

CARVER COUNTY
historical society

2012 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 Bay View Elementary School in downtown Waconia. We have four affiliate groups: Chaska Historical Society, Chanhassen Historical Society, Willkommen Heritage and Preservation society of Norwood Young America, and Watertown Area Historical Society.

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**2012 – A GREAT YEAR FOR THE
CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!!**

2012 has been a great year for the CCHS, and I am honored to have been the board president! This past year has seen many positive changes and accomplishments at the CCHS, and here are a few notable ones among many:

Eve Weipert. Eve has begun to reorganize the holdings of the CCHS and is doing very well. Among this work is the photo rehousing project –rehousing, scanning and entering into Past Perfect format, a system which allows people to research our photo collection from the CCHS or at any library in the county.

Heidi Gould, Linda Nelson, Marlene Magnuson – have all worked very hard on the education programs, library program as well as the normal day to day, week to week operations at the CCHS.

Volunteers: 2012 volunteer hours increased over the past year to 3077 hours! A special note for Rocky Bye, who contributed 1424 of those hours, and who finished a beautiful desk for Linda for the front office!

Peterson Farm. The Andrew Peterson farm property was placed in a Living Estate by Ward Holasek, with the CCHS as the beneficiary. This is a huge plus for the CCHS and brings many possibilities for the future of the CCHS!! In addition to this, Jo Mihelich is allowing the CCHS to reprint her book, *The Andrew Peterson and Scandia Story*. The proceeds from sales will be applied toward restoration of the North Barn and other maintenance on the property.

Joint projects: A fair walking tour with the Carver County Fair, The Amazing History Race and sled dog programs –with Carver County Parks, and an All Community picnic, with the Arts Consortium of Carver County and Carver on the Minnesota.

Wendy Petersen-Biorn – Wendy has worked tirelessly to see that all of the above happens! She was instrumental in the awarding of \$57,920 in grants, the work with the Peterson Farm, and working with Jo Mihelich to republish her book!

We welcomed back Mike Fahey as a board member in 2012. Mike was appointed to replace K. J. McDonald, who lost his battle to cancer last fall. K.J.'s effervescence and knowledge will be greatly missed.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Board of Directors for all of their time and work this past year, working with Wendy and enabling her to do all the wonderful work that was accomplished in 2012.

Thanks again for the opportunity to be board President. It has been a positive experience in my life, and I am proud to be a part of such a well-functioning organization!

Sincerely,

Dan Lund

Every year is filled with its own share of challenges. The year 2012 was no different. A challenge is not a bad thing. I prefer to look at challenges as something that will keep me from getting stuck in a routine and will help me grow both personally and professionally. With that said, I always try see the glass as half full. There are times that that glass might be filled with sour milk instead of sweet milk, but then again sour milk makes the best cake.

One challenge that we have taken on is the photo project. The CCHS houses over 15,000 small and midsized photos which were at risk, due to overcrowding. They were also difficult for us to locate, as they were organized by general category rather than specific subject(s) in the photo. Trying to index them, based on multiple criteria, such as the names, dates, and location was anything but simple.

Solving the housing problem came in the form of two Legacy grants which allowed us to rehouse the photos and file them numerically. Once this was done the description of the photos were entered into PastPerfect, (our museum data base.) Doing this allowed us to enter more than one description of the photo and allowed more through research and quicker retrieval.

All of this sounds really great except for one thing, the general public did not have access to PastPerfect for research. As a nonprofit, we make every effort to allow the public to have access to our collection. The solution came in the form of a partnership with the Carver County Library system and the County itself. The library opted to purchase the PastPerfect software and the County is in the process of delegating one drive to save copies of the photos. With this in place, we began the painfully slow process of scanning any photo that would fit on our scanner bed. When the photo was scanned it was added to the description of the photo already in PastPerfect. The result is the ability to find photos in minutes, when in the past it may have taken us hours. Soon, the general public will be able to access the data base in all the County libraries as well as at the CCHS.

We are currently working toward utilizing technology in the form of a video camera, You-tube and QR codes. The video can be used for training sessions of PastPerfect, tours of the museum, and taping of CCHS events. All of this may sound like science fiction, but many museums are already using the technology.

This year has seen work accomplished on the north Andrew Peterson barn. The stone foundation was restored in March. We were turned down for a midsize Legacy grant to restore the wooden section of the building, because the property is in private hands. After the Minnesota Historical Society visited us to discuss the problem, Ward Holasek stepped up and offered to place the property into a Living Estate. This means he will have full use of the property but after he passes, the property will go directly to the CCHS. Nothing for him changes while he is alive. The change allowed the CCHS to continue working on the building. The north barn will become an interpretive center in the next few years, and he will be able to watch it happen. I think of it this way, Ward has given a huge gift to the community. I am honored that he thinks highly enough of the CCHS to allow us to be the caretakers.

Carver County lost several people who were part of history. K.J. McDonald served on the CCHS board for less than a year in 2012, but while he was on the board, his infectious personality always made a positive impact. I will forever remember his standard answer to my question about how he was, "never better" was always the answer. Chanhassen lost "Mr. Chanhassen", Al Klingelhut. I will miss Al. He and I had some very wonderful conversations about the history of Chanhassen. Someone knew the value of Al, as we have a taped interview with him in our collection.

I would like to thank all of our members and board for your support and encouragement. Without you, we would not be here.

Wendy Petersen Biorn

Curator's Report

I have completed my first year as curator, and what a year it has been. Five temporary exhibits were installed covering topics from the US Dakota War of 1862, to Summer Fun in Carver County, to the current one about mourning rituals. I have also updated the cases in the entry of the museum to highlight items in the collection and new donations. Thanks go out to staff and volunteers for helping me to quickly learn the local aspects of American history.

The biggest project I took on started before I arrived through a legacy grant to rehouse the most at risk photos in our collection. The photos were put into acid free sleeves with new backing boards and stored in numerical order. I then wrote a second legacy grant which finished housing the rest of the photos. Thanks go to Lindsay Marshall and Heidi Gould for completing this project. Due to press coverage on the project, we added a new volunteer, Dave Kopperl, who spent one afternoon a week scanning the photos which I then attached to our collection database. Orville Mackenthun also helped with the scanning. This project has involved many staff and volunteers each doing a part to create what I hope in the near future will be a great resource for researchers both at the CCHS and in all the Carver County libraries.

Another project has been the inventorying and labeling of boxes in the storage areas. This has helped me to quickly learn not only what we have but plan future exhibit ideas. The military collection was also inventoried and boxes labeled. Several are being planned for next year including the long overdue spinning wheel shop, donated by Arlo Kellerman.

There were a total of 72 separate donations made to the museum last year. One large donation was records from the Carver County Fair in Waconia. The usual items came in including photos, clothes and advertising material from local industries. I have started highlighting these newly donated pieces from the collection in the front entranceway to the museum. Items are donated to the museum for the public to see and learn local history from. Rotating exhibits more often allow this to happen.

Working with a volunteer, Jill Frahm, exhibits have been rotating at the county libraries. It has been fun watching the library staff stop work to check out the new exhibit. This year was about scrapbooking, photo albums, autograph albums, albums as art and conservation needs. We will be making a final rotation next month and new exhibits are in process for the spring.

Thank you to everyone who helped the last year, it has made the transition a pleasant experience.

Eve Weipert

Volunteer, Rocky Bye spent about a year working on the new front desk. It was made completely in house and from scratch. It boasts under the counter lighting and is connected to the County network. The set up makes life much easier and efficient for front office staff. Rocky has also painted mannequins for displays and made file cabinets for the library. If you see Rocky, be sure to thank him for being such a committed volunteer.



Researcher's Report

We have had a great year. Research requests have come in from all over the world including: Australia, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Canada and of course the United States. Those visiting us are just as diverse, coming from as far away as Sweden, Germany and the Netherlands. With the use of the Scan Pro, we have been able to e-mail information all over the world, saving us substantial amounts of postage.

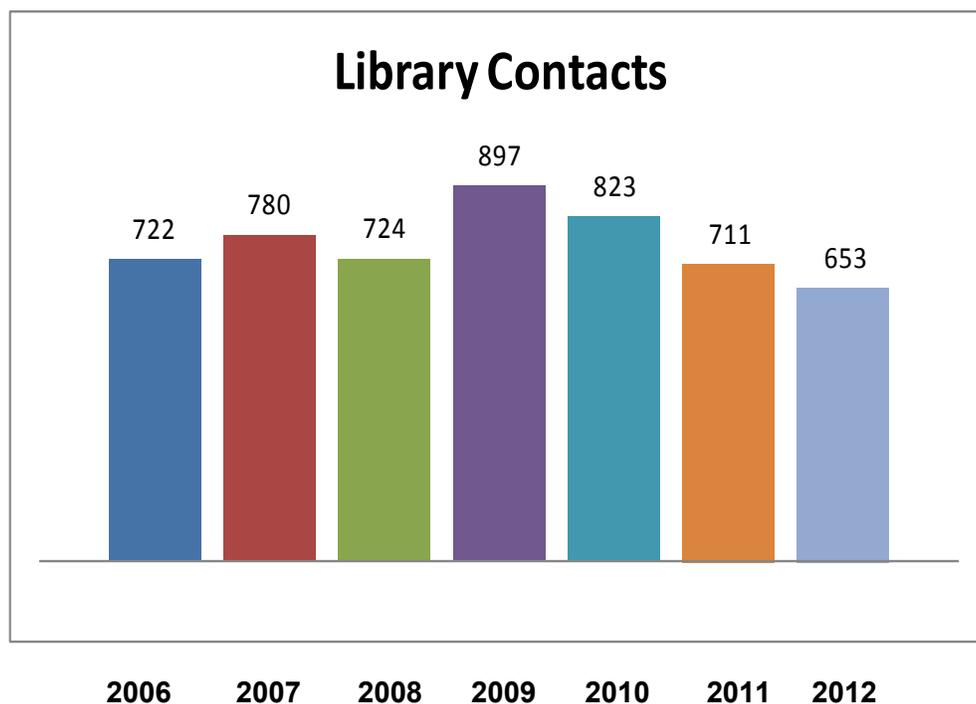
The indexing and data entry for all Carver County newspapers has been completed, through the current month. One of our 2013 goals is to obtain micro filmed copies of the newspapers from some of the neighboring communities. This will help many people who live along the Carver County border.

Our genealogy gatherings continue to be well attended. We meet the 2nd Tuesday evening, during the summer months, May to October and the 2nd Saturday during the winter, October through April. There has been someone new attending every gathering.

Ancestry.com is now available for use in the library. It has been a great asset for our own research as well as for our patrons. The cost for this is \$500, a year but we are hoping this extra added member benefit will further increase attendance and memberships.

Looking forward to an exciting 2013,

Marlene Magnuson



Administrative Assistant's Report

The new year started with the gathering of information for all the annual reports that are due. Like paying the MN sales tax, reviewing and renewing the insurance policies, reviewing the Federal & State Labor Law posters, doing the MCIT payroll, EDP, and Risk Assessment reports and the Annual PERA Exclusion report. Also, I pulled the Accounts Payable files to get ready for a new year. And, of course, getting papers ready for taxes. We are using the firm Peterson Company and are very pleased with their expertise.

The gift shop has added a few more items this year such as: *New Germany Centennial 1887-1987*, *New Germany The Next 25 Years*, a glass mug by the City of New Germany; *Ox Cart Angel* by Joel Arnold, *The History of Watertown, MN* by Charlotte Johnson; *Mayer Next 25 years* book by the City of Mayer and lastly, we have the new 2013 Barns of Carver County calendars from Ruth Tremblay. We, also, have in stock a few books called *View from a Bench in City Square Chaska* that we are helping the Chaska History Center to sell. We stopped using PayPal and purchased a IPAD in 2012, so we now accept credit cards over the phone or in person. At year end, I did a inventory count for re-orders.

Forty we miss you letters were sent out in March to inactive members. This letter served the dual purpose of reminding them how important they are to us as members, how important it is to belong to the Historical Society and the benefits the CCHS provides. We were rewarded with four people re-joining. Thank you and welcome back!!

In 2012, we added 35 new members . Welcome!! Our membership base is now at 739 members. We send out monthly renewal letters and are always updating our membership database. Out of our membership base, 82 members get their newsletters emailed to them. If you would like yours emailed please let me know. This saves valuable resources.

We participated in the Give to the Max Day which was on November 15th which corresponded with our Annual Fund Drive letters, mailed on November 1st. We received \$5267.01 + \$185.00 which was designated for the Endowment fund.

I completed the Document Destruction & Records Retention of all our files in the back room. There are still 3 cabinets in the front area of the office to go through.

One of our wonderful volunteers (Rocky Bye) made a beautiful front office desk for our lobby area. It makes my life more efficient when everything is in one location. In June, we installed the accounting package QuickBooks on my computer. Yeah!! Now I don't have to share with Wendy. I also now have Past Perfect on my computer which means I don't have to share Eve's computer either. Life is good!

Not all work was in the office, I volunteered at the Carver County Fair, attended the Community Picnic in Carver, the New Germany 125th celebration, Watertown's Rails to Trails, and Nickle Dickle Day here in town. In January, I attended a Webinar for Property and Liability through MCIT.

One thing that I enjoy being is organized. As 2012, ended I organized the inventory room, supply cabinet, kitchen cabinets and the cabinets in the front office and moving into the new desk in the front office area. What a great way to start the New Year!!

Linda Nelson

2012 was a great year for Education. Intern Vanessa Frank was a big help over the year, planning programs, helping at summer camps, and doing research. Last fall, a grant was submitted to IMLS to create new program options to replace those currently used. IMLS turned down the grant, but provided good feedback and a revised version will be submitted for 2013. The CCHS and the Libraries completed a joint application for a traveling children's exhibit, but competition was fierce and this one was turned down as well.

A program script was completed over the summer/fall for a themed birthday party. Part of the 2009 Comprehensive Plan included options for the museum to be rented out for birthday parties. The theme for this is "Pioneers", and once supplies are purchased in 2013, this new option will be advertised in flyers, on Facebook, on the website, and elsewhere. This will provide new sources of program numbers and revenue for the museum.

I completed many workshops over the course of the year, including: *Volunteers in Higher Responsibility Roles*, *Grant Seeking and Development*, and *Websites that Stick*. For the *Grant Seeking* workshop, attendees received homework, either to write a development plan for their organization, or to create grant "chunks"- generic chunks with organizational info that can be input into any grant application. I completed the grant "chunks", which will be reviewed by grant staff that lead the workshop, providing useful feedback.

The CCHS has joined *Constant Contact*, for the monthly e-blast emails. Only one test email was sent as of 12/31, but with very positive feedback. As we try new templates and add more recipients, we encourage your feedback.

The CCHS received a structured legacy grant to write entries for the MHS' *MNopedia*, an online encyclopedic resource for Minnesota teachers, students, and researchers. I will be researching and writing a total of 30 entries, ranging from 300-1000 words, on a variety of Carver County topics. Topics range from ghost towns, Chaska brick and the Carver Historic District to Andrew Peterson, the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres and the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. These entries will be completed in the early months of 2013.

Once again in 2013, a Family Events Flyer will be mailed to all on the family mailing list and included in bags given out at Hooked on Books (over 600). Last year this provided a boost in program numbers early in the year. The hope is for the same in 2013.

Overall, 2010 saw 4368 education contacts, 2011 saw 4628, and 2012 saw a total of 3567 in program attendees. The numbers are still falling. To determine why, we have been contacting educators and have concluded we need fresh programming, which will be a goal for 2013. The type and subject of the programming will to be determined as we meet with the various schools. We will also be working with the local Community Ed. Departments to create classes related to *Uncle Sam's New Deal* which will boost numbers for the rest of the 2012-2013 school year and in 2013.

While school program numbers have fallen, numbers for both Adult Programming and Family Days have risen significantly since last year. One reason for the jump in family programming is CCHS programming offered at the Hooked on Books event in February, as it will be in 2013. Adult Programming jumped as Westview, Good Samaritan and the Lighthouse of Waconia have become business members, receiving program discounts. This has allowed them to book a program each month, with steady attendance at each.

Thank you everyone for another great and busy year. I look forward to 2013.

Heidi Gould

Statement of Financial Position - unaudited

	<u>Dec 31, 12</u>	<u>Dec 31, 11</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
100 · KleinBank	106,984.86	94,400.51	12,584.35	13.33%
101 · Building Fund	5,068.55	7,907.54	-2,838.99	-35.9%
10100 · Petty Cash	65.00	30.00	35.00	116.67%
102 · Museum Collection Fund	3,534.13	3,504.57	29.56	0.84%
103 · Schultz Fund	7,134.08	7,133.55	0.53	0.01%
10470 · Schultz CD	79,206.75	79,206.75	0.00	0.0%
10820 · Museum CD #44751	9,915.04	9,884.73	30.31	0.31%
10822 · Museum CD #7711148	11,678.58	11,587.00	91.58	0.79%
Total Checking/Savings	<u>223,586.99</u>	<u>213,654.65</u>	<u>9,932.34</u>	<u>4.65%</u>
Other Current Assets				
12100 · Inventory Asset	130.96	130.96	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Current Assets	<u>130.96</u>	<u>130.96</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>223,717.95</u>	<u>213,785.61</u>	<u>9,932.34</u>	<u>4.65%</u>
Fixed Assets				
15000 · Furniture and Equipment				
15001 · ScanPro2000	10,604.34	10,604.34	0.00	0.0%
15000 · Furniture and Equipment - Other	40,202.17	40,202.17	0.00	0.0%
Total 15000 · Furniture and Equipment	<u>50,806.51</u>	<u>50,806.51</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
15050 · Exhibits	19,789.50	19,789.50	0.00	0.0%
15900 · Leasehold Improvements	21,018.26	21,018.26	0.00	0.0%
17100 · Accumulated Depreciation	-70,996.00	-70,996.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	<u>20,618.27</u>	<u>20,618.27</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Other Assets				
10110 · Paypal	-0.16	-0.16	0.00	0.0%
10900 · Endowment Fund Investment	135,631.00	132,931.00	2,700.00	2.03%
Total Other Assets	<u>135,630.84</u>	<u>132,930.84</u>	<u>2,700.00</u>	<u>2.03%</u>
	<u>379,967.06</u>	<u>367,334.72</u>	<u>12,632.34</u>	<u>3.44%</u>
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
24100 · Accrued Leave and Payroll	4,433.56	4,272.95	160.61	3.76%
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	115.75	181.56	-65.81	-36.25%
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>4,549.31</u>	<u>4,454.51</u>	<u>94.80</u>	<u>2.13%</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>4,549.31</u>	<u>4,454.51</u>	<u>94.80</u>	<u>2.13%</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>4,549.31</u>	<u>4,454.51</u>	<u>94.80</u>	<u>2.13%</u>
Equity				
30000 · Opening Bal Equity	-3.78	-3.78	0.00	0.0%
31300 · Perm. Restricted Net Assets	132,931.00	132,931.00	0.00	0.0%
31500 · Temp. Restricted Net Assets	107,658.17	107,658.17	0.00	0.0%
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	161,257.65	155,065.40	6,192.25	3.99%
45200 · Unrealized Loss on Investments	-39,017.60	-39,017.60	0.00	0.0%
Net Income	<u>12,537.54</u>	<u>6,192.25</u>	<u>6,345.29</u>	<u>102.47%</u>
Total Equity	<u>375,362.98</u>	<u>362,825.44</u>	<u>12,537.54</u>	<u>3.46%</u>
	<u>379,912.29</u>	<u>367,279.95</u>	<u>12,632.34</u>	<u>3.44%</u>

Our Volunteers Rock!

By the Numbers

2012 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Exhibits.	1741
Collections	408.75
Education.....	178.50
Library	724.25
Misc.....	24.75
2012 Total	3077.25
2011 Total:	2172+

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2012 BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Lund, *President*
 Janet Fahey, *Vice-President*
 David Porath, *Treasurer*
 Lori Lohman, *Secretary*
 Al Bongard
 Lynette Bledsaw
 Michael Owen Hill
 K.J. McDonald
 Darlene Fasching
 John Varone
 Randy Maluchnik, *County Liaison*

1-50 Hours

Catherine (Kakhi) O'Connor, *Research*
 Levine Nesland, *Misc.*
 Karen Stage, *Collections*
 Janice Starn, *Education*
 Jane Gehrking, *Education*
 Christiane Haikel, *Collections*
 Ron and Harriet Holtmeier, *Education*
 Ryan Welle, *Library*
 Mayeesha Kamal, *Misc.*
 Sami Hijazi, *Website design*

101-199 Hours

Vanessa Frank, *Education Intern*
 Dave Kopperl, *Collections*
 Jill Frahm, *Exhibit Research*
 Lois Johnson, *Library*
 Drew Dent, *Research Intern*

200-299 Hours

Danielle Forner, *Collections Intern*
 Kim Johnson, *Library*

51-100 Hours

Mary Lou Teubert, *Library*
 Lois Schulstad, *Library*
 Molly Larson, *Collections*
 Alice Siewart, *Library*
 Sue Nesland, *Library*

1000+ Hours

Wayne Bye, *Exhibits, Wood Shop*
1424.25 hours!!

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL 2012 FAIR VOLUNTEERS: Vanessa Frank, Danielle Forner, Darlene Fasching, Mike Fahey, Al Bongard, Carol Anderson, Kim Johnson, Linda Nelson, Todd Rossi, John Varone, Dan Lund, Tyler Fisher, Randy Maluchnik, Erv Brinkhaus, Joann Gorman, Diane Ittel, Dale Magnuson, Janice Starn, Marilyn McPadden, Ron and Harriet Holtmeier, Patty Zellman, Laurie Ryan, Lynette Bledsaw, Val Barlau, Mary Lou Teubert, Lee Erhard, Dale Hilk, Paul Ray, Rocky Bye, Kakhi O'Connor, Carolyn Spargo.

Thanks to all Volunteers who helped campers sew rag dolls: Carol Schroeder, Jane Gehrking, Todd Rossi, Diane Ittel, Wendy Petersen-Biorn, Ali Ross, Linda Nelson.

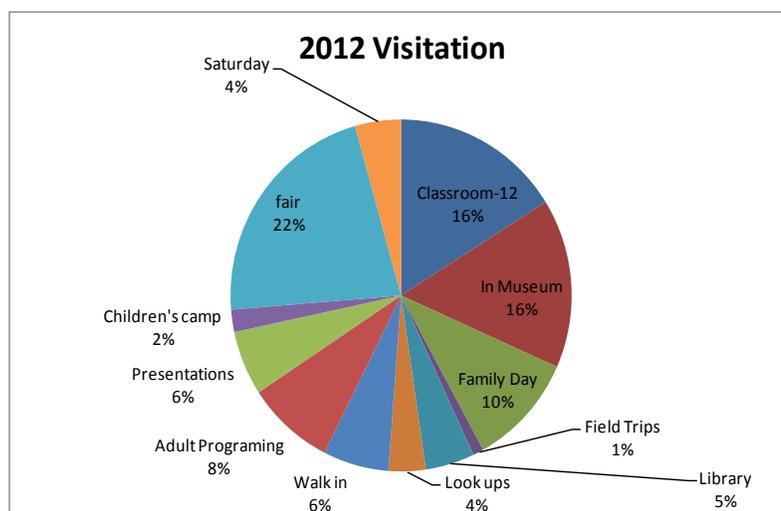
Year End Highlights

Grants:- This year we received a total of \$57,920 in grants. They can be broken down as follows: *Why Treaties Matter* traveling exhibit, \$500; two Legacy north Peterson barn grants, \$27,140 and \$7000; a two Legacy grant for the photo collection \$7,000 and \$5394; Valspar 35 gallons of paint for the south Peterson barn; AAM Conference attendance, \$1000; MN Council for Nonprofits seminar, \$67; Carver County fair walking tour, \$4969; MNopedia, \$4800 and a scholarship for Heidi to attend a training session, \$50.

Andrew Peterson north barn project- The foundation of the north barn was restored by Patrick Sieben in early 2012. Patrick has worked on many historic properties, including Guardian Angels church in Chaska. Hansen HomeTech of Chanhasen continues to work as the general contractor. With the award of the December 2012 grant, donated timber from barns of the same era will be harvested in preparation for the restoration of the barn. We continue to battle the elements and work as grants, weather, and time permit. Thank you so much to Ward Holasek, the Nordic Group, Jo Mihelich, the Swedish Andrew Peterson group, Friends of the Peterson Farm, and so many others who have continually illustrated their love for history and the property. Your passions will be rewarded by the generations of people who will be able to share your gift.

Total Yearly Visitation

2007	6972
2008	11002
2009	9856
2010	8321
2011	8376
2012	7314



2012 Visitation Breakdown

In Classrooms	1174
In Museum	1143
Family Day	758
Field Trips	74
Library	339
Look ups	255
Walk in	454
Adult Programing	608
Presentations	435
Children's camp	151
fair	1606
Saturday	317



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1/18/13/WPB