

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2010

Administrator's Comments

Another year has come and gone with many changes to the Museum with more to come. Our challenge is to make the Museum more interesting and fun for our visitors. Many volunteer opportunities are available both at the Museum and at one of our many events. On exhibit outside of building #2 is a 1937 F-12 Farmall tractor that we have restored for viewing. Inside our display buildings many new acquisitions are on display along with several new displays. Our newest display is of old cookbooks from area churches. An antique quilting rack was received in December which will be on display starting late summer during our joint quilting display with the Jacques Art Center. Many family histories have been given to the museum, also a booklet and all the research materials about the 17 men who died during WW I from Aitkin county.

The first event of the year is coming up March 13th & 14th. The Annual Sports and Commerce show. We will need volunteers to man our booth. Call the Museum for times available. The ACHS will promote membership and visitation of our Museum. Several books will be for sale to help pay for our booth.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A CABOOSE WITH TOP CUIPO. If you know where we can find one please let us know. A caboose would make a great addition to our Museum which would add to our visitor's experience.

During the past year six members moved on to their next adventure. Our membership started the year at 246 and now stands at an even 295. We will continue to seek new members and ask our members to receive the newsletter via the internet. Currently 51 members and most of the townships receive the newsletter by email which saves us the cost of printing and postage.

This past year we had our best Garage Sale ever but, with all of your help I think we can do better. Our sale this year will be held on August 6th & 7th to coincide with the Aitkin Riverboat Heritage days which was moved to a later date to get away from the County Fair. This will give us more time to set up and collect items for our sale. When you do your spring cleaning this year remember that all of your donations to the Society are tax deductible. If you are already going through your closets, garage, and basement or have bought new furniture consider donating your unwanted items. We are collecting items all year for our sale.

Twenty one total prizes were given away this past year in our annual raffle. Thanks goes out to all those who donated the prizes that made this our best raffle ever. We will be starting to put together our prize package for this years raffle so if you have a prize that we can use please call me at the Depot. It could be a gift certificate, (i.e. oil change, car wash, meal, etc.) a gift basket, a specific item, or maybe a hand crafted item (quilt, shawl, blanket, bird feeder). What do you have that will help us with our raffle? Are you good on the computer? Please consider donating some time as one of our prizes. We need your help to make this years raffle even better than last years.

Our annual Cookie Walk / Open House was a huge success. Seventy people visited the museum and we sold over 300 dozen cookies. At the end of the day we only had three dozen cookies remaining. We will need more cookies this year if we want to beat our 2009 total which turned out to be another record.

Thanks goes out to all of the volunteers that have helped to make this a very successful one for the Historical Society. Without the volunteers none of this would have been possible. **THANK YOU!!!!!!**

GREG LEACH

2009 MEMORIALS

\$25.00 in Memory of Jim Florek, longtime Wealthwood resident
\$10.00 in Memory of Kenneth Lyons husband of Lois Lyons
\$95.00 in Memory of Jack Christianson
\$25.00 in Memory of Anita Jackson Ruddell by the class of 1950
\$25.00 in Memory of Larry Fyle husband of Lois Ritter Fyle by the class of 1950
\$45.00 in Memory of Henry Fageroos husband of Alice Fageroos
\$25.00 in Memory of Adeline Sjodin Purdy sister of Betty Howard by the class of 1950
\$320.00 in Memory of Helena Dotzler
\$220.00 in Memory of Vernon Miller

MEMBERS WHO LEFT US IN 2009

John "Jack" Christensen – 10/13/1927 – 3/2/2009
Kenneth Lyons – 9/3/1918 – 5/5/2009
Bea Jacobsen – 7/13/1918 – 7/20/2009
Henry Fageroos – 6/16/1926 – 7/21/2009
Vernon Miller – 9/21/1933 – 12/7/2009
Helena Dotzler – 8/18/1929 – 12/13/2009

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Business memberships – 29, Individual memberships – 29, Senior memberships – 92, Family members – 126, Life members – 19
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 295

2009 RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

DRAWN ON DECEMBER 5TH

1. Cuyuna Country Club – 4 Rounds of Golf + Cart. – **RON WHITE** – AITKIN
2. Minnesota National Golf Course – 3 Rounds of Golf + Cart – **ANNE NELSON** – AITKIN
3. Minnesota Timberwolves – 2 Tickets & T-shirt - **JOAN CHRISTENSEN** – AITKIN
4. Chanhassen Dinner Theater – Meal & Show – **JERRY THOMPSON** – AITKIN
5. Grand Casino Mille Lacs – Hotel & Meal - **LU LEISTIKO** – ISLE
6. Picnic Table & Benches – **JOHN BURR** – AITKIN
7. John Deere Traveling Sprinkler – **JUDY TOPP** – AITKIN
8. Rialto Theater - \$50.00 Gift Certificate – **MARILYN KULLHEM** – PALISADE
9. Great River Gardens - \$50.00 Gift Certificate – **PAUL KUIKEN** – AITKIN
10. Large (36") Doily made by Marlene Kingsley – **JOEL HYYTINEN** – AITKIN
11. Shawl made by Connie Petterson – **PEG LUNDBERG** – AITKIN
12. Baby Blanket made by Connie Petterson – **WENDY JOHNSON** – AITKIN
13. Therapist Select Shiatsu Massaging Cushion – **AL WILLIAMS** – COLERAINE
14. Minnesota Remembrance books - **AL WILLIAMS** – COLERAINE
15. Ozark Trail Quad Chair – **TOM LUNDBERG** – AITKIN
16. Season's In Time Book - **ROD KRAUS** – COON RAPIDS
17. Aitkin County Naturally Bird Book - **SANDY FREDRICKSON** – CROSBY

MISSING AITKIN HIGH SCHOOL YEAR BOOKS

The following is a list of yearbooks that we need to complete our files.

1966 1967 1971 1972 1975 1976 1978
1979 1986 thru 2000 2002 2007

HELP US SAVE MONEY!!!

How can you help the Historical Society save money?

1. If you have an email address, let us send the newsletter and other correspondence to that email address. That would save us the cost of printing and postage for four newsletters plus other mailings. Approximately \$7.00 a year.
2. When you receive your notice for your annual dues in May consider paying for more than one year. One of our members has even paid their dues thru May of 2015. Their next notice will not be sent until 2015 which saves us money.
3. Let me know of any ideas that you might have on ways that the Historical Society can save money.

2009 VISITOR'S TO MUSEUM

January – 30
February – 18
March – 30
April – 28
May – 161 Total includes 84 students
June – 84
July – 149 County Fair - 1331
August – 202
September – 42
October – 77
November – 30
December - 90 Total to Date - 2322

HELPFUL HINT

To test the temperature of deep fat for frying, float a kitchen match on the surface of the fat. When the match ignites, the fat is at the right temperature.

THESE BUSINESSES SUPPORT US, PLEASE SUPPORT THEM

AITKIN AREA CHAMBER
AITKIN COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY
AITKIN FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC
AITKIN FLOWERS & GIFTS
AITKIN INDEPENDENT AGE
AITKIN IRON WORKS
AITKIN MOTOR COMPANY
AMERICAN LEGION POST 86
ARVIDSON TAX & ACCOUNTING
BRANDS SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
CUMMINGS AUTO SALES
CUMMINGS OIL COMPANY
CUYUNA COUNTRY CLUB
ENBERG T.V.
EYECARE CENTER OF AITKIN & MCGREGOR
GARRISON DISPOSAL
GOBLE'S SEWER SERVICE
JANZEN AUCTIONEERS

GRAVELLE PLUMBING & HEATING
GREAT RIVER GARDENS
HOMETOWN BUILDING SUPPLY
HUDRLIC CARPET
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS
JIM BLAKESLEY ENTERPRIZES
KKIN AM & FM RADIO
LUNDBERG PLUMBING & HEATING
MEMBERS COOP CREDIT UNION
MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
PAULBECK'S COUNTY MARKET
PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK
RIALTO MOVIE THEATER
RITTER SEWER & EXCAVATING
SECURITY STATE BANK
THRIVANT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS
THE OFFICE SHOP
MINNESOTA NATIONAL GOLF COURSE

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

Do you know someone that loves history and has just retired and looking for something to do?

Let them know about the Aitkin County Historical Society.

Many volunteer opportunities are available at the Depot Museum. Help needed for events, maintenance, filing, research, and display, receiving donations, front desk and answering the phone. We need help in all areas of operating the Depot Museum.

**Missing the following ACHS newsletters!
Can you help us complete our files?**

- Volume 12, Issue 3Fall 2007
- Volume 11, Issue 2Summer 2006
- Volume 10, Issue 2Summer 2005
Issue 4Winter 2005
- Volume 9, Issue 1 Spring 2004
Issue 2 Summer 2004
Issue 3 Fall 2004
- Volume 8, Issue 2Summer 2003
Issue 4Winter 2003
- Volume 7, Issue 3Fall 2002
Issue 4Winter 2002
- Volume 6, Issue 1 Spring 2001
Issue 2 Summer 2001
Issue 3 Fall 2001
Issue 4Winter 2001
- Volume 5, Issue 1 Spring 2000
Issue 3 Fall 2000
Issue 4 Winter 2000
- Volume 4, Issue 3 Fall 1999
Issue 4Winter 1999
- Volume 3, Issue 1 Spring 1998
Issue 3Fall 1998
- Volume 1, Issue 1 Spring 1996
Issue 2 Summer 1996
Issue 3 Fall 1996
Issue 4 Winter 1996

We are still looking for Event Pins!

**Do you have any programs from local plays?
Either community or school theater.**

**How about programs from school band or choir
concerts?**

**Has your family completed a family history?
Does the Museum have a copy?**

**Does your family currently own a business in Aitkin
County? Or did they in the past?
Make sure that the Depot Museum receives a history of
that business.**

**WE NEED ALL OF YOUR HELP TO COMPLETE
OUR AITKIN COUNTY HISTORY!!**

2009 SUPPORTING MUNICIPALITIES

TOWNSHIPS OF

FARM ISLAND	NORDLAND
RICE RIVER	SPENCER
MACVILLE	PLINY
LAKESIDE	GLEN
LIBBY	IDUN
HAZELTON	

AITKIN COUNTY

HELPFUL HINTS

Tenderize a tough piece of pot roast with tomatoes. Add the tomatoes – fresh or canned – to the usual vegetables and seasonings with which you cook the meat. The acid in the tomatoes helps break down the tough fibers of the meat.

To make the juiciest hamburgers, add 1/3 cup of applesauce for each pound of meat, add salt and pepper, shape the meat into patties and cook as usual.

Prevent fat from spattering when you are frying by sprinkling salt in the skillet before you add any fat or food.

When substituting dried herbs for fresh, use 1/3 to 1/2 as much of the dried. It's impossible to give a precise rule of thumb since there's much difference in the strength of various brands. Wherever possible, use your nose to choose.

Retain the juices in a roast by not carving the meat for 15 minutes after taking it from the oven. This allows the juices to settle back in the meat rather than spurting out onto the carving board.

To keep an onion from slipping while it's sliced, place the onion on a flat metal grater. The little prongs will hold the onion in place while you slice it.

Bring out the sweetness of corn by adding a tablespoon of corn syrup to the water in which you cook the corn

Genealogy Group Hard at Work

For the past several months the Genealogy Group, which meets at the Depot Museum, has been working hard on compiling the Black history of Aitkin County. They have spent hours upon hours going through old books, obituary files, old newspapers, birth records, records of marriage and census records. Now they are working on putting all of the information together. The information collected will make it much easier to help individuals with ancestry research. All information will be placed into a 3 ring notebook so additional information can easily be added. When this project is completed a new one will be started. Possibly, the group will work on Civil War veterans settling in Aitkin County.

1950 FLOOD

TONY'S COLUMN MAY 25, 1950

It is difficult to estimate in dollars and cents the enormous loss to farmers in the Palisade, Aitkin and other flooded areas, besides the damage to summer homes and resort properties and to home owners and business houses in the village of Aitkin itself from the all-time high waters of the Mississippi river and its tributaries this spring. Of all the works of nature, the most devastating when on rampage is water, and when high winds accompany the work of destruction, the toll in most instances is terrific.

While the flood has no doubt reached its crest, the discouraging work of rehabilitation has not yet begun and in many instances weeks go by before those unfortunate victims of the disaster can even begin cleaning out and rebuilding their homes, barns, machine sheds, poultry houses, granaries, etc.

Many of these farm homes a few weeks ago were new and modern in every detail with barns, machine sheds and poultry houses fully equipped the result in many instances of a lifetime of toil. Today they are awash from their foundations, warped out of shape, floors completely ruined, windows broken, walls and woodwork soiled beyond repair and generally unfit for habitation by either man or beast. It will require weeks of heartbreaking labor and a great deal of expense to place them again in condition for occupancy. Fences are completely torn out or tangled up in debris to the extent that posts and wire will be extremely difficult to salvage and of little use when the work of disentangling is done. Fields, meadows and farm yards are littered with driftwood, logs, trees and rubbish, the removal of which will require weeks of time and laborious effort. And, as for crops, there will be no crops produced from these farms during the 1950 season. The whole season's efforts will be required to rebuild these farms and get them back in shape for production in 1951.

Estimate, if you can, the total cost to these people, whose buildings are destroyed to a greater or lesser degree, whose income will be entirely halted for at least a year, machinery and equipment destroyed or seriously damaged, herds and flocks lost or seriously impaired from exposure and lack of proper care, and the problem of feed supplies for the coming winter staring them in the face.

If substantial relief is not forthcoming, the blow will be felt for years to come, not only by actual sufferers, but by everyone depending upon this community for a livelihood.

The federal government can well afford to come to the aid of these unfortunate citizens to the fullest extent of their losses. In that way, the U. S. treasury will get its money back. They can not afford to let these people down while at the same time billions are being sent abroad for the aid of those for whose predicament we are least responsible.

An Associated Press dispatch yesterday says the American Red Cross has given the Canadian Red Cross \$250,000 for Canadian flood relief in the Province of Manitoba. Gen. George C. Marshall, president of the American Red Cross, expressed "deepest concern and sympathy of the people of the United States".

The old saying used to read something like this: "God helps those who help themselves," but we are wondering if someone hasn't misconstrued the proverb to read, "God helps those who help themselves to the public's funds for the aid of every Tom, Dick and Harry outside the borders of the United States who might be in distress, regardless of the needs of our own citizens."

Wonder how much His Majesty is going to kick in toward our relief in the Mississippi and Red River valleys.

FLOOD DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT \$1,900,000

Estimated flood damage to Aitkin county roads, bridges, culverts, etc. by high waters of the Mississippi river and its tributary streams, ditches, etc. has been set at \$207,000.00, and damage to township roads, bridges, culverts, etc. at \$126,532.02.

Public property damage in the village of Aitkin, covering streets, power plant, water and sewer mains totals \$56,300.00.

Private property damage in the village of Aitkin will reach an estimated \$96,000.00, covering homes and business places.

Private property damage in rural areas covering buildings, equipment, fences, crop restoration, lakeshore property, etc. has been estimated to reach the sum of \$1,385,625.00 in the entire area.

Public property damage including fair grounds, Cedar Brook Telephone Company and Aitkin-Deerwood Telephone Co. is estimated at \$28,000.00. \$20,000.00 of this figure is damage to the Fair Grounds, principally buildings

The overall estimated loss reaches almost a million, nine hundred thousand dollars, which, according to estimates, would more than cover costs of the proposed drainage canal, six miles in length from Harry Taves farm west, by passing the Pine Knoll ledge.

WHAT DID THINGS COST IN 1950?

New House: \$8,450.00

Average Income: \$3,216.00

New Car: \$1,511.00

Philco model 1403 TV: \$199.

Kraft Mayonnaise – quart jar: \$.62

Admiral “home entertainment” TV system: \$549.50

12” records: \$4.85

10” records: \$2.85

Postage Stamp: \$.03

Pumpkins: \$.02 cents a lb

Campbell’s Pork & Beans – (2) 1 lb cans: \$.25

Gallon of Milk: \$.82

Loaf of Bread: \$.14

Gallon of Gas: \$.18

Sirloin Steak: \$.77 lb

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1950

MAJOR EVENTS:

- North Korea invades South Korea: U.N. forces arrive to counter the invasion, but are forced to withdraw. President Truman declares state of emergency after Communist China becomes involved in the conflict
- Communist Chinese forces occupy Tibet
- Senator Joseph McCarthy warns of communist infiltration of State Department
- Failed assassination attempt on President Truman by Puerto Rican nationalists
- Congress passes laws that restrict communists and communist parties in the U.S.
- Accused communist spy Alger Hiss convicted of perjury
- National Council of Churches formed

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

- Antihistamines become popular as cold relief medications
- New York’s Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel opens

SPORTS:

- **World Series:** New York Yankees over Philadelphia, 4-0

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT:

- **Movies:** Sunset Boulevard, All About Eve
- **Songs:** A Bushel and a Peck, Good Night Irene, Mona Lisa, C’est Si Bon
- **TV Shows:** Arthur Godfrey and Friends, Lux Video Theatre, Fred Waring Show, Your Show of Shows, Your Hit Parade, Fireside Theatre
- **Books:** The Martian Chronicles, Ray Bradbury: Across the River and Into the Trees, Ernest Hemmingway: Darkness at Noon, Sidney Kingsley: The Way West, A.B. Guthrie, Jr.
- “Cool jazz” gains popularity
- Guys and Dolls premieres
- George Bernard Shaw dies

EVERYDAY LIFE:

- TV hero Hopalong Cassidy peaks in popularity
- Dow Jones Average: 216
- President: Harry Truman
- Vice President: Alben Barkley

FUN FACTS:

- 14 million television sets sold in U.S., increasing the number in service by ten-fold

QUOTS

Be nice to people on your way up because you might meet ‘em on your way down – Jimmy Durante

Imagination is more important than knowledge – Albert Einstein

Be the change you wish to see in the world – Gandhi

There are no grades of vanity; there are only grades of ability in concealing it – Mark Twain

Everyone is a prisoner of his own experiences. No one can eliminate prejudices – just recognize them
Edward R Murrow

CHOCOLATE CHERRY BARS

10" x 15" OR 9" X 13" Pan, Bake at 325 degrees

1 - Pkg. Fudge Cake Mix
1 – 21oz. can Cherry Pie filling
1 – tsp. Almond Extract
2 – Eggs Beaten

Grease pan. Combine cake mix, fruit, extract and eggs. Mix by hand until well mixed. Bake until toothpick in center comes out clean.

FROSTING:

1 – Cup Sugar
5 T butter or margarine
1/3 Cup Milk
6oz Semi Sweet Chocolate chips

Combine sugar, butter & milk in saucepan. Boil, stirring constantly for 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate chips until smooth. Pour over cake or bars.

From the kitchen of Alice Fageroos

RAMEN NOODLE SALAD

1 pkg. beef flavored ramen noodles
1 pkg. (prepared) Cole slaw
1 small pkg. sunflower seeds (use 1 cup)
½ cup toasted slivered almonds
2-3 green onions, chopped fine
½ cup chopped celery

Break uncooked ramen noodles into fine pieces
Just before serving

Add Cole slaw, toasted almonds, sunflower seeds,
Onions and celery

Top with dressing. Just before serving mix the
Following ingredients:

1/3 cup cider vinegar
½ cup vegetable oil
½ cup sugar
packet of beef flavoring that came with the noodles

Mix well and pour over the salad

From the kitchen of Carol Mills

CHAFING DISH MEATBALLS

2 lbs. ground beef
1 egg slightly beaten
1 large onion grated
salt to taste
1 – 8 oz. bottle of chili sauce
juice of 1 lemon
½ large jar of grape jelly

Combine beef, egg, onion and salt. Mix and shape into small balls. Make a sauce of chili sauce, lemon juice and grape jelly. Add meat balls to sauce and simmer until brown. Reheat in chafing dish. Serve with cocktail picks.

CABBAGE SALAD

1 cup sugar
1 t. celery salt
1 t. garlic salt
½ cup lemon juice
½ cup vinegar
Combine the above in a large bowl

Add to dressing and mix lightly:

6 cups cabbage
1 ½ cups finely cut celery
½ cup green pepper
¼ cup onion

Refrigerate 24 hour in covered bowl. Add ½ cup finely cut radishes before serving.

From the kitchen of Helen Leach

CHINESE MEAT LOAF

1 3 oz. can crushed chowmein noodles mixed with 1 cup buttermilk. Let stand 15 minutes.
Add 2 lbs ground beef
2 slightly beaten eggs
1 medium onion chopped
1 t. salt
¼ t. pepper
2 T. soy sauce
½ t. ground thyme

Mix all ingredients thoroughly. Press into greased loaf pan.
Bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Serves 8-10

DISHES

There are fairies in the forest
There are fairies in the glen,
But I'd like to see a fairy
In the kitchen now and then.

And if I found it friendly
Regardful of my wishes,
I'd read the morning paper
While the fairy did my dishes.

AITKIN COUNTY 1950

January 7, 1950 – Square Dance Party Held at IOOF Hall
January 26, 1950 – 51 In Aitkin to Pay Over \$100. Person Property Tax in 1950
January 26, 1950 – Aitkin Community Hospital Annual Meeting at Aitkin IOOF Hall
February 2, 1950 – Fire Destroys Laursen Store, Station at Sandy Lake; \$10,000 Loss
February 9, 1950 – Historical Society Announces Plan For Essay Contest
February 11, 1950 – First Winter Carnival Held At Hill City
March 9, 1950 – Aitkin Beats Crosby-Ironton 40-28; Advances to District Semi-Finals
April 6, 1950 – Engineer Reports Reservoir Conditions; Height at Aitkin 6.04 Last March
April 11, 1950 – Greg Leach born in Minneapolis
April 13, 1950 – Historical Essays Are Due May 1st
April 20, 1950 – Flood Conditions Becoming Critical In Upper Mississippi River Area
April 27, 1950 – River Level at 15.4 This Morning; Coast Guard and Red Cross Assist Marooned Farmers
May 4, 1950 – Flood Waters Receded Slightly; Show Rise to 15.6 This Week
May 11, 1950 – Today; Crest to Come 17.18 Feet
May 18, 1950 – Mississippi at 19.35 Thursday
May 25, 1950 - Flood Hits Crest of 19.46 Feet Saturday; Water Receding Slowly This Week
June 8, 1950 – Flood Control Meeting Urges Support For Water Diversion Ditch
June 15, 1950 – Humphrey Asks Aid For Road Construction
July 27, 1950 – Mike Paulbeck Buys Red Owl
August 10, 1950 – 60th Annual County Fair Opens on Monday
September 14, 1950 – Historical Society Plans Completion of New Building
November 2, 1950 – Attempted Assassination of President Truman Is Foiled
December 21, 1950 – Aitkin's Co. B, 194th Tank Battalion Has Been Called To Active Duty

TAMARACK NEWS May 18th FLOOD CONDITIONS

Tamarack isn't near as hard hit by the flood conditions as many places but we still feel the need of a little more dry land. Mr. Henry Sorenson was in from south of town on Saturday and said it was the first time in two months that he had been able to get in to the stores. Emry Mapes, carrier on the Star Route north of town tells us that the **water is waist deep** on parts of his route and if it came up at all he wouldn't be able to cover his route the next trip. Victor Peterson, carrier on R.R. No. 1 has a normal route of about 33 miles. For the past few weeks he has had to make more than double that mileage most of the time in order to come even close to some of his mail boxes.

PALISADE NEWS May 18th PALISADE ISOLATED

There is no way of getting into Palisade except using a boat. The Coast Guard unit came into town on Wednesday with two trucks, a jeep and a Forestry boat. There is also a private boat, owned and operated by Tex Bullis, which are being used to carry mail, groceries and feed to the flood stricken families along the river as far as Jacobson. On the first part of last week the Karl Ehne family had to move to the Grobb farm where they are now living. Mr. Ehne lost all his potatoes and oats.

The water raising all week caused the National Guards, with several volunteers from here, to build rafts and with them moved the cattle belonging to Ludwig Unjhem and Morris Loomis on Saturday and Sunday. Heimi Toppila's cattle had to be moved from the flooded bard onto higher land. Also, cattle belonging to Jennie Beck and Roy Cox.

On Friday night the ice house owned by Arvid Swanson collapsed. His loss being estimated at about \$3,000.

AITKIN COUNTY PLAT BOOKS

The museum currently is missing some plat books. We have no plat books between 1916 and 1969. If you have any plat books between those years please consider donating them to the Museum or letting us make a copy.
Plat books are an important resource for locating our ancestors.

Board of Directors: Bill Stimac (President), Don Niemi (Vice President), Cheryl Meld (Ex-Officio), Lorraine Liljenquist (Secretary), Alice Fageroos, Jon Jacobson, Mary Rea, Mike Hill, Connie Petterson, Ruth Carlstrom, Alice Dotzler, Mark Wedel (County Commissioner), Sherry Arvidson (Accountant), Greg Leach (Administrator)

QUILTING DISPLAY COMING THIS SUMMER

We are looking for Vintage and Antique quilts to have on display during this joint event with Jacques Art center. They would be on display for about four months. If you have a unique quilt that we could borrow to put on display contact the Depot Museum. Quilts will be hung throughout the museum and displayed in cases. We have an antique quilting rack that will be on display.

NOW COLLECTING ITEMS FOR OUR ANNUAL GARAGE SALE!

MEMBERS LOST IN 2010

Lois Lyons – 2/10/1921 – 1/10/2010

Find Birthplace of Johnny Appleseed

Found in the Aitkin Independent Age - May 19, 1938 issue

Concord, N.H. – Birthplace of a man, to whom all western apple growers owe their start – Johnny Appleseed, born Chapman – has been discovered in Leominster, Mass., According to Henry Bailey Stevens of the New Hampshire extension service.

Chapman traveled through the West carrying a bag of apple seed, which he planted as he wandered about the countryside.

ANNUAL MEETING/BANQUET HELD AT BLACKROCK TERRACE

Our annual meeting/banquet was held on Wednesday January 27th at the Blackrock Terrace. The meal was Ham with raisin sauce, Cheesy Potatoes, Oriental Salad, Buttered Carrots, Bread with Butter and Pickles. For dessert we had our choice of Apple pie or Lemon Blueberry. Everything tasted great.

Blackrock donated a \$20.00 Visa card which was won by Laurel Lamke. In addition Marlene Kingsley made 13 table runners and 2 sets of place mats. The winners were: Dennis Lamke, Mary Rea, Elaine Durham, Connie Petterson, Ron Arvidson, Ron Leistikio, Janet Miller, Ruth Carlstrom, Lucille Young, Lael Carlstrom, Rich Liljenquist, Sherry Arvidson, Lucille Jones, Florence Tarr, and Don Niemi.

The entertainment for the evening was the Riverboat Ramblers.

STORAGE SPACE NEEDED

Do you own a storage space that you are not using? Consider donating the use of that space that you are not using to the Aitkin County Historical Society for storage of items for our Garage Sale. Our sale this year will be held during the Riverboat days in August. (August 6 & 7) As a 501 (C) 3 this could be a possible tax deduction.

PROJECTS I WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS SUMMER

1. CUT STEPS INTO RETAINING WALL BY DOORS OF MUSEUM FOR SAFER AND EASIER ENTRANCE
2. NEW LIGHTING IN MUSEUM (UV PROTECTION ON BULBS) REMOVE ALL 8' FIXTURES
3. MOTION DETECTOR LIGHTING IN BUILDING #2
4. OUTLETS IN OFFICE SEPERATED FROM OVERHEAD LIGHTING
5. NEW BOOK CASES IN STORE AREA SO WE CAN INCREASE OUR SELECTION
6. BOOK CASES IN HALLWAY FOR RESEARCH MATERIALS
7. CLEAN UP SHRUBS AND FLOWER GARDENS, PLANT MORE PERRENIALS
8. REPAIR WOOD ON DAMAGED CORNER OF BUILDING
9. SCRAPE & REPAINT TRIM ON DEPOT BUILDING
10. BUILD SOME KIOSK'S TO PROTECT ITEMS OUTSIDE
11. REBUILD OUR WEB SITE TO MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING AND MORE INTERACTIVE
ADD INTERVIEWS, EARLY PHOTOS, 1916 PLAT BOOK, ETC.
12. CHINK THE LOG CABIN AT THE FAIR GROUNDS AND REPLACE ONE OF THE LOGS

We need at least 3 bids on each of the above items so we can go after some grant money. So if you are interested in bidding on any of these projects or know someone who would, please contact Greg at the Depot Museum (927-3348) Or maybe, you would like to donate either some time or money towards one of these projects.

OTHER PROJECTS I AM RESEARCHING

1. FINDING A CABOOSE FOR DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM
2. BUILDING A COLD STORAGE BUILDING NEXT TO BUILDING #3
3. ADDING AN ADDITION TO BUILDING #2 FOR MORE DISPLAYS
4. CREATING A BETTER RESEARCH AREA AT THE DEPOT

Which projects do you think would most benefit the Society and the Museum?

Are we headed in the right direction? I need your input.

Is there a project that you know of that I am missing?

Are you a member of Thrivant Lutheran? Contact Greg at Depot.

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Po Box 215, Aitkin, MN 56431

Email: achs3348@embarqmail.com

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010

COMMERCE AND SPORTS SHOW

Saturday March 13th and Sunday March 14th. We will have a table to let people know more about the Society, Membership and sell some books. If you can help man the table, please call the Depot for available times. 218-927-3348

GENEALOGY

Next meeting will be February 13th at 10am. Come and join the group work on research projects. Currently the group is working on the Black history of Aitkin County. The next project will possibly be about our Civil War Veterans. Learn about different web sites to help with your Genealogy search.

COLLECTIONS

Next meeting for Collections will be held on Friday March 5th at 9:30am.

MUSEUM HOURS

JUNE THROUGH AUGUST

Tue., Wed., Fri., & Sat. – 10:00am – 4:00pm

SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY

Wed., Fri. & Sat. – 10:00am – 4:00pm

Editor: GREG LEACH