

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER
Summer 2014 – Volume 19, Issue 3

Summer is quickly disappearing and before we know it, fall will be here. What do we need to accomplish before the end of the year. We need to receive some bids for our addition to display building #2. The addition will be 40' to 50'. **Now looking for bids on this addition project!!** Our log cabin display that was taken down to make room for the Electrifying Minnesota display will be recreated in our new addition. In the Depot space we will be building **a research center for our visitors**. We are looking for grant funding to help pay for this addition. This addition will give us an opportunity to create more displays depicting life in early Aitkin County.

Also, we are working on grant funding to purchase the land under our museum buildings. We have around \$30,000 set aside for this purchase but need around \$70,000. If you have any ideas please share them with me.

The Electrifying Minnesota display was dismantled on August 5th and sent to its new location. The radiator that was in the room has been removed, the walls from the log cabin display have been removed, and the two window displays have been moved. Now we have to patch and repaint walls, add some additional electrical outlets, have a wall of book cases installed, build a counter for research, pick up some additional computers for visitors to use, move our history library to book shelves, Catalog our book library and move additional research materials into the room. It is my hope that we will be able to have the research room up and running by Thanksgiving. We will be using memorial money to pay for the research center.

Volunteers are needed to help with our many projects in the works. Look at the list of projects listed in this newsletter and see if there is one you would be willing to help with. We will need help moving and cataloging our research books, moving research materials to our new research center. The center will have computers, printers/copier for visitors to use. Visitors will be able to use ancestry.com on those computers. A flat screen TV will be placed on the South wall. Also, one of our microfilm readers will be available. File cabinets with research materials will be located in our new facility.

Our **Historical Map of Aitkin County** is coming along. The sites have been chosen. Now we need to travel around the County and GPS the sites. This map will list 80 historic sites in the county with descriptions of each site. Some grant funding has been received for this project and additional funding is being requested. The initial run will be 10,000 two sided maps. (18" X 24") Once that the map has been printed we will share it with everyone in the county to hand out to visitors. The hope is that visitors will spend more time exploring Aitkin County and want to spend more time here. More time means more money spent in the county. It will help tourism throughout the county.

The Aitkin County Historical Societies Annual Garage Sale was a huge success again this year. Total sales surpassed \$9,200.00 this year. Last year we just broke the \$8,000.00 dollar mark for the first time. This year 1825 people attended our garage sale. Our Annual Garage sale is our largest fundraiser of the year. **The society collects merchandise for this sale all year long.** Please do not forget about us when you are moving to a smaller home, buying new furniture or have things that you no longer use to donate those items to the ACHS. It is because of your donations that we continue to have great sales. **I want to thank everyone who donated items, helped setup and mark our sale items, worked the sale, and all those people who bought items at our sale.** Help us break the 10,000 dollar mark in 2015. Clean out your garage, storage sheds, barns, basements, closets and junk drawers. Every item donated for our sale helps us reach our goal.

Do you have any copper wire sitting around? Maybe the pieces are too small to use or ones that the outside casing is crumbling? Please consider donating them to the historical society. Help the society raise additional funds by donating these pieces of wire. Volunteers will strip off the outside coating and take the wire in and sell it for the society. Not only will these wire donations help the society, but they will help you clean out a space in your home. Please consider helping us with this new fundraising project.

VOLUNTEER! VOLUNTEER! VOLUNTEER! VOLUNTEER! VOLUNTEER!

Gregory Leach (Administrator)

Board of Directors: Darlene Maciej (President), Cheryl Meld (Vice-President), Colleen Bremner (Secretary), Alice Dotzler, Connie Pettersen, Susan Benson, Carol Bailey, Ron Kemmett, John Hendrickson, Bob Lake, Lorraine Liljenquest, Joel Hyytinen, Allen Ladd Hakes, Russell Peterson, Mark Wedel (County Commissioner), Sherry Arvidson (Accountant), Greg Leach (Administrator)

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Business Members – 34, Individual Members – 26, Senior Members – 119, Family Members – 261,
Life Members – 16, Perpetuity Members – 2

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 458

BUSINESS MEMBERS

Aicota Health Care Center
Aitkin Body Shop
Aitkin Chamber of Commerce
Aitkin County Abstract Co.
Aitkin Family Chiropractic Center
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts
Aitkin Furniture & Carpet
Aitkin Independent Age
Aitkin Iron Works
Aitkin Lodge #164 IOOF
Aitkin Motor Company
American Legion Post 86
Arvidson Tax & Accounting
Bremer Bank
Crosby Eye Clinic
D.Q. Grill & Chill
Eyecare Center of Aitkin & McGregor
Garrison Disposal
Gobles Sewer Service
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating
Hasskamp Brox. Well Drilling
Hudrlik Carpet & Tile
K & J C-Stores, Inc.
KKIN-KEZZ Radio
Lundberg Plumbing & Heating
Members Coop Credit Union
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
Paulbecks County Market
Peoples National Bank
R & K Cabinets
Schwebel, Goetz, Sieben
Security State Bank
The Tire Barn, Inc.

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

Aitkin Bowling Lanes
Aitkin Co. Soil & Water Dist.
Aitkin Dairy Queen
Aitkin EZ Stop
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts
Aitkin Furniture
Aitkin Glass
Aitkin Independent Age
Aitkin McDonalds
Aitkin Municipal Liquor Store
Aitkin Pet & Farm
Aitkin Rental Center
Bare's Bootery
Beanery Internet Café
Auli Z's & Bippity Bop
Ice Cream Shop
Bill's Sportsmans Service
Brandl Motors
Bremer Bank
Cedarbrook Lumber
Coombs Cuts
Crossroads In Time
Cross Woods Golf Course
Cuyuna County Auto
CVS Pharmacy
Duane's Photography
Enberg TV
Farm Island Store
40 Club/Players
Freedom Gas Station
Garrison Disposal
Grand Casino Mille Lacs
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating
Grandmas Pantry
Hometown Building Supply
Hot Stuff Foods
Hudrlik Carpet & Tile

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

Hyytinen Hardware Hank
Jeanie & Company
Jessica's Treasure Chest
KKIN AM & FM Radio
The Landing
Lightning Motorsports
Lorries Hair Studio
Lundberg Plumbing
Midwest Machinery Co.
Mille Lacs Energy
Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
Northern Air Heating & Plumbing
Northwood Equipment
The Office Shop
Paulbecks County Market
Peoples National Bank
Pine Insurance Agency
Rasley Oil
Rialto Movie Theater
Ripple River Motel
Riverwood Healthcare
Roadside Restaurant
Security State Bank
Security State Insurance
Sew Much & More
Shiperio Games
Shirts Plus
Simply Chic
Snap Fitness
Subway in Aitkin
The Tire Barn, Inc.
Toby's Thrift Shop
Unclaimed Freight North
Verizon
Whistling Wolf Mini-golf

Members Lost

During 2014

Gordon Root

6/20/1939 to 1/24/2014

Elsie Dotson

11/22/1938 to 5/30/2014

Larry Nelson

11/26/1937 to 6/5/2014

New Members

Jeremy & Jessi Goble

Donald J. Christiansen

Schwebel, Goetz, & Sieben

Ardith Kane

The Tire Barn, Inc.

Bruce W. Garbrecht

Dorothy Winegarner –

Pinther

Terry & Wendy Johnson

Kevin Fillips

James Gustavson

Robin Keyworth

David & Cordy Strand

Gordon Prickett

Kevin & Cheryl Gorsuch

WWII Flight Simulator

The Depot museum has received a WWII Flight Simulator as a donation. Volunteers worked on receiving this donation for a year and a half. The Simulator will need 100's of volunteer hours to get it operational again. When it is completed, visitors to the museum will be able to try flying. This donation adds another hands-on display to our museum and will bring additional visitors to the Depot Museum.

Memberships

Senior - \$7.50

Individual - \$15.00

Family - \$20.00

Business - \$30.00

**On particularly rough days when I'm sure I can't possibly endure, I like to remind myself that my track record for getting through bad days so far is 100%, and that's pretty good"
-Author Unknown**

GRANT WRITER NEEDED!

Need grants for the following:

- Purchase land under depot.
- Addition to building #2
- Publish Historical map of Aitkin County.
- Purchase Caboose for Depot.
- Purchase scanner for negatives.
- Tables & Computers for research area.
- Book shelves for library.

GOALS FOR 2014

1. Membership surpasses 472
2. Raffle over \$3000.00 again
3. Garage Sale over \$7000.00 – **Accomplished!**
4. Publish book about our Aitkin County Country schools. - 2015
5. Visitor count over 5000.
6. Research library & facility set up.
7. Find a Caboose or railroad car for display.
8. Publish Historic map of Aitkin County.
9. Publish GPS walking tour of the City of Aitkin.
10. Find additional funding for the Depot Museum.
11. Add another museum sign south of Aitkin on Hwy 169.

SUPPORTING TOWNSHIPS

FARM ISLAND TOWNSHIP

IDUN TOWNSHIP

LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP

LIBBY TOWNSHIP

NORDLAND TOWNSHIP

BEAVER TOWNSHIP

PLINY TOWNSHIP

AITKIN COUNTY

2014 PROJECTS

1. Complete Obituary files.
2. Historical Map of Aitkin County published for use throughout county.
3. Research/assemble/publish Country Schools of Aitkin County book.
4. Research Riverboats of Aitkin County for future book.
5. Collect information on all Churches located in Aitkin County for book.
6. Expand information on our web site.
7. Complete our set of AHS yearbooks.
8. Increasing our membership to 472
9. GPS Walking Tour of the City of Aitkin.
10. Developing research facility at Depot.
11. Have land under Depot appraised for possible purchase.
12. Increasing local interest in Museum.
13. Create photo albums for each display connecting artifacts to Aitkin County.
14. Build addition on Building #2
15. Find Caboose or railroad car.
16. Interview Aitkin County seniors.
17. Purchase Warren William movies to show at movie night at the museum.
18. Clean out basement of Depot.
19. Go on KKIN monthly.
20. Remove trees South of Building #3
21. Clean fill for area South of Building #3
22. Transfer videos from VHS to DVD
23. Create more hands on displays for children.
24. Label more items in our displays.
25. Big screen TV for movie nights at the museum.
26. Frame photo of backdrop located in building #4 for visitors to see.
27. Send more articles to newspaper.
28. Sell raffle tickets at Paulbecks.
29. Install new billboard south of town.
30. Collect photos and information about Resorts located in Aitkin County for future book.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

1. Cost only \$30.00 a year.
2. Businesses are listed in our quarterly newsletter for other members to support.
3. Businesses are listed on our web site with links to their web site or email.
4. ACHS uses our business members first.
5. Items purchased from Business members first.

2014 EARLY-BIRD DRAWING

1. 18 - holes golf + cart for four at Emily Greens – **Adam Christensen - Aitkin**
2. Dinner & Show for 2, Chanhassen Dinner Theater – **Janet Miller - McGregor**
3. 2-18 hole rounds of golf with cart donated by Cross Woods Golf Course – **Sheryl Wiechert**
4. \$55.00 Gift bag from Jeanie & Co. – **Maryann Holder - Aitkin**
5. Amana Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating – **Korena Hammond - Aitkin**
6. Coffee basket donated by Lundgren Plumbing _ **Gayle Janzen – Aitkin**
7. Family Portrait sitting donated by Duane's Photography – **Gary Seiger, Sr. - Aitkin**
8. Necklace donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – **Tom Brand - Aitkin**
9. Oil Change donated by Brandl Motors – **David Blakesley - Aitkin**
10. Case of Canoe Wild Rice –Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp. – **David Hasskamp - Aitkin**
11. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate – **Justin Hendricks - Bloomington**
12. \$20.00 Gift Certificate to Aitkin Municipal Liquor Store – **Dee Munson - Aitkin**
13. \$20.00 Gift Card for Auli Z's & the Bippity Bop Ice Cream Shop – **David Braskowski - Aitkin**
14. \$20.00 Gift Card from Bare's Bootery – **Gloria Olson - Aitkin**
15. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value) – **Dorothy Glidden - Aitkin**
16. "Barns of Aitkin County, MN" book – **Pete Welchon - Aitkin**
17. 2 Rounds of Mini-golf at Whistling Wolf Mini golf – **Lane Fischer - McGregor**
18. \$15.00 Gift Certificate for Simply Chic – **Sue Fox - Aitkin**
19. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – **Nancy Jacobson - Aitkin**
20. \$10.00 Gift Card from Aitkin Flowers & Gifts – **Gale Leach - Crosby**
21. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Bill's Sportsmans Service – **Ross Wagner - Aitkin**
22. Subway 6-inch fresh Value Meal – **Linda Hommes - Aitkin**
23. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – **Kathy Novak – Crosby**
24. Shiperio Card Game of Golf – **Harold Larson - Wilmar**
25. Subway 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – **Jim Hausaur**
26. Vikings womens T-Shirt (L) donated by the Landing – **Corrine Becke - Isle**
27. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – **Jay Ferdelman - Aitkin**
28. Pine Insurance Agency cozy and flashlight - **Cathren Just - Aitkin**
29. Child Guard for Firearms donated by American Legion – **Toby Gabrio - Aitkin**
30. 12 pack of Pepsi donated by EZ Stop – **Bonnie Mickelson - Aitkin**
31. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – **Doug Olson - Aitkin**

2014 RAFFLE PRIZE'S COLLECTED

1. Dinner & Show for 2, Chanhassen Dinner Theater – Donated by KKIN radio (\$140.00 value)
2. Mille Lacs Grand Casino Hotel/dinner for two – (\$125.00 value)
3. One 18" x 68" Dressing Mirror donated by Aitkin Glass – (\$116.00 value)
4. Ripple River Motel Jacuzzi Room – (\$85.00 value)
5. Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarm donated by Northern Air Plumbing & Heating – (\$60.00 value)
6. 2013 US Mint Proof Set donated by Peoples National Bank – (\$49.95 value)
7. Amana Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating – (\$40.00 value)
8. Necklace donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$39.00 value)
9. Necklace donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$39.00 value)
10. 20 LED Camp Lantern – (\$35.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
11. Squirrel Feeder – Donated by Hyytinen's Hardware Hank – (\$35.00 value)
12. Welcome Bear donated by Aitkin Furniture – (\$34.95 value)
13. Garstang Loving Monkey donated by Crossroads In Time – (\$34.95 value)
14. A gift Subscription to the Aitkin Independent Age – (\$32.00 - \$37.00 value)
15. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Auto – (\$32.00 value)
16. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Country Auto – (\$32.00 value)
17. Case of Canoe Wild Rice – (\$30.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
18. \$30.00 gift card from Paulbecks County Market
19. \$30.00 Visa Card – Donated by Security State Insurance
20. \$30.00 Visa Card – Donated by Security State bank
21. \$30.00 gift card from Paulbecks County Market
22. Minnesota Sweat shirt donated by Shirts Plus – (\$29.95 value)
23. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
24. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate

25. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
26. \$25.00 Gift Card to Freedom Gas Station
27. \$25.00 Gift Certificate Aitkin Pet & Farm supply
28. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate
29. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
30. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Hometown Building Supply
31. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
32. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Gramma's Pantry
33. Lawn Chair donated by Bremer Bank – (\$25.00 value)
34. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate
35. Sterling Ring donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$25.00 value)
36. \$25.00 off a \$50.00 purchase at Lightning Motorsports
37. Universal Notebook Case donated by American Legion – (\$24.95 value)
38. 8" DQ Cake – (\$21.00 value) Donated by Aitkin Dairy Queen
39. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for the Office Shop
40. \$20.00 Gift card to 40 Club Resaurant or Player's Sports bar
41. Universal Remote – Donated by Enberg's TV – (\$20.00 value)
42. 3-in-1 Power Tools for kids donated by Midwest Machinery Co. – (\$20.00 value)
43. \$20.00 Gift Card from CVS Pharmacy
44. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for Aitkin Lanes
45. \$20.00 Gift Card from Toby's Thrift Shop
46. 10 ½" X 15" Picture donated by Unclaimed Freight North – (\$20.00 value)
47. First Aid Kit from Riverwood Healthcare Center – (\$20.00 value)
48. \$20.00 Gift Certificate to Aitkin Municipal Liquor Store
49. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
50. \$18.00 Gift Certificate for Lorrie's Hair Studio
51. Coombs cuts gift certificate – (\$18.00 value)
52. Stonetech Stone & Tile Cleaner donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile & Tech stain remover – (\$18.00 value)
53. Hand saw donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$17.60 value)
54. Tire Rotation – (\$16.00 value) Donated by the Tire Barn
55. Umbrella donated by Bremer Bank – (\$15.00 value)
56. Snap Fitness cup plus one week pass – (\$14.50 value)
57. 1-Large 2 topping pizza donated by Farm Island Store – (\$13.99 value)
58. 1-Large 2 topping pizza donated by Farm Island Store – (\$13.99 value)
59. Mohawk Carpet Stain Remover donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile & Tech stain remover– (\$13.00 value)
60. 40-Club Restaurant & Bar shirt (XL) – (\$12.00 value)
61. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
62. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
63. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Sew Much & More
64. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for the Beanery an Internet Café
65. \$10.00 Gift Certificate to Cedarbrook Lumber Company
66. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Rasley Oil Co.
67. Snap Fitness Journal – (\$10.00 value)
68. Two McDonalds Sandwiches - (\$8.00 value)
69. Subway 6-inch fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
70. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
71. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – (\$8.00 value)
72. Subway 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
73. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
74. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – (\$8.00 value)
75. Subway 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
76. Measuring Tape Holder for belt donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$7.90 value)
77. Aitkin County Soil & Water hat – (\$7.00 value)
78. Pine Insurance Agency cozy and flashlight (\$6.00 value)
79. Aitkin County Naturally bird book – (\$5.00 value)
80. 12 pack of Pepsi donated by EZ Stop – (\$5.00 value)
81. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)

Second Quarter Accessions

4/2/2014	14.33	Davies/Nordean	100's of post cards
4/2/2014	14.34	Carol Munson	womens hats and hat box
4/2/2014	14.35	Virginia Van Horn Jerry & Ruth	Glory school reunion book
4/5/2014	14.36	Erickson	5 - car Silver bullet train
4/5/2014	14.37	Beverly Bailey	Bennettville School photo, AkSarBen garden photos
4/10/2014	14.38	Chuck Knutson	Pharmacy bottle from Trudgen's pharmacy
4/10/2014	14.39	Janet Miller	Photos
4/10/2014	14.4	Latvala family	McGregor High School band uniform
4/11/2014	14.41	Beverly Bailey	5 - post cards of AkSarBen gardens
4/23/2014	14.42	Randy Wall	67 - postcards plus CD of 100 post cards
4/23/2014	14.43	Marjorie Anderson	Photos & School information
4/23/2014	14.44	Aitkin Public Library	Northside Study Club info., and 7 dwarfs from the original Carnegie Library
5/2/2014	14.45	Unknown	1968 AHS Yearbook
5/2/2014	14.46	Don Christiansen	School items
5/2/2014	14.47	Pat Killeen	Bank
5/2/2014	14.48	John Hendrickson	All-star wrestling at the Armory Posters
5/2/2014	14.49	Jerry Thompson	Post Cards
5/2/2014	14.5	Mary Rea	Razor
5/2/2014	14.51	Bryan McGinnis	Post Card
5/9/2014	14.52	Hella Buchhiem	2 - books
5/9/2014	14.53	Marlys Morris	Misc. Advertising
5/9/2014	14.54	Ruth Hauge	Misc. School items
5/9/2014	14.55	Itasca Co. H.S.	Photos & maps
5/14/2014	14.56	Marty Tolvanen	Many photos & Jacobson information
5/16/2014	14.57	Jennie Hakes	3 - Antique dolls
5/16/2014	14.58	Ardith Kane	Photo Album
5/17/2014	14.59	Patrick Hiltz	1957 AHS Graduation Uniform
5/21/2014	14.6	Cuyuna Heritage	Teacher qualification record, Scrapbook pages
5/21/2014	14.61	Dale Johnson	Grist Mill
5/23/2014	14.62	Debra Janzen	Concertina, Lanterns, typewriter, yearbooks, clarinet, Snow White, misc. box
5/23/2014	14.63	LaVonne L. Blount	Guernsey Dairy Cookbook
5/23/2014	14.64	Janet Miller	21 - photos
5/24/2014	14.65	Paul & Rose Boucher	Assorted Ziske photos & information
5/28/2014	14.66	Don Hyytinen	Photo
5/28/2014	14.67	Doris Nordean	2 - photos
5/28/2014	14.68	Leslie Coleman	Book - The Swedish Ancestors
5/30/2014	14.69	Kathy Buckholtz	Crazy Quilt - Wool & Fabric mix
6/11/2014	14.7	Marlys Gustofson	Ladies aid song book
6/18/2014	14.71	Diana Rian	2-maps - plat of Hassman & Hwy 210/169
6/20/2014	14.72	Dennis Tennison	Ball Bluff fire tower plat book, Ball Bluff Grange books
6/25/2014	14.73	Gail Voll	Bethel Church
6/27/2014	14.74	Dennis Baumann	Railroad Scematics
6/27/2014	14.75	Shirley Lake Barber Byran & Karin	1957 AHS Class Ring - Case of Copy paper
6/27/2014	14.76	McGinnes	Cradle, Kitchen ware
6/27/2014	14.77	MacDonald family	AHS items, HILites & Homecoming Buttons
6/13/2014	14.78	Terry Betley	Staff Mining Compass

Country Schools of Aitkin County

Research is moving forward on this book. Volunteers have been researching County records, old maps and other records. They are finding the locations of all schools that operated in Aitkin County.

Total count of schools so far:

274

Resorts of Aitkin County

The Aitkin County Historical Society is looking for photos, post cards, brochures and any other information pertaining to Resorts that were or still are operating in Aitkin County. Information received will be used in a future publication. All information/photos received will be placed in files. If you would like to keep the originals, we can scan them into our system and return them to you. Please help us with this project before the information is lost.

Trains, Trains, Trains

The Depot museum is still looking for more model trains of any size (O, HO, N, etc.) to put on display in our railroad room. They can be donated for the display or placed on loan. This is a permanent display which adds more interest for children visiting the museum. Help us fill the display. Currently eighteen trains are on display.

Churches of Aitkin County

Another future book will be Churches of Aitkin County. The Aitkin County Historical Society is requesting photos, and histories of all churches that were/are located in Aitkin County. If you have any information, or know of someone who does, please share it with the society. We want to make our series of books to be as complete as possible. That is only possible with the help of the residents of Aitkin County.

Research Room Progress

1. Log Cabin display walls removed.
2. Radiator removed.
3. Holes in floor cemented.
4. Window displays moved.
5. Walls patched.
6. Walls painted.
7. Book cases on order.

Garage Sale Numbers

- 1825 people attended this event
- Total sales - \$9,395.82
- Total sales at Fairgrounds - \$7,636.12
- Subtract expenses - \$711.48 = \$6924.64
- 10% for rent of Fairgrounds - \$692.46
- Total sales outside of fairgrounds - \$1759.70
- Total Profit - \$7,991.88
- Raffle tickets sold - 386

Looking for Family Histories

Have you or someone in your family put together a family history? If you have, please consider donating a copy to the Depot Museum. We receive requests all the time looking for information about family members. Currently working on your family history? Don't forget to ask us if we have any information for you. Maybe, someone has already done some of the research for you.

The society filled two of the large Fair buildings with merchandise that had been donated for our sale. Garrison Disposal donated a 10 yard dumpster for cleanup after the sale. Left overs were offered to DAV, they took some books and left. Toby Gabrio picked up everything else.

Business History

Has your family now or in the past owned a business located in Aitkin County? The Aitkin County Historical Society wants those histories to preserve for future generations. Share those histories.

International Flag Display

Every winter we buy 14 new flags to hang at the museum. (US Flag, Minnesota flag, 12 International) The cost of each flag is \$12.50 which includes shipping. On the fence next to each flag is the history of that country's flag. If you would like us to hang a flag from your ancestor's country, please send a **check for \$12.50** made out to ACHS to P.O. Box 215, Aitkin, MN 56431. Let us know which country the check is for and we will make up a plaque with that flags history to hang on the fence next to the flag. We hang the flags from May 1st through Labor Day.

Museum Visitors	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January	30	24	40	40	86	45
February	18	22	22	55	29	46
March	30	61	23	187	99	307
April	28	36	48	153	48	61
May	77	72	50	100	110	116
6th Graders	84	109	101	91	91	74
June	84	157	472	183	127	180
July	149	229	266	356	251	294
County Fair	1331	1441	1171	0	1500	1695
August	202	201	214	202	248	
Garage Sale	1232	1356	1423	1814	1723	1825
September	42	68	128	118	132	
Rendezvous	0	0	0	1077	0	0
October	77	141	75	72	102	
November	30	43	93	41	150	
Open House	77	60	83	71	66	
December	13	23	48	50	132	
Totals	3504	4043	4257	4610	4894	4643

Completed Projects 2014

1. Electrical Outlets added in Depot museum homestead room.
2. Glass case repaired for use in depot museum.
3. Past Perfect software updated.
4. Electrifying Minnesota display and signage set up.
5. Train display case repaired.
6. Loft built in log cabin.
7. Fence repaired at Depot.
8. Property line surveyed.

Aitkin County Fair Numbers

1. Visitors to building – 1695
2. Book sales - \$440.00
(22 Barn books sold)
3. Memberships – 3
4. Raffle tickets sold – 60
5. Cost of Fair booth - \$125.00

We have received Memorial Money for the following:

Larry Turner
 Stewart Lehrke
 Wilma Holder
 M.M. Welshons
 Jeannette Zilverberg
 Dwight A. Coleman
 Evelyn V. Coleman
 Marie M. Sellers
 Johanna M Reiter
 Larry Nelson
 Patricia Cummings
 George "Everett" Landrus
 Lyndon Hasskamp

VOLUNTEER

Items Needed at Museum

1. Toilet paper
2. Cleaning Supplies
3. Paper Towels
4. Garrison garbage tickets
5. Multipurpose Copy paper
6. HP 564 Ink cartridges
7. Apple Boxes
8. Model Trains – any size
9. 8 ½ X 11 Photo paper
10. Tall Kitchen bags
11. Wrapped chocolate candy for volunteers.
12. Cases of bottled water.

Donations

Lual Leistiko - \$40.00
 Alice Fageroos - \$50.00
 Ardis Ivory – Paper Towels
 Shirley Barber – Case of copy paper
 Greg Leach – 2 cs. Water
 Carolyn Kuechle - \$25.00

Volunteer Opportunities

Here is a partial list of projects:

1. Photo archiving.
2. Accession artifacts & info into museum collection.
3. Assemble new displays.
4. Research Resorts in Aitkin County (Past & Present)
5. Catalog & set up Museum Library.
6. Maintain museum grounds.
7. Grant writing.
8. Repair & paint museum interior walls.
9. Organize museum files.
10. Assemble photo albums for displays.
11. Research Riverboats that made Aitkin their home.
12. Research Churches of Aitkin County.
13. Volunteer to work on our WWII Flight Simulator.
14. Help set up our new research center in the Depot museum.

A Great Big

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

To everyone who donated items for our Garage Sale, helped set up and mark for the sale, worked at the sale, helped clean up after the sale and purchased items at our sale. 2014 is another record setting year. Thank you for everyone's support.

My Plate Is Overflowing

I want to apologize to everyone who has donated something to the museum and has not received a Thank You letter. I am about three months behind because of so much going on at the museum. No excuse. I will be working hard during the next several weeks to catch up. I want everyone to know that we appreciate everything that we receive whether it is information, photos or artifacts. Letter will be coming soon.

DEPOT MUSEUM GARDENS

The flower gardens outside of the fenced area took a big hit from the local deer population. Need ideas about plant selections that deer do not like and other ideas about keeping deer out of garden. Inside the fenced area the flowers are thriving. Could use 6 to 8 more Hastas to fill in the center garden. Plants can be dropped off at the Depot Museum on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Books in Our Book Store

The Oranges Are Sweet
Warren William
Can't Never Did Nothin'
Barns of Aitkin County
Minnesota Railroads
Ole & Svens Bucket List
Our Love of Loons
Boomer Humor
Shadow of Time – (Minnesota
Surviving Railroad Depots)
Minnesota Memories & Images
Birds of Minnesota
The Seven States of Minnesota
The Great Minnesota Hot Dish
Betty's Pies Favorite Recipies
The Pie Place Café
Little Minnesota – (100 Towns)
Scandinavian Cooking
Furuly – Shelter in the Pines
Minnesota Activity Book
A Minnesota Remembrance – (Series
by Robert Harder)
Aitkin County Naturally
Fish of Minnesota – Field Guide
The Fireflies Book
Aitkin County Heritage book
(Over 200 titles available)



1908 Northern Pacific Derailment

On May 7th, 1908 this west bound Northern Pacific train derailed when a switch failed sending the engine and coal tender down one set of tracks and the cars down the other. The wreck was located one half block east of Hwy 169/Minnesota Ave. in downtown Aitkin. Only the mail clerk was seriously injured. The clerk, George Westcott, was a resident of this community living in the Cedar Lake area. Mr. Westcott never returned to duty and died about a year later as a result of his injuries. This was the only serious passenger train wreck of record within the village.



AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DEPOT MUSEUM EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 2014

December 6th – Spirit of Christmas Open House/Cookie Walk/Raffle Drawing – Visit the museum, enjoy our Annual Holiday display, drink some coffee or apple cider, and eat some cookies. **We ask our members to donate 4 dozen cookies.** Open House will be held from 9a-m to 4pm. At 9:30am walk to our second display building, pick out your holiday cookies from 1000's available. Then at 2pm we will hold our Annual Raffle Drawing. (82 prizes)

MUSEUM HOURS

Summer Hours – (June, July & August)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday – (10am to 4pm)

Winter Hours – (September thru May)

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday – (10am to 4pm)

Phone: (218) 927-3348

Email: achs3348@embarqmail.com

Web: [Http://www.aitkincohs.org](http://www.aitkincohs.org)