



February, 2010  
Volume 18 Issue 2

# Pioneer Crier

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Membership cards have now been sent to all renewed members.

## 2010 Hall Of Fame

In 1988 the Chippewa County Historical Society began to recognize those individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to support our organization, by inducting them into our Hall of Fame. Since that time, twelve men, eight women, and two couples have received our highest honors. I have been blessed to be a part of fifteen of these inductions!

The Board of Directors has once again chosen this year's honorees. I say honorees because for the third time only, another couple will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. (This is your first clue!) They will join Norman and Edith Brakken and Rowland and Gertrude Norman as the only couples chosen for this distinguished honor.

As in the past, I will give clues to their identities!

1. Neither couple was born in Chippewa County
2. The "Mr." moved to Chippewa County in 1935, and the "Mrs." moved here in 1936.

## 2010 Annual Banquet

In 2009 Clara City hosted our Annual Banquet/Annual Meeting. They were such gracious hosts that the Board of Directors has decided to move the Annual Banquet to county wide communities each year. This year we will be in Milan.

Mark your calendars now for our Annual Banquet/Annual Meeting which will be held on Monday, April 12, 2010. Our event will be hosted at the Milan School, and will be catered by the More Cafe. I promise there will be some extra treats at this event, so get your ticket early!

Our program for this year is entitled "Moving The Past Into The Present". I'm not going to give too much away at this time, however, some of you may figure it out, but others may come to an incorrect conclusion!

Additional information will follow in the March newsletter. Tickets will also go on sale in March and will be available at the office and from all Society board members. We hope to see you in Milan.

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## Membership Renewals

Thank you to the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for renewing their membership in the Chippewa County Historical Society as of February 16, 2010.

### Business Platinum Membership

KleinBank - Montevideo  
MN Valley Cooperative - Montevideo

### Business Gold Membership

Avicenna Technology, Inc. - Montevideo  
Bill's Supermarket - Montevideo  
Great Plains Natural Gas - Montevideo

### Business Bronze Membership

Chandler Industries - Montevideo  
Dooley's Petroleum, Inc. - Murdock  
Farmers Union Coop - Montevideo  
Western Coop Transport Association -  
Montevideo

### Benefactor Membership

Michael & Sharon Arends - Maynard  
Larry & Elaine Cartwright - Montevideo  
Dr. Fredrick & Catherine Lauritsen -  
Cheney, WA  
Harold & Sharon Petersen - Murdock  
Jerry & Dixie Tilden - Montevideo

### Contributing Membership

Phil & Gerry Aamot - Montevideo  
Dennes & Florence Borman - Montevideo  
Roger & Marlene Gades - Montevideo  
Erling & Solveig Halbakken - Fergus Falls,  
MN  
David & Juanita Lauritsen - Milan  
Walter & LaVonne Sletten - Montevideo  
Marlyn & Maxine Slettum - Montevideo  
Chip & Jan Warsech - Montevideo

### Sustaining Membership

Ivy Allard - Rapid City, SD  
David & Pamela Arneson - Montevideo  
Jim & Cheryl Curtiss - Montevideo

### Sustaining Membership, continued

Sally Haugan - St. Michael, MN  
Delores Hembre - Grand Rapids, MI  
David & Karen Minge - St. Paul, MN  
Audrey Olsen - Bradenton, FL

### Family Membership

Sherman & Marilyn Borass - Montevideo  
P. Michael Cobb - Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Wallace & Ardyce B. Eckdahl - St. Louis  
Park, MN  
Philip & Sandy Gustafson - Maynard  
Virginia Homme - Granite Falls  
Scott & June Lynne - Montevideo  
Steve & Terri Myhre - Montevideo  
Eileen & Arnold Nokleby - Montevideo  
Keith & Vicki Poier - Montevideo  
Marlin & Joann Schoep - Montevideo  
John & Kathy Skoglund - Montevideo  
Dave & Judy Stendahl - Montevideo  
Rick Stermer & Ellen Moore - Montevideo  
Kathleen & Corrie Swenson - Clara city  
Tim & Carmel Thein - Clara City  
Marvin Timmons - Kerkhoven  
James & LeeAnn Van Der Pol - Kerkhoven  
Don & Nancy Vergin - Benson, MN  
James & Ann Yackley - Montevideo  
Vernon & Joyce Youngren - Battle Lake, MN

### Individual Membership

Donna Anderson - Montevideo  
Linda Busch - Montevideo  
Erwin D.H. Gloss - Page, AZ  
Linda Hall - Schaumburg, IL  
Yvonne Janssen - Maple Valley, WA  
LuElla Johnsrud - Montevideo  
Margaret Martenson - Granite Falls

## Briefly ...

If we have inadvertently forgotten to mention your contribution to the Society, please accept our apologies.

Although we have limited space available, we do want to recognize everyone who offers their time and talents to the Society.

*"Don't judge  
the day by  
the weather."*

## Memorials

*The following have given a gift to the Society in memory or in honor of friends and relatives. We appreciate their thoughtfulness.*

### **In Memory Of:**

Lloyd W. Anderson

### **Given By:**

Phyllis Youngren

*Church Fund*

### **In Memory Of:**

James Martenson

### **Given By:**

Margaret Martenson

*Church Fund*

### **In Memory Of:**

Leon Lange

### **Given By:**

Phyllis Youngren

*Church Fund*

## Church Penny Fund

**4,042 pennies Collected This Month!**

Thank you to Jean Moe of Montevideo for donating 242 pennies (literally). Additionally, memorials In Memory Of Lloyd W. Anderson, James Martenson, and Leon Lange were received.

Since the penny drive was resurrected in September, 1998, and the membership updated monthly, the Society has received 1,811,731 pennies.

Please help us to continue the preservation of the Village Church windows by contributing general monetary donations or Memorials to the Historical Society. As of January 31, 2010, we have a negative balance of \$699.31 which we still need to raise.

# Shingle Our Structures

## Donations Received

**\$10.00**

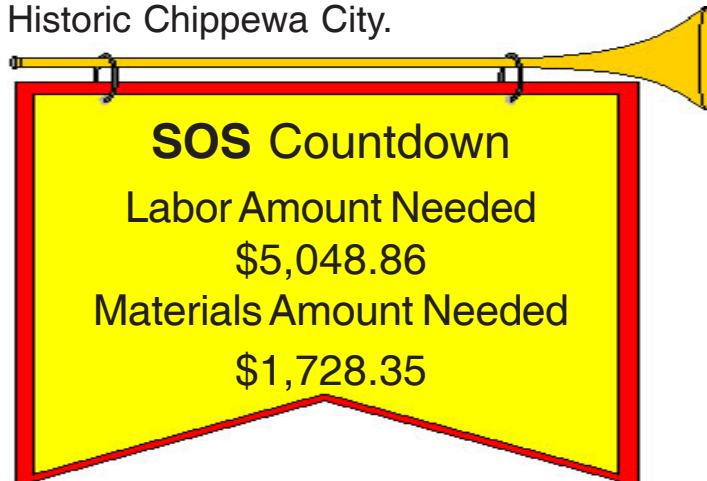
*Linda Hall Schaumburg, IL*

Bidding information for the labor and the materials (asphalt shingles) for the Chippewa Bank building will be released in March. If you know of someone who might be interested in bidding on this project, please let us know. The Chippewa Bank is the ONE building that must be shingled this year.

If time and finances permit we will then focus on either the Fire Hall, School House, or Garage. We anticipate, however, 'stretching these out', about one per year, unless a more urgent need arises. Each of these structures will use asphalt shingles.

If you would like to make a donation to the SOS fund, please send it to the Society's office with SOS written on the memo. Each bundle of asphalt shingles costs approximately \$17.00, and each bundle of cedar shingles costs approximately \$40.00.

Please help us **Save Our Structures** at Historic Chippewa City.



**SOS Countdown**  
Labor Amount Needed  
\$5,048.86  
Materials Amount Needed  
\$1,728.35

## Donations Received

Thank you to the following individuals and businesses for making a monetary donation to the Society.

### General Donation Included With Dues

- \$40.00 ~ Rick Stermer & Ellen Moore
- \$30.00 ~ Dave & Judy Stendahl
- \$20.00 ~ Marvin Timmons
- \$10.00 ~ Don & Nancy Vergin
- \$5.00 ~ Linda Busch

### Newsletter Donations

- \$25.00 ~ Jutta Bennett
- \$7.00 ~ Margaret Martenson

### Swensson Farm Maintenance Fund

- \$25.00 ~ Wally & LaVonne Sletten

### Swensson Farm Wallpaper Donation

- \$10.00 ~ Wallace & Ardyce Eckdahl

### In Honor Of Their Lifetime Membership

- \$30.00 ~ Elroy & Ardis Dragsten
- \$15.00 ~ Kathy Jo Haugan

## Society Web Site

The Chippewa County Historical Society is now putting together our own web site. I am hopeful that by the March newsletter it will be up and running and available not only to our membership, but to visitors throughout the United States and the world. The web page is being designed, created and donated to the Society by Christy Laux.

If there is something that you would like to see on our web page, please contact the office. We are always looking for new, unique, and creative ideas. We are excited to be finally getting into the new millennium!

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## Endowment Fund Update

The snow is never ending, the cold remains, but, the hopes of spring grow each day. I am always anxious for the greening of our trees and grass that is followed by the flowers of summer.

I look forward to seeing if our Endowment Oak Tree has survived the winter and if it will continue to grow. Hopefully our Endowment Fund will grow at a little faster pace than the tree does.

We have invested \$45,000.00 with the Minnesota foundation this year. That amount, plus the \$950.00 that is in our savings account, the over \$200.00 that is in our BIG JAR, along with our pledges for this year, have allowed us to raise nearly \$47,500.00.

It would be nice to be at \$50,000 before our annual meeting. Every nickel and dime

helps, so bring your coins to the Village and help fill up the big jar. If you are unable to bring them to the village, please bring them to the annual meeting, because I will be asking for coins for the big jar.



Please remember that all donations are tax deductible.

### Endowment Fund Donations

\$25.00 ~ \$49.00

Jean Moe - Montevideo

Marjorie Baltzer - St. Helena, CA

Monte Travel, Inc. - Montevideo

\$24.00 and under

P. Michael Cobb - Ft. Lauderdale, FL

The match from the GIVEMN.ORG campaign was also received in the amount of \$55.57.

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## Challenge 2010

The following is an abbreviated list for our Challenge 2010!

**The following buildings must be repaired and painted in 2010 ...**

1. ☞ **Gazebo** - Finish staining the upper half of the structure. Volunteers and stain are needed for this project.

2. ☞ **Ice House** - This building must be repaired and then scraped, primed, and painted. Volunteers and supplies are needed.

3. ☞ **Ag Building** - This building must be repaired and then scraped, primed, and painted. Volunteers and supplies are needed.

4. ☞ **Millinery Shop** - If time permits we would like to repaint the upper front of this building.

**The following building must be shingled in 2010 ...**

5. ☞ **Chippewa Bank Building**

### ADA RAMPS WISH LIST 2010

6. ☞ **Village Church**

7. ☞ **Burn's Fur Trading Post**

8. ☞ **Dr. Burn's Office**

9. ☞ **Blacksmith shop**

# Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

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## Thank you to ...

**Larry Larson** for all of his hard work in helping to organize and plan our 2010 Annual Banquet/Annual Meeting to be held in Milan;

**Phyllis Youngren** for helping with the January newsletter;

**Dixie Tilden** and **Phyllis Youngren** for helping with the information to be included in a new web site for the Society;

**Christy Laux** for donating her time to design a web site for the Chippewa County Historical Society;

**Jim Thein** and **Dixie Tilden** for serving on the Nominating Committee;

**Phyllis Youngren** for helping with the membership statements;

**Larry Larson, Richard Oleson,** and **Jeffrey Lopez** for serving on the Chamber Relocation sub-committee;

**City of Montevideo** for plowing our parking lot;

**Phyllis Youngren** for helping with the Heritage Week registration letters;

**Shirley Zurn** for still volunteering for the Society while she's in Arizona;

**Phyllis Youngren** for helping with the Membership Cards;

**Carol Siverhus** for keeping the obituary files up to date;

and **YOU** for being a member of the Chippewa County Historical Society!

## Chippewa County Historical Society

### Office Open

Monday - Friday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.  
Closed on all legal holidays.

### Historic Chippewa City

Closed for the season

### Swensson Farm Museum

Closed for the season

### Lac qui Parle Mission

Closed for the season

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## Membership Information

### Individual/Family Memberships

Annual Individual .....	\$15.00
Annual Family .....	\$20.00
Annual Sustaining .....	\$30.00
Annual Contributing .....	\$50.00
Annual Benefactor .....	\$100.00

### Business Memberships

Annual Bronze .....	\$50.00
Annual Silver .....	\$75.00
Annual Gold .....	\$100.00
Annual Platinum .....	\$200.00

### Membership Benefits

Monthly Newsletter,

Adopt-a-Building Participation,

Unlimited Visits to Historic Chippewa City  
and Swensson Farm Museum for two adults,

10% Gift Shop Discount

Photocopy Discounts

Free admission to Christmas in the Village

**Wednesday, February 17**  
*Prairie Waters Tourism Coalition*  
1:30 p.m., Appleton

**Thursday, March 4**  
*Montevideo Community Foundation*  
*Board of Directors Meeting*  
12:00 p.m., Minnwest Bank

**Monday, March 8**  
*Convention & Visitors Bureau*  
5:00 p.m., Montevideo Chamber

**Tuesday, March 9**  
*Board of Directors Meeting*  
5:00 p.m., Country Kitchen

**Sunday, March 14**  
*Daylight Savings Time Begins*

**Wednesday, March 17**  
*Prairie Waters Tourism Coalition*  
1:30 p.m., Appleton

*St. Patrick's Day*

**Saturday, March 20**  
*Spring Begins*

**Sunday, March 28**  
*Palm Sunday*

**Monday, April 12**  
*Annual Banquet/Annual Meeting*  
6:00 p.m., Milan School

The Chippewa County Historical Society's Board of Directors' meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, usually at the Montevideo Country Kitchen. November through March meetings will begin at 5:00 p.m., and April through October meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Jeffrey Lopez**  
*County Appointment*  
*President*

**Jim Thein**  
*Vice President*

**Linda VanBinsbergen**  
*Treasurer*

**Dixie Tilden**  
*Executive Board Appointment*  
*Acting Recording Secretary*

**Larry Larson**

**Sandy Hodge**  
*City Appointment*

**Mary Keller**

**Donna Kemen**

**Richard Oleson**

**Lee Hagemayer**

**Celeste Suter**

**STAFF**

**June Lynne - Executive Director**

**Vernon Lund - Historic Chippewa City Caretaker**

**Carol Westberg - Gift Shop Manager**

**Delores Veden - Experience Works**

**Shannon Lien - Swensson Farm Sunday Hostess**

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## MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

This month's volunteer spotlight recognizes Fran Bruns. Fran has always made herself available as a volunteer to the Society. She annually volunteers for Heritage Week and Christmas in the Village, as an office volunteer, and provides a multitude of food items for numerous events and programs. For her volunteer spirit, this month's volunteer spotlight recognizes Fran Bruns. **Congratulations, Fran, and THANK YOU!**

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### Pioneer Dies After Reaching Age 100

Julius Kurtzbein Came to America in 1868

Julius Kurtzbein's sole ambition to attain the age of 100 was realized on Saturday, June 1, but by one of those unexplainable quirks of fate he passed away on Sunday, June 2, while neighbors, friends and relatives were gathered at his home three miles east, two miles north and three-quarters of a mile east of Montevideo to pay him homage on his passing of the century mark.

During the past four years Mr. Kurtzbein had been confined to his bed, but all spring he

has had a calendar by his bed watching the days go by—waiting, expecting and hoping to celebrate his 100th birthday.

It is reported that his pastor, the Rev. O.C. Wolff, visited him on Saturday and pointed to the calendar. Mr. Kurtzbein, Chippewa county's oldest living resident made it known he understood that he had reached 100, and then drifted into unconsciousness. He remained almost wholly unconscious up to the time of his death at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon. To be continued next month.

*The Montevideo American, June 7, 1940*

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Address Service Requested



2-2010

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320-269-7636

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