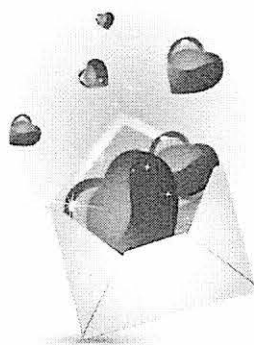


The Record



Valentine's Potluck Dinner Just for fun

Tuesday, February 15, 6:00 p.m.



Come for a potluck dinner at the History Center. We need an occasion to enjoy each other's company and good cooking, and just have some fun. Mary Sue Meyer's delicious wassail, which we didn't get to enjoy at the Christmas concert, will be served. If possible bring a dish to share. If you can't bring something, come any way. We always have plenty of delicious food. Plates, cups and utensils will be provided.

After dinner we will play Bingo for prizes. If you have an unused gift you would like to re-gift, you can contribute it for a prize. Maybe it's just what someone else is looking for.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, January 22
11 a.m. — 3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Saturday, February 12
11 a.m.— 3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Tuesday, February 15
6:00 p.m.

Valentine's Pot Luck Dinner
At the History Center

Saturday, February 26
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday, March 12
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

The Third Printing of "Fridley—Its History and People" has arrived

You can pick up a copy of Fridley's history book at Bob's Produce, on Osborne Road and University, or at the History Center during a Saturday open house. It will also be available at the Valentine's potluck. The cost is \$33.02 including sales tax.

December Events Were Canceled

The History Center was cleaned and decorated and looking festive on November 27, thanks to the help of John Banholzer and Chris Steller. The refrigerator was full of Christmas cookies and apple cider to serve at the Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair. But we are sorry to say that both the Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair and Kids from Fridley Concert had to be canceled due to inclement weather.



Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

President	Beth Hitomi
Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Dorothy Gargaro
Beth Hitomi
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

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

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009
Meetings: Tuesdays, 9 a.m.

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080
Meetings: 1st Thursday, 4:05 p.m.

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Beth Hitomi—763-571-6182

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Past President Vicki Rockwell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. All members were present: Mel Manley also attended.

Past President's Report: Rockwell stated that she will not be able to attend the December meeting and her term on the Board ends December 31. The Board gave her a round of applause in appreciation of the work she has done.

Hall of Fame name discussion: Mayor Scott Lund came to the meeting and the Board discussed the nomination process of the Fridley Hall of Fame inductees with him because an inquiry had been made about the process. He suggested that the perhaps the nomination and judging should be made more public.

Mel Manley, who was the first Hall of Fame Chairperson, said the form states all the criteria for an inductee and the submitted forms are kept for five years. He stated we apologize if we have offended anyone.

Taylor asked if the city would like to be more involved in the nomination process. Mayor Lund said the City would not want to be involved and that would take an act of the City Council. He did not see a problem with the present process and the situation was resolved.

Nomination of President and Vice President

Rockwell nominated Elizabeth Hitomi to serve as President of the Fridley Historical Society from 2011 through 2012. Manley seconded the nomination and it was passed by voice vote.

Rockwell nominated Dorothy Gargaro to serve as Vice President of the Fridley Historical Society from 2011 through 2012. The nomination was seconded by Meyers and passed by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Taylor commented that only 20% of Hall of Fame inductees are or have been Historical Society members. This year's Hall of Fame dinner cleared a little over \$200.

Archives: Bonesteel said he will do the February and September 2011 displays at the Mississippi Branch Library. The February display will promote the Lasagna dinner and the September display will promote the Hall of Fame Dinner.

Maintenance: It was mentioned our flag is torn and we need a new one.

(Continued on next page.)

Action Item

Gargaro made a motion that Bill Beery be given an honorary lifetime membership. Taylor seconded the motion and the board passed it by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING
Thursday, January 6, 2011

Vice President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers and Grace Norton. Members absent: Judy Anderson, Beth Hitomi and Allen Taylor

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: Meyers reported that John Banholzer and Chris Steller helped with cleaning and decorating the History Center on Nov. 27. Regrettably, the Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair, Dec. 11 and the Kids from Fridley concert, Dec. 13 had to be cancelled due to weather conditions. The 2011 Holiday Art Fair will be scheduled for Dec. 10 and the Kids from Fridley concert will be Dec. 12.

Meyers will check with the city to verify if April 30 is a good date for the Lasagna Dinner and Sweepstakes. AugustFest will be Aug. 8. That is a week later than usual so that we can get police dept. and fire dept. personnel volunteers for the baseball team. When it is the first week in Aug. it is the night before Night to Unite, which makes it difficult to get a team together because it is two consecutive nights they would have to be out. Sept. 17 is a possible date for the Hall of Fame Dinner. The annual business meeting and potluck will be Oct. 18.

It was decided we would have a Valentines potluck on Feb. 15, just for fun.

City History: Gargaro reported that 38 books have been sold at Bob's Produce for \$33.02 each, including sales tax.

Archives: Bonesteel said his son Mark will set up a Facebook account for the Historical Society.

Maintenance: A chairman is needed since Jerry Manley resigned as of Dec. 31, 2010. He has arranged for people to clear snow from the steps and walk through the month of March. His work during his many years as Maintenance Chairman is greatly appreciated.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

Let Us Know if You Have E-Mail



If you have e-mail but you are not getting the newsletter (in living color) or any Fridley Historical Society updates by e-mail, that means Robert Christenson does not have your e-mail address. He is our e-mail contact person. Please send him your e-mail address at robert@fridleyhistory.org if he does not already have your e-mail address.

Free Admission to Anoka County History Center Exhibits First Tuesday of Each Month

The Anoka County History Center and Library at 2135 Third Ave. North in Anoka offers free admission to its exhibit gallery the first Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The current displays include "Safe for Democracy" about World War I, "Law and Ladders" about police and fire departments throughout the county and "In Memoriam" about customs and practices associated with the passing of loved ones.

The historical and genealogical resource library is open and free to the public for research.

In Memorial

John Krogness Hansen, Fridley Superintendent of Schools from 1959 to 1981, passed away in October 29, 2010 in Tampa, Florida at the age of 84. He had lived in Sun City Center, Florida since 1981. He is survived by his wife Ellen Dorla Deen, brother James (wife, Lisa), daughters Lesley Kling (husband, Will), Joan Teskey (husband, Gary), sons Mark Hansen (wife, Karen) Greg Hansen (wife, Sandy) James Hansen (wife, Paula) and several grandchildren. He received his bachelors degree from the University of MN in 1946, a masters in 1953 and a PhD in Educational Administration in 1967. Donations in memory of Dr. Hansen can be made to "Scholarship Endowment" in the name of "John K. Hansen." The address is Fridley Schools Foundation, 6100 West Moore Lake Drive, Fridley, MN 55432.

Sheldon Adair Mortenson passed away August 21, 2010 at the age of 86. He was instrumental in the growth of the northern suburbs by building homes and developing land as Sheldon A Mortenson Construction Company including Skywood Mall, Spartan (now Menards) the Ground Round Restaurant, the Pennzoil building and several apartment buildings. He was a partner in Imperial Airways/AirCare, a company that helped to pioneer the EMS helicopter ambulance service at North Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; children, Gregory Mortenson, Jennifer Nagan (Joe) Leslie Ann Holt, and Christine Hamer (Steve); sister, Muriel Granger and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

2010 in Pictures

APRIL 24

April 24



Mayor Scott Lund with son Andy and wife, Cindy



Left to right: Elaine Butorac, Elsie Elverud & Lee Carlson enjoying the evening.



Bud Dauphine calling the winning numbers for the sweepstakes

AUGUST 2

August 2



Firefighters Dean Knowles, John Berg with Alexa Nielson



Mel Manley manning the grill



A Quicksteps player comes up to bat.



A Fridley player makes it home.



Robert and Mary Tholkes of the Quicksteps old fashioned baseball team.

SEPTEMBER 18

September 18



2010 Inductees, left to right: Robert Christenson, Jerry Manley and Maynard Nielsen



Allen Taylor, Hall of Fame Committee Chairman



Music was provided by left to right: Nick Luciow and Jacob Taylor on the violins and Anna Hare on the Viola



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

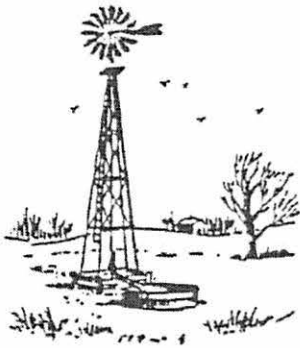
2011 Annual Lasagna Dinner

The 2011 Lasagna Dinner, Sweepstakes and Live Auction is tentatively planned for April 30. Mark the date on your calendar and watch for more information. If you would like to help with this event by donating items for the sweepstakes or auction or selling sweepstakes tickets, please contact Grace Norton at 763-571-928 or leave a message on the History Center phone, 763-571-0120.

This is the major fund-raising event of the year. When you attend you help support the Fridley Historical Society and you can have a great time visiting with old friends and making new friends.

Check Out the New Fridley Website

If you're on the internet and you want to know the latest Fridley news fridley.patch.com is the place to go. There are news items, announcements of upcoming events and videos. It was debuted the middle of December by Chris Steller, its editor. Chris came to help clean and decorate the History Center and get acquainted with some Fridley folks on Nov. 27. He ended up doing an excellent job of moping our kitchen floor along with getting acquainted. We were thankful for his help.



The Record

21st Annual Lasagna Dinner, Sweepstakes and Live Auction



The Lasagna Dinner, our major fund raiser of the year, is happening Saturday, April 16, 5 p.m. The Fridley American Legion Hall Post 303, 7365 Central Ave. will again host the event. We are grateful for their hospitality. Marino's will cater a delicious dinner of lasagna, salad, garlic bread, coffee and punch. Enjoy cake for dessert. A cash bar will be available. This event is always fun for all.

There is plenty of parking in the rear of the building, off of Onondaga St. Seating will begin at 4:15 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5 p.m. Everyone is required to register as they come in.

The sweepstakes drawing and auction will begin at 5:45 p.m. There are some great prizes and valuable items to bid on for the auction. If you would like to make a donation of a sweepstakes prize or auction item, please call the History Center, 763-561-0120, and leave a message.

The tickets and reservation forms with instructions were mailed March 15. Dinner tickets are \$12 each and sweepstakes tickets are \$1 each. Be sure to send them in right away, before the dinner is sold out. If you did not get yours in the mail, or you need more tickets, call the History Center, 763-571-0120. Someone will return your call

Upcoming Events



Saturday, March 26
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, April 9
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday, April 16
5 p.m.

21st Annual Lasagna Dinner
American Legion Hall Post 303
7365 Old Central Ave.
Fridley

Saturday, April 23
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Fridley American Legion Post to host Tenth District American Legion Convention

The Fridley Post will host the 91st Annual Tenth District convention May 20-22, 2011. 250 delegates will represent 16,000 members from 56 communities. The major focus of the organization is on veterans and their families, children and youth and community projects.

We are grateful to these veterans for serving in active duty and for continuing to serve our country.

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

President	Beth Hitomi
Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Dorothy Gargaro
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

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

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 3, 2011

Present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers and Grace Norton. Absent: Beth Hitomi and Allen Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Vice President Gargaro.

Action Item 1: Pete and Mary Bonesteel were congratulated by the board when Gargaro stated that congratulations were order for them because they had already gotten some great prizes for the Lasagna Dinner/fundraiser.

Discussion Item: Hoffman stated she is interested in a project to establish an exhibit telling the story of Fridley as a post World War 2 suburb. It would engage citizens of Fridley who moved into the community following the war years and could take a couple of years to establish. It would possibly be large enough to occupy the space in both of the upstairs rooms.

Meyers said she was concerned that the schoolroom exhibit remain because it reflects the era when the building was built.

Action Item 2: Anderson made a motion to nominate Hoffman to be Membership Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Meyers and passed by the board.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Meyers reported for Taylor that the Knights of Columbus Hall is reserved for the Hall of Fame Dinner Saturday, September 17.

Programs and Events: Plans and preparations were made for the Lasagna dinner to be held Saturday, April 16 at the Fridley American Legion Hall Post, 303.

Archives: Bonesteel reported that he, his wife, Mary and Gargaro set up the February display at the Mississippi Branch Library.

City History: "Fridley—It's History and People" is still for sale at Bob's Produce. About 38 books from the third printing have been sold

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Grace Norton

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING**Thursday, March 3, 2011**

Members present: Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Allen Taylor. Members absent: Judy Anderson and Beth Hitomi. Vice President, Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Action Items: Hoffman is working with David Grabitske at the Minnesota Historical Society, who focuses on local historical societies, concerning a grant to develop an exhibit of Fridley as a post World War 2 suburb. She is also working with Todd Mahon from the Anoka County Historical Society.

Beth Hitomi has written a letter of resignation as president of the Fridley Historical Society and emailed it to the members of the board. The board will vote on her resignation at the April board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: Plans and preparations were made for the Lasagna Dinner to be held April 16.

City History: Bob's Produce is happy to be selling "Fridley—Its History and People."

Archives: Meyers gave Bonesteel a letter she had received with information about the Northern Pump plant, which has a long history in Fridley.

Membership: Hoffman reported that 180 membership letters were sent out. 79 have been returned. She will send out membership cards with a welcome letter and a helping hands form seeking volunteers and emphasizing the need for a maintenance chairman.

Discussion Items:

Robert Christenson made a DVD interviewing Scott Hickok, who is the Fridley Director of Development. The board discussed showing the DVD at a meeting of the membership and inviting Scott Hickok for a question and answer period after the showing of the DVD. It was decided that July 12 would be the best time for that meeting.

Mark Bonesteel has set up a Facebook account for the Fridley Historical Society, for which we thank him.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

**Welcome New Members**

Robert Anderson
Connie Bernardy
Barney & Aradella Buss

Drew & Peggy Flathmann
Ron Malcolm
Maynard Nielsen

Donna Olson
Deborah Roberge
Roy Scherer

It's Membership Renewal Time

Last month membership renewal letters and forms were sent out. We are grateful for the many prompt responses. If you have not renewed your membership for 2011, please be sure to take care of that as soon as possible. The membership fees are \$12.50 for an individual, \$10 for one senior, \$18.50 for family (2 adults or 2 seniors, same household.) Checks can be made payable to Fridley Historical Society. If you need more information, please call the History Center, 763-571-0120.

We Thank our Donors!

As of March 3, the Fridley Historical Society received approximately \$1500 that was sent to us with 2011 membership updates. We appreciate each one of these generous donations.

\$100 or more

Sonja Granlund Johnson
Alltemp Distribution Company

\$50 to \$99

Mark Bonesteel
Elaine Butorac
Audrey Mahr
John and Lillian Meyer
Roger and Gwen Nawrocki
Wally and Gene Ness
Warren Olson
Deborah Roberge
Midge Rotter
Gordon and Angela Sangster
Karen Sheldon

\$25 to \$49

Helga Bode Johnson
Chuck Hayes
Craig and Eileen Hohensee
Margaret and William Hunt
Don and Joann Johnson
Cindy and Scott Lund
Matthew Manley
Bernadine Matushak
Don and Mary Sue Meyers
Tom and Gloria Myhra
Grace Norton
Carl and Adele Swanson
Glenn Theorin

\$5 to \$24

Robert Anderson
Pete and Mary Bonesteel
Robert Christenson
Bud Dauphin and Marcia Schaaf
Suzanne Edinger
James Ehlert
Willis Erickson
Earl Frederickson
Carrol and Mavis Hauge
Betty Hendrickson
Eric and Pat Jaakkola
Alice Johnson and Richard Jefferson
Corine Kirkham
William and Hazel Linton
Martin Lueders
Gerald and Margaret Maeckelbergh
Ron Malcolm
Jerry and Marilyn Manley
Carole Miller
Donna Olson
Andrea Oman and Pat Billig
Vicki Rockwell
Carole Schaaf
Roy Scherer
Art and Norma Swanson
Al and Kathy Taylor
Cindy Torfin
Mary Van Dan
Patricia Vant
Lenny and Ann Witucki
Warren Woods

We Offer Our Condolences

Ronald Allard a retired Fridley Police Officer and member of the Fridley Historical Society passed away March 10. A memorial service was held March 17 at the Miller Funeral Home. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to his Family and loving friend, Elsie Hanscom.

Correction: In last month's memorial article in honor of John Hansen his wife's first name was incorrect. It is Eileen rather than Ellen. We apologize for the mistake.



A Dive into the Archive

by Mary Ann Hoffman

Did you know that the Fridley History Center houses an archive room that is filled with hundreds of paper records that tell the story of Fridley's past? Our archive collection includes newspapers, news clippings, photographs, maps, books, calendars, and other records. These items came to us through donations by several sources: society members and members of the community, the city of Fridley, and the fire and police departments. Some were even purchased at local garage sales!

We can thank the volunteer efforts of several people who put in countless hours over the years collecting, sorting, and displaying the collection, including Pete Bonesteel, Lillian and Jack Meyer, Suzanne Miskowic, Mark Bonesteel, Irvine and Jeanne Peter, Jerry Johnson, Tom Myrhe, and doubtless many others.

In order to acquaint members with some of our archival items, in each ensuing newsletter there will appear a column entitled *A Dive into the Archive*, in which I will examine and describe an item in the collection that I find especially interesting or revealing. In the next newsletter, I will write about a restaurant menu in our collection from the Maple Lanes Café on Highway 65 in Fridley. Perhaps you remember that establishment, or even dined there. Look in the next newsletter for more details.

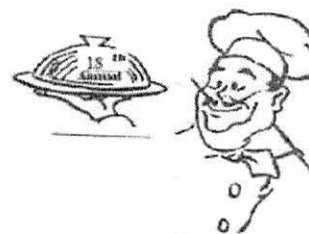
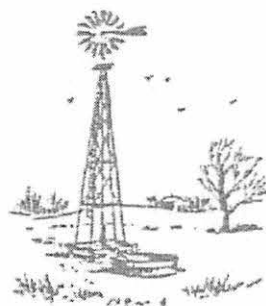
We're on Facebook

Thank you to Mark Bonesteel for setting up a facebook account for us. Go to facebook.com and type in Fridley Historical Society to view pictures and news. If you type in Fridley History Center you will only see a picture and map of the History Center. If you have a facebook account you can add comments.

Sun Focus Facebook Account: If you go to facebook.com and type in xr.com/focusonfb it will take you to the Columbia Heights and Fridley facebook page. You can view the front page on Wednesday, rather than wait until Thursday or Friday. You don't need to have a facebook account to see this, but if you have a facebook account you can interact with the site. You can ask questions, make comments and add events to the list for community members to see. You can upload photos, and you may be asked for permission to put them in the paper, as well, to share with the rest of the community. There are also links to the Sun Focus Fridley website.

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

21st Annual Lasagna Dinner Sweepstakes & Live Auction



Prizes!

Date Saturday, April 16, 2011

Time Doors open at 4:15 p.m.
Dinner served at 5 p.m.
Catered by Marinos

Place American Legion Post 303
7365 Central Ave. N.E.
Fridley

Sweepstakes
Many great prizes

Live Auction
Many unique items starting at
\$50, including \$100 Eye Care
Center certificate

Dinner tickets: \$12 each

Sweepstakes tickets: \$1 each

For information on how to order dinner or
sweepstakes tickets, call 763-571-0120 leave a
message and someone will return your call.

www.fridleyhistory.org

Tasty Food!

Fridley Friends!

**You do not
need to be
present to
win!**

*Order early:
Limited
seating!*

Valentine's Potluck Dinner and Bingo

Tuesday, February 15 there was a good turnout for a Valentine's potluck dinner followed by bingo at the History Center. There was plenty of good company and an abundance of delicious food and fun prizes.



Valentine sweethearts Allen and Kathy Taylor



Mayor Scott Lund and Dorothy Gargaro enjoying dinner and conversation. JoAnn Johnson and Dorothy Linse are sitting across from Dorothy



Warren Woods and Robert Nawrocki



Left to right: JoAnn Johnson, Dorothy Linse, Bernadine Matushak and Carol Christenson



Mary Ann Hoffman and Dorothy Gargaro calling numbers for bingo



The table full of donated prizes



Jerry and Marilyn Manley in deep concentration



Don Meyers and Scott Lund



Roger and Gwen Nawrocki and Pete Bonesteel

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Mark July 12 on Your Calendars

Tuesday July 12, 7:00 p.m. plan to come to the History Center and learn what the future of Fridley development looks like. Robert Christenson has made a DVD of an interview with Scott Hickok, Fridley's Director of Development. This interesting and informative interview will be shown at the meeting. Scott Hickok will be there for a question and answer period after the DVD is shown. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar.

Fridley History Book Available

Fridley—It's History and People is available at Bob's Produce on University and Osborne Road and at the History Center when it is open the second and fourth Saturday of each month for \$32.08 including sales tax. It will also be available at the Lasagna Dinner on April 16. Consider giving it as a gift to friends and relatives who have lived in Fridley or have Fridley ties.

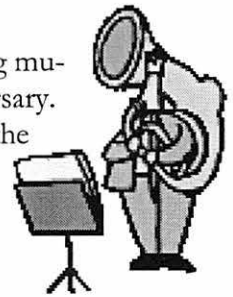


The Record

Summer Fun at the 16th Annual AugustFest

AugustFest will be Monday August 8, starting at 6:00 p.m. outdoors at the History Center, 611 Mississippi Street. Parking is available at the Hayes School parking lot next door to the History Center. Bring your own lawn or camping chair for a comfortable seat.

The evening will begin with a concert of lively toe tapping music by the Fridley band who is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Mayor Scott Lund will welcome everyone and introduce the Fridley Ambassadors Deddeh Cooper and Leah Kruc. There will be entertainment for everyone. Mango the Clown and a Fridley fire truck will be there for the kids.



Bring the family for supper. Brats, hot dogs, Chicago dogs, pop, and water will be for sale. Enjoy a free Kemps ice cream cone compliments of Mayor Lund.

The Quick Steps team and Fridley team will play a game of old style baseball at 7:00. The Fridley team will be made up of recruits from the fire and police departments and other Fridley employees.

After the game everyone is invited to the lower level of the History to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Fridley Band, beverages and Cake will be served.

Plan to Attend the Fridley Hall of Fame Saturday, September 17

The Fridley Historical Society will honor three people who have contributed to the growth, success and quality of life at the eighth annual Hall of Fame Dinner Saturday, September 17, 12 noon at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 6831 Highway 65.

If you would like to nominate an inductee into the 2011 Hall of Fame it is not too late, the deadline has been extended to July 31. Call the Fridley History Center, 763-571-0120, leave and message and a form will be sent to you.

Watch your mail next month for more information.

Upcoming Events



Monday, August 8
AugustFest

6:00 p.m.

Outdoors at the History Center

Saturday, August 13
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday August 27
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday, September 10
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday, September 17
12:00 Noon

**Eighth Annual
Hall of Fame Dinner**
Knights of Columbus Hall



Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

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Dorothy Gargaro
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

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

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Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society

Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, June 2, 2011

Members present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers and Grace Norton.

Absent: Allen Taylor

Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Action Items:

Tyler Barker, a Fridley High School senior, who won first place in the Minnesota History Day competition, has inquired if we could donate toward the cost of his trip to the national competition. Meyers made a motion that we donate \$100 to him; the motion was seconded by Hoffman and approved by the Board.

Meyers said Spring Brook Nature Center is having an event on Sunday, July 17 commemorating the 25th anniversary of the tornado that touched down there in 1986. They would like us to have a display at the event

Discussion Items:

Hoffman asked if we should move forward applying for a grant to develop an exhibit of Fridley as a post World War 2 suburb. The grant would be \$7,000 or less. The money would be used to hire someone to do interviews. Hoffman said she felt that the exhibit would draw younger people into the museum. Anderson made a motion that we apply for the grant; it was seconded by Bonesteel and approved by the Board.

Sarah Peterson from the Sun Focus newspaper has inquired if any of our board members would like to write articles about childhood summers. Anderson and I agreed to write articles.

Committee Reports:

Program & Events: We will have a recognition of the Fridley Band's 50th anniversary at AugustFest on August 8.

Membership: Hoffman reported that 20 people have responded to her letter reminding people to renew their membership, and we have one new member. We have 159 individual members, four businesses and three non-profits. We have collected \$1,835 in dues and \$1,885.50 in donations so far this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Members present: Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Allen Taylor. Absent: Judy Anderson

Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Discussion Items

Hoffman reported that there will be an Anoka County Historical Society event at Murzyn Hall in Columbia Heights on Oct. 7. They have asked us to help sponsor the event by selling tickets. Meyers suggested we could sell tickets at AugustFest and at our open houses.

Hoffman has obtained a grant request form for the Fridley as a Post World War 2 Suburb exhibit to be set up in the upper level rooms. The form requires very specific information concerning how the grant will be spent. The state shutdown could have an effect on the possibility of getting a grant.

Committee reports

Hall of Fame: Taylor said two requests for Hall of Fame nomination forms have come in. Since the applications are kept for five years there are still several previous applications to consider. The deadline for applications has been extended from July 15 to July 31.

Programs and Events: July 17, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m., Spring Brook is holding an event to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the tornado that struck the nature center. They have invited us to set up a booth. We plan to sell "Fridley—It's History and People" books. Taylor will have his book about the 1965 Fridley Tornado there to sell.

Membership: Hoffman said three letters were received this month, which added four new members. \$41 in dues were received and a donation of a \$1.50 was received. We now have 163 members.

Maintenance: Taylor said the light timer is not working. Our flagpole needs repairing, the doors need painting and the bushes need trimming. Our greatest need is for a maintenance chairperson.

Fund Raising: Taylor said, hopefully we will sell enough books at the Spring Brook event to help raise funds. Taylor donates \$6.00 for every one of his books he sells. He may also do a book signing at Bob's Produce soon.

Comments: Gargaro suggested we have Taylor Barker, a Fridley High School senior who won the Minnesota History Day contest, speak at one of our meetings. She also suggested we have Peggy Flathmann, the Fridley school superintendent speak at the same meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

A Dive into the Archive

by Mary Ann Hoffman



For this issue of *The Record*, I will describe a June 10, 1948 edition of *Fridley News*, which was published every Thursday for five cents with James S Carney as Mgr. Editor. The FHS archive has only one issue of this newspaper, but what a rich source it is. Its contents show that Fridley was still largely rural in 1948, but there were hints of the suburban growth ahead. Remember that this was one year before incorporation as a village. The main headline, “Zoneing (sic) Comes to Vote” reminds residents to express their will via the ballot box on June 16 at Berntson’s Gun Shop, 935 Mississippi Street. The article indicates that zoning in Fridley was “apparent” and was supported by the editor – “although there has been some opposition to it, it seems as though it is only because of some knowledge that was lacking.”

Signs of the rural nature of Fridley include an article about the High Flyers 4-H club that had recently met at the home of Russell Chesney. Before the business meeting, the 12 members enjoyed a wiener roast and a ball game, and during the meeting plans were made to create “No Dumping” signs. Meanwhile, the Canfield Hog Farm at 60th and University lost a pump house in an electrical fire. Advertisements include “Dump Open – 38th and Old Marshall” as well as one for Central Feed Store.

Fridley was loosely divided into residential neighborhoods, and folksy tidbits describe the goings-on of the day. In *River View Heights*, “Icy Borg was hostess to the Stitch and Chatter Club Wednesday evening”, in *East River Road Chatter*, “Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Kelly have moved into the old Hayes Home”, in *East River News*, “Mr. Storer has begun building a nice home at 89th and East River Road”, and in *River View Heights*, “The stork dropped in on Fran Dovenberg, Wednesday, June 2nd, and left her a sweet little baby girl.”

Demonstrating the suburban changes occurring in the community is an ad “Specializing...in Suburban Homes” placed by F. N. Shaffer - Real Estate, 6527 Central Ave., as well as news that a committee in the Booster’s Club was working on house numbers. An ad for Ray’s Welding Service in Columbia Heights promotes clothes poles and home playground equipment.

There are numerous ads in the 6-page spread, including ones for Fridley Garage (Prop. Pete Hentges, phone number STerling 3877), Sandees Restaurant, phone number GRanville 9162, the Fridley Café (Props. Bob and Bernice Weller), and for the Heights Theater, which was showing Irene Dunne in “I Remember Mama” and Gene Autrey in “Saddle Pals”. If the Kartoon Karnival wasn’t a big enough draw, perhaps the free candy bar for each child brought in the customers the theater sought.

Finally, there is an announcement for a new entrance to the baseball field at Mississippi Street and the N.P. Railroad tracks. Previously, cars had been stuck axle deep in the sand, caused by grading. Sand, always sand, in these parts!

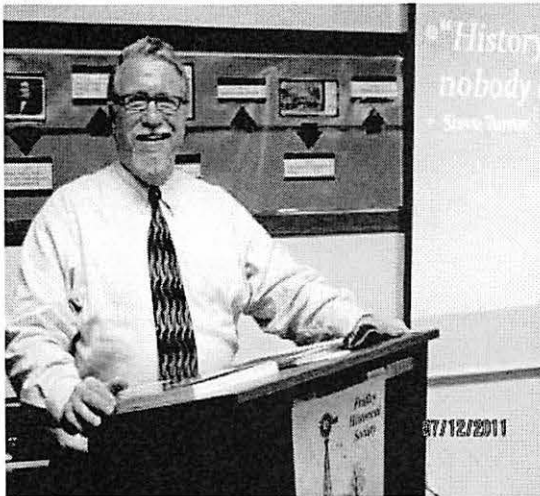
For next time, I have selected a District 14 newsletter dated March, 1967. Based on the 2010 census, Fridley ranks 30th in the state based on population. How do you think we ranked in 1967? That will be answered in the next issue of *The Record*.

Brian Toews, Grand Marshall of 49er’s Days Parade

Brian Toews a long time resident of Fridley and 1966 Fridley High School graduate was the Grand Marshall of the 49er’s Day parade, June 23. The honor was in recognition of his completing a term of one year as the District 5M7 governor for Lions International. Our congratulations go to Brian.

“The History of Fridley: One Planner’s Perspective”

History Conversation #27



Scott Hickok, Director of Community Development

On a beautiful July 12 summer evening, Scott Hickok delivered one of the most informative presentations we have ever had on the growth and development of Fridley over the years. For the past two decades, Scott has been Fridley’s Community Development Director. He was formerly Community Development Director of Apple Valley.

When he was offered the position in Fridley, one of Apple Valley’s council members came to Fridley to check it out and reported back to Scott that Fridley was what Apple Valley wanted to be, the right sized lots, preserved woods, and many natural amenities that developed beautiful neighborhoods,

Scott presented five aerial photographs of Fridley demonstrating its growth from 1938, to 1947, to 1957, to 1964 to the present. He pointed out how neighborhoods developed in key areas, how road-

ways were created, where commercial and industrial development expanded and how the community grew up to be a City.

The Fridley Industrial Development Commission (originally the Fridley Booster Club) and the Fridley Chamber of Commerce played major roles in Fridley’s growth. They had the foresight to recognize back in the 1950s that Fridley was more than just residential neighborhoods, it needed to diversify its tax base by including industrial and commercial enterprises along with convenience of not having to drive into Minneapolis to purchase common goods and services.

There were also creative ideas employed such as tax breaks for new businesses, zoning codes and other enticements that brought industry and business to Fridley. This led to Fridley becoming in 1957 the top industrial base for Anoka County, a position it held until just a couple years ago.

He highlighted on the aerial photographs the old ox cart trail, also known as the Territorial Road (now East River Road) because in 2010 the cities of Fridley and Coon Rapids in conjunction with Anoka County embarked on a study to plan for the impact of future traffic on that important roadway. The ADT (Average Daily Trips) count on TH 610 is expected to increase from 16,139 in 2009 to 18,600 in 2030, while the ADT count on East River Road at Mississippi Street is expected to increase from 15,337 to 31,700 during the same time frame.



Part of the audience

Scott completed his presentation identifying many initiatives currently underway at City Hall that will continue to change the face of Fridley. There was an extended period of questions from the audience with the meeting concluding at 8:30 PM with refreshments and members having personal conversations with Scott on his provocative presentation.



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

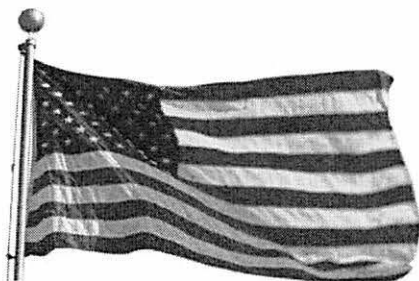
Taylor Barker wins Minnesota History Day Competition

Our congratulations go to Taylor Barker a 2011 Fridley High School graduate who won the Minnesota History Day competition. His project was a research paper on "Debate of the Diplomats: George Kennan and Paull Nitze." He represented Minnesota and Fridley at the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland in June. Taylor will attend the University of Minnesota at Morris this fall.

Zineb Alfath went to the state competition with an exhibit on the 1974 Powerline controversy.

In the Group Website Category only 14 projects throughout the state made it to the state competition. Three of these groups were Fridley High School 9th graders competing against 9th—12th graders.

Christine Hitomi and Angela Greiveldinger did a project on the Salem Witch Trials; Sarah Bensing and Courtne Dritz on the Banning of Hucklebaerry Finn; and Ali Bennet, Mikeala Maier and Matt Duehan on Roe v. Wade.



Your help is needed! You may have noticed that the flag is not flying at the History Center. This is because the flag pole is in need of repair. If you are handy and feel you can fix it please call the History Center, 763-571-0120, and let us know you can help. Someone will get in touch with you.



The Record

Make Plans to attend the Eighth Annual Fridley Hall of Fame Dinner

The 2011 Hall of Fame Dinner will be Saturday, September 17, 12 noon at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 6831 Highway 65. The doors will open at 11:30. One couple and two individuals will be inducted into the Hall of Fame and honored for their contributions to the development of our community.

The 2011 Hall of Fame inductees are:

Mary Martin has served with the Fridley Environmental Quality Commission and the Fridley Community Education Advisory Council. "Opening Doors for You," a history of community education in Fridley was authored by her. Mary chaired the Fridley Ethnic Festival planning committee, was a member of the Fridley Fine Arts Committee and started the Northeast Chamber Ensemble (now the Northeast Orchestra).

Don and Mary Sue Meyers: As an educator Don was one of the builders of a strong Fridley School system. He taught, coached and implemented the junior high transition to a middle school and implemented the BEST program which won national recognition. He finished his 34 year career at Fridley as principal of the High School. He was Executive Secretary of the Minnesota Couches Association and helped build the State High School League Wrestling tournament into one of the premier tournaments in the nation.

Mary Sue has volunteered 28 years with the 49'er Days Committee doing the parade reception and running the Fridley Ambassador Scholarship Program. She is Event Chair and a board member of the Fridley Historical Society. She worked with Fridley's 50 year celebration and has been a Girl Scout leader for 15 years. She was the first woman inducted into the Dave Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame for her work with the Minnesota State High School League.

Doyle Mullin: Doyle served on the Springbrook Nature Foundation Board and was President of the board for 17 years. He helped lead the Citizens' Committee of Fridley's Housing and Redevelopment Authority and three urban renewal projects. Doyle was a founding member of the Anoka County Council of Economic Opportunity. He has been honored by the City of Fridley with an appreciation day for his fifty years of service.

If you plan to attend the dinner send a check for \$25 per person, payable to the Fridley Historical Society, to the Fridley History Center, 611 Mississippi St., Fridley, MN 55432. Tickets will be sent to you by return mail. If you have questions or wish to reserve a table of eight, call the History Center, 763-571-0120 and leave a message. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, September 10
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Free admission
donations appreciated

Saturday, September 17
12:00 Noon

Eighth Annual Hall of Fame Dinner Knights of Columbus Hall

Saturday, September 24
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Saturday, October 8
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House

Tuesday, Oct. 18
6 p.m.

Harvest Potluck Dinner

7 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting

At the History Center



Page 2

Fridley Historical Society
Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Dorothy Gargaro
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

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

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society
Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, August 4, 2011

All members were present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Al Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dorothy Gargaro, Vice President.

Anderson presented the July Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Hoffman to approve the report, it was seconded by Bonesteel and approved by the board. Anderson reported that the books will be audited by Eleanor Anderson, CPA on September 20.

Discussion Items:

Hoffman is working on a grant for the exhibit of Fridley as a post World War 2 suburb. She has been getting help from Jodi Larson of the Anoka County Historical Society. She has learned that volunteers' time spent transcribing interviews can be considered as matching funds. Twenty five to 30 interviews will be needed.

Hoffman made a motion that that we donate \$100 to the Isanti County Historical Society to help them recover from the loss of their facility as a result of arson. The motion was seconded by Taylor and passed by the board.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: The committee members are Al Taylor, Chair; Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro and Grace Norton.

Someone has volunteered to have the flagpole repaired and to buy a new flag in time for AugustFest.

Membership: There was one membership renewal this month. The membership form for 2012 will be on the back of the Nov./Dec. newsletter. There will be a reminder to watch for it in the Oct. newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Grace Norton,
Secretary

Summertime Reflections of Growing Up in Fridley

The Sun Focus staff asked Fridley Historical Society board members to contribute a special summer series of guest columns telling how area youth spent their summers. Judy Anderson and I wrote columns since we both grew up in Fridley. I'm running the articles in The Record for those who live outside of Fridley or may have missed it in the Sun-Focus. Here is Judy's article which was in the July 7 issue.

Summers in the 40's and 50's were pretty much spent outside for the kids.

No one had air conditioning so we didn't know what being cool was, except for fans. We spent a lot of time in the sand dunes (where the high school is now), down at Rice Creek and just outside in yards. We played hide and seek, tag, baseball, Red Rover, croquette, paper dolls and just laying on the grass making shapes in the clouds. Inside we played cards and board games—our favorites were Monopoly and Royal Runny.

My family got a TV in 1948 (first in the neighborhood). Test patterns ran about 15 hours per day, but we watched black and white programs at night on about a 12-inch screen with family and neighbors.

Those old enough to work took a bus to either Columbia Heights or downtown Minneapolis. Bus service was very limited and only on Old Central (of course, then it was just called Central Avenue) and East River Road, and only a few runs a day.

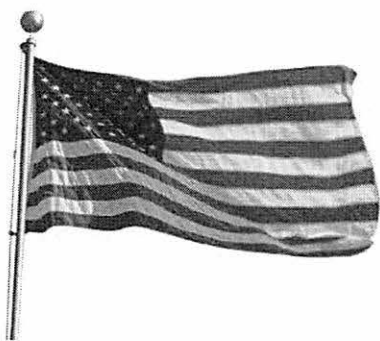
If you wanted to work in Fridley, there was only truck farms, babysitting and a few gas stations. In those years, you never had to get out of your car. Attendants filled your gas tank, washed your windows, checked air in your tires and collected your money and brought back your change.

Almost all families had only one car, and it was used by the father to get to work. Most mothers stayed at home. Most of our transportation as kids was walking or biking. Until Moore Lake opened (mid '50's), our swimming was done at Rice Creek. We always took a salt shaker with us because there were a lot of blood suckers and salt helped loosen them from your body.

Until the 100 Twin drive-in came to Fridley, we rarely went to any movies because the closest theatre was in Columbia Heights and really wasn't in walking distance.

Most everyone attended Bible School for one week. Many attended a week either at church camp, fire camp or 4-H camp. Walking up to Sandee's for penny candy or taking the bus downtown were big deals.

Almost all retail was closed on Sunday! So this was a big day to spend with family or friends for dinner and visiting.



Thank you to Bill Beery!

The flag is flying again at the History Center. We owe Bill Beery a big thank you for seeing that the flag pole was repaired and a new flag was raised.

AugustFest 2011 was a Festive Event

AugustFest was Monday, August 8 outdoors at the History Center. It was a beautiful night and there was good attendance. The Fridley Band played in the showmobile and celebrated their 50th anniversary with us. Chicago dogs and brats were grilled by Mel Manley and Mary Sue Meyers provided the toppings. Free ice cream was provided courtesy of Mayor Scott Lund. The Quick Steps and Fridley home team, made up of Fridley police, fire, park and rec employees, played an 1860's style baseball game, which the Fridley home team won. After the game, cake and lemonade were served in honor of the band's 50th anniversary.



Dorothy Gargaro welcomes everyone



Fridley Band playing on the show mobile



Phil Raaen, Band Conductor



Fridley Ambassadors Leah Kruc and Deddeh Cooper with Mayor Scott Lund



Brian Toews and Kim Hermann with Mango the Clown



Lions Brian Falink and Jim Young serving ice cream to Joanne Toews



Mango the Clown and Katie Kruc



Left to Right: Pete Borman, Commissioner Jim Kordiak and Mayor Scott Lund



Mango and kids



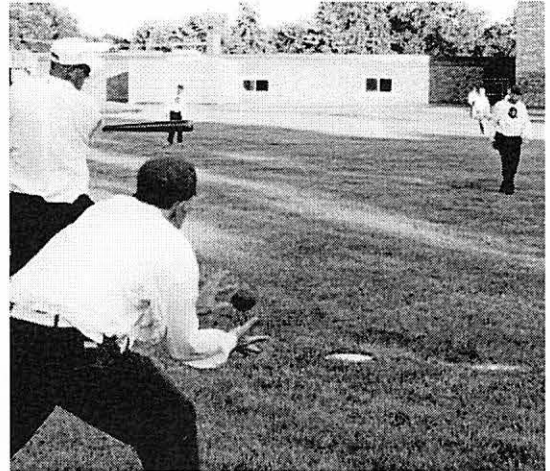
Chef Mel Manley at the grill



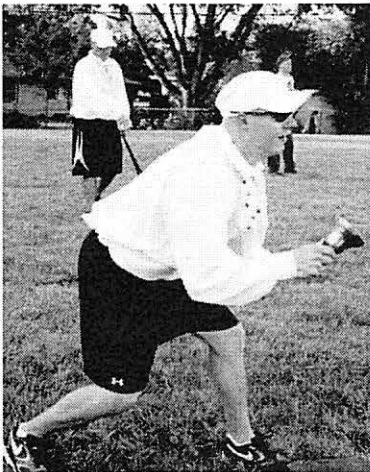
Mary Tholkes with Elna and April Carlson



The crowd enjoying the band concert



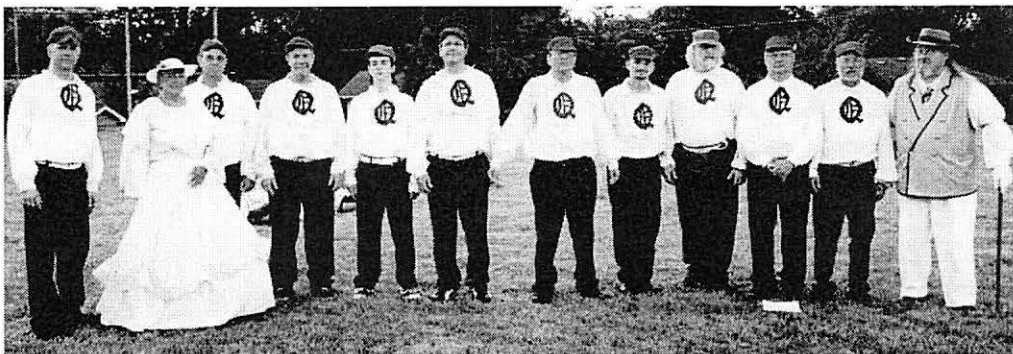
Swing and a miss



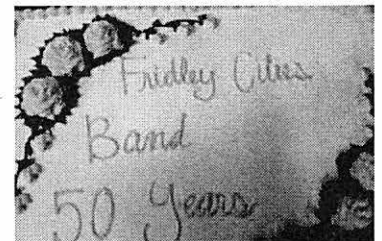
Run scored by Fridley team!



Fridley team, left to right: Steve Monsrud, Tom Roddy, Gregg Olson, Ryan George, Kevin Titus, matt Nalepka, Luke Thompson, Charlie Sawyer and Bob Tholkes from the Quick Steps who helped fill out the Fridley team



Quick Steps Team: left to right: Paul Ostrow; Mary Tholkes (in charge of throng relations), Michael Andregg, Arnie Hymanson, Charlie Levitt, Dan Levitt, Howard Luloff, Cary Smith, Doug Ernst, Jerry Janzen, Rich Arpi and Bruce Stone



The cake in honor of the Fridley City Bands 50th anniversary was served after the game.



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Odds and Ends

Please show your support for the Fridley Historical Society by attending the Hall of Fame Dinner. Remember to send your check for \$25 per person attending in early so that your tickets can be mailed to you in plenty of time. This is a wonderful time to see old friends and make new friends. There is much more about the Hall of Fame Dinner on the front page.

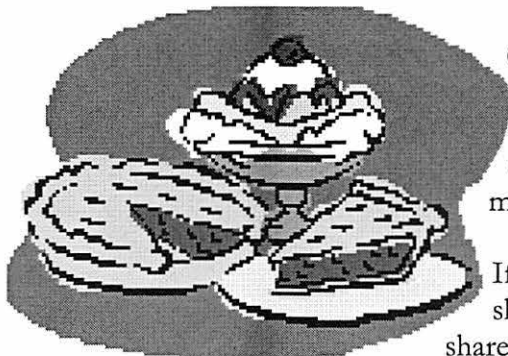
The third Tuesday in October we will have our Harvest Potluck Dinner and annual business meeting. This is when we elect new Board of Director members. We still need a president and maintenance chairperson. If you are interested in serving on the board please contact a board member and let them know. The president develops the agenda for the board meetings, leads the meetings, is the spokesperson for the Historical Society, appoints committee chairs, and completes some annual reports. The maintenance chairperson works with a committee to care for the building.

The book "Fridley—It's History and People" is for sale at Bob's Produce on Osborne Rd. and University Ave. and at the History Center on Saturday open houses for \$32.08 including sales tax. It's not too soon to start thinking about your Christmas list. You may have someone on your list who would enjoy a copy.



The Record

Harvest Potluck Dinner and 2011 Annual Business Meeting



Come Tuesday, October 18, 6:00 p.m. for the Harvest Potluck dinner at the Fridley History Center, 611 Mississippi St. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

If you are able, please bring a dish to share. If you can't bring a dish to share you are still welcome. There will be

plenty of delicious food brought by our many superb cooks. Beverages, and table ware will be provided.

Members, the business meeting is an opportunity for you to ask questions, share ideas you may have, and offer comments on the activities of the Fridley Historical Society. If you have ideas on how volunteering can be encouraged, please be ready to share them.

Each member of the board will bring a report, including a financial report by Judy Anderson, our Treasurer.



Upcoming Events



Saturday, October 8
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission
donations appreciated

Tuesday, Oct. 18
6 p.m.

Harvest Potluck Dinner
7 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting
At the History Center

Saturday, October 22
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, November 12
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

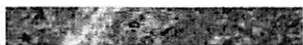
Saturday, December 3
9 a.m.

**Cleaning and decorating the
History Center for the
Holidays**

It's Almost Membership Renewal Time – Check the Next Issue for Details

By Mary Ann Hoffman

In the November/December issue of *The Record*, you will find a renewal form for your Historical Society membership. Rather than mailing you the form as we usually do, we are trying something different this year by placing the form in our newsletter instead. You will be asked to fill it out and mail it back to us with your dues, which will remain the same for 2012. Please remember to look in the next issue of *The Record* for your renewal form and then respond with your usual generosity. Thank you!



Fridley Historical Society

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Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

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Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

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

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Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society

Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 1, 2011

All Board members were present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Al Taylor.

Vice President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Discussion Item:

The light over the lower level office does not light up. It needs a new ballast, but we have been told it would be less expensive to change the fixture than to put in a new ballast.

Action Items:

Hoffman reported she sent \$100 to the Isanti County Historical Society to help them recover from the fire in their facility along with a note of encouragement. This donation was approved in the August meeting.

Hoffman also said she had attended a meeting on grants at the Minneapolis Public Library and plans to apply for a grant by September 16. If we receive the funds we will hire an interviewer to do 15 interviews. We hope to find volunteers to transcribe some of the interviews, because the value of the time spent transcribing can be considered as matching funds, which would help to obtain a grant.

Bonesteel and Gargaro are doing the display at the Mississippi Branch Library with the themes of school days and the Fridley Hall of Fame.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: The annual business meeting and potluck will be Tuesday, October 18, 6:00 p.m. at the History Center.

Cleaning and decorating the History Center will be done Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m.

The Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair will be Saturday, December 10, 11a.m. to 3 p.m. Meyers will contact volunteers to help serve. She will contact Blair Berger, the director of the Kids from Fridley, to set up a date for their holiday concert.

Finance and Audit: Anderson reported that the financial records will be audited September 20.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary



Summertime Reflections of Growing Up in Fridley

The Sun Focus staff asked Fridley Historical Society board members to contribute a special summer series of guest columns telling how area youth spent their summers. Judy Anderson and I wrote columns since we both grew up in Fridley. I'm running the articles in The Record for those who live outside of Fridley or may have missed it in the Sun-Focus. Here is my article which was in the July 14 issue.

My Family moved to Fridley in 1941. Our nearest neighbors were the Scherer family. Now days we would say they lived two blocks from us, but back then we said they lived across the alfalfa field. Fortunately they had a son and a daughter close to the age of my twin sister, Gwen, and me so we had playmates. The son, Roy, had a Shetland pony named Star. I don't remember if I ever got to ride that pony, but I sure thought she was great.

The Scherer family had a cow or two and sometimes we would get our milk from them, but in the summertime the best place to get milk was from the farmer across Mississippi Street from us. He had several cows so he had a special room to keep the milk cold. I thought that it must have been the coolest place in Fridley on a hot summer day.

When we were in second grade Mr. Scherer built and sold a house just up the hill from our house. The new neighbors moved in during the summer. We had heard the family had a girl two years older than us and another one a year younger than us. That was exciting news. My sister and I stood on the hill a few yards from their house and watched as they moved in. The first opportunity we had we went over to meet them and made new friends.

Sometimes we would play up in the sand dunes just west of Moore Lake. The sand dunes were much larger and sandier then. We were very careful not to go too close to the lake. There were stories about a farmer and his team of horses being sucked into "quicksand" near the lake. How much of that was true I don't know to this day.

One summer my cousin, Harold, who was my older brother's age stayed with us. The two of them built a tree house in the pasture by our house. It was just a little platform on a branch, but we had hours of fun in that tree house.

When we first moved to Fridley, my father had the idea we could raise chickens. So he got some chicks and my family built a chicken coop. We had chickens only one year, but after the chickens were gone our mother scrubbed down the chicken coop and it became a wonderful playhouse. One of the great delights in the summer was getting to have an overnight in that playhouse with our friends.

My parents planted vegetable gardens and we helped weed and harvest. The best part was when the tomatoes would ripen up and you could pick and eat them right out in the garden.

We did a lot of swimming, either at Rice Creek or Spring Lake. If our mom had time to take us we would go to the pool in Camden. Evenings we played round-robin softball or Annie, Annie over by our garage.

Vacation Bible School was always a part of summer for us. We were also active in 4H for a while. My sister and I sewed dresses and entered them in the Anoka County Fair where we modeled them in the grandstand. That was a big event.

There were not a lot of structured activities for us growing up in the 40's and 50's but we spent a lot of time playing outside and made a lot of good memories.



We Need Your Help

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time. They just have the heart". Elizabeth Andrews

By Mary Ann Hoffman

After months of planning and preparation, the Fridley Historical Society submitted an application for a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grant in mid-September. If approved, the grant will enable us to hire an interviewer to record 15 oral histories of people who lived and/or worked in Fridley in the years after World War II. These oral histories will help us collect key information regarding Fridley's suburban development, one of the defining periods in our community's history.

We won't know whether the grant is approved until late-October, but as we wait, our planning continues. The grant proposal included four parts: hiring a professional interviewer to conduct the interviews, paying someone (perhaps the interviewer) to transcribe seven of the interviews, contributing Fridley Historical Society volunteers to transcribe the remaining eight interviews, and purchasing a start-stop transcriber that can be used with a PC. We included volunteers in our proposal partly because we have a better chance of being awarded the grant if we are willing to donate some of our own labor to demonstrate our commitment to the project. That's where we need your help.

What is transcribing? It is typing up the interview while listening to it, while using the start-stop transcriber, so that we have both a recorded and written version of each interview. We are currently seeking volunteers to transcribe eight of the interviews. **You would be able to do the transcribing in your own home. We will provide guidelines and simple training. No experience or special skills are needed.** If we are awarded the grant, we plan to record and transcribe the interviews this winter.

Eight volunteers to complete eight transcripts would be fantastic! Additional volunteers would be even more welcome, as the work could then be shared. The Minnesota Historical Society estimates that for each hour of an interview, 12 hours are needed to transcribe it. Both the original recordings and the transcripts will then become part of the Fridley Historical Society archive and will be preserved for future generations. Sharing your time and your heart will be a way to contribute to the preservation of Fridley's history.

If you feel you might be interested in helping us out, or want additional information, please call the History Center at 763-571-0120 and leave a message. Someone will get back to you. Thank you!

Holiday Preparations



Be a part of preparing the History Center for the Christmas Holiday Season; mark your calendar for 9 a.m., Saturday, December 3. We will clean the History Center and then put up the trees and decorations. Come and help create a festive atmosphere for the season. Please call Mary Sue Meyers, 763-717-7987, or call the History Center, 763-571-0120, and

leave a message to let us know you can lend a helping hand. If you didn't remember to call, come anyway, all hands are welcome!

The Kindergarten Art Fair will be the next Saturday, December 10. It was cancelled last year due to inclement weather. Hopefully the weather will be more favorable this year.

The 2011 Hall of Fame Dinner

Two individuals and one couple who have contributed to the growth and quality of life in our community were inducted into the Fridley Hall of Fame at the eighth annual Hall of Fame Dinner at the Knights of Columbus Hall on September 17. Robert Christenson gave the welcome and opening remarks. Hall of Fame Chairman, Allen Taylor spoke about the significance of the Hall of Fame and introduced Hall of Fame inductees from former years. Mayor Scott Lund was the emcee of the event and introduced each of the inductees. Each inductee received an engraved acrylic award to keep. Their plaques were shown, and will be on display in the Hall of Fame at the Fridley History Center. Music was provided by Nick Luciw and Jacob Taylor on the violin and Anna Hare on the viola.

The 2011 Hall of Fame inductees are:

Mary Martin who has served with the Fridley Environmental Quality Commission and the Fridley Community Education Advisory Council. "Opening Doors for You," a history of community education in Fridley was authored by her. Mary chaired the Fridley Ethnic Festival planning committee, was a member of the Fridley Fine Arts Committee and started the Northeast Chamber Ensemble (now the Northeast Orchestra).

Don and Mary Sue Meyers: As an educator Don was one of the builders of a strong Fridley School system. He taught, coached and implemented the junior high transition to a middle school and implemented the BEST program which won national recognition. He finished his 34 year career at Fridley as principal of the High School. He was Executive Secretary of the Minnesota Couches Association and helped build the State High School League Wrestling tournament into one of the premier tournaments in the nation.

Mary Sue has volunteered 28 years with the 49'er Days Committee doing the parade reception and running the Fridley Ambassador Scholarship Program. She is Event Chair and a board member of the Fridley Historical Society. She worked with Fridley's 50 year celebration and has been a Girl Scout leader for 15 years. She was the first woman inducted into the Dave Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame for her work with the Minnesota State High School League.

Doyle Mullin: Doyle served on the Springbrook Nature Foundation Board and was President of the board for 17 years. He helped lead the Citizens' Committee of Fridley's Housing and Redevelopment Authority and three urban renewal projects. Doyle was a founding member of the Anoka County Council of Economic Opportunity. He has been honored by the City of Fridley with an appreciation day for his fifty years of service.



The 2011 Inductees: Left to right: Don Meyers, Mary Sue Meyers, Mary Martin and Doyle Mullin



Left to right: Mayor Scott Lund, Doyle Mullin holding his plaque and Robert Christenson holding the award.

Pictures from the 2011 Hall of Fame Dinner continued.



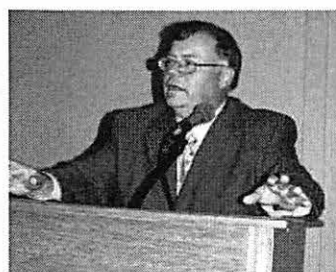
Mary Martin receiving her award.



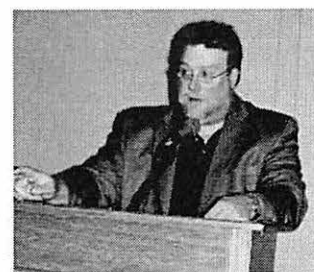
Left to right: Scott Lund, Don & Meyer Sue Meyers with their awards, Robert Christenson with their plaque and Allen Taylor.



Left to right: Tom Janda, Russ Henriksen, Allison Greupner, Nic Manos, Mary Sue Meyers, Don Meyers, Chris Meyers Janda, Kate Janda.



Emcee, Mayor Scott Lund



Hall of Fame Committee Chairman, Allen Taylor



Left to right: Hank Mullin, Bob Mullin, Doyle Mullin, Ninky Mullin, Jeff Mullin, Vicki Mullin, Tim Mullin, Sarah Mullin



Left to right: Jim Kordiak, Scott Lund, Kathy Taylor, Allen Taylor, Jacob Taylor



Left to right: Phyllis Banholzer, Helga Bode Johnson, Nancy Redmond, Ginny Jorgenson, Warren Woods, Marty Lueders, Maynard Nielsen, John Banholzer, Barney Buss, Ardella Buss.



Left to right: Connie Metcalf, Barbara Hughes, Beth Hitomi, Rev. Dana Williams, Michelle Wallace, Doug Root, Ed Meyer, Barbara Jackson (partially hidden), John Meyer, Lillian Meyer.



Left to right: Kate Kemper, Dick Kemper, Siah St. Clair, Eduardo Larranaga, Martha Larranaga, Malcolm Mitchell, Annette Mitchell, Chris Greene, Sarah Greene, Mary L. Larson, Ross G. Larson.



Left to right: Bob Barnette, Walt Wenholtz, Marshall Condra, Tommy Condra, Sandra Wenholtz, Marietta Holum, Don Holum.



Left to right: Marcia Schaaf, Bud Dauphin, Jim Peterson, Kathi Jo Chappell, Pat Feit, Nikki Kelly, Peter Kelly, Rich Kelly.



Left to right: Janelyn Stanton, Dick Stanton, Marilyn Seeman, Bill Beery, Drew Flathmann, Peggy Flathmann, Gordon Sangster, Angela Sangster.



Left to right: Alicia Manley, Margaret Jewison, Marilyn Manley, Jerry Manley, JoAnn Johnson, Lee Jones, Blaine Jones.



Left to right: Joyce Meyers, Victoria Saltz, Andrew Saltz, Ted Meyers, Craig Hohensee, Eileen Hohensee, Pat Barrett, Carolyn Van Buren.



Left to Right: Karla Ackerman, Debbie Roberge, Ron Malcolm, Mary Ann Hoffman, Dorothy Gargaro, Shirley Nelson (partially hidden), Bob Cook.



Dinner guests who came to honor the 2011 inductees

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson,
Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Fridley Pioneers: Abram and Betsy Fridley

Abram McCormick Fridley was born May 1, 1817 in Corning, Steuben County, New York. His parents were from Pennsylvania and of German descent. In April 1851 he was appointed agent for the Winnebago Indians, at Long Prairie, Minnesota, with the rank of Major. He was proud to explain that his appointment as major was the result of a personal summons to Washington by President Fillmore.

He moved to Manomin County, now Fridley, in 1854. He served as chairman of the Manomin County Board of Commissioners and was elected as a representative to the territorial legislature in 1855 and then to the state legislatures of 1869-70 and 1879. He served four years as a regent of the University of Minnesota.

He was active in politics and did a considerable amount of work for the development of the state. He was influential in the Democratic party and a delegate to the national party conventions in Charleston and Baltimore in 1860.

He acquired much of the land in Manomin County, at one time he reportedly owned almost half of the county. Somewhere along the way he changed the name of Manomin Township to Fridley. He was a personal friend and consultant of James J. Hill.

Abram Fridley died in 1888 and was survived by wife Betsy Ann and their three sons, Henry, Frank and David. Betsy Ann remained in their Fridley home with her son Henry, until her death in 1901.

Information taken from article in "Fridley— It's History and People."

The Record



Upcoming Events



Saturday, December 3
9 a.m.

**Cleaning and decorating the
History Center for the
Holidays**

Saturday, December 10
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

**Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair
at the Fridley History Center**

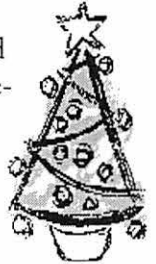
Monday, December 12, 7 p.m.
**Kids From Fridley
Holiday Concert**

The History Center will be
closed on Dec. 24.

*Don't miss the Membership
form on the back page. Be
sure to fill it out and send it in
with your dues.*

Help Make the History Center Sparkle for the Holidays

Volunteers are needed Saturday, December 3, 9 a.m. to clean and decorate the History Center for the Holidays. Come and help create a festive atmosphere for the season. Call Mary Sue Meyers, 763-717-7987 and let her know you can lend a helping hand. If you don't get a chance to call her, come anyway. Your help will be very appreciated.



The Kids From Fridley Holiday Concert



Monday, December 12, 7 p.m., enjoy the Kids From Fridley Middle School vocal ensemble, led by Blair Burger, singing the songs of the Holiday Season. The concert will be in the Fridley High School cafeteria, 6000 West Moore Lake Drive.

After the concert Christmas cookies and delicious hot wassail will be served

Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair

Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the holiday art of the kindergarten children from Hayes and Stevenson schools will be on exhibit in the west classroom and the lower level of the Fridley History Center. The children and their parents will be invited see their art displayed. Photos will be taken of each child proudly displaying his or her art in front of the Christmas trees. The visitors will be welcomed with apple cider and Christmas cookies



Dorothy Gargaro, City History Chairperson, is organizing the event. This a free event, a gift to the community from the Fridley Historical Society.



Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

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

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society

Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Discussion Item:

Hoffman reported that she submitted a grant request for a Minnesota Historical and Cultural grant in the category of oral history. She said there could be one of three outcomes: we could receive the grant, she could be asked to revise the request or the grant could be denied.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Taylor reported that 106 people attended the Hall of Fame dinner September 17, including several previous Hall of Fame inductees. The event was a success. Expenses were covered.

Fund Raising: A book signing for Taylor's book, "The Night the Sirens Blew" will be held soon at Bob's Produce Ranch. The proceeds will go the Fridley Historical Society. We hope to sell copies of "Fridley—It's History and People" at the event as well.

Maintenance: Gargaro contacted Martin Lueders concerning shoveling snow. He said he would be willing to set up a schedule of people to help. We are grateful to him and also Al Madison, Gordy Christenson and Bill Linton who have volunteered to help.

Gargaro also contacted a Boy Scout troop of older scouts who will lower and raise the flag when it is necessary.

Meyers reported that there is a foul smell that comes when the hot water is run. She will look into the cause of the odor and what can be done about it.

Goals for 2012 were discussed. Some of the goals are:

- Encouraging tours of the History Center by school children and scout troops.
- Occasional History conversations
- More interpretive information on displays
- Update website
- Recruit more members
- Increase fund raising

We discussed the possibility of selling packaged food on the front lawn during the 49ers' Days parade.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

Harvest Potluck Dinner and Fridley Historical Society 2011 Annual Business Meeting October 18, 2011 at the Fridley History Center

Vice President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and it was opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Treasurer's Report:

Judy Anderson reported that for the year ending Dec. 2010 we had \$13,998 in income and \$13,712 in expenses, which results in an income of \$286. The Franklin Templeton investment was \$7,902 at that time.

Through September 2011 we have had an income of \$13,388 and expenses of \$9,614 which results in a net income of \$3,774. The Franklin Templeton Investment through September was \$7,774. No major expenses have been incurred this year. A financial report is available to members.

Committee Reports:



Allen Taylor

Hall of Fame: Chairperson Allen Taylor reported that 106 attended the Hall of Fame Dinner on September 17 at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The 2011 inductees were Mary Martin, Don and Sue Meyers and Doyle Mullin. There was an income of \$2700. The expenses were \$2,573 leaving a balance of \$127.

The Knights of Columbus Hall will close December 31, 2011, which means we will need to find a new venue for the Hall of Fame Dinner next year.

Programs and Events: Chairperson Mary Sue Meyers reported that November 29, 2010 the History Center was cleaned and decorated for the Holiday events which had to be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions.

In February we had a Valentine potluck and game night. April 16 we held the Lasagna Dinner and Sweepstakes at the American Legion Hall which brought in \$3,000. In June we sponsored a float in the 49ers' Day parade with the Fridley Band playing on a wagon pulled by a N.E. Towing truck. AugustFest on August 8 had a good attendance. Mayor Scott Lund served ice cream cones from Kemps.



Mary Sue Meyers

Volunteers to clean and decorate the History Center on December 3 would be welcomed. The Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair will be December 10.

A request was made for people to serve as docents for the Saturday open houses and for people to make contacts for prizes for the annual Lasagna dinner.



Dorothy Gargaro

City History: Chairperson Dorothy Gargaro reported that the "Fridley—Its History and People" books will be for sale at the city hall and senior center for \$29.95 including sales tax.

Some goals for the coming year are to encourage more tours of the History Center by school children and scout troops, update our website and have more interpretation for items on display.

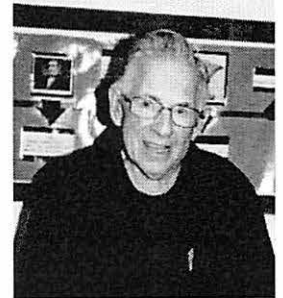
(Continued on next page.)



Tom Freund, Dick Schroer and Mike Schroer with the Wind Mill Award presented to Bob's Produce.

We have a new annual award—The Windmill certificate, created by Dorothy Gargaro. The first Windmill award went to Bob's Produce for being so willing and gracious about selling our history books.

Archives: Chairperson Pete Bonesteel reported that he, his wife Mary and Dorothy Gargaro had done displays at the Mississippi Branch Library in February and September. Hopefully the displays will create curiosity about the Fridley Historical Society. He said they will do the February and September displays in 2012 and could use some new ideas.



Pete Bonesteel



Mary Ann Hoffman

Membership: Chairperson Mary Ann Hoffman reported that we have 167 members. 10 are new members. We have four business members and three nonprofit organization members. Dues brought in \$1,917 and donations \$1,897 for the year.

Public Relations and Newsletter: Chairperson Grace Norton reported that eight newsletters, "The Record," have been sent out since the October 2010 business meeting. Mary Ann Hoffman has contributed "A Dive into the Archive" articles that add interest to the newsletter. She is grateful to Bernadine Matushak for her help mailing the newsletters.



Grace Norton

It would be helpful if the snowbirds would let us know the date they leave town for the winter and when they return so we don't get letters returned to the History Center, for which we have to pay postage. If you let us know your winter address you can continue receiving the newsletter while you are gone.

Robert Christenson closed the meeting with comments about the importance of volunteerism and the importance of preserving Fridley's history.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary



The Harvest Potluck Dinner

Mary Sue Meyers decorations and some of the delicious spread for the Harvest Potluck Dinner

Left to right: Barney & Ardella Buss, Mary Bonesteel, Roger and Gwen Nawrocki dishing up for the dinner



Fridley Historical Society is Awarded Minnesota Legacy Grant

By Mary Ann Hoffman

The Fridley Historical Society is excited to announce that we are a recipient of a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant for the amount of \$5,114. The grant request was submitted in September and awarded in October for a project entitled "Post World War II Suburban Development of Fridley, Minnesota." After paperwork is completed with the Minnesota Historical Society, which administers the grant program, we will begin our project of hiring a trained interviewer to digitally record 15 oral histories of people who lived and/or worked in Fridley during the years 1945-1970. These oral histories will then be transcribed and preserved in the FHS archive.

The grant will allow us to explore the suburban development of Fridley, which led to our rapid population and industrial growth after WWII. The following excerpt from the grant application explains that "a purpose of this project is to begin chronicling this suburban development while people who experienced it are still around to share it with us; another purpose is to examine the extent to which Fridley's postwar development exemplifies the suburban development that spread across the U.S. following WWII as a reaction to severe housing shortages and the search for the 'American Dream'. Topics to be examined include neighborhood patterns, housing, demographics, transportation, occupations, proximity to work, the effects of the GI Bill and the Baby Boom, family life, education, and recreation." Our goal is to use the information collected in the interviews for future projects that will enable the Historical Society to share Fridley's suburbanization story with our members, as well as with the wider public. It is a story worth sharing, as Fridley was one of the first suburban areas in the metro area to be developed after WWII..

The Fridley Historical Society is still looking for volunteers to help transcribe the interviews. As stated in the last newsletter, this is something you can do in your own home with a PC. If you would like to borrow the stop/start transcriber we will be purchasing with grant funds, you will be welcome to do so, though it isn't necessary. No experience or special skills are needed. Your help in this endeavor would be very much appreciated. You can contact us at the History Center, 763-571-0120 and someone will get back to you. Thank you!

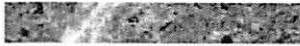
***Editor's note:** Mary Ann did the work of applying for this grant. We congratulate her for her success and thank her for her work. Let's back her up by volunteering to help with the transcriptions.*

Fridley History Center Tours

If you work with a group of children or adults and want to give them a taste of local history; or are just looking for an interesting place to visit, the Fridley History Center would be an excellent place to take them on a tour—and it's cost free. Several Boy and Girl Scout troops have enjoyed tours in the past. If you are an English as a Second Language instructor it could give your students a more concrete sense of American history. It's location at 611 Mississippi Street is easy to get to and the times are adaptable.

To arrange a tour call the History Center at 763-571-0120 and leave your name and number and let us know what group you would like to bring. A Fridley Historical Society board member will get back to you and arrange a time for you to come.





Dive into the Archive

The District 14 Bulletin

By Mary Ann Hoffman

In my last column, I left readers with a question: although today Fridley is the 30th largest city in Minnesota, what was its ranking in 1967? It turns out the answer is 11th, a fact I learned by reading the March 1967 issue of the *District Bulletin*, published by Fridley District 14, and the subject of this column. Did you have a connection to District 14 in 1967? Perhaps you had children attending one of the schools, or someone in your family was a district employee. Or possibly you were a taxpayer who helped pay for the quality education provided by Fridley schools. All three, anyone? Although the Historical Society archive contains numerous District 14 bulletins, I chose this one because its lead article, "History of District 14 Shows Dramatic Growth," provides a capsule history of the district, which was created by vote in 1947. The article chronicles the expanding population of Fridley, which in 1940 was 3,000, by 1950 had grown to 10,000, and by 1960, had reached 23,000. So in just 20 years, the population increased by a phenomenal 667%. By comparison, today's population of 27,208 reflects an 18% increase over the last 50 years.



The article explains that Fridley kids were sometimes "farmed out" to neighboring Columbia Heights and Minneapolis schools, and I was surprised to learn that during the 1948-49 school year all elementary students were taught in the administration building at the Twin Cities Arsenal. By 1956, the district was well on its way to constructing buildings for Fridley students. In fact, the article states that "before one school construction job was completed, the Board of Education found it necessary to begin planning the next." By 1967, four elementary schools were up and running, Gardena was under construction, and the board was studying the need for an additional elementary school. The junior high, built in 1955, required three additions within the next 11 years, and the board was studying the feasibility of adding a "much-needed" auditorium to the senior high, the completion of which would make the senior high "as fine a school as can be found in the metropolitan area."

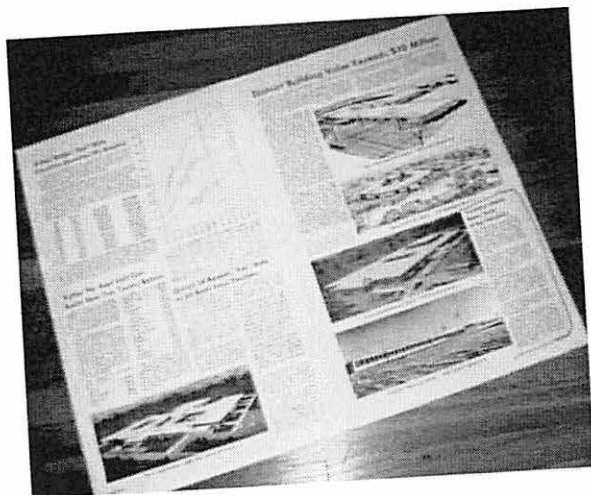
A chart inside the bulletin shows the increase in student enrollment over the years. In 1957-58, enrollment stood at 1400 (K-12), in 1962-63, that number had increased to 4200, and by 1966-67, it had reached 5300. The district correctly predicted that future growth would be more moderate.

An article on page 3, focusing on finances, points out that the district building value exceeded \$10 million, which was 45 times greater than 15 years earlier. It adds that Rice Creek and Parkview schools had been built for \$12 a square foot, and that even the senior high had been built for the "amazing low cost" of \$12 a square foot. However, construction of Gardena was costing the district \$16 a square foot due to inflation. Today, schools are built at a cost of over \$100 a square foot.

A photo on the front page shows James A. Thayer, Board Chairman, congratulating the Fridley Teacher of the Year, Donald Berry, a sixth grade teacher at the Junior High Elementary School. He would have been selected from a certified staff of 233, which had grown from 44 teachers in the district in 1957-58.

At some point, someone wrote on the front of this particular bulletin in red marker, "See Page 3" and inside, a brief article is noted with the same red marker. "Curriculum Council Begins Study of Sex Education" caught somebody's attention. However, the article seems benign enough, sharing that the Curriculum Council had been studying the

(Continued on pg. 7)

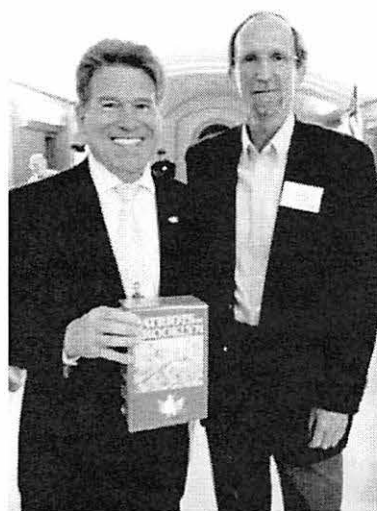


matter of sex education with support shown at PTA meetings. A sub-committee had been appointed to determine the objectives of a sex education program and was to submit a report by the end of the school year.

Evidence of the postwar Baby Boom is seen in an article which points out that, collectively, the five board members had 23 children, ranging in age from 22 months to 24 years, and 16 of them were currently enrolled in Fridley schools. A news brief states that Fridley High School for the "last two years had been named a state physical education demonstration center by the President's Council on Physical Fitness", the first school in Minnesota to receive the designation. At a recent assembly, the superintendent had been presented with the official pennant. Many other bits of information can be gleaned by reading the bulletin.

In my next column I will examine a variety of resources that describe the construction of Columbia Arena, which was dedicated in 1969.

Darryl Sannes Appointed to Civil War Task Force by Governor Mark Dayton



Left to right: Secretary of State. Mark Ritchie and Darryl Sannes

With the coming of the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, Governor Mark Dayton appointed Darryl Sannes as a Civil War Task Force citizen member. The task force's goal for the next four years is to promote and share the rich history of the American Civil War and Minnesota's connection. Darryl served on a Brooklyn Historical Society subcommittee that recently authored and published the third and final book of the series, "Patriots of Brooklyn: Suppressors of the Great Slaveholder Rebellion." After researching the lives of dozens of Civil War veterans from Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, and northeast Hennepin County and visiting numerous Civil War battle grounds, Darryl is an excellent choice for this task force. He and his wife, Diane, have promoted the use of the "Patriots of Brooklyn" series in local libraries and for classroom curriculum in schools to help grow appreciation for the many brave Minnesotans who served in the Civil War. In his new role, Darryl will continue to expand knowledge of the Civil War by making visits and being available for educational presentations at numerous schools and historical societies. Other members of Gov. Dayton's Civil War Task Force include Caleb Anderson of Maplewood, Patricia Bauer of Minneapolis, Paul Buchel of Minneapolis, Dennis Devereaux of Lilydale, Thomas Heffelfinger of Eden Prairie, Brandon Peters of Owatonna and Jeffery Williams of St. Paul. We congratulate Darryl on this new and exciting appointment.

Darryl is the husband of Diane Sannes, a new member of the Fridley Historical Society.

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

It's Membership Renewal Time

Instead of finding your Fridley Historical Society 2012 renewal form in your mailbox as usual, please fill in the renewal form below and mail it to the address provided. We are an all-volunteer organization that relies on membership dues for our day-to-day operations, as well as to fulfill our mission of collecting, preserving and disseminating the history of the City of Fridley. We appreciate your continued support and generosity.



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Dues for 2012: One Senior is \$10.00, One Individual is \$12.50, Family (2 Adults or 2 Seniors, same household) is \$18.50. Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals. Make checks payable to Fridley Historical Society.

Dues \$ _____ Additional tax-deductible donation \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

Thank you!