The McLeod County Historical Society would like to invite you and your family to our McLeod County Historical Society & Museum 2014 Annual Meeting and Program on Monday, October 27th at the McLeod County Historical Society & Museum Educational Meeting Room from 5:30 PM-8:30 PM. A delicious meal will be catered by Hutch Cafe, starting at 6 PM, followed by our guest speaker Professor Don L. Hofsommer on “Railroads & Colonization of the West”.

The board of directors and staff will present this year’s Donor & Volunteer of the Year Awards, and our newest 7th Grade History Project Award Winners! We hope you and your family can join us in honoring these outstanding folks who have helped to make 2014 another historical year! The Museum’s Executive Board will hold a short business meeting with board member introductions and the election of open spots for our 2015 Board of Directors.

Cost is just $15 per person with your RSVP by Friday, October 24th, or $20 at the door.

Menu:
Turkey Dinner with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Mixed Veggies & Stuffing
Homemade Pumpkin Pie
Coffee or Milk
By Hutch Cafe

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**In this Issue:**
- MCHS Annual Meeting with Guest Speaker Professor Don L. Hofsommer
- Monday, October 27th 5:30-8:30 PM
- “Unleashing Collection Access, McLeod County History at your fingertips”
- Sunday, October 19th 2-3 PM
- Director’s Review
- Historical Excerpts from, “History of the Railroads in McLeod County” - MCHS 2014 Theme Booklet
- Donations, Memorials, Accessions & Artifact/s of the Month
- Business Sponsors/KDUZ Radio Show
Unleashing Collection Access: McLeod County History at your Fingertips...

Sunday, October 19th -2-3 PM
Museum Educational Media Center

For the past eight years the McLeod County Historical Society’s volunteers and staff have been working diligently towards the day when the Museum could unleash the huge store of Historical McLeod County information for use by the public. Well that day has now arrived! With over 50,000 historical records now securely logged in our inventory software program, we now have a great representation of the Museum’s collections that is searchable by keyword.

The Museum will be holding our Unleashing Collections program to help educate the public on how to access this information and what kind of historical content can be found. Currently we have two ways that parts of our collection can be accessed: One is through our Online Searchable Database, and the other is via two workstations that can be used by guests visiting our Historical Research Library.

Our on-line database features over 6,000 photos from our Family Photo archival files. Although this is just a sampling of our vast photo collection, the Museum hopes to have 10,000 records available to browse on-line by this time next year. These photos can be purchased via our website gift shop or by mailing a check or money order to the museum.

Our in-house searchable database gives you full access to the entire collection of artifacts, photos, documents and much more that is currently logged in our system. This includes donor information, photos or scans of many of the items, as well as historical context of how it relates to McLeod County History. We want to educate and encourage the public to use these new ways to access and learn about McLeod County History, so we hope you will join us to learn how to use this valuable new resource and have McLeod County History at your fingertips!

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McLeod County Historical Society Newsletter
**Director’s Review:**

Happy Fall everyone! As many of us drag out our sweaters and coats, others are packing their bags to fly away to someplace warm. But before you do, please be sure to let us know when you are leaving and what your new sunny address will be. We would not want you to miss your monthly newsletter from the Historical Society. If you have an email address, we can sign you up for our e-newsletter that we will send to you electronically each month and skip the hassle of changing your address each Fall and Spring. Just give us a call or email and we will set you up.

We held our Grand Opening of our new Native American Dug-out Canoe display, (seen at top right), as a part of Minnesota Archaeology week. Minnesota Historical Society Archaeologist, David Mather, was our guest speaker for the event. David explained the Carbon Testing that was done to determine the age of the 900 year old Dugout Canoe, as well as the history of the area and other artifacts found around the same time period that the canoe would have been made and used. Ken Schumann, retired DNR Fisheries employee was also on hand to explain how and where the Canoe was originally found. The new display was funded by a Minnesota Historical Cultural Heritage Grant. This grant allowed us to create a protective acrylic case and supportive decorative base that will help to preserve the canoe, yet make it accessible to the public to enjoy and learn from.

Our Crow River Winery Basket Social Fundraiser was filled with great music by 10th Street Jazz band, (seen at the right), and great food and wine! The Museum raised much needed funds for the Historical Society’s operations and we thank our business sponsors for providing all the terrific gift items and gift cards that filled our baskets on the silent auction. Also a huge thank you to Citizens Bank for funding our musical entertainment, Crow River Winery for providing our venue and Main Street Sports Bar for the great food!

Last, but not least, I am so excited to announce that the Museum has recently received two new grants that will help us to fulfill our mission!

The first is a $5,000 Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Art Project Legacy Grant that will facilitate two performances of the play, “Singing for the Cows-the One Woman Play about Rural Life in McLeod County”, starring native resident Debbie Templin. The play is currently in production in New York City, but will debut in Hutchinson in late February!

The second is an $83,000 Minnesota Historical Cultural Heritage Legacy Grant to aid us in designing a new HVAC, (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) system for the Museum, as well as updating the windows and doors to ensure the best energy efficiency and a tight Museum envelope to protect and preserve our priceless collections!
History of The Railroads of McLeod County:

The McLeod County Historical Society and Museum would like to introduce you to our 2014 Theme, “History of the Railroads of McLeod County!” The McLeod County Historical Society and Museum is filled with historical information about how the Railroads changed Minnesota and McLeod County forever, as well as artifacts and documents that show the progression of railroad technology and all the tools and schemes used to keep the rails running.

Each month, the Museum will feature an excerpt from our theme booklet, “History of the Railroads of McLeod County”, which will be available for purchase in the Museum’s gift shop. The Booklet will cover the early history of the railroad system in Minnesota, each of the railroad lines that ran through our county, plus the “Paper Rails” that were never to be. So come along with us, and ride the rails of history in 2014!

Taken from: Glencoe Weekly Register-March 11th, 1869, “Hastings and Dakota Railroad.”

In our issue of last week, we predicted that there would be a smart fight in the House, over the Senate bill extending the time for building this road.

The bill that passed the Senate gave the company until April 1st, 1871, to complete 20 miles west of the Minnesota River. It was referred to the committee on Railroads, when Mr. McDonald, of Scott County offered an amendment, providing that the road should be built to the city of Shakopee, within one year. This was rejected, when Dr. Pyle offered an amendment providing for the building of the road from Shakopee to the village of Glencoe, within the time named in the Senate bill. This amendment was supported in committee by Pyle, McDonald, and Proper, and opposed by the other six members.

Mr. McDonald then offered an amendment that the company be required to complete the road from the city of Shakopee, to the village of Glencoe, by April 1st, 1872. This Motion was sustained by, McDonald, Pyle, Proper, and Meighen, and opposed by Clark, of Hennepin; Rhoads, Hathaway, Bohn and Folsum.

Finally a majority of the committee recommended the passage of the bill, as it came from the Senate. To this the minority would not agree, and McDonald, Pyle, Proper and Meighen, offered a minority report, recommended the passage of the bill with the McDonald amendment and the minority report was sustained by a vote of 23 to 19.

Then Mr. Baxter, who had really favored the bill, as it came from the Senate, offered an amendment to the amendment, to insert via villages of Chaska, Carver and Waconia, which was adopted. In this shape it went to committee of the whole, when several motions were made to strike off the amendments, all of which failed by a very close vote, and the committee finally recommended its passage, with the amendments. But the House by a vote of 21 to 21 refused to adopt the report. At this stage of the contest, our member, (Dr. Pyle), has faithfully stood by us in this matter, as he has in all matters requiring legislation, in which our county has been interested.

It is known that up to this time, owing to some misunderstanding with the officers of this company, a desire has been frequently expressed to run around Glencoe, if possible, we know that this feeling no longer exits. The friends of the road feel under obligations to this end of the line, for the friendly legislation that they have secured this winter, and we are confident that they are not the men who will forget favors.

There is no longer any doubt about the building of the Hastings and Dakota Railroad to the village of Glencoe. Our people may now go on and make their improvements, in reference to this result.
Welcome New and Life Members:

Charles & Carolyn Ulrich, Hutchinson; Jamie Mahoney, Hutchinson;
Robyn Korson, Stewart, MN; Phil Schoeneman, Seattle, WA; Lori Carter, Clive, Iowa

Donations & Memorials: The Society thanks you for your donation!

Log Cabin Home Fund:  
General Fund:  
Phil Schoeneman; 3M Cares; Lori Carter  
Glencoe Historic Preservation Society

Archives Fund:  
In memory of Earl Peterson from Dorothy Klawitter; Carol Jackson; Char Wolter

Heritage Garden Fund:  
In memory of Jerene Block from Margaret Hoffman

Endowment Fund:  
In memory of Jerene Block from Robert & Meryl Peters;  
In memory of Morris Gasow from Ron & Karen Sommerdorf

Technology Fund:  
In memory of Lois Carlson from Margaret Hoffman; Char Wolter

Restoration Fund:  
Genealogy Fund:

Annual Support Drive:  
Dava Illig  
Pat Tanchin  
Mary Bollman  
Ron Makovsky  
Marlys Fredrick  
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Artifact/s of the Month:

Donor: James Pessek  
Accession #’s: 2012-0007-027, 2012-0007-028

History: (Top Right)-Photo of a vintage dray truck outside the Stewart Depot, taken in 1925. Two unidentified boys are in the back of the truck, with two unidentified men in front of the truck. The man on the left is the Depot agent, who is checking off the load; Agent is printed on his cap.

(Lower Right)-Three unidentified men inside the Stewart Depot in 1925. There is a lantern in the background and a clock that reads 3:35 p.m., as well as an open fuse box on the wall. The Depot Agent is at the ticket window in the photo.

Top Photo Image #: 2012-0007-027  
Left Photo Image #: 2012-0007-028
McLeod County Historical Museum’s Historical Happenings Radio Show

Tune into AM 1260 KDUZ the last Friday afternoon of each month to catch the latest in Museum Programs & Events, Local History, and Special Guests!

McLeod County Historical Society Business Sponsors
(Please support the local businesses who support the preservation of McLeod County History)
~ Citizens Bank & Trust ~ Dundee Floral ~ Crow River Floral ~ Ace Hardware
~ The Village Shop ~ Main Street Sports Bar ~ Littfin Lumber Co. ~ Benny’s Meat Market ~
~ Family Farms Wholesale of Minnesota ~ Crow River Winery ~ McCormick’s ~

Make a donation, become a member or make a purchase from our Gift Shop, now accepting: