



History Notes



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Waseca County Historical Society

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From the Desk
of
Margaret
Sinn



The holiday season is just around the corner. The first snow has occurred so we don't have to wonder about that anymore. Once again it sounds like we were very lucky and other parts of the state got it

much worse. Perhaps we will have another mild winter like we had last year. With the rise in heating costs this year that would be a true blessing for many.

Last Week-November 9th at 4 pm. to be exact-Larry Duke-Bill Hintz, Mike Halvorson, Neil Fruechte and Deanna Bendix came to the museum and told Don Wynnemer and I that the society had been given the James J. Donahue Award for the year 2000. It will be presented at the chamber banquet on the evening of January 29th. Of course everyone is invited to attend. I personally hope that the society makes a good show. The primary focus of the award is the volunteers and the elected officials of the organization. The James J. Donahue award is given to the organization, which has encouraged community development and has made a contribution towards the long-term benefit of Waseca. Two things that were mentioned were the Bailey/Lewer House and the wonderful job the volunteers did and the web site and its part in promoting Waseca.

I am very proud that the chamber has picked the museum for this award. I have long thought that the society has given more than they have taken from the community. It is nice to know that others also think so. When I was a little girl I remember going to the library. I would stand on my tiptoes and look into a glass-paneled door. Inside was a wonderland. It was full of all types of things that some would call junk, I thought it was treasure beyond compare. That room was the storeroom for the local historical society. It seems that

the reputation that most societies gained was that of dusty, musty smelling, dark places that were very poor and manned by older volunteers. Usually these volunteers had deep roots in the community, were proud of it and normally quite possessive. In the year 2000 the museum is taking its place in modern society. Perhaps this is because we are such a mobile society and becoming more so daily. Our native population is strung out all over the world and we find ourselves living in-communities that we are not native to. History is becoming more important and perhaps we are beginning to find out that it can be very beautiful. Do you suppose this is true or am I day dreaming?

I was in Owatonna to the Steele County Historical Society Annual Meeting. It was extremely enjoyable. I thank my friend Gwen Buscho for inviting me to go with her. This is the second one I have attended outside of Waseca. I went to Northfield once with another friend several years ago and enjoyed it very much. It is always so nice to see what others are doing. Congratulations Steele County on a great 2000.

As we end 2000 I once again want to thank everyone who has been so generous with their money and time for without them there would be no Waseca County Historical Society. I also want to thank the board and staff of the society. May the new millennium start with an even better year than the last. Happy Holidays from the museum to each and every one of you. We hope to serve you better in 2001.

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NOVEMBER
November
 is
the gentle season...
The harvest
of the golden fields
is finished...
The dancing
of the autumn leaves
is complete...
The mysteries
of the mellow earth
slumber...
In the stillness
of nature
we pause
to restore our soul
whispering
praises
to God...

jeannette roesler krause

The following articles were taken from the WCHS newspaper collection. To view more articles on Waseca County come in and view the collection. We have newspapers from 1861 to 1999.

FARM BUREAU ITEMS

"There are many loafers in the farm flock that are loafing around and not paying for their keep." This is the sentiment of N.E. Chapman, Poultry Specialist from University Farm, who is spending two days this week assisting the County agent in holding poultry culling demonstrations in the county. The idea is to give farmers and farm women pointers to enable them to detect these unprofitable hens so that they may be removed from the flock and thus save room and feed for the birds who are profitable.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 11, 1920

After the heavy hail storms last spring,



'Newgard Brothers, Bartness and miller Threshing' 1908.

many of our people expressed the opinion that the corn crop would be a failure. It was completely flattened to the ground. But the advancement of the season proves that their fears were groundless, as the corn crop in this section was never better. Some of our farmers say it is the best crop ever raised in the state, the ears being large and well filled.

Janesville Argus, Dec. 9, 1879

FARMER SERIOUSLY INJURED

John Hawkins, a well known farmer who lives near Waldorf, got his left arm and hand into a corn picker, sustaining badly lacerated wounds and breaking small bones between the wrist and elbow while at work picking corn on the Ed McDonough farm Monday morning. He was brought to a local physician who dressed the wounds and

(Continued on page 3)

thinks he will be able to save the arm.
Waseca Herald, Oct. 28, 1920

EUGENE BIRD INJURED

Eugene Bird, one of the prominent farmers of Wilton township was found lying on the ground beside his team in an unconscious condition at about 11:45 yesterday morning. He was immediately taken to the house and physicians summoned but did not regain consciousness until six o'clock last night.

He was out husking corn when the accident took place and from what they have been able to learn from Mr. Bird it seems that he bent over to fix a tug which was unfastened and was kicked by one of the horses.

His family and friends were greatly alarmed over his condition but now hopes are entertained for his speedy recovery.

His son Eugene wondered why he did not quit work for dinner and arrived on the scene not more than fifteen minutes after he was kicked.

Waseca Herald, Oct. 28, 1920



1920, Threshing operation. Reese Farm, New Richland MN.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT

Peter Krippner of Deerfield lost his left hand while operating a corn shredder last Thursday on the Ed Buschow farm. Mr. Buschow lost his arm in a shredder accident on the same farm 12 years ago. The shredder has made more cripples among farmers of this state than the late war did.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 4, 1920

GRASS HOPPERS

The Co. Auditor of Blue Earth Co. has worked through the grasshopper accounts

of that county, of which there were over 11 thousand different certificates, the whole weighing over 30 lbs., and finds the total catch as paid for, was 15,766 bushels, and 18 quarts, and the total amount paid out \$31,255,60., or an average of \$2, per bushel.

The party receiving the most cash, was C. Seymore of Mankato, who was paid for 1,381 bushels and 3 quarts, the fine sum of \$3,176,27. F.O. Willey of Garden City, received \$2,359,36., with several others over \$1,000., and very many over \$500. Some of these parties undoubtedly made better than if the hoppers had not been.
Janesville Argus, Nov. 2, 1875.

Hallowe'en Party

A crowd of about thirty young people gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Miller Monday evening where they were entertained at a Halloween party. The guests arrived dressed in most comic attire, representing ghosts, goblins, etc. Various amusements were enjoyed until a late hour when luncheon was served in a most novel manner. Everyone enjoyed a most delightful evening.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 4, 1920

This ad appeared in the Waseca Radical, Sept. 8, 1886

To the boy who shows up with the largest pumpkin by the first of October we will give a \$10 suit of clothes. And to the boy showing the second largest we will give a pair of pants. *Bird Bros. Clothing Store.*

ATTRACTIVE WINDOW DISPLAY

Brisbane & Perrin's Hallowe'en window was a great attraction for the grown ups as well as the children last week. With a back ground of orange and black with figures of ghosts and other startling objects; a victrola occupied the center of the window, while an old witch with her broomstick stood on one side and an old farmer with a pumpkin head holding the Victor dog by a chain stood on the other as though all were entranced by the music. The effect was wonderfully carried out and especially fitting for the week of Hallowe'en.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 4, 1920

BIG GAME LICENSES

Big game licenses have been issued by the county auditor to Alfred Amundson, Clarence A. Hall, G.W. Woodard, W.F. Hein, Alfred E. Matzke, Henry Kopischke, C.J. Case, Wm. Deef and Harry Myers.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 11, 1920



1920, Two Hunters with their catch, one is Henry Weckwerth of New Richland.

AFTER DEER AND MOOSE

Clarence Hall, Alf. Matzke, W.F. Hein and G.W. Woodard left yesterday for the north to hunt big game. They will camp in the vicinity of Turtle Creek. Mr. Woodard expects to have more than the average luck and regretted that the law limits a hunter to one deer and one moose.

Harry G. Myers leaves tomorrow for Grand Marias, Cook county, where he will hunt big game for a week. He was up in that locality three years ago and brought home a fine moose. He hopes to get it's mate this time.

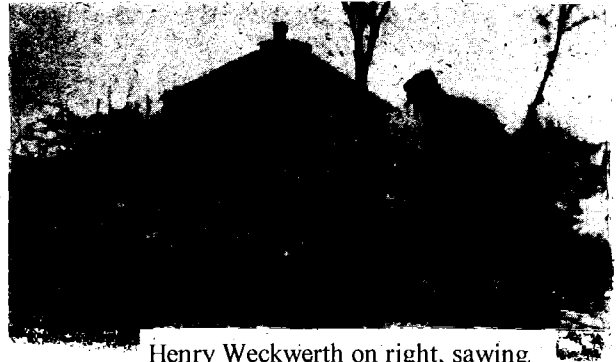
George Goodspeed, Steve Krassin, Bill Proudfoot and Barney Harguth expect to leave tomorrow for St. Louis county where they will spend a few days hunting.

W.J. Case and son Claud, left this morning to hunt big game in the vicinity of Ely.

Waseca Herald, Nov. 11, 1920

From Mr. Witts of Freedom, we learn that this season he has already made 2,800 gallons of sorghum, and still more cane to make up. Stranger than all however, is the fact that every gallon is already sold, and numbers turned away daily who are wishing to purchase. The sorghum trade is growing evidently, and more of our farmers would do well to take up the business.

Janesville Argus, Nov. 16, 1875



Henry Weckwerth on right, sawing wood. New Richland, 1920

HARVEST

*The evening land
whispers vespers
to stalks of corn
now
bent*

*and gnarled
and wrinkled...*

*A chorus line of winds
rustles them in melody...*

*The caretaker
in love with nature
toils*

*'mongst the celebrants
with joy...*

*The spring's planting
has returned
the abundant harvest...*

What wonder...

jeannette roesler krause



Carl and Clarence Reese on their steam driven tractor, 1920

Behave Yourself at Table

"Do not nudge your neighbor with your elbow, do not scratch yourself, do not betray by any gesture that you are hungry, and do not look eagerly at the food as though you could devour the whole of it. Do not crunch bones, nor break the stones of fruit with your teeth. Do not suck the bones to get out the marrow. Be careful not to dip your portion in the dish, nor what you are eating in the salt-cellar. Do not offer to others what you have already tasted, and take it as a general rule that what has once been on your plate must never be put back in the dish. During the dinner do not criticize the meats or sauces, for it is a great incivility. Carefully avoid talking with the mouth full. It is uncivil to pick one's teeth during the repast either with knife or fork. In placing yourself at the table have the head uncovered. Always wipe your spoon, when, having already used it, you wish to take something from another plate, as there are some persons so delicate that they would not partake even of soup where you had dipped your spoon, having previously carried it to your mouth. Join your lips in eating so as not to make a lapping noise like animals. Do not drink your wine as tho' you were tasting it, and do not make two or three draughts of your glass, for that is too familiar, but drink it down at once, and resolutely, looking into it as you do so.

-Harper's Bazar.

Janesville Argus, Sept. 15, 1879.



Thank you to Jeannette Krause and Jean Lundquist for contributing to this article.



PEG MAWBY
OF OMA'S
ANTIQUES

has generously donated one of her "Father Christmas" creations to be raffled off at the FESTIVAL OF TREES opening at WCHS !

We are honored to be given one of Peg's sought after Santas.

"Sinter Klaas Markt" was held at her shop located at on West Elm, downtown Waseca on Saturday, Nov. 4. People wait in line, hoping to get one of her limited edition dolls. For those of you who don't know Peg, she is the owner of Oma's Antiques.

Peg has been making the Santas for approximately 12 years. She rarely has any left in the shop by the time Christmas nears. She uses remnants of old linens, tapestries, wool, cotton feed sacks, and other interesting bits and pieces she collects throughout the year. She starts sewing for next year's batch as soon as her fingers get rested. We are glad to have Peg as a member and supporter of WCHS. **The Santa is on display at**

OMA'S ANTIQUES

on W. Elm and State Street, downtown Waseca.

Tickets can be purchased at the shop for the cost of \$1.00.

Thank you Peggy for the wonderful gift!

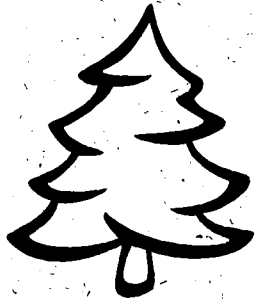
Tickets are also available at Apple Annies and the WCHS museum.



What's Happening at WCHS



The Waseca County Historical Society Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner was held on Thursday, October 19 at 5:30 pm. We had 50 people in attendance. We all shared a wide variety of hotdishes, salads, breads and desserts. The staff of WCHS reported to the members the activities of the 99-2000 year while the audience enjoyed the dinner. Many thanks to the members who attended and contributed to the event. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for next year's meeting.



The FESTIVAL OF TREES OPENS DECEMBER 2ND AND 3RD.

Once again WCHS will host this festive event. The opening will be held the same weekend as the Waseca Art Center's Christmas House Walk. **The WCHS museum will be open that weekend from noon to 7 p.m.** The trees on display will represent Waseca County businesses, clubs and other organizations. Not only is this fun to see, you can also find out about these businesses, clubs and organizations and the services they provide. This event is free and open to the public.

YSL and WCHS SNOWMAN RAFFLE

Waseca High School Youth Service and Leadership students and WCHS are teaming up this year and creating eight 3-5ft. paper mache snowpersons. The snowman will be raffled off the week after the opening of the festival of trees. **Tickets will be sold at the museum, Apple Annies and Oma's Antiques for \$ 1.00 ea.**



THE WCHS GIFT SHOP

is filling up with great gift items for the holidays. We have a wonderful assortment of holiday cards, advent calendars, stickers and gift tags. Our new vintage jewelry line is very moderately priced.

We have candle votives, candy dishes and beautiful napkins to dress up your holiday table. We have a good selection of reproduction wind-up tin toys as well as other novelties of yesteryear. We also will be selling glass Christmas ornaments from around the world. Visit our website giftshop to view some of these items, or better yet come in for a visit.

Our website address is:

www.historical.waseca.mn.us

WCHS GIFTSHOP

European
Glass
Ornaments



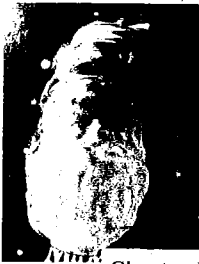
\$7.00



\$6.00



\$7.00



Glass tree light
cover \$2.00



\$15.00



\$15.00



\$6.00



SNOWMAN
RAFFLE
Tickets
\$1.00

WCHS Museum, Apple Annies, Oma's Antiques



The
Sights
and Sounds

of Christmas Housewalk
Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 & 3
from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ticket price: \$9.00

call the Art Center at 835-1701 for more info.

And the

Waseca Co. Historical Society

"Festival of Trees"
opens the same weekend.

we will be open both days,
noon to 7pm.

This event is free and
open to all!

WASECA COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 314
WASECA MN. 56093

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WASECA MN. 56093
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



**Carl Werner and Harold Owens harvesting with
horse drawn binder. Wilton Twp. 1920**

Memorials

Harold Worke, Mrs. Ann Akemann, Jane Searle, Stanley Roeglin

WAGS RAG

WASECA AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Meet the Second Wednesday of each month at the Waseca County Historical Society, 7:00 p.m.
November 2000

Welcome!!

The Waseca Area Genealogical Society welcomes everyone to attend our meetings and events held throughout the year.

December 13 - 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Party - Main Museum
Pot Luck Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
Bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange.
Come with your ideas as we will be planning next year's schedule!

Old Naming Pattern

The 1st son was named after the father's father.

The 2nd son was named after the mother's father.

The 3rd son after the father.

The 4th son was named after the father's eldest brother.

The 1st daughter was named after the mother's mother.

The 2nd daughter was named after the father's mother.

The 3rd daughter was named after the mother.

The 4th daughter was named after the mother's eldest sister.

Making Sense of the Census

Census records are regarded as an excellent research tool. The census Schedules are something nearly every researcher can hit "paydirt" with. The Census Schedules, beginning in 1790 through 1910 provide the ancestor researcher with important information including:

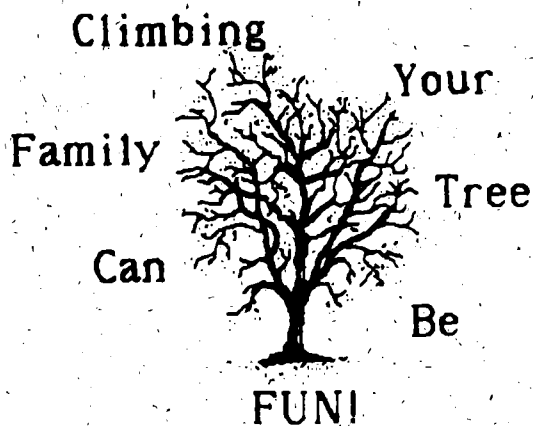
- 1) Occupation of your ancestors
- 2) Immigration & migratory pattern of your ancestors
- 3) The property they owned & their locations
- 4) The change in family size from decade to decade
- 5) Which ancestors died and at what ages
- 6) Whether someone remarried and had two distinct families in one household.

It is possible to trace the family back one more generation by knowing his age at a given Census year, then looking back in an earlier Census for his Surname. You may find names of the people heading the household: his parents.

Steps to take in reading the Census records:

- 1) Start with the most recent Census. Follow your family back as far as possible.
- 2) Use genealogical Census Forms to record your findings. (On sale at our museum.)
- 3) Take down ALL Census data on your family, or you may wish you had!
- 4) Be aware of different surname spellings. Spellings often changed with the ability of each census taker.
- 5) Not all children you find listed in the 1850, 1860, and the 1870 Census enumerations were necessarily of the same family. Watch for cousins, nephews, or even servants. It was not until 1880 that each person was listed by his relationship to the head of the household.

Our museum library has many of the Census on microfilm available for your use. Just come in and ask about them.



Waseca City Census - 1934 Continues

Last Name	First Name	Age	Address	City	Occupation	Own Home	Car
Kessler	Clara	23	512 7th Ave. NW	Waseca	Housemaid	No	No
Ketchum	Leonard	19	1000 7th Ave. NW	Waseca	Laborer	No	No
Ketchum	Vern	55	1000 7th Ave. NW	Waseca	Oil Station	Yes	No
Ketchum	Iva	54	1000 7th Ave. NW	Waseca	Housewife		
Ketchum	Constance	12	1000 7th Ave. NW	Waseca	Student		
Keyes	Peter	42	112 2nd Ave. NE	Waseca	Railroad Conductor	No	No
Kissler	Frank	50	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Court Reporter	Yes	Yes
Keislor	Esther	37	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Housewife		
Keislor	Frank J.	17	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Student		
Keislor	George	15	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Student		
Keislor	Kenneth	12	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Student		
Keislor	Kelvin	9	922 3rd Ave. NE	Waseca	Student		
Kistling	Chaz	47	N State St.	Waseca	Blacksmith	No	No
Kistling	Ida	47	N State St.	Waseca	Housewife		
Kistling	Le Roy	25	N State St.	Waseca	Student		
Kistling	Leslie	22	N State St.	Waseca	Student		
Kistling	Annabel	13	N State St.	Waseca	Student		
Klampe	Harry	55	607 8th St. NE	Waseca	Gateman RN	Yes	No
Klampe	Myrtle	52	607 8th St. NE	Waseca	Housewife		
Klampe	Sidney	13	607 8th St. NE	Waseca	Student		
Keyes	Peter	42	112 2nd Ave. NE	Waseca	Conductor	No	No
Klampe	Randolph	27	607 8th St. NE	Waseca	Carpenter	No	No
Klampe	Stanley	26	607 8th St. N.E.	Waseca	Laborer	No	No
Kletschka	Adella	38	218 3rd Ave NE	Waseca	Clerk	No	Yes
Kletschka	Anna	62	218 3rd Ave N.E.	Waseca	Housewife	Yes	No
Kletschka	Emil	41	209 3rd St N.E.	Waseca	Jewelry	No	Yes
Kletschka	Florence	43	209 3rd St. N.E.	Waseca	Housewife		
Kletschka	Adeline	18	209 3rd St. N.E.	Waseca	Student		
Kletschka	Edward	20	209 3rd St. N.E.	Waseca	Student		
Kletschka	William	16	209 3rd St. N.E.	Waseca	Student		
Kletschka	Geraldine	14	209 3rd St. N.E.	Waseca	Student		
Klinger	Frank	53	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Laborer		
Klinger	Mrs. Frank	47	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Housewife		
Klinger	Harley	16	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	None		
Klinger	Mae Dean	11	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Student		
Klinger	Wesley	9	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Student		
Klinger	Normand	4	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Child		
Klinger	Luella	21	608 7th St. S.E.	Waseca	Housewalk		