommen Heritage and Preservation Society of Norwood Young America, and the Waconia Heritage Society.

Education and Exhibits Coordinator



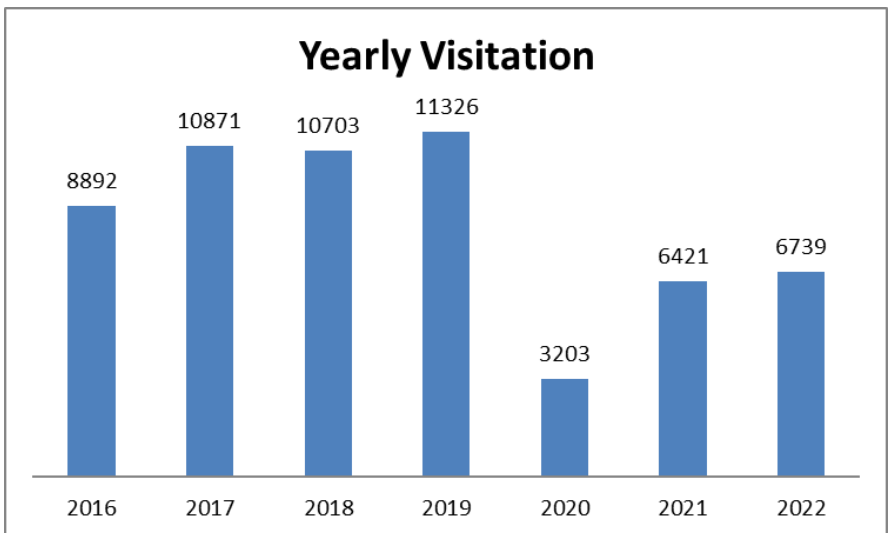
As my first year here closed, I looked back and realized it's been quite the ride! Even when people tell you to be prepared for some busy times, you never really understand what you're preparing for until it happens. I'm looking forward to putting all of my new experience into practice this year, that's for sure!

In 2022, we continued to recover from Covid by rebuilding our outreach to the schools in the County. At the start of the year, I wasn't able to go to all of them in person as there were still lingering COVID measures. However, we have since been able to return to their classrooms and it has been wonderful to see all of these students excited to see me in person. The student contacts may not yet be where they were pre-Covid, but I am proud to say I saw over two thousand kids in their classrooms and another three hundred here at the museum. This year I plan to reach out to area schools to make sure that everyone is aware of our school programs, and then we can really return to business as usual. Here's to seeing even more kids by the end of December 2023.

New in 2022 were regular tours of the Andrew Peterson Farmstead. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from June to the end of October, I was able to lead groups of all sizes around the farm and even inside the house as work began. I received good feedback from running these tours and hope to bring everything I've learned to the tours this summer. We had over a hundred people come out in 2022, and it would be exciting to have even more in 2023.

A pair of our past events made a return in 2022. Though rain nearly cancelled our vintage baseball game, the Quicksteps and Waconia Patriots still had an enthusiastic audience of 54 people. If the teams are willing, we'd love to have them back again in 2023 – hopefully in better weather! Our runaway hit, however, was Fall on the Farm, sponsored by Thrivent. Thanks to their sponsorship, this event was free and 211 people came by the farm to enjoy some farm animals, demonstrations by the Scott Carver Threshers, and several wonderful programs by guest speakers. We also gathered donations for the Waconia Food Shelf.

On the exhibit side of things, however, we're still getting back into the groove. Though our cases downstairs in the museum have changed this year, I was unable to bring in a new traveling exhibit for our visitors to enjoy. With some of our educational offerings revitalized, I hope to focus on getting new temporary exhibits in place this year that should give everyone a whole new reason to stop by the museum. Please look forward to it!



Jayna Hulleman

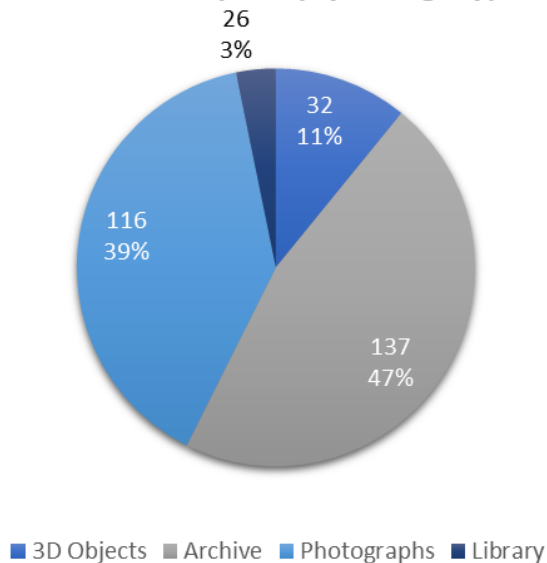


It was a year of improvements big & small for the CCHS collection in 2022. The biggest improvement (quite literally!) was the repairs made to the Borchardt Log Granary on the Carver County Fairgrounds. Artisan Restoration from Kasota, MN completed the project, which included lifting, full & partial replacement of several logs, new chinking, and a fresh coat of sealant to protect the logs. The \$21,000 project would not have been possible without the generous financial support of the: Carver County Fair; Chaska Lions Club; Waconia Fire Relief Association; Norwood Young America Lions Club; Athwin Foundation; and the Clarence Kelzer Family.

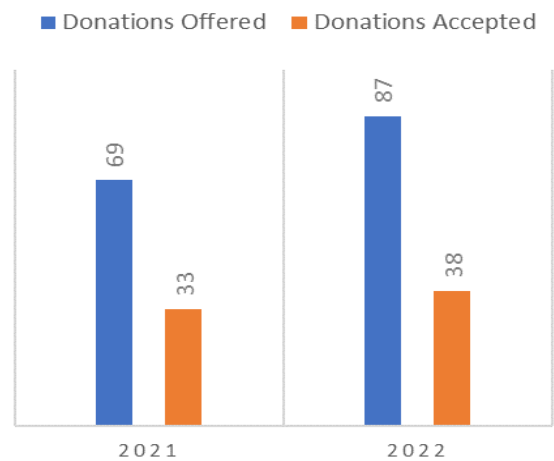
Smaller improvements occurred behind the scenes within the collection. Artifact processing and storage benefitted from an unexpected donation to the Collections Care budget from a CCHS member. The donation paid for additional archival sleeves for protecting documents & photographs, tools for the processing and care of artifacts, and an overhead camera/scanner for digitizing books and over-sized documents. These improvements bolster our continuous efforts to not only preserve Carver County history, but to make it readily accessible to everyone.

The past year saw an increase from 2021 in the number of individual donations offered to CCHS. We received donation offers from 87 individuals/organizations accounting for 1,019 individual items (242 3D objects; 395 archival documents; 351 photographs; 31 library items). From those, 38 offers were accepted either partially or in full, adding 311 “new” items to the collection.

Items Accepted (By Category)



DONATIONS OFFERED & ACCEPTED



The additions to the collection bring new stories to CCHS from across the county, including: WWII service records of Wilbur Dittmar, Norwood Young America; School records from District #52, Hollywood Township; Parish directories from Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Watertown; Braunworth & Bollmann Family photos from Chanhassen & Laketown Townships; Waconia Implement sign from the Oak Street creamery; Halgren Family photos from East & West Union; Research materials on viticulturist, Louis Suelter,

Carver; U.S. Navy records of submariner Harlan Brockoff, Cologne; & 1973 Army Corps of Engineer plans for flood control in Chaska.

Jeremy Murray

Researcher's Report



My name is Brenda Reister and joined the CCHS staff in March upon Marilyn Braun's retirement. It's been an exciting first (almost) year and no small task trying to follow Marilyn! Her knowledge, experience, and passion for the library, visitors and knowledge of Carver County history are hard to follow. I'm excited to be on staff, and look forward to learning more, and assisting researchers.

There were some changes with library volunteer staff. One long-time volunteer left to take a paid position, another retired this November while two joined us this fall. Most volunteers are back 'in person', as opposed to working from home as was done during the worst of Covid. We currently have 10 active volunteers. It has been obvious to me from the start how valuable the volunteers are to the library's success! What a pool of knowledgeable, devoted individuals who donate their time to build our database and resources ensuring complete and accurate data for researchers.

It's been so interesting to learn how the library is used. I'm becoming more familiar with our resources and am able to fill requests more quickly, and with fewer questions for other staff members. One interesting client was from Windsor, England and was researching an ancestor who was vital to the establishment of the cemetery in Fort Snelling. She was so pleased that we were able to provide her with specifics from obituaries and our photo archives. Another client was doing research for a news story that aired on ABC's "20/20" program. Requests continue to come in from all over the U.S. and it's rewarding to be able to help people find pieces of their family puzzle.

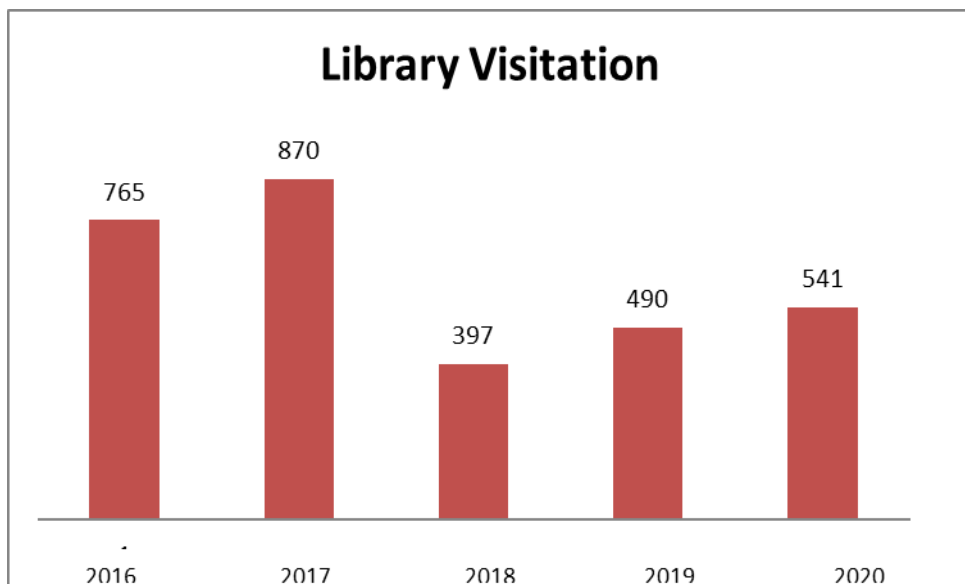
We're continuing the index card project that was started in summer of 2020, with the goal of reducing the number of duplicate cards stored, by consolidating information. And, at the same time, any missing data is researched and added to all appropriate cards. The final step is editing the online database to reflect these additions and corrections.

I am excited to announce that the Minnesota Historical Society is digitizing our Carver County newspapers between 2013 to 2021. After they finish the digitizing, they will produce microfilm which will be added to our microfilm resource base for visitors.

Another project in the works is the updating the library resource inventory.

Thank you for making me feel welcomed and I'm looking forward to a great 2023!

Brenda Reister



Thank you Volunteers!

Volunteer Appreciation

Most Hours Award

Cindy Shatek-335.5

1-50 Hours

Susan Burnison, Research
 Larry Macht, Event Help
 Judy Aarness, Library
 Kaitlyn Garvin, Library
 Liam Gunderson, Data Entry
 Delora Wallner, Library
 Dorene Murphy, Library/Gardener
 Nicholas Steuernagel, Data Entry/Vet Library
 Bridgette Jackson, Library
 Ann Soderstrom, Library

51-99 Hours

Mary Loehrs, Library
 Stephanie Robinson, Data Entry
 Elaine Wischnack, Library
 Lowell Dammann, Library

101-199 Hours

Melissa Dahlo, Gardener
 Amy Dallman, Gardener

200-300 Hours

Marilyn Braun, Library
 Jerry Wolfe, Library

300-400 Hours

Cindy Shatek, Library

Total 2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS

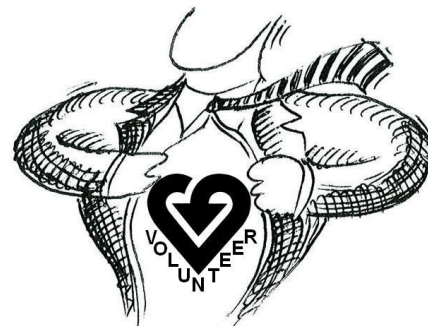
2022 Total	1,581.5
2021 Total	1,490.5
2020 Total	2,846

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2022

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Dan Lund, President, Chaska
 Lin Deardorff, VP, Waconia
 David Lavin, Treasurer/Secretary, Carver
 Mike Coleman, Cologne
 Marta Beckett, Waconia
 Mark Willems, Cologne
 Matthew McDougall, Waconia
 Patti Dietzel, Cologne
 Dean Hilgers, Waconia
 Bryce Johnson, Mound
 Kevin Fafinski, Cologne
 Tom Workman, County liaison
 John P Fahey, County liaison

In November, Elaine Wischnack retired from volunteering with the CCHS. For many years Elaine has helped us stay up to date by indexing the county's modern newspapers. Her attention to detail and presence on Thursday mornings will be greatly missed, but we hope that she enjoys her well-deserved retirement!



We'd like to thank our volunteers from the bottom of our hearts for working with us as our new Library Research settled in and for continuing to volunteer in every capacity as we move into our new Post-Covid normal!

Carver County Historical Society
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2022

2021 Statement of Financial Position - unaudited

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
101 Building Fund	0.00
102 Museum Collection Fund	3,359.97
105 Thrivent Financial	67,505.89
107 MidCountry - Operating Account	198,040.37
201 Home Town- Jeffris Challenge fund	571,173.77
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 840,080.00
Accounts Receivable	
11200 Pledges Receivable	0.00
11300 Sales Receivable	0.00
11400 Grants Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 0.00
Other Current Assets	
12100 Inventory Asset	630.96
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 630.96
Total Current Assets	\$ 840,710.96
Fixed Assets	
14000 Peterson Farm	258,649.99
15000 Furniture and Equipment	40,552.17
15001 ScanPro2000	10,604.34
Total 15000 Furniture and Equipment	\$ 51,156.51
15050 Exhibits	19,789.50
15900 Leasehold Improvements	202,831.13
17100 Accumulated Depreciation	-115,059.58
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 417,367.55
Other Assets	
10110 Paypal	0.00
10210 Acquisitions	0.00
10900 Endowment Fund Investment	186,010.48
10905 Gain (Loss) on Endowment Fund	0.00
18600 Other Assets	0.00
18700 Security Deposits Asset	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$ 186,010.48
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,444,088.99
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20100 Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
24100 Accrued Leave and Payroll	11,055.99
24200 Accrued Expenses	0.00
24900 Damage Deposit A. P. Farm	0.00
25800 Unearned or Deferred Revenue	0.00
27210 PPP - COVID19 Loan/Grant funds	0.00
Minnesota Revenue Payable	0.00
Sales Tax Payable	
25500 Sales Tax Payable	-356.19
Total Sales Tax Payable	-\$ 356.19
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 10,699.80
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 10,699.80
Total Liabilities	\$ 10,699.80
Equity	
30000 Opening Bal Equity	-3.78
31300 Perm. Restricted Net Assets	159,901.00
31500 Temp. Restricted Net Assets	17,259.00
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	815,644.73
35200 Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments	-17,330.99
Net Income	457,919.23
Total Equity	\$ 1,433,389.19
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 1,444,088.99

A Year in Photos



At left:

The annual old fashioned townball game, held at the Peterson Farm.

Below:

The Coney Island archaeology event held in partnership with Blondo Archaeology



Above:

Work begins: The removal of the south porch of the Peterson farmhouse.

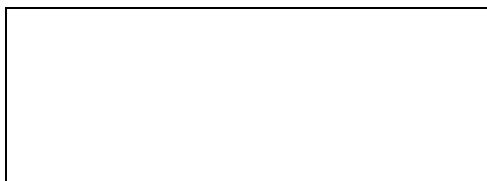
Left:



Children's day at the farm. Seed Saving was taught along with many other topics. A huge thanks to Thrivent for sponsoring this event and so many other people and organizations. We FINALLY had good weather for this event.

CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

555 West First Street
Waconia, MN 55387



Museum & Library Hours

Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Staff

Wendy Petersen Biorn (Exec. Director)

wbiorn@co.carver.mn.us

Jeremy Murray, (Curator of Collections)

jmurray@co.carver.mn.us

Jayna Hulleman (Education /Exhibits Coordinator)

jhulleman@co.carver.mn.us

Brenda Reister (Researcher)

breister@co.carver.mn.us

Dalene Woods(Office Manager)

dwoods@co.carver.mn.us