



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, No. 1
January, 1991

Basement Room Completed

We have reached one more milestone. The basement room is completely done. The walls have been sheet-rocked and insulated, and painted. The carpeting has been laid. A new drop ceiling and new light fixtures have been installed. New heat registers are in place. It looks wonderful. Wish now that we had taken pictures of it before anything was done. What a difference! Do plan to come to one of the membership meetings soon, to see it. Handicapped accessibility is available through the back door. The lift is operating.

Warm Fuzzies by Gloria Hayes

This column will be a regular item in our Newsletter to acknowledge our member volunteers who have given so willingly of their energy and time. All of us can't or aren't able to help with manual labor, but there is a niche and place where everyone is needed.

We have tried to thank all those who have helped out before December; however, if we have missed anyone, please consider our late thank you now.

Herb Bacon and Ray Carlson have completed installing the downstairs lighting fixtures and the lighted emergency signs and exit signs. We will be needing a few more signs. The Fridley State Bank donated the money for the new lighting. A great big thank you to them.

Charlie Johanson, his son, Donald and son-in-law, Vince Smith, have completed the downstairs ceiling tile, and the work around the doors of the lift.

Now, with the ceiling and the lighting fixtures in, we have a beautiful finished room that all of us can be P-R-O-U-D of. Thanks guys!

Chuck Hayes and Jerry Manley completed cutting and installing the left over blue carpeting on the first floor back hall and stairs. Looks 100% better!

Char Fitzpatrick and Jerry Johnson, Gloria Hayes and Marilyn Manley, Mahlon Moe and Fred Schultz greeted 6 adults and 3 children at the Museum on the 3 open Saturdays in December. **We are open every Saturday 2-4 P.M.** If you have a couple of free hours and would like to tend the Museum, please call Gloria Hayes at 571-3727. Any ideas on how we can let people know that we are open and ready to conduct tours, viewing and accepting item donations? Spread the word that we are OPEN. Special tours on any day can be arranged by calling Fern Moe at 571-5041.

The annual Christmas Bake Sale held at the Fridley State Bank was a great success! The response to our call for baked goods was so rewarding that we earned \$357.46. Thanks to all of you that baked such attractive looking

Warm Fuzzies by Gloria Hayes, Continued:

"yummies". Persons selling at the sale were: Esther Campbell, Char Fitzpatrick, Gloria Hayes, Jerry Johnson, Jack Kirkham, Ardie Chesney, and Fern Moe. Ardie chaired this project, and gave us selling techniques. Thanks, people.

Our Calling Committee: Marion Anderson, Gloria Hayes - Chair, and Ardie Chesney were kept very busy with calling for the regular meeting and for the bake sale.

If you know of a member who is sick or hospitalized, tell our "Callers" and we will forward the information to our newly formed "Sunshine" chairperson, Marion Anderson

'Til next time,
Gloria Hayes

Display Units From MHS

Word has just been received that the Fridley Historical Society has won some display units from the Minnesota Historical Society. We put our name in for the drawing. We can use many sizes and shapes of display units. The Minnesota Historical Society is getting ready to move into their new building.

Fern Moe is Moving to Iowa

Word of an unexpected and not appreciated Christmas gift reached the Moe family the first part of December.....The company that Mahlon has worked for for 37 years announced that they were moving to South Dakota. They did not offer any of the men a transfer. Mahlon turned 62 in October, and decided to take an early retirement. Their kids from Storm Lake, Iowa, came up right away, and asked that the folks move down to their area. They own 14 rental houses and always have a list of odd jobs that need doing, and son-in-law needs help with fishing, too, so the Moes went to Iowa and looked at 17 houses in one day, and found a lovely home, and have since purchased it. As soon as their house here sells, they will be moving to Newell, Iowa. That is 11 miles east of Storm Lake. Fern has plans to teach some quilting classes, and some other classes at the community center down there. She is also looking into some other activities to keep busy. None of the Moes children have settled in this area, so they are looking forward to being near two grandsons.

Quilt Raffle

We are still a long ways from reaching our goal with the quilt raffle, and the quilt is such a lovely one.....A queen sized hand-stitched blue and off-white quilt. It will be an heirloom to be handed down to future generations for the person who wins it. The drawing is March 9th at the Spaghetti Dinner. We are enclosing some tickets again along with this newsletter.

Thoughts While Quilting by Fern I. Moe:

During the years when we children were small, my folks hired girls during the busy season on the farm to work for us. Most of them were from the community and were conscientious and good workers. They did not receive much pay, and put in long hours. They did well to put up with the teasing in our family.

I remember teasing one of the girls until she took off after me, and I went under a bed, and she couldn't reach me. Another one went to the outdoor biffy (the only toilet that we had), and I locked the door from the outside,

Thoughts While Quilting, Continued:

and she begged for over an hour and finally took to threatening me before I eventually let her out.

One of the girls was dating one of the young men in the community, and always she would come in real quiet when she got home, and none of us heard her. One night dad piled a bunch of metal kettles and silverware in the metal dishpan and set it up on the wood box in the kitchen, and then rigged up a rope some way, so that when she came quietly in the door this metal dishpan and its contents came crashing to the floor, and it woke the whole household. So, that night we all knew what time she got home.

When I was dating Mahlon, I was only 16, and so the folks would not let me go out alone with him....I had to take my two sisters and my brother along. Those three sat in the back seat, and we would drive around until they went to sleep. One evening we decided that when the kids in the back seat went to sleep, we would stop at the confectionery store for a malted milk. Mahlon couldn't afford to buy malted milks for everybody. So we drove around and drove around until all three of them were asleep. Then we stopped and planned to get our malts. In those days there wasn't such a thing as drive-ins. But as soon as the car stopped, they all woke up. So we started driving again, but soon the confectionery store closed, and we didn't get our malts that night.

One evening we drove around awhile and then stopped by the side of the country road. We were smooching, and whispering "sweet nothings" to each other, so quiet so we wouldn't wake the kids in the back seat. Before long a car pulled up, and an old man, who was very hard of hearing, rolled down his window and said, "Are you having trouble?" Mahlon said, "No". But the old man didn't hear him and he asked the question again. Of course, by then the kids in the back seat were awake, so Mahlon just started the car and we drove off.

Sometimes Mahlon would stay overnight on Sunday night, when he had been down for the weekend. He slept in the guest room, but in the morning I would get up early and fix him some breakfast before he would drive the 300 miles back home. We would be so quiet, so as not to wake anyone, but more than once we heard someone at the floor register upstairs, and it was one of my sisters, as we four girls slept in that bedroom. By lying on their tummys, it was possible to see quite a large area of the kitchen, so we had an audience even at that time of the morning. That's probably what comes of being the oldest one in the family. The rest didn't have it so tough when they did their romancing!! Mahlon is the only man that I ever dated. I did get a kiss from another boy one time, and another boy from school wrote a romantic verse in my autograph book.

Speaking of autograph books, are they still being used? We have a couple of them at the museum that someone has donated. It was a popular thing when I was in high school to pass around our autograph books, and some writers used great calligraphy flourishes and pictures, and wrote verses that were lovely and charming, but often the verses were sarcastic and cynical. One verse in mine was: "Fern made some biscuits. She made them by the peck. She threw one out the window....and broke a horses neck." A popular verse in those days was: "When you get married and have twins, don't come to me for safety pins." A boy wrote a verse in my book which said: "When I was just a little boy, I liked to hunt for squirrels, but now I am a great big boy, I'd rather hunt for girls."



Fridley Historical Society

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Fridley, Minnesota 55432

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 4, NO. 2

WARM FUZZIES BY GJH

We want to pass "Thank Yous" on to the following people:

Herb Bacon and Ray Carlson for installing the meeting room ceiling tile; and

The Fridley State Bank for donating money for the ceiling tile.

Charlie Johanson is currently doing touch up and finishing work around the lift. In Charlie's "free time", he has brought in 5 new members to our Society. Atta way to go Charlie!

Our Pres., Char, has brought in 3 new members. If Charlie and Char can do it why can't we?

The Museum was open 4 Saturdays in January with a total of 0 adults and 4 children. Our volunteer attendants were: Lillian Meyer and Char Fitzpatrick; Gloria Hayes; Marion Anderson & Char Fitzpatrick; and Jerry Manley. Thank you for your time. Marion & Char used their time to set up a file on our inventory. Ask Jerry how he spent his time.

Jerry Johnson and Warren Woods picked up the display units which we won at the Minnesota Historical Museum. Stop by and take a look at them. I think they are going to help protect our displays. Thanks for your help.

We've had a change in our calling committee- after all these years- I want to thank Marion Anderson for all the time she has spent on the phone calling members. Earl Johnson will be calling Marion's list. Ardie Chesney and myself will complete the "calling" Committee. Marion is still the Sunshine Committee Chair and doing a fine job. Try not to keep her too busy. Stay well!

FEBRUARY 11, 1991 MEETING- 7:30 p.m. FRIDLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
There will be two films- "Great grandmother, and " The Settling of the Plains". Also this will be your opportunity to wish Fern and Mahlon Moe good luck and thank them for their great contribution to the Historical Society. Plan to attend.

HISTORY OF OUR MEETING ROOM- CHARLIE JOHANSON

1. About a year ago I started the framing of the walls. My son and son-in-law helped me raise them on Saturday morning.
2. Studs are up, Herb Bacon then did the rough in electrical work needed before the sheet rock.
3. The following men helped with the insulation and nailing the sheet rock: Earl Johnson, Rodney Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Glenn Theorin, Jerry Manley and Mahlon Moe. They really did the most of it.
4. I got a friend to do the taping at a low price. Painting the prime coat was Jerry Johnson, Glenn Theorin, Chuck Hayes. The finishing coat was done by Fern and Mahlon Moe.
5. Herb Bacon and Ray Carlson installed the ceiling grid work, ceiling tile and electrical fixtures. Fridley Bank paid for all the material and light fixtures. It had to be done before Christmas and I had an eye operation. I could not work for 3 weeks.
6. Jerry Manley and Charlie Hayes installed the left over carpet in the halls and on the steps. A tough job.
7. I may have missed some names. Memory not so good any more. If I did I sorry.
8. I am still not finished. The lift has given me the most problems, trying to figure out how to make it look nice. Expect to get done soon. History we need to get on tape: pole yard, sauerkraut factory, the Nelson family.

MARCH 9th ANNUAL DINNER- COMMUNITY ED BUILDING 5 p.m.

We will be serving LASAGNA this year instead of spaghetti. It will be catered by LaGondola Spaghetti and Lasagna in Crystal. The tickets will be \$5.00 and will be sold in advance. There will be entertainment and the highlight will be our annual silent auction. Gloria Hayes is already working hard asking local businesses to donate items. Fred Schultz is also working with Gloria on getting auction items. Thanks to both of them. We encourage our business friends to offer items for the auction. You can contact Gloria at 571-3727. We will also raffle off the quilt that night. Please plan to attend.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Since January 1 we have taken in 10 new members. The new members are: James Bauer, Maryann and Jerry Herringer, Don Johanson, Doug Johanson, Ed Meyer, Suzanne Miskowic, Alice Nelson, Gilbert Rivard, and Agnes Shaw. We look forward to meeting you.

FERN AND MAHLON MOE MOVING TO IOWA THIS MONTH

Fern and Mahlon will be moving to Newell, Iowa. They have left an indelible mark on the Museum. We were able to raise \$90,000 under Fern's leadership. \$81,000 was used to make the Museum handicapped accessable and for the remodeling of the building. She over saw the installation of two new furnaces, a parking lot, air conditioning and security system, landscaping plus conducting tours to local groups and speaking to school children about the early days in Fridley. She was also the liason between the Fridley Historical Society and the Minnesota Historical Society and with our local community organizations. Mahlon was essentially the Museum's custodian and strictly on a volunteer basis. It is impossible to list all the Moes contributions. As a parting gift to the Museum Fern has made a quilted wall hanging. This is in the meeting room. Stop by and see it. Thank you Fern and Mahlon. Your hard work has borne much fruit. We now have a Museum that we all can be proud of. We won't say good bye but Auf Wiedersehen. The Fridley Historical Society is fortunate to have many such dedicated volunteers.

POSITION OF CUSTODIAN FOR FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Fridley Historical Society can fill the position of custodian with Title V money. There are some qualifications with the grant. The position must be filled with some one 55 years or older and has a maximum family yearly income of \$10,500. If you know of any one who might be interested call the Museum at 571-0120 or Char Fitzpatrick at 572-9615. The salary is minimum wage (\$4.75 per hour) and a maximum of 25 hours per week.



FEBRUARY 23rd OPEN HOUSE FOR OUR CONTRIBUTORS 2-4 p.m.

Please read the invitation included in this Newsletter. At 3 p.m. that day there will be a short presentation of a plaque which will list the names of all our large contributors. The wooden plaque was carved by George Moran. George has generously donated his work to the Historical Society. We are asking members to bring either bars or cookies for the reception. We will appreciate any thing you can do to help us with that. Please plan to attend. You are the hosts at this affair. We want to show our contributors what dedicated membership we have.

QUILT RAFFLE

Our quilt raffle needs some serious attention! At present the tickets we have sold cover little more than the cost of the quilt. Remember this is a fund raiser! So come on you guys we need to push the sale of those tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The raffle will be held during our annual LASAGNA dinner on March 9th.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

We have some members who are in need of some cheer. Rod Johnson has been moved to the VA Hospital. In talking with Harriet, he perhaps will be moved soon and hopefully back home. While his progress has been slow, Harriet reports that he enjoys getting cards. You can send them to his home 1646 Gardena, Fridley, Mn. 55432. Rod was always ready when called upon to help out at the Museum. Lets show him our support now that he needs us.

Also Gladys Anderson has been ill. She would enjoy a card from you. Send it to Gladys Anderson- 6428 Dellwood Dr. Fridley, Mn 55432.

If you know of any members who are ill or need cheering up call Marion Anderson 571-6661. Marion is Chair of the Sunshine Committee.



Thoughts While Quilting by Fern I. Moe

Our house is sold. But while we were showing it every few days, I was reminded of the good smells that I have enjoyed in other people's homes, and tried to have that same psychological influence on the people who came through here. Nothing can compare to the fragrances of fresh oven bread. I am reminded of the times when we kids came home from school and there was fresh soft bread just out of the oven. When spread with home-churned butter and homemade strawberry jam from our patch, or homemade choke cherry jam from the trees in the back 40, there was nothing store-bought that could compare with it! The evening that the couple came, who purchased our home, I had just taken some cinnamon carmel rolls out of the oven, and a couple of pans of buns. They told us later that they and the salesman stood and looked at those carmel rolls and wondered if it would be all right to have some if they left some money for them. However, they did not quite dare to do that, but they did buy the house that night!

Another pleasant smell that I remember as I was growing up, was the spicy smell of a fresh baked apple pie, or spicy cookies or cake. Today that smell can easily be duplicated with potpourri in an electric cooker, which scents the air with its various flavors. I kept two potpourri cookers going during those days of showing the house!

I'm also reminded of some other smells from childhood days. The smell of fresh turned earth, and the smell of freshly mowed clover, the crushed blooms and the cut stems caressing the air. Fresh mowed alfalfa smells nearly as good. I remember the smell of the blooming wild roses along the side of the road as I walked to and from school. In the spring apple blossoms not only looked pink, they even smelled pink. I remember some unpleasant smells as well....such as the metallic smell of the cast-iron range when the fire was too intense, and the smell of mittens drying on the heater in the dining room. Some of the outdoor animal smells were not pleasant, either. I milked the cows by hand before I went to school every day, and even though I always washed my hands more than once, and put on lotion, yet when I would get to my first class, which was a typing class, I could still smell that terrible smell on me. It was very embarrassing when I was with my girlfriends from town, who had nothing to do in the morning, but roll out of bed and get dressed for school. I also did not like the smell of the swill that we fed the hogs. This was a combination of the garbage from the house, and some ground feed. I did not enjoy the smell of the cornfield in the fall of the year. It had a pungent smell.

Do you remember the pleasant smell of fresh laundered clothes brought in from the clothes line? I loved the smell of the perfumed starch that we used for the men's shirt collars, and our dresses and aprons, as we pressed out the wrinkles with the sadirons that were heating on the back of the cook stove.

These thoughts make me wonder what smells the children growing up today will remember.....in these days of store-boughten baked goods, dryer dried clothes, which never have to be ironed, and progress has nearly done away with the wild roses we used to see blooming in profusion.



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611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, No. 4
June 1991

YOUR PRESIDENT'S UPDATE:

Since we have reached the mid point in the year, it is time to report to you what has been happening with the Fridley Historical Society. We have spent a lot of time resolving problems with malfunctioning security system, a lift, and the replacement of a dead tree. Your Board has been essentially a property management board. But all that "knock on wood" is behind us and we can go about doing what we looked forward to when we joined the Fridley Historical Society. That is collecting, preserving, and exhibiting of Fridley's history.

We welcome the Fridley Jaycees to the building. They will be using the coal room as an office. I don't need to remind Historical Society members that the Jaycees have put a lot of sweat into the renovating of the building. They sand blasted the outside, repaired and painted windows and gables, and repaired the front steps. They also met the \$7,500 challenge grant from the Fridley Lions. This enabled us to finally install the lift. They will be bringing in a computer, copy and FAX machines. The Fridley Historical Society will be able to use the copy machine and the computer.

David Nysteen, from the Minnesota Historical Society will be coming on June 10th. He will be there from 9 a.m. until noon to teach cataloging. PLEASE, any one who is available then, come and join us! There is so much to be done at the Museum and this is a start.

Only fifty-four members have paid their 1991 dues. Dues are one of the ways the Historical Society raises money to pay the bills. If you have not yet paid your 1991 dues, please do so now.

The Fridley Historical Society will be very much involved with the Fridley 49er Days. Look to the Fridley Focus 49er supplement for a schedule of our activities. We also need volunteers.

Have a great but safe summer, then come back with renewed energy to roll up your sleeves and join in the work of the Fridley Historical Society. Also start collecting your paper back books for our book sale in September.

MINNESOTA WINTERS- HOW COLD IT WAS

The weather may be sizzling hot, but now is a good time to cool off by viewing our latest exhibit on, "Minnesota Winters-How Cold it Was". This exhibit is on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society until June 25th. Come and see it!!

THINGS TO WATCH FOR:

There will be two articles in the Focus relating to the exhibit at the Fridley Historical Museum:

One is on the ledger of the original School District 23 and

The other is from the Minneapolis Journal of 1914 when David Price was convicted of the murder of his wife, the granddaughter of A. M. Fridley.

FAMILY HISTORY:

Bill Campbell has shared his history with us in this article.

In April 1944 our family added four more to the three hundred or so residents who populated the area known as Fridley, which then had no definite boundaries and was under township government. About one hundred or more homes were scattered throughout the area and only a handful of businesses were located here, mainly along East River Road, Old Central and University Avenues. Most of the land area was taken up by farm land that ranged in size from a few acres to several hundred acres. One of the larger farms was the Tipperary Farm, owned and operated by Clover Leaf Creamery Company. They also had two other farms that were considered part of Fridley.

We were employed to work on the Tipperary Farm. Their farm buildings were located on the south side of Mississippi Street about a short block east of the railroad tracks. The boundary of the farm itself included some hundreds of acres reaching from north of Rice Creek southward to about where 53rd Avenue is now located. The east line was University Avenue and the west line was the railway. There was one residential area in this farm land that reached from the present 61st Avenue to about 58th and from University Avenue to Main Street that was commonly referred to as "Dog-patch." The reason for this name can be realized in the type of homes there, one of which was two large truck van bodies fastened together. Both ends were opened in the summer, probably a much needed particular after a long closed-up winter. There were two houses that had dirt floors with old rugs and mats scattered about, and one place where an old bachelor lived for a while was a hole in the ground covered by old lumber and tar paper.

The farm land itself was divided into pasture, fields of corn, oats, alfalfa, and plain hay grass. Dispersed among some of the fields, as well as many other Fridley areas, was a plant that sticks in the memory, known as the sandbur. This weed was responsible for Fridley's second name, "Sandbur Gulch", which now is but a memory to those older Fridleyites.

Another residential area of just a few acres was located just north of Mississippi Street where Grandma Christianson lived. Grandma was a long-time resident of this area and the mother of the Christianson Boys.

The Farm was mainly dairy products. The cow barn held about fifty cows and the hen house was occupied by about fifty hens. The horse barn could take care of three teams plus room for oats, equipment and hay. About twenty to thirty pigs were raised here every year which were processed mainly for distribution among employees and farm owners. The house was a two story building that was occupied by two families, both employees of Tipperary. We milked on an average of thirty-five cows each morning and evening, seven days a week. After one year of employment employees got every other Sunday off and five days vacation. We interchanged work with the Northpole Farm and the Home Farm during crop harvest days. The North Pole Farm buildings were located along Rice Creek where Rice Creek Terrace and Monroe Streets intersect. The Home Farm was located in the area now occupied by the Georgetown Apartments.

We lived on this farm for nearly six years and later saw it slowly turn into residents and more businesses that later became the village of Fridley and then the City of Fridley.

THOUGHTS WHILE QUILTING

by Fern I. Moe

Greetings from Iowa!

I am finally getting out from under

a big pile of boxes. I am fortunate that the City of Newell has garbage pickup twice a week, and I am told that we pay for it whether we use it or not, and I have really gotten my money's worth, when I have been disposing of all these boxes.

We arrived in Newell just in time to see our local basketball team, the Newell-Fonda Mustangs win the state Class 1-A Championship. This win is a first state championship for this team. Out of the 26 games they played this season, they have won 25. When the Mustangs left for Des Moines the other day, they were escorted from the school parking lot by the Newell Police, the local Ambulance, and the four Fire Department vehicles....sirens wailing and lights flashing. The route was lined with signs bidding them a victory. Three miles from the town of Fonda, the convoy changed, and the Fonda Police, Ambulance, and Fire Departments replaced the Newell counterparts. There was seemingly no concern that these vehicles might be needed during that time, and, I guess they weren't. And Saturday morning, when the victors returned it was the same fanfare that they got. We live on an extension of the main street, and so had "ringside seats" for the parade.

What happens when a small town team suddenly finds that they will be going to the state tournament? Pandemonium...that's what! Pep rallies, window posters, road signs, bake sales, fireworks, you name it...it was all happening, faster by much, than many could keep pace with. Those who could, though, were having the time of their lives. One of the women here in town baked 15 decorated cakes, which were auctioned off, and brought an average of \$90 apiece. They brought in a total of \$1,350. Which reminds me,

our son-in-law attended a pork producers convention recently, and came home with a peach pie that he had paid \$120 for. It was delicious, too. That's how fund-raising goes in the small towns, folks.

As I write this, Mahlon has two days left of work in Minneapolis, and then will settle down to being a retiree. It's a scary feeling to think that we will be on a fixed income, that may not be sufficient in an emergency. He will have 2½ years until he is eligible for medicare, so we hope for good health. I am sure that retirement will not be a "do-nothing" existence for us. I already have more plans for myself for the next couple of months than there are days to accomplish them. I am teaching two cake decorating classes for the elementary students this week. I will have 44 students, and each will get a chance to try their knack at cake decorating. This is, of course, a volunteer job that I signed up for. I want to organize my material for teaching a quilting class. I am writing a recipe book for our family reunion this summer...including recipes from my grandmother and aunts, my mother, and some of my own. We will spend some time at our time-share apartment at Breezy Point in May, so will see how the fish are biting. It doesn't seem right that we'll have to purchase an out-of-state license this year!!! We look forward to lots of company this summer, too.

I want to express my thanks for the Proclamation, and the plaque, which was signed by Mayor Nee, and presented to me at the Feb. 11th meeting of the Fridley Historical Society. After arriving down here, I received a video tape of the presentation at the City Council

meeting from Bill Hunt, and I received pictures from Lil Meyer of the event at the Museum. They will be wonderful reminders of my days and years with you all.

One final thing...Char wrote that Ray Gerrity had passed away. It reminded me of those days when I was head cook at Hayes, and had to depend on Ray for so much lifting, etc. He was always so good-natured and always so willing to help me with things that I couldn't do myself. He has not enjoyed good health these last years, and it is good that his suffering days are over, but the thought of him being gone saddens me.

IN REMEMBRANCE:

The Fridley Historical Society is saddened by the death of a charter member and active volunteer, Jack Kirkham, who passed away on April 23rd. Jack had served as a judge at the April 6th Suburban History Contest at the Fridley High School. Both Jack and Corine have been faithful volunteers. We send our sincere sympathy to you, Corine, and your family. We will miss Jack.

This newsletter was assembled by Lillian Meyer

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10; Club and Church: \$20: Business: \$50

Mail to Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi St. N.E., Fridley 55432

Membership is from January 1st to December 31st

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MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 5, Aug. 1991

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

The Museum has been a resource for two individuals writing papers on the history of Fridley. Edna Anderson used some of our materials to assist her in writing the history of Redeemer Lutheran Church for their 75th Anniversary. Corrine Korzenowski Hawkinson is writing a history paper for a class at Metropolitan State U. Corrine went to kindergarten at the Museum (the old Hayes School), and had Miss Caussnow Mrs. Bob Barnett- as her teacher.

We encourage anyone writing history papers to use the Museum as a source for research.

Throughout the month of September some of the history classes at Middle School will be coming through the Museum. We need volunteers to guide them. Please volunteer!

Cataloging is well under way thanks to Michele Leigh, Grace Leigh and Sue Mis-kowic. They have been the evening crew. The day crew under the leadership of Jean Nelson will be starting soon. Those wishing to take part in this project can call the Museum at 571-0120 and leave you name. You will be contacted re date and time.

Michele Leigh did a fantastic job in assembling the current exhibit at the Museum. "Family Album" is on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society.

Rain forced a rescheduling of the annual Ice Cream Social from July 11th to July 25th. Many people heard the Fridley City Band play a wide variety of music, and at least 63 people viewed the exhibit in the Museum. It was a special evening for us because Rod Johnson was able to be with us. Also, it was great to have Marion Anderson and Charlie Johanson back with us.

Pearl Hicks was pleasantly surprised to see pictures of her Lanesboro relatives among the photos in the exhibit, "Family Album".



SEPTEMBER MEETING: BANFILL/LOCKE HOUSE

Learn the history of the Banfill/Locke House at our September 9th regular meeting! Mary Beverage, a member of the Fridley Historical Society, and a member of the Anoka County Historical Society will give us a look at what uses the Banfill/Locke House has had since it's constuction in the 1840's.

NOTE: NEW MEETING TIME...The time of the regular meeting will be 7:00 p.m. instead of the 7:30 p.m. in the past.

FAMILY HISTORY

From the Fridley Sun, Sept. 10, 1969.

The Gottwaladt farm home in Blaine was burned down last week and one of this area's oldest landmarks was eliminated. Its interesting history has been outlined for Sun readers in the following article by one of the members of a pioneer family: by Delores Engmark Larson.

Tears streaked down my mother's cheeks August 17 when the Gottwaladt farm was burned.

The home, located at 96th and Central was almost 70 years old and my mother, Mrs. Clifford Engmark, of 9454 Central Ave. N.E. was born in that house.

In 1892, Albert Gottwaladt and Amanda Nelson (of Sweden) were married at the Gottwaladt home, behind Sandees, in Fridley. After the wedding expenses were paid, \$1 was all the money that remained for the Gottwaldts to commence married life.

Fortunately there was a vacant farm in Fridley, so the newly wedded couple moved in. Since they had no money for paint, Amanda used white wash and blueing, usually used in chicken houses to clean the dirty walls. Their first son was born in that house.

The family moved to Blaine, and resided at the present Orchard Hill Farm owned by Amanda's brother, Charles Nelson.

Prior to the move, Mr. Nelson gave Amanda a calf and four chickens to take along. When

Amanda came to the Osborne railroad crossing, the calf jumped out of the buggy, but the plucky little five foot three inch Swedish woman pushed the gawky animal back into the vehicle just before a train passed.

The first home the Gottwaldts owned was purchased from a gambler who won it in a poker game. Before the land could be plowed, Albert and two other men chopped down the woods and removed the stumps with hand tools.

Amanda churned butter to sell in Minneapolis. Once a week she bridled her white pony and rode in the buggy to town. When autumn came, they sold potatoes in the city.

The family knew days of hardship but also enjoyed many happy times in the old home. For the few remaining to whom the home had meaning, it was sorrowful to see the burning, but, emotions must yield to progress, and since the land was idle, it must regain its usefulness.

Minnie Engmark (Gottwaladt) is the only living member of the Albert Gottwaladt family. Albert Gottwaladt passed away in 1931, and Amanda was killed in a tragic accident in 1933.

Charles Gottwaladt (former Blaine town clerk), and his wife Alma farmed the land until his death in 1954.

"FAMILY ALBUM" - CURRENT DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM

This display, on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society, includes photographs taken by roving photographers. This was a common practice between the years of 1870 to 1920. If you have not seen it, check it out! It will be at the Museum until September 21.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We are excited about some coming events in September. Put these on your calendar!!

Sept. 7: School District #14 is having an open house at the Community Center Building. We will have a room there and will need volunteers to tend the display.

Sept. 9: First regular meeting, BUT, an EARLIER TIME- 7:00 instead of 7:30 Monday evening. Mary Beverage from the Anoka County Historical Society will speak about the Banfill/Locke House.

Sept. 14: Annual Garage Sale. This year the Historical Society is having a used paper back book sale. Please look through your old books and donate any you can spare. There will be collection boxes at some of THE CHURCHES, City Hall, and the Senior Center. BOOKS ARE NEEDED!

Oct. 6: The Fridley Jaycees will be finger printing and photographing Fridley children from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Museum will be open and we will need volunteers to attend the Museum.

Oct. 14: Regular meeting. Amy Flacken and Emily Peak, two native American women from the Native American Center will speak.



...ANOTHER FAMILY HISTORY

John Lindstrom Johnson was born in Vekhur, Smaland, Sweden on March 16, 1844. He immigrated to the USA in 1872 and worked as a stone polisher in Quincey, MA. After three years, he had saved enough money to pay back his passage and to pay for the passage of his wife, Betsey, and their two small children,

Johanna and Gustave, to come from Sweden to Quincey. Three children, George, Dora, and Annie were born to the family there.

He bought a farm in Fridley, MN in 1881. The farm was 80 acres and was bordered on the east by Wood Lake (now called Spring Lake), on the west by what is now known as 'old 65', and on the south by what is now called Osborne Road. The family moved into the house in 1882. (The previous owners had been James and Harriet Wilson.) Purchase price of the farm was \$800 at 8% interest. The mortgage was paid in full in five years.

John was affectionately known as either 'Black Johnson' because of his dark hair and beard, or 'Wood Lake Johnson'. His brother, Peter, had a farm bordering on the north.

Five more children, Carl, Josephine, Oscar, John, and Elena 'Minnie' were born in Fridley. All 10 children attended School District #47, located on the corner of Radisson Road and Central Avenue (#65)

Previous Indian habitation of the area was evident because many Indian artifacts were found by the children.

Betsey and neighbor women (Mrs. Rongrud, Mrs. Christiansen, etc.) formed a Ladies Aid Society which was the foundation or forerunner of the present Fridley Lutheran Church of the Redeemer.

In 1916 after all the children were gone from home, the farm was rented out and a home purchased in Columbia Heights where Betsey died in 1917, and John died in 1919.

The original farm home was occupied up until 1985 when Mr. Smith, the owner, began demolishing it, preparing it for a fire drill for the Spring Lake Fire Dept.

Some of the grandchildren, too late, hoped to keep and restore the home. The fire consumed the house April 13, 1985.

Most of the descendants live in Minnesota, but some are scattered throughout the United States: Iowa, Wisconsin, California, Florida, Alaska, and Colorado.

The wonderful pioneer spirit that drove John and Betsey through many hardships to come to this country and steadfastly work and plan for the future of their children is to be commended and appreciated by us, their progeny.

Betty Theorin Hendrickson

REMINDER of the ANNUAL MEETING

The Fridley Historical Society's Annual Meeting will be on Monday, October 14, 1991 at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum.

Voting will take place for officers and board members for the coming year. We will also vote on any By-Law changes.

There will be a program also, so bring a friend and enjoy!

WISH LIST- If you have any items or skills contact the Museum!

Additional shelving

Filing cabinets

Battery operated wall clocks

Large doll that stands

Plumbing for the boy's bathroom

Tiling in the boy's bathroom (we have tile)

Hanging files for cabinet

More display cases

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone No. _____

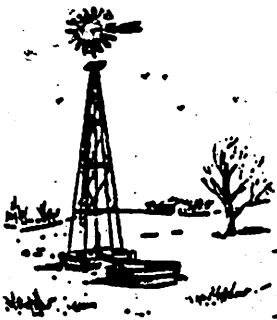
Address _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10; Club and Church: \$20; Business: \$50

Mail to Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi St. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432

Membership is from January 1st to December 31st

Editor: Lillian Meyer
Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi St. N.E.
Fridley, MN 55432



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 6, Oct. 1991

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

It was so good to see such a wonderful turnout for our Sept. 9th meeting. Mary Beverage's talk on the history of The Banfill/Locke House was very interesting and most informative. We thank her for her presentation.

Good News! The exhibit Family Album, on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society, will be with us until Oct. 7th instead of Sept. 21st as previously noted in the newsletter. If you have not yet seen it, make a special effort to do so. We are pleased that the middle school students will have an opportunity to view it.

The group coming into the Museum on Oct. 5th for the Fridley Jaycees' finger-printing and photographing of Fridley children will be able to see the exhibit.

The Fridley Jaycees are organizing a family fall festival. Watch the Focus for that story. Between 300 - 500 people are expected that day.

Just a reminder-PLEASE ATTEND THE OCT. 14th meeting. Amy Flacken and Emily Peak, two native American ladies will speak on the native American culture in this area. These are two very well known and highly respected members of the native American community.

Also -election of officers and adoption of amended By-laws will be held at that meeting. Please be there.

Char Fitzpatrick



DONATION

The Fridley Jaycees donated \$3800 to the Society so that a computer and a copy machine could be purchased. Thank you very much!! The copy machine has had a great deal of use already.

PRESERVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE!!! COME AND EXERCISE THIS WONDERFUL PRIVELEGE!!!

ANNUAL MEETING; October 14, 1991 at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum.

There will be election of officers and directors and voting on proposed changes in our By-Laws!!

PROGRAM: The Native American Culture in this area.

SPEAKERS: Amy Flacken and Emily Peak, two native American ladies who are very well known and respected in this area.

THOUGHTS WHILE QUILTING

by Fern Moe

We have had some warm or rather hot days this summer with lots of humidity. At night we usually turn off the air conditioning and open the windows, and then need only a sheet over us. Some nights we left the air conditioning on all night, as the temp didn't drop below 80, but the last couple of weeks the evenings have cooled off, and during the night I even hunted for the blanket for a little extra warmth. This is a reminder of fall approaching, and the winter ahead. Remember the heavy weight of covers we used to have on us before the electric blanket? When we would go to bed at night, mother would say, "Sleep tight." I used to think that it meant to snuggle down under the blankets and keep warm, but I recently found that that was not the original meaning of that expression.

In Colonial times, mattresses were suspended in bed frames by ropes. To sleep comfortably, it was necessary to tighten the ropes each night by using a huge, key-like device. The saying referred to firming-up the mattress ropes for a pleasant sleep.

This reminded me of some other expressions that we used to hear. Many of these everyday expressions have been around for 200 years, and today are really insignificant to the younger generation. For instance, at the end of a long hard day, we would say, "I feel like I've been put through the wringer." Kids nowadays would say, "Mom, what's a wringer?" Not being familiar with a washing machine with a wringer. Another expression was "chewing the rag." This meant arguing, and you may remember hearing about the woman who was always 'chewing the rag', and she died of lint on the heart. How about the expression 'beat to a pulp'..... Rags were the main ingredient in paper 200 years ago. They were soaked in water, then broken down to minute fibers by beating with stone or iron implements. The result was a pulp to make paper. Have you ever had to 'read between the lines?' Lined paper of long ago had wider spaces between the lines, and a person would

write from top to bottom on the page, and then turn it around upside down and write some more between the lines going the other way. The recipient had to be able to 'read between the lines' to get the full message.

'Pulling the wool over his eyes' originated in the 1700's in Colonial America when fashionable men wore wigs. The wealthier a man was, the greater his importance and the larger his wig. A bigwig was an influential or important person. If someone grabbed a fellow's wig and pulled it down over his face so he couldn't see, he'd had 'the wool pulled over his eyes.' A small, out-of-the-way place is often called a 'jerkwater town.' This expression comes from the early days of railroading when locomotives had to stop periodically for water for the boiler.

Well, I believe it is soon time to 'hit the hay.' This expression came from the days when the loft of homes had hay for cushioning the floor. As a child I remember sleeping in the loft of our two-room house, and our mattress was of hay. We spread the covers over the hay...no trick to making our bed in the morning, either!

The nursery rhyme, 'Hickory, dickory, dock' describes a common event in Colonial times. Clocks with oak gears weren't unusual. Animal fat was used to keep the wooden gears lubricated, but the scent attracted mice that would get inside and gnaw on the gears. To discourage the mice, most clocks had loud chimes or bells. When the clock would strike the hour or half-hour, mice inside were driven away by the noise.



FAMILY HISTORY

From "History of the Upper Mississippi Valley", submitted by Jenny Manley

John Sullivan, a native of Conk County, Ireland, is one of the oldest settlers now living in the town of Fridley. He was reared to farming pursuits, and has followed that occupation most of the time since. On the 29th of June, 1850, he landed in Boston, from the ship Parliament, and was employed in different portions of the eastern states until 1855, when he bought a piece of land in Pennsylvania, on which he resided about a year. In 1856, he came to Minnesota, arriving at St. Anthony on the 14th of October, which was his home for about seven years. Mr. Sullivan was married on the 20th of March 1850, to Miss Margaret Grady, of Ireland. The result of this union is twelve children, eight sons, and four daughters, all living.

Footnotes: In 1870, Manomin County became Manomin (later Fridley) Township, a part of Anoka County. Mr. Sullivan was a supervisor of the original Town Board.

Mr. Sullivan was my great-grandfather. The original Sullivan farm house, believed to be the oldest home in Columbia Heights still stands at 5037 Madison Street N.E.

I think the Sullivan clan is the oldest family living continuously in Fridley, (125 years). There are six or eight direct descendants of Mr. Sullivan still residing in Fridley.

Resignation: Due to the press of work at her job and at home, Marilyn Manley has resigned from the Board effective Oct. 1st. Even though she will no longer be on the board, she will assist with activities as her time allows. Thank you for your many years of devotion to the Society, Marilyn!

We are very fortunate that Corine Kirkham has agreed to fill the remainder of this 1991 part of Marilyn's term. Election to fill the remainder of her term (2 years) will be on Oct. 14 at the Annual Meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 5: Jaycees will be fingerprinting and photographing Fridley children. This will be from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oct. The first week we will be guiding 40 Fridley students per day through the Museum.

Oct. 14: ANNUAL MEETING in the Museum at 7:00 p.m. Election of officers. Speakers Amy Flacken and Emily Peak, two American Indian women speaking on the Native American Culture in this area. Invite your friends and family and neighbors to come to hear these very interesting women!



POT LUCK DINNER anyone?

Would you be interested in having a Pot-luck Dinner at our regular Nov. Meeting? This could be an informal dinner/meeting where people could tell stories of their Fridley experiences. Or, of their early parents' settling of this area.

What is your reaction to bringing some Christmas decoration to decorate the Museum? Would you be interested in stringing popcorn and cranberries as Holiday decorations?

Let Char or any board member know what you think of these ideas. Your suggestions are also most welcome.

Candidates for office

The Nominating Committee has presented this slate for election at our Annual Meeting in Oct.:

President: Char Fitzpatrick
V. President: Charlie Johanson
Treasurer: Jerry Johnson
Secretary: Corine Kirkham
Directors-Vote for 2. This office is
for a 3-year term:
Lillian Meyer
Fred Schultz

Director: Vote for 1. This office is
for a 2-year term:
Jerry Manley

Nominations will be open at our Annual Meeting
for every office. Nominations may be made
from the floor.

Marilyn Manley is chair of the Nominating
Committee.

In Memoriam

Two of our long-time members Walter
Mortenson and Gil Rivard have recently died.
We extend our deep sympathy to both of
their families. They were both strong sup-
porters of the Fridley Historical Society
and they will both be sadly missed.

WISH LIST:

Filing cabinets
Battery operated wall clock-any color
Public address system
Large doll that stands
Tiling in the boys' bathroom
(We have the tile)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone No. _____

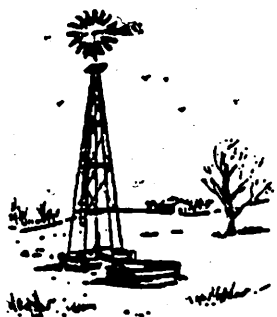
Address _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10; Club and Church: \$20; Business: \$50

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Editor: Lillian Meyer
Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi St. N.E.
Fridley, MN 55432



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Dear Members,

There will be election of officers at our ANNUAL MEETING on
October 14, 1991-a Monday night at 7 p.m. at the Fridley
Historical Society Museum.

The Nominating Committee has presented this slate of
candidates:

President: Chan Fitzpatrick

Vice-President: Charlie Johanson

Treasurer: Jenny Johnson

Secretary: Conine Kirkham

Directors: for 3 year terms (Vote for 2)

Lillian Meyer

Fred Schultz

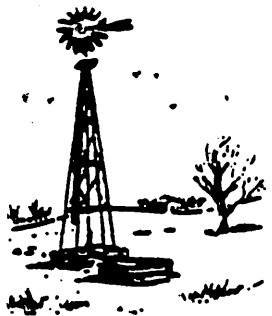
Director: for 2 years (completing the term of Marilyn Marley)

(Vote for 1)

Jenny Marley

Nominations will be open at the Annual Meeting for all of the
positions, and may be made by any member.

THERE WILL BE NO ABSENTEE VOTES- NO WRITE-INS. According to our By-Laws
only those present may vote.



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 7, Nov. 1991

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Over 600 people viewed the "Family Album" exhibit on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society. Also 160 Middle School students visited the Museum the week of Sept. 30th to Oct. 4th. They asked good questions and showed genuine interest. We reviewed the history of Fridley from the Grantsburg Glacier (Moore Lake is a remnant of the glacier) to the 50 families that came to Fridley in the middle 1800's and early 1900's. These families settled here, built the community and many of their descendants still live in Fridley

The students were really fascinated by this fact since they recognized many of the names as names of their friends.

I especially thank Ardy Chesney,

Chris Gerrety, Jerry Johnson, Corine Kirkham, and Bunty Shaw for being such excellent guides. They answered many questions. I might add here that one little girl asked Ardy Chesney about an object on the kitchen table. Ardy told her it was a Potato masher. The little girl looked at Ardy and asked, "Why would you ever want to mash potatoes?" Today mashed potatoes come in boxes.

We are in the last two months of 1991. I want to thank you for being so willing to volunteer when called upon. You have been so helpful and you have been called upon often. So, thank you all!

Char Fitzpatrick

NOVEMBER MEETING

POT LUCK SUPPER - bring your favorite food to share with others. Bring utensils, please

Where: at the Museum

When: Monday, November 18, 1991 at 6:00 p.m.

Program: Your stories of early days of your family or relatives here in Fridley

COME AND BRING YOUR SPOUSE or FRIEND and ENJOY!



THOUGHTS WHILE QUILTING

by Fern Moe

Autumn always brings thoughts of my growing up years, when we lived on a farm and had the work of the harvest. I enjoyed helping in the field, except when we were harvesting barley. Those barley beards would get into our clothing, cut our arms and legs, and were worse than miserable when a body got sweaty. Wheat and oats were not nearly so hard to deal with. We children would shock the grain after it had been cut and bound with a twine around the middle of the bundle by the machine called a binder. Shocking (called "stooking" in Canada) was done by standing 5 or 6 bundles together so that the grain would be upright to dry, and then laying another bundle over the very top of the upright ones to shed off the water in case of rain.

This fall we took our two grandsons to the Albert City Threshing Show. We were filled with nostalgia as we watched the old steam engines thresh the grain. The horses pulling the wagons full of grain bundles, and the water wagon were just as we remembered it to be, but the one thing that was not duplicated...the one thing that always went along with the harvest, was not even mentioned...the meal that was served to threshers at noon.

No one has eaten until he or she has sat at a threshing-dinner table. The Prince Regent of England is said to have hosted 32-course dinners. Farm women of the 40s would have considered him stingy. These women had been cooking for a couple of days, and early the morning of the day that the threshers were to be there, the neighbor women would arrive to help mother prepare for the big event. Soon we'd hear the deep boom coming, before we could see the big metal monster itself. There were the men

that owned and operated the rig, plus many of the neighbor men with their teams of horses and hay racks. It was dirty, sweaty, loud work, and it produced a harvest of appetites as well as of grain. A peck of potatoes and a 10-gallon crock of sauerkraut disappeared in 10 minutes. The meal always included four or five kinds of vegetables, two or three kinds of meat, homemade bread or buns, and always pies for desert. No one mentioned calories, or even thought of such a thing on that day. The women and the younger children, who didn't have jobs with the crew, waited to eat until the rest had been fed. There was also an afternoon lunch break in which the men were served gallons of ice cold lemonade, sandwiches, cakes and cookies.

When evening came the men climbed wearily into their hay racks, lay down, and the team of horses - or mules - took them home without direction. The following day would be a repeat of the last until all the grain from the whole neighborhood was in the bins. Then the owner of the threshing rig would move on to another neighborhood and another crew.

WISH LIST:

Filing cabinets
Battery operated wall clock-any color
Public address system
Large doll that stands
Tiling in the boys' bathroom
(We have the tile)

WARM FUZZIES

by Glonia Hayes

So many people to thank for their time and energy. Let's begin with the book sale: Char & Ed handled hundreds of books, picking up, unpacking and re-packing. Char even got the hives from musty books. Those working Fri. nite to set up tables and books were:

Archie Chesney, Char & Ed Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Frischmon, Chuck & Glonia Hayes, Jenny & Debbie Johnson, Sue Miskowic, Jenny & Marilyn Manley, and Conine Kinkham.

Volunteers for Sat. Book Sale were:

Edna Ask, Betty Bacon, Archie Chesney, Char & Ed Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Frischmon, Chuck & Glonia Hayes, Pearl Hicks, Conine Kinkham, Fred Schultz, Jenny & Debbie Johnson, Jenny Manley, Lillian Meyer, Mary Jo Savelkoul, and Wannan Woods.

Hosting our Historical Room at the Community Ed Center Open House were:

Char Fitzpatrick, Christine Gennity, and Lillian Meyer.

Thanks to Fred Schultz for all the times he has made a special trip to the Museum to raise our flags.

Sue Miskowic, Michele and Grace Leigh have been cataloging.

Thanks to Jenny Manley for putting up our fallen window & tightening another one.

The following members 'sat' the Museum from Aug. through Oct.:

Lillian Meyer-once; Glonia Hayes-3 times; Jenny Manley-7 times; Pearl Hicks-once; Chuck Hayes-once; Jenny and Debbie Johnson-once.

We had lots of folks working as guides at the Jaycees Fingerprinting Day. We had 128 adults with 161 children sign our book. We sold our left-over books for 10¢ each. Sold a lot of books! 397, making \$39.75 to add to our Book

and Garage Sale amount. Thanks to: Esther Campbell, Glonia Hayes, Pearl Hicks, Earl Johnson, Norma Johnson, Conine Kinkham, Jenny Manley, Sue Miskowic, Jean Peters, Mary Jo Savelkoul, Fred Schultz, Glen & Jeanne Theonin, and Wannan Woods.

Again, a big thanks to Char & Ed for all the book sale work and for the presentations she made for the school children's tours.

Thanks also to Jenny Johnson for picking up and returning our last display, "Family Album", from St. Paul at the Minnesota Historical Society.

Come and see our current display on loan from the MN Historical Society:

FARMING BY THE BOOK

There will be NO December meeting, but the Museum will be open.



Just a reminder: Membership renewals are due January 1, 1992. If you have not renewed, please do so. Our year runs from January 1st to December 31st

OCTOBER ANNUAL MEETING

Members voted to accept all the By-Law changes that had been recommended by the By-Laws Committee.

The slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee were elected by a white ballot. They are:

President: Char Fitzpatrick

Vice-President: Charlie Johanson

Treasurer: Jerry Johnson

Secretary: Corine Kirkham

Directors: (for 3 years)
Lillian Meyer
Fred Schultz

Director: (for 2 years)
Jerry Manley

We wish them a good year and will look forward to another interesting year!

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

If you would like to donate any Christmas decorations (home made are fine), please let a board member know.

We would like to have some decorations in the Museum over the holidays.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10; Club and Church: \$20; Business: \$50

Mail to Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi St. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432

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Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street N.E.
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 8, Nov. 1991

Especially to Our Members and Friends,

Bake sales, quilt raffles, garage sales, spaghetti dinners and membership money almost keep us operating, but there are no funds left over for display cabinets and other things we need.

We are asking our friends whose past and future we are dedicated to, and whose history we are trying to capture and preserve, to lend us some financial support which we are in desperate need of at this time.

As any donation and dues are tax deductible and it is near the year end, now is the time to pay dues and include a donation. Remember, the members that bring cakes for the sale pay for the material out of their own pockets.

The world is changing more quickly today than ever before, but, with your support, we can try and hold onto and capture some of the best and more memorable moments for our historical past.

Sincerely,

Fridley Historical Society

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Well, here we are at the end of 1991. Just a recap of the Fridley Historical Society's highlights for the year.

It was in Dec. of 1990 that we learned that Fern and Mahlon were moving to

Iowa. In Feb. we said a tearful good bye to the Moes and presented Fern with a plaque; she in turn, presented us with a beautiful quilted wall hanging.

(Continued on next page)

In Feb. we said thank you to our benefactors, those who gave \$100 or more, and unveiled the plaque hanging in the up-stairs hallway. It was also our first opportunity to show off our new meeting room.

In March we had our Lasagna Dinner and Silent Auction. Thanks to the hard work of Gloria Hayes, we netted \$1100.

Also, in March, the Jaycees approached the board asking for some office space at the Museum. The board agreed.

In May we had our annual spring bake sale at the Fridley State Bank which netted about \$170.

In June we took part in Fridley 49'er Days by selling ice cream and T-shirts during the parade. Thanks to our faithful vendors-Jerry M., Earl J., and Glenn T.- we netted about \$100. Our exhibit on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society, "Family Album," was set up at this time. We are pleased that in Sept. when it was returned, over 600 people had viewed it.

In July we had an ice cream social. The Fridley City Band held a concert on our front lawn that evening. About 70 people went through the Museum that evening.

In Sept. we had our book and garage sale. Thanks to Bob's Produce for including our flyers at the check-outs. This resulted in our getting thousands of books and a good attend-

ance at the sale. We netted about \$400.

Mary Beverage spoke to us at our Sept. meeting on the history of the Banfill/Locke House. About 40 people were fortunate to hear her presentation.

In Oct. Emily Peake, a well-known Native American advocate, spoke to us and encouraged us to find out who the early residents of Fridley were. That was our Annual Meeting and we had a very good turn out-about 50 people.

In Nov. we had our first potluck dinner and it was a big success! We will definitely repeat.

Now it is Dec. and we will have our annual Christmas Bake Sale on Dec. 14 at the Skywood Mall. Also, Lillie Meyer has been decorating the Museum for Christmas. There is a Christmas tree and all the toys- "TOYS OF YESTER DAY." Be sure you get over to see it. Bring your grand children. Lillie also set up the newest exhibit-on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society-called "Farming By the Book."

All of you have been so great in your willingness to help out. The success for the Society belongs to all of you! You can take credit for what is going on at 611 Mississippi Street.

Soooo....a Merry Christmas to you and a wonderful NEW YEAR!!

Char Fitzpatrick



Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!

The class of 1894, University of Minnesota, met for their Annual Meeting on May 25th, 1957 at the home of Roberta Pratt Locke. The following is from their minutes that day:

" We met at the appointed place and at once proceeded to the fine dinner Roberta had ordered for us. The list of those present is as below:

Class Members
Roberta Pratt Locke
C. H. Chalmers
Frank Maloy Anderson
Dr. Fred P. Strathern
Dr. Frank Manson

Guests
Mrs. Lorraine Chalmers Fenwick
Mrs. F. M. Anderson
Miss Judy Crabtree - Mascot
Miss Mary Lou Strathern
Jimmy Crabtree - Asst. Mascot and
Cheer Leader
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph

The dinner was a hearty and noisy affair. Not one moment was had with only one person talking. Some sober words but jokes and good stories and reminiscences galore, so the hour passed.

Then in our cars once more we drove to Roberta's open lands where 27 scout troops were camped out in her meadows and groves and all 600 of them enjoying the great outdoors.

Then back to Fridley and the dining room of President Roberta Pratt Locke and our class meeting and photo.

We have no shorthand report but each '94 present gave a good account of their acts for the past year. These little talks were well received and from the heart. The dark reaper has spared us all so the role is unchanged for once. J. B. Gilman fell a few days ago and spoiled his beauty. The shock was so bad Jim could not be with us. We missed him. After the meeting we talked of our blind friend at Anoka, Olive Graham Pratt, and four of us decided to at once drive to Anoka and visit her. So we went. Oh, such a joyous welcome. She was just wonderful to talk to and so glad we came. Her memory is good and she carried her infirmity with the utmost grace. We all love her.

Then we drove home - proud to be '94s.

We have no news from Classmate E. C. Bisbee, but he is still in the flesh and our hearts go out to him. He can not write of course.

We had six letters and here they are:

Una Pattee
Grace Van Valkenburg
Fred Strathern

F. M. Manson
Mrs. P. S. Kiehle
Walter Poebler

-Our special thanks to Marian Crabtree Zeddies who allowed us to copy this from her copy of the minutes!

In future issues we will include letters mentioned above.

BAKE SALE

Where: Skywood Mall

When: Saturday, December 14, 1991

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS or bring them along!!!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10; Club and Church: \$20; Business: \$50

DONATION _____

Mail to Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi St. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432

Membership is from January 1st to December 31st

Editor: Lillian Meyer
Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi St. N.E.
Fridley, MN 55432

