



“Aitkin Soo-Line Depot”

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
20 Pacific Street S.W. / P.O. Box 215  
Aitkin, MN 56431

We are located just 2 blocks south of the stoplights in downtown Aitkin, south of the railroad tracks and west of highway 169.

Phone: 218-927-3348

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

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

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013/14**

### **Give to the MAX Day**

November 14, 2013

A 24 hour event held on [www.giveMN.org](http://www.giveMN.org) to raise funds for Minnesota non-profits. Check out the front page of this newsletter showing all the ways we could receive additional funding during this event.

### **Annual Open House/Cookie Walk/Raffle**

December 7<sup>th</sup> – 9am to 4pm

Come and enjoy our last fundraiser of the year. Buy your holiday cookies, (\$3.00 a dozen) view our holiday display, and enjoy some free coffee, apple cider and cookies. Buy a book for that hard to buy for person on your list. Our “Barns of Aitkin County” book should be available.

### **Annual ACHS Meeting/Dinner**

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014

## **JOIN ACHS TODAY!!**

### **MUSEUM HOURS**

#### **June thru August**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday &  
Saturday 10am to 4pm

#### **September thru May**

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
10am to 4pm

THE PRESERVATION OF  
OUR HERITAGE  
DEPENDS ON **YOU**

**Editor: GREGORY LEACH**

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2013 – Volume 18, Issue 4

# GIVE TO THE MAX DAY

## THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2013

**Give to the MAX Day** takes place on [www.giveMN.org](http://www.giveMN.org). This is a **24 hour event** that takes place on November 14th for all non-profits in Minnesota. For every hour that we receive a donation we have two chances to win an extra \$1,000.00. If we end up raising enough money to be in the top ten there are additional prizes from \$10,000.00 to \$500.00. We could win money in three different categories. (Main Leaderboard, Small Nonprofit Leaderboard & Greater Minnesota Leaderboard.) In addition, there are five power hours, (2:00-2:59am, 5:00-5:59am, 5:00-5:59pm, 6:00-6:59pm & 11:00-11:59pm) during which, if we raise the most money we would receive \$1000.00. In addition to the online event, the nonprofits in Aitkin County will hold an event (9am to 3pm) in the Hodgedon-MacDonald building (Butlers) where visitors can visit booths of 17 non-profits. The street on the south side of the building will be closed off for this event to make room for an airplane, fire truck, ambulance, & climbing wall. Each non-profit will have a booth for people to donate to their non-profit. We (Aitkin County Historical Society) will have use of a 20' by 30' room which will hold displays about Aitkin and Aitkin County. (City of Aitkin, Hodgedon-MacDonald building, Logging, Riverboats, Pioneers, Aitkin County Schools & the Opera house.) **2012 Give to the Max day** raised funds totaling **\$16,391,905.** for **4,381** organizations from **53,339** Donors. In addition, a total of \$575,000. was raised for 255 schools from 7000 donors. Metro donors gave a total of \$530,000. to out state nonprofits. Out of state donors gave \$410,000 to greater Minnesota. Donors from 34 foreign countries gave \$45,000 to Minnesota. This event is the largest online giving event in the world. **Remember November 14<sup>th</sup> as the day to donate to the Aitkin County Historical Society** and other Minnesota non-profits **on line.** Help your favorite non-profits earn some extra funds. By donating online you can donate to several organizations at one time with one credit card transaction. Watch for matching funds and make your donation count double. If you would like to offer matching funds for this event please contact me at the Depot. **All donations are tax deductible!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Garage Sale** a huge success again this year due to all of the great donations we received, the hard work of all our volunteers that made pickups, hauled items to the fairgrounds, sorted all the merchandise, priced it, worked the sale and of all the people who bought items at our sale. The history of our garage sale income for the past five years is: 2009 - \$4,010.00 the first time we ever broke the \$4,000.00 mark. 2010 sales increase to \$4,576.00 and in 2011 it fell to \$4,538.00. In 2012 our sale numbers jumped to \$6,512.00 shattering our old mark of \$4,576.00. 2013 goes down as our best sale in the history of the Historical Society with sales of \$8,048.00. A great big thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered or bought merchandise at this year's sale. 1723 people attended our sale this year. We are **starting to collect for next year's sale**, so please remember us when you have unwanted sellable items to donate. During our sale Boyd Bremner and Elaine Hallbeck worked together and **sold 658 Raffle Tickets.**

Our **Annual Raffle Drawing** will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2pm during our Open House. The first time we sold over 2000 tickets was in 2012 (2024 tickets). The total tickets sold so far this year is 3117. This year's raffle prize list, including the early-bird drawing in August, is 89 prizes. Our local businesses were very generous by donating a variety of prizes listed in this newsletter. You can thank them for their generosity by **shopping local.**

**MEMBERSHIP IS THE KEY TO OUR SURVIVAL!!!!** As of today, **55 memberships have not renewed.** We have finally broken the 400 member mark, so if you have not paid your membership dues this year, please do so now. If not we will fall below the 400 mark again. Your membership is needed to continue to collect, preserve and disseminate our Aitkin County history. We are working hard to display a wide variety of Aitkin County history. Do you know of a neighbor or relative that loves history? Tell them about the Aitkin County Historical Society. Invite them to visit & join the Depot Museum. Help us continue to grow and collect Aitkin County history.

We will host a Minnesota Historical Society Traveling Exhibit **“Electrifying Minnesota”** for Mille Lacs Energy from late May through July. This display will help celebrate Mille Lacs Energies 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The display is interactive and should bring in a crowd to the museum. It will take a lot of work to make room for this display. We will have to take down several displays to clear the space and put it away in our storage building. When the electric display comes down we will have to build new displays in the empty space. Each part of this process will have to be completed in a couple of days. If you can help with this process please contact me at the museum? We will need help towards the end of May to clear the space and again after our garage sale to rebuild displays.

**Cookie Walk Coming to the Depot Museum** on December 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30am. So dust off those Christmas Cookie recipes. We are asking members to **donate four dozen Christmas cookies** for this event. Cookies can be dropped off at the Depot Museum on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>. For earlier drop off contact me at the Depot. This event is held in conjunction with our Annual Open House and Raffle drawing which is our last event of the year.

**Historical Society is beneficiary** in Jeannette Zilverbergs estate. The money received could be used to increase the number of displays at the museum by adding onto building #2 and/or creating a research area in the Depot building. The research area would also be home to our Lending Library. (Over 650 history books are currently in our Library) Visitors will have access to our microfilm library, family histories and museum files. Computers, copy machines and tables would be available for visitors to work on research projects.

**Railroad Land under museum buildings** (50'X450' strip) is still owned by the railroad. We have had the land surveyed and appraised at \$60,000.00. We currently have \$33,000.00 in our account to purchase the land. Grants have been submitted for the remainder so that we can purchase the land from the railroad. Why purchase and not continue to lease? We currently pay \$100.00 a year but have been informed that it might go up to \$1800.00 or more this year. Once we own the land, we will no longer have to ask the railroad for permission to add onto our buildings. Also, the railroad is talking about adding a second set of tracks because of increased business which could affect the price and whether we will be able to stay in the Depot building.

**“Barns of Aitkin County”** coming soon. Copies will be donated to all Schools, Libraries and senior care centers located in Aitkin County. The book will be available for purchase at the Depot Museum for \$19.95. Members receive a 10% discount. Over 800 photos are featured in the book, many with their histories included. This will make a great Christmas present for that hard to buy for relative. We received funds to publish this book from: Kaplan foundation (\$1000.00 memorial for KC (KAP) and Hazel Kaplan), \$500.00 grant from Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians, \$1000.00 Mille Lacs Electric Roundup Grant. Donation received from Aitkin IOOF Lodge and American Legion Post No. 86 and the Aitkin Riverboat Lions.

**Volunteers needed at the Museum!** We need volunteers to sit at the front desk, accession items into the museum, work on picture archiving, working on research requests from visitors, creating new displays, research material for book projects, promoting the museum, writing grants, and organizing our files. If you have any time to volunteer (be it a couple of hours or several days a month) please contact me at the depot. Have you seen an interactive display for children in another museum and think that it could work in ours? Please let us know about it.

**Gregory Leach (Administrator)**

**Board of Directors:** Darlene Maciej (President), Cheryl Meld (Vice-President), Colleen Bremner (Secretary), Jon Jacobson, Alice Dotzler, Connie Pettersen, Pat Williams, Arlene McNevin, Susan Benson, Carol Bailey, Ron Kemmett, John Hendrickson, Bob Lake, Lorraine Liljenquest, Mark Wedel (County Commissioner), Sherry Arvidson (Accountant), Greg Leach (Administrator)

**AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

Business Members – 36, Individual Members – 28, Senior Members – 104, Family Members – 222,  
Life Members – 17, Perpetuity Members – 2

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 409**

**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 #164 IOOF  
Aitkin Motor Company  
American Legion Post 86  
Arvidson Tax & Accounting  
Blakesly Appliance Service & Repair  
Christensen Law Office  
Crosby Eye Clinic  
Enberg TV  
Eyecare Center of Aitkin & McGregor  
Garrison Disposal  
Gobles Sewer Service  
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating  
Hasskamp Brox. 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  
Red Door Resort & Motel  
R & K Cabinets  
Security State Bank  
Sunset Bay Resort  
Tidholm Productions

**SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

Aitkin Bowling Lanes  
Aitkin Dairy Queen  
Aitkin EZ Stop  
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts  
Aitkin Furniture  
Aitkin Glass  
Aitkin Independent Age  
Aitkin McDonalds  
Aitkin Pet & Farm  
Aitkin Rental  
Bare's Bootery  
Bill's Sportsmans Service  
Birchwood Cafe  
Brandl Motors  
Bremer Bank  
Cedarbrook Lumber  
Coombs Cuts  
Cross Woods Golf Course  
Cuyuna County Auto  
Cuyuna Lanes  
Cycle, Path & Paddle  
Deep Systems  
Duane's Photography  
Emily Greens Golf Course  
Enberg TV  
Farm Island Repair & Marine  
Farm Island Store  
40 Club/Players  
Freedom Gas Station  
Garrison Disposal  
Grand Casino Mille Lacs  
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating  
Grandmas Pantry  
Hawkeyes Inc.

**SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

Healthy Connections  
Hometown Building Supply  
Hot Stuff Foods  
Hyytinen Hardware  
KKIN AM & FM Radio  
Lake Country Auto & Tire Center  
Lightning Motorsports  
Lorries Hair Studio  
Lundberg Plumbing  
Mille Lacs Energy  
MN Gold Buyers  
Nordlake Reflections  
Northern Air Heating & Plumbing  
Northwood Equipment  
The Office Shop  
Paulbecks County Market  
Rasley Oil  
RDJ Products  
Rialto Movie Theater  
Ripple River Motel  
Roadside Restaurant  
Salon Inspire  
Security State Bank  
Security State Insurance  
Sew Much & More  
Shipero Games  
Simply Chic  
Thrifty White Pharmacy  
Tire Barn  
Traditions Mini Golf  
Unclaimed Freight North  
Whistling Wolf Mini Golf

**SUPPORTING TOWNSHIPS**

**FARM ISLAND TOWNSHIP  
IDUN TOWNSHIP  
LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP  
CLARK TOWNSHIP  
NORDLAND TOWNSHIP  
  
AITKIN COUNTY**

**Members Lost During 2013**

**Ray Morris** – 8/30/1930 to 1/12/2013  
**Kern Ridlington** – 9/25/1926 to 3/23/2013  
**Marilyn Kullhem** – 7/15/1933 to 5/24/2013  
**Jerome Poland** – 1/21/1938 to 9/20/2013

**New Members**

Diane Baumann  
Butch Tibbetts  
Bryan & Karin McGinnis  
Tom Arnold  
Raymond G. Embertson  
Joel & Teresa Hyytinen  
John Mehaffey  
Lee Hollingsworth  
Ann Schwartz

## The Five W's of Life

**Who** you are is what makes you special. Do not change for anyone.

**What** lies ahead will always be a mystery. Do not be afraid to explore.

**When** life pushes you over, you push back harder.

**Where** there are choices to make, make the one you won't regret.

**Why** things happen will never be certain. Take it in stride and move forward.

A Native American grandfather was talking to his grandson about how he felt. He said, "I feel as if I have two wolves fighting in my heart. One wolf is the vengeful, angry, violent one. The other wolf is the loving compassionate one." The grandson asked, "Which wolf will win the fight in your heart?" The grandfather answered, "The one I feed."

## Memberships

**Senior - \$7.50**

**Individual - \$15.00**

**Family - \$20.00**

**Business - \$30.00**

## I NEED YOUR HELP

Go on line to [givemn.org](http://givemn.org). Look up the Aitkin County Historical Society page.

**Do three things.**

Scroll down the page and

- Comment on the Organization
- Become a Fan
- Donate on **November 14th**

## LOOKING FOR TRAINS TO DISPLAY IN RAILROAD ROOM

We still need more trains to fill our display case. Our first case is filling up but, a second one is being built. Please help us fill up both cases. If you have any trains that you would be willing to donate or loan for this display contact Greg at the depot. (218-927-3348)

## GRANT WRITER NEEDED!

Need grants for the following:

- Purchase land under depot.
- Purchase Armory building.
- Publish Historical map of Aitkin County.
- Purchase Caboose for Depot.
- Purchase scanner for negatives.
- Promote ACHS Museum
- Research Aitkin Co. Schools
- Research Aitkin Co. Churches.

## 2013 GOALS

1. Membership over 420 members.
2. Complete Obituary files.
3. Visitor count surpasses 5000.
4. Raffle sales reach 2500.  
**ACCOMPLISHED!**
5. Garage sales surpass 6500  
**ACCOMPLISHED!**
6. Increase number of displays in museum. - **DONE**
7. Lending library set up and running.
8. Clean up museum files.
9. Organize museum supply areas. - **COMPLETED!**
10. Find a Caboose.
11. More grant money to promote museum.

## 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.

## 2013 COMPLETED PROJECTS

1. Repairs of Cedar strip boat completed and placed on display in building #2
2. Wheels attached under glass cases
3. Shelf for supplies built/installed.
4. Shelf built in Military display for flag
5. Swing from porch re-stained/Painted
6. Photo album for R/R room completed
7. Thermostat moved in building #3
8. Light switches added in building #3
9. Wicker furniture repaired and painted.
10. Drawing barrel for raffle constructed
11. Prize spinning wheel constructed.
12. Outboard motor display stand built.
13. Outboard motors put on display.
14. Log cabin display in Depot doubled in size to display more artifacts.
15. Walls in Log Cabin display finished.
16. Shadow box for trains built and installed in railroad room.
17. Trains displayed on window sills, shadow box and glass cases.
18. Water sealer put on lumber wagon.
19. Aluminum paint put on deck of small railroad speeder.
20. Green bench on north side of depot repaired and painted.
21. New web site up and running.  
[www.aitkincohs.org](http://www.aitkincohs.org)
22. 2<sup>nd</sup> Railroad luggage wagon painted.
23. Log Cabin storms and doors sealed.
24. Six picnic tables water sealed.
25. Administrator time-line book completed.
26. "Barns of Aitkin County" at publishers.
27. 2<sup>nd</sup> Train shadow box built
28. Additional storage shelves for photos archives installed.
29. Display built in Butler building.
30. Log sleigh rebuilt with new lumber.
31. Black paint touched up on all artifacts and depot building.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Completing Obituary files.
2. Historical Map of Aitkin County.
3. Schools of Aitkin County book.
4. Churches of Aitkin County book.
5. Riverboats of Aitkin County book.
6. Adding additional information on WEB site.- **ONGOING**
7. Complete our set of AHS yearbooks.
8. Increasing membership. - **ONGOING**
9. GPS Walking Tour of the City of Aitkin.
10. Developing research facility at Depot.
11. Obtaining title to land under Depot.
12. Increasing local interest in Museum.
13. Create photo albums for each display connecting artifacts to Aitkin County.

## THIRD QUARTER ACCESSIONS

57	Oscar Iverson Family	Vietnam POW Bracelet, Wildwood School teacher's desk
58	Mary Ann Holder	5 – Yearbooks
59	Marlene Kingsley	Double Tree, Squeeze box
60	Maxine Ridlington	Items from Christian Science Church
61	Marvin Way	Fred's Café Ash Tray
62	Don Christensen	1877 Ledger, Aitkin Co. Assessment Roll
63	Robert Ferro	"Aitkin" Spoon
64	Pearl Jensen	Books & Pamphlets on Creamery Operations
65	Cheryl Kangas	Commercial Permanent Wave Machine
66	Paul Boucher	Many items from Ziske's
67	Erickson Estate	Mail Bags, Military uniforms, Drum & Bugle Corps. Info & artifacts, photos, KluLkuxKlan Aitkin Seal, Vietnam bandoleer, 1910 Football Game Sweater & Leather helmet,
68	Jeff Cline	Many paper items, County Attorney Register 1929-1953
69	John Hendrickson	Books & photos
70	Jo White	Clock & Towel
71	Elaine Hallbeck	Misc. Paper items
72	McGregor Lutheran Ch.	Coffee Pot
73	Marion Bottila Anderson	1954 McGregor H.S. Sweater
74	Robert Wold	Red Velvet Wedding Dress, Black ladies dress
75	Alice Fageroos	Centennial Fire Department Hat
76	Tom Arnold	1915 Republican Newspaper
77	Carol Goede	Wedding Dress, Head piece & ring pillow
78	Unknown	9 – O Gauge Train Cars
79	Vivian Rice	3 – Furniture throws, Rug, Decorative hanging, Shirt, misc.
80	Pat DeMars Pferffer	book – Adventures in MN History, Information about Verdon School #2
81	Alice Graff	3 – photos, Libby Cemetery File, Henrikson family history
82	Garage Sale	Pencil Sharpener, Scale, Eye Glasses, Sting Board Game, Books, 3 – War Necessity Certificate Holders, Forge Ladle
83	Betty Lang	5 – Negatives of 1952 Flood
84	Glen Smeltzer	Old Wood Level, Handmade Draw Knife, Thermometer from the Kibby Store In Bennettville
85	Elaine Hallbeck	Class of '42 Reunion booklets & photos
86	Tom Arnold	book – Twelve Poses West
87	Ardis Kane	photos and family histories
88	Gerald Hedberg	HO – Engine, HO – Box car, 2 – BN Pens, 1 – Event button, 6 BN News Magazines
89	Florence Tarr	HO Train set with 8 cars
90	Randy Wall	Photo Holden Church, Map of the town of Kimberly
91	Donohue Sarff	Aitkin coop livestock exchange minute book and financial book, photo copies of Financial book, disc of minute book
92	Carol Bailey	Simonson's family history book
93	Carlton County H.S.	2 – photos of Ida Swing
94	Phyllis Hagquist	AHS Shirt
95	Jo Schneider	Post Card – Bell Horn Bay Resort on Big Sandy

The above list is of all the items received during the third quarter of 2013. As you can see, a wide variety of items have been donated to the ACHS Museum during this quarter. Many of the items will be added to current and future displays in the museum. Photos have been added to our photo archives. Paper items which help to fill in gaps in our Aitkin history have been placed in files that can be accessed for research. **Please share items such as photos and histories with the Aitkin County Historical Society.**

**Greetings:**

The sky is filled with abundance of gray clouds. The setting sun is descending in the horizon. In the cloud cover there is an opening and you will notice a beautiful bright cloud. The sunshine reaches out and lights up that one cloud in the distance to make it glow. That one special glowing cloud reminds me of our Administrator Greg Leach. With a smile on his face he is constantly on the go. Organizes the big events, displays collections of historical items, collects history to preserve for the future generations and adding to the to-do-list for the volunteers.

The volunteers are eager to tackle the jobs that are listed. Building a train display case was one of the most recent items along with a display of the inside of a settler's cabin. All the projects are worked on by putting the volunteers skills to great use. The anticipation of a train caboose is what everyone is looking forward to making an appearance in the area. The caboose (whenever it is found) will bring big smiles and twinkle in the eyes for Administrator Greg and the volunteers.

The garage sale was a hugely enormous event. Greg did everything well to organize the sale and with the volunteers spend tons of hours preparing the fun occasion. The destination of two extra large buildings at the fair ground involved the packing, transporting, unpacking the many (ever so many) sale items. The toys items were together along with placing many other items together (like glassware, furniture, Christmas decorations and so many more items.) When volunteers were thirsty Greg offered to retrieve water for them and did so. Greg Leach was constantly on the go. The Aitkin County Historical Society has been honored to have a man like Greg as our Administrator. Thank you for all you have done.

The McGregor Historical Society will host a display in regards to the WWII era from the Minnesota Historical Society. I plans are to make the display in November. Visit to other museums is educational and inspiration. Take time to visit McGregor Historical Society or another one in your area.

Sincerely,

**Darlene Maciej, President**

**The Minnesota Historical Societies exhibit "Minnesota Homefront", emphasizes the efforts of adults and youth back home during World War II to support the war effort. The exhibit includes artifacts and personal stories from the host community, in this case, Aitkin County. Minnesota Homefront will be on display at the McGregor Historical Society location (94<sup>th</sup> N. Maddy street) November 9, 2013 – January 5, 2014 (9am to 3pm daily). A number of special events are planned for the public during the display period.**

## **2013 RAFFLE PRIZE LIST**

1. Chanhassen Dinner Theater for two donated by KKIN radio – (\$150.00 value)
2. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel/Buffer for two package – (\$125.00 value)
3. Night stay at the Ripple River Motel – (\$80.00 value)
4. 2 in 1 Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarm donated by Northern Air - (\$60.00 value)
5. Jeanie & Co. – (\$60.00 Gift Pack)
6. Burt's Bees Gift Basket donated by Lundberg Plumbing – (\$50.00 value)
7. Metal Fondue set – donated by Hawkeyes Inc. – (\$50.00 value)
8. Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating - (\$45.00 value)
9. 18" Rope STER Chain + Eagle donated by MN Gold Buyer – (\$45.00 value)
10. Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating - (\$45.00 value)
11. Cross Woods Golf Course – One round of golf /w shared cart – (\$45.00 value)
12. Camp Lantern 20 LED donated by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative – (\$38.00 value)
13. Free Lube, Oil and Filter from Brandl motors – (38.00 value)
14. Lake Country Auto & Tire Center Oil Change – (\$37.00 value)
15. Squirrel Feeder donated by Hyytinen's Hardware - (\$35.00 value)
16. Subscription to the Aitkin Independent Age – (\$35.00 value)
17. Cuyuna Country Auto – Full Service Oil Change – (\$32.00 value)
18. Roadside Restaurant – (\$30.00 Gift Certificate)
19. Framed Eagle Print donated by Aitkin Furniture – (\$30.00 value)
20. Birchwood Café – (\$30.00 Gift Certificate)
21. Rialto Movie Theater – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
22. \$25.00 Pre-paid VISA card donated by Security State Bank
23. The Office Shop – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
24. Players or 40 Club – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
25. Freedom Gas Gift Card – (\$25.00 value)
26. Secret Hideaway framed print donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$25.00 value)
27. Fall Table Runner donated by Sew Much & More – (\$25.00 value)
28. Rialto Movie Theater – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
29. Hometown Building Supply – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
30. Simply Chic – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
31. Tea Light Centerpiece donated by Thrifty White Pharmacy – (\$23.00 value)
32. One 8" Dairy Queen Cake – (\$21.00 value)
33. County Market – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
34. The Beanery an Internet Café – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
35. Gift Certificate for 5 tans donated by Lorries Hair Studio – (\$20.00 value)
36. Framed Fishing print donated by Unclaimed Freight North – (\$20.00 value)
37. Universal Remote Control donated by Enberg TV – (\$20.00 value)
38. Tall Flower Vase donated by Giada's Boutique – (\$20.00 value)
39. County Market – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
40. Shakespeare Fishing set – donated by Greg Leach (\$20.00 value)
41. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
42. Free Hair cut at Coombs Cuts – (\$18.00 value)
43. Salon Inspire – Free Haircut – (\$18.00 value)
44. 25 Piece Tool Kit with Flashlight – donated by RDJ Specialties
45. 12 Suet cakes & holder donated by Aitkin Pet & Farm Supply – (\$16.29 value)
46. Cedarbrook Lumber Company – (\$15.00 Gift Certificate)
47. Free Large Farm Island Store Pizza – (\$15.00 value)
48. Healthy Connections – (\$15.00 Gift Certificate)
49. Stars & Stripes Windsock donated by Nord Lake Reflections – (\$14.00 value)
50. Whistling Wolf Mini golf – One adult/one child – (\$14.00 value)

51. Two rounds Mini –Golf – Traditions in Deerwood – (\$12.50 value)
52. Stereo Headset donated by Deepsystems – (\$12.00 value)
53. McDonalds – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
54. Rasley Oil Co. – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
55. Aitkin Bowling Lanes – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
56. McDonalds – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
57. Sports bag donated by Bremer Bank – (\$10.00 value)
58. Road Atlas & mug donated by Security State Ins. – (\$10.00 value)
59. T-shirt – “Buffalo Trace” – (\$8.00 value)
60. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
61. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
62. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
63. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
64. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
65. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
66. Aitkin County Naturally – (\$5.00 value)
67. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas
68. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas
69. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas

## Return your tickets and money by December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

This year’s raffle features a total of 89 prizes donated from local businesses collected by Boyd Bremner. When you see Boyd, please thank him for all the time and effort he put into collecting prizes for this project. Also, please thank all of the businesses that so generously donated items for our raffle by supporting them. We are having our best raffle ever. I would like to thank everyone who has supported this event by donating prizes, selling and buying tickets.

### **STRAWBERRY COOKIES**

- 1 Eagle brand milk
- 1 can angle flake coconut (1 lb.)
- 2 pkg. strawberry jello
- Pinch of cream of tarter
- Pinch of salt

Take 1 ½ pkg. of jello and mix with milk and coconut. Add salt and cream of tartar. Let set in refrigerator at least an hour or overnight. Shape into berries and roll in balance of jello. Dye toothpicks green (break in half). Put three leaves of green frosting on each berry. Makes about 65, depending on size. I make more.

I roll them in red sugar instead of the jello. It makes them brighter. Leaves can be bought from Maid of Scandia instead of using frosting on the leaves.

**From the kitchen of Margaret Leach**

### **FRUIT CAKE**

Cook 1 lb. seeded raisins 15 min. in 2 cups of water.

- |                   |                                    |                 |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 cup fruit juice | 1 egg                              | 1 t. salt       |
| 2 cups sugar      | 1 t. cinnamon                      | 1 t. cloves     |
| ½ cup butter      | 4 cups flour                       | 1 pkg. currants |
| 1 t. soda         | 1 lb. nuts                         | ½ lb. fruit mix |
| ½ lb. dates       | 1 small bottle maraschino cherries |                 |

More “candied” fruits may be added.

Prepare fruit, cream butter and sugar. Add beaten Egg, add fruit juice and flour and dry ingredients. Add fruit to nuts. Bake in waxed paper lined loaf pans. Set pans in hot water for first hour of baking. Bake at 275 degrees for three hours.

**From the kitchen of Margaret Leach**

### **Helpful Hints**

A pinch of salt added to very sour fruit while cooking will reduce the amount of sweetening needed.

Heat nuts before cracking and they will come out whole.

A teaspoon of vinegar added to frosting will prevent crumbling when cut.

### **More Helpful Hints**

Mix fruit juice instead of water in the pie crust for a new and delicious taste.

To keep cake fillings from soaking into cake, sprinkle layers lightly with powdered sugar before spreading on filling.

## FRUIT SLICES

From the kitchen of  
Kay McLeod

1 ½ Cups Brown Sugar  
2 tsp. Baking Powder  
1 Cup Shortening  
1 Cup Raisins  
2 Eggs  
1 Cup Nuts  
½ Cup Milk  
4 Cups Flour

Mix ingredients  
together and roll out  
one inch thick.

Flatten out with  
hands. Bake, frost  
and slice.

You may add dates,  
candied cherries &  
pineapple.

## LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

- Memory was something that you lost with age.
- An application was for employment
- A program was a TV show
- A cursor used profanity
- A web was a spider's home
- A virus was the flu
- A keyboard was a piano
- A CD was a bank account
- A hard drive was a long trip on the road.
- A mouse pad was where a mouse lived.
- And if you had a 3 ½ inch floppy...you just hoped nobody found out!

**LOL**

## CRANBERRY MUFFINS

- 3 T. butter
- 1 Cup sugar
- ½ cup water
- ½ cup Carnation milk
- 2 cups flour
- 1 t. salt
- 2 t. soda
- 2 cups raw cranberries

Put in 9X12 inch pan or muffin papers.  
Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes.

## BUTTER SAUCE

- ½ cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup Carnation milk
- 1 t. vanilla

Bring to a boil, remove from heat and  
serve over muffins.

**From the kitchen of Helen Leach**

## MUSEUM VISITORS

	2011	2012	2013
January	40	40	86
February	22	55	29
March	23	187	99
April	48	153	48
May	50	100	110
6th Graders	101	91	91
June	472	183	127
July	266	356	251
County Fair	1171	0	1500
August	214	202	248
Garage Sale	0	1814	1723
September	128	118	132
Rendezvous	0	1077	0
October	75	72	96
November	93	41	0
Open House	83	71	0
<u>December</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>0</u>
	2834	4610	4540

## MEMBERSHIP NOTICES

Our year runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Notices have been sent out to all members  
separate from this newsletter. Some  
members have paid for several years at a  
time so they will not receive a notice. Your  
membership fees help to pay all of our  
museum and society operating expenses.  
(Heating & Air Conditioning three buildings,  
Postage, Advertising, Security, office  
supplies, memberships, maintenance,  
telephone, janitorial services, rentals,  
displays, collections/archival, fire protection,  
accountant fees and wages.) As various  
events are cancelled or hampered by  
weather our memberships become a more  
important part of our continued survival. In  
the beginning of 2009 our membership was  
at 236 members. Our current membership  
now stands at 409. My goal is to surpass  
420 by the end of this year and 472 by the  
end of next year. Membership is the key to  
our continued survival. **If you have not  
renewed your membership yet, please do  
so now! Our survival depends on it.**