

CASS COUNTY CLIPPINGS

October 1, 2012

CASS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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

email: casscountymuseum@gmail.com
web: www.casscountymuseum.org
phone: 218-547-7251

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM

At a recent auction sale this summer, numerous survey instruments and office equipment went up for sale.

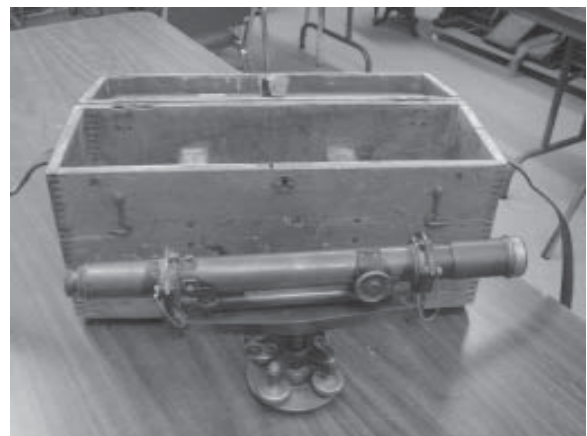
Terri Cornell attended this sale and found a map case for the museum. It was something that we have needed for a long time. She was the lucky bidder. She donated the case to the museum and also purchased a new base for the case. Terri has been a weekly volunteer at the museum for the past two summers. She will return with her husband Bill to the snowy slopes of Colorado in September. We will miss her and look forward to her return next June. Thanks, Terri!!

Another man, with an historical eye, spied a survey instrument. It turns out that this was a level, made by L. Beckmann Company of Toledo, Ohio (3499) and one that was used by Bill Spain who was Cass County Surveyor from 1935 to 1939. It now has a home here at the museum.

Bill Spain, Jr. was born July 13, 1904, the fifth child of William James Spain, Sr. and Florence Ethel Spain. He grew up in the Hackensack area. His parents built the Hotel Endeavor in 1906 in the village of Hackensack. His parents purchased North Star Camp and Bill grew up at the resort and attended the Woman Lake School.

Bill earned a mining engineering degree from the University of Minnesota and worked as a surveyor along with running the resort with his wife. He was appointed Woodrow Township constable and took the job very seriously as he wore a six-shooter strapped to his hip well into his 80s. This six-shooter along with his long hair and beard, were his trademarks his entire life.

He ran for the Minnesota Senate in 1938 and lost by 132 votes. He was the Woman Lake Association secretary for 14 years and was in the SeeBees during WWII. Everybody in Cass County knew Bill Spain. He died May 14, 1984. His wife Evelyn preceded him in death in 1973.



Bill Spain's surveying instrument

PRESIDENT’S NOTES

We have had a very good summer at the Museum. We have doubled the number of visitors from last year and income from admissions is up 50%. Our “Historic Sites of Cass County” maps have been very popular as have our monthly programs. Outreach to other parts of the County include history presentations in Pine River, Oak Point of Leech Lake, Walker Rotary, and Remer, and displays of our beadwork collection at Outing’s “Ancient Travel Route” celebration. We have generated excitement about what we can do, thanks to Renee and our many volunteers.

I have a busy fall with presentations to the Budget Committee of the County and to the assembled Township Boards at their annual meeting. I am also working on a fundraising plan which is a requirement for a seminar I attended. We are also collecting data about our temperature and humidity inside the Museum as preparation for a preservation grant if needed.

The work of the Society goes on year-round and if you have any ideas and/or questions, please let me know at 218-547-7251 or by email at casscountymuseum@gmail.com.

ANNUAL MEETING -- OCT. 16

Our annual meeting will be at the Ranch House in Walker, dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please call or email the Museum before Oct. 11 with your reservation. The business meeting will begin at 7:00pm, followed by a program entitled “Prohibition.” Please join us!

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBER

There will be a vacancy on the Cass County Historical Society board of directors in 2013. The position is a 3-year term and open to members only. Nominations will be accepted prior to the October meeting. Election will be held at the annual meeting. Send nominations to casscountymuseum@gmail.com.

Cass County Historical Society Board of Directors

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

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.

To make an appointment during the winter hours, contact Renee at 218-652-4377.

FREE FRIDAYS GREAT SUCCESS

Our Free Friday promotion has been a huge success. We have averaged over 50 visitors each Friday, with 124 on one day and 111 on another. Thanks to Gramma Jo's House, Walker American Legion, Walker VFW, Moondance Events, Orton Oil Co, 1st National Bank of Walker, May Creek Lodge, Otto Ringle Family, Walker Rotary Club, Acorn Hill Resort, Anderson Family Resorts, The Beehive, Lucettes' Pizza in Hackensack, and Faith in Action. If you get a chance as a member of the Historical Society, thank them for their generous support in encouraging people to learn about history by visiting our Museum and Pioneer School.

GREAT VOLUNTEERS!

This season volunteers greeted patrons at the front desk on Free Fridays and also on Saturdays. The following have been very generous with their time and the Society thanks them for their help: Martha Winter, Elsie Nelson, Bob Dennis, Mona King, Don Beadle, Dan & Sue Eikenberry, Allison Eikenberry and Lexi Barber.

Others have helped with the History Walk and our monthly programs. Many, many thanks to Cec McKeig, Nita and Bob Frink, Martha, Elsie, Dan and Sue.

Special thanks to Bob Dennis and Tony and Pat Doughty for driving their vintage cars during parades. Mona King brought her spinning wheel in here every Friday and patiently answered all the questions asked of her. If you would like to volunteer, please let Executive Director Dan know by calling or emailing the Museum.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

This past year has gone by very quickly as have the last 27 years that I have been the Museum Director. The time has come for me to step down from this position. I am not retiring but instead devoting more of my time and talents to the Cass County Research Center here at the museum. When I started collecting material for the Research Center little did I know that it would develop into a first-class operation. My new title will be that of Cass County Historian. By spring of next year, I will have new hours for the Center. Stop in and say Hello!

We are in the process of hiring a Museum Director. The museum is open from May to September. This person will supervise the Museum and Schoolhouse when open, maintain a record of daily receipts, assist in design and maintenance of permanent and temporary displays, and maintain our digital files and hardcopy files in accordance with accepted museum practices. Computer skills are required, as is the ability to meet and greet the public. If you are interested, please contact Dan at the Museum.

Ancient Travel Route Celebration

On August 11, the Roosevelt and Lawrence Area Lakes Association held its second “Ancient Travel Route Celebration.” Your Society played a part in the planning of the celebration and also had four displays there showing samples of Ojibwe bead work from our Museum. The displays were in four lockable cases, built with funds from a grant, and donated to us. There are 4 – 30" x 42" flat cases and 1 – slanted top case for table top displays. These cases are portable and will allow us to take artifacts with us as we participate in county events or present programs throughout the County.



Exciting Opportunity!

Walker Ford and the Ford Motor Company are hosting a “Drive for the Museum” day on September 26, from 10am to 7pm. Test drive a new Ford at the City Park upper parking lot and we will get \$20. Twenty dollars for each person (one per household) who drives, up to 300 people (\$6000). Mark your calendars and plan to test drive a Ford on the 26th. The Museum will be open from 10 – 7. Stop in after you drive and say hello. Remember, your membership gives you free admission on any day.

CCHS Program Series

CCHS has presented a series of programs over the six months from May to October. The August program was held at the Pine River Depot and was hosted by the Heritage Group North, Inc. HGN was established to explore the human and natural history of the greater Pine River area. Barry Babcock was the guest speaker. A rough estimate of the audience was approximately sixty people who came to hear his presentation on George Bonga. The September meeting was held at the Remer Soo Line Depot. (photo at right) The old Remer Depot is located at the west edge of town and has been remodeled to include a



visitors’ and information center located on the popular Soo Line Recreational Trail. Approximately twenty local people joined the discussion on some of the early Remer history and some of the Remer Firsts! Both locations are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Membership - 2012

Current membership as of October 1, 2012.

Sponsors \$250-\$999

First National Bank
Lois Orton
Bob & Nita Frink
D. W. Jones, Inc.
Ron Libertus

Businesses \$50+

Acorn Hill Resort
Bank Forward
May Creek Senior Living Campus
Hummingbird Press
Andersons Cove
Grand Vu
Northland Lodge
Spirit of the North
Chippewa Lodge
Orton Oil Company
Walker Animal Hospital
Ranch House Supper Club

Individuals - \$10

Karin Arsan
Frances Bean
Bob Bean
Vi Blackburn
Bob Crass
Margaret Dewey
Barb Frederick
Karen Keener
Karen Kezele
Elsie Nelson
Marlys Nitchals
Robert Redfield
Otto Ringle
Erma Schantle
John Sumption
Glenna Tappe
Char Moore
Travis Grimmmler
Rhonda Fochs
Leo Witt

Friends \$100-\$249

Willard Arends
Steve Bilben
Don & Margaret Brown
Clarence & Bonnie Byersdorfer
Jim & Shirley Dowson
Dan & Sue Eikenberry
John & Thelma Grimley
Gramma Jo's House
Paul & Jana Pence
Richard & Carlyne Raymond
Kathie Stoneking

Township Support

Birch Lake Township
Blind Lake Township
Fairview Township
Gould Township
Kego Township
Leech Lake Township
Loon Lake Township
Pine River Township
Ponto Lake Township
Powers Township
Remer Township
Salem Township
Shingobee Township
Smoky Hollow Twp
Sylvan Township
Trelipe Township
Turtle Lake Township
Wilkinson Township

City of Walker
Cass County

Special Memberships

Tony & Pat Doughty
Bob Dennis

Family - \$15

Bob & Dodie Burdick
Leland & Dorothy Delger
Tom & Lori Gamache
Glen & Pat Mechelke
Norb & Rosie Ochs
Pat & Diane Pitzen
Richard & Elizabeth Sauer
Gary & Muggs Trimble
Gary and Dianne Zuelow Giffen
John Mehaffey
Dennis and Mona King
Carol Wedin

Benefactor \$20-\$99

Lynn & Patricia Abraham
Virginia Abullarade
Jane Baker
Don & Tanis Beadle
Audrey Chelberg
Robert & Florence Crow
Gordon & Liz Dahn
Jerry & Vera Demars
Richard & Joan Downham
Mike & Karla Elsenpeter
Steve & Jane Ekholm Dick &
Donna Evenson
Don Flyckt
Neal & Kathy Gaalswyk
Jerry & Renee Geving
Patricia Herbison Jones
Bob & Shirley Jewell
Robert & Betty Kangas
Cecelia McKeig
Keith & Janice Matson
Kelly & Jeanne Nelson
James & Leona O'Neal
Chris & Dorothy Opheim
Rev. Mark & Sara Olson
Jim & Rhoda Pope
Richard Sandeen & Judy Gross
Dana & Bev Sheldon
Mary Donahue Stetz
Bob & Ann Winegar
Martha Winter



Volunteer Terri Cornell and the map case.

Cass County Brochures and Historic Maps of Cass County have been distributed throughout the county and are available at many tourist information sites.

The Museum depends on your membership and donations to keep it going.
If you haven't done so yet, please renew for 2012.

Membership

Single (\$10) _____ Family (\$15) _____

Benefactor (\$20-99) _____

Business (\$50) _____

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

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email: _____