



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley MN 55432

February 2001

MIDWINTER POTLUCK

The Fridley Historical Society will have a midwinter POTLUCK Supper followed by an evening of BINGO with cash prizes on Monday, Feb. 12, 2001 at 6:00 pm.

It will be a fun evening. **BE THERE!!**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As most of you are aware, we have recently had a change of officers and a board member of the FHS. Char Fitzpatrick had an accident at home and is recuperating. She has resigned. The vice president has also resigned.

The Board of Directors, to fill the existing vacancies, has appointed Jerry Manley as vice president, Jeanne Peter to fill the board vacancy and myself as president. We have agreed to serve until the next election.

Due to all our busy schedules, and, because all members should be involved, we will be reaching out to members. This is your organization. Think about it and feel free to give me a call at home with your ideas anytime between 8 am and 3 pm and after 7 pm at 763-571-3493.

We will be calling all members before each board meeting and each membership meeting. The Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm. The Membership Meeting is the second Monday. Please come!

Read your newsletter for information. It will have a new format and be written by several members. Please mark your calendars.

Suzanne Miskowic
President

TREASURER'S THOUGHTS

Our treasurer is currently basking in the warm weather down south, so I will replace his column with mine as I am acting treasurer.

I am sure you all had "sticker" shock when you opened your heating bill from last month. So did I when I opened the Reliant Energy bill for the museum. In 1999 our December bill was \$148.42; for the same month in 2000 it was \$332.74! Quite a change!

This kind of increase will affect our yearly expense budget of \$14,500. Let's hope the weather will be kind for the remainder of the year.

Lillian Meyer

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

December 9, 2000

On Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000, the FHS hossted the 9th Annual Kindergarten Open House at the Museum. Three hundred people, including 163 children were our guests. Seventy-five of the children were kindergarten students.

Our staff included: Jerry Manley and Phil Novack - greeters at the front door; Elaine Reitter - receptionist in the East Room; Bonnie Novack - docent in the East Room; Jeanne Peter - photographer in the schoolroom; Corine Kirkham and Paula Griebel - docents in the schoolroom; Lillian Meyer - photographer down stairs; Janet Herrmann - docent downstairs; Suzanne Miskowic, Agnes Shaw, Esther Campbell, Mary Sue Meyers - refreshment committee.

Three Fridley schools participated in the event: Hayes Elementary, Stevenson Elementary and North Park Elelmentary. Paula Griebel, kindergarten teacher at Hayes, and Janet Herrmann, kindergarten teacher at Stevenson, assisted our members by being docents. Kathy Peacock, kindergarten teacher from Stevenson, also helped for a little while.

Forty-five dozen cookies were provided by many members.

It was a successful event with one-third of the invited kindergarten students in attendance. I wish to say a big "Thank

you!" to everyone who participated in some way at this event: students, teachers, parents, and staff and society members.

The art projects the students did were colorful, well done, and much appreciated by everyone who viewed them.

Jeanne Peter

MANLEY'S MUSINGS

It has been a busy winter at the Museum in regard to building maintenance and improvements.

In December we had Care Air Conditioning and Heating of New Brighton come and service both furnaces and humidifiers. I spent the better part of two days there as the serviceman was in and out. Then in January the rear door had to be replaced because of accidental damage that occurred during furnace work. We replaced the wood door with a much stronger steel security door. Locating, ordering and installation of the door involved another long day. After the door had been installed as ordered I replaced the double-deadbolt security lock with a single-deadbolt outside, lever handle inside for ease of opening from the inside. Half of another day. Since then I've been trying to locate the source of a small water leak in the furnace room.

Better days are ahead, I hope!

Jerry Manley

MUSEUM IMPROVEMENTS

Over the last year we have made many changes to the FHS Museum building. All of the windows and exterior doors have been replaced. The old windows were in very bad shape and were not very energy efficient. The new windows and doors are a great improvement. We had the walls of the two main rooms on the upper level painted. The ceilings in those rooms were also painted and any cracks were patched. The front steps were in bad condition so we replaced them and had new railings installed.

We are still planning on doing more in the near future. The next improvement is to replace the window shades. We have already received bids on the shades and we will be making a decision on them soon. If finances permit it we would like to restore the wood floors in the front entry and the two main rooms in the upper level. They are currently covered by rubber matting and tile. The wood floors would not only look better but they would also be a return to how the building originally appeared.

None of this would have been possible without the grant we received from the state of Minnesota and the fund raising by the members of the FHS.

Mel Manley



COMMENTS by Gloria

Our next CASINO trip is Feb. 21 to Turtle Lake. We are now picking up a few more people from our membership to go along with us. Everyone has a good time - it's become a get together for breakfast and lunch and a chance to catch up on what's new with your friends. The food is great and inexpensive too!

So it's not all gambling but rather a fun day out and about. One of our "regular" trippers had her name drawn for \$1000! We always go on the 3rd Wednesday.

The casino trips are an established event and a necessary item for our success. It is important for us to fill the bus (49 people) each time.

If anyone has an idea for us to earn money, please call me at 763-571-3727. Even if you don't wish to be involved, just an idea could be developed into a fund raiser.

The LASAGNA DINNER will be Sat., April 21 at the Fridley Community Center. Bob's Produce will be our caterer again and I'm sure you all remember how good his lasagna was last year.

Last summer Char and I came up with a solution that will make sure the raffle tickets will be well mixed.

Gloria Hayes

The REFERENCE ROOM

As mandated by the Board of Directors at the Jan. 4th board meeting, "The Reference Room Committee" in charge of setting up our new reference room, a new filing system, and the cataloging of our museum artifacts was reinstated by the board.

This committee consists of board members Jeanne Peter, Elaine Reitter, and Pete Bonesteel. Doris Bergman is expected to be a part of the committee. Irv Peter has volunteered to work with the committee and we hope Jerry Reitter will also join our group.

Some work has been done on the new

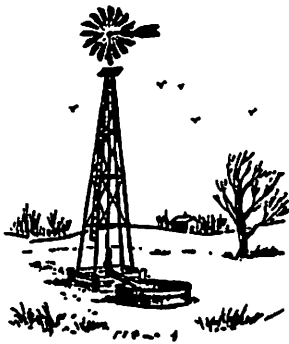
reference room - mostly by Jeanne and Irv. Now that we are moving ahead with this project, we will begin looking into the purchase of the two four-drawer legal size file cabinets whose purchase was authorized by the board last fall.

Our committee will hold its first official meeting and work session on Tuesday, Jan. 30th. A director for our committee and a work schedule will be set up at this meeting.

The president if a member pro tem of this committee.

Pete Bonesteel

*Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley MN 55432
763-571-0120
Lillian Meyer, Editor*



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611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter

Vol. 14, No. 2 March 2001

MARCH MEETING

When: Monday, March 12

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Fridley Museum

Program: Jerry and Elaine Reitter
will share their experiences of
a very recent trip to Australia
and New Zealand through words
and photos.

Both are very enthusiastic people
who, we know, will make an
excellent presentation.
Come and bring your family and
friends!!

*like to collect a prize, give a gift certificate
or be a sponsor, call me at 763-571-3493.
All gifts should be above \$10.00.*

*Our new window shades are up and
working. You will be proud of your
museum. Thanks to Mel Manley for getting
the job done quickly following the board's
approval of a contractor.*

*The membership meeting, which will be held
on March 12, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. will be
hosted by Jerry and Elaine Reitter who will
chat with us and show pictures, etc. of their
latest trip to Australia and New Zealand.
This will be followed by refreshments.
Please plan on being there.*

*Our Bingo Nite at the February meeting met
with an enthusiastic response. We'll do it
again! Kudos to Jerry and Elaine Reitter.*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*My first month on the job. Phew!! Your
board of directors have all been so busy
doing their separate volunteer work. Look
through your News Letter for the exciting
reports and news.*

*Be certain to read Gloria's report on the
LASAGNA DINNER, April 21, 2001, mark
your calendars and buy tickets!*

*Board members are actively involved in
acquiring, even as I write this article, prizes
for the Lasagna Dinner. If any of you would*

*At our next board meeting we are to be
shown final plans for the kitchen
remodeling. Chuck Hayes and Jerry Manley
have been hard at work with Gloria Hayes
directing. Won't be long now.
If you haven't paid your dues as yet, please
do so before the end of March, otherwise it
will be necessary to drop you from our
mailing.*

*We are planning new and interesting
programs and events for the following
months. Please remain active and volunteer
your services.*

Suzanne Miskowic

MANLEY'S MUSINGS

In February Chuck Hayes and I were busy remodeling the kitchen area. We repaired the kitchen cabinets that were donated to the Society by a member, Ed Meyer. Some had been damaged in the process of removal from his own kitchen.

After being repaired, we began installation. Thus far we have set up the sink cabinet and installed the countertop and sink. We hung the cabinets over the sink area. Next we put in the cabinet that the microwave ovens will set on.

At this writing we haven't had the sink plumbed or installed the microwave counter top. We are waiting for board approval to spend additional funds. We hope to get the rest of the cabinetry hung in the next couple of weeks.

Following that we will improve the lighting with a couple of 8 ft. fluorescents and paint the floor. By the end of March, the kitchen should be done.

If you would like to help with the lighting or painting, please call Chuck 763-571-3727 or me, Jerry 763-571-6963. "Many hands make light work"

Jerry Manley

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

As you read about the activities at the museum you notice some of these involve large expenditures. As you may remember, the legislature granted the FHS funds to renovate the museum. These are the monies we are using for much needed renovations. We are extremely grateful to our legislators who worked hard to get this grant!

*Lillian Meyer, Acting
treasurer*

REFERENCE ROOM

The reference room and acquisition committee met three times during the month of February, and was happy to welcome both Jerry Reitter and Doris Bergman as active members of the committee.

A large number of new files have been set up for the new reference room; however, the committee urgently needs additional file drawers and a portable room heater as there is no heat available in this room.

Pete Bonesteel

GRANT UPDATE-FHS Museum Improvements

The shades for all twelve large windows in the museum were replaced last month by Sherwood Shades of Minneapolis. The old shades were in bad shape. Some of them did not work and others were missing. The new shades enhance the appearance of the museum.

This spring we will be working on replacing the flagpole on the front lawn. The current one is in very bad shape and must be replaced.

In the future we would like to take out the rubber matting in the museums entryway that covers the original wood floor and then have the wood floor refinished. This would greatly improve the appearance of the entryway. We would also like to remove the tile flooring that covers the original wood floors in the two main rooms in the upper level of the museum and then refinish the wood floors. But due to the high costs associated with that large an area, that may not be possible.

Mel Manley

SOCIETY MEETINGS

In February we had a potluck dinner and bingo. A good crowd attended and had a great time eating a variety of delicious foods. After dinner we played bingo and everyone enjoyed the game and prizes.

In April, don't forget our 11th "ANNUAL LASAGNA DINNER". The date is April 21st. We will also have a raffle. Fantastic prizes will be given away to the lucky ticket holders. Please plan on attending.

Elaine Reitter

49er DAYS HIGHLIGHTS

The Fridley 49er Days Festival Committee had their first meeting in January to start planning for this years events. The Festival will be held from Wednesday, June 13 - Sunday, June 17. There will be a multitude of activities for people of all ages. Some of the highlights will be a teen video dance on Wednesday evening, and senior bowling, senior barbecue, run for fun and Lions Parade on Thursday. There is always quite a crowd for this event. This year the parade will be held, rain or shine.

On Friday there will be a craft sale, softball tournament, senior cribbage and "500" tournaments and a street dance featuring the **White Sidewalls**. The Make-a-Wish horseshoe tournament, Bingo, craft sale, fire department extrication competition, miniature golf, street dance with the **Rockin' Hollywoods**, and a volleyball tournament are some of the events planned for Saturday.

On Sunday it is hoped that another community barbecue will be held. The Miss Fridley Scholarship Pageant will be in the evening. The carnival will run on all of these days, and a food court will be set up from Friday through Sunday. Most of the events for 49er Days will be held this year at Columbia Arena. A

complete schedule of events will be published in a future issue.

Mary Sue Meyers



LASAGNA DINNER

FUND-RAISING

Our February Turtle Lake Casino trip was our smallest number due to illness and falls. We had only 42 going compared to our regular 49. The March 21st trip has 5 tickets available, so there is still time to get one.

The **LASAGNA DINNER** will be April 21 at the Community Center on 7th and 61st Streets. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:00 p.m. Dinner is Lasagna

Tossed salad with dressing

Bread

Dessert

Coffee & orange drink

Cost is \$7.00 (tax included & no tipping!)

A very good buy plus live music!

Please come to the March 12 membership meeting to pick up your dinner tickets

BoB's Produce Ranch is our caterer again this year. You all remember how good the lasagna was and what large portions were served!

Gloria Hayes

TORNADO MEMORIES

Something exciting will take place next year. The Minnesota Historical Society will be having a display on weather including the Fridley tornadoes of 1965. The Minnesota Historical Society already borrowed several of our tornado photos this past week in order to copy them.

We need your help. We are looking for film (any size) that was taken of Fridley either at the time of the tornadoes or that was taken of the devastation that resulted. If you have or know anyone who has such a film the Minnesota Historical Society would like to

copy it and possibly use it with their display. Please contact Lillian Meyer at 763-571-5328. We are thrilled that Fridley will be represented in this display.

Another activity your local society is anticipating is to have at one of our monthly meetings at the museum where people can talk about their memories of their personal experiences during the tornadoes. We expect to tape this session and refer to it for more individual stories of that frightening experience.

Lillian Meyer

**Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120
Editor: Lillian Meyer**



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611 Mississippi Street NE
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Members' Newsletter

Vol. 14, No. 3 May 2001

Share Your Memories of Fridley *A panel of six will tell their stories/memories of Fridley*

*Norma Johnson, Elizabeth Frischmon, Edna Ask
Herb Bacon, Glenn Theorin, Jerry Manley*

You, too, are invited to do the same!

*Monday, June 14, 2001 at the Museum
7:00 p.m.*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Your Board of Directors is pleased to report another successful Lasagna Dinner event. Prizes were plentiful - it was a pleasure to see all the happy faces. Everyone present had a really fine time. Special thanks to all the volunteers who made this event possible.

At our May Membership Meeting we will be hosting a "Share Your Memories of Fridley" evening with old friends. Refreshments will be served and memories shared. Please join us and enjoy. You must have memories to share as well. There will be no Membership Meeting in June or July. Summertime is almost here.

On August 13 the Historical Society is having its Sixth Annual Festival and Quick Steps

Baseball Game. Mayor Scott Lund has agreed to play on our team. If any of you are feeling athletic please call our office and leave your name and number. We'll return your call.
YOU ARE NEEDED!!!

The Fridley City Band will again play prior to the baseball game and the Fridley Fire Department, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary, will be present in all its glory.
Mark your calendars!

To keep you up to date on some volunteer work, Jerry Reitter has set up a schedule for this spring for delivery of our mighty Tornado Display - April 16 through May 25 - to all six schools in Fridley. It is being well received.

Remember to consider the ongoing casino trips. They are our lifeline. We will be

looking forward to seeing those of you who are interested in going to our new destination - Hinckley - on the 3rd Wednesday, May 16. Call Gloria for reservations.

The renovation of the Museum continues. Look for news by Mel Manley in this newsletter and come visit. This is your museum and we sincerely want all of you to be proud of it. The Acquisition Committee is actively seeking the histories of Fridley families. If you have a written history, please let us know or, if not, an appointment can be easily arranged for you to be interviewed. Call me for details at 763-571-3493. Also, if you have artifacts you would like to donate, that can be arranged with a call.

Suzanne Miskowic

MANLEY'S MUSINGS

The kitchen remodeling project is complete! With the cabinetry and plumbing all installed, I hung two 8 ft fluorescent lights and painted the floor white to match the walls. It made the whole room 100% brighter, but the floor will have to be kept clean!

Chuck Hayes will be painting the new back door and the trim sometime in the next week or so. Thanks, Chuck.

There is still work to be done, moving the back door threshold out to properly match the new door, clean out the attic and remove unnecessary wiring, repair and paint our sign at the street, etc.

If you can help with any of the work listed, call Chuck (763-571-3727) or me, Jerry (763-571-6963) as there is plenty of work for everyone. Chuck and I would appreciate your help.

Jerry Manley



COMMENTS BY GLORIA

Annual Fund Raiser dinner

Our 11th Annual Lasagna Dinner Gala is over for another year. A good time was had by all - great atmosphere, great food, wonderful friends and big expectations for the 74 raffle items.

This dinner is our only fund raiser in which each member can participate in some way. We want to thank you all for your help.

We did not do as well as last year (our all-time record) even though we had more raffle items. I think our new way of drawing names for raffle items should help us sell more raffle tickets next year.

Casino Trips

We are now making trips to Grand Casino Hinckley May 16 and June 20. Our stay is for 4 hours - the same as it was at Turtle Lake. PLEASE JOIN US!

Gloria Hayes

HISTORY



From the Anoka County Union of Wednesday, August 3, 1892:

"GREAT DAMAGE"

- Last week Tuesday night's storm raises havoc with growing grain.
- C.J. Swanson of Fridley, sustains a heavy loss in his brick yard.

Last week Wednesday the Union published a short item concerning the storm of the night before, which raged eight long hours, depositing 7.82 inches of water, and spoke of the damage to grain fields in our locality, but the enormity of the damage was never dreamed of until late Thursday afternoon, when your reporter interviewed several prominent farmers in this and Hennepin counties. In Hennepin County, on the heavy land (and almost all the soil in the northern part of the county is heavy bottom land), not an acre of grain will be cut. The rain pounded the growing crops into the earth, not in one direction, because at first there was little wind, but broke it every way. It presented next morning a twisted, turned, broken, flat mat, with which nothing can be done... In Hennepin County the loss is between 5 and 10 thousand acres, an amount frightfully enormous.

The condition in Anoka County is better, but very bad for hay. Many acres of small grain was spoiled entailing a heavy loss. Several fine corn fields were broken by the wind which howled about 12:30. Crooked Lake, in ten hours, rose fourteen inches by measurement, but fell seven inches next morning. From this fact the condition of the meadows can be approximated. In conversation with Anoka County farmers last week, your reporter learned that several thousand acres of hay would have to remain uncut as the machines could not go onto the wet and flooded bogs. The importance of this statement lies in the fact that hay will command a big figure all winter. Probably the heaviest individual loser in the county was C.J. Swanson of Fridley. His brick yards received a good many gallons of water, and the damage to brick, clay, machinery sheds, etc. will be over \$3000, he told a reporter. As was stated last week the lightning was something wonderful and played in the heavens incessantly, while the rumble of thunder was continuous..."

from a copy from the newspaper in the Anoka County Historical Society's files

MUSEUM IMPROVEMENTS

Thanks to the generosity of American Legion #303, we will be replacing the flagpole at the Fridley Historical Society Museum in May. The flagpole we have now is in terrible shape. It is covered in rust and needs to be replaced. Victory Corps will remove the old flagpole and replace it with a new flagpole.

Our next improvement will be the installation of new oak floors in the two main rooms on the upper level of the museum. These two rooms have black and yellow tiles covering the original wood floor. We checked into the removal of the tiles and refinishing the original wood flooring. Due to concerns over the problems with the removal of tiles containing asbestos we decided to install a new wood floor on top of the tile floor instead.

We are also planning on doing the floor in the entryway. All this is financially possible because of the money given to us by the Legislature.

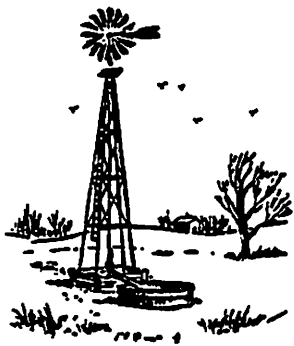
Mel Manley

PRIZES, prizes, prizes:

We have received 3 more raffle prizes. These will be given to 3 lucky people at our May meeting.



*Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Lillian Meyer, Editor*



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE

Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter

April 2001

LASAGNA DINNER

*Saturday, April 21, 2001
Fridley Community Center
61st and 7th Street*

Doors open at 4:30, Dinner at 5:00

Come and bring your family

The PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This Newsletter is relatively short because - take a look - raffle tickets are enclosed for the discriminating persons who certainly will want to purchase and/or sell and ask for more. Be sure to buy whether you can come or are unable to attend your 11th Annual Lasagna Dinner on April 21, 2001. Dinner tickets are just \$7.00 - plus entertainment - and all those great prizes.

And wouldn't you know! Just when everyone felt everthing was really looking up - our donated kitchen cupboards, new sink, lights, etc., all installed by Jerry Manley and Chuck Hayes - the plumbing in the lower area decided to quit and back up. It took Roto Rooter to tunnel through 180 feet of line - to clear. They promise we're good for many years to come - to the tune of way over \$500.

You all know we are not equipped financially to incur that typeof expense as we are totally dependent on you - our followers. So, I would like to nudge you just a bit. I'll make a donation toward this expense. Will you follow me with a donation of your choice to help pay for this? Your society will be forever grateful.

All in all, I'm so pleased that everyone has closed ranks and is so cooperative and helpful since I came on board. Honestly, I'm overwhelmed. In all my endeavors as a volunteer, I really feel I'm part of the Family of Fridley. When you are in the last phase of your life, it's a lasting comfort. Follow me, help me make the Fridley Historical Society a lasting memorial for all of us.

Suzanne Miskowic

COMMENTS by GLORIA

The 11th ANNUAL LASAGNA DINNER, April 21st at the Fridley Community Center at 5 p.m. is upon us!

Please order your tickets as soon as possible. There are 3 options for getting your tickets for the dinner and for our raffle:

- 1) Send a check with a self-addressed stamped envelope to me at 840 W Moore Lake Drive, Fridley 55432**
- 2) Send a check and tickets will be held in your name at the door.**
- 3) I will be at the Museum Thursday, April 5 for our board meeting. Tickets can be purchased at that time. If you wish you may send your raffle tickets & check to the museum, or you may send your raffle tickets with your check to me. For your dinner tickets, please send a separate check. (Hint: use your return address labels on the raffle slips as it is so much easier!)**

We had such a successful Dinner and Raffle last year - you probably remember the decorations, live music, the 66 raffle items with a value over \$2000 and the great food! The lasagna was so good and pieces soooo.. big!

We want it to be even better this year! We have a big challenge. Last year we sold 193 dinner tickets and served 176. We made

**\$520.85 on dinner tickets
138.00 on baseball tickets
1904.00 on raffle tickets
340.00 on donations**

\$2902.85 Grand Total

We've got a great list of Raffle Items - and it helps a lot to have a list of them to show when you're selling the tickets. More raffle tickets can be obtained from a board member (or call Lillian Meyer at 763-571-5328). Don't hesitate to ask for more!

CASINO

Our March 21st Turtle Lake Casino trip was very successful! Our bus seats 49 so feel free to join us on our next two casino trips.

For May and June (3rd Wednesdays) we'll be going to Grand Casino Hinkley. Lots of folks wanted a change. We "hear" the food is great and inexpensive. The machines are "looser" and the ride is about 15 minutes longer. Call me for tickets at 763-571-3727.

Gloria Hayes



RAFFLE ITEMS for 2001

Embers	4 Tickets	\$20.00
Papa Murphy's Pizza	2 Tickets \$8.95	17.90
Green Mill Shorewood	Gift Certificate	20.00
Bridges Golf Course	2 Rounds	24.00
Hayden Hills Golf Course	2 rounds	26.00
Money - Phil and Bonnie Novack		50.00
Orchestra Hall-Salute to Broadway	2 tickets	56.00
Shorewood Inn - One Gyros Dinner		15.00
Joe DiMagio's Bar	Gift certificate	15.00
Joe DiMagio's Bar	Gift certificate	15.00
Sandee's Restaurant	Lunch for Two	15.00
Wells Fargo - Fridley	U.S. Savings Bond	50.00
Wells Fargo - Fridley	U.S. Savings Bond	50.00
Twin City Fed.	6 piece Kitchen Utensil Set	20.00
Twin City Fed.	6 piece Kitchen Utensil Set	20.00
Melinda Manley	Pillsbury School Bus	20.00
Melinda Manley	Pillsbury Truck	20.00
Lillian Meyer	2 Stainless Mugs	20.00

This is only a sample list of items available on our raffle

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Lillian Meyer, Editor





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Members' Newsletter

Vol. 14, No. 4 June/July 2001

Sixth Annual August Fest

For a fun, different evening plan to come to your August Fest on **Monday, August 13, 2001**. Activities include:

Fridley City Band 6:00 -7:00

Fridley Fire Department with an engine on display

Old-fashioned baseball game 7-8:30.
(Use rules of 1857)

Refreshments in the Museum after the game.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The big event of the summer is the continuing of the Society's August Fest August 13 (on our grounds). The Fridley City Band will entertain us from 6 pm to 7 pm followed by our return visitors, the "Quick Steps" who will play baseball according to rules from the early 1900's. Our baseball team will star our very own Mayor, Scott Lund. The Fridley Fire Department, who are celebrating their 50th year, will be on hand with a fire truck also.

On a par with wonderful things happening to us - we were contacted by the Minnesota Historical Society regarding Fridley as a prioritized "special" on a project they are working on. This "special" will be a group of families who will be show-cased giving their experiences of the night of the 1965 tornado. According to instructions from the Minnesota Historical Society, we researched families and persons involved that fateful night. A meeting was held this month at the Minnesota Historical Society with all persons - those who lived through the tornado and the staff of the MHS. A taping session took place. It was, at times, heartbreaking but what an experience!

The tornado exhibit, along with the Fridley experience, will go on display about the middle of January 2002 at the Minnesota Historical Society. It will run for a period of five years. Listed below are the brave people who related their experiences of that never-to-be forgotten nite:

Robert Aldrich	Tom Myhra
Robert Christenson	Pauline Woulfe
Mr. and Mrs. Art Dwelly	
Mirth Langer	

We will be hosting a special night this fall in order for our membership to meet and talk with these persons.

Our own Fridley Tornado Exhibit which has

been on display at six schools in Fridley has been returned to our museum. Thanks to Jerry Reitter for this handsome job with his helper Lillian Meyer.

This has been quite a summer! The renovation of your museum is almost complete. New floors have been laid in each of the upstairs rooms. The front hallway is also complete. We have yet to clean everything and move our articles back in place. The museum will reopen soon. We will advise as soon as possible. Plan on seeing this renovation. You will be pleased.

Casino continues, as you know. There will be NO casino trips in July or August, but we will resume again in September. We are always looking for new and old friends. Join us!

Suzanne Miskowic

REFERENCE COMMITTEE

The "Acquisitions Committee" is very happy to report that an excellent donation of four items from the original "Holy Trinity Episcopal Church" when it was then located on East River Road and Mississippi Street. This large donation was made possible by the generosity of the Ken Sobiech family of Fridley. In addition to two large framed documents there was also a large wooden plaque with individual brass nameplates and even the name "Laura Fridley" in large letters. The fourth item consisted of a large wooden type cabinet which folded open from the center and featured a large piece of marble with five crosses etched into the marble.

Peter Bonesteei



MANLEY'S MUSINGS

Since last month's report by yours truly, Chuck Hayes painted the back door and frame white to match the existing trim. We had had a rust problem.

I painted the street-side museum sign and hung a new "hours open" sign below it. Both were in bad shape.

Chuck and I also measured and located the existing sewer line from the street hook-up to where it enters the building for future reference.

All the unusable electric wiring in the attic will have to be pulled this summer. If you would like to help, call Chuck at 763-571-3727 or me at 763-571-6963.

Jerry Manley

HISTORY

*From: "Fridley, Our Home Town" by Emma Christenson
Carlson*

..."John Banfill was the original settler and proprietor of the town, having made his "claim" here in 1847. His was the only cabin grown to a respectable size when first I visited the spot, but long since

' City lots were staked for sale
Above old Indian graves.'

So what is Fridley now, was called Manomin in those early days, and what was attributed as legend was evidently true, that Fridley at one time had been an old Indian burying-ground, and that later when the land boom came the graves were disregarded and the land platted into lots and put for sale.

Among the first to follow the early explorers into this new region were the missionary ministers of the various denominations that came from the East and South. There was Rev. Dr. Williamson, Baptist, who came from North Carolina in 1824 to "Little Crow" Village to serve the Sioux Mission there.

A little later in the St. Paul area we learn of the activities of Rev. Gear and Rev. Close, Methodist, Deacon Cavendar and Rev. Bradley, Baptist, Rev. E. D. Neill, Presbyterian, and Rev. Breck, Episcopal. In 1834 we find the Pond Brothers, Rev. Gideon and Rev. Samuel, Presbyterian working among the Indians from their little mission between Lake Harriet and Lake Calhoun. In the 1850's the Episcopal missionary minister, Rev. J.S. Chamberlain, served St. Anthony and the Manomin

Mission. Since Holy Trinity Church in the town of St. Anthony was consecrated in 1850, we can assume that this was his field.

It is asserted that the Manomin Mission, or St. Mark's Manomin, as it was called, was in existence in 1848. The earliest records were lost in a fire in later years at Holy Trinity Church in South East Minneapolis.

Available records show that the Mission went into decay, and that a new chapel was built on the old site, under Rev. Chamberlain in 1858. It was consecrated as Holy Trinity Chapel on July 25th, 1858, by Bishop Jackson Kemper, who was then the missionary bishop for the States of Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The following year, on October 13, 1859, Henry Benjamin Whipple became the first Episcopal Bishop of Minnesota and served in that capacity till September 1, 1901. The Chapel was under his jurisdiction during that time. Today it stands as the oldest land mark in Fridley which reflects the events of the past."

CASINO TRIP

Our next casino trip will be on Wednesday, June 20th to Hinckley. We are sold out for now! Be sure to use your plastic players card when you go.

Gloria Hayes

GRANT UPDATE-FHS MUSEUM IMPROVEMENTS

New floors have been installed in the two main rooms upstairs and in the entryway. The original floors in the museum were wood but over the years they had been covered. Upstairs yellow and black tiles that were in terrible shape covered the floor. In the entryway black matting covered the floor. The new wood floors look beautiful.

The state grant has allowed us to make many important improvements to the building. The changes have greatly improved the appearance of the museum. Just as important, the changes have helped to restore the museum to be closer to the way it was originally. Listed below are some of the improvements we have made with

the grant money:

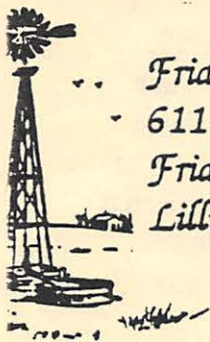
- . Replaced every window in the museum.
- . Replace all of the window shades.
- . Replaced the front and back doors.
- . Replaced the front steps.
- . Installed new oak wood floors.

Other projects that volunteers have done not using grant money are:

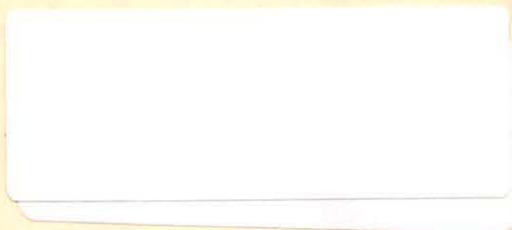
- . Greatly improved the downstairs kitchen
- . Painted the walls and ceilings.

I suggest that everyone come and see the new museum.

Mel Manley



*Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Lillian Meyer, Editor*





Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE

Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter Vol. 14, No. 5 August 2001

SIXTH ANNUAL AUGUST FEST

OLD FASHIONED BASEBALL GAME

When: *Monday, August 13, 2001*

Pre-game: *6:00 pm Rousing music by the
Fridley City Band under the
direction of Phil Raaen*

View: *City fire engines on display
on the grounds of the FHS*

Where: *Ball field behind the Museum
611 Mississippi Street*

Who: *"Quicksteps" an old-fashioned
baseball team dressed in their 18th
Century costumes*

Time: *7:00 pm*

What: *Fun and Entertainment for the whole
family*

*Rules of 1857 will be used. Balls from that era
will be used. NO GLOVES used. Strikes are called
only on a clean swing and miss. Foul ticks don't
count.*

Bring your lawn chair or a blanket!

FREE REFRESHMENTS in the MUSEUM AFTER THE GAME.



Jeanne and Irvin Peter say adieu

We extend our best wishes to Irvin and Jeanne Peter as they leave Fridley and move to Cloquet, MN. They have been great supporters of the FHS. Thanks to you both!

Death of a spouse

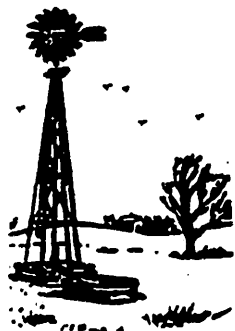
Our Sympathy to member Doris Bergman on the death of her husband Leonard. He was ill for only a couple of weeks before he passed away. Our thoughts and concerns go out to you and your family.

Manley's Musing's

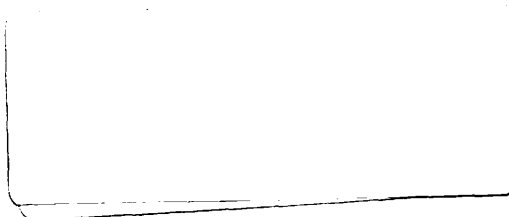
We had a problem with the upper level air conditioning in early July- it didn't work!! After having a repairman from one company and an electrician from another check it out they found a bad wire between the furnace and the thermostat in the east classroom. By mid-July it was back in working order but our checking account is a little worse for wear!!

I finally found time to get up in the attic the middle of July and removed all the excess wiring, lights, and outlets. The attic still needs to be cleaned out. I think we will need to rent a dumpster to hold all the trash that is up there. I will need some male volunteers to help carry it all out when that day arrives. My phone no. is 763-571-6963. Don't everyone all call at the same time and tie up the 571 exchange!!

By Jerry Manley



*Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Lillian Meyer, Editor*





Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE

Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter Vol. 14, No. 6 September 2001

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2001
MEETING 7:00 pm**

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

**Celebration of completion of
renovation of the museum
and installation of a new flag
pole**

These are very exciting events here at your museum! Notables who will cut the ribbon are Senator Satveer Chaudhary and former Senator Steve Novak as well as our Mayor Scott Lund. Commander Bill Larson representing the Fridley American Legion Post #303 will raise the flag on the new flag pole.

Following the ceremonies refreshments will be served in the museum. Everyone is urged to attend and bring a friend or two!

See you there!!

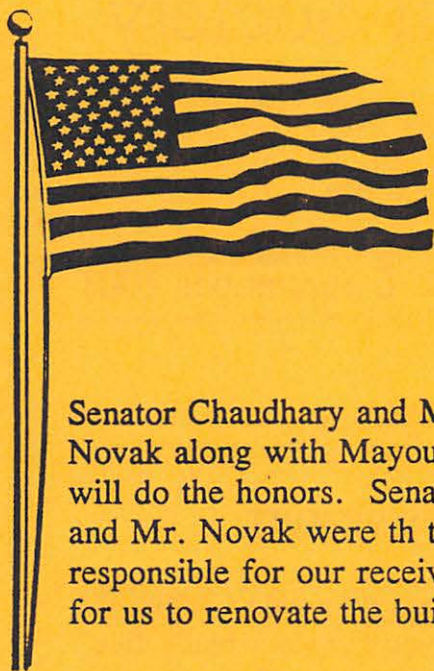
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For those of you who didn't attend the August Fest, you missed a really fine time. Our sixth August Fest was the best ever attended. The Fridley City Band had a Dixieland Band who played to the largest crowd ever! Mayor Scott Lund got everything started off right. Our own Miss Fridley and two princesses joined in. During the events of the day the audience could tour the two fire engines the Fridley Fire Department brought to our Fest.

Following the concert, Mel Manley, board member, and his team played our guest team dressed in 1857 baseball style. Our guests won the game and all had a great time at the reception. Everyone wants a return engagement next August. Get involved. You will be happy you did.

To refresh your memory, September 10, 2001 is our ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the renovation project at your museum.





Senator Chaudhary and Mr. Steve Novak along with Mayour Scott Lund will do the honors. Senator Chaudhary and Mr. Novak were th two persons responsible for our receiving the grant for us to renovate the building.

Special thanks to Mary Sue Meyers who always does such a great job coordinating special events for us.

We will also have the raising of the flag and dedication of the new flagpole, thanks to the American Legion Post 303 who will do the honors. The Historical Society will host a reception for all in attendance immediately following. Do come; we must show our support for all this hard work by our volunteers. Jerry Manley, Vice-President will MC the event.

The museum will reopen on Saturday, August 18th. Hours will be 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. each Saturday as usual. We will be closed for the Labor Day weekend.

Do remember we will do the casino jaunts beginning in September. First date is September 19th. Be sure and call Gloria Hayes at 763-571-3727 for reservations.

My very personal thanks to those board members who have given so many volunteer hours toward the problem solving and work, regarding the renovaation. It wouldn't have happened without you.

Suzanne Miskowic



CASINO - September 19, 2001

On Wednesday, September 19th we will again go the Hinckley Casino for a day of fun and relaxation. Gather your friends and enjoy the day.

As you know, by going to the casino you are supporting the expenses of your society because we are paid by the casino for each person who attends.

Call Gloria Hayes, our faithful coordinator for casino trips, to reserve tickets. Her number is 763-571-3727 or go to the senior center for your ticket.

Reserve the 3rd Wednesday in October for another casino trip.

HISTORY

September denotes the starting of another school year. To give you a look at the past the following is taken from Emma Christenson Carlson's book Fridley - Our Home Town:

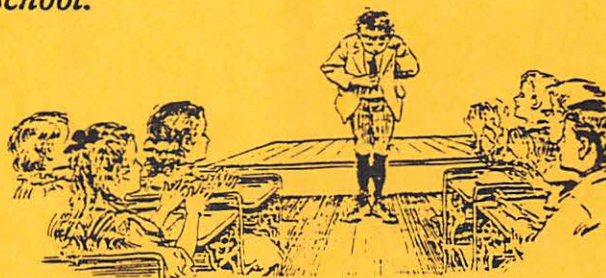
"Then there was school life. In the fall how happy we were to hear school started; we were always so anxious to see our new teacher. Among the earlier teachers was Mrs. Dave Fridley, then Lena Sloan, who taught in the little church. Among the teachers to whom my sister and older brother went were Miss Mc Guire, Miss Gordon, and Miss Jessie Moore from Anoka. Our school-house in District 23 weathered many a storm. ((This is the current FHS Museum)) It was already 20 years old when I started school there. My first teacher was Cora Putnam who later married Will Dermott; her sister, Nora, succeeded her. They both came from Massachusetts and were grand-daughters of old Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. Because of the discipline experiences of these two teachers with some of our incorrigible boys, the school-board decided to hire men teachers....

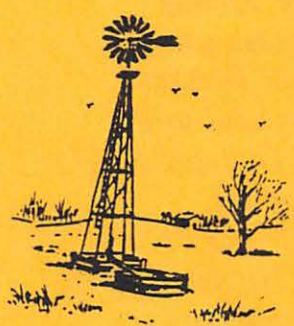
What fun we used to have at school playing games at recess, and after a hurried lunch at noon, at our noon-hour. Our favorite games were tag,

pump, pump pull away and run sheep run. When we grew older we would play scrub-baseball; sometimes we chose sides and kept score. Sometimes, too, we would break a window, but we would always chip in to help pay for it. Those are happy memories...."

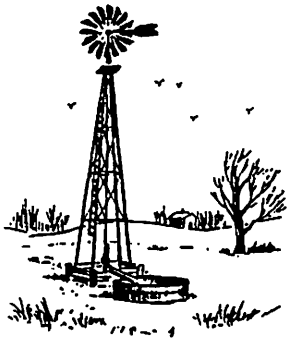
General background of the school districts are:

In 1873 Manomin Township was divided into two school districts and designated Common School District Number 32 and Common School District Number 23. Generally District 32 is now Number 13. The Fridley District 14 generally comprises what was the old Common School District 23. For years the closest school to the north was the Bremer and Gallagher School belonging to the Blaine Common School District 47 and located along what is now Highway 65 and Radisson Road in Spring Lake Park. In 1923 residents in the southern portion of District 47 formed the Common School District Number 6 and built a one-room, frame building along Osborne Road and across the street from the present Woodcrest School.





Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
Lillian Meyer, Editor



Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter Vol. 14, No. 7 October 2001

ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, Oct. 8, 2001 @ 6:00 pm at the Museum

Potluck supper - bring something to share

Vote for officers and directors

Vote on a change in our By-Laws

Listen to a tape by our "Tornado Story Volunteers" who participated in the Weather Display which will be at the MN Historical Society next year and have an opportunity to exchange questions with these volunteers after the tape has been played.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Coming up -- Please read carefully the special area above regarding the Annual Meeting. Plan to attend this interesting meeting and bring your favorite dish. We are expecting a really good crowd.

Our Grand Reopening of your museum on September 10th was a smashing success. The American Legion, Post 303 were awesome under the direction of Commander Bill Larson and his Honor Guard. It was particularly

important when everyone viewed the monstrous tragedy the following morning in New York and Washington, D.C.

Following was the ribbon cutting ceremony accomplished by Senator Satveer Chaudhary, former Senator Steve Novak and Mayor Scott Lund. Messrs. Chaudhary and Novak were the two persons responsible for the grant we received from the legislature. A reception followed with everyone touring the building. We had an

opportunity to visit with other notables present as well. The members of the Fridley City Council present, Mr. Glines, representing the Minnesota Historical Society and many others. We are so grateful to all of these persons for attending.

News to be grateful for -- As you are all aware the historical society has had an outstanding debt owed to the City of Fridley since its original opening. At a recent council meeting that debt was forgiven. Your board of directors is extremely happy. Now we can really go forward!

Please Note: In this newsletter you will find the Nominating and By-Laws Committees reports. A change in the by-laws is suggested in order that officers' terms do not all expire at the same time.

Don't forget our casino trips -- on-going. The next casino date is October 17. Check with Gloria Hayes at 763-571-3727 to make your reservations.

Your board of directors is considering some special events with owners of the Columbia Heights Theatre after the first of the year. If you are a theatre goer or if you know some group who would donate their time to entertain, please contact us. We are in need of ideas and volunteers to make our decision.

On November 12, we will have as our guest speaker retired Sergeant Robert (Bob) Cook who will share his stories. Everyone knows Bob. Do plan to attend.

In December we will have our Annual Christmas Get Together. Mark your calendars for December 10th. We will

also host the annual kindergarten Christmas Special. Volunteers are needed. Just call me at 763-571-3493 to be put on the list.

This has been undoubtedly the busiest summer the historical society has had in recent years. We have had more publicity than ever -- all good. Your board of directors is looking forward to a greater year ahead. Please continue your support. We will all benefit. In the near future you will be receiving notification of dues for the next year. Why not ask a friend, a neighbor, a relative to join with you. This is for the good of Fridley - your town.

Suzanne



MEMBER NOTES

Everyone is so happy Treasurer Herb Bacon is recovering so well from his recent back surgery. Thanks to faithful wife Betty who is chauffeuring him to board meetings.

Board of directors member Pete Bonesteel is due for double knee surgery soon. We wish him well.

These two board members have spent innumerable hours for us. We sincerely appreciate them.

THE FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TERMS OF OFFICE

EXPIRES ON DEC. 31

OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	<i>Tom Myhra</i>	<i>2002</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Jerry Manley</i>	<i>2003</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Herb Bacon</i>	<i>2002</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Elaine Reitter</i>	<i>2003</i>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED FOR A THREE YEAR TERM

<i>Director</i>	<i>Pete Bonesteel</i>	<i>2002</i>
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<i>Director (appointed to finish the term of Jeanne Peter)</i>		
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BY-LAW CHANGES recommended by the By-Laws Committee

Article IV, 2

NEED KEYS =

Effective in January, 2002, the President and Treasurer will be elected to serve a one year term. The Vice-President and Secretary will be elected to serve a two year term. There-after all officers will be elected to a two year term.



(This change in electing officers will enable the Fridley Historical Society to have a carry-over of leadership each election year.)

Jerry Reitter, Chair

MANLEY'S MUSINGS

We've had trouble with the drain hoses on the furnace and air conditioner plumbing off and on all summer. I guess I've got them all blown clear and draining properly now, but the scale keeps building up. I think that maybe the type of hose we have may contribute to the problem.

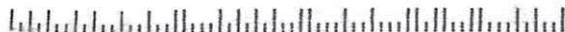
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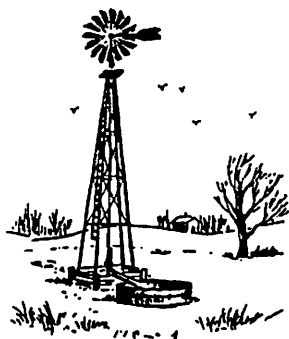
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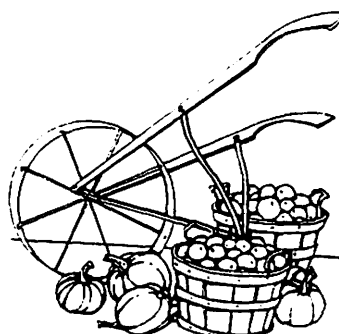
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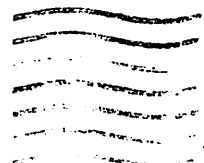
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Lillian Meyer, Editor*





Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street NE

Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter Vol. 14, No. 8 October 2001

November Meeting

***Monday, November 12, 2001
7:00 p.m. at the Museum***

Our Speaker will be

Sargeant Bob Cook

***Sharing with us his memories
from the past.***

Come and enjoy!!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Over the week-end I was selling Christmas wreaths for the Senior Center. I was amazed at the reception I received from people who had been residents since before 1950. This is such a welcoming community and we are fortunate to be a part of it. Call Connie if you haven't already ordered your wreath.

For those of you who didn't attend the Annual Meeting, you missed a great evening of camaraderie - good food plus a most interesting program. Your new officers are: Tom Myhra, president, Jerry Manley, vice-president, Herb Bacon, Treasurer and Elaine Reitter, secretary. *We will be meeting with new board members prior to the first of the*

year in order for the change in officers and board members to be a smooth undertaking.

Our speaker at the November 12th membership meeting will be retired Sargeant Bob Cook who will stir up all of his great memories and reminiscences with us. Please plan on attending at 7 p.m. to show him our appreciation for taking his personal time to be with us. Bob is still so very active with the Lions Clubb and the Christmas Dinners they have for seniors.

On November 6th Jerry Manley is giving a tour of the museum and wwill give the museum's history to his granddaughter Erin's Brownie group. What an educational experience for these youngsters! If you know of any group who would enjoy this experience, call me at 76i3-571-3493.

Also, on Thursday, November 16, we will be hosting two classes from the Middle School under the direction of Mr. Hlavinka, Mary Sue Meyers in charge.

The Annual December 10th Membership Christmas program with Mary Sue Meyers chairing promises to be an enjoyable portent for Christmas. The Middle School choir under the direction of Mr. Berger will entertain. Refreshments will be served. Please plan on attending!

In considering the holidays, we have on our calendar the annual Kindergarten Children's ***Open House to be held on December 6*** between 12 noon and 3 p.m. *There will be a*

reception for children and parents, their artwork on display, pictures and more. If you would like to volunteer or bake call me at 763-571-3493.

Suzanne Miskowic



COMMENTS by GLORIA

We have our last **HINCKLEY CASINO** trip for the year on Tuesday Nov. 13. We still have 8 tickets unspoken for, so if anyone is interested in going, please call me at 763-571-3727.

I had our October trip all booked (49 seats) by October 1 and then a few days before the trip I had many cancellations - 8 in fact. It seems so many people contacted colds and "hurts". That's why I like to have a waiting list. Unfortunately I had called all of these to fill the bus and then when the cancellations came in no one was in reserve. That made our earnings over a \$100.00 less.

If anyone has an idea or knows of a plan where we can earn money, please give me a call. Even if you do not wish to be involved in it, a contact person who we can call would be appreciated.

Gloria Hayes

MANLEY'S MUSINGS

The plaque honoring Fridley's American Legion Post for donating the money for our new flagpole was finally made after a lot of effort on Her Bacon's part trying to speed up it's manufacture. Herb and I installed it the latter part of September. Herb deserves a big "Thank you" because he also paid for the plaque.

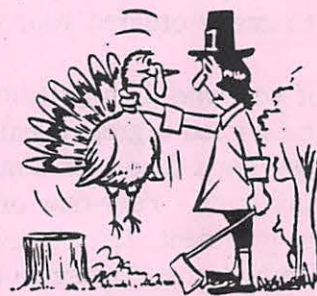
The aluminum trim between the front doors and the step sidewalls left a bit to be desired so I added an additional piece on both sides. A sheetmetal worker, I'm not - but I guess it does look a bit better.

We finally got the attic cleared out on the last Saturday in October!! I had a dumpster dropped off on the previous Friday. Bright and early on Saturday we went to work and we were done by 10:30 a.m. We cleaned out the basement storage room completely and almost all of the attic to fill the dumpster. There still is some trash lying in the front overhang of the attic, but we ran out of room in the dumpster.

My thanks to Tom Myhra, Jerry Johnson, Matt Manley and Mel Manley for volunteering to help. "Many hands make for light work!"

I finally got the venetian blinds re-installed in the "City of Fridley" room in mid-October, thanks to Sue Miskowic. I didn't realize the blinds were stored on top of a cabinet in the room but Sue reminded me.

Jerry Manley



MEL MANLEY'S CONTRIBUTION

Internet Sites on Fridley's past and present

There are many internet sites pertaining to Fridley and the history of this area. They offer a lot of interesting information. If you have access to the internet you may want to check them out. Here's a listing of a few of them with their internet address and a summary of their site.

Minnesota Historical Society: <http://www.mnhs.org/>

This is a great site with a lot of information. You can get access to over 150,000 of their photographs, posters, and artwork that they have posted on their searchable database. You can do a search on "Fridley" and you will see dozens of old photographs they have from Fridley. You can also do genealogical and family history research using their database of Minnesota Death Certificates from 1908 through 1950. They have other searchable information databases of interest. I highly recommend visiting this site.

Anoka County Historical Society: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnachs/>

This site contains information about Anoka County and it's Historical Society.

City of Fridley: <http://www.ci.fridlev.mn.us/>

This site contains information about Fridley's city services, city administration, city council, parks and recreation, etc.

Fridley Public School District 14: <http://www.mnschools.com/14.htm> and

<http://www.fridley.k12.mn.us/>

These sites contain information about the schools in Fridley. Almost anything involving the schools can be found in these sites.

Fridley High School:

<http://www.rschooltoday.com/se3bin/clientschool.cgi?schoolname=school30>

This site contains information about Fridley High Schools Academics, Athletics, Activities, etc.



DUES ARE NOW DUE FOR 2002

Your continued support for our historical society is appreciated and needed. Won't you send in your dues for next year now? Just fill in the form below and mail to

Fridley Historical Society

611 Mississippi Street

Fridley, MN 554432

or give to any board member:



Membership Renewal/New Member Application

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Yearly dues: Individual: \$10.00

Club & church: 20.00

Business: 50.00

I would like to add a donation _____

Fridley Historical Society
611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Lillian Meyer, Editor



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611 Mississippi Street NE

Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Members' Newsletter Vol. 14, No. 8 December 2001

Merry Christmas!

Joyous

Friends

Treats

Celebrate

Gladness

Songs

Cheer

Come to the Museum on Monday, Dec. 10th at 7:00 p.m. and hear the cheerful sounds of Christmas sung by the Fridley Middle School "KIDS from FRIDLEY". These students are directed by Blair Berger who is a music teacher in the Fridley Schools.

These uplifting sounds will be ringing in your museum!

***INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!***

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611 Mississippi Street NE
Fridley, MN 55432