

# CASS COUNTY CLIPPINGS

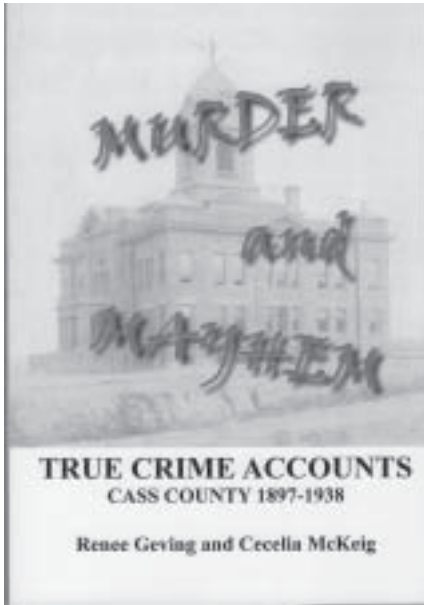
July 1, 2010

CASS COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

P.O. BOX 505  
201 MINNESOTA AVENUE W., WALKER, MN. 56484

## Murder and Mayhem

### True Crime Accounts



The dynamic writing duo, Renee Geving and Cecelia McKeig, have produced their latest paperback about crimes in early Cass County, several of which have never been solved. Renee and Cecelia utilized the newspaper archives and the state archives to put together these accounts.

If summer readers are looking for a good murder story of the north woods, a gripping tale of love gone wrong, or an unsolved murder of a hundred years ago, this is the book to have. The book follows the stories from newspaper accounts of the day and court records and addresses such pointed questions as, Who killed Patrick Hawley and buried his body in a manure pile? Who shot George Barclay on a cold October night at Pine River? Was Cass Lake's Dr. Dumas an outstanding citizen, wrongly accused, or a Jekyll and Hyde character? Why was there only one hanging in Cass County? Was Chounard an example to the rest of the would-be offenders?

“Dan Dennehey, who, as all of Walker knows, was acting in the capacity of night-watch walked into Hulick’s saloon, began hurling opprobrious epithets at Swan Anderson, the bartender, and said, “I’m off duty now, and I’m going to kill you,” and proceeded to carry out his threat. He leveled his revolver and fired, the shot missing Anderson’s head by about two inches and burrowing a hole through the thick frame of the big mirror behind the bar.” *A Narrow Escape*, pg. 25.

The story is developed in the words of the first-hand witnesses, and in the editorials of the day. There will be a book signing on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 2:00 at the Little Apple Bookstore. The book is currently being sold at the Cass County Museum, at Little Apple Bookstore in Walker, and at Lori’s Luvs in Longville for \$20.

**Needed: Two Members willing to serve on the Cass County Historical Society Board of Directors for the coming years. Please call Renee at 218-547-7251.**

**Cass County Historical Society Board of Directors**

Dan Eikenberry, Pres.  
Lois Orton, V-Pres  
Karen Keener  
Elsie Nelson  
Sue Eikenberry  
Don Beadle  
Alexis Hadrava - Treasurer

**History Walk**

Plans are going ahead for the second annual History Walk. This year's walk will cover the historical development of Front Street from 1896-1920. The first walk is July 20th; the second August 10th. Both will start at 7:00 p.m. from the Cass County Museum, and we'll explore Front Street history. The cost is \$10 per person.

**New Staff**

Betty Brown Lydell is the newest staff person at the museum. She is employed 20 hours per week under Experience Works, formerly known as the Green Thumb. She is helping update the obituary index in the research area. Betty grew up on Ten Mile Lake and was schooled in Walker as were three of her children and two of her six grandchildren. Her parents owned a greenhouse and carpentry business on Ten Mile. She managed Highland Apartments from 2003 to early 2009. She retired and remained a tenant at Highland with her friend Dytches (a cat).

**Pioneer School**

Plans are underway for the Cass County Sentence to Serve Crew to apply preservative to the Cass County Pioneer School. Each year, Betty (Preble) Hutt from Woodward, Iowa has contributed to a fund for maintenance of this building. She and her sisters attended this country school as children when they lived on the "Island" in Boy Lake Township.

**AH GWAH CHING BRICKS FOR SALE**

A limited number of Ah Gwah Ching bricks were salvaged after the buildings were torn down at the site and were delivered to the county garage as promised. These bricks have been carefully cleaned. They are for sale as a fundraiser for the Cass County Historical Society. The price for each brick is \$10. They are going like hot cakes! Please contact Renee Geving at 218-547-7251 to purchase a brick.

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**The Cass County  
Historical Society  
Upcoming Meeting**

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**July 20, 6:00 p.m.**

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**Cass County Research Center**

The research center is staffed by the Cass County Historical Society at the Cass County Museum in Walker. Through the winter, research help is available by appointment. The research library, obituary indexes, newspaper microfilm, and other archival materials are accessible for a \$10 research fee for non-members.



Pictured are Dan Eikenberry on the left and Carl Berg on the right of the paddlewheel of the Leila D. that sits on the lawn in front of the Cass County Museum. She was the first privately-owned steamboat to ply the waters of Leech Lake in 1895. Carl's father, Ole Berg, donated the paddlewheel to the museum. This June, Carl replaced all the wood at his own expense. Dan gave it a coat of paint and together they put the paddlewheel back together for our visitors to enjoy.



Although Cass County reduced the amount of their donation to our historical society this year, they have been generous in providing funds for a new entrance to the museum building and a new coat of paint for the museum, school house and outhouse. It looks great. Thank you!

It looks great. Thank you!

Dan & Sue Eikenberry purchased an arbor for our wild grapevine by the schoolhouse. Dan installed it with help from Sue & Renee. Sue also gave our bench a new coat of paint. Dan has been very busy around. What an asset to for the Society!



**McKinley School** was built in the NW 1/4 Section 9 of Loon Lake Township around 1898. The first school in this township was in Section 17. It closed in 1915 and the pupils went to McKinley School. In 1919, McKinley School was moved to the corner of the SE 1/4 of section 9. It burned in 1930. This picture of the McKinley School, shared by Joyce Lotze, was taken in 1915. Three students were identified. Back row first boy on far left: Martin Melin. Back row third boy from left: Victor Larson. Back row: second girl from the right: Joyce Cochran Thompson.

Martin Melin was the son of Jonas and Cecil (Oberg) Melin. Jonas came from Sweden in 1883. He had worked in the St. Cloud Stone Quarry, where he lost his thumb and two fingers in a blasting accident. He homesteaded 160 acres in Section 4 in Loon Lake Township in 1896. He felled the red pines and built a cabin and a log barn for his team of oxen. In 1900, he married Cecil Oberg, a Norwegian immigrant. Jonas bought 40 acres in Section 6 of Loon Lake Township in 1911. The son, Martin, began field work clearing land and harvesting trees at a very early age. When he was 14, they bought a team of black Percherons that became Martin's pride and joy. From then on, he became the chief bread winner. One of the horses, Lottie, lived to be thirty-four years old. Martin married Elva Van Scoy in 1933. The farm was recognized as a Century Farm in 1996.

Victor Larson was the son of Nils and Christinia Larson. Nels "Victor" was born August 18, 1898. He was the eighth child, but was the second child born on the homestead in Loon Lake Township. In 1931, he married Lois Shaffer. In 1931-32, Victor walked two miles and worked in a sawmill for twenty cents an hour. From 1937-79, he owned and lived on 80 acres across from the homestead.

Joyce Cochran was the daughter of Milton & Rebecca Cochran of Loon Lake Township.





# Cass County Museum

presents 2nd annual

## HISTORY WALK

The Historical Development of  
Front Street - 1896-1920

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*Covering early businesses such as  
the Fire Hall, Grocery Stores, Taverns,  
Dry Goods stores and Photographers.*

**JULY 20** OR  
**AUG 10<sup>th</sup>**

COST  
**\$10<sup>00</sup>**

*TOUR BEGINS AT 7 PM - MEET AT  
THE CASS COUNTY MUSEUM.*

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### MUSEUM HOURS & INFORMATION

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OPEN JUNE-SEPT., TUE-FRI - 10am-5pm

## **Membership - 2010**

### **Friend (\$100-\$249)**

### **Individual (\$10)**

Virginia Abullarade  
Karin Arsan  
Francis Bean  
Bob Bean  
Vi Blackburn  
Margaret Dewey  
Dick Hein  
Karen Keener  
Karen Kezele  
Joyce Lotze  
Casey MacDonell  
Steven Mecklenberg  
Elsie Nelson  
Frank Olson  
Diane Pitzen  
Robert Rogers  
Tom Salwasser  
Elizabeth Sauer  
Erma Schantle  
Arthur Shenk  
Jeanette Silbaugh  
Gloria Stewart  
Glenna Tappe  
David Yde  
Betty Zaffke

Steve & Sharon Bilben  
Don & Margaret Brown  
Jim & Shirley Dowson  
Dan & Sue Eikenberry  
John & Thelma Grimley  
Betty Hutt  
Gramma Jo's House  
Harry Loger  
Kelly & Jeanne Nelson  
Bob & Sandy Pauly  
Tom & Doris Williams

### **Cities & Townships**

City of Federal Dam - \$50  
City of Lake Shore - \$50  
City of Longville - \$50  
City of Walker - \$500

Blind Lake Township -- \$100  
Boy Lake Township - \$100  
Deerfield Twp -- \$200  
Fairview Township - \$1,000  
Gould Township - \$100  
Kego Township - \$500  
Leech Lake Township - \$200  
Loon Lake Twp - \$100  
Pine Lake Township - \$200  
Pine River Township - \$100  
Ponto Lake Township -- \$200  
Powers Township - \$150  
Rogers Township -- \$50  
Salem Township - \$30  
Shingobee Township - \$1,000  
Smokey Hollow Township - \$100  
Sylvan Township - \$85  
Torry Township - \$50  
Trelipe Township - \$250  
Turtle Lake Township - \$500  
Wilkinson Twp -- \$250  
Woodrow Township - \$50

### **Benefactor (\$20 - \$99)**

Charles & LaVonne Beckman  
Clarence & Bonnie Byersdorfer  
Audrey Chelberg  
Chad Converse  
Gordy & Liz Dahn  
Leland & Dorothy Delger  
Mike & Karla Elsenpeter  
Dick & Donna Evenson  
Jerry & Renee Geving  
Alice Groth  
Nancy Jacobson  
Bob & Shirley Jewell  
Cecelia McKeig  
David Nieman  
Norbert & Rosemary Ochs  
James & Leona O'Neal  
Chris & Dorothy Opheim  
Oliver & Virgie Opheim  
John B. Risteau  
Carole Sargent  
Dana & Bev Sheldon  
Dick & Kathie Stoneking  
Bob & Ann Winegar  
Harry & Martha Winter

### **Family (\$15)**

Don & Tanis Beadle  
Bob & Dodie Burdick  
Steve & Kay Johnson  
Robert & Betty Kangas  
Keith & Janice Matson  
Glen & Pat Mechelke

### **Sponsor (\$250-\$999)**

Bob & Nita Frink  
Dale & Harriet Jones  
Lois Orton

### **Business (\$50+)**

Acorn Hill Resort  
First National Bank, Walker  
Hummingbird Press  
Orton Oil Company  
Little Apple Book Store  
Huddle's South Shore Resort  
Anderson Family Resorts  
D. W. Jones

Cass County - \$2,250.00

**Thank you for renewing your  
membership for 2010.**

# 2010 Membership

The Museum depends on your membership and donations to keep it going.  
If you haven't done so yet, please renew for 2010.

## Membership

Single (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor (\$20-99) \_\_\_\_\_

Business (50) \_\_\_\_\_

Friends (\$100-\$249) \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsors (\$250-\$999) \_\_\_\_\_ Patrons (\$1000) \_\_\_\_\_

Memorials in any amount are also welcome

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Cass County Historical Society PO Box 505 Walker, MN 56484
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Staff: Renee Geving, Director  
Assistant: Jolene Safranek

Website:  
[www.casscountymuseum.org](http://www.casscountymuseum.org)

Email:  
[casscountymuseum@gmail.com](mailto:casscountymuseum@gmail.com)

Newsletter:  
Cecelia McKeig  
Renee Geving

Museum Phone: 218-547-7251  
Winter Hours: By Appointment