Archaeology Week-Historic Dugout Canoe Preservation Display Grand Opening with State Archaeologist David Mather……..1
Sunday, September 7th 2-4 PM
Crow River Winery-Basket Social Fundraiser…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………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Basket Social Fundraiser

Monday, September 29th 7-9 PM

Music by: 10th Street Jazz

$25 per ticket includes:
Wine Tasting, Appetizers,
Tour of the Winery, Silent Auction,
Jazz concert, historical displays & more!

I am so excited to invite you to our Third Annual Basket Social Fundraiser at Crow River Winery here in Hutchinson, MN. We will be sampling five featured wines from the winery’s finest offerings along with delicious appetizers and treats. The expansive and exquisitely designed winery spaces, inside and out, will be seen on private group tours throughout the evening. New to this year’s fundraiser is a local Jazz band, 10th Street Jazz, lead by local Glencoe resident Lonnie Roach. The group will provide some cool jazz tunes to listen or dance to while we sip our wine. This will be a concert you will not want to miss!

No Basket Social would be complete without an auction of goodies that you will not be able to leave without. Each basket will be filled with gift cards to local eateries, gift items, treats, and of course wine! The silent auction for each basket will end at 9 PM, so make sure you get your bid in early and often. Hope to see you at the Winery!

Crow River Winery-14848 Hwy. 7 East-Hutchinson, MN-320-587-2922
Director’s Review:
Wow! We won a Purple Ribbon at the Fair for the best display booth in the Commercial Building. I want to thank all the museum staff and volunteers, as well as the 414 Voiture and Luce Line Railroad Club who helped make our booth truly award winning! The Loci was a huge hit for passersby to explore and have their photos taken for our Facebook page. We had over 200 photos taken and hope to get all of them uploaded to the Museum’s Facebook page over the next few days. We encourage you to check out our page and be sure to “Like” us and “Friend” us, while you’re there. Not just a great photo opportunity, the 40/8 Voiture Loci has a rich and unique history that dates back to World War I, and with the anniversary of World War I right around the corner, it was great to share that history with the public in preparation for this historical milestone.

The kids, and kids at heart, could not pull themselves away from the Luce Line club model, with crowds forming as club members showed off the massive multi-tracked scale cityscape that had so much to see that it sometimes got re-peat and three-peat visits by guests. To the right and bottom are some of the fun pictures of the display, guests who got their picture taken on the Loci, or watched the Luce Line Railroad Club massive model train setup, and learned about the railroad history.

The Museum also unveiled our new searchable database website at the Fair. Thanks to Best Buy for loaning us a big smart TV and keyboard, so guests could sit down and explore this new exciting feature on our site. Of course the real goal is to get you searching for history at home on your own computer or device, so be sure to check it out at: www.mcleodcounty.org and go to Browse the Collection button! The Museum has been adding photos and historical information on our collection for the past seven years, with the intent to someday make the collection available to the public via the internet. Now, it is finally a reality! Although we have over 50,000 records we could share, due to budget restrictions, we had to narrow that down to 10,000, choosing our family photo file collection to debut on the site.

Last, but not least, a big thanks to Citizens Bank & Trust Co. for covering our booth costs and all the support!

Congrats to our two Membership Renewal Winners Jeff Schmidt & Gary Tessmer, below with their prizes donated by Sheldon Nies and Ron Makovsky
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: The Glencoe Register-July 16th, 1859-
“Who is To Blame?”

Parties are continually complaining because our railroad matters are in such a confused state. But who are the parties that are to blame in the matter? Not the railroad companies. They have done all they could under the circumstances. Perhaps some of the roads have been badly managed; but charity demands that the fact should be known, that the railroad companies have had to contend against a factious opposition dog-in-the-manger crew, who would pollute the best managed company in the world. Every possible obstacle has been thrown in the way of the railroad companies to hinder them from accomplishing anything. These parties complain because the railroads do not go ahead, but whenever the railroad companies attempt to make a progressive movement, this same factious opposition place all the hindrance in their power in order to prevent the companies from accomplishing their undertakings. When John W. North and the Cedar Valley Railroad Company, attempted to negotiate the railroad bonds in New York, and as we learn from the Northfield Journal, had succeeded, in steps this miserable dog-in-the-manger fraction, prevented the consummation of the negotiation. Then they set up a doleful howl at the failure. Who was to blame? Mr. North and the railroad companies? No, not a bit. Afterwards, when Mr. North made an arrangement to have the bonds used as a banking capital, which could with proper aid have been successful, these same hounds raised a cry of wail all over the State with so much bitterness that they destroyed in a measure this arrangement. One of their boon companies was crying, Thief! Thief! All of the time, and yet he was issuing the “Wild-Cat Currency” as he terms it, to the tune $20,000.00.

Now we have never believed in monopolies, whether they are in the shape of Minneapolis Water Power Companies, or any other monopolies, but we think the railroad companies of Minnesota have done as well as they could under the circumstances, and because they have not done better, they are not to blame.

The whole fault lies with those who are determined to rule or ruin in the matter. They appear determined that the roads shall not be built, in order that they may come in and make capital out of their dishonest howling. Were a solitary honest principle involved in their creed, we should have some charity for their movements, but it is got up and canvassed in such a cut-throat way manner that we can come to no other conclusion than that the safest way is to watch those who are crying so loud, thief! Thief! And that those parties are to blame for any failure that may up to this time have occurred in the management and prosecution of our railroad system, as adopted by the people in the five million loan. We believe that John W. North and the other Republican railroad managers, and Gen. Shields and the other Democratic managers in the railroad companies in this State, are just as honest both politically and morally as any other class of people found in monopolies of this kind, and as such deserve the favorable consideration of the people of this State. This faction complain and growl and howl because the roads are not pushed ahead, and yet they are clogging the wheels of the companies all of the time. As opponents to the banking system, then discredit it. Out upon such hypocrisy. The people are finding out their tricks.
Donations & Memorials:

Log Cabin Home Fund:
General Fund:
Archives Fund:
Heritage Garden Fund:
Janice Beytien
Endowment Fund:
In memory of Dr. Paul Leroy Hodge from Lynn & Richard Guse and John & Judith Benton;
In memory of Wayne Pettis from Bill & Joan Arndt
Technology Fund:
Restoration Fund:
Genealogy Fund:
Annual Support Drive:

Welcome New and Life Members:

Shirley Fors, Minneapolis, MN;
Cindy Tenney, Little Falls, MN;
Jeff Schmidt, Hutchinson, MN;
B. Kienenberger, Glencoe, MN

Museum Artifact Donations:  The Society thanks you for your donation!

Marjorie Ruzicka
Doris Betker
McLeod County Fair
Gerald Bren
Marcella Hoffman
Portia Lee
Virginia Jerabek
Dean Duesterhoeft
Dennis Heckes & Vincent Holmes
Annette Zimmerman

Artifact/s of the Month:

Our McLeod County Fair - Guess The Gadget-Artifact

Winner:  B. Kienenberger of Glencoe, MN, guessed the gadget correctly & won a year membership!
Donor: Rufo Vollmer Accession #: 1979-0074-001

History:  Nowanty battery operated telephone transmitter/receiver. This was the first telephone in McLeod County and was used at the Winsted Milling Company. Current was provided by wet cells, gallon glass jars with copper and zinc suspended in water and vinegar, and later dry batteries. The one-piece instrument that transmitted and received sound was named “Nowanty” which may have been a factory production name. To make a phone call, a person would diddle at the connection to break and then make contact with the electric current. This made a fairly loud clicking noise at the other end, instead of the later bell sound that would have been heard.

Two Winsted residents, Charles Otto Borgersrode and Felton Vollmer built the first telephone system in the County in 1892, as a convenience, when having to meet someone at the train in Lester Prairie, where the Great Northern Rail had been coming since 1886. Before the telephone line was built, if someone was expected to arrive on the train, the person meeting them would have to hitch up a horse and wagon and drive to Lester Prairie in hopes that it was the right day and time and that the traveler had made that particular train. The line stretched from the Winsted Mill office to the Depot in Lester Prairie. The 20-foot poles used to build the line were made from tamarack trees that came from a swamp south of Buffalo and were set 32 per mile. The wire was 12BB galvanized single wire and there were oak brackets and pale blue-green glass insulators. In 1913 Charles Otto Borgersrode sold the telephone exchange to his son Rudolph Borgersrode. The Ollig family took it over in 1931, becoming an independent telephone company called the Winsted Telephone Company.
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 topics on Preservation

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