



# The Record

## "Christmas in the 1960s" Opens at History Center Grand Opening November 8

### Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 8  
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

**Opening of  
Christmas in the 1960s Exhibit**  
At Fridley History Center  
Free admission

Saturday October 25th through  
Saturday January 24th, 2015  
During regular museum hours, in-  
cluding the days we are open for the  
"Christmas in the 1960s"

**Minnesota Disasters: Stories of  
Strength and Survival Exhibit**  
At Fridley History Center  
Free admission

Thursday November 20th 6:30pm  
**Live Trivia Contest**  
at the Fridley History Center  
Free Admission

Saturday December 13th  
11 am to 3 pm  
**Kindergarten Art Fair**  
at the Fridley History Center  
Free Admission

Sunday, May 3, 2015.  
**Appraisal Event**  
Place and time to be determined

Where were you in '62? Or '68? Or anytime during the 1960s? You can relive the decade of flower power, protest signs, and VW vans, as well as see a selection of Christmas gifts that were "Made in the USA" this holiday season by visiting the Fridley History Center. There's something for everyone in this exhibit: a decorated Christmas tree, room vignettes with '60s artifacts, including a college dorm room, trivia, activities for kids, a model railroad, recorded music, and more. Refreshments will be served and, as always, admission is free. Check [fridleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://fridleyhistoricalsociety.org) for information.

Hours: Saturdays, November 8 - December 20 (11 AM to 3 PM)  
Tuesdays, November 11 - December 16 (2 to 4 PM)



## Fridley Historical Society

### Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 4 p.m.

#### Officers

President	Dorothy Gargaro
Vice President	Mary Ann Hoffman
Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

#### Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel  
Mary Sue Meyers  
Allen Taylor

#### Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

#### Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

#### City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

#### Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

#### Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

#### Maintenance Committee

Rick and Teresa Hitt

#### Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

#### Newsletter

Lori Greiner — 612-963-1485

#### Public Relations

Open

#### Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

## Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Thursday, October 2, 2014

### Old Business:

**Finding secretary and newsletter publisher:** Norton reported that Lori Greiner has agreed to do the newsletter. She bought Micro Soft Publisher and downloaded it to her computer. The need to find a secretary was discussed. Norton agreed to take the minutes of the annual meeting on October 14.

**Tornado anniversary planning:** Gargaro reported that David Ulrich would set up a display. She is doing a tornado display for the Rum River Library in February 2015. She talked to Ken Ackerman and he said he would do a presentation. She also talked to him about the weather station equipment he had said he would donate, that will have to wait until he passes on.

**Exhibits:** Taylor has agreed to go to Mankato to pick up the Minnesota Disasters exhibit. (He will be reimbursed for gas.) Hoffman and Gargaro will set it up in the classroom and it will be ready to view for the October 25 open house. Setting up for the Christmas in the 1960s exhibit has begun.

### Committees:

**City & Family:** Gargaro has invited the Lions Club to view the Minnesota Disasters exhibit for their social meeting on October 28.

**Hall of Fame:** Rick Hitt and Al put the 2013 plaques up. Jack Kirk talked to Gargaro about putting them up in a hall at the Community Center. The 2014 dinner will be at the Fridley Community center November 1. Meyers has hired a caterer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25

Grace Norton, Secretary



## Fridley Historical Society 2014 Annual Business Meeting

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014**

Anderson brought the Treasurer's report. She said there was a profit of \$3,594, the highest in several years. Copies of the annual report are available upon request. Our finances were audited by Eleanor Anderson C.P.A. without charge. We are grateful for her services.

Gargaro added that the Fridley Lions had donated \$850 for the painting of the lower level of the History Center and the Fridley American Legion Post donated \$300 with a note saying it was because we are doing a good job. Joann Johnson donated \$100 for the purchase of the bookshelves in the classroom. We are very grateful for these donations.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Maintenance:** Gargaro was pleased to announce that Teresa and Richard Hitt had agreed to take over the work of the maintenance committee. They were installed as our maintenance chair-people.

**Membership:** We currently have 173 individual and three business memberships. We collected \$1,854 in dues. Members were extremely generous by donating an additional \$2,465.15 with their membership forms. With \$150 in business dues, we collected a total \$4,319.15 this year. Thank you!

The renewal form for 2015 will appear in the January/February issue of *The Record*. As of this year we have stopped sending out membership cards and confirmation letters. We put the names of those who have paid dues in *The Record* so we save a lot on postage. But Hoffman will send out confirmation forms for IRS purposes later this year to the 17 who requested one.

**Exhibits:** Our biggest event since the last annual meeting was the "Christmas in the 1950s" exhibit last November and December. We had approximately 700 visitors. The event is free, but people put about \$544 in the donation jar. This year we are hosting "Christmas in the 1960s" and hope for a similar turnout.

On May 3 we had an appraisal event with Mark Moran. Fifty four people attended with 88 appraisals. October 26 we will have another appraisal event with him at the Minnesota Banquets Center; 46 people with 103 appraisals have signed up. May 3, 2015 we will have another event with him and 62 people are on the waiting list. He charges \$15 for each appraisal and gives us \$5

On October 25, we are opening "Minnesota Disasters," a Minnesota Historical Society traveling exhibit. The 1965 Fridley tornado is highlighted. It will be on display through January 31, 1915.

**City and Family History:** Gargaro reported that she has done displays at the Mississippi Branch Library and will do one at the Rum River Library soon. In June "Manomin on the Mississippi" a bus tour of historic homes and a dinner at the Riedel house, was done in conjunction with the Fridley 49ers Committee. We continue to sell our "Fridley; Its History and People" books.

The 2014 Hall of Fame luncheon will be November 1 at the Fridley Community Center. (Continued on pg. 4)



**(Fridley Historical Society 2014 Annual Business Meeting continued from pg. 3)**

**Newsletter and Public Relations:** I reported that my resignation was now effective and was very happy to introduce Lori Greiner as the new editor of *The Record*. Gargaro presented me with the 2014 Windmill award which I thanked her for. It has not yet been determined who will take over my secretarial duties and public relations.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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*Thank you, Grace Norton, for eight years of dedication and service as Board Secretary of the Fridley Historical Society and Editor of The Record !*



Grace Norton accepts the 2014 Windmill award from FHS President Dorothy Gargaro



Grace Norton introduces Lori Greiner as the new editor of The Record



## **A Dive into the Archive: Fridley Business Forecaster by Mary Ann Hoffman**

Let's start with some questions.

1. True or False: The first Target store was built in Fridley.
2. Did the Anoka County Airport open in the 1920s, 1940s, 1960s, or 1970s?
3. When Minco Products moved to Fridley, did the company move from Bismarck, ND, Des Moines, IA, Minneapolis, or Duluth?
4. True or False: the city of Fridley made a deliberate and focused effort to bring industry to this community.

Answers:

1. False. The Fridley Target was built in 1967; the first Target was built in 1962 in Roseville.
2. The new airport was dedicated in the summer of 1966.
3. Minco moved from 740 Washington Avenue in Minneapolis.
4. True. The Fridley Business Forecaster was one of many strategies used to promote business opportunities in Fridley.

I learned these things by reading the first Quarter, 1967, issue of the Fridley Business Forecaster, published by the Industrial Development Commission, which was housed in city hall and chaired by David Harris. The Fridley History Center archive holds an additional edition of the Forecaster, dated Last Quarter of 1967.

Under the heading, "Fridley Offers Business Firms Location and Transportation," the city is touted as a quick 12 to 20 minute drive to the Minneapolis and St. Paul loops, with service by three major railroads, two state highways, and an interstate freeway. Moreover, the new Anoka County airport is only minutes away."

Elsewhere, Fridley's business-friendly major, Jack Kirkham, is quoted, "No businessman is going to relocate here just because we're nice fellows. We have to demonstrate that Fridley offers him a superior location and a congenial climate for doing business." The publication also makes note of the newly built 150-bed Unity Hospital and states that the city has added at least one new shopping center annually in recent years. It also states that the "city school system has earned national recognition for mathematics teaching."

Success by the Commission is shown by Minco's decision to relocate to Fridley after "company officials studied several locations in the Minneapolis metropolitan area before deciding on a 5.7 acre site in one of Fridley's industrial parks." By 1967, much growth had already occurred here, with more to come -- a year later, Onan Corporation relocated here in a \$14 million facility.

## The 2014 Hall of Fame Luncheon

The 2014 Hall of Fame luncheon was held at the Fridley Community Center Saturday, November 1st with about 120 people in attendance. Former president Robert Christenson spoke about the significance of the Hall of Fame in honoring the contributions individuals have made to the growth and quality of life in our community. Mayor Scott Lund was the emcee and introduced the 2014 inductees. Each inductee was presented with an acrylic award to keep by Mary Sue Meyers, Hall of Fame Chairperson. Their plaques were shown and will be displayed at the Fridley History Center. John Fitzpatrick brought the closing remarks.

### *The 2014 Fridley Hall of Fame Inductees are:*

**Dorothy Gargaro:** Dorothy has contributed to Fridley as a volunteer for over 41 years.... She has been a great team member and leader in various organizations, which include the Fridley 49ers Days Committee, the Fridley Historical Society of which she is now president, the Fridley Lions Club and St. William's Catholic Church. In 2006 the Fridley City Council proclaimed a Dorothy Gargaro Appreciation Day, recognizing her countless contributions to our community.

**Genevieve Peterson:** Genevieve was the first editor of the Anoka County Union and also worked at Fridley City Hall and was the Fridley Cable Television Commissioner. She served as President of the League of Women Voters for seven years. She started the Fridley Bluebirds and Campfire Girls, and was one of the founders of the Fridley Dancers. She served the community for over 60 years and countless individuals were affected by her well rounded community involvement. Her daughters Kathleen Peterson and Fern O'Brien accepted the award in memory of her.

**John Swanson:** John has served as a youth sports coach, official, league administrator and a mentor to youth coaches in the city of Fridley for 40 years. He started coaching and officiating games when he was a student at Fridley Senior High School. He has served on Fridley Youth Sports Association Board and been head coach in youth football. For the last 12 years he has been the Director of the North Suburban Youth Football and Twin City North Youth Football Leagues.



Dorothy Gargaro, John Swanson and Fern O'Brien



Robert Christenson, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Sue Meyers and Mayor Scott Lund



Robert Christenson, John Swanson, Mary Sue Meyers and Mayor Lund



Robert Christenson; Mary Sue Meyers; Kathleen Peterson and Fern O'Brien accepting for their mother Genevieve Peterson and Mayor Lund



## October 26 Appraisal Event

Appraiser Mark Moran made his second appearance for the Fridley Historical Society on Sunday, October 26, during which he appraised over 100 items over a 7- hour period. Some folks left smiling (the highest appraisal was for a grainer's kit from the Civil War era, valued at \$5,000,) while others left not having to worry about increasing their insurance coverage. Several came to just watch Mark at work and hear the stories that accompanied the objects up for appraisal. The event was held at the lovely new Banquets of Minnesota event center on Highway 65 in Fridley.

Mark will make his third appearance for us on Sunday, May 3, 2015. A long waiting list remains so we're looking into having him back again after that. If you want to get on the waiting list, please leave a message at the history center.



Megan Herdendorf of Fridley and appraiser Mark Moran discuss Megan's Ruby Stain cut glass pitcher and glasses.



John Sheridan brought in a 19th century hand-carved stand for Mark to appraise.





## FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Robert Christenson, Photographer



*Celebrating Fridley's past  
and securing its future*

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### ***Our New Website is Now Easier to Find***

If you had trouble finding our new website [fridleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://fridleyhistoricalsociety.org) after doing a search with a search engine such as Google or Yahoo it will now direct you to the new website. Thank you to Robert Christenson, who working with Start Logic, was able to make our new website supersede our outdated website when a search is done to find it.

