

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER
Spring 2014 – Volume 19, Issue 2

Another busy summer is ahead of us at the Depot museum.

1. We have already started to collect merchandise for our Annual Garage sale that takes place the first weekend in August. Please consider us when disposing of any sellable items. **Items are tax deductible.**
2. Volunteers are busy collecting and assembling information and photos about all the Country schools that were located in Aitkin County. If you have any photos please share them with us.
3. Numerous displays at the depot need to be torn down and replaced with new displays. A temporary display from the Minnesota Historical Society “Electrifying Minnesota” is one of our new displays.
4. I will be working hard to reach my goal of 472 members from now until the end of the year. Our current membership stands at 451, only 21 more members until we reach the goal I set.
5. Trains continue to come in for our display in the railroad room. Ten more needed until we have to build a third shadow box. Don’t have a complete train, maybe only a car or two, or some accessories, bring them in. We can always add them to trains already on display.
6. Once the snow has gone away, we need to switch out the old logging sleigh with the one that has been rebuilt.
7. The fence on the east side of the Depot needs to be repaired. Snow plows damaged it this winter.
8. If we are able to come up with the money we would like to add an additional 40’ to our second display building.
9. Our land that we lease from the railroad needs to be surveyed and appraised for possible purchase.
10. Cobwebs need to be removed from certain areas of the museum. (hard to reach areas of course)
11. Research, at the County Courthouse, on our new book “Country Schools of Aitkin County” will hopefully be completed this summer.
12. Interviews with residents of Aitkin County that attended a one room school house should be in full swing by this summer.
13. We will have to get the GPS coordinates of all the sites on our “Historical Map of Aitkin County” this summer. There will be 80 to 100 sites around the county that will have to be located. Need volunteers to accomplish this task once all the sites are determined.
14. Need GPS coordinates for our walking tour of the city of Aitkin.
15. Need a volunteer to help put information onto our web site.
16. Volunteers needed to help accession artifacts, information and photographs into the society’s collection.
17. Flag poles need a fresh coat of paint.
18. Need help picking up a WWII era Flight simulator and getting it working. Could be a fun addition to our museum.
19. Have some electrical outlets added to the Homestead room. – **(Completed)**
20. Get clean fill for the low area south of building #3.
21. The storage area in our log cabin needs to be cleaned out.
22. Our library needs to be cataloged and set up for easy use.
23. We are wrapping up our obituary files from the Aitkin Age. Now we need scan through the Aitkin Independent and Aitkin Republican for other obituaries that were not in the Age. Hill City also needs to be gone through.
24. New sign advertising the museum south of town needs to be built and installed.
25. The basement of the Depot building needs all of the rotten wood taken out of it and burned.
26. Need to work with the railroad museum in Duluth and see if we can get one of their handcars to put on display.
27. Plant a larger variety of Hastas and other plants around the museum.
28. Have STS build us some benches for outside the museum. (cost around \$75.00 each) Dedicate a bench to a loved one by paying for it.
29. Continue to add different artifacts to our displays to help tell our history.
30. Set up a variety of hands on displays for children to interact with.
31. Assemble more photo albums to tie items into Aitkin County and to tell Aitkin County history.
32. Transfer all our VHS tapes (interviews) onto DVD.

Do you have a skill that would benefit one of our projects or an interest in working on one of our projects? Please contact me at the Depot museum. We have a lot of projects going on right now, so pick one that interests you and give us a hand. With your help we could complete this list this year.

Displays are coming down, moving, and new displays going up

The log cabin display that was located in the Depot building has been torn down and moved to our log cabin at the fairgrounds. We will use it as our fair display. In its place, a Traveling Minnesota Historical Display "Electrifying Minnesota" will be featured at the museum until July 27th. This display is to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of Mille Lacs Energy Coop. There are four interactive items in this display. Come in and check it out.

Our children's display in building #2 will come down and a display about area churches will go up. Hopefully this display will generate some interest in our Churches of Aitkin County book.

The log cabin display that was at the depot has been moved down to the fairgrounds to put on display for the County fair. We will have to move the cast iron stove and then build the display. This will happen sometime in June.

Volunteers are busy making repairs to various display cases, adding wheels under cases for ease of moving them around. They are picking up items for our Annual Garage sale, marking them and putting them in storage until our sale. Several other building projects are also under way. One of our new train displays needs to be taken down and repaired.

On a more serious note, I would like to let the society know that my wife and I have decided to put our home up for sale next spring (2015). When we sell our home, we plan on moving out of the area and back to the cities, get a small apartment, and then travel around the country. There is so much of this country we have not seen and we would like to do it before we are unable to. It is my plan to stay here until we close on the house which is over a year away. During the next year I will continue to work hard to make the society stronger, the museum more fun to visit and complete as many of the projects that I have started as possible. I have truly enjoyed working for the society. Over the past 5 ½ years I have learned so much about Aitkin County and its rich history. I am so blessed that I was able to find a job that I truly enjoyed and loved. Thank you so much for allowing me to be your Administrator.

If we wish to have a research room, it is imperative that an addition is built onto building #2 for additional displays. I am looking into various grant opportunities to accomplish this task. However, if anyone out there knows of a grant giver that could help us please let me know. We need to get some bids for this project, but I am thinking around \$40,000, give or take \$5,000. This addition would give us eight more displays to share our rich Aitkin County History. By adding additional displays, space could be freed up in building #3 (our storage building) to receive some unique artifacts. A research center would draw more people to the museum as the word got out. This project is a top priority for me.

A project that I am working on is the Historical Map of Aitkin County. 100 historic sites in the county will be highlighted on this map with their GPS locations. Visitors to Aitkin County will be able to pick up the map anywhere in the county and then explore this county's rich history (Native Americans, Voyageurs, Railroads, Logging, Riverboats, and Farming). My plan is to have this project completed and sent to the printer by sometime in August. This brochure will be something that can be printed over and over again and enjoyed for generations to come. This will be my legacy to the Aitkin County Historical Society.

What will be your legacy? Did you write book or maybe stories about the County? Maybe, it's your family's genealogy or history in the county. Do you have a unique tool or artifact that was used in one of the industries located in the county that could be donated to the museum? Consider leaving something to the Historical Society in you will. Have you been keeping a diary for most of your life? Did you write about what was going on around you, the weather or local events? That is something the society would be interested in. Do you have the records of a club, church, or organization? Definitely something we would be interested in. Money is always great but, our job is about collecting Aitkin County history. **Do not let our history be thrown away when you are gone.** Go through your house or apartment and see if you are holding a piece of Aitkin history. (Photographs, ledgers, books, papers) Look at the list of books we are working on. Do you have something that should be included in one of those books? If you have something, please share it with the historical society NOW.

Gregory Leach (Administrator)

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

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Business Members – 36, Individual Members – 29, Senior Members – 113, Family Members – 255,
Life Members – 16, Perpetuity Members – 2

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 451

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
Bremer Bank
Crosby Eye Clinic
D.Q. Grill & Chill
Enberg TV
Eyecare Center of Aitkin &
McGregor
Garrison Disposal
Gobles Sewer Service
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating
Hasskamp Brox. Well Drilling
Jim Blakesley Enterprises
K & J C-Stores, Inc.
KKIN-KEZZ Radio
Lundberg Plumbing & Heating
Members Coop Credit Union
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
Paulbecks County Market
Peoples National Bank
R & K Cabinets
Security State Bank
Sunset Bay Resort

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

Aitkin Bowling Lanes - 2014
Aitkin Dairy Queen - 2014
Aitkin EZ Stop - 2014
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts - 2014
Aitkin Furniture - 2014
Aitkin Glass - 2014
Aitkin Independent Age - 2014
Aitkin McDonalds - 2014
Aitkin Pet & Farm
Aitkin Rental
Bare's Bootery – 2014
Bippity Bop Ice Cream Shop - 2014
Bill's Sportsmans Service - 2014
Brandl Motors - 2014
Bremer Bank
Cedarbrook Lumber
Coombs Cuts - 2014
Cross Woods Golf Course
Cuyuna County Auto - 2014
CVS Pharmacy - 2014
Deep Systems
Duane's Photography - 2014
Emily Greens Golf Course
Enberg TV - 2014
Farm Island Repair & Marine
Farm Island Store
40 Club/Players
Freedom Gas Station
Grand Casino Mille Lacs - 2014
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating
Grandmas Pantry - 2014
Healthy Connections
Hometown Building Supply - 2014

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

Hot Stuff Foods - 2014
Hudrlik Carpet & Tile - 2014
Hyytinen Hardware Hank - 2014
KKIN AM & FM Radio - 2014
Lake Country Auto & Tire Center
Lightning Motorsports - 2014
Lorries Hair Studio - 2014
Lundberg Plumbing
Midwest Machinery Co. - 2014
Mille Lacs Energy - 2014
Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp. - 2014
Nordlake Reflections
Northern Air Heating & Plumbing
Northwood Equipment
The Office Shop - 2014
Paulbecks County Market - 2014
Rasley Oil - 2014
Rialto Movie Theater - 2014
Ripple River Motel – 2014
Riverwood Healthcare - 2014
Roadside Restaurant - 2014
Salon Inspire
Security State Bank – 2014
Sew Much & More - 2014
Shiperio Games - 2014
Shirts Plus - 2014
Simply Chic
Tire Barn – 2014
Toby's Thrift Shop - 2014
Traditions Mini Golf
Unclaimed Freight North - 2014
Whistling Wolf Mini Golf

SUPPORTING TOWNSHIPS

FARM ISLAND TOWNSHIP - 2014
IDUN TOWNSHIP - 2014
LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP - 2014
CLARK TOWNSHIP - 2013
NORRLAND TOWNSHIP - 2014
BEAVER TOWNSHIP – 2014
PLINY TOWNSHIP - 2014
AITKIN COUNTY

Donations

Elwood Swanson - \$25.00
Judy Turner – Gift ACHS Membership
Greg Leach – 2 - Cases of Water
Jane Humphreys – Typewriter
Aitkin County Land Department –
3 cases Mighty Mississippi boat guide
Bremer Bank - \$200.00
Allan Hakes – Past Perfect Software
Carol Wermter - \$50.00

Resorts of Aitkin County

The Society is starting to collect photos, brochures, and information about **Aitkin County Resorts**. If you have anything pertaining to our resorts, please share it with the Historical Society. Possible book.

Members Lost During 2014

Gordon Root

6/20/1939 to 1/24/2014

New Members

Wanda Ball

Connie Gretschnann

Ben Konsor

Donald J. Christianson

Monica Westerlund

Jane A. Humphreys

Ronald & Diann Hendrickson

Peggy & Tom Larsen

Linda Nelson

Janice K. McFarlane Wood

Janice E. Aplin

NEW DISPLAY

"Electrifying Minnesota"

This display is a traveling display from the Minnesota Historical Society. It is here to help celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Mille Lacs Energy.

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.

Memberships

Senior - \$7.50

Individual - \$15.00

Family - \$20.00

Business - \$30.00

Country Schools of Aitkin County

We are now in the process of collecting photographs and information pertaining to our Aitkin County Country schools for our next book. Do you have any information or photographs of one or more of our Country Schools? Or, do you know someone that does? Please contact the Depot Museum.

GRANT WRITER NEEDED!

Need grants for the following:

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

GOALS FOR 2014

1. Membership surpasses 472
2. Raffle over \$3000.00 again
3. Garage Sale over \$7000.00
4. Publish book about our Aitkin County Country schools.
5. Visitor count over 5000.
6. Research facility set up.
7. Find a Caboose or railroad car for display.
8. Publish Historic map of Aitkin County.
9. Publish GPS walking tour of the City of Aitkin.
10. Find additional funding for the Depot Museum.
11. Add another museum sign south of Aitkin on Hwy 169.
12. Lending Library set up and running.
13. Find additional grant funding.
14. Update Past Perfect Software.

McGrath Historical Committee

5th Anniversary Celebration

And Annual Meeting

Saturday – June 21st at

"Shire in the Woods"

Games, prizes, historical displays

"Fun for the entire family"

2014 PROJECTS

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

WANTED

WWII Red Point Coin
to add to our Military display

McGregor Historical Society

Annual Meeting

Wednesday – May7th at

Fireside Inn

5pm – 6pm Social Hour

6pm Dinner

Greetings,

A quiet came with the wish to stay indoors due to the harsh winter. Snow, snow and more snow along with the freezing cold air is how this past winter accompanied us in Minnesota. Many stayed indoors these past few months. Out of state members may say differently. Still even with the cold and snow the research on the schools has begun and is in progress. I was checking for information and came across details of one district that had two schools, in the early 1900's, under one district number. Most schools had their own district number in the early years. It is fun looking up details on the schools. If you or someone you know has information from the early schools, please contact the Aitkin County Historical Society. A graduation list may be very helpful, teachers in the past, subjects taken, rides to school or the walk with a shortcut to school. All this will be a surprise to the younger generation's youngsters.

The sheet on how to make a hanger for preserving clothing is attached. With additional reading I found that to keep photos, there is an acid free pen tester that I received from the Minnesota Historical Society that may be used to test the paper to be sure it is acid free (Purple = acid free; Yellow = not acid free). Along with acid free paper, collect photo corners. The photo corners will be placed on the acid free paper and this will keep the photos for a long time. Glue, paper clips, rubber bands and tape are not recommended to retain documents or photos. Newspaper clippings will probably be on acidic paper. Make a photocopy on acid free paper and place in album with photo corners. For each photo, names or events should be label with a No. 2 pencil or pigment ink rather than dyes, which are much less likely to fade.

I received a photo of my aunt with a cowgirl hat, vest and holding a toy six shooter. My first reaction was neat. Secondly, I wanted to know what this was all about. No story was attached so I wrote and asked. Since she is no longer with us, I am waiting to hear from a close family member. Good luck in caring for your treasures. It is never too late to start a photo album or scrapbook for future generations.

Warm Wishes,

Darlene Maciej, President

Aitkin County Historical Society

FIRST QUARTER ACCESSIONS

1/3/2014	14.01	Janet Miller	McGregor Lumber Co. nail apron, Standard Lumber Co. Carpenters apron
1/3/2014	14.02	Carol Hageman	2- IBEW Minutes (1937-1939), Misc. Paper items WWII Japanese Diary plus translation
1/8/2014	14.03	Glen Smeltzer	String Holder
1/8/2014	14.04	Unknown	Tax Ledger 1874 - 1876
1/8/2014	14.05	Boyd Bremner	14 - Pastor Collars (4-soft, 10- stiff)
1/10/2014	14.06	Aitkin City Hall	Aitkin Maps and Brochures
1/15/2014	14.07	Larry Hayes	Hay hook, Jar opener, Model A crank, Minnesota seal
1/17/2014	14.08	Janet Miller	5 - Photos
1/17/2014	14.09	Lois Johnson	Rice River Township Birth & Death Register
1/24/2014	14.1	Janet Humphreys	Canon Electric Typewriter
1/24/2014	14.11	John Hendrickson	Shotgun Cleaning rods, Clothes pins, Draw knife, WWII Blue point, Aitkin Surplus Adver., 2 photos
1/31/2014	14.12	Hallett Library	St. James Church Centennial book
1/31/2014	14.13	Jennie Hakes	Rice River Town school #18 information Doll histories and values
1/31/2014	14.14	Randy Wall	1949 map of Aitkin County, White Oak school information
2/7/2014	14.15	Ardith Kane	8 - school photos, old cards 1924-29 Teacher contracts
2/8/2014	14.16	David & Iris Rogers	Photos & history of Knox & Cluff family
2/19/2014	14.17	Marilyn Elling	2 photos Malmo school, 1 photo Dist. #11
2/20/2014	14.18	Crow Wing Co. H.S.	10 - maps of Mississippi river 1951/52 1 Aitkin Co. Map, 1 brochure
2/26/2014	14.19	Donald Marpe	2 - books, Growing up in Aitkin County My Service in Marine Corps (WWII, Korea)
2/28/2014	14.2	Randy C. Wall	7 Advertising items, 8-photos, photo album, 1935 MN map, 138-post cards, Maria Chapel Tile Aitkin Co. Matchbooks, 1922 Commencement
2/12/2014	14.21	Elaine Kienitz	Wedding dress, Sears catalogs.
3/5/2014	14.22	Marne Jones	photo 1932/33 class, Dec. 1930 Aitkin HiLite
3/5/2014	14.23	Larry Hayes	Climbing spikes & utility belt, meat hook
3/5/2014	14.24	Alice Fageroos	Cookbooks
3/5/2014	14.25	Darlene MacGregor	14 - Double H Club Minute books, metal measuring cup, 6" ruler.
3/14/2014	14.26	Jeff Norman	1910/13 Burroughs Adding Machine
3/21/2014	14.27	Ardith Kane Cuyuna Heritage	7 car train set with accessories
3/26/2014	14.28	Net.	7 post cards Shingwauk Resort
3/28/2014	14.29	DAC Mart	Postal Service Jacket
3/28/2014	14.3	Ruth Hauge	Photos & story of Hillside School
3/29/2014	14.31	Karen Johnson	2 - photos: Rossburg School & Thor school
3/29/2014	14.32	Delmarie Engmark	Photos & information about Sunnyside school

2014 RAFFLE PRIZE'S COLLECTED

Below is a list of prizes that have been collected so far for our Annual Raffle. Part of this list will be given away at our Early-bird drawing in August. When the raffle tickets are sent out to our membership the first of June we will have split the list up.

1. Dinner & Show for 2, Chanhassen Dinner Theater – Donated by KKIN radio (\$140.00 value)
2. Dinner & Show for 2, Chanhassen Dinner Theater – Donated by KKIN radio (\$140.00 value)
3. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel/Dinner for two – (\$125.00 value)
4. One 18" x 68" Dressing Mirror donated by Aitkin Glass – (\$116.00 value)
5. Ripple River Motel Jacuzzi Room – (\$85.00 value)
6. Gift bag from Jeanie & Co. – (\$55.00 value)
7. Family Portrait sitting donated by Duane's Photography – (\$39.00 value)
8. Oil Change donated by Brandl Motors – (\$35.50 value)
9. 20 LED Camp Lantern – (\$35.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
10. Squirrel Feeder – Donated by Hyytinen's Hardware Hank – (\$35.00 value)
11. Welcome Bear donated by Aitkin Furniture – (\$34.95 value)
12. A gift Subscription to the Aitkin Independent Age – (\$32.00 - \$37.00 value)
13. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Country Auto - (\$32.00 value)
14. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Country Auto – (\$32.00 value)
15. Case (12 cans) of Canoe Wild Rice – (\$30.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
16. \$30.00 Visa Card – Donated by Security State bank
17. County Market \$30.00 gift card
18. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
19. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
20. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Hometown Building Supply
21. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Gramma's Pantry
22. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
23. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
24. \$25.00 off a \$50.00 purchase at Lightning Motorsports
25. 8" DQ Cake – (\$21.00 value) Donated by Aitkin Dairy Queen
26. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for the Office Shop
27. "Barns of Aitkin County, MN" book – (\$20.00 value)
28. "Barns of Aitkin County, MN" book – (\$20.00 value)
29. Universal Remote – Donated by Enberg's TV – (\$20.00 value)
30. 3-in-1 Power Tools for kids donated by Midwest Machinery Co. – (\$20.00 value)
31. \$20.00 Gift Card from CVS Pharmacy
32. \$20.00 Gift Card for Auli Z's & the Bippity Bop Ice Cream Shop
33. \$20.00 Gift Card from Bare's Bootery
34. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for Aitkin Lanes
35. \$20.00 Gift Card from Toby's Thrift Shop
36. 10 ½" X 15" Picture donated by Unclaimed Freight North – (\$20.00 value)
37. First Aid Kit from Riverwood Healthcare Center – (\$20.00 value)
38. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
39. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
40. \$18.00 Gift Certificate for Lorrie's Hair Studio
41. Coombs cuts gift certificate – (\$18.00 value)
42. Tire Rotation – (\$16.00 value) Donated by the Tire Barn
43. 6 cans of Canoe Wild Rice – (\$15.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
44. Stonetech Stone & Tile Cleaner donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$15.00 value)
45. 6 cans of Canoe Wild Rice – (\$15.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
46. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
47. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)

48. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
49. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Sew Much & More
50. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for the Beanery an Internet Café
51. \$10.00 Gift Card from Aitkin Flowers & Gifts
52. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Rasley Oil Co.
53. Mohawk Carpet Stain Remover donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$10.00 value)
54. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Bill's Sportsmans Service
55. McDonalds Sandwich & Happy Meal - (\$8.00 value)
56. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
57. McDonalds Sandwich & Happy Meal – (\$8.00 value)
58. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
59. McDonalds Sandwich & Happy Meal – (\$8.00 value)
60. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
61. McDonalds Sandwich & Happy Meal – (\$8.00 value)
62. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
63. McDonalds Sandwich & Happy Meal – (\$8.00 value)
64. Aitkin County Naturally bird book – (\$5.00 value)
65. Aitkin County Naturally bird book – (\$5.00 value)
66. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)
67. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)
68. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)
69. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)

As you can see by the above list, we are receiving a wide variety of prizes for this year's raffle drawing.

Tickets and a final list of prizes will be mailed out on June 4th.

Let's make this year's raffle the best ever!

Return your tickets and money by August 2nd, and you will also be included in our early-bird drawing.

(Early-bird drawing – August 4th, Main drawing on December 6th)

TRAINS, TRAINS AND MORE TRAINS

We still need more trains for our display in our railroad room. Do you have a train stored away in a box that has not been played with in the last decade? Maybe it is time to donate it to the museum for our display. Not quite ready to donate it, bring it in and loan it to the museum for the display so others can enjoy it. Only have one or two cars or some accessory pieces bring them in and we can add them to other trains. We currently have 21 trains or parts of trains on display. This is a permanent display to add more interest in our railroad room. Stop by the museum and take a look if you have not had a chance. There is still room for 10 more trains in our display cases and when that is filled we can put up another display for 8 more. Let's work hard at completing this display.

INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS FOR CHILDREN

Do you have an old fur that can no longer be worn? I am looking for a variety of fur pelts and leather that could be put on a board for children to identify. It is important for us to have a variety of displays for children to interact with. Not only do we want children to learn about our Aitkin County history, but we want them to have fun while they are doing it. Maybe you have an idea for other interactive displays for children. Let us stretch our minds and come up with some new ideas. Help make the museum a place that children want to come to. Can we make learning history fun?

VOLUNTEER

Learn how the museum works. What's involved in accessioning an item into the museum collection? How do we protect our collection? Come to the museum and learn about the museum and Aitkin County.

Minnesota Legacy grants received.

The Aitkin County Historical Society is the recipient of **two grants** financed in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

1. \$7,000.00 grant for researching and assembling a book about the Aitkin County Country schools. (This requires researching county records for the history of each school, i.e. formation and closing, teachers and students. Also, this includes the interviewing of Aitkin County residents who went to a one room school houses.) Book will be published sometime in 2015.
2. \$5,325.00 to conduct a Geophysical Survey of the Iron Furnace Ruins located in Aitkin County. (to be completed this spring)

2014 GARAGE SALE

We have already started to collect sellable items for this year's garage sale. Items that are not accepted are: hide-a-beds, computers & accessories, T.V.'s, large appliances or clothes. Items will be marked during May, June & July. We are looking for tools, furniture, books, movies, games, glassware, holiday decorations, household items, jewelry, fishing items, hunting items, toys, etc. On Tuesday after the Aitkin County Fair we will set up tables in the buildings and on Wednesday all of the merchandise will be moved to the Fairgrounds. All merchandise will then be sorted and checked for pricing. The sale will take place on August 1st (9am to 4pm) & August 2nd (9am to 3pm) which is half price day. **All items donated are tax deductible.**

Items Needed at Museum

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

Bags Needed

We will need bags for use at our Annual Garage sale. Please start saving plastic and paper bags. They can be dropped off at the Depot museum during regular business hours. Wednesday, Friday & Saturday from **9am to 4pm**

Completed Projects 2014

1. Electrical Outlets added in Depot museum homestead room.
2. Glass case repaired for use in depot museum.
3. Past Perfect software updated.
4. Electrifying Minnesota display and signage set up.

We have received Memorial Money for the following:

Larry Turner
Stewart Lehrke
Wilma Holder
M.M. Welshons
Jeannette Zilverberg
Leslie F. Coleman
Gloria E. Coleman

Time To Renew

Watch for your renewal notice in the mail or on line. Most memberships run June 1st to May 31st. If you wonder if your membership is due contact Greg. 218-927-3348

VOLUNTEERS

Many will be shocked to find,
When the Day of Judgment nears,
That there's a special place in Heaven
Set aside for volunteers.
Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and foot stools,
Where there are no committee chairmen,
No yard sales or rest area coffee to serve,
No library duty or bulletin assembly.
There will be nothing to print and staple,
Not one thing to fold and mail.
Telephone lists will be outlawed.
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And rare treats fit for a king.
You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
That worked for all they're worth?"
Why, all those who reaped the benefits,
And not once volunteered on earth.

-author, Unknown

MEMBERSHIP

Are your friends, neighbors or relatives members of the Aitkin County Historical Society? We only need 21 more members to reach our goal of 472. Please help us reach our goal by inviting the people you know to join. Family memberships are only \$20.00 a year. Give a gift membership to someone. More membership helps to increase interest in our museum.

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DEPOT MUSEUM

EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 2014

May 9th – 6th Grade Tours – Volunteers guide the sixth graders to different areas of the museum where presenters explain the areas. Two shifts of children (8:45-10:15 and 12:30-2:00) come to the museum. We provide a lunch for all of the volunteers that help with this event.

April 26th thru July 27th – Minnesota Historical Societies Traveling exhibit “**Electrifying Minnesota**” at our museum. This display is part of the 75th Anniversary celebration for Mille Lacs Electric.

June – Commissioner Lunch - We invite the County Commissioners to the museum to see what changes have been made during the past year, show them what we have planned for this year and we serve them lunch.

July 9th – 12th – Aitkin County Fair – Visit our Log Cabin, located on the S.E. corner of the fairgrounds. Volunteers will staff the building from 10am to 8pm during the fair. This year’s display will feature items that would be found in a log cabin.

August 1st & 2nd – Annual Garage Sale – Held at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds during Riverboat days. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and will again use two buildings on the fairgrounds. Setup for this event will start on July 16th and go right up to July 31st. 100’s of man hours will be required to haul, sort, price, and work this sale. As we get closer to this event a signup sheet will be at the Depot Museum. Sign up and help us make this our best sale ever. We have already started to collect items for the sale. Don’t forget to donate those unwanted/not used items. **Remember, all donations are tax deductible.**

December 6th – Spirit of Christmas Open House/Cookie Walk/Raffle Drawing – Join us as we open our Depot Museum to cookie buyers and guests. Consider donating a prize for our raffle drawing. Bake some cookies to be sold at our Cookie Walk. Our special Christmas displays created by member and volunteer Jo White are always a treat.

MUSEUM HOURS

Summer Hours – (June, July & August)

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

Winter Hours – (September thru May)

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

Phone: (218) 927-3348

Email: achs3348@embarqmail.com

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