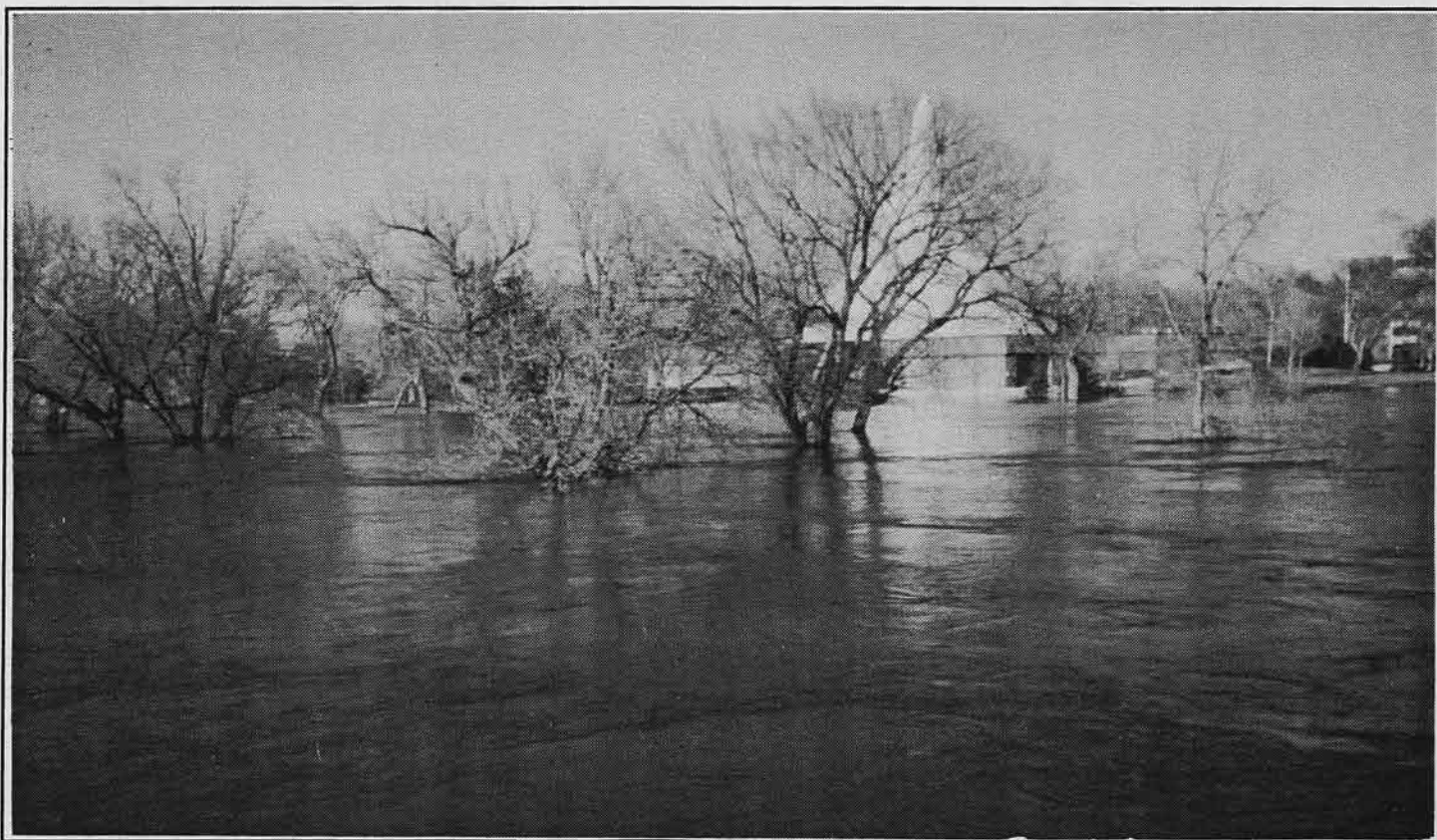


CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter**May/June 1997****Vol. XX. No. 3**

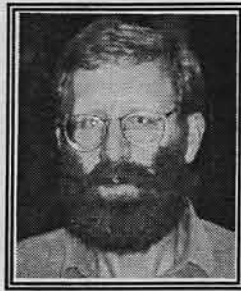
CCHS spring tour set for June 11 - 12
Tour features lumbering industry communities of
Stillwater and Little Falls - See Pages 7 and 15



Flood waters threatened the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, home to the Clay County Museum and Archives. Sand bag and earthen dikes, along with round the clock pumping kept the Red River at bay.
See flood story on Page 5

President's Report

By Paul Harris, President



For my first report, I thought I would be scratching my head wondering what to write about, but I find I actually have no shortage of material. That is what happens when you elect a college professor as president of the board - they never run out of things to say. Sometimes, I confess, my students wish it were otherwise.

Clay County Historical Society is going through an exciting period of change. First of all, we have had quite a bit of turn-over on our board. Gary Olson, Ann Gytri, and Carol Ekre have all completed six-year stints, and their dedication and commitment to the best interests of the Society deserve a hearty thanks. In addition, Terry Shoptaugh and Diane Haugen have left the board due to changes in their own lives. Both of them also made important contributions. We wish all of our departing board members the very best.

Happily, I am able to report that we have a very strong group of incoming board members. Marion Gee and Arvid Thompson have both served on the board previously, Arvid as the ex officio representative of the Clay County Commission. Joyce Haug and Al Bloomquist also bring a wealth of experience to our work.

That still leaves one vacancy to be filled. We are looking for someone to represent the northeast corner of the county. If you would be interested in serving or know someone who would be a good addition, please let us know.

Another major change concerns the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center. As I write, the City of Moorhead has just announced the awarding of the contract for managing the Center to Eventide. They will oversee the expansion of the facility and the implementation of new programming, primarily for senior citizens. All of these changes should have a very positive impact on the Historical Society. Fortunately, I can report that we meet these changes with an outstanding staff that has been quite stable in recent years. My respect for Pam Burkhardt, Mark Peihl, and Margaret Ristvedt is the main reason I agreed to serve on this board in the first

place, and I look forward to continuing. Did you know that we have been operating for some time without a director because we have such good people who get along so well together, that they are able to make decisions collectively?

I want to especially thank the staff members who put in long extra hours monitoring the situation during the flood. I also greatly appreciate the volunteers who helped save our collection when the pipe burst that was emptying water from the sump pump.

In 1990 the Clay County Museum hosted a traveling exhibit from the Minnesota Historical Society "Til the Cows Come Home." The exhibit was supplemented with artifacts from Clay County Fairs, and it became apparent that our collections are lacking in this area. If anyone has fair premiums, ribbons, trophies, photographs, etc. from a Clay County Fair, that they would like to donate to CCHS, call 233-4606.

Until then - See you at the Fair!!

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



202 1st Avenue North, Box 501
Moorhead, Minnesota 56561-0501
Phone 218-233-4604

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Pam Burkhardt, Contributor
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174-year-old map of Fort Snelling acquired by Minn. Historical Society

The Minnesota Historical Society, incorporated in 1849, while Minnesota was still a territory, has recently acquired a map that is being called "One of the most significant acquisitions the Minnesota Historical Society has ever made..."

The map, drawn by Joseph E. Heckle, a quartermaster sergeant posted at the fort in 1820, was recently found in family papers of Josiah Howe Vose. Vose was an Army officer who served at the frontier fort in 1822-23.

John and Elizabeth Driscoll of St. Paul were approached by a Connecticut military-document dealer about buying the hand-drawn map, but the Driscolls felt it was much too important an artifact to be placed in private hands. Consequently they donated the \$11,500 purchase price of the map to the historical society. Both Driscolls have historical ties to Minnesota. John is a descendant of the Weyerhaeuser timber family and Elizabeth is a great-granddaughter of railroad builder James J. Hill.

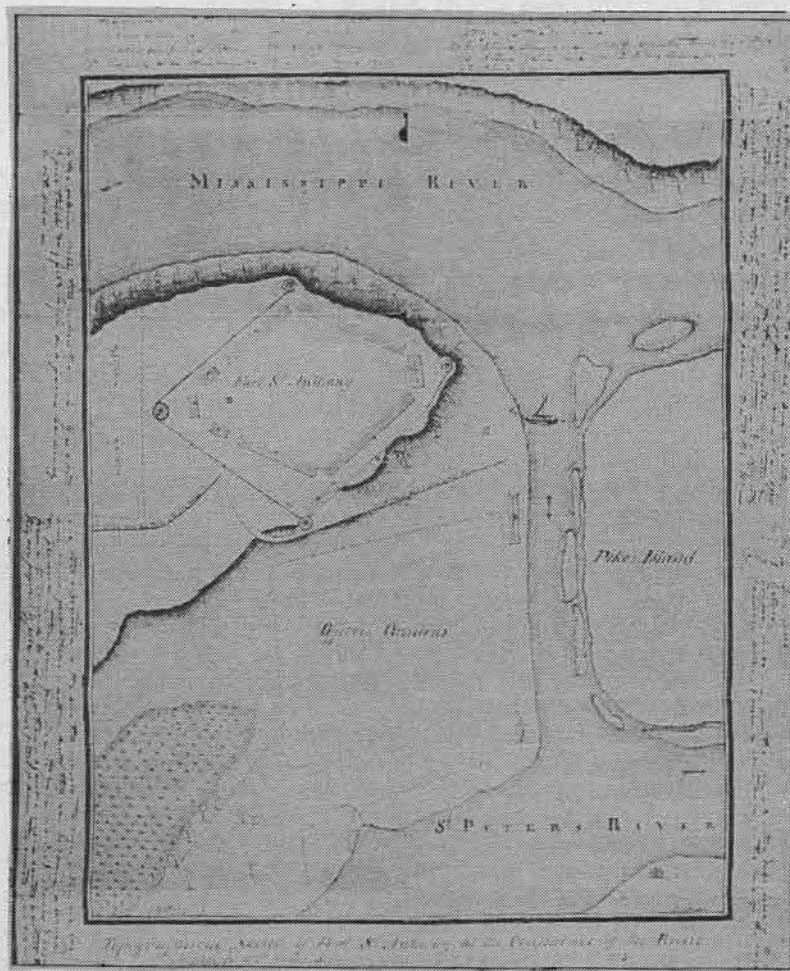
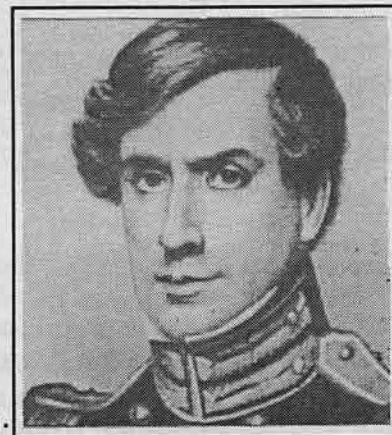
Historians are guessing that Vose sent the map to his Massachusetts family during his tour of duty in the Minnesota territory. There are extensive notes in the maps' margins explaining fort construction, boats navigating the area rivers, officers' gardens and roads to the fort.

In the 1970s, major reconstruction took place at the fort to make room for a freeway. The early map proves that much of that work, based on archaeologists' and historians' perspectives, was accurate. Future work will utilize information gained from the map.

The map was scheduled to be on display in the Minnesota Capitol Rotunda on April 25 and at the Minnesota History Center from April 26 through June 2. After that it will be placed in environmentally controlled storage. The Minnesota Historical Society Press plans to reproduce the map and publish a book that contains the margin notes and other information about the map.

From Minneapolis Star Tribune, April 24, 1997

Josiah Vose was an officer at Fort St. Anthony in 1822-23. In 1825 the fort was renamed Fort Snelling.



This 19 X 26 inch map of Fort Snelling, hand-drawn in the early 1820s will give scholars a solid base for future reconstruction projects at the fort.

Outreach Displays

	Opens
Hitterdal Senior Center	June 10
Ulen-Hitterdal High School	no display
Viking Manor, Ulen	June 10
Hawley Public Library	June 10
Glyndon Community Center	June 11
Moorhead Public Library	June 11
Barnesville Public Library	June 11

The Hitterdal Senior Center will be UP IN THE AIR with model airplane plans, an aircraft identification wheel and the story of Clay County's own aviatrix, Florence "Tree-Tops" Klingensmith.

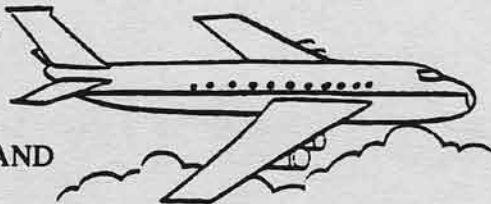
There will be no display at the Ulen-Hitterdal High School library during summer vacation.

Viking Manor will open STOP, LOOK & LISTEN with attention-getting items including a school bell, door bell, fireman's megaphone and bicycle lights.

ROOTS will feature heritage items from the eastern section of the county at the Hawley Public Library. [Happy quasiqucentennial, Hawley!]

The Glyndon Community Center will feature YESTERDAY'S MEDICINE, a look at over 125 years of medical history in the county.

[Happy quasiqucentennial, Glyndon!]



AROUND AND ABOUT

MOORHEAD at the Moorhead Public Library will feature items from Moorhead - past & present.

The Clay County Fair will be a focal point in YOU'RE A WINNER opening at the Barnesville Public Library. This display features awards and prizes from fairs, shows and parades.

The first rhubarb planted in America was sent to the great naturalist John Bartram from Siberia in 1770.

Robert Hendrickson "Ladybugs, Tiger Lilies and Wallflowers"

Artifacts & Donors

MARCH/APRIL 1997

Donors include:

Moorhead: Edith Flaa, Curtiss Danielson, Charlotte Onstine, Dr. George Humphrey, Joy Lintelman, City of Moorhead
Bemidji: Clay County Beach Ridges Forum
Fargo ND: Gloria Anderson
Springfield Vt: Mrs. Richard Hamilton

Artifacts: (1) vol. MSC *The Dragon* 1946; copies of research materials from Lintelman's Spring 1997 History 410 class; copies of flood related materials from the 1997 flood in Moorhead; copies of Burnham family photos & genealogical material; booklet, *Nancy's Recipes* from The Store Without a Name in Fargo; coloring book, *Lake Agassiz Beach Ridges*; surgical instruments; ham radio; infant jacket & embroidered items; t-shirt "Flood & Blizzard Survivor, April 1997, Red River Valley."

Monetary Donations

March/April 1997

Bruce M. Thorson, Waite Park
TRW Foundation, Cleveland OH (grant)
Georgetown Gardniers, Georgetown
Friends of the Fargo Public Library, Fargo
Dick Zaylskie family, Fargo

The word tulip takes its name from a Latinized version of an Arabic word for "turban." They were first grown in Turkey. Robert Hendrickson "Ladybugs, Tiger Lilies and Wallflowers"

ON LINE:

Then and Now photo exhibit:

http://www.gps.com/pioneer_spirit/then/then.htm#intro

(Thanks to Great Plains Software, Fargo) and

Toils induced by weak soils: the building of the Stockwood Fill:

<http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/instruct/schwert/stockwd/stockwd.htm>

(By Dr. Don Schwert, NDSU and Mark Peihl, CCHS Archivist)

CCHS weathers flood of '97 just fine

By Mark Peihl

The Clay County Museum and Hjemkomst Center came through our recent flood in remarkably good shape. Although the back door is barely one hundred yards from the Red River, HHIC is above the 100 year flood plain. The record breaking flood of '97 went well above that level, requiring some diking. But the few water problems we experienced were only marginally flood related.

There were four areas in the building and on the grounds which caused us concern. Low lying areas at the southwest corner of the Center and the northwest corner had to be diked. Moorhead city employees, HHIC and CCHS staff and volunteers built a sandbag dike across the employee parking lot on the southwest. On the northwest, the city piled clay across a small coulee which leads northwest through Viking Ship Park to the river.

The dikes held beautifully. Some seepage occurred but the city, CCHS and HHIC Exhibits Curator Pete Conlin provided pumps which kept up with it. Building staff, volunteers and board members kept watch over the pumps in shifts 24 hours a day. A foot and a half of water lapped against the front of the sandbag dike at the flood's crest.

Inside was a different story. Every spring since 1988, we've had problems with snow-melt water seeping into our permanent exhibit area through the top of the west wall of the Center's basement. The water runs down the wall behind the exhibit panels and wicks out across the floor through the carpet. This year was particularly bad. Staff spent much time vacuuming up water from the carpet tiles.

After the April 5-6 blizzard, cold weather stopped the leaking temporarily. CCHS Collections Manager Pam Burkhardt, Pete and I used the dry time to install a simple drain system. We hot glued J-shaped light pieces of steel siding to the wall which channel the water into inverted milk cartons, also glued to the wall. Rubber hoses carry the seepage from the cartons into large garbage cans. So far the system's worked quite well.

On Sunday, April 20 we received our worst scare of the flood. In the extreme northwest corner of the Center's basement is a sump pump. Instead of simply pumping the water out the north

wall, the pump was built to carry the water up some 35 feet, then the length of the building, to be ejected out the south side. The pipe ran through our oversize furniture storage area and across our weather exhibit. When the flood started, Pam began checking on our storage areas every 12 hours. She came in just before noon to find that one of the pipe connections had blown out along the north wall of oversize storage. Water stood nearly half an inch deep on the floor of the store room and had soaked the carpet in the weather exhibit and part of the permanent exhibit.

Pam shut the water off and had an HHIC volunteer begin calling people on our disaster list. Within minutes, CCHS staff, board members and volunteers were on the scene moving artifacts and vacuuming up water. We had to shut down the exhibit area for three weeks during clean up but **NO ARTIFACTS WERE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED!** The sump has been rerouted, carpets have been shampooed with a disinfecting cleanser and we're back to normal operations.

Things could have been much worse (see Pam's hair-raising article on Grand Fork's Myre Museum). But through the cooperation and hard work of the HHIC and CCHS staffs, boards and volunteers and some luck we are in good shape. Special thanks must go to Bob Vogel of the Moorhead Parks Department and Moorhead's Facility Manager Chad Martin for their extraordinary assistance. Everybody take a bow!



A sandbag dike encircles the southwest corner of the Hjemkomst Center protecting the museum from the determined flood waters.

A casualty to the north

By Pam Burkhardt

The Grand Forks County Historical Society operates the Myra Museum and several historic buildings: the Campbell House, a schoolhouse and a log cabin. They are located next to the Red River on Belmont Road in Grand Forks.

We survived the recent flood (and a broken pipe) in pretty good shape. [see Page 5]. However, I have been talking to Helen Alten, Director of Field Services at the Upper Midwest Conservation Association (UMCA) in Minneapolis on flood-related topics. After one conversation, I asked about museums to our north. She said the basement of the Myra Museum had flooded and that a team of UMCA conservators were going to Grand Forks. Anyone accustomed to handling artifacts would be welcomed.

Mark Peihl and I went up on Thursday, May 8 - a cold, rainy and windy day. [In this instance, cold and wind are good. Artifacts have a chance to dry out slowly and cool temperatures prevent outbreaks of mold.] We arrived in Grand Forks early that morning. The extent of the devastation was evident on every boulevard. We pulled into the museum lot where a Land O' Lakes refrigerator truck was parked next to a generator provided by the National Guard.

The main floor of the museum was covered with items rescued before the inundation. Here we met Sarah Adams, the museum's Secretary, who introduced us to the dress code. This included a garbage bag with head and arm holes. A face mask was necessary in the basement to protect against mold spores in the air. Rubber gloves and rubber boots completed the ensemble.

Claudia Berg, Curator of Exhibits for the North Dakota Heritage Center, put us to work. Mark and other volunteers hauled sand bags for a make-shift stairway up the muddy bank from the below-ground, outside entrance to the basement. He spent the rest of the day in the Campbell House, one of two buildings being used as make-shift recovery centers.

I was sent to the basement. The river had flooded the museum's basement to about two feet short of the ceiling. The conservation team was arranging tables and distributing supplies. After a stint moving some of

the liquid sludge out of the way, I got to unpack boxes as they were brought out from the store room. Paper items, including books and photographs were put into plastic bags for freezing as were the textiles. These bags were placed in the refrigerator truck out front. [Freezing maintains a stable environment until the items can be dealt with individually.] The smaller items were put into plastic-lined milk crates and sent to a recovery center on the grounds.

Next, I helped clean those artifacts at the school house (the other recovery center) with a UMCA conservator and, then, went to work at the Campbell House with Mark. We dried every item (well, as much as possible) and placed them on sheets of newsprint or blotting paper. Larger items were set up on blocks to improve air flow. Shoes, purses and like items were loosely filled with toweling which, later, had to be changed.

At lunch we got a chance to meet some of the workers. Volunteers came from the Heritage Center in Bismarck and two North Dakota county historical societies: Steele County from Hope and Barnes County from Valley City.

Mark and I spent the afternoon working in the Campbell House. As the activity wound down, a member of the conservation team showed the museum staff what they needed to do to the artifacts, both generally and specifically, for the next few days. This disaster will be with the staff for some time.

Mark & I left. We were glad we could help. That could have been our museum.

Note: The Society plans to open the outbuildings first and as soon as possible.

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Hawley and Glyndon are 125 years old and counting Quasquicentennial celebrations planned

HAWLEY - JULY 11, 12, 13

Hawley is planning a full weekend of activities including an All-School Reunion to celebrate their quasquicentennial.

The festivities include parades, a community historical pageant and dances along with many related activities. There will be individual class gatherings, a catered meal at the school and an all-school band concert.

A sequel to the "Journey Back to Hawley" book is at the printers and will be available for purchase along with the original book. Many other souvenir items will also be available.

GLYNDON - JUNE 6-7-8

Parades, a style/variety show, dances, tournaments/games, a Peter Pan performance, and a petting zoo are some of the activities being planned for Glyndon's quasquicentennial celebration. There will be a craft show and many opportunities to share area cuisine with friends. A community worship service will be held on Sunday and there will be a dedication of the Congregational Church.

A special event on Sunday is the opening of a time capsule. The capsule was buried at the Poet's Corner 25 years ago on Glyndon's 100th Anniversary. The capsule is believed to hold items of historical significance to Glyndon.

Stillwater/Little Falls tour set

Stillwater and Little Falls are two communities in Minnesota that echo a common theme - lumber boom times. The development of the lumber industry and its impact on settlement in the territory and ultimately the state of Minnesota will be the focus of our trip.

Stillwater

A luncheon at the Freight House at Stillwater will set the tone for our day in this "Birthplace of Minnesota." The Freight House, now a fine restaurant, at one time was a hub for log shipping. The Warden's House Museum will be our first site. Built in 1853 for the new Territorial Prison, there is a lumberjack room in this authentically furnished turn-of-the-century home. Photos and items from territorial prison and outlaw inmates, including the infamous Younger Brothers are housed here.

The Washington County Courthouse, built in 1870, is the oldest standing courthouse in the state. Called an architectural gem, the courthouse imparts the elegance reminiscent of a decorous and romantic era. Legend has it that when the burly lumberjacks came to town, mothers would lock their young daughters behind drawn curtains for their own protection. Many of these gentlemen would nevertheless end up in front of a judge at the courthouse.

Other stops include the Depot Museum and The Mill Antiques. The Mill, housed in an 1850s Isaac Staples sawmill, features 20,000 square feet of antiques on three levels.

Little Falls

A guided tour of Camp Ripley and its military museum just north of Little Falls will kick off the second day of our tour.

We will visit the Wyerhaeuser and Musser homes which belonged to two lumber magnates. The elegant homes are a "direct physical manifestation of the lumbering era in Minnesota."

The Weyerhaeuser Memorial Museum, portrays the Weyerhaeuser/Musser influence on the lumber industry.

No visit to Little Falls would be complete without a visit to the Charles Lindbergh House and History Center. The house, built in 1906, contains original furnishings and family possessions. Lindbergh's famous 33½ hour flight over the Atlantic Ocean in 1927 made aviation history. See where he spent his boyhood summers at this cottage on the Mississippi River and learn the entire Lindbergh family story at the history center. (Call 233-4604)

1872 - 1997 Clay County Fairs - - -

By Margaret Ristvedt

CCHS has had a booth at the Clay County Fair in Barnesville every year since 1987. CCHS also provided a booth at the fair in 1956 and most of the 1960s through the early 1970s. We will be there again this year on June 26, 27, 28 and 29 and we invite you to stop in and visit our booth located under the grandstand.

Featured in the CCHS booth will be a pleated log cabin quilt demonstration and a 1880s replica quilt to be raffled off. Raffle tickets for the quilt, sewn by CCHS volunteers this past winter, will be available at the fair. Early weather videos in conjunction with the "How about that weather?" exhibit are also being planned for the booth. "How about that weather?" is currently showing in the Clay County Museum.

In the beginning

The county was less than a year old when the first fair, sponsored by the Clay County

Agricultural Society, was held at Glyndon. Even though there were less than a half dozen farms in the county over two-years old, the exhibit reportedly was a huge success.

Many county agricultural societies were formed in the 1870s and many of them held annual fairs. Although there were a number of state fairs, held in various places, the Minnesota State Fair that we know today wasn't permanently installed in St. Paul until 1885.

A book on agricultural history quoted by Theodore Blegen in his *Minnesota: A History of the State* declares that "no institution, perhaps, has exerted greater influence upon American rural life than the agricultural fair." As the fairs developed they became an institution of social as well as economic and educational significance. Phil Stong's novel "State

fair (fär) n. 1. A gathering for buying and selling goods. 2. A public exhibition at which various products, handicrafts, etc. are displayed or judged competitively. 3. A fund-raising sale, as for charity. { <Kat, /feriae, holidays.)

Fair," which later became a musical, celebrated the story of the American State Fair on a national level.

In 1872, local fair organizers worried that the sparse population would not be able to mount a credible exhibit. However, a partial poll of county farmers indicated sufficient interest and the organizers decided to go ahead.

Support however, wasn't universal throughout the county or even the immediate area. Few Glyndon ladies were enthusiastic about exhibiting at the fair until prodded by their counterparts from Moorhead. After the Moorhead ladies arrived with their entries, some Glyndon ladies who became "ashamed" hurried home to gather something up for the exhibit. The *Red River Gazette* reported that they should have had the "largest display of feminine handiwork," because of their numbers but "...instead made the smallest."

Mrs. A.J. Holes of Moorhead displayed more items than anyone in the ladies *Needlework/Embroidery* section at that first fair and won 1st premium with her silk bed quilt of 7,600 pieces. It was reported to be "a marvel of industry, patience and ingenuity." In *Bead Work*, Allie Felton of Glyndon took first with her button string of 1,812 buttons, no two alike. It was 28 feet long.

Well known pioneer R.M. Probstfield of Moorhead had the largest display of any exhibitor in *Grain and Vegetables*. His 12 inch long, 11½ inch circumference White Spanish winter radish touted the rapid growth of root crops in the Red River Valley. The large radish was planted July 20 and harvested on Sept. 27.

The early Glyndon Fairs, all held in the Fall, show evidence that they weren't always overwhelming successes. The Oct. 10, 1890 Red River Valley News admonishes that *The crowd showed up quite as strong as the exhibition,.... but.....some who came as spectators who (sic) ought to have been exhibitors.* The Premium List booklet of 1887 lists itself as the 11th Annual Fair, allowing for four missing years between 1872 and 1887.

125 years of tradition

Early organizer Major Geo. B. Hibbard is given much credit for the success of the first venture. He was able to secure the "commodious" Reception House and grounds of the Railroad Company at Glyndon to accommodate the exhibits.

converted into a 4-H building and a new hog barn was built by volunteer labor.

Continued on Page 11

Charter secured by Barnesville

In October of 1914 the Clay County Fair and Agricultural Association of Barnesville secured a charter from the state which included an appropriation of \$1,500 to fund a county fair. The charter was renewable for as many years as wanted.

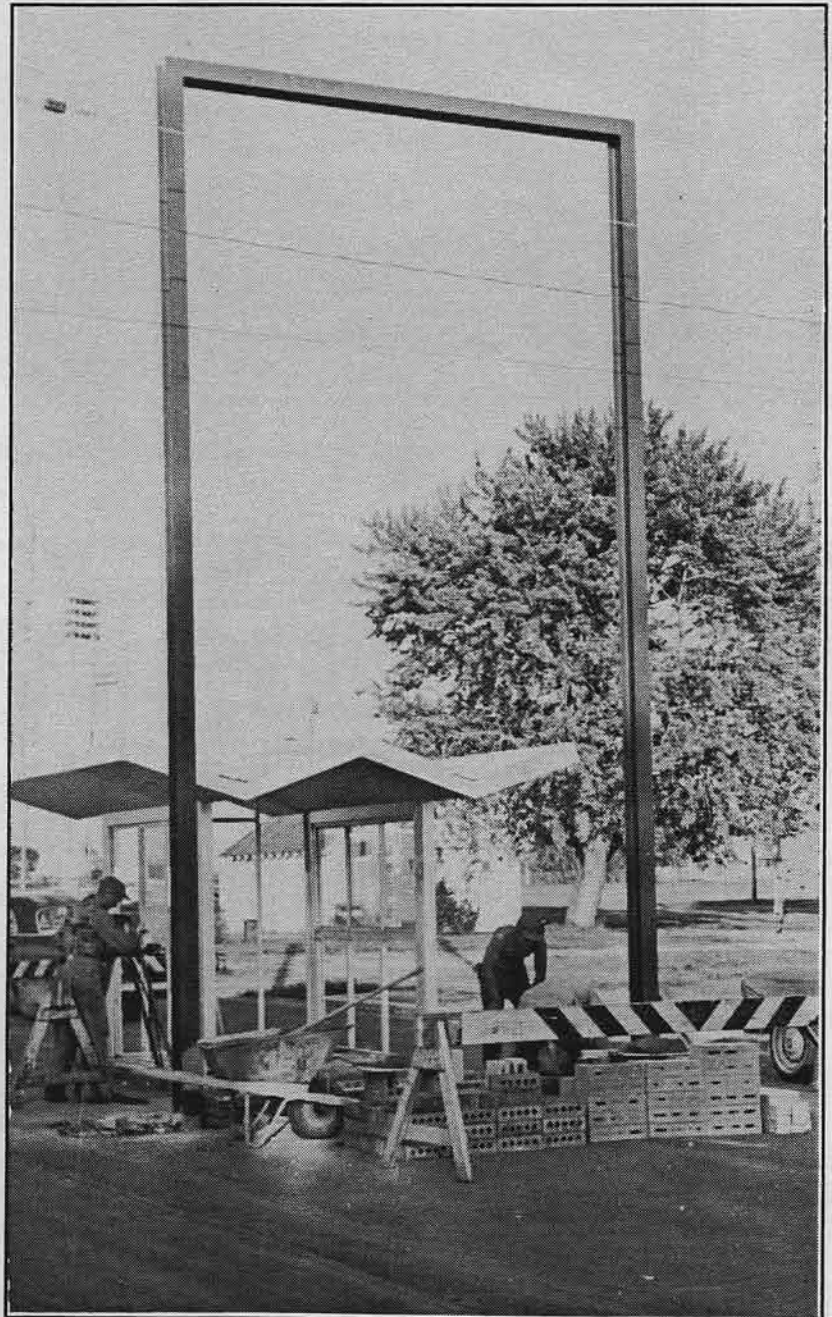
The Fargo Forum reported that a county fair was held at Hawley in 1913, but it was not known at the time about the Minnesota state law providing for \$1,500 in aid. Therefore, the Hawley Association received no benefit from this law.

Every year from 1914 to the present time the fair has been held in Barnesville. During the war years of the early 1940s, some concessions were necessary, such as a reduction in food stand fare. Then in 1946, at the end of WWII, the fair was labeled a "Victory Event" with a special firework display. It had been a long time since the people of Clay County had seen fireworks and huge crowds attended.

From the ground up

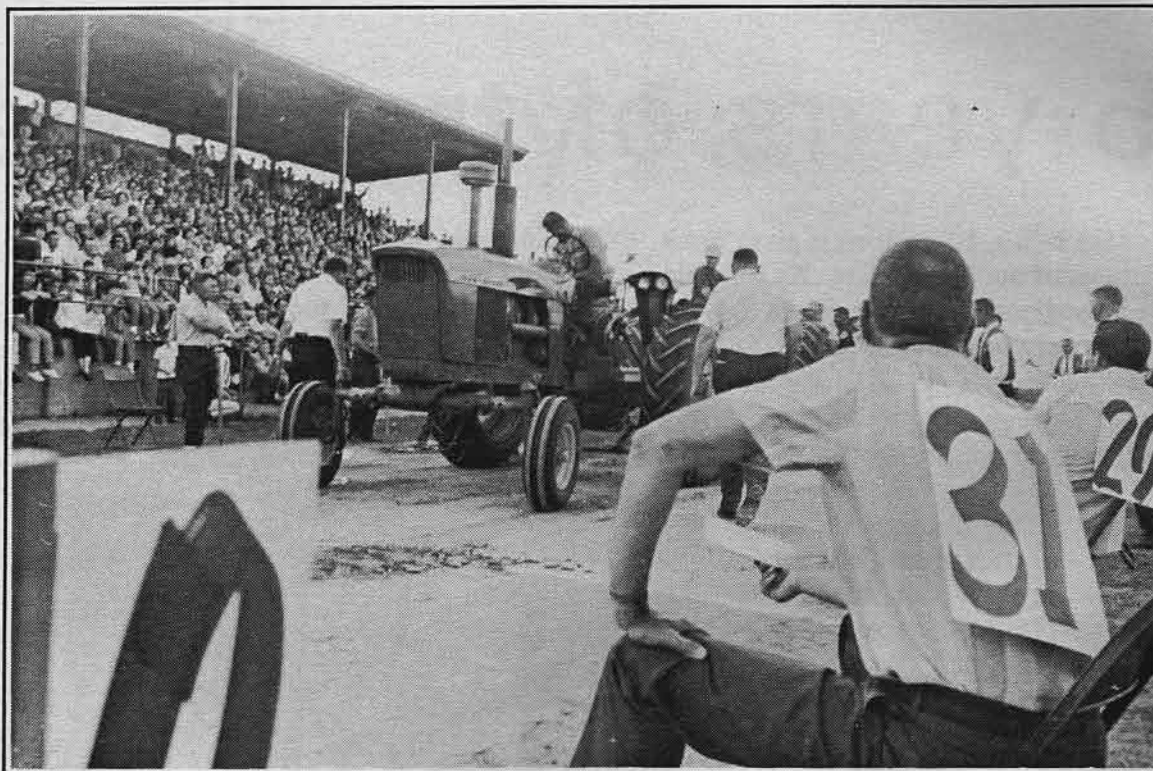
The first Barnesville fairs were held downtown in existing buildings, but by 1918 a barn and exhibit building were built on a five-acre tract of land east of the City. In 1919 a dance pavilion was erected and the dances were "enthusiastically attended."

Three acres of land added in 1937 and 10 acres purchased in 1946 increased the fairgrounds to an 18-acre plot, part jointly owned with the City of Barnesville. The midway attractions were moved north onto the newly acquired land in 1948, and a year later the dance pavilion was



The entrance and ticket booth at the Clay County Barnesville Fair grounds under construction in June 1968. The builders hoped to have it completed before the fair on July 9, 10 and 11.

Moorhead Valley Times, July 8, 1968



In 1967 the Barnesville Jaycees sponsored the popular tractor pulling contest. The grandstand, built in 1953-54 with a capacity of 2,000, was packed.

Photo from Moorhead Valley News, July 1968

→ E. H. SIBLEY ←

DEALER IN

Paints, Oils, Glass, Wall Paper

Picture Frames, Mouldings, etc.

Books, Stationery, Confectionery,
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SMOKERS' ARTICLES. HAWLEY.

THYSELL & MYRON,

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HARDWARE,

Tinware Stoves, Pumps, Harness and
Saddlery, Leather, Paints, Oils,
Varnishes, Furniture.

Undertaking and Repairing
Oats, Butter and Eggs taken in Exchange.

Ocean tickets from and to foreign countries
at lowest rates.

There was no better place to advertise in 1887 than in the 11th Annual Clay County Fair booklet sponsored by the Clay County Agricultural and Mechanical Society. Area businesses were very diversified.

REAL ESTATE DEALER,

James Street (between 5th and 6th streets.)

Red River Valley Land

In Minnesota and Dakota—Farms, City Lots for Business Houses or Private Dwellings,
Special attention given to Collections. Taxes paid for Non-Residents. Houses and stores for rent.

AGENT FOR NATIONAL LINE OCEAN STEAMERS.

Agent for School Desks, Maps and all School Furniture.

INSURANCE

SAM PARTRIDGE,
MOORHEAD. - - MINNESOTA.

Fair Continued from Page 9

Ten thousand people attended the 1948 fair and hundreds had to be turned away from the grandstand event for lack of space. This prompted the need for a new grandstand. During 1953-54, with the aid of a tax levy from the county, a new steel and concrete grandstand was constructed by the J.H. Fisch Co. of Barnesville at a cost of \$40,000. The seating capacity of the structure was 2,000 and the enclosure beneath was designated for commercial booths. It is still being used today.

A cattle barn was constructed in 1957 to replace the barn that burned in 1951, and a new sheep barn was built in 1958. A huge 4-H building, built in 1960, was moved to a new location away from the entrance and exhibit buildings in 1967, and a new ticket office and entrance were built in 1968. New bleachers were purchased in 1966 and a horse barn was constructed in 1979.

The early fairs, both in Glyndon and Barnesville, were held in the fall of the year. However, sometime between the 1921 Fair, and the 1933 Fair, the time changed from fall to early and mid summer.

Politicians and Celebrities attend fair

The Clay County Fair has seen a number of notable visitors including at least four governors. Governors attending include Gov. Harold E. Stassen in 1941, Gov. Edward Thye in 1943, Gov. Luther Youngdahl in 1950 and Gov. Elmer E. Anderson in 1961. In 1949 the main attraction at the fair was the reigning Miss America, Miss BeBe Shopp. James J. Hill, the railroad magnate, was invited to speak at the fair in 1914. Mr. Hill was not being sought for his railroad endeavors but because he had recently acquired 50 famous milking Shorthorns. Mr. Hill was reported to be sending one of his best new bulls to Barnesville.

Entertainment/Attractions

Entertainment and attractions have been a part of the Barnesville Clay County Fair since its inception. In 1921, a Ford sedan was the top prize at the grandstand performance, when over 3,000 people attended the Fair on Saturday night alone. Attractions over the years have included a wild life exhibit in 1933, many traveling stage shows, a wild animal show, 4-H Talent Shows, demolition derbys, horse shows and the very popular tractor pulling contests. In 1982 a new feature was ladies' mud wrestling.

Since 1934, 4H Clubs in the County have been an integral part of the fabric of the Fair. Any article on the Clay County Fair without mention of the 4H Clubs would be



This metal bumper attachment is a precursor to today's bumper stickers. The exact age of the metal bumper advertisement is not known, but it probably dates from the 1950s. Shown actual size.

remiss. But it is too important a story to crowd into a paragraph, so the 4H story will be covered in a later issue. Also important to the Fair are the Future Farmer's of America (FFA). It is reported in 1951 that all five FFA chapters in the county were represented at the fair. Information on the FFA clubs will also be covered in a later newsletter.

Sources: Red River Gazette, 1872; Red River Valley News, Glyndon, 1890; Country Press, Moorhead, 1927; Clay County Family Album: A history of rural Clay County, 1976; Seasons to Remember, 1982, The Fargo Forum, Oct. 1914; Minnesota, a History of the State, Theodore C. Blegen, 1963; Moorhead Valley Times, July 8, 1968.

CLAY COUNTY MUSEUM

 features

"How about that weather?"

★ Feb. 23, 1997 - Jan 31, 1998

--- Free Admission ---

What is unique about Clay County weather? How do folks cope with our weather extremes - both hot and cold? How do we predict weather?

Our weather exhibit will try to answer these and many more questions.

Several hands-on activities in this major new exhibit.



PERMANENT EXHIBIT includes unique characterizations of one facet of the history of towns in the county. Together they form a chapter in the overall history of Clay County.

Hours are: 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 9-9 Thurs. 12-5 Sun.
Lower level of Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave. N., Mhd. - FREE ADMISSION

What's happening, where and when ---

June 7-8 is Glyndon's 125th Anniversary celebration. Of special interest to CCHS is the planned opening of a time capsule buried 25 years ago in honor of Glyndon's 100th Anniversary.

This year the Clay County Fair at Barnesville will run from June 26-29 and we will be at our booth under the grandstand all four days. Stop in and watch a quilt making demonstration and visit with staff and volunteers about our "How about that weather?" exhibit.

CCHS will be co-hosting, along with the Swedish Cultural Heritage Society, an open house at our Bergquist Cabin in north Moorhead June 25-27, from 1-4 p.m. daily. There will be music, ethnic refreshments, and guided tours of the 1870 cabin.

The Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival, June 25 - 28, will be at the Hjemkomst Center, home to the Clay

County Museum and Archives. There will be many demonstrations and ethnic foods. Featured will be a Fiddler's Contest and "Jam" sessions. Visit the Clay County Museum and take in the Scandinavian Festival at the same time.

CCHS will have a booth at the Moorhead State University 4th of July celebration. Quilt raffle tickets will be available.

Hawley will celebrate its 125th Anniversary on July 11-13 with a parade, a pioneer pageant, an all-school reunion and many related community events. Of special interest is the printing of a sequel to the *Journey Back to Hawley* book published in 1976, a favorite of many of our researchers. Both books, the original and the sequel, will be for sale over the Anniversary weekend as well as during the Hawley Rodeo on June 20-21.

Business Memberships

Thank You to the following businesses and organizations for their support!!!

PATRON (\$200 - \$499)

Case Corporation, Fargo

SUSTAINING MEMBERS (\$100 to \$199)

City of Hawley, Hawley

Dilworth/Glyndon/Felton Schools

Fargo Forum, Fargo

First National Bank, Hawley

Fisher Farms, Glyndon

Hawley Public Schools

Home Builders Association
of Fargo-Moorhead

Korsmo Funeral Service, Moorhead

Moorhead Area Retired Educators Asso.

Northern School Supply Co., Fargo

Rapat Corporation, Hawley

Sellin Brothers, Hawley

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$50 to \$99)

Altrusa International Club, Mhd

Bentley & Bentley, DDS, Hawley

Michael J. Burns Architects, Moorhead

Cass-Clay Creamery, Inc., Fargo

City of Barnesville, Barnesville

Coast to Coast, Moorhead

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$50 to \$99) Cont.

Dilworth Wal-Mart, Dilworth

Fevig Oil Company Inc., Felton

F-M Printing, Moorhead

Gjevre, McLarnan, Hannaher, Vaa, Skatvold

& McLarnan, Attorneys, Mhd

Gunhus, Grinnell, Klinger, Swenson

and Guy, Ltd, Moorhead

Hannaher's Inc., Moorhead

Hornbachers Foods, Moorhead

Kirk's Super America, Hawley

Mid-Day Lions, Moorhead

Moorhead Central Lions Club, Moorhead

Moorhead Trader & Trapper Inc., Mhd

Norwest Bank MN, West N.A., Mhd

Petermann Seed Farm, Hawley

State Bank of Hawley, Hawley

State Bank of Moorhead, Moorhead

Tenneco Packaging, Moorhead

United Electric Serv. & Supply, Inc, Fgo

Vikingsland Kiwanis, Moorhead

Wahl Drug Store/Gift Shop, Hawley

Ward Muscatell Auto, Moorhead

Wright Awning Company, Moorhead

Wright Funeral Home, Moorhead

Banquet held despite flood

CCHS held its once-postponed annual meeting at the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center on the banks of the Red River on April 17, the day the river crested at a record 39.5 feet.

The fortitude of the 88 Annual Meeting/Banquet attendees cannot be underestimated. A temporary road, built behind the Center Mall parking lot, provided the only access to the Center for several weeks in April. The day of the banquet, water flowed over the temporary road, threatening to cut the Center and adjacent apartment buildings off from the rest of the community. In essence, we were completely surrounded by the river.

Pres. Gary H. Olson greeted members and guests and chaired a short business meeting. The Annual Report, consisting of a 20-page booklet, was distributed to all attending the banquet. Two new Directors were elected to the Board. They are Joyce Haug of Hawley and Marion Gee of Moorhead. Marion, who was fighting her own flood battle the night of the banquet and was unable to attend, served on the CCHS Board during the 1970s. Joyce has been active in civic and community organizations since she arrived in Clay County as a new bride in 1953.

Two other Board Members, Terry Shoptaugh and Diane Haugen, resigned at this time because of changes in their lives. Appointed to fill these positions are Arvid Thompson of Barnesville and Al Bloomquist of Moorhead. Mr. Thompson served on the Board as an ex officio representative for the Clay County Commission for many years. Another Board position remains open.

The program consisted of musical selections by "Tumble Weed," a quartet from Hawley and a new slide presentation by CCHS Archivist Mark Peihl. "Tumble Weed" members include Chris Berg, Mona Kuehl, Steve Knutson and Jerry Riddle. They performed country trail music and were very well received. Peihl's slide presentation was entitled "The Great Flood of 1897." This timely topic was not lost on the crowd's consciousness as the river rose around us, 100 years after the fact.

Many door prizes were awarded during the evening and a delicious meal was served by Oven Door caterers.

Anyone wishing to receive an Annual Report booklet can pick one up at the CCHS offices, lower level of the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center, 202 1st Ave. N., Moorhead, or by calling 218-233-4604.

CCHS Memberships - New and Renewals

March/April 1997

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

Harold Helmeke, Moorhead
Robert & Dorothy Larson, Moorhead
Elizabeth Lorshbough, Fargo
Alice Polikowsky, Moorhead
Patrick Smith, Fargo
Don & Rose Mary Strom, Moorhead
Olaf & Rhoda Wicker, Hawley
Bruce M. Thorson, Waite Park
M/M Earl McDougall, Hawley
Kathleen J. Steffan, Fargo
Rudolph & Ruby Johnson, Moorhead
Richard Wussow, Sabin
William Wallace, LaCanada CA
Harding Noblett, Moorhead
Gloria M. Anderson, Fargo
Elmo Erickson, Moorhead
Don & Alvina Lein, Glyndon
Larry & Elsie Quam, Hawley
Terry Shoptaugh/Deborah Janzen, Moorhead
Howard & Marcell Wergeland, Detroit Lakes

Olive Andvik, Moorhead
Keith & Lorraine Langseth, Glyndon
Carol & Gordon Ekre, Hawley
Norman & Ruth Langseth, Glyndon
Robert Belsly, Moorhead
Erling Erickson, Moorhead
Rev. Charles Hedelund, Moorhead
Dorothy Carey, Moorhead
Vilera Rood, Moorhead
Paul & Irene Burkhardt, Fargo
Sherwood E. Peterson, Jr., Rochester
Harold & Maybelle Dinsmore, Ulen
Eva Felde, Moorhead
Sharon Hoverson, Fargo
Gunhus, Grinnell, Klinger,
Iverson & Guy, Ltd., Moorhead
Harold Hanson, Fargo
Mrs. Andre Munn, Moorhead
Eva & Jerome Riendeau family, Moorhead
Rachel Smithwick, Baker
Sandra McEvers, Moorhead
Frank & Adrie Israelson, Wolverton
Paul DesJardins, Felton
Loren Helmeke, Georgetown
R.H. & Helen Benson, Moorhead

Gary & Nancy Ronsberg, Hawley
Aubrey & Catherine Thomas, Moorhead
Delmar & Rhoda Hansen, Moorhead
Earl Engebretsen, Felton
Leslie Rogne, Kindred ND
John Holtan, Moorhead
Donald Pingree, Georgetown
Gene & Diane Pickett, Moorhead
LaVerne Halverson, Minneapolis
Paula K. Johnson, Moorhead
Diane Hitterdal/Craig Baker, Hawley

CCHS welcomes the following new members:

Karen D. Evanson, Moorhead
Keith Larson, Hawley
Moorhead Trader & Trapper, Inc., Moorhead
State Bank of Moorhead, Moorhead
Janet & Robert Hillier, Moorhead
Jason J. Pratt, Moorhead
Victoria Lauren Nesmith, Fargo
Joyce Haug, Hawley
Kathy & Dick Zaylskie family, Fargo

CCHS Spring Tour

8 sites in
two days

Wed.-Thurs.
June 11-12

to
**Stillwater and
Little Falls**



*1853 Wardens' Home Museum, Stillwater -
Built for the Territorial Prison*

(See Page 7 for more details)

You must be a CCHS Member to join us.
Individual Memberships are just \$15.
Join now by calling 233-4604!!



\$110 includes all site fees,
bus fare, motel
& four meals.

Registration Deadline is: Wednesday, June 4

For more information and/or to register

Call 233-4604

Clay County Historical Society, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 56561

CCHS Business Membership

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

As a CCHS Business Member you will receive all benefits of an individual membership plus a certificate ready to frame and display, extra complimentary passes to the Hjemkomst Center's exhibits and a listing in all CCHS bi-monthly Newsletters. To become a CCHS Business Member please return this form or a facsimile to CCHS, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 56561-0501 or call 233-4604.

Business: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

CCHS - 1997 Membership

I would like to become a member of Clay County Historical Society.

☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 ☐ FAMILY \$35.00 ☐ Donation

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- * Support preservation of our heritage
- * Bi-monthly newsletter
- * Discount on Acid-Free Materials
- * FREE Admission to Clay County Museum & Archives and two complimentary passes to the Center's Exhibits
- * Discount on Photo Reproduction
- * Voting Privileges
- * Invitation to all CCHS events

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