



AITKIN COUNTY ANECDOTES

New Administrator, Heidi Gould!

I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome to Aitkin County and the ACHS! Museums and history have been a life long passion of mine. I attended school for archaeology as an undergrad and museum studies for grad school.

I spent the last 9 years of my career at the Carver County Historical Society in Waconia, MN. As the Curator of Education and Exhibits, I was in charge of all educational programming and exhibit design, grant writing, social media, volunteer recruitment, and a large array of other tasks. I saw roughly 8000 kids a year through over 35 school programs, helped the museum host National Endowment for the Humanities, MNHS, Smithsonian, and MN Children’s museums exhibits, and cultivated strong and lasting relationships throughout the County. This included cultivating relationships with groups like Parks and Libraries to offer joint programming opportunities.

As both a Gould and a Hawkinson, I have strong ties to Aitkin County, more specifically, in Tamarack and McGregor. I am excited to explore those roots more fully and help share Aitkin County’s rich history for all to explore and learn!

I am so excited to join the team at ACHS and help to make the ACHS a visitor destination.

In order to better get to know our wonderful members, I have included a brief (don’t want to take too much of your valuable time!) survey on the inside of this newsletter. If you are able to give valuable feedback on ACHS and where we are headed, it would be greatly appreciated!



The best history doesn't just sit behind a glass case; it helps us to understand what's outside the case.
-Barack Obama

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
New Hours	1
Member Survey	2-3
Memberships	4

WE NEED YOUR HELP: SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

OPEN HOURS

October-April
Wednesday-Friday
10am-4pm

May-September
Wednesday-Saturday
10am-4pm

Interested in photography? Want to learn more local history? The ACHS needs dedicated volunteers! Potential projects include manning the front desk, working with collections, digitizing photographs, organizing and inventorying storage areas, and lawn/garden care in the summer.

From teens to seniors, if you know someone looking for a great place to volunteer, send them our way!

Contact Heidi Gould, Administrator, at (218)927-3348 or achs@aitkincohs.org to set up a time to come in and discuss opportunities!

2020 Member Survey

In order to better understand the membership of the ACHS, why you chose to support ACHS, and what ways ACHS can provide the services and programs desired, we are asking members to provide valuable feedback. Please take a moment to answer these questions and return this survey to us. Don't want to fill in this form—please feel free to simply type and email your answers!

Are you currently a member of ACHS? _____ If not a member, why? _____

If lapsed, why did you give up your membership? _____

Age: _____ Sex: M F Location: _____ Level of Membership: _____

When was the last time you visited the museum? What was the purpose of this visit: _____

How often do you typically visit the museum in any given year? _____

Why did you choose to become a member of the ACHS? _____

How likely are you to renew your membership? (Circle best answer)
Very Unlikely Unlikely Unsure Likely Very Likely

How likely are you to recommend friends and family become members of the ACHS?
Very Unlikely Unlikely Unsure Likely Very Likely

What do you see as the biggest perk of being an ACHS member? _____

What perks of membership would you like to see the ACHS offer? _____

Have you ever made a purchase in our gift store? How likely are you to purchase souvenirs and gifts from the gift shop? _____

Is there a type of item or book title you feel the gift shop is lacking? What is it? _____

What is the best way to inform you of upcoming events? (Circle all that apply)
Facebook Twitter Posters/Flyers Radio Ads Newspaper Ads Postcards in the Mail Newsletter

What do you believe is the primary purpose of ACHS? _____

Any issues or complaints with the ACHS— staff, volunteers, offerings, museum, gift shop, etc.?

If you could change any one thing about the ACHS, what would it be? _____

Do you have a favorite artifact or memory from ACHS? Please describe. _____

Any additional comments, praises, critiques or suggestions? _____

Thank you for taking the time and effort to complete this survey. This survey will help guide future endeavors such as membership drives, programming, exhibits, and selection of store items. Your input is invaluable in providing audience feedback as to how the ACHS can improve and better itself in regards to our mission and serving our members.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The more we give, the happier we feel - a great reason to volunteer, especially with this gloomy weather we have been experiencing. Giving of your time can relieve stress, fight depression, and give you a sense of purpose, plus you can meet some wonderful people. Do you like to work alone? We have projects for you. Do you like to work with others? We have projects for you. Do you like to work from home? We even have projects for you. Come join us as we preserve and share the history of Aitkin County.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

DO YOU SHOP ON
AMAZON?

If so, you can support us through Amazon Smile. Through this program Amazon donates a portion of your purchases to ACHS. The cost of your purchase does not increase. AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Visit: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0963286> the next time you shop on Amazon.

**Support
Aitkin County
Historical Society.**

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile



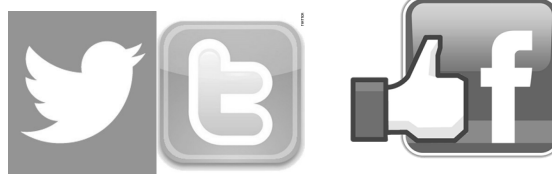
FROM THE COLLECTIONS

An old favorite at the museum. This deer was shot by George Roberts of Palisade in 1907, when he was 19 years old.

The taxidermist who made the mount was Francis Lee Jaques, of Jaques Arts Center fame. Supposedly, the neck on this deer was so large, Jaques had to cut a large triangle portion of skin out, so it would look "normal" when mounted.

Have you ever seen antlers quite like this?

Want to discover more local history? Make sure to follow and like us on Facebook and Twitter!



Thank you to all ACHS Donors, New and Renewing Members

To all those who joined, renewed membership, or generously donated in the latter half of 2019, thank you. With staff changeover, and no newsletters, we apologize if your name was missed for recognition. We greatly appreciate your support of the Aitkin County Historical Society.

Beginning with the next issue, we will continue to honor all memberships and contributions quarterly.



More ways to give: <https://www.mightycause.com/organization/Aitkin-County-Historical-Society>

\$1,320 RAISED BY 17 DONORS TO DATE!

ITEMS NEEDED AT THE DEPOT:

SCHOOL YEARBOOKS:

- **Aitkin A books:** 1972, 1979, 2010—present
- **Hill City Stinger:** all years before 1976, 1980, 1985, 1987—1991, 1993—2000, 2002, 2006—present
- **McGrath Memories:** all years except 1954
- **McGregor Pine Log:** 1934-1948, 1965, 1979, 1982—1984, 2003—present

PERIODICALS:

- **Minnesota History**
 Volumes 1 - 3, 5, 6, 10 - 32, 40
 Issues 4.7, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 33.3, 33.4, 34.4, 37.4,
 38.4, 38.5, 38.6, 38.8, 39.1, 39.2, 39.3, 39.5,
 39.6, 39.7, 39.8, 41.1, 41.2, 41.3, 42.8, 44.4,
 44.5, 44.7, 56.1, 63.8, 65.4, 65.5, 65.6

If you have any of these items that you would like to donate to ACHS they would be greatly appreciated!

Aitkin County Historical Society
20 Pacific St. SW
P.O. Box 215
Aitkin, MN 56431
www.aitkincohs.org
(218)927-3348

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP ____ new ____ renewal

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Senior (over 60)	\$7.50
Life	\$200.00
Business or Club	\$30.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____
Email: _____

Membership Amount Enclosed: _____

I would like to receive the newsletter via email instead of US mail
 I am interested in volunteering

Make checks payable to: AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL or ACHS
Mail check and application to: **Aitkin County Historical Society**
P.O. Box 215
Aitkin, MN 56431

Board of Directors:
Jennie Hakes, Aitkin, *President*
Cheryl Meld, Tamarack, *VP*
Laura Thornbloom, Aitkin,
Secretary
Colleen Bremner, Aitkin,
Treasurer
John Hendrickson, Aitkin
Kirk Peysar, Aitkin
Roxy Wigton, Aitkin
Mark Wedel, Aitkin,
County Commissioner Liaison

Staff
Heidi Gould, Aitkin
Administrator
achs@aitkincohs.org

