



**Waseca County Historical Society**

315 2nd Avenue N.E. | P.O. Box 314

Waseca, MN 56093

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56093

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Membership Renewal Date



# History Notes

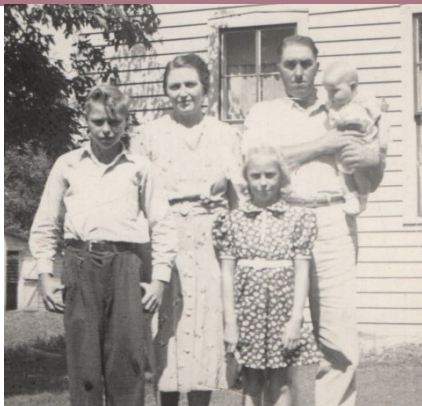
315 NE 2nd Avenue P.O. Box 314 Waseca MN 56093

[www.historical.waseca.mn.us](http://www.historical.waseca.mn.us)

*Tell us your story!*



What's Inside: Who will write your story? By Pauline Haug Fenelon



**AT THE MILL | FRI APR 29!**  
**BIG SHOW** 5:00-11:30 PM IN WASECA  
**ROCK & ROLL**  
**THANK YOU!**  
Save the date!  
507-835-7700  
[www.historical.waseca.mn.us](http://www.historical.waseca.mn.us)  
Waseca County History Center

**LAKEFEST 2022**  
July 4th at Clear Lake Park,  
Waseca MN Music: 3 p.m. - Dusk

- 3 PM Pete Klug
- 4 PM Miller Denn
- 5 PM Los Tequileros
- 6:30 Luke LeBlanc
- 7:30 Erik Koskinen

**FIREWORKS**  
**FOOD**  
**BOYS**  
Arts & Crafts  
Supper Farm  
Arts

Waseca County History Center

History Notes is a publication of the Waseca County Historical Society ©2021  
P.O. Box 314, Waseca, MN 56093  
315 Second Avenue N.E., 507-835-7700  
www.historical.waseca.mn.us

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**Staff:**

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Grant Administration, Programs & Research  
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paulinef@historical.waseca.mn.us

Amanda Larkin, Museum Manager  
amandl@historical.waseca.mn.us

Virginia McCarthy, Researcher, Genealogy  
research@historical.waseca.mn.us

**Museum**

Open Tuesdays-Fridays, 9-5  
Thursday 9:00-4:30 p.m.

**Bailey-Lewer Library Research**

Open for research Tuesdays and Fridays, 9-5

**Traveling?**

**Please call ahead.**

**507-835-7700**



**LakeFest 2022 is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, and the Waseca Area Foundation**



**From the Executive Director**

Joan Mooney

Dear Members,

First and foremost, a big THANK YOU to all the support we received for our fundraiser, **Rock-n-Roll Review II**. The townships, county businesses, alumni musicians, ticket holders, the Hoehn family and all who made the event a success.

WCHS has had three fundraising events in the past 30 years. As a non-profit, it is the charge of the Board to fundraise. This is not an easy task. We realize we have lost our major businesses: the University of Minnesota Waseca, E.F Johnson Company, Brown Printing and most recently Corchran's.

We are sensitive to the fact that all our businesses, county wide, are asked to support worthwhile programs, non-profits, schools and churches in our communities.

Knowing this, and coming out of COVID as well, we were surprised and deeply grateful for the show of support. Once again, thank you. Also, thanks to the Waseca County Board of Directors for all their hard work.

Giving back is of equal importance to WCHS. We are once again hosting LakeFest 2022 on July 4th at Clear Lake Park in Waseca. This event was made possible by a MN Cultural Heritage grant administered by Prairie Lakes Regional Art Council and a Waseca Art Center grant, from the Waseca Area Foundation. The Waseca Area Tourism Board is providing a tent and extra bathroom facilities.

We are aware the park is under restoration and improvements. Waseca Parks Director Brad Dushaw was awarded a DNR Outdoor Recreation grant to upgrade the playground equipment at Clear Lake Park. Much needed upgrades to the Johnson Pavilion and the Bath House are also underway so some areas are fenced off.

The Music Tent will be just to the east of the band stand. Some picnic tables will be available but we encourage you to bring your lawn chairs, coolers and picnic baskets. Remember, no glass containers. We have one food vendor so far, serving tacos and ice cream. Fireworks follow the music at dusk.

**More Summer Fun!**

**New Richland Farm and City Days** will be held July 8, 9 and 10th. Too many activities to list! More information can be found on the City of New Richland website.

**Waseca County Fair, July 13-17**

Be sure to stop by Hodgson Hall located on the west end of the Waseca County Fairgrounds. It's always nice to see everyone. Popcorn, pop and ice cream!

If you would like to volunteer to help us at the fair please call 835-7700.

**Waseca Area Garden Tour, Saturday July 23, 1-5 p.m.**

Bailey/Lewer Research Library (Bailey House) will host the Waseca Area Garden Tours. Maps will be available on Saturday.



# WHAT'S YOUR STORY

## Who will write your story? The importance of writing your own memoirs. By Pauline Haug Fenelon

If you have a passion for genealogy research and charting family trees you realize it can be a very addictive “hobby”! I’ve spent years filling out genealogy charts, talking to older relatives, doing online research, collecting obituaries and family pictures, and arranging them in files and albums.

My new task is to organize my research into a meaningful, readable, and interesting story with an audience in mind. That audience would likely be my grandchildren.

Often by the time we start to have questions about our roots, our primary resources are no longer available. My research uncovered many details of my ancestors, and it is satisfying to have made a connection with the past. Now I feel responsible to take the obvious next step: to write a meaningful story of my life.

I sought direction from my grandchildren:

“Imagine I have died, and you now realize there are things you don’t know about my life. What questions do wish you had asked me?” Silence. I guessed that I had asked a question too heavy for them to consider.

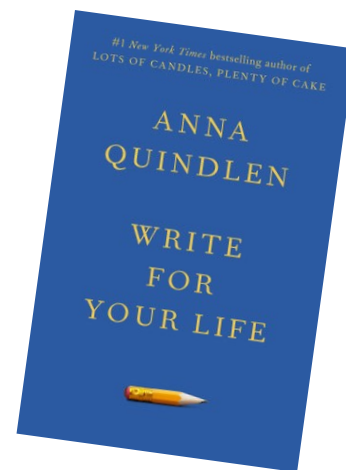
Months later, however, my eldest granddaughter acted on my request. She gifted me with an online story writing service. Weekly, a specific question of her choosing is delivered to my email. I write the story and post it back to the online company. By the end of the year, I could write over fifty short stories. The year is half over, and I am woefully behind, but I have completed over a dozen stories. At the end of the year, the service promises to combine my submissions as “chapters” into a single hard-cover book: “The Book of Pauline.”

I encourage you to write down your memories and experiences. You may find these guidelines helpful to you:

- Find a permanent place and a time to write with all your tools and resources close beside you.
- Make a list of “chapters” or subjects to guide your thoughts. Jot down a “story starter” sentence or two under each heading that you can return to later. Your stories need not be in chronological order. Perhaps you just returned from a fun vacation. Write a few paragraphs about your experience while it is still fresh. You may already have a book sitting on your shelf entitled something like “Grandma Remembers.” Such books can be useful sources of prompts to get you started by asking you to respond to questions about your early childhood, school experiences, learning to drive, religious education, graduations, friendships, love life, starting your family, hobbies, jobs, losses, travels and more. The list is only limited by your experiences.
- Tell your story your own way and include as many details as possible. Don’t worry about developing a perfect writing style, spelling, or punctuation. Write the way you speak, or imagine you are writing a letter to someone to help you focus. Tell how your life was changed or what you learned from each experience. You can edit your material later. The important thing is to get that story written!

Rely on mementos and objects to trigger memories. Revisit things you have packed away. Review your childhood diaries, old letters, journals, calendars, photo albums, scrapbooks, jewelry boxes, clothing, yearbooks. Stories will come flooding back to you. The stories I have written have helped put my life experiences into perspective, shown me how people have guided and shaped me, and helped uncover new insights. Here are a few of my stories:

- What was your relationship with your dad?
- What was your relationship with your mom?
- Tell me about growing up with your siblings.
- What was your most romantic Valentine?
- Tell me about your most memorable road trips.
- Have you had a supernatural experience you cannot explain?
- What are some of your most memorable birthdays?
- Who are your favorite artists?
- Did you drive a car in high school?
- What did your childhood room look like?



Supplement your stories with family tree charts, photos, handwritten recipes and whatever helps tell your story. Once you begin your writing, each memory will likely trigger another and another, and your stories will write themselves! Good luck in your trip down memory lane! Your children and your children’s children will thank you! If you need inspiration I recommend you read Write for Your Life by Anna Quindlen.

# MAYDAY AND MAPLEWOOD PARK

One of the many reasons we love spring is the increase in foot traffic in the museum. Not only do more people tend to come in on their own but we also do multiple events with the schools. Doing events with children is always a fun experience because we get to see them excited to learn their local history. We have already had students take a nature walk with Joan to learn about native plants and Maplewood Park's history. Also, students learned about May Day by making baskets for their loved ones and dancing around the maypole. We are already looking forward to the rest of summer.



**Pauline Fenelon**

Artifact & Library Curator



**Jan Hunter**

Research & Genealogy



**Virginia McCarthy**

Research & Genealogy



**Amanda Larkin**

Museum Manager



# THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Ace Hardware  
Ameriprise Financial  
Barney's Drive-In  
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Bomgaars  
Born Well Drilling  
Broughten, Monica  
Byron Law Office  
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Foremost Brewing Cooperative  
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Mishek and Westrum Families  
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Pearl Button Primitives  
Personalized Printings & Apparel  
Scheels  
Schumacher Electric  
Sno-Biz

Sorenson's Appliance & TV  
Southside Marine  
Speckled Hen  
State Bank of New Richland  
Suburban Furniture  
The Bar on Main  
The Fermentals Brew Club  
The Pink School House  
The S.H.O.P.  
Thrivent Financial  
Touch in Bloom  
Waldorf Welding and Machine Shop  
Walmart  
Ward House Brewery  
Waseca-Clarks Grove Vet. Clinic  
Waseca Dental  
Waseca Floral  
Waseca Music Co.  
Waseca Townships  
Wobschall, Carol  
Zika, Dave  
Zinnias



## First Quarter Contributions: March 17th, 2021 – June 15th, 2022

### New Members

Buehl, Douglas  
 Kimbel, Angel  
 Manthey, Joseph  
 Rhode, David

### Renewing Members

Androli, Jessica  
 Beseler, Sharon  
 Born, Rodney  
 Curran, Helen  
 Edwards, Tom  
 Flemming, Darrel and Linda  
 Flitsch, Kathleen  
 Harter, Lorraine  
 Hintz, Joanne  
 Hoehn, Denny and Maxine  
 Holt, Margaret  
 Ihrke, Mary  
 Johnson, Michelle  
 Korsmo-Kennon, Peggy  
 Kurkoski, Thomas and Cheryl  
 Larkin, Dave and Peggy  
 McCarthy, Virginia  
 McMorris, Kim  
 Poppe, Lisa  
 Root, Casey  
 Tesch, Russell and Marie  
 Veit, Anita  
 Wabner, Dave and Bernie  
 Welsh, Janet  
 Wynnemer, Jody  
 Zabinski, Mary Pat

### New/Renewing Sustainer Members

Anderson, Julie  
 Gerdes, Douglas  
 Grant, Linda  
 Schwarz, Ann  
 Wilder, Kenneth and Sheryl

### New Lifetime Members

Farley-Cowdin, Sean

### Memorials and Honorariums

In memory of Mary Ann Landkammer  
 By Donna Fostveit

In memory of Elizabeth "Betty"  
 McIntire  
 By Donna Fostveit

In memory of Melissa (Farley) Gerdts  
 By Sean Farley-Cowdin

In memory of Michael Hecht  
 By Janette Larson  
 Joanne Sutlief  
 Marjorie Giesen

### Appropriations

Alton Township  
 Byron Township  
 Freedom Township  
 Otisco Township

### Donations

Ace Hardware  
 Alton Township  
 Ameriprise Financial  
 Barney's Drive-In  
 Bomgaars  
 Born Well Drilling  
 Byrne, Robert  
 Byron Law Office  
 Cashwise Liquor  
 Dave's Body Shop  
 Deml Ford Lincoln Inc.  
 Fleet Farm  
 Foremost Brewing Cooperative  
 Friends of the Historical Society  
 First National Bank  
 Half Pint Brewery  
 Harguth Farms Inc.  
 Healing Hands Wellness Group  
 Hofmann Apiaries  
 losco Township  
 Indian Island Winery

### Donations

Janesville State Bank  
 Jean Ashbacher  
 Joecks, Dale and Judy  
 Johnson, Doerhoefer, & Miner PA  
 JR's Barn LLC  
 KAMP Automation LLC  
 Kibble Equipment  
 Kiesler's Campground & RV Resort  
 Kwik Trip  
 Lindner Liquor  
 M Peters Enterprises, Inc  
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 Schumacher Electric  
 Sno-Biz  
 Sorenson's Appliance & TV  
 Southside Marine  
 Speckled Hen  
 St. Mary Township  
 State Bank of New Richland  
 Suburban Furniture  
 The Bar on Main  
 The Fermentals Brew Club  
 The Pink School House  
 The S.H.O.P.  
 Thrivent Financial  
 Touch in Bloom  
 Waldorf Welding and Machine Shop  
 Walmart  
 Ward House Brewery  
 Waseca-Clarks Grove Veterinary Clinic  
 Waseca Dental  
 Waseca Floral  
 Waseca Music Co.  
 Woodville Township  
 Zinnias

# LAKEFEST 2022

July 4th at Clear Lake Park,

Waseca MN Music : 3 p.m. - Dusk

Waseca  
County  
History  
Center

3 PM Pete Klug



ROCK & ROLL  
WITH A  
SOUTHERN  
MINNESOTA  
TWANG.  
PETER  
KLUG  
MUSIC



4 PM Miller Denn

5 PM Los Tequileros



6:30 Luke LeBlanc

7:30 Erik Koskinen



FIREWORKS  
FOOD

BYOB

Arts & Crafts

Puppet Farm  
Arts

WASECA  
ARTS  
CENTER 15 YEARS



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, and the Waseca Area Foundation

