

Transcending Time

Carver County Historical Society

30/1 : Winter 2009



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Chaska Alternative High School Presents New Student Exhibit:

Voices from the Past, Lessons for Our Future

Students in the Storytellers Class at Chaska High School wrote the following excerpts about an exhibit they created for the Carver County Historical Society, which opens **Thursday, February 19 at 6pm**. Students used oral history and the experiences of elders to learn about changes in the community in which they live.

Children at Play

The Storytellers put together a story of our community and its changes over the past century. We learned through oral history that growing up changes with the decades. Our exhibit focuses on what it was like to grow up in each decade since 1920.

– Whitney, Jessica, and Mariah

Women at Work and in the Home

Our Storytellers class learned that as women became more confident and wanted more access to independence, rights, and opportunities, their roles expanded and changed. We interviewed elders to find out about these changes. We learned that women did not have the rights to do things they wanted to do. Many women did not have the opportunity to work, drive, play sports, vote and participate in politics, and have their ideas taken seriously. Today women have more control over their lives, and our exhibit seeks to honor what women have gained. – Sarah, Krysstara, Mallory, and Jamie

Men at Work

Items in this display relate to work that men did to survive and pay for their family's expenses. These jobs range from being a farmer to being a corporate business owner. Farming required a diverse skill set and many tools. Business owners had to deal with labor needs of production, and the workers themselves had to deal with a wide range of job responsibilities. Whether farmer, worker, or owner the tools of their trade changed with society's needs. – Travis, Dylan, Casey, and Brandon

Veterans at Home

Our Storytellers class has produced an exhibit by interviewing veterans who served during times of war and times of peace. By recording the interviews, we have put together our knowledge of the veterans' experience to form a story. Veterans have served our country in ways the government could not serve us. They have risked their

lives for us, and it is our duty to honor them, care for them, and preserve their memories on the battlefield and at home. In our exhibit, we share the stories of veterans and their lives away from the front. – Keaton, Alex, and Wes

Soldiers at War

Our Storytellers class interviewed veterans who served during times of war and times of peace. We found out that people who served our country did a lot to help make our country what it is today and defend our hopes and ideals. We found out many brave soldiers had to step into a world they had never seen before and endure horrible conditions during their service. They fought for our country wearing our flag and carrying the ideas of hope and freedom with every step. In our exhibit, we try to honor and cherish their bravery. – Andrew, Carly, Cole, Brandon, and Dylan



The Storytellers of Chaska High School visit the museum

SNIPPETS

Wendy Biorn
Executive Director

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW VETERAN'S GALLERY BEGINS

The long awaited project of redesigning the Veteran's Gallery has begun. It has long been the dream of CCHS staff to give the Veteran's Gallery a Carver County voice which will tell the stories it holds within recesses of the artifacts. For a variety of reasons, this effort was not able to begin until January of this year.

A tribute to those who served, a place to reflect is the focus of the new Veteran's Gallery at CCHS. The overall design of the gallery features a room size oval display with an American flag at half mast in the center. The oval is comprised of sections, each section allows the story of a specific conflict to be told in the words, artifacts and pictures of Carver County residents.

There are two ways you can help us with this project. If you have items that tell the story of a conflict through the eyes of a Carver County resident, we would like to talk to you about your artifacts. Keep in mind the story might come from those at home. How did rationing affect you and your family? Do you have letters or pictures, specifically pictures of everyday life?

The second way you can help, is to join us with fundraising efforts. It is estimated that the gallery construction will cost approximately \$15,000. The Carver County Historical Society is looking for donors to sponsor sections of the display. Donors may choose which section they would like to sponsor and a plaque noting sponsorship will be included in the gallery.

Please help us create a memorial to those who have served.



Above is the Curator's drawing of Civil War portion of the new Veteran's Gallery. The Gallery will be divided into sections which will feature the stories of Carver County residents from each conflict.

2009 New Members to the CCHS Board of Directors

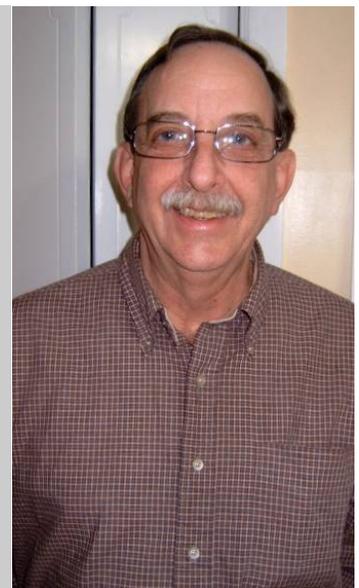
Kari Myrold is the most recent addition to the Board of Directors. A resident of Cologne, Kari is an attorney in Minneapolis who bears the distinction of serving as the shortest-term Carver County Attorney, from May 31 to July 13, 2007. (To learn more about the Office Carver County Attorney, turn to pages 4 & 5.) Kari takes a particular interest in preservation, and with her husband owns one of only a few round barns in the county. She seeks to contribute to the community through her work with the Historical Society and hopes to bring positive participation and motivation to the Board of Directors. She was elected to the Board at the annual meeting of the Carver County Historical Society on January 18, 2009. She will be up for re-election in 2011 and her term limit ends in 2017.



David Porath was appointed to the Board of Directors in October 2008 to fill the position previously held by Kevin Coffel. Although at first he only wanted a taste of what service on the Board was like, he enjoyed his experience so much that he sought election to the Board in January 2009. A resident of Chanhassen, David has significant volunteer experience, including a commitment to the hunger-relief organization Feed My Starving Children. David is interested in serving on the CCHS Board of Directors to promote the preservation of county history and oral accounts, and to help the Historical Society reach outside the museum walls to minority communities, such as Hispanics. He is also interested in genealogy. He was elected to the Board at the annual meeting of the Carver County Historical Society on January 18, 2009 and elected Treasurer in February. He will be up for re-election in 2011 and his term limit ends in 2017.



John Varone was appointed to the Board of Directors in December of 2008 to fill the position previously held by Lois Schulstad. John is a retired employee of Scott County and combat Vietnam veteran. His experience as an interpreter at The Landing in Shakopee, knowledge of Native American culture and military background will make him an invaluable resource to CCHS as we move toward redesigning the veteran's gallery. He is the recipient of the 2006 League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission award for his efforts to educate Chaska residents on American Indian History and is continuing work to protect the Burial Mounds Sacred Sites in Chaska City Square Park. A resident of Chaska, John a member of the advisory committee for the renovations in the Veteran's Gallery and has been elected the new Vice President of the society for 2009. He will also serve on the Fundraising Committee, Collections/Exhibits Committee and Historic Preservation Committee. He will be up for re-election in 2010 and his term limit ends in 2016.



The County Attorneys of Carver County



The Carver County Historical Society library researcher, Marlene Magnuson, receives a steady stream of research requests. Most are routine genealogical inquiries and researchers seeking copies of newspaper articles and photos. Last fall however, she received a request from the Office of the Carver County Attorney asking for a list of all past county attorneys and their pictures. On the surface this sounded like a routine request, and one that should have been simple enough to complete. However, once Marlene began to search for the attorneys she found the investigation more challenging than she had imagined—especially the hunt for photos.

The first questions most people ask regarding the County Attorney is: How do they get the position and what do they do? According to current Carver County Attorney James W. Keeler, Jr., the Office of the County Attorney is responsible for prosecuting all criminal crimes in Carver County, including juvenile delinquency matters. They represent the Social Services Department in regard to child abuse and child neglect, and have the responsibility for establishing paternity and collecting child support. He also serves as the legal council to the Carver County Board of Commissioners.

The History of the Minnesota River Valley: Carver County (on sale at the Carver County Historical Society gift shop) states that, in 1856, the attorney holding the position had a two-year term. It is unclear when, but at some point the position changed to a four year term. Currently, the County Attorney is publically elected to a four year term. If an attorney leaves before the end of the four years, a new attorney is appointed by the County Board of Commissioners. The position expanded from part-time to full-time during William R. Glaeser's term (1965-1978).

There have been a total of 17 Carver County attorneys over the last 153 years. The first County Attorney was J. A. Sargent in 1856. Joseph Augustus Sargent was born at Hallowell, Maine, on November 28, 1821. He studied law in Portland moving to St. Paul in 1854, the city of Carver in 1855, and finally settling in Chaska in 1860.

The current County Attorney is James W. Keeler, Jr., who was appointed to fill the position left vacant by Michael Fahey. Fahey resigned effective May 31, 2007 to accept the position of District Court Judge. Pursuant to statute, Chief Deputy County Attorney Kari Myrold served as Interim County Attorney from May 31, 2007 until her resignation on July 13, 2007. During her short tenure, Myrold negotiated an agreement with the Hennepin County Attorney's Office to have Toni Beitz, Senior Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, serve as Interim Carver County Attorney until Mr. Keeler's permanent appointment. Ms. Beitz served as Interim from July 13, 2007 to September 13, 2007. While it would appear there are days (May 31 and July 13) with two County Attorneys, it should be noted that the exchanges took place mid afternoon on those dates.

J. J. Fahey served in the Office of the Carver County Attorney for 26 years, and has the distinction of being the county attorney with the longest length of service. The first and only woman in the post, not counting acting county attorneys Beitz and Myrold, is Marcia Rowland. Rowland was appointed to fill the vacancy left by D. Scott Ballou.

The Carver County Herald carried a story on Sept. 8, 1982 following her appointment. When the reporter posed the question, "How does the public view a woman in a position of authority?" her response was, "People are looking more closely at women in positions of authority because it is a recent thing...There isn't anything I can do or say if someone has an adversary reaction [to women]." In 1986 Rowland ran for re-election but was defeated by Michael Fahey.

Special thanks to Marlene Magnuson for her research in compiling this story. There is still one County Attorney photo to be found: Attorney Frank Warner, 1889-1891. If anyone knows of a photo of this man, please consider donating the photograph or a copy to the Carver County Historical Society. See page 5 for a complete list of those who have served in the Office of Carver County Attorney.

Sources:

Marlene Magnuson, CCHS Researcher
Office of the Carver County Attorney

Carver County Herald
Waconia Patriot
Weekly Valley Herald

Carver County News
Norwood Times
Young America Eagle

History of the Minnesota River Valley: Carver County
Compiled by George E. Werner and Charles M. Foote

The Office of Carver County Attorney, 1856—2009

1856—1858
 1859—1862
 1863—1868
 1869—1872
 1873—1878
 1879—1888
 1889—1892
 1893—1894
 1895—1902
 1903—1908
 1909—1914
 1915—1926
 1927—1938
 1939—1942
 1943—1950
 1951—1964
 1965—1978
 1979—1982
 1983—1986
 1987—5/31/2007
 5/31/2007—7/13/2007
 7/13/2007—9/13/2007
 9/14/2007—present

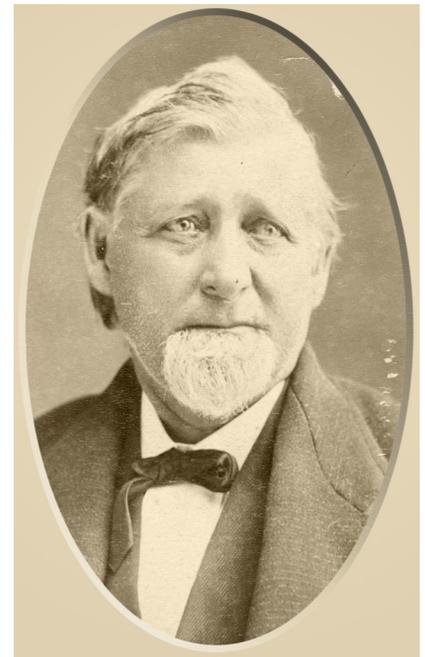
J.A. Sargent
 Joseph Weinman
 Frank Warner
 Joseph Weinman
 Ernest Hainlin
 W. C. Odell
 Frank Warner
 W. C. Odell
 P.W. Morrison
 Thomas F. Craven
 J.J. Fahey
 W. F. Odell
 J.J. Fahey
 Arlo Haering
 J. J. Fahey
 Martin Stahlke
 William R. Glaeser
 D. Scott Ballou
 Marcia Rowland
 Michael A. Fahey
 Kari Myrold, Interim County Attorney
 Toni Beitz, Interim County Attorney
 James Keeler Jr.



Jim Keeler, Current Carver County Attorney



*Kari Myrold, shortest term Carver County Attorney
 Kari is also the most recent member of the Carver County Historical Society Board of Directors. Read her bio on page 3.*



J.A. Sargent, first Carver County Attorney, 1856—1858



John J. Fahey is the longest serving Carver County Attorney. He held the office for 3 terms, a total of 26 years!

Mark your calendars!

Eco-History Camp

A great summer day camp presented by
the Carver County Historical Society

For boys and girls, grades 3-5

Waconia
June 8-11

Chaska
June 22-25

Watertown
July 6-9

**Norwood-Young
America**
July 20-23

This is a **FREE** program!
Application is required.

For more information, call Erin at
(952) 442-4234 or email
eranderson@co.carver.mn.us

Make a Difference!



Maple Sugaring

When: Saturday, March 21
10am—12pm

Where: Baylor Regional Park
10775 CR 33
Norwood-Young America
2-1/2 mi N of Hwy 5



Experience the making of maple syrup from tree to bottle! Join the Carver County Historical Society and Carver County Parks as we visit Baylor Park to explore how real maple syrup is made. We'll take a hike in the woods to learn how to identify a maple tree, the history of maple tapping in Carver County, and what exactly a *sugar bush* is. You'll even get to try your own Maple Sundae!

Veteran's Gallery Update

By Larry Hutchings

Work has begun on our plans to reinterpret and redesign the Veterans Gallery exhibit. With Dan Steinhagen's military collection as a strong foundation, supplemented with objects collected by the museum over seventy years, we are ready to tell powerful stories about Carver County's participation in the Armed Services of the United States from the Civil War to the Gulf War.

We are looking for personal stories about servicemen and women from Carver County, as well as information about activities on the home front. Local photographs related to military themes are also welcome.

If you would like to contribute information or objects, please contact Larry Hutchings at (952) 442-4234.



The Chanhassen Historical Society presents the Second Annual

Celebration of History and the Arts

Saturday, May 17 at
Historic St. Hubert's Church in
downtown Chanhassen
306 W 78th Street

- 4—5pm Social gathering and tours of the church
5—6pm Performances featuring
- The Chan—O—Laires
 - St. Hubert's Brass Band
 - Chaska Valley Family Theater

Please join us for this community gathering and learn more about the Chanhassen Historical Society and its mission.

Thank You Annual Fund Drive Contributors!

Contributions up to \$99	Contributions up to \$99	Contributions up to \$99	Contributions up to \$999
Mary Armstrong	Jerome & Diane Hirsch	Gerald & Genelle Schimelpfenig	Otto & Susan Dreydoppel
Erna W. Bachtold	Scott & Mary Jensen	Frank & Beverly Simon	Leona Grivelli
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Joan Buhler	Lynn Mattson Little	Richard & Becky Turpen	Tom & Eleanor Kottke
Leanne & Kelsey Brown	Mary Luedtke	Deanna Turton	Susan Olson
Leonard & Joann Capaul	Vivian McGonagle	Olvern Vinkemeier	Ralph Peterson
Barbara Carlson	J. Michael & Pamela Melchert	John & Kathy von Walter	Loren & Kari
Reed & Mary Lou Erickson	Thomas Moak	Rose Wohlgemuth	Schwinghammer
Judge Michael Fahey	Ardy Moe	Wilfred Yetzer	Charles & Catherine Sell
Gordon & Joan Felt	Richard & Pauline Molnau	Contributions up to \$999	Harry & Dianne Strandberg
Bonnie Fimon	Kermit Ohlsen	Mr. & Mrs. Lars Akerberg	Dennis VanSloun
Barry Fox	David Porath	Marianne Anderson	Lonnie & Linda Venske
Sara Gaucher	John & Linda Roebke	Val Barlau	Contributions of \$1000+
Joann Gorman	Mary Sauerbrey	Mary Booth	Mary Erhard
Mervin Herrmann	Maddy Schalow	Carol Buesgens	Jo Mihelich
Dale Hilck			Burt Johnson

Thank You New and Renewing Members!

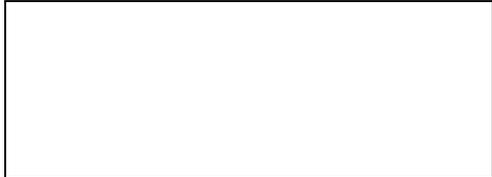
Mary Armstrong	Gordon & Joan Felt	Marlene Magnuson	Frank Simon
Chuck Barden & Linda Plessner	Bonnie Fimon	Nancy Malone	Duane Sivanish
Wendy Biorn	Albert & Bonnie Furman	Lee Mayberry	Paul & Sheila Steiner
Lawrence & Zona Brown	Alice Ann Glenn	Connie McHale	Jack & Linda Strong
Allan Bongard	Joann Gorman	Andrea Merboth	Steve Taylor
Mary Booth	Arline Hellekson	Stephanie Murphy	Betty Trende
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John & Mary Eklund	Herb Lins	John Rolf	
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	John Maladowsky	Allen & Phyllis Schmitz	Steve Zeller
		Lois Schulstad	

CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Museum & Library Hours

Mon.-Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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Lori Lohman (Secretary), Chaska
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Al Bongard, Cologne
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Mike Fahey, Carver
Doug Hoese, Watertown
Sarah MacKay, Watertown
Randy Maluchnik (County Liaison),
Chaska
Kari Myrold, Cologne
John Varone, Chaska

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CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

- Senior Citizen \$10.00
- Individual \$15.00
- Family \$25.00
- Sustaining \$50.00
- Please send a gift membership to the name below.
I understand a letter will be sent to the recipient
announcing my gift.
- Please accept my donation of _____ toward your
annual fund drive.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Gift Membership to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

The Carver County Historical Society is a non-profit organization supported by memberships and contributions from county residents, business, and government. All members receive *Transcending Time*, this newsletter.