

**AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**DEPOT HIGHLITES NEWSLETTER**  
WINTER 2012 - Volume 17, Issue 4

**Minnesota State Statue 138.053 states:”a town may annually appropriate from its general fund up to 0.02418 percent of its taxable market value to be paid to the County Historical Society if the society is approved by the State Historical Society.”**

**Since Aitkin County Historical Society is officially sanctioned by the Minnesota Historical Society, contributions are within a townships scope of operations.**

Dust off your favorite **Christmas cookie recipes** and get ready to bake. Our **Annual Cookie Walk** will be held on **Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup>** from 9:30am until the cookies are gone. We need everyone to bake **FOUR DOZEN** cookies and deliver them to the Depot Museum on Wednesday November 28<sup>th</sup> or Friday November 30<sup>th</sup>. Last year we fell short of our budget (\$1000.00) when we ran out of cookies. Not a baker. Donate the cost of baking 4 dozen cookies. Attend the cookie walk and buy an assortment of Christmas Cookies for the holidays. The cookie walk takes place during our Annual Open House (9am – 4pm). At 2 pm we will hold our final drawing for our raffle. (Approximately 40 prizes)

Annual Garage Sale is huge success. **I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO DONATED, PURCHASED AND VOLUNTEERED!!!** We had our most successful sale in the history of the Historical Society. Sales for this event were budgeted at \$5,000.00, which we had never reached. Not only did we reach that goal, but surpassed it by \$1,500.00. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! The crowd for the two day event reached a total of 1814 people. The weather was great and the items that were donated for the sale were very clean and in good shape. Instead of the 4H building, we used the long block building between the two metal buildings. We filled that building with furniture, tools, sporting goods and outdoor items. Building #3, one of the metal buildings, was filled with everything else. Some items were sold prior to the sale at auction. This sale left us with a tough number to beat next year. Everything that was left was donated to D.A.V. (Disabled American Veterans). **We have started collecting for next year’s sale, so please remember us when you are cleaning out your garage or house. Donations are tax deductible.**

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In January, at our **Annual Meeting** we will be electing a new President, Vice President and two board members. If you would be willing to serve on the board please contact me at the Depot. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10am. No meeting in December, unless needed, and in January we hold our Annual Meeting. Please consider joining the board and help to shape the direction of ACHS. Next year we will add an addition to building #2, develop a research facility in the Depot and possibly add onto building #3. Our search continues for a caboose for display at the museum. Four books about the history of Aitkin County and a Historical Map of Aitkin County will possibly be published next year. The book “Barns of Aitkin County” and the “Historical Map of Aitkin County” will be published. **Help us shape the future of ACHS.**

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New ST-ViewScan microfilm reader up and running just in time. Our old reader died. Several grants helped to pay for the new reader, a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grant, (\$7,000.00) part of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The MHCH Grants were made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008, administered by the Minnesota Historical Society. A \$1,000.00 Mille Lacs Electric Roundup Grant, \$1,000.00 Kaplan Foundation Grant, and \$500.00 from the Mille Lacs Casino Community Fund. With the new reader we can crop articles, print, email or down load them on a flash drive. Without the new reader we would no longer have access to the 242 rolls of microfilm which include all Aitkin County Newspapers, Census records and Naturalization records. A very valuable research tool would have been lost!

**This winter we will be putting together photo albums for each display showing various items in the display being used in Aitkin County. We are hoping to create more interest in our displays by showing the artifacts in use.**

**Greg Leach (Administrator)**

**Board of Directors:** Bill Stimac (President), Mary Rea (Vice President), Lorraine Liljenquist (Secretary), Alice Fageroos (Treasurer), Cheryl Meld (Ex-Officio), Jon Jacobson, Alice Dotzler, Connie Petterson, Barb Gottsch, Pat Williams, Arlene McNevin, Susan Benson, Carol Bailey, Mark Wedel (County Commissioner), Sherry Arvidson (Accountant), Greg Leach (Administrator)

**AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

Business Memberships – 36, Individual Memberships – 28, Senior Memberships – 101,  
Family Members – 195, Life Members – 17, Perpetuity – 2

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - 379**

**SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Aicota Health Care Center  
Aitkin Body Shop  
Aitkin Chamber of Commerce  
Aitkin County Abstract Company  
Aitkin Family Chiropractic Center  
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts  
Aitkin Furniture & Carpet  
Aitkin Independent Age  
Aitkin Iron Works  
Aitkin Lodge No. 164 IOOF  
Aitkin Motor Company  
American Legion Post 86  
Arvidson Tax & Accounting  
Blakesly Appliance Service & Repair  
Christensen Law Office  
Enberg TV  
Eyecare Center of Aitkin & McGregor  
Garrison Disposal  
Gobles Sewer Service  
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating  
Hasskamp Bros. Well Drilling  
Hometown Building Supply  
Hudrlik Carpet  
K & J C-Stores, Inc.  
KKIN-KEZZ Radio  
Lundberg Plumbing & Heating  
Members Coop Credit Union  
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative  
Paulbeck's County Market  
Peoples National Bank  
Jerome D. Poland, MD., LTD.  
Red Door Resort & Motel  
R & K Cabinets  
Security State Bank  
Sunset Bay Resort  
Tidholm Productions

**SUPPORTING TOWNSHIPS**

**NORDLAND – (2009-2012)**  
**IDUN – (2005-2012)**  
**FARM ISLAND – (2005-2012)**  
**RICE RIVER – (2005-2012)**  
**CITY OF AITKIN – (2012)**  
**LIBBY – (2005-2012)**  
**LOGAN COMMUNITY FUND – (2012)**  
**LAKESIDE – (2005-2012)**  
**AITKIN COUNTY – (1990 – 2012)**

**EVENT SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

**Aitkin Independent Age - Aitkin**  
**Cross Woods Golf Course - Crosslake**  
**Cuyuna Country Auto – Crosby**  
**Cuyuna Lanes – Crosby**  
**Cycle, Path & Paddle – Crosby**  
**Emily Greens Golf Course - Emily**  
**Enberg TV – Aitkin**  
**Garrison Disposal – Aitkin**  
**Grand Casino Mille Lacs - Onamia**  
**KKIN AM & FM radio – Aitkin**  
**Kosie's Café - Glen**  
**MacDonald-Wold - Aitkin**  
**Minnesota Timberwolves/Lynx - Minneapolis**  
**Minnesota Twins - Minneapolis**  
**Northland Subway Inc. – Aitkin/McGregor**  
**The Office Shop – Aitkin/Brainerd**  
**RDJ products – Memphis, TN**  
**Rialto Movie Theater – Aitkin**  
**Shiperio Games – Chanhassen**  
**Sentence to Serve - Aitkin**  
**Traditions Mini-golf – Deerwood**  
**Whistling Wolf Mini Golf - Crosslake**  
**Wild Mountain – Taylors Falls**  
These businesses donated raffle prizes or services  
to the Aitkin County Historical Society

**Please support our member and event supporting businesses.  
They need our support during these hard times.**

### PROJECTS FOR 2012

1. Locating a caboose for Museum
2. Clean dirt fill for south of building #3

### CURRENTLY WORKING ON

1. Developing research facility at museum
2. Book signings at museum
4. Barns of Aitkin County book
5. Obtaining title to land under Depot
6. Map of historic places in Aitkin County
7. Churches of Aitkin County Book
8. River boat history of Aitkin County book
9. Schools of Aitkin County book.
10. GPS walking tour of the city of Aitkin

### ONGOING PROJECTS

1. Increasing information on web site
2. Increasing Membership to 400
3. Completing Obituary files
4. Create a Lending Library
5. Collecting Family histories
6. Creating more interest in Museum
7. Planting more Perennials
8. Organize files for easier access
9. Collecting for Garage Sale all year long.

### 2012 COMPLETED PROJECTS

1. New Depot Museum Banner hung
2. 48 MN history books in Lending Library
3. New lighting in Depot storage areas
4. Motion light in Depot storage area
5. Warren William book signing - Stangeland
6. Warren William movie screening – 2 nights
7. Sand/paint/install 12 flag poles
8. Purchased Minnesota & MIA Flags
9. Purchased 12 International Flags
10. Grant for advertising submitted/**received**
11. Grants for new film reader - **received**
12. New Kodak Digital camera donated
13. Old lumber wagon restored & on display
14. Log Cabin repaired and chinked by STS
15. Cobble stone walkway has been leveled
16. Replaced main computer
17. New ST Viewscan purchased
18. Artifacts displayed on museum walls
19. Caulked around Depot windows & doors
20. Fence on East has been extended
21. Tractor moved to new fenced area
22. Area North of Building #2 cleared
23. Artifacts moved by flower gardens
24. Front of building #2 stained & resealed
25. Depot storage area lights now switched
26. Grant for digital scanner submitted
27. Railroad Luggage wagon rebuilt

### Museum Wish List

#### **Reams of white copy paper**

Paper towels / toilet paper  
Tickets for garbage pickup  
Clean rags

6' Fiberglass Folding Tables

2 - Half Barrel planters

Books for Library – local writers

Minnesota history books

Native American history books

Riverboat histories/artifacts/photos

Family Histories

Folgers Coffee – Regular or **Decaf**

Coffee Filters

Old maps of Aitkin County

Railroad artifacts

**Old Plat books**

Small bottles of drinking water

Wrapped Candy

### 2012 Memorials

Tommy Thompson - \$20.00

Nellie Way - \$20.00

John Roger Ferlita - \$100.00

Lowell Rosnau \$10.00

Eleanor Weitnauer - \$10.00

Mary Lou Gustin - \$10.00

John MacDonald - \$1230.00

Charles Petersen - \$20.00

Helen Olson - \$10.00

Richard Andert - \$10.00

Leota Howard - \$165.00

Luella Sell - \$30.00

Gordon Carlberg - \$30.00

Charles Petersen - \$60.00

Lorraine Erickson - \$10.00

John Karelis - \$10.00

Rhoda Baker - \$25.00

### Members lost in 2012

Jeannette Zilverberg (4/30/1920-3/26/2012)

### GOALS FOR 2012

- Membership over 400
- Collect 50 raffle prizes - Accomplished
- Sell 2000 Raffle tickets
- Receive title to land under Depot - ?
- 3000 Visitors to Museum - **Done**
- Finish obituary files (10 years left)
- More information on web site. - **Done**
- Complete AHS yearbook collection
- Depot museum as destination
- Garage Sale hits 5,000.00. - **Exceeded**

## MUSEUM VISITORS

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
January	30	24	40	40
February	18	22	22	55
March	30	61	23	187
April	28	36	48	153
May	77	72	50	100
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	84	109	101	91
June	84	157	472	183
July	149	229	266	356
County Fair	1331	1441	1171	0
Garage Sale	0	0	0	1814
August	202	201	214	202
September	42	68	128	118
Rendezvous	0	0	0	1077
October	77	141	75	72
November	30	43	93	
Open House			83	
December	90	83	48	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2322</b>	<b>2687</b>	<b>2834</b>	<b>4448</b>

## LENDING LIBRARY

### **Still Looking for Help!!!!!!!!!!**

Our lending library for members is close to becoming a reality. Over 600 books have been collected for this project. Books can be found on the following subjects:

- Railroads
- Civil War
- World Wars I & II
- Native Americans
- **Ancient Civilizations**
- Pioneers
- Minnesota History
- Regional histories
- American history
- Books by local authors
- Immigrants

We need help organizing the books and putting them by categories. Need cards typed up so they can be checked out to our members. If you can help with this project please contact me at the Depot.

**“The money was all appropriated for the top in hopes that it would trickle down to the needy. Mr. Hoover didn’t know that money trickled up. Give it to the people at the bottom and the people at the top will have it before night, anyhow. But, it will at least have passed the poor fellow’s hands.”**  
**~ Will Rogers**

## GRANTS RECEIVED – 2012

Aitkin Tourism Grant - \$530.00  
 MN Legacy Grant - \$7,000.00  
 Mille Lacs Roundup Grant - \$1,000.00  
 Thrivent Matching Grant - \$800.00  
 Kaplan Foundation Grant – \$1,000.00  
 Grand Casino Grant - \$500.00

## RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets for our Annual Raffle were sent out to our membership during the first week in June.

A list of the prizes that we had collected as of that date went out with the tickets.

Our early-bird drawing, for all tickets that had been turned in was held on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**The main drawing will be held at the Depot on December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Only four more weeks to get your tickets turned in before our drawing.

Additional tickets are available at the Depot.

**(GOAL – 2000)**

## Marcus Theater of Tamarack

The Projection equipment and Theater Marquee are now property of the Aitkin County Historical Society Depot Museum. The equipment needs to be cleaned up and assembled before it can be put on display. It is our hope to have it cleaned up and ready for display by the end of next year. If this is a project that you would an interest in working on, call the Depot and talk to Greg. (218) 927-3348

<p>“If we follow the truth, It will bring us out safe at last.” <b>Ralph Waldo Emerson</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Garage Sale</u></b></p> <p>Garage Sale was a big success with attendance of 1,814 and sales over budget by \$1500.00. Add the Trivant for Lutherans match of \$800 for a grand total of <b>\$7300.00.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Donations to Museum</u></b></p> <p>Bird Bath – Nancy Jacobson Shawl - Connie Pettersen \$100.00 Elaine Dufresne \$40.00 – Doris Nordean 6-Civil war books – Terry Kullhem 408 books – Charlotte Sunde 4 – Drawer file cabinet - Sunde Computer software – Alice Fageroos</p>
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**Steamboats on the Rivers**  
**Grand Rapids Herald Review – 1/30/1958**

A year after the railroads reached the present site of Aitkin in 1870; the village was founded and almost immediately became the base of supplies for the many logging camps in the area. During 1880 over 5 ½ million pounds of supplies and 2000 men were hauled upstream by steamboat out of Aitkin. Millions of board feet of lumber were hauled downstream. As the timber cutting moved northward the traffic extended north as far as Grand Rapids.

On the Grand Rapids-Aitkin run boats had to be built to “run on heavy dew”. Cable and capstan were often needed to pull a boat around particularly sharp bends. The stream is never more than 200 feet wide and usually tow to three feet deep. Pilots claimed the distance between the two towns was 150 to 175 miles by the river and often remarked that the river bed was “a bit dusty in places”.

By 1920 most of the pine had been cut, railways had extended their lines, and gasoline launches were being used between Aitkin and Grand Rapids. These brought the end of steam boating on the upper Mississippi.

This marked, too, the end of almost a century of steam boating in Minnesota.

**Independent Age - 1908**  
**Having Hard Time Moving Big Boat**

The “Gertrude” a craft 57 feet long, reached Aitkin Friday from Duluth where she was taken from the great lake to go to Mille Lacs. The boat was shipped on two flat cars and arrived in good shape. She was built for a Houghton concern but is now the property of Weatherland Brothers who will use her for general traffic on the big lake. It is figured that with railroad connections with the Soo there will be considerable business for a good seaworthy craft on that lake and so the “Gertrude” is out for her share of it. The boat was blocked up and the car run out from under her and a pair of heavy logging sleight was run under her. It was neatly done and the start for the lake was made Sunday afternoon. Many horses were put on but getting over the hills is going to be a slow job as all the machinery is in place and the load is a heavy one. They are going out over the west road.

**Pioneer Residents Recall early Steamboating On The Mississippi**  
**Aitkin Independent Age – May 12, 1954**

**Editor’s Note: The following information concerning early steamboats on the Mississippi between Aitkin and Grand Rapids was presented by Mrs. Serena Goward and Mrw. Rose Sutton, pioneer residents of Aitkin, at a recent meeting of the Aitkin Historical Society.**

In the fall of 1883 there were no boats on the Mississippi, north of Brainerd, so E.B. Lowell, Fred Bonness and Lee West formed a company to build a boat to supply the need of farmers and lumbermen and to have a way to transport their supplies and needs.

They planned stern wheller 130 feet long and a 30 foot beam to carry 100 tons of freight and 50 passengers. It was so successful and filled the need of the numerous lumber camps and few farmers along the route that they extended the boat 10 feet, making it 140 feet long, the biggest boat north of the Twin Cities

My earliest memories of the boat have to do with the planning and talking about it as the group met at the Lowell home of which I was a member. (kids always listen in)

When the actual construction commenced the boys and girls were anxious to see what was being done. On one of the first visits to the place, a man stepped off a wanagan and took a good look at us and asked if we were hungry. Did you ever see a number of children just out of school? We all said "Yes". He said "All right gal. I think the beans are done." He went to a place on the bank and scattered some burnt wood and picked up an iron kettle full of the best baked beans I ever ate. "Well," said the cook, Johnny Paine, "Come again, gals."

As time went on we often visited the boat when it came in and the pleasant cook always greeted us with a cheery, "Here come my gals." He found out that some of us were very fond of lemon pie and would always say, "Sorry, gals, but some one has stolen the pie." Johnny Paine stayed with the boat as long as it continued which was 1889.

The boat was condemned by the U. S. Army Engineers because it was so long that it hit the banks and filled in the channel in many places due to the powerful wheel of the Andy Gibson which was too long over all for the narrow widths and sharp bends in many parts of the stream.

The Andy Gibson had a fine mascot, a fine young eagle. They built a strong cage which was place in front of the pilot house and was there until the boat was sold. When it was released it came up town. Going to school one morning we girls met the eagle, but we took to the road and he had the sidewalk. If I remember, someone shot it that morning.

I haven't been able to find all the names of the crew members except Johnny Payne, the cook: John Lyons, the pilot: Herman Haugen, one of the engineers: and James Gibson, bookkeeper.

The first trip of the Andy Gibson was made April 29, 1884, and the amount of the total freight charges was \$629.29. Wilson and Gillespie had the largest amount of freight which consisted of the following items: 80,524 lbs. freight at 35c per cwt. \$28.18; 37 passenger tickets to Swan River \$83.25: 222 meal tickets at 35c and 5 meals tickets at 50c totalling \$191.63. Showing an iron fork used on the Andy Gibson Mrs. Goward explained that the officers paid 50c a meal and the others 35c a meal, the difference being the officers had coated, better utensils, china cups and plates while the others ate out of tin ware. On the first trip there were 26 different accounts.

The Andy Gibson's last trip was March 4, 1889.

As guests of the Andy Gibson we girls ate at the officers' table where the food was served on china plates, etc., and cost 50c but most of the people ate on tin plates and paid 35c. As guests we girls did not pay.

They had many excursions on the boat before it was condemned. The first one was to Willow river. The second was by moonlight up to Sleelies. Many short ones were made free for new settlers.

On one of these trips the boiler blew up as the engineer had let the boiler run dry, but no one was hurt. One excursion was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. While the orator was speaking the whistle would blow. We girls were blamed but we were not guilty.

My sister, Maria, Jessi Potter and I were invited to take a trip to Grand Rapids. Jessie and Maria were interested in the clerk and other members of the crew and I was interested in my brother, Herman. (One of the engineers). I was particularly interested in the boat and machinery. My brother took me to the engine room and explained all the working of different pars.

The cargo consisted of men, horses, cows and pigs, food, etc. not to forget brandy and whisky and other drinks, for the men and animals in the camps. Many of the men did not drink liquor. It was used in the camps in case of illness for both men and animals. I remember one man who came in very sick and he made a mistake and drank aconite and died instantly. (Hes buried in the Aitkin cemetery) At this time the water was high. It was when the water was down that the Andy Gibson was condemned by the U.S. Government.

We have only the day book for the ledger and cash books and others are lost. So, we don't know many items and all the names are not accounted for.

Mrs. Rose Sutton described the Mississippi steamboats that plied between Aitkin and Grand Rapids in their order. First, the George Holton; second, the Andy Gibson; third, the Fawn; (on the Fawn C.C. Sutton was captain and Glen Sutton was pilot;) fourth, the Irene, which burned; fifth, the second Irene; sixth, the Oriole. During the spring and summer these boats made two trips a week and in the fall three trips a week from Aitkin to Grand Rapids.

During the high water of 1888 the steamer Fawn teid up at the railroad bridge over Mud River.

About the last service of the Oriole was to remove the contents of the house of William Flake at Cedar Brook taken mostly out of the upstairs window as the water wass so high. This was in 1916.

These steamers had regular schedules and stopping places but would take on passengers and possibly freight when a flag was raised on the bank to indicate such desire.

# 2012 RAFFLE PRIZES

The following prizes have been collected so far

## EARLY-BIRD DRAWING

1. Old Log Theater Tickets for two – donated by KKin – (\$60.00 value) – **Dawn Lindborg, Brainerd**
2. Cuyuna Country Auto Center Full Service Oil Change – (\$32.00 value) – **Barb Francis, Sauk Rapids**
3. Cycle, Path and Paddle – Crosby – (\$25.00 gift certificate) – **Julie Hansen, Aitkin**
4. Sunbeam Imperial Plush Heated Throw – donated by RDJ products – **Bud Erickson, Aitkin**
5. Family Membership to ACHS – (\$20.00 value) – **Linda Hommes, Aitkin**
6. Cuyuna Lanes – Crosby - (\$15.00 value) – **Ardis Ivory, Aitkin**
7. Fleece Stadium Blanket – (\$10.00 value) donated by RDJ Specialties - **Mark Gilmer, Andover**
8. Shiperio (Golf Card Game) donated by Bruce Leach – (\$8.00 value) - **Anna Jensen**
9. Aitkin County Naturally – (\$5.00 value) - **Erik Christensen, Aitkin**
10. Red or Blue Bandana – (\$3.00 value) – **Tim Salzl**

## DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> DRAWING

1. Emily Greens Golf for 4 with cart – (\$152.00 value)
2. Emily Greens Golf for 4 with cart – (\$152.00 value)
3. Chanhassen Dinner Theater for two donated by KKin – (\$150.00 value)
4. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel Package for two – (\$125.00 value)
5. 2 – Wild Mountain Super day passes – (Valued at \$66.00)
6. Afghan made by Carol Bailey – (\$50.00 value)
7. Cross woods Golf Course – Round of Golf – (\$45.00 value)
8. Concrete Rhubarb Leaf Bird Bath made by Nancy Jacobson (\$45.00 value)
9. Cuyuna Country Auto Center Full Service Oil Change – (\$32.00 value)
10. 36” White Doily – made and donated by Laurel Lamke – (\$30.00 value)
11. 2 – 20” square Blue & White Throw Pillows made and donated by Marlene Kingsley – (\$30.00 value)
12. Shawl made by Connie Petersen
13. Rialto Movie Theater - \$25.00 Gift Certificate
14. The Office Shop - \$25.00 Gift Certificate
15. Pre-paid VISA card – (\$25.00 value) donated by Greg Leach
16. Rialto Movie Theater - \$25.00 Gift Certificate
17. 28” White Doily – made and donated by Laurel Lamke – (\$25.00 value)
18. 3’ X 5’ Afghan made and donated by Marlene Kingsley – (\$25.00 value)
19. Pre-paid VISA card – (\$25.00 value) donated by Greg Leach
20. 22” Green & White Doily – made and donated by Laurel Lamke – (\$20.00 value)
21. Kosie’s Café – (\$20.00 gift certificate)
22. Shakespeare Fishing Set (\$20.00 value) donated by Greg Leach
23. Family membership to ACHS – (\$20.00 value)
24. Folding Chair - donated by RDJ Specialties – (\$15.00 value)
25. Sunbeam Imperial Plush Heated Throw – (\$15.00 value)
26. 8 GB 2.0 Flash Drive – donated by RDJ Specialties - (\$15.00 value)
27. Traditions Mini-golf – 2 passes for golf – (\$15.00 value)
28. Sunbeam Imperial Plush Heated Throw – (\$15.00 value)
29. 20” Crème Doily – made and donated by Laurel Lamke – (\$15.00 value)
30. Cuyuna Lanes – Crosby – (\$10.00 value)
31. Northland Subway Inc. – Free 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – Aitkin/McGregor - (\$8.00 value)
32. Shiperio (Golf Card Game) donated by Bruce Leach – (\$8.00 value)
33. Northland Subway Inc. – Free 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – Aitkin/McGregor - (\$8.00 value)
34. Whistling Wolf Mini-Golf – One Round – (\$6.95 value)
35. Aitkin County Naturally – (\$5.00 value)
36. Wood Souvenir Pen – (\$5.00 value)
37. Red or Blue Bandana – (\$3.00 value)

## THIRD QUARTER ACCESSIONS

12-070	Mary Webster	Assorted Red Cross Articles
12-071	John Hendrickson	Baby Scale, Doan's Pill Container, Boy Scout items
12-072	Otto Harmon	6-boxes full of supplies to make R/R buttons
12-073	Laura Thornbloom	Jacobson's family History, Swedish Baptist Church Deed
12-074	Alice Hudson	Fred's Café Ash Tray, Aitkin Choral Club, Lee Float info
12-075	Lorraine Liljenquest	1913 Photo of Temperance Society at Liberty Hall
12-076	JoAnn White	2007 Photo of Miss Aitkin
12-077	Barb Brezinsky	4-photos 1928 Butter Maker Award
12-078	Donohue Sarff	Book about family barn
12-079	Chuck Tibbetts	3 Old Bibles
12-080	Bertlyn Johnston	Austin Nichols/Round Lake history
12-081	Becky Roden	T-shirt, Aitkin Surplus
12-082	Elsie Paulson	Radio, Misc.
12-083	Bob Borg	1917 German Parade Helmet
12-084	Stephanie Gesler	Aitkin Hospital Cook book
12-085	John Futcher	Research books
12-086	Jane Ryan	Dorothy Ziske Army Uniform + Cape
12-087	Kent Cummings	2 – area vacation maps
12-088	Elsie Paulson	Sears Table Top Hair Dryer
12-089	Eleanor Lemire	Baby Buggy, Red Wing Crock, dolls, etc.
12-090	Dorothy Hermanson	Egg Crate, tin ware
12-091	Connie Messer	Bread Box, misc.
12-092	Glen Smeltzer	2 horns & 2 bells from 1901 Aitkin High School
12-093	Colleen Bremner	Oxen leather stretcher
12-094	Janet Miller	Documents & Photos
12-095	James Raisenen	1887 Norwegian Bible
12-096	Larry & Mary Nutting	Pin ticket machine from Butlers, 4 – voting booths
12-097	Unknown Garage S.	4 – Wood clamps, 2 – wood levels, hand crochet bed spread, wood handle ice cream scoop, metal plum pudding mold, 2 – wood rolling pins, electric toaster, crockery bowl, metal spittoon, glass baby bottle, paper tomato box
12-98	Richard A. Lowe	Grandfathers Violin from the 1800's, Lowe genealogy, 2-photos
12-99	Clara Dahle	1908-09 Rossberg School information
12-100	Loa Nelson	Scrapbook & misc paper items
12-101	John Hendrickson	Aitkin Dairy Milk Cap, 1958 AHS Dedication program, 1862 Uprising newspaper, Voices of the Little Big Horn magazine
12-102	Mary Dustenhof	Curtain Stretcher
12-103	Mike Carlson	1950's Western Electric 300 phone set from the Hormel Mansion
12-104		2 – old church pews from the Glen Church
12-105	David & Karen Melich	Photo of Sheriff A.G. Newstrom 1898-1902
12-106	Beverly Smith	Libby Family History Outline
12-107	Marlys Gustofson	Books, mostly for library
12-108	Charlotte Sunde	408 books for museum research library
12-109	Mike Hill	Large Milk can painted with wildlife scene

Unique donations continue to be donated to the museum. The information that we have received about families, schools, churches and businesses is invaluable to the Historical Society. Our files for some areas of our Aitkin County History are pretty thin and in need of additional information. Are you in possession of some piece of Aitkin County history? Please share any information that you have with the Aitkin County Historical Society. If you want to keep the originals, let us make a copy for our files. You could be holding on to information that would fill in gaps in history. **DO NOT WAIT, SHARE IT TODAY!**



## **NEW MEMBERS**

Tidholm Productions  
Paul & Rose Boucher  
Zola Thompson  
Michael Lowe  
Sandra Lake  
Richard A. Lowe

**Jeanette Zilverberg**  
Bequeathed 5% of her Estate to  
the Aitkin County Historical  
Society.

“Promise me you’ll always  
remember that you’re braver  
than you believe, stronger than  
you seem, and smarter than  
you think.”

**Christopher Robin to  
Winnie the Pooh**

**I’m always disappointed  
When a liar’s pants don’t  
Actually catch fire.**

Looking for a special gift  
for someone that has  
everything, considerer a 400  
piece **Hometown Jigsaw  
Puzzle** now available at the  
Depot Museum and through  
our web site:

**www.aitkin.com/achs**  
Retail - \$39.95 + shipping

## **New Books in Our Gift Shop**

Scandinavians Never Repeat Gossip  
**Minnesota’s IRON Country**  
By Water & Rail  
**Haunted Minnesota**  
Lake Superior, the Ultimate Guide  
**Everything You Wanted to Know  
About Indians**  
Mammals of Minnesota  
**Can’t Never Did Nothin’**

A TRUE FRIEND doesn’t  
care when you’re broke, being  
a bitch, what you weigh, if  
your house is a mess, what you  
drive, about our past, or if your  
family is filled with crazy  
people. Your conversations  
pick up where they left off,  
even if it has been months (or  
years) apart. They love  
you...for who you are

Do not forget to  
**VOTE**  
On Tuesday  
November 6th

## **Small Compressor**

**needed** for use in our  
maintenance shop.  
If anyone has one that they  
no longer are using and  
would be willing to donate  
it to the museum, call Greg  
at the Depot  
**(218) 927-3348**

## **GOALS FOR 2013**

1. Find a Caboose
2. Build a 40’ Addition to  
building #2
3. Publish “Barns of Aitkin  
County”
4. Print Historical Map of  
Aitkin County.
5. Complete AHS yearbook  
collection.
6. Finish collecting data for  
other books about Aitkin  
County.
7. Membership to 400
8. Garage Sale to \$6500.
9. Raffle sales to \$2100.
10. 5000 visitors to our  
museum and events
11. Continue to work towards  
Depot Museum as  
destination
12. Find more grant money
13. Purchase big screen TV for  
movie night at the museum

## **PROJECTS FOR 2013**

1. Put together photo albums  
for our displays.
2. Create a research facility in  
the Depot building
3. 40’ addition to building #2
4. Land south of building #3  
filled and leveled with dirt.
5. Clean and organize  
building #4
6. Install new hot water  
heater.
7. Transfer videos on VHS to  
DVD
8. Create more hands on  
displays.
9. Purchase a good set of  
flags for International  
display.
10. Add more flowers to our  
perennial gardens,
11. Add more information in  
our displays
12. Walking tour of the city of  
Aitkin with GPS.

## **BLACK HISTORY OF AITKIN COUNTY**

Our Genealogy group, before they disbanded, put together a book about the Black History of Aitkin County. The book follows fifteen families after the Civil War for five generations listing births, deaths, and marriages. So far the book has been used by two families doing genealogy research. Both families were amazed at how much information we were able to provide them with. A great big thank you goes out to our Genealogy group.

# AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 215, Aitkin, MN 56431

Email: [achs3348@embarqmail.com](mailto:achs3348@embarqmail.com)

Web Site: [www.aitkin.com/achs/](http://www.aitkin.com/achs/)

## 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### GENEALOGY

Group has been disbanded. .

### COLLECTIONS

**Next meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30am.**

Our Collection Committee meets the first Friday of every other month at 9:30am starting in January. The group meets to discuss information and artifacts that have been donated to the Historical Society. We also discuss artifacts that have been offered to the museum, whether we want them or do not want them. These are usually large items like a saw mill or well drilling rig. This meeting we need to decide how much equipment we need to set up a radio and TV repair shop. Or do we not accept it at all. A lot of what we need to decide all depends on the outcome of our dealings with the railroad on the property under our buildings which they own.

### ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE/COOKIE WALK/RAFFLE DRAWING

**December 1, 2012**

**LAST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!!!!**

Our Annual Open house starts at 9am and goes until closing 4pm. Free admission to the museum with coffee, apple cider and cookies served. Cookie walk starts at 9:30am and goes until all cookies are sold. Usually all cookies are gone before noon. We ask members to **bake 4 dozen cookies** for this event. Come and pick out a variety of holiday cookies. At 2 pm we hold our Annual raffle drawing. Last year we had a total of 30 prizes for the final drawing. Hopefully we will have 40 prizes this year.

### ANNUAL MEETING/DINNER

**January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013**

Our Annual Meeting/Dinner will take place at the Blackrock Terrace starting at 5:30pm. At this year's meeting we will elect a new President, Vice President, and two board members.

### ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

**August 2013**

**We are already collecting articles for our annual sale. Moving, downsizing or just going through and cleaning out your house. Consider donating those unwanted items for our annual sale. Please remember that we are a 501C3 nonprofit and all donations are currently tax deductible. Donate this year while that deduction is still in place.**