

CARVER COUNTY
historical society

2013 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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During the past year, the CCHS has seen many changes, grown in knowledge, ability and strength, tackled some large challenges, and lost some very dear friends who were integral parts of the CCHS.

It has been my honor to sit on the board of directors as your president for 2 years. It is a pleasure being a part of a board which consists of very talented and engaging people, who come from a wide spectrum of life. It is also very heartening to me to work with and see the accomplishments of the STAFF of the CCHS, and to witness how well they run this organization!

Some of the accomplishments this past year have been:

Grants. Among the larger grants: \$7000.00 Legacy grant for restoring (in part) the north Peterson barn, a grant written by the CCHS for the Carver County Fair in the amount of \$ 7783.00, a long range planning Grant for the Peterson Farm in the amount of \$28,500.00, and the Storyland traveling display, which is coming from the Children's Museum in St. Paul.

The Westermann Spinning and Weaving Workshop- The workshop is being recreated in the old "Tooling Around" exhibit area. This fulfills a promise made about 15 years ago.

The Invisible Hands That Feed Us – This exhibit is dedicated to the memory of David Porath, who worked diligently to document the Hispanic population in Carver County. His dedication to serving the undeserved population in Carver County will always be remembered.

Education department- An important goal was achieved in 2013, in that the CCHS was able to hire on Heidi Gould FULL TIME beginning Jan 1, 2014! Heidi has proven over and over her value to this organization. We are appreciative to Carver County for both trusting our judgment to bring her on board full time, and their added financial support to make it happen.

Among the many staff achievements, this year: Marlene completed her 16th year, Eve her 2nd , Heidi's 4th, Linda's 5th, Wendy's 7th, and Rocky's 5th with the CCHS!

In 2013 we lost several of our friends to death. David Porath our treasurer passed away in November. I sat next to Dave and it was always a pleasure working with him and participating with him on the board.

We also lost Ward Holasek in December. Ward was a lifetime member of the CCHS, and had placed his acreage in a life estate with the CCHS as the beneficiary. He said it was his gift to the community. He entrusted the CCHS to be its caretaker, and we are very appreciative of that gift and will do our best to honor his expressed wishes.

2014 looks to be an interesting and productive year for the CCHS, and I would like to thank everyone on the board, and the staff of the CCHS for their hard work this past year. I would like to extend a special thanks to Lori Lohman, who "retired" from the board after seven years on the board, five of them serving as our secretary!

Sincerely,

Dan Lund



Last week, I finally felt it was time to reset the diamond in my old wedding ring. Making the trip to Weinziel Jewelry, Dick afforded me the opportunity to look at my diamond under the microscope. Without the microscope, the diamond was brilliant and sparkling. Under the microscope, I saw many more facets of beauty and one small piece of carbon. Carbon can be looked at in several lights. It can simply be burned for heat, or it is a future diamond. As Executive Director, I need to look at not only the beauty that is already there, I also have to look at pieces of carbon and see them as diamonds, yet to be created. They just need a bit of encouragement.

About a year ago, a lady came into the museum with clippings from the *East Union News*. She had found the clippings in her grandmother's items and was looking for the rest of the newspaper. Starting from this small piece, I found a full first-hand account of the Civil War and the U.S. Dakota war, by A.J. Carlson, of East Union. Carlson's account was published in his son's newspaper, *The East Union News*, in the 1890s. Following more research, I found and contacted Howard Arneson, Carlson's grandson. He enthusiastically gave the CCHS permission to publish Carlson's account, as a book. The book, *Two Wars on the Frontier*, edited by myself and board member Darlene Fasching, will be available for purchase in February. What started as a small piece of information has become an historical diamond.

In December, we lost lifetime member, Ward Holasek. He had placed his property in a Life Estate with the CCHS as the beneficiary. Upon his death, his 51 acres became property of the CCHS. We are so thankful for Ward's gift to the Carver County community, and are honored to preserve the historic Peterson Farm in his memory. Two days after his funeral, I received notice that we had won a \$28,500 Legacy grant for long range planning for the farm. This grant was written in August, with the hope that Ward could be part of the planning. The board voted at the January board meeting to continue the long range planning, as that is what Ward would have wanted. Discussion of any specific details would be premature, but we will be seeking input from the public regarding the best use of the property through the long term planning process.

Seeing problems and identifying solutions is one of the facets of my job. The last couple of years, I noticed that school visitation numbers had dropped alarmingly. Heidi Gould, our education coordinator, has continually gotten great feedback from teachers, so I the problem was not with the teacher. A couple of school surveys later, Heidi and I learned that our programming needed updating to meet new state standards. To make the needed changes, I first went to bat with Carver County and asked to bring Heidi on full time. An odd request when numbers were down. The argument for extra time was in response to projected increase in school requests, based on the surveys, and an increased need to have someone work with social media. The county came through, and I am proud to announce that Heidi became full time as of January 1, 2014. As expected, her requests for programs have increased and she is busier than ever. In December alone, number had almost doubled from the previous year. She and I also worked together to write a grant to redesign the website.

Pressure can lead to some sparkling results. Last summer, I was "gently" pressured into visiting Sweden for American Days. I was not overly excited to take a trip at that time, as it conflicted with the Carver County Fair. With a little pressure from various sources, and encouraging of the board, I spent a phenomenal period of time leaning why Andrew Peterson is so important. He represents the hundreds of thousands of Swedes who immigrated here, at the turn of the century. It could be comparative to the U.S. Mayflower immigrants. The impact on my understanding the importance of what we have here cannot be understated. It will be a trip I forever remember.

To be honest, the best part of my job is finding the carbon and seeing it become the diamond before my eyes. It takes many people to accomplish the task. To everyone who has helped create the diamond, that has become the CCHS, I thank you for your continued support and belief in the mission of this organization.

Curator's Report

The collection focus in 2013 has been on our photo collection. Thanks to two legacy grants last year, we have re-housed our collection making it easier to find photos when a request comes in. I am now working on making the collection accessible through our collections database, Past Perfect. Thanks to Diane Ittel, Lois Johnson, Dave Kopperl, and Orville Mackenthun we have the photos described, with data and search terms entered, and almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of our photos scanned. There are over 10,000 images ready to be viewed. A summer intern, Victoria Poulen, created a tutorial for the collection database to aid researchers.

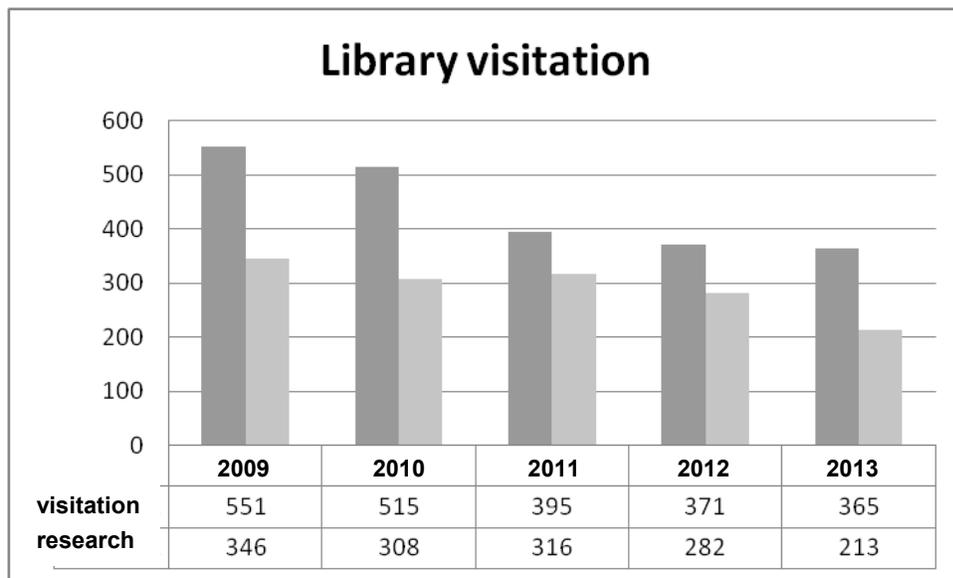
One project that I am very glad was completed early in 2013 was our exhibit on the migrant labor force. The invisible forces that make sure our fields are harvested has been around a long time and made a big impact. This exhibit was personal to our board treasurer, David Porath, and as it turned out to Danielle Forner an exhibits and collections volunteer, who worked on the exhibit. They both have friends and family who were migrants. The exhibit is in our temporary gallery but is ready to travel to other museums this year.

Another project that I am happy to see coming to an end is processing the township records from Benton. I was told they arrived on a cold day early in 2011 in the back of a pickup truck. During the last two years, I have been sorting and documenting what treasures came in the door. I have whittled the material down into ten cartons of documents in addition to county ledgers. Though the boxes are not sorted down to the item level, at least they are useable by someone looking for Benton history, such as tax information, property owners or road development in addition to much more. This next summer I will take on the maps that came with the collection.

I have been here two years and am getting pretty good at finding my way around the county. This is a good thing as I have been fielding a lot of requests from our affiliates. I am happy to work with them on everything from exhibits and collections management to artifact collecting. I always enjoy the anxious question from the county librarians "What are you putting in next" when I arrive quarterly to rotate exhibits there.

Soon we will be completing the Westermann Spinning and Weaving Shop. This exhibit uses original material from the shop including a door and windows. The material from the shop came to the museum many years ago and is being reproduced here, with the help of our number one volunteer Rocky Bye. I am currently putting the tools in the locations they were in when the family stopped using the shop





2013 in Review

This has been an exciting year for the Research Library. We have seen many volunteers leave and new ones come in.

One long term volunteer/worker we lost this year was Betty Tobin. Betty passed away late November. She will be missed but leaves us with many wonderful memories.

Our staff has completed all local newspaper indexing through the current date. We acquired copies of some of the Benton, Camden, and Waconia township records. An inventory of all items in the library was completed in December.

This year was the first time we decorated our library for the holiday season. Employees shared their own decorations and it proved to be quite rewarding. We were selected as having the best display and won a jar of peanuts for all to share.

A most gratifying event happening this year, which turned out to be an excellent example of the type of work we do. It all started with a request sent from the City of Watertown. The Watertown family had received a request from an individual in Germany doing research on her long lost family. In checking our data base, I found an obituary with descendant information. After checking the area phonebook, I located the family in South Haven, Minnesota. After contacting them, they were able to reach the family in Germany at Christmas. It was a great Christmas gift for all involved.

We are looking forward to an equally fruitful 2014.

Marlene Magnuson

Right:
Mr. C. A. Reil in the Waconia Patriot office.



Administrative Assistant's Report

A new year has started again. Can't believe it!! That means the annual reports are due again including: Minnesota sales tax, reviewing and renewing the insurance policies, reviewing the Federal & State Labor Law posters, the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust payroll audit & estimate, EDP, Risk Assessment reports, and finally, the PERA Exclusion report. I also move out the last year's accounts payable and any other files in preparation for the New Year's filing. Then, I start the tax preparation process for Peterson Company – our CPA firm. In 2013, Peterson Company performed an audit, in addition to preparing the taxes.

We switched to Paychex payroll service in February of 2013. I am very pleased with their report layouts and knowledgeable friendly service. I attended: a Healthcare Reform seminar in May, an IRS workshop in September, and volunteered at the Carver County Fair in August.

A Document Destruction and Records Retention policy was begun in 2012. It was completed in May of 2013. Following the new policy, I needed to shred old documents. Luckily, Carver County periodically offers all the County affiliates the opportunity to shred documents for free.

We sent out 142 “We Miss You letters”, in June, to inactive members reminding them how important it is to belong to a Historical Society, and the benefits that are provided. Seven rejoined! Thank you and welcome back!!

Volunteers and I mailed out the Annual Fund Drive letters on October 31st and we received \$3347.66 plus \$395.00 in endowment money. CCHS participated in the Give to the Max Day which was held on November 14th, 2013.

In 2013, we added 43 new CCHS members. Welcome!!! Our membership base is at 752 members. We send out annual renewals letters and are always updating our membership database. A total of 92 members now receive the newsletters via emailed.

The gift shop has added a couple more items to its collection. *Cologne – I Remember When and 50 Years in the Life of the Village Blacksmith book and German Home: St. Bonifacius, Minn.* We, also, have Pedigree charts – 4 generation and 12 generation for those interested in genealogy work. In 2014, we plan to revamp our gift shop area with the grateful help of one of our volunteers, Rocky Bye. He built the front desk and will build a connecting gift shop cabinet to display and store inventory. In December, I counted the inventory for year end and for reordering purposes.

I worked on a PastPerfect project (membership database) in November, where I needed to look at each member to see if they had accessions and/or loans and update their address to match.

Linda Nelson

At right:
Carver County Historical Society Board

James F. Farber
O. D. Sell
Oscar Trittabaugh
Ray Diethelm



2013 Education and Programming in Review. . .

What a hectic year! So much was accomplished within education this year, most importantly, the creation of new school programming. In 2013, Minnesota introduced new state education standards, necessitating a need for updated programs. With the aid of 2 summer interns, Drew Dent and Caitlin Donnelly, 13 new programs have been completed to date; with at least 6 more still to come. One request by teachers was the addition of more STEM, or science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs. You may wonder how these fit with history. One such program involves the science of motion and flight, and allows the CCHS to highlight the history of the Sell Airfield as part of the program. Once these are completed, I will begin researching and updating the adult education programs.

I am proud to announce that the CCHS received a grant-funded exhibit focused on early childhood literacy skills from birth to 8 years for summer



2014. Thanks to a strong application, co-written with the Carver County Library System, the CCHS will host *Storyland* from June 7th through September 20th. This exhibit was created by the Minnesota Children's Museum and is funded through the Legacy program. Focusing on early childhood literacy skills from birth to 8 years, this exhibit features some of the most popular stories from childhood. Come explore the world of Peter Rabbit from *The Tales of Peter Rabbit*, the wintry wonderland of Peter in *Snowy Day*, and become curious explorers with Spot from *Where's Spot?* This year's summer camps will revolve around literacy and this special exhibit.

In 2013, a series of online articles on the history of Carver County, though by no means a complete picture, were completed. These articles, on the people, places and events of our county, can be found in the online encyclopedia, MNopedia. Topics include: the Chaska Brick industry, Historic Carver, Coney Island of the West, Stiftungsfest, Andrew Peterson, Klein Bank, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Seminary Fen, Bongard Creameries, and the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, among many others.

Many of you may have noticed a lack of new information on the CCHS website. We are in the process of creating a new, more easily accessible and navigable, and more visually appealing location. Watch for this website in 2014!

See you this summer at *Storyland!*

Heidi Gould, Education and Volunteer Coordinator

Statement of Financial Position - unaudited

	<u>Jan 13, 14</u>	<u>Jan 13, 13</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
100 · KleinBank	94,634.56	100,595.43	-5,960.87	-5.93%
101 · Building Fund	12,148.31	12,189.88	-41.57	-0.34%
10100 · Petty Cash	42.36	55.00	-12.64	-22.98%
102 · Museum Collection Fund	3,590.02	3,534.22	55.80	1.58%
10470 · Schultz CD #517052	77,565.22	77,565.22	0.00	0.0%
10820 · Museum CD #1300044751	9,915.04	9,915.04	0.00	0.0%
10822 · Museum CD #7711148	<u>11,703.54</u>	<u>11,703.54</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Checking/Savings	209,599.05	215,558.33	-5,959.28	-2.77%
Other Current Assets				
12100 · Inventory Asset	<u>130.96</u>	<u>130.96</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>130.96</u>	<u>130.96</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Current Assets	209,730.01	215,689.29	-5,959.28	-2.76%
Fixed Assets				
15000 · Furniture and Equipment				
15001 · ScanPro2000	10,604.34	10,604.34	0.00	0.0%
15000 · Furniture and Equipment - Other	<u>40,202.17</u>	<u>40,202.17</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total 15000 · Furniture and Equipment	50,806.51	50,806.51	0.00	0.0%
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	<u>-73,031.92</u>	<u>-73,031.92</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Fixed Assets	18,582.35	18,582.35	0.00	0.0%
Other Assets				
10110 · Paypal	-0.16	-0.16	0.00	0.0%
10900 · Endowment Fund Investment	144,491.00	144,491.00	0.00	0.0%
10905 · Gain (Loss) on Endowment Fund	<u>-14,160.00</u>	<u>-14,160.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>130,330.84</u>	<u>130,330.84</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>358,643.20</u>	<u>364,602.48</u>	<u>-5,959.28</u>	<u>-1.63%</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Current Liabilities				
24100 · Accrued Leave and Payroll	2,773.98	4,433.56	-1,659.58	-37.43%
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	<u>75.43</u>	<u>112.76</u>	<u>-37.33</u>	<u>-33.11%</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>2,849.41</u>	<u>4,546.32</u>	<u>-1,696.91</u>	<u>-37.33%</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2,849.41</u>	<u>4,546.32</u>	<u>-1,696.91</u>	<u>-37.33%</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	118,849.14	118,849.14	0.00	0.0%
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	104,066.43	114,586.63	-10,520.20	-9.18%
Net Income	<u>-49.00</u>	<u>-6,306.83</u>	<u>6,257.83</u>	<u>99.22%</u>
Total Equity	<u>355,793.79</u>	<u>360,056.16</u>	<u>-4,262.37</u>	<u>-1.18%</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>358,643.20</u>	<u>364,602.48</u>	<u>-5,959.28</u>	<u>-0.39</u>

Our Volunteers Rock!

By the Numbers

2012 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Exhibits.	287.50
Collections	568.25
Education.....	317.25
Library	637.25
Shop.....	1078.75
Research.....	108.25
2012 Total	2997.25
2012 Total:	3077.25

1-50 Hours

Anna Bitschenauer, 41.25-Exhibits
 Jill Frahm, 41.25-Collections/Exhibits
 Allyn Johnson, 30-Library
 Orville Mackenthun, 43.5-Collections
 Lindsay Marshall, 16.25-Research
 Lynn Murphy, 8-Education
 Ali Ross, 6-Education
 Lois Schulstad, 28.5-Library
 Alice Siewert, 11.5-Library

51-100 Hours

Drew Dent, 87-Education
 Bruce Gustafson, 64-Workshop/Exhibits
 Victoria Pohlen, 64.5-Collections
 Cary Smith, 92-Research/Exhibits
 MaryLou Teubert, 100.5-Library
 Kari Wacholz, 65.25-Exhibits

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*

101-199 Hours

Danielle Forner, 142-Collections
 Lois Johnson, 143-Collections Photo
 Kim Johnson, 156-Library
 Dave Kopperl, 134-Collections
 Allison Kronk, 166.25-Library
 Sue Nesland, 145-Library
 Hayley Mueller-Milne, 184-Exhibits

200-299 Hours

Caitlin Donnelly, 222.25-Education

1000+ Hours

Rocky Bye, 1014.75-
 Workshop/Exhibits

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL 2012 FAIR VOLUNTEERS:

Caitlin Donnelly, Burt and Nancy Johnson, Darlene Fasching, Paul Ray, Victoria Pohlen, Lynette Bledsaw, Lori Lohman, Diane Ittel, Hayley Mueller-Milne, Marilyn McPadden, Mary Lou Teubert, Doug Hoese, Kim Johnson, Dale Magnuson, Ron and Harriet Holtmeier, Laura Ryan, Patty Zellman, Karen Stage, Susan McAllister, Allan Krueger, Danielle Forner, Val Barlau, Mike Fahey, Dan Lund, Al Bongard, Carol Johnson, and the Chanhassen Historical Society.



CCHS volunteer
 Delores Hart

Year End Highlights

Grants:- This year we received a total of \$43,372 in monetary grants and one traveling exhibit. They can be broken down as follows: *Storyland* traveling exhibit, two Legacy north Peterson barn grants, \$28,500 and \$7000; a Legacy grant written by the CCHS for the Carver County Fair, \$7,783 and a NCN finance conference scholarship for \$89.

2013 Joint Ventures:

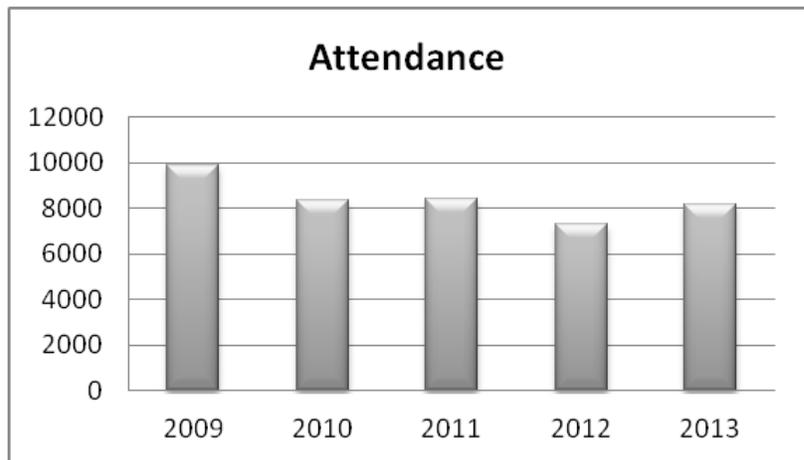
Community Picnic: The annual community picnic, co-sponsored by the Carver County Arts Consortium, was held in Watertown this year. Watertown turned out to be a fabulous host as a number of local organizations jumped in to help out. Thanks to the Watertown Area Historical Society for being so enthusiastic, the Watertown Arts Council and the City of Watertown for being so gracious and welcoming.

Fair Legacy grant: The CCHS wrote a grant for the Carver County Fair where a series of photo and informational boards about the history of the fair were designed and installed in various locations within the fairgrounds.

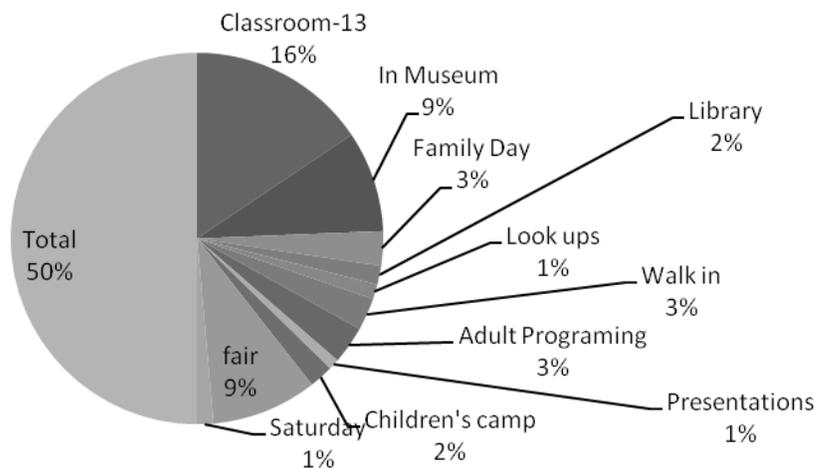
Storyland: The CCHS spearheaded a grant from the Children’s Museum to host a traveling exhibit co-sponsored by the Carver County Libraries. This exhibit pushes us a little bit out of our history box, but is a great joint venture.

2013 Visitation

2009	9856
2010	8321
2011	8376
2012	7314
2013	8163



Classroom-13	2546
In Museum	1431
Family Day	489
Saturday	233
Library	265
Look ups	213
Walk in	457
Adult Programming	537
Presentations	151
Children's camp	341
fair	1500
Total	8163





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1/18/13/WPB