

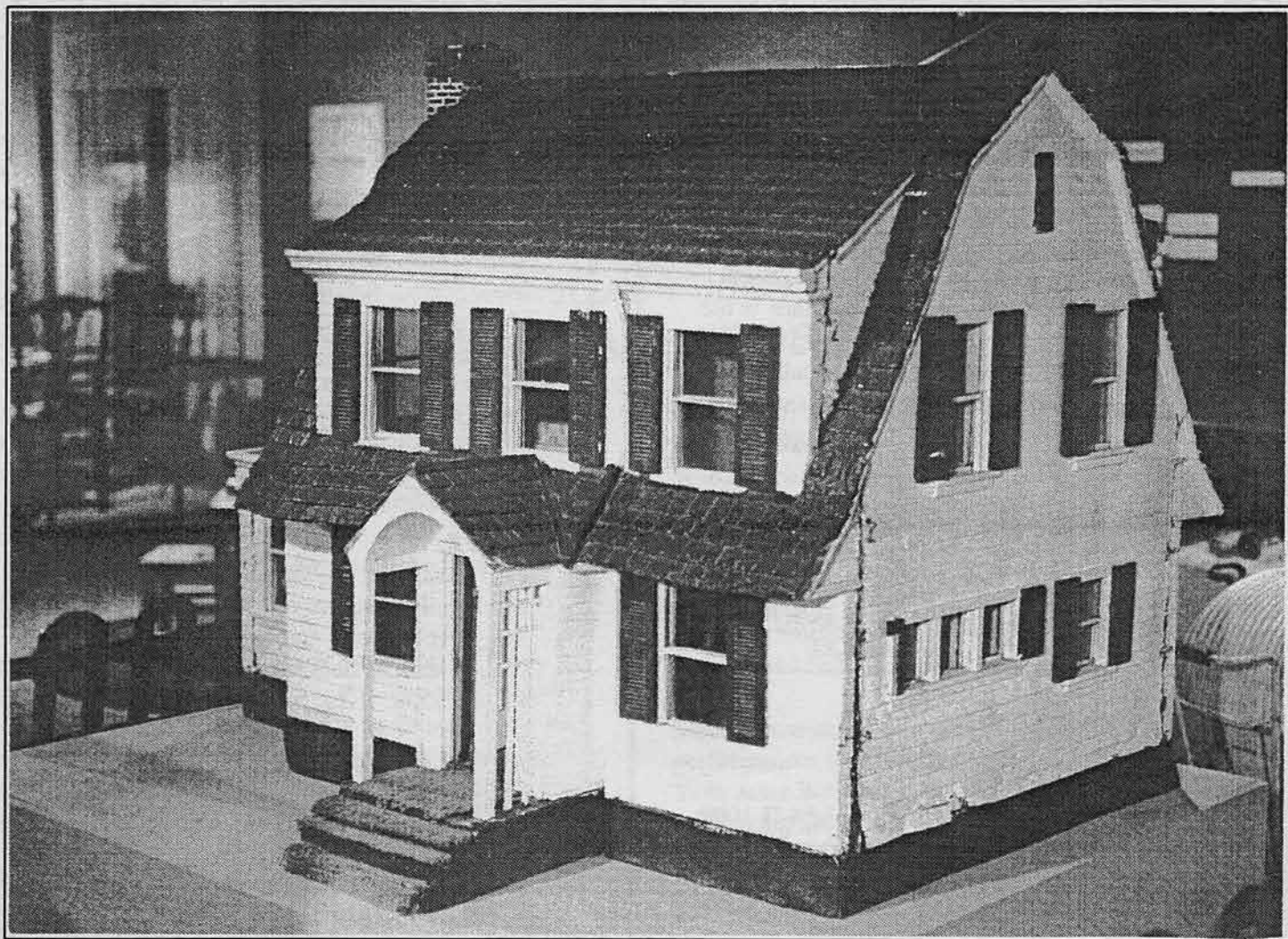
CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter

May/June 2002

Vol. XXV. No. 3



The dollhouse opener for the "Toys" exhibit is a handcrafted work of art. It's impressive size and interesting history has drawn a lot of attention lately. The original house is at 503 9th St S, Moorhead.
See Pages 5-6 for story.

President's Column

By President Donna Voxland

Spring is a season of change. And we have certainly had our share of change this spring. But we know that everything will work out and we will eventually have summer once again.



This spring is also a season of change at the Clay County Historical Society. As you see, we have a new Board President. My name is Donna Voxland and I have been a board member for three years. I have enjoyed serving on the Board and feel that I now have a much deeper appreciation for the work of our staff and their commitment to CCHS. Our newest board member is John Elton of Hawley. Welcome John!

Another change for CCHS is a new Director starting June 1. Lisa Hanson has been hired to replace our Office Manager, Margaret Ristvedt. Lisa has been working as Assistant Director of the Codington County Historical Society and Museum in Watertown, South Dakota and comes to us with a lot of experience in the workings of a museum and historical society. She is familiar with our operation since she was a college intern at our museum in 1997. We are very excited to have her joining us, though we will miss Margaret very much.

As spring slides into summer and family or friends come to visit, be sure to bring them to the Clay County Museum and share memories over the Toys, Toys, Toys? exhibition, as well as all the other great offerings of the Hjemkomst Center.....And meet Lisa!

4-H items sought for 100th Anniversary Display

CCHS is privileged to be a part of a special 4-H 100th Anniversary display at the Clay County Fair Grounds in Barnesville on July 11-14. Selected artifacts from the CCHS collections will be used.

The Clay Co. Extension office is searching for 4-H-related items to borrow for this display. Please call the Extension office at 299-5020 for more information. Ask for Nancy or Cathy.

Toy Trivia●●●●●●●●●●

Lionel trains were originally designed over 100 years ago to catch the eye of New York window shoppers. Today, they manufacture 100 miles of track each year.

Lincoln Logs were invented in 1919 by John Lloyd Wright, son of the famous architect Frank. The K'nex Company still makes the original set in a nostalgic tin.

(Taken from "Facts of Life, March 2002, Richtman's Press Club.)

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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1930 US Census coming soon!

By the time you read this, the CCHS archives MAY have microfilm copies of the 1930 US Census Population Schedules for Clay County. Federal law requires that the schedules listing the names, ages, occupations and other detailed information about individuals not be released until 72 years after the census date. (That was the average life expectancy of an American in 1978 when the legislation was passed.) As the 1930 census was officially conducted April 1, 1930, the National Archives released the films April 1, 2002. We ordered our copy on the 2nd. It should be here soon. (If you just can't wait, films are now available for perusing at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington and the NARA Branches in Chicago, Denver and Kansas City.)

Census records are, of course, extremely valuable for genealogists and others interested in local history. The release of a new batch of film is always exciting. CCHS already holds microfilm copies of the US Census schedules for the county for 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 and 1920. The 1890 schedules for Clay County (and almost all the rest of the country) were severely damaged in a fire in the 1920s. Surviving remnants were disposed of in the 1930s before microfilming. The

Moorhead Public Library has the federal census rolls for the whole state of Minnesota.

Fortunately, Minnesota conducted its own set of censuses in the off years of 1875, 1885, 1895 and 1905. These really help bracket that missing federal year. CCHS has copies of these available for the county. Moorhead Public Library also has these for the whole state. (Interestingly, the state censuses on 1895 and 1905 asked respondents how long in years and months they had lived in Minnesota and how long in that enumeration district – very helpful!)

The 1930 schedules asked questions similar to those found on earlier federal forms with a few additions. These include the value of the family's home, if owned, or the monthly rent paid; whether the family owned a radio or not; if the person was actually at work the previous day (or the last regular work day); if the person was a military veteran and in which war or expedition the person served.

Watch this space for updates!

Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival - June 27-30 Bergquist Cabin open house - June 27-28-29

The 1870 Bergquist Pioneer Log Cabin in North Moorhead will be open from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 27, 28 and 29, in conjunction with the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival at the Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave N., Moorhead. CCHS is partnering with the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival this year.

Activities at the cabin will include tours by CCHS Archivist Mark Peihl, musical entertainment, Swedish craft demonstrations, refreshments and many hands-on activities. A shuttle bus, sponsored by State Bank of Moorhead, will operate between the cabin and the Hjemkomst Center all three days of the open house.

The open house is co-sponsored by the Swedish Cultural Heritage Society and Clay County Historical Society. For more information call 299-5520.

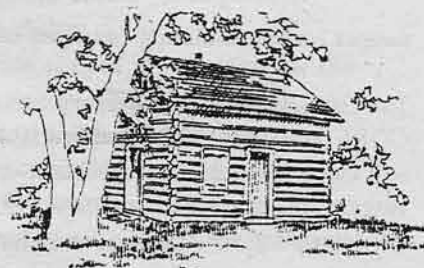
The 25th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival will be held

June 27-30. The festival features authentic Scandinavian and Scandinavian-American ethnic entertainment,

music and folk dancing, a marketplace, foods, exhibitions and demonstrations of arts, crafts and ethnic traditions from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Scandinavian-America.

Since Denmark is featured this year there will be performances of Hans Christian Andersen by New York actor Rolf Stang, original works by Danish artists and Viking Ship Park will be decorated in the style of Copenhagen's famous Tivoli Garden. A special LEGOLand activity area and display will be found in the Scandinavian Marketplace.

For more information call 299-5452 or log on to the web site at www.scandinavianhjemkomstfestival.org.

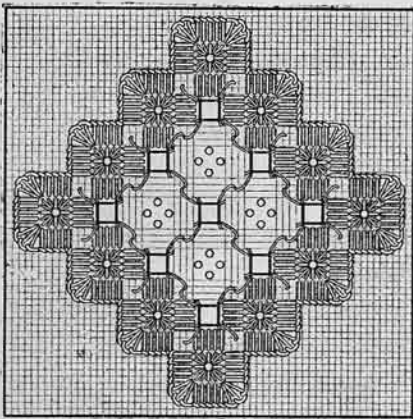


Outreach Displays

	Open	Close
Barnesville Public Library	May	August
Hawley Public Library	May	August
Moorhead Public Library	May	August
Fargo-Moorhead CVB	May	October

A BURNING IMPRESSION opens at the Hawley Public Library. The art of pyrography or decorative wood burning is the featured craft, but examples of other wood-related arts are also on display.

HARDANGER: FACTS AND FUN at the Moorhead Public Library shows step-by-step instructions with examples, pictures and illustrations that show the basics of Hardanger for beginners. For the experienced, read about the history of Hardanger and see stunning examples of this beautiful work.



The Barnesville Public Library features A CASE OF COKE with collectibles and fun facts about this popular soft drink. Sara Pudas, 1998 Concordia College graduate, researched, developed and mounted this display as part of her internship at CCHS.

The case at the Fargo Convention and Visitors' Bureau along I-94 shouts LET'S PLAY BALL! This display is a tribute to our area's long history of baseball and softball.

IN-HOUSE DISPLAYS

In May, the Probstfield collections on view in the east hall case will close. The new display of Olav Weighorst's works of art will honor Denmark - the featured country this year at the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival. The display closes early in July. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Festival which runs from June 27 - 30. Check out their new web site at www.scandinavianhjemkomstfestival.org.

A small case promoting our TOYS, TOYS, TOYS! exhibit is on view in the lobby at the Hjemkomst Center. These toys will whet your appetite for the main exhibit in the CCHS exhibit hall just down the stairs.

Artifacts and Donors

March/April 2002

Donors include:

Moorhead:[Family] In Memory of Ralph & Elsie Lee,
Donna McMaster, O. "Bud" Swanson, Ellen
Ramstad Wright, Morrie Lanning, William
Palma, Eddie Gudmundson, Paula Bauck,
Adolph Miller, Elsie Berge
Glyndon: Lucia Schroeder
Hawley: City Of Hawley
Fargo, ND: Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Fugere
Rutland, VT: Mrs. Richard [Ann B.] Hamilton

Artifacts include:

(36) scrapbooks compiled by Elsie Lee dating from 1934 to 2001, (3) annuals: 1952 MSTC Baby Dragon; 1952 [MSTC] The Dragon, 1953 MSTC Baby Dragon, nail barrel used as seating at the (MSTC) campus school during story time, Ralph Lee's WWII jacket, garrison cap & dog tags; salt & pepper shaker, Northwestern State Bank, Ulen, Minn.; apron, 2 pc suit and dress which were 4-H projects belonging to mother Lucia and daughter Ann's later 4-H projects of a blouse and prom dress plus newspaper clippings, (2) 4-H song books, (10) photos, clothing display sign etc.; photo, Ole Olson & Andrew Teigen, photo of a group at NDAC[?] w/Swenke Swenkeson[?] identified, writing tablet, "Tablet No. 1 Independent School District No. 2, " [Moorhead], datebook, "WH Diemert & Co. Inc." 1915 with record of garage rent payments for 1930 & 1931 having a price list inside for Diemert's many alcoholic beverages; (7) guest books dating from Oct. 1974 to July 1981 during viewing of the Bob Asp Viking replica ship *Hjemkomst* construction in Hawley, programs for the Viking ship's christening ceremonies, (98) loose pinback buttons with ship graphic along with the "Viking Ship Buttons \$1" sale sign also balloons with ship graphic; log cabin pattern baby quilt made in Moorhead by Mrs. Anton [Sigrid] Ramstad - she died ca 1942; photocopies of former Mayor Lanning's State of the City addresses from 1980 - 2001 plus a photocopy of his announcement that he would not run for re-election; 3-way light bulb from the late 1930s-early 1940s; (2) radiological survey meters last serviced in 1979, instruction booklets, one head set, two dosimeters and dosimeter charger, radiation exposure card dated 1964; set of two "Rocket" pens in cardboard folder, "Merry Christmas" and brochure dated 1946; booklet, *Can Meats Now*, Bulletin No. 1138 by Kerr Glass Manufacturing Corp. dated 1937; book, *Soil Survey of Clay County, Minn.* 1982, (3) Clay County, Minnesota atlases 1964, 1973 and 1977, a 1 gal. Sears & Roebuck Farm Master Pasteurizer ca 1950 used in Felton Twp. and a "Seeburo" thermometer also used in Felton Twp., a floating dairy thermometer; certificate for the Military Order of the Loyal Legion for First Lieutenant Franklin James Burnham, 9th New Hampshire Infantry dated Feb. 11, 1890; book, *On Firm Foundation Grounded*, by Carroll Engelhardt, a small collection of 1960s-1970s airline gate passes and rail ticket stubs; one page of a business letterhead of Henry Schroeder, Grower and Shipper dated Nov. 30, 1909.

A big story about a little house

Editor's note:

Recent media coverage of a historic dollhouse in the Clay County Museum has prompted lots of interest. For those of you who wondered how it started and what the resolution was - here is the story.

By Pam Burkhardt

The Exhibition.....

The "opener" for the Toys, Toys, Toys! exhibit is a larger than average dollhouse. The exhibition opened on October 2001. In December 2001, the *Fargo Forum* did an article on the new exhibit, including photos of the dollhouse. Shortly after seeing the *Forum* article Delores Sandbeck called the museum to tell us she was the original owner of the dollhouse. Sandbeck told us how she lost the house when it was sent to Lindy's Doll Hospital in Fargo for restoration. Violet and Harold Lindgren owned Lindy's Doll Hospital, and when the business closed in the mid-1980s, the dollhouse was in their possession. Sandbeck said when she couldn't find her dollhouse after the hospital closed, she thought it was gone for good. Now that it had turned up again she was interested in getting the dollhouse back.

Prior to Sandbeck's visit, CCHS staff did not know the early history of the dollhouse.

In December 1987, Karen Ochoa, a daughter of the Lindgren's, gave the dollhouse to CCHS. Ochoa donated the dollhouse in her mother's name (Violet Lindgren) and in her father's memory (Harold "Lindy" Lindgren) and signed a donor form that states in part "there are no other claims" against the artifact. Ochoa's understanding was that the Lindgren's acquired the house by purchase - time and place unknown. It is known that the dollhouse was displayed for several years in the front window of Lindy's Doll Hospital located on South 8th Street in Fargo.

When the dollhouse was received by CCHS it was placed in one of the historical society's secure storage areas where temperature and humidity are monitored to provide the optimum environment for preservation of the artifacts. Staff's research attempts on the dollhouse proved futile. The house was supposed to have been modeled after a Moorhead home, but the location of that house was not known. When an artifact is used in an exhibition, museum staff try to get as much information as possible concerning its history.

Very little was known about the dollhouse prior to its arrival at the museum. However, when it was decided to do the Toys, Toys, Toys! exhibit, the dollhouse provided a **perfect** "opener" and even though its provenance was not well documented, it was decided to put it on display in the exhibition.

Deaccessioning procedures.....

Once an artifact has been accessioned, there is a very exacting procedure to follow in order to deaccession it. The Board of Directors, as Trustees of the Collections, have a responsibility to the public to ensure the integrity of the Collections. A complicating factor was that the request was not by the original donor.

When Sandbeck asked about having the dollhouse returned to her, she was instructed to start the deaccession process by sending the CCHS Board a letter that included documentation of her relationship to the dollhouse, and what steps she took to try to get it back once it was lost.

Sandbeck wrote a letter to the board, and brought in a copy of a 1938 *Fargo Forum* article (with photos) showing her as a child with her dollhouse. This documentation has become part of the signage for the dollhouse in the "Toys" exhibit. The article includes information on Sandbeck's mother, Mrs. Andrew Larson, and her efforts to build the dollhouse for her daughter. This proved the original relationship. The documentation still needed concerned the steps Sandbeck took to try to recover the dollhouse once it was no longer in her possession. The law holds that people are responsible for knowing the whereabouts of their property and the legal system is set up to recover property when you are wrongfully deprived of it. If Sandbeck had used any legal process to recover her property it would have been verifiable and would have provided the necessary documentation. There was no documentation available.

Even if legal documentation had been presented immediately, the museum still had to follow specific museum procedures for deaccessioning artifacts

The *Fargo Forum* ran an article about the request for the dollhouse and presented the stories of the

(Continued on Page 6)

Dollhouse...(Continued from Page 5)
original owner and the donor. KSTP, a television station out of the Twin Cities, did an "On the Road" feature that offered the public only one side of the story. It was labeled a "controversy" in the feature, and thus, became one. CCHS received angry calls, letters and emails and even one minor case of vandalism!

Later a WDAY-TV newscast noted that clear title was needed and that standard museum procedures had to be followed for the deaccessioning process to move forward.

Resolution

During the two month time period covered in the above narration, CCHS received a number of letters from Sandbeck's former neighbors and acquaintances to verify that she mentioned to them that she had lost track of the dollhouse after taking it to the doll hospital. Sandbeck then talked to Ochoa who sent a letter to the CCHS Board saying, "...if I would have been able to find this family years ago, I would have given the house back, but I didn't have their names."

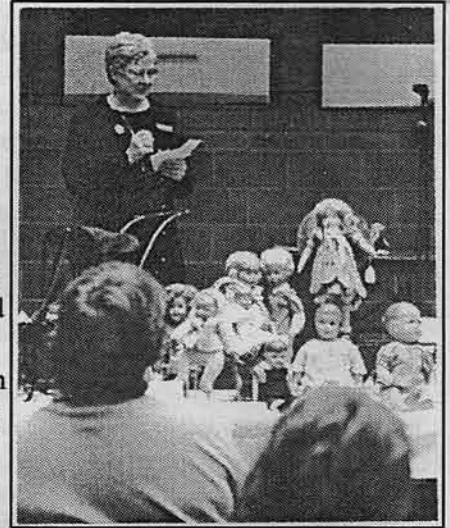
When these documents were presented at the April 17 board meeting, the Board felt it was enough to allow them in good conscience to authorize that the dollhouse be deaccessioned and returned to the original owner, Delores Sandbeck. It should be noted that both Sandbeck and Ochoa attended the April 17 meeting and were in agreement as to the final disposition of the dollhouse.

Sandbeck very graciously reiterated at the Board Meeting, that she in no way wanted to disrupt the "Toys" exhibition and would be very willing for the dollhouse to remain on display throughout the rest of its tenure. "Toys" is scheduled to close in October at which time the dollhouse will be returned to Sandbeck with grateful thanks for allowing CCHS to use it. In the future Sandbeck intends to have it restored to its original

condition and has commented that once it is restored she might loan it to the museum to once again be displayed.

CCHS Staff is grateful for the support and advice received during this procedure from Tim Glines, Minnesota Historical Society Outreach Services Manager; Marcia Anderson, MHS Chief Curator and Head of Museum Collections; Steve Aakre, attorney and CCHS Board Member; and the entire CCHS Board of Directors.

If you have any questions about this article and/or the museum procedures (which were touched on in the above article), please get in touch with CCHS at 299-5520. Ask for Pam.



Jeanne Everhart, President of the Red River Valley Doll Club coordinated the March 23 program on doll collecting. A large enthusiastic crowd attended. Next doll collecting program is set for October 2002. Watch this newsletter for details.



CCHS Volunteers received 1 year pins at the Volunteer Appreciation dinner on April 30 include: front row (l to r) Beth Brunnelle, Dorothy Dodds, Gertrude Knutson, and Marilyn Smith; back row (l to r) Vicki Paulsen, Ashley Champ, Al Rieniets, Don Lein, Pat Hesteness, Rod Angstman and Shirley Stelter.

Website update

Our website continues to generate interest. In January we started tracking first time visits to our home page through the Web-Stat Traffic Analysis Service. Since then we've logged about ten hits per day on average, over 1400 total (as of April 25). These have come from all over the US, Canada, Britain, Scandinavia, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Japan, South Africa, New Zealand and Saudi Arabia among other places.

We're in the process of adding new content as well. The 1933 rural resident directory list now includes village residents. Recently we acquired the real and personal property tax lists for the county for 1905, 1915 and 1925 and other years. Our volunteers are busy keying in the names, townships and school

districts of the personal property taxpayers into databases, which we will add to the site. Spot-checking has shown that the 1905 list records about 85% of the heads of households listed on the 1905 Minnesota State Census. Thus the list can tell you in which township your ancestor lived – a short cut to the census.

Collections Manager Pam Burkhardt is preparing photos and information about some of our quilts for the site. Archivist Mark Peihl is developing pages about steamboats on the Red River and Red River carts. The later will include a recording of the carts' infamous squeak! Log on to www.info.co.clay.mn.us/history and let us know what you think. Your opinions are important to us!

Viking tour set for Dec. 9-10

Clay County Historical Society and FM Communiversity are collaborating on a very special Viking tour and lecture series set for Nov. and Dec.

The tour is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 9 and 10. It will include the traveling exhibit "Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga," at the Science Museum of Minnesota plus other attractions in the Twin Cities and in Little Falls.

The Smithsonian Institution organized the "Viking" exhibit, a world-renowned exhibit of Vikings art, artifacts, and historical objects. The exhibit features objects on loan from museums throughout Europe and represents one of the best collections of Vikings artifacts ever assembled, including Viking Age jewelry, wooden carvings, and grave goods dated from 800 to 1050 A.D.; medieval church carvings dated from 1050 to 1400 A.D.; Romantic period (1800-1900s) paintings, and contemporary pop-culture items. The exhibition brings together artifacts representing all the countries that the Vikings visited during their westward expansion.

Viking Lecture Series

Verlyn Anderson, an authority on Scandinavian history will present the FM Communiversity course called by the same title "Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga" from 2-4 p.m. at Riverview Place, four Saturdays in November - 2, 9, 16, and 23. There is no charge for the lecture series that is funded in part by the North Dakota Humanities Council.

Anderson is a retired Concordia College Librarian and an authority on Scandinavian history. His light-hearted approach to history will make these classes and this tour a very special experience.

Other tentative stops on the tour include the American Swedish Institute, the Lindberg House and new Interpretive Center at Little Falls and a theater experience, possible the Christmas show of "How to Talk Minnesotan" at the Plymouth Playhouse, Plymouth.

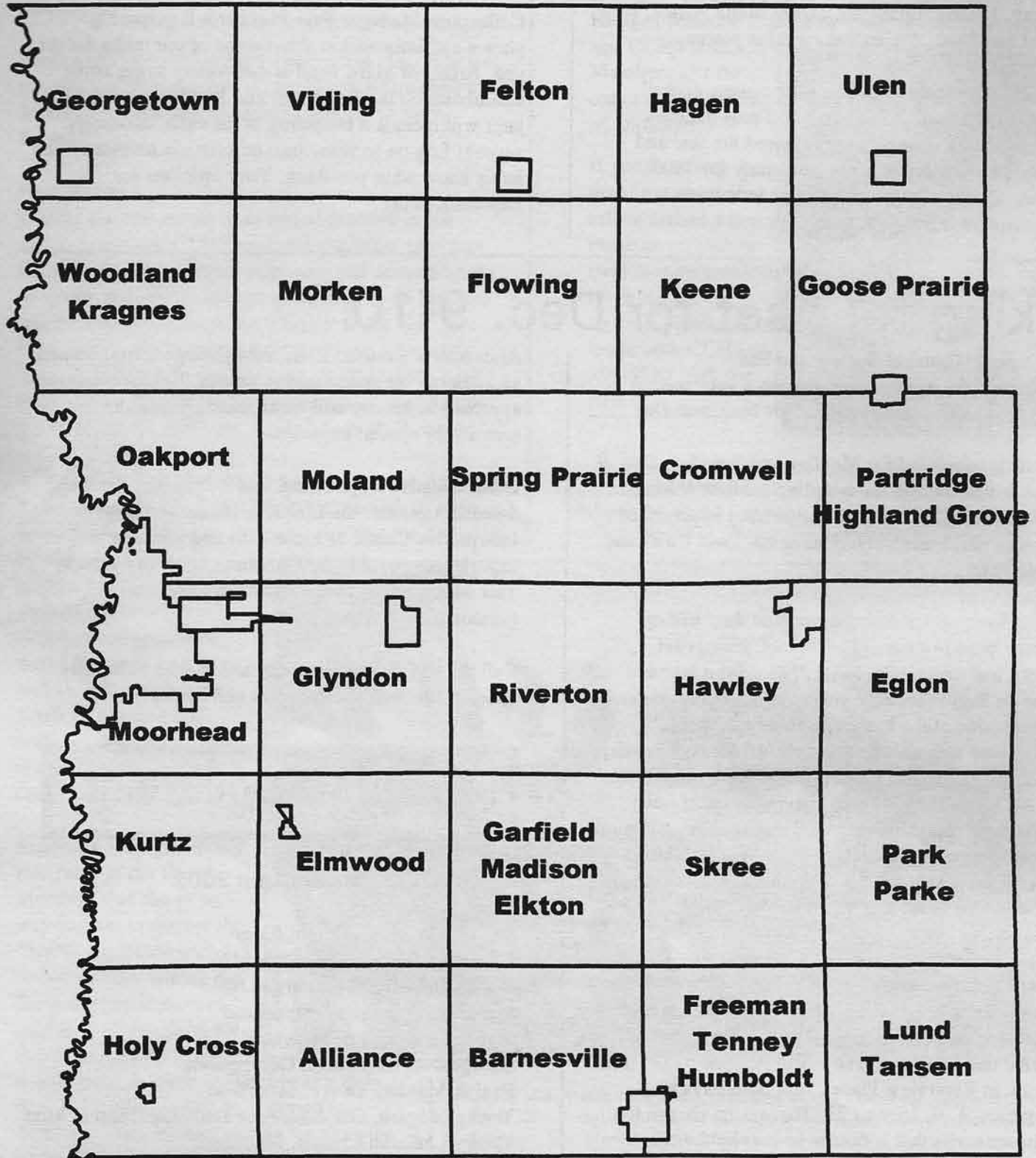
Call the FM Communiversity at 218-299-3438 after June 15, for tour package cost and itinerary.

Monetary Donations

March/April 2002

James Puppe, Fargo
Valley Vintage Car Club, Fargo
Eileen Stanach, Holdingford, MN
Joanne Howeth, Albuquerque NM
Marie & Art Wenner, Moorhead
Marilyn Klemetson, Moorhead
Georgetown Gardiniers, Georgetown
Paul & Mardeth Dovre, Moorhead
Young in Spirit, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Mhd
Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead

Clay County Townships



Part III: Townships

What's in a name?

By Mark Peihl

In our last issue we looked at rural townships, their locations and names. This time we will cover the 30 civil townships in Clay County.

But first an update to our last article. I had written about the Baker/Navan post office, "Navan: This is the original name for the Baker post office. In March 1894, prospective postmaster Lester H. Baker applied for a post office at the railroad station of Baker. He suggested the name Baker for the post office as well (both named after him). But on the proposed name line on the form, Baker has been scratched out and the name "Navan" written in. When Baker's appointment came through May 9, 1894, the post office opened as Navan. Longtime Baker postmaster Francelia Iverson once told me that it had been changed by another Baker area resident to honor his home town of Navan (pronounced nuh-van'), County Meath, Ireland. Apparently Mr. Baker was not amused. (At least that's how I remember the story. Fran passed away last July. If anyone knows more about this please contact us!) On February 11, 1903 Navan did become Baker to better reflect the name of the railway station but by that time, Lester H. Baker had moved to Washington state. Andrew O. Solem was first Baker postmaster. The Baker post office closed March 7, 1998."

Sure enough, you came to my rescue. Sister Mary Ann Fay of Mount St. Benedict Convent in Crookston wrote in to confirm that her grandfather, Edward Fay, named the post office Navan. A reminiscence written by her father, James Fay, reads, "While my father was [Moorhead] Postmaster, the Post Office Department wrote the Postmaster in Moorhead to suggest a name for this station on the Great Northern named Baker because there was a Becker in Minnesota which was confusing; so my father suggested 'Navan.' A short time later, L. H. Baker, after whom Baker, Minnesota, was named came in and wanted to know, 'Where in hell did they get that name?'...Navan, Ireland, was the birthplace of my father. He frequently quoted a little ditty: 'Sure, there's a town in Ireland of great fame, Spell it backwards or forwards, It's always the same - N-A-V-A-N!' "

Sister Mary Ann (and her brother Jim, who also called in) recalled that her father pronounced it Na' Vun (Na'

as in "natural"). I emailed Kevin Stewart, County Secretary for County Meath, Ireland, where Navan is located to ask how it was pronounced there. Kevin phoned back and said they pronounce it Nah Vahn. (Nah as in "naughty" and Vahn as in "vaudeville" with no real accent on either syllable.) Take your pick.

OK, townships. The terms "town" and "township" can be confusing for folks. In this part of the country, people often (and inaccurately) refer to cities as towns. But more precisely, town refers to the basic unit of rural government, the civil township. Also confusing the issue is the fact that our land measuring system uses the term township to refer to an area six miles by six miles, a congressional township. In 1785 Congress approved a new system for surveying and measuring new lands for sale. It involved establishing a rectangular grid. Starting with a north-south running line, a Principal Meridian, surveyors laid out a series of numbered north-south running, six mile wide strips called townships. They also laid out a series of numbered six mile wide east-west running strips called ranges. A congressional township is legally described by the intersection of the township and range. For instance, the congressional township in which the city of Comstock is located would be township 137 west of the 5th Principal Meridian, range 48 north.

Civil townships, which we'll be dealing with in this article, can cover more or less than one congressional township. For instance, Clay County's western border is not a straight line. The Red River crosses the line between ranges 48 and 49, making a small part of range 49 part of northwestern Clay County. So Oakport, Kragens and Georgetown civil townships each include a few acres of range 49 as well as 48. Also, when the earliest civil townships were established in the county, a single congressional township might not include enough people to become a civil township. Moorhead Township, for instance, originally covered range 48, townships 137, 138 and 139.

Township government has its origins in Colonial Massachusetts. Early 17th century Puritans lived in small communities they called towns. Each community built a townhall for worship services. Here also the

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Townships (Continued from Page 9)

eligible voters of the town would meet periodically to set rules for the town and elect officers to enforce the rules. It was direct representation, the voters themselves deciding issues – not elected representatives.

This grassroots style of government lives on in Minnesota's civil townships. The state constitution authorizes the legislature to provide for creation of local governments and delegates powers to them. It assumes that governments closer to the people can best serve their broad needs. These include civil townships. Most township business is conducted at the annual township meeting. Township residents have extraordinary powers at these meetings; deciding, for instance, the size of the tax levy. Although they elect township supervisors to carry out the work to be done, it's an example of democracy in its purist form.

In the late 1800s, residents of an area could petition the Clay County Commission to allow them to establish a civil township government covering one to five congressional townships. The petitioners suggested a name for the civil township, also subject to the County Commission's approval. Once approved, the residents held a organizational meeting and elected supervisors. Local government in unorganized congressional townships was the responsibility of the County. Here's a listing of Clay County's thirty civil townships and what we know about their beginnings and the origins of their names. Much of the information which follows comes from *Minnesota Geographic Names: Their Origin and Historical Significance* by Warren Upham, 1920, revised 1969; *A History of Clay and Norman Counties, Minnesota* by John Turner and C. K. Semling, 1918 and *Clay County Family Album*, Red River Valley Historical Society and Western Minnesota Steam Threshers' Reunion, 1976.

Alliance Township: Established July 24, 1882. Named for the Farmers' Alliance, progressive political movement extremely popular among Scandinavian farmers in the wheat growing regions of Minnesota. Their activities led to the creation of the State Warehouse and Elevator Commission and other reforms. Covers Township 137, Range 47.

Barnesville Township: Established October 11, 1878. Named for George S. Barnes, early merchant, farmer and elevator developer. Covers Township 137, Range 46.

Cromwell Township: Established January 1879. Named for Oliver Cromwell, Puritan leader of the "Roundheads" during the English Civil War. Many early township settlers were from England. Covers Township 140, Range 45.

Eglon Township: Established early 1874. The organizational meeting was held March 10, 1874. One source suggests the name is for an ancient city in Palestine, mentioned in the biblical book of Joshua. A more likely suggestion is that it is an Americanization of an early Norwegian term for the area, "Ek Land," meaning Oak Land. The eastern half of the township was originally wooded with Bur Oak trees. Covers Township 139, Range 44.

Elkton Township: Established early 1880. Originally named Garfield for recently elected President James Garfield. Name changed April 15, 1880 to Madison for former President James Madison. Name changed again January 4, 1881 to Elkton for the herds of elk once common in the township. Covers Township 138, Range 46.

Elmwood Township: Established January 6, 1880. Named for the Elm trees common along the South Branch of the Buffalo River. Originally part of Glyndon Township, now covers Township 138, Range 47.

Felton Township: Established February 24, 1882. Named for the village of Felton which in turn was named for the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway's siding Felton which in turn was apparently named for either Samuel M. Felton, Sr. or Samuel M. Felton, Jr., eastern railroad officials. Neither of these men, however, apparently had any connection with the St. Paul and Pacific, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba or Great Northern Railways – the various owners of the rail line running through the township. Covers Township 142, Range 46.

Flowing Township: Formerly part of Felton Township, established June 24, 1891. Named for the numerous flowing springs found there. Covers Township 141, Range 46.

Georgetown Township: Established April 10, 1879. Named for the former Hudson's Bay Company's steamboat depot near the confluence of the Buffalo and Red Rivers, in turn named for Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company when the depot was established in 1859. Covers Township 142, Range 48 and part of Range 49.

Goose Prairie Township: Established April 6, 1880. Named for the flocks of wild geese which frequented the area. Covers Township 141, Range 44.

Glyndon Township: Established May 2, 1872 – the first civil township established in the County. Named, like the city of Glyndon, for Howard Glyndon, pen name of Laura Redden, popular Civil War era poet, journalist and advocate for the deaf. Originally included Township 139, Ranges 46 and 47 and Township 138, Range 47. Now covers Township 139, Range 47.

Hagen Township: Established January 20, 1883. Named for early Norwegian settler, Ole Hagen. Covers Township 142, Range 45.

Hawley Township: Established February 25, 1873. Named, like the Northern Pacific Railway station and the city of Hawley for General, Senator and journalist Joseph Roswell Hawley. Covers Township 139, Range 45.

Highland Grove Township: Established June 12, 1875. Originally named Partridge, probably for early Hawley settler Samuel Partridge. Later renamed Highland Grove, according to Upham, for "its location on the high ascent eastward from the Red River Valley, and for the groves beside its lakes and on the Buffalo River, the surface all about being mainly prairie." Covers Township 140, Range 44.

Holy Cross Township: Formerly part of Moorhead Township, established 1882. Named for Holy Cross Post Office, located in section 7. The post office was originally located in Kurtz Township near the confluence of the Red and Wild Rice Rivers. There, in 1869, the original Postmaster, Father Jean Baptiste Marie Genin, had established a Catholic mission and erected a large wooden cross. The post office was named for the mission, Holy Cross. Covers Township 137, Range 48.

Humboldt Township: Formerly part of Barnesville

Township, established October 17, 1881 as Freeman, for Reuben Freeman, one of the original petitioners. Name changed following spring to Tenney, maybe for Luman H. Tenney, Glyndon townsite developer. The name was again changed to Humboldt, for German scientist, explorer and writer Alexander von Humboldt. Many of the township's settlers were from Germany. Covers Township 137, Range 45.

Keene Township: Established January 4, 1883. Upham says it was named for "a homesteader there, who was a veteran of the Civil War." Actually, the name is from Keene, New Hampshire, hometown of early settler Jacob Burrill. Covers Township 141, Range 45.

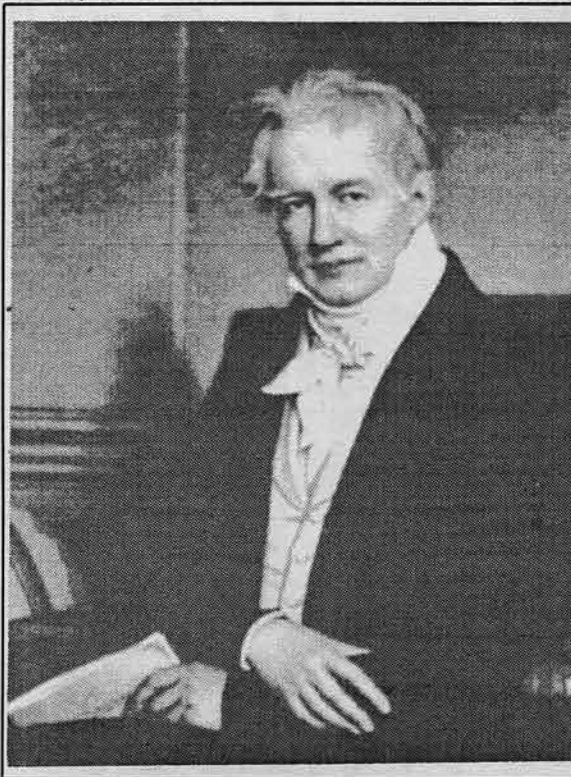
Kragnes Township: Established January 6, 1880 as Woodland. An abandoned (and heavily wooded) channel of the Red River passes through the

southwestern part of the township and probably suggested the name. Soon after, though, it was changed to Kragnes for early settler A.O. Kragnes. Covers Township 141, Ranges 48 and part of 49.

Kurtz Township: Formerly part of Moorhead Township, Kurtz was the last civil township set off in the county on April 12, 1892. Named, like the post office and platted townsite, for Thomas Kurtz, cashier of the Moorhead's Merchants' National Bank. The post office and townsite names were later changed to Rustad. Covers Township 138, Range 48.

Moland Township: Established June 17, 1873. Olaf Thortved suggested the name from his home parish in Telemark, Norway. Many of the earliest settlers in Clay County came here from Telemark via Houston and Fillmore Counties in extreme southeastern Minnesota. Covers Township 140, Range 47.

Moorhead Township: Established February 25, 1873. Named, like the NPRy station and post office for William Garroway Moorhead, Pennsylvania coffee importer and NPRy director. Covers Township 139, Range 48.



Alexander von Humboldt, 1769-1859
German naturalist, traveler, writer and
namesake of Humboldt Township, Clay
County.

Townships (continued from Page 11)

Morken Township: Established July 24, 1880. Named for T. O. Morken, another Telemarker from Houston County, Minnesota. Covers Township 141, Range 47.

Oakport Township: Established January 6, 1880. Named for early settler Randolph Probstfield's Oakport Farm which he started in spring 1864 in section 21. In 1871 the NPRy set out fake stakes to the site suggesting the railroad would cross the Red there. The ruse worked. Would be townsites developers, merchants, gamblers and other ne'er-do-well flocked to Oakport that summer. Disgusted, Probstfield moved his family to East Grand Forks, Minnesota. That fall the NPRy revealed its real crossing and Oakport was abandoned and remembered as "Bogusville." Covers Township 140, and parts of Ranges 48 and 49.

Parke Township: Established fall 1873. Originally named by its Yankee settlers Park, for its park-like mix of timber and prairie. But the following winter, as planning for the first school began, an eastern relative of settler Robert Carr named Parke offered \$100 to roof the school provided they change to name of the township Parke. The settlers shrugged, added an e and took the money. Covers Township 138, Range 44.

Riverton Township: Established February 24, 1882. Named for the Buffalo River which passes through the

northern part of the township. Covers Township 139, Range 46.

Skree Township: Established March 8, 1881. Named for Mikkel Skree, early settler. Covers Township 138, Range 45.

Spring Prairie Township: Established spring 1890. Named for the abundant natural springs in the area. Covers Township 140, Range 46.

Tansem Township: Established February 26, 1874. Originally named Lund for either C. Ole Lund or Rolf E. Lund, early settlers. In 1880 the name became Tansem for John O. Tansem, another Norwegian pioneer. Covers Township 137, Range 44.

Ulen Township: Established June 7, 1881. Named for early settler Ole Ulen. Covers Township 142, Range 44.

Viding Township: Established January 5, 1881. Upham says the "township named for a Swedish settler there." I can not find any one named Viding in the 1880 or 1885 census listings for the township. However, the 1895 and 1905 census list a John C. Viding, from Sweden, living in Moorhead Township. He may have been in Viding earlier. Covers Township 142, Range 47.



CCHS Board of Directors

Three incumbents and one new director were elected at the CCHS Annual Meeting on April 11. Reelected for second 3-year terms were Donna Voxland and Helen Rudie. Steve Aakre, who replaced Galen Vaa on the Board, was elected to a first 3-year term and John Elton was newly elected to his first 3-year term.

Officers elected at the regular April meeting were Donna Voxland-President, Helen Rudie-Vice President, Rodney Erickson-Treasurer, Lee Kolle-Secretary.

CCHS Board of Directors pictured are: front row (l to r) Marion Gee, Helen Rudie, Merlyn Valan, Lee Kolle; back row (l to r) Donna Voxland, John Elton, Ben Brunsvold, Past Pres. Norman Roos, Rodney Erickson and Alvin Swanson. Board Members not pictured include Joyce Haug, Steve Aakre and Arvid Thompson.

Two Great Books

(You'll need two to read and two more to give away)

A Century of Change (Moorhead) & From Frontier Village To All- America City (Fargo)

"A Century of Change" is full of historic photographs and stories that provide a glimpse of Moorhead from 1900 to 2000. "Fargo, ND, From Frontier Village to All America City, 1875-2000." is a unique collection of photos and stories chronicling Fargo's first 125 years!

The books, published by Heritage Publications, of Henning, are fund raisers for CCHS.

Pick up your copies today at the Clay County Museum and Archives in the Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Avenue North in Moorhead or order with the form below. Call 218-299-5520 for more information.



CCHS MOORHEAD BOOK
"A CENTURY OF CHANGE"
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MOORHEAD MN 56561

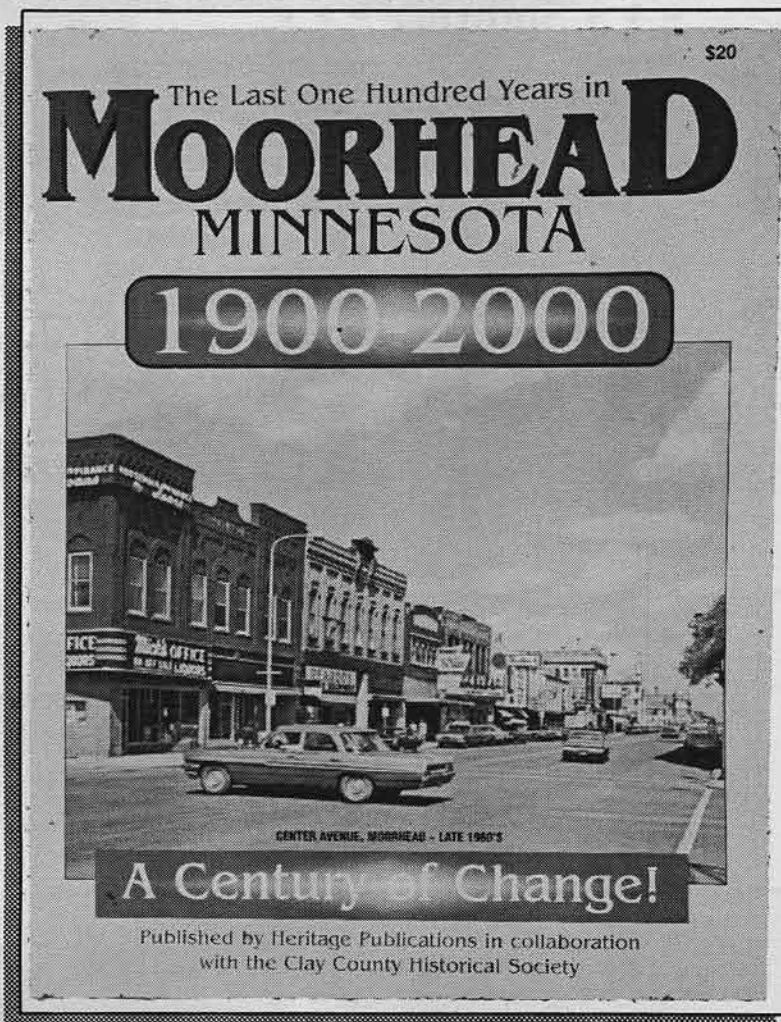
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TOYS TOYS

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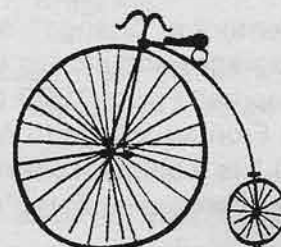
Fun Through the Ages



Also Showing:

A Century of Cycling

From the high wheels of the 1880s to the mountain bikes of today



Relive your childhood through this fascinating exhibit. Toys and games from the past to the present are featured - with special emphasis on the Baby Boomers who grew up in the 1950s to 1970s. Learn how the changes in children's lives are reflected in their toys and games.

**Hours are: 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 10-9 Tues., 12-5 Sun.
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave N., Moorhead MN**

CCHS Memberships - New and Renewals

March/April 2002

CCHS extends a very special thank you to the following individuals who have renewed their membership for another year.

RENEWALS

Kenneth & Janet Fox, Hawley
Howard & Marcell Wergeland, Detroit Lakes
James Gibery, Yakima WA
L. Diane Pickett, Dilworth
Sara & Dean Sather, Fargo
Terry Shopmough/Deborah Jansen, Moorhead
Bob Backman, Fargo
Paul Deslauriers, Felton

Sandra McEvers, Moorhead
Aubrey & Catherine Thomas, Moorhead
Marie & Art Wenner, Moorhead
Jerry & Dona Lein, Moorhead
Loren Helmeke, Fargo
Helen Benson, Moorhead
Dorothy Carey, Moorhead
Arnold Ellingson, Fargo
Juliet Hanson, Fargo
Don & Kathy Pingree, Georgetown
Rachel Smithwick, Barnesville
Karen Myran, Hawley
Donna Chalimonczyk, Moorhead
LaVerne Halverson, Minneapolis
Leslie Rogne, Kindred
Anna Marie Larson, Ortonville
Lila Ordal, Moorhead
Mildred Skugrud, Moorhead
Paul & Mardeth Dovre, Moorhead
McLarnan, Hannaher & Skatvold, Moorhead
Delmar & Rhoda Hansen, Moorhead

Earl Ingebretsen, Felton
Harding Noblitt, Moorhead
Merlyn & Shirlee Valan, Comstock
Matthew & Kathy Valan, Moorhead
Gary & Nancy Ronsberg, Hawley
Clara Evenson, Fargo
Robert Gerke, Moorhead
Evelyn Larson, Fargo
Ethel Medalen, Mankato
Milo M. Moyano, Moorhead
Maurice & Garnet Floberg, Moorhead
Shirley Manning, Fargo
Vera Knapp, Moorhead
Marilyn Wussow, Moorhead

CCHS welcomes the following:
NEW MEMBERS

Diane Kline, Moorhead
Richard Keeping, Hawley
Carol M. Johnson, Centennial CO

Director hired at CCHS

In April the CCHS Board of Directors hired a highly qualified director, Lisa Hanson. Hanson has been Curator and Assistant Director at the Codington County Historical Society and Heritage Museum in Watertown, SD since May 1999.



A 1998 graduate of NDSU, Hanson has a BA in Public History and a minor in Anthropology.

Hanson interned at CCHS in 1997. She began her new position here at CCHS on May 13. Stop in at the museum and welcome Hanson.

New hours for Museum/Archives

Beginning June 1 the CCHS Museum and Archives will be open Tuesday evenings until 9 p.m. in cooperation with the Woodland Log Cabin summer folk art programs. Carriage rides from the log cabin to the Hjemkomst Center will be available throughout the evening on Tuesdays. Summer hours will be Monday-Saturday 10-5, Tuesday 10-9 and Sunday 12-5. The Center will be closed Thursday evening beginning June 1.

Upcoming Schedule

June 26-30 - Scandinavian Festival, Bergquist Cabin Open House, Danish Exhibit in Atrium Hall Cases.

July 11-14 - Clay County Fair - CCHS Booth under the grandstand. 4H 100th Anniversary display in 4H building.

July 20 Antique Toy Collecting Program, 2-4 p.m. with Dean Baker

August 17 - Paper Doll Collecting Program, 2-4, with Peggy Ramstad

October - Doll Collecting Program

Clay County Historical Society

Business, Individual and Organization Support (BIOS) Members

Thank you to these special BIOS Members of Clay County Historical Society

PATRON (\$200 - \$499)

Grosz Studio, Moorhead

SUSTAINING MEMBERS (\$100 to \$199)

Bev & Lloyd Paulson, Moorhead
Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead
City of Hawley, Hawley
Dilworth/Glyndon/Felton Schools
First National Bank, Hawley
Hawley Public Schools, Hawley
Korsmo Funeral Service, Moorhead
Lutheran Brotherhood,
Lake Agassiz Branch 8430, Moorhead
Moorhead Area Public Schools, Moorhead
Moorhead Drug Company, Moorhead
Moorhead Kiwanis, Moorhead
Rigels, Inc., Appliances-TV, Moorhead
Sellin Brothers, Hawley
State Bank of Moorhead, Moorhead
Vikingland Kiwanis, Moorhead

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Cass-Clay Creamery, Inc., Fargo

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City of Barnesville, Barnesville

Richard T. McMurray,

C.M. Associates, Annandale, VA

Eventide, Moorhead

Gate City Bank, Fargo

Greater Fargo Moorhead

Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

Gunhus, Grinnell, Klinger, Swenson and

Guy, Ltd, Moorhead

Lutheran Brotherhood,

East Clay County Branch 8431

McLarnan, Hannaher & Skatvold,

Attorneys, Moorhead

Moorhead Mid-Day Central Lions, Mhd

Moorhead Area Retired Education Assn.

L. Maynard & Elaine G. Oss, Elk River

State Bank of Hawley, Hawley

Stenerson Lumber, Moorhead

Veteran's of Foreign Wars, Moorhead

Ward Muscatell Auto, Moorhead

Wells Fargo Bank MN, N.A., Moorhead

Wright Funeral Home, Moorhead

CCHS Bios Memberships

- ☐ \$ 50 to \$99 Supporting Member
☐ \$100 to \$199 Sustaining Member
☐ \$200 to \$499 Patron
☐ \$500 and up Major Exhibit Sponsor

As a CCHS BIOS (Business, Individual, Organization Support) Member you will receive all benefits of an individual and/or family membership (see below) plus a certificate ready to frame and display, and a listing in all CCHS bi-monthly newsletters. To become a CCHS BIOS Member please return this form or a facsimile to CCHS, PO Box 501, Moorhead MN 56561-0501 or call 218-299-5520.

Business: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

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CCHS Membership Application

- ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$35 ☐ Donation

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ◆ Support preservation of our heritage
- ◆ Bi-monthly Newsletter
- ◆ Discount on Acid-Free Materials
- ◆ \$1 Discount on admission to the Viking Ship, Stave Church and HHIC traveling exhibits
- ◆ Discount on Photo Reproduction
- ◆ Voting Privileges
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