

CASS COUNTY CLIPPINGS

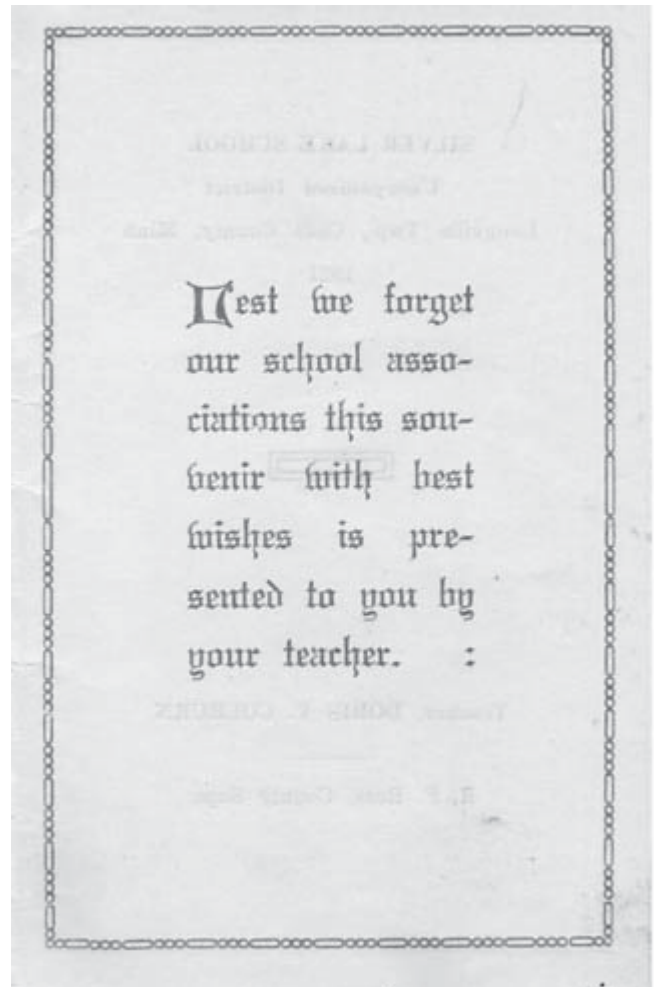
January 1, 2011

CASS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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



This school card belonged to Ida Folwick. It was among her things when she died last year at the age of 100. Donated by her sister Lilly Folwick Chevre. of Woodbury, Minnesota.



History Walk

The second annual History Walk took place on July 20th and on August 24th. This year's walk covered the historical development of Front Street from 1896-1920. The walk started at 7:00 p.m. from the Cass County Museum and explored Front Street history. Twenty-three people attended each event.

Cass County Historical Society Calendar of Events 2011

February 8, 2011 - Board Meeting at the Museum, 4:00pm

February 14 – 21, 2011 - tentative research and writing for History Walk, volunteers welcome.

April 12, 2011 - Board Meeting at the Museum, 4:00pm

Week of May 2 – Museum cleanup in preparation for season opening
May 9

June 14, 2011 – Board Meeting at the Museum, 6:30pm

July 12, 2011 – History Walk along Minnesota Ave, 7:00pm

August 9, 2011 – History Walk along Minnesota Ave, 7:00pm
Board Meeting (time to be determined)

October 11, 2011 – Annual Meeting at the Museum, 7:00pm
All members encouraged to attend

December 13, 2011 – Board Meeting at the Museum, 4:00pm

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

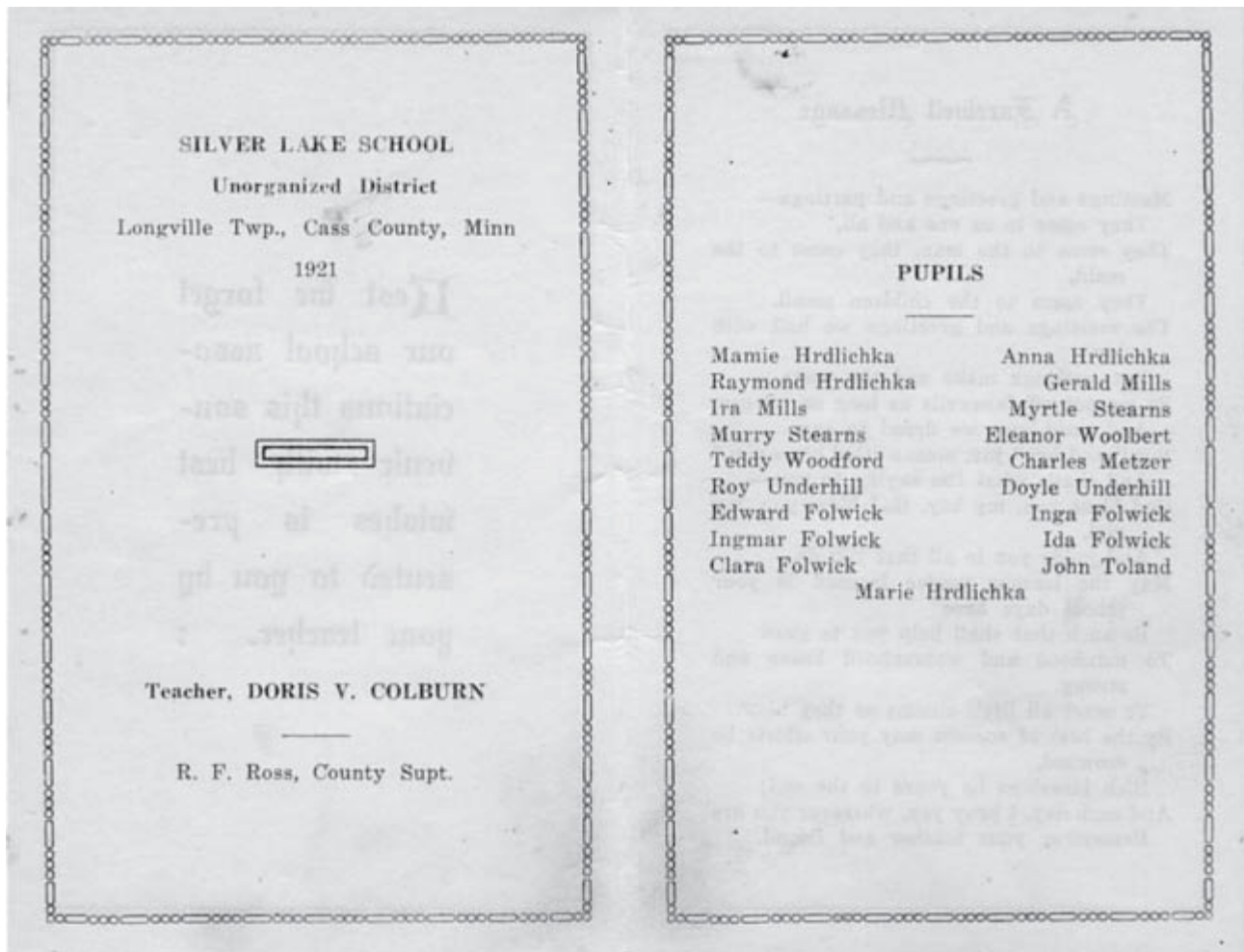
Cass County Research Center

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.



Photo: Silver Lake School, 1915-1916. Pupils left to right, back and center.

Gertrude Hrdlichka, Myrtiebelle Marshall, Ann Woolbert, Jessie Williams, Nora Metzer, Emma Mathies, Sam Marshall, Myrtle Woolbert, Inga Folwick, Teacher Laola Metzer, Robert Lauer and Emma Carnahan. Front row, left to right: Elanora Woolbert, June Lauer, Ted Woodford, Theodore Woolbert, Doyle Toland, Bert Woodford, Ann Hrdlichka, Myrtle Stearns and Emery Toland.



Silver Lake School was built in 1911 in the SE 1/4 of Section 19 and was later moved to Longville. Silver Lake is south of Whipholt on the Old Grade Road. Emma Mathies Loff recalled that the settlers got together and took the railroad ties and built a one room school house in 1911. "There were about 17 pupils who went to our school. I had about three miles to walk in the winter time. When it got dark early, I had to go through a pine grove. Shortly after I passed it, the wolves would start howling."

"The new building was ready by the fall of 1914 with Laola Metzger our teacher. She was strict, but we all loved her." The weekly Wednesday night prayer meeting and singing school was held in the school building with Mrs. Lauer playing the old pump organ. William Stamm never failed to request the old hymn, "Let the Lower Lights be Burning," while he boomed out the tones in his deep base voice.

Other 8th grade graduates from Silver Lake listed in our research archives were:

Gertrude Hrdlichka, 1916; Jessie Williams, 1916; Myrtle Woolbert, 1916; Nora V. Metzger, 1919; Adeline Marshall, 1926; Viola Lundgren, 1931; Hazel Cook, 1931; Eunice Fromback, 1931; Gayle Fromback, 1931; Van Cook, 1933; Alvina Lilyquist, 1933; Lorraine Lundgren, 1933; Tom Cook, 1934; Evelan Fromback, 1934; Laurence Lundgren, 1934; Verlyn Fromback, 1935; Melvin Loff, 1934; Helen Ward, 1934; Gerald Woolbert, 1935; LeRoy Beach, 1936; Arnold Loff, 1936, Jack Lundgren, 1936; Violet Metzger, 1937; Kenneth Recknagel, 1937.

Teachers at Silver Lake School were: Laola Metzger, 1915, 1918; Nellie Hamlet, 1916; Iva Wood, 1917; Martha Brevik, 1919; Doris Colburn, 1920-1921; May A. Bothne, 1922; Julia Filla, 1923-1924; Dora Waddell, 1925; Blanche Johnson, 1926-1928; Agnes Byhre, 1926-1927; Helen Byhre, 1929; Margaret Byhre, 1930-1931; Jean Scott, 1932; Ada Belle Starr, 1933-1934; Dorothy Harrington, 1935-1936.

Silver Lake School did not reopen after Christmas, 1938. Students attended school in Longville. Teacher Margaret Thomas went to teach in Hackensack.

Lumber Jack Lon Sutton -- 1927

One of the last of a vanishing race, Lon Sutton, an old time Lumber Jack (and proud of it) made his appearance in Walker on Monday of this week (November 17, 1927), transacting some business at the court house and calling upon Ed Rogers whose father employed Mr. Sutton a number of years ago.

Arrayed in bright red mackinaw cloth trousers, wearing a long beard and long grey hair the old time lumber jack seemed to have stepped from another age, and many were the memories, fond and otherwise, that his appearance recalled to the minds of old residents.

In common with the majority of the true pioneers, Sutton has a decided aversion to close neighbors and since logging has become a lost art in this section, he has turned to trapping for a livelihood and at present lives northeast of Remer in a township boasting but four settlers, and he claims that if the population increases, he will move.

Sutton finds trapping a profitable business, more profitable, he thinks, than farming. Wolves are numerous in his section of the county and so far this season he has bagged ten, two of them bring him \$50.

By a coincidence, George Waterman, another lumber jack, 73 years young, was also in town Monday. Waterman and Sutton were employed on the same outfit a number of years ago, and their chance meeting here was a pleasure to both. Waterman will leave in a few days for Montana where he will make his home with his brother-in-law who resides 60 miles south of Miles City. (November 17, 1927)

Aunt Mary's Rest Home - Walker

Aunt Mary's Rest Home was started in 1936 by Mrs. Albert (Mary) Erickson for those on Old Age Assistance. Aunt Mary's was a "home" away from home for the aged. Aunt Mary, as she was fondly referred to by all who knew her, passed away May 11, 1949, the victim of cancer. In spite of her great suffering during the last days of her life, the welfare of her "boys" as she called them, came first and foremost. One of the men's birthdays fell on May 12, and one of the last things she said before death claimed her was, "don't forget to make Ole a cake."

After Mary Erickson died, her niece Ruth Henriksen and her husband Arnold became owners and proprietors of Aunt Mary's Rest Home. Ruth, following in her aunt's footsteps, never failed to make a birthday cake whenever a birthday was due. At Christmas, it was her custom to hold a more or less formal open house the day before Christmas. There was always a tree and gifts for each and every one of the men. Several thoughtful people from Walker and one or two organizations also sent gifts at Christmas. A few of the men who lived there were Charley Lang, John Kleutsh, Charley Peer, George McGinn, Vic Johnson, Art Merrill, Paul Gorr, and Louis Berge.

Weather permitting, the first person you saw upon arriving at Aunt Mary's was Charley Peer. He used to sit at the end of the walk in his wheelchair with a pleasant smile. Charley had a stroke and never fully recovered. Yet he was always happy to see visitors. George McGinn was always good-natured. He had a line of blarney and reminded people of the real Paul Bunyan. John Kleutsch preferred to give you the truth, short and sweet, instead of a long story. Vic Johnson, a good-looking and good-natured Finn, also liked to sit outside in his wheelchair. Art Merrill was the quiet type, and spoke only when spoken to. Otherwise, he liked to read and mind his own business. Charley Lang was an investor. Louis Berge was a distinguished looking gentleman. (Information from a column "This 'n' That" by Lillian McCarty).

We're not sure when Aunt Mary's closed – if you know, we'd like to know. Aunt Mary's was an institution in Walker. If you have more information, please let us know and we'll add it to our files at the museum.

Membership - 2011

Friend (\$100-\$249)

Individual (\$10)

Virginia Abullarade
Karin Arsan
Francis Bean
Bob Bean
Vi Blackburn
Margaret Dewey
Marvel Fisher
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

Family \$15)

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

Sponsor (\$250-\$999)

Anderson Family Resorts
Bob & Nita Frink
Dale & Harriet Jones
Ron Libertus
Lois Orton

Benefactor (\$20 - \$99)

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

Business (\$50+)

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

Cass County - \$2,250.00

Willard Arends
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
Stan & Gerry Peterson
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 Township -- \$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 Township -- \$250
Woodrow Township - \$50

**Please remember us with your
renewal of membership for 2011.**

2011 Membership

The Museum depends on your membership and donations to keep it going.
If you haven't done so yet, please renew for 2011.

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 _____

Lon Sutton (continued)

“The Man Who Came Back” In a Poker Game Passes

Lon Sutton, an eighty-two year old lumberjack and trapper in the good old days, journeyed to the Cass County Courthouse a few weeks ago to place an application for the old age pension. As he left the courthouse after filing his application, he slipped on the icy steps, slightly injuring himself.

He was immediately rushed to the Walker hospital for treatment and later removed to the Pine River hospital. Apparently on the road to recovery, Lon suddenly took a turn for the worse due to his years, and died in a rather peaceful and undramatic manner on Mar 29, 1936.

Lon was of the hermit type, moving on every occasion when people would settle in his locality. This continued until he became too feeble to move at every turn of the wheel and also wilderness was becoming scarce, so Lon settled near Pine River where he remained until his Walker sojourn. In the fall of 1909, Lon was spending a few days at Bill Rogers' lumber camp in Boy River when four Walker citizens dropped in for a few days of hunting. Little or no persuasion was necessary to encourage Lon to hold the fifth hand in a poker game, although it wasn't long until he was completely devoid of money. Leaving the game as well as the premises of Bill Rogers' camp for a couple of days, Lon returned and reentered the persisting game. When asked where he managed to scrape up a fresh supply of funds, Lon casually replied, “Oh, I mortgaged a mink tract down the line.”

This happens to be a true story of the “man who came back” for this time Lon became complete master of the situation, not leaving the four other players as much as the price of a good five cent cigar. (Walker Pilot, April 10, 1936)

Cass County Historical Society
Report of the Board of Directors
2010

The past year has been a busy one for the Society and the Museum. Following are some of the events, activities and happenings that occurred during the year:

- Clean up day in May prior to opening the Museum for the season
- Two history walks along Front St. in Walker, one in July and one in August
- A program at the Museum in August about marbles
- A new portico over the front door and new eaves and downspouts
- Painting of the Museum and the letters on the building
- Waterproofing the School House
- Donation of a Trapper's Cabin to the Society and the subsequent sale of it
- Rebuilding and painting of the paddle wheel in front of the Museum
- Preparing and selling Ah-Gwah-Ching bricks
- Pruning of trees and bushes around the Museum
- Erection of a grape arbor by the School House

Members, if you have a chance, thank the County for the new portico, painting the building,

waterproofing the school and the new eave gutters. Also thank the city for maintenance of the yard and pruning the trees.

Our financial position is good, thanks to the sale of the cabin. It costs us about \$20,000+ to operate the Museum each year. We are open to the public May through September and our research facility is open year-round by appointment. Our major sources of funds are county, city and township contributions plus memberships. Only 22.5% of our income comes from the operation of the Museum.

The future of the Society and the Museum was the major discussion at the last Board meeting. The Board has approved the purchase of new (or refurbished) office equipment to replace our 25 year-old microfilm reader/printer, our equally old commercial copier, and to upgrade our computer and printer/scanner. These purchases are long over due and thanks to the donation of the cabin, we are able to fund most of these purchases. We have some savings that we will use to finish the purchases.

In addition, the Board will hire a part-time person to be trained by Renee as her replacement. Renee wants to spend less time at the Museum and will gradually reduce her hours as the new employee gains experience. We are also looking at the possibility of expanding the Museum to the south and west. We need space for storage, preservation, and

temporary displays. Involved in the expansion would be winterizing the building so it can be used year-round.

The Society will continue to seek new members and to explore new ways to increase use of the Museum. We have five committees that need members and we encourage each of you to volunteer in some capacity to help the Society succeed. Any thoughts, ideas, funding sources, or grant availability information would be greatly appreciated. Please consider increasing your level of membership and volunteering for any of many tasks that Renee oversees.

On behalf of the Cass County
Historical Society Board of
Directors,

Dan Eikenberry, President