



May, 2010
Volume 18 Issue 5

Pioneer Crier

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Heritage Week

This year's Heritage Week will be held on Tuesday, May 25 through Friday, May 28. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday hours are 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Thursday's hours are 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

A few volunteers are still needed to interpret buildings, to be floaters, to help in the Gift Shop, and to provide a salad for the volunteers. A 'script' is provided!

If you are available please contact the office. This is a great day to interact with our youth, and an opportunity to dress up as well!

Society's Web Page

The Chippewa County Historical Society now has a new web page! Please check it out at www.chippewacohistory.org and tell us your thoughts. We have had a variety of feedback to date, and have made a number of changes and corrections, but we would also like to have your opinion on the site! Perhaps there is something we have missed that should be included. Maybe you will notice a typo that we should correct. The one area of the site that I am unable to change is the timing of the slide show which is associated with Historic Chippewa City. Other than that, please let us know!

Weekend Hosts

We are once again in need of weekend hosts for the summer tourism season. Beginning Memorial Day Weekend, Historic Chippewa City will be open seven days a week. Volunteers are needed to staff the site on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Responsibilities include opening and closing the site, staffing the travel center, and collecting admissions and gift shop sales. If you would like to volunteer and are looking at a specific date, please contact the office. If you are called and are asked to volunteer, please consider saying yes!

Newsletter Via Email

To date almost 20% of the Society's members receive their newsletter via email. We would still like to include even more members on our list to receive the newsletter electronically.

Newsletters received via email or the new web site contain color pictures and will be sent or can be downloaded in a PDF file. To sign up, please send an email to ChippewaHistory@qwestoffice.net to try a copy. You will not be under any obligation to continue to receive your newsletter this way.

Another new option is to go directly to our web page, www.chippewacohistory.org, and download the newsletter from there! No email is involved! If you would like to try this, all of our 2010 newsletters are now available on-line.

If you would like to receive your newsletter either of these ways, please let us know so we can remove you from the postal or email mailing lists. The newsletter is usually printed on the 15th of each month. However, November's newsletter is usually later.

Remember, receiving your newsletter via email or through the web site will save the Society the cost of paper, copying, and postage. It's just one small way that we can be a little more environmentally friendly.

Just send us an email today and we will get you started. With the rising cost of postage, paper, and fuel, we sincerely thank you for helping us save a nickel here, and a nickel there!

Opening Days

Historic Chippewa City will officially open for the season on Saturday, May 29 at 1:00 p.m. The Swensson Farm Museum will open for the season on Sunday, May 30, at 1:00 p.m. Hours at Historic Chippewa City will then be Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and weekends and holidays from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Swensson Farm hours will be Sundays from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. or by special appointment. The Lac qui Parle Mission is now open for the season, daily, from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Pump Organ Repair



Taking the pump organ apart



↑ *Before and After* ↓



On April 20, 2010 the Lac qui Parle Mission pump organ was repaired after it had been vandalized a few years earlier. The process of watching the organ being taken apart, repaired and restored, and reassembled was fascinating!

Putting the pump organ back together

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.

"Nature is a gift given to us every day."

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:

Arlene Norman

Given By:

Carol Siverhus
Church Window Fund

In Memory Of:

Ann Hanson

Given By:

Carol Siverhus
Church Window Fund

In Memory Of:

Lucille Erickson

Given By:

Carol Siverhus
Church Window Fund

Church Penny Fund

2,809 pennies Collected This Month!

Thank you to Betty Molde of Montevideo for donating 309 pennies (literally). Additionally, memorials In Memory Of Arlene Norman, Ann Hanson, and Lucille Erickson were received.

Since the penny drive was resurrected in September, 1998, and the membership updated monthly, the Society has received 1,816,930 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 April 30, 2010, we have a negative balance of (\$617.95) which we still need to raise.

Shingle Our Structures

Cleaning Days

Donations Received

\$25.00
Carol Siverhus

The materials have now been received for the Chippewa Bank Building and we are awaiting confirmation from Sentencing To Service regarding the labor. It is hopeful that volunteer labor will be available to keep the costs to just the material price of \$2,424.98.

Our remaining buildings, Fire Hall, School House, and Garage will be completed as needed over the next three years. Each of these structures will use asphalt shingles.

The cost for shingles has gone up significantly since we last used asphalt shingles on our roofs.

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 \$28.00.

Please help us **S**ave **O**ur **S**tructures at Historic Chippewa City.



A sincere thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted with this year's Clean-Up Days at Historic Chippewa City. This is a daunting task, but it is made so much easier because of the extra volunteer help received. Thank you to the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for helping us to clean and prepare Historic Chippewa City for Heritage Week and for Opening Day.

- School House and Fur Trading Post - Montevideo Lions Club
- Fire Hall - Shirley Zurn & staff
- Village Church - Kurt Hoehne
- Church Museum - Lois Dyshaw
- Anderson Cabin - Rachel & Ruth Garbe
- Gippe Cabin - Montevideo Women of Today
- Ness House - Phyllis Youngren
- Village Hall - Shirley Zurn, Sharon Lutz & Staff
- Barbershop - Jerry & Dixie Tilden
- General Store - Sharon Lutz, Ardie Dragsten, Shirley Zurn & Staff
- Chippewa Bank - KleinBank
- Post Office - Shirley Zurn & Staff
- Buggy Shop - Sharon Lutz, Shirley Zurn & Staff
- Law Office - Prindle, Maland, Sellner, Stennes, Knutsen & Stermer and Nelson, Oyen, Torvik, PLLP
- Millinery Shop - Ardis Dragsten, Shirley Zurn
- Dr. Burns' Office - Shirley Zurn & Staff
- Ag Building - Staff
- Blacksmith Shop - Staff
- Harness Shop - Staff
- Ice House - Staff
- Print Shop - Staff
- Gateway Building - Staff

Endowment Fund Update

We currently have approximately \$51,500.00 in our Endowment Fund. However, we need to nearly double that amount by our next annual meeting to achieve our \$100,000.00 goal. The Endowment Board will meet at Montevideo Country Kitchen at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 26 to make plans on how we can reach this goal. If any Society members would like to attend, we would welcome you and your ideas.

Most endowment fund grows through legacy gifts. If you are a supporter of our history, remember us in your will with a gift that keeps on giving. There are many ways to contribute during your lifetime and still leave your estate intact. We have experts available to us in this area that can help you with a plan. Call June or Jerry Tilden and we will get the right people involved.

**Help Us
Big**



**Fill The
Jar!**

Donations Received

Thank you to the following individuals for their generosity to the Chippewa County Historical Society.

Endowment Fund Donations

\$25.00 and under ~ Stacy & Karen Tufto - Montevideo

Building Repair Donation

\$100.00 ~ Telecom Pioneers

Heritage Week Donation

\$500.00 ~ Montevideo Knights of Columbus Council 1551

Board Members

A sincere thank you to retired Board members, Donna Kemen and Linda Van-Binsbergen, for their dedicated service to the Chippewa County Historical Society for the past three years. We welcome Laura Hendrickson and Bev Lambert, who were elected to a three year term at the Society's Annual Meeting in April.

Membership Renewals

Thank you to the following individuals for renewing their membership in the Society as of May 15, 2010.

Family Membership

Vern & Jan Jordahl - Montevideo

David & Dawn Sletten - Montevideo

Reinstated Family Membership

Noel & Laura Hendrickson

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Thank you to ...

Vernon Lund and **Phyllis Youngren** for helping to clean the Lac qui Parle Mission;

Larry Larson for hosting the Lac qui Parle Mission Open House;

Wally Sletten, Iver Lien, Kelly Aalfs and **Ernie Streich** for helping to plant the potatoes for the Horse Power Event at the Swensson Farm;

Iver Lien for donating potatoes for planting at the Swensson Farm;

Shirley Zurn and **Phyllis Youngren** for helping to put the Swensson Farm Museum's house back in order;

Phyllis Youngren for helping with the April newsletter;

Shirley Zurn for inventorying photographs;

Phyllis Youngren for helping to complete the organization of the photo negatives;

Shirley Zurn for helping with repairs and changing displays in the Village Church;

Shirley Zurn and **Phyllis Youngren** for helping to reinstall the "Play Ball" exhibit;

Adopt-A-Building Participants and several other volunteers for helping with Clean Up days at Historic Chippewa City;

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

Opening for the season May 29

Swensson Farm Museum

Opening for the season May 30

Lac qui Parle Mission

Open daily 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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

Sunday, May 23

Hope Reform Worship & Pot Luck
Historic Chippewa City

May 25 - 28

Heritage Week

Saturday, May 29

Historic Chippewa City Opens

Sunday, May 30

Swensson Farm Museum Opens

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day

Office Closed

Historic Chippewa City Open 1-5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 1

Horse Power Event Meeting

10:00 a.m. - CURE Office

Thursday, June 3

Montevideo Community Foundation

Board of Directors Meeting

12:00 p.m., Minnwest Bank

Tuesday, June 8

Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 p.m., Country Kitchen

Fiesta Kick Off

7:00 p.m., Historic Chippewa City

Wednesday, June 9

Prairie Waters Tourism Coalition

1:30 p.m., Appleton

Monday, June 14

Convention & Visitors Bureau

5:00 p.m., Montevideo Chamber

Flag Day

Sunday, June 20

Father's Day

Monday, June 21

Summer Begins

**CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jim Thein

President

Lee Hagemayer

Vice President

Celeste Suter

Treasurer

Dixie Tilden

Secretary

Jeffrey Lopez

County Appointment

Executive Board Appointment

Larry Larson

Mary Keller

Richard Oleson

Bev Lambert

Laura Hendrickson

Sandy Hodge

City Appointment

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

MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

This month's volunteer spotlight recognizes our Adopt-A-Building volunteers. Our Adopt-A-Building sponsors help us each spring to clean the buildings at Historic Chippewa City, and to decorate the buildings for Christmas in the Village. Many have also helped us raise funds for the maintenance of their building, and have assisted with maintenance. It would be a monumental task to clean, decorate and maintain the buildings at Historic Chippewa City without their assistance! For their amazing energy, creativity, and willingness to always lend an extra hand, this month's volunteer spotlight recognizes our Adopt-A-Building volunteers. **Congratulations, Adopt-A-Building Volunteers, and THANK YOU!**

Pioneer Dies After Reaching Age 100

Julius Kurtzbein Came to America in 1868

Mr. Kurtzbein, although hard of hearing during the past few years, has been keen of mind, and up to his 96th birthday his eyesight was excellent.

With other early settlers he organized St. John's congregation and helped build the church in 1881.

Mr. Kurtzbein was the father of two sons, Frank and Gust, now deceased; and one daughter, Mrs. Herman Schultz, as well as seven grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren.

Until Mr. Kurtzbein's death five generations of the family were living.

The Montevideo American, June 7, 1940

Address Service Requested



5-2010

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e-mail: ChippewaHistory@qwestoffice.net
www.chippewacohistory.org

Chippewa County
Historical Society
151 Arnie Anderson Drive
P.O. Box 303
Montevideo, MN 56265

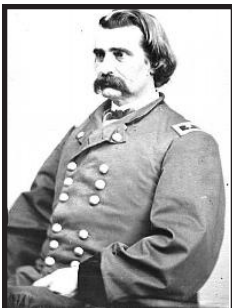


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History Of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories about its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day.

There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War. A hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead". Waterloo, N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May, 1966.



General
John Logan

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National

Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states.

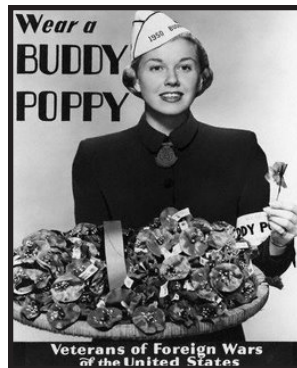
The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring

Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971. Several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem: We cherish too, the Poppy red that grows on fields where valor led, it seems to signal to the skies that blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers and gave the money to benefit servicemen in need. Shortly before Memorial Day, 1922 the



VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the U.S. Post

Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

Challenge 2010

We are anxiously awaiting for the time when we can pull our tools out of storage and begin working on the buildings at Historic Chippewa City!

This year we will shingle one building and repair and paint two others at Historic Chippewa City. We will also finish the upper front side of the Millinery Shop, and hopefully complete a variety of smaller tasks that we have been putting off.

At the Swensson Farm we will glaze and paint the basement windows, and repair one of the lower back windows of the barn. We will also be working with professionals to install the new wallpaper upstairs, as well as to repair and preserve the tombstones in the family burial plot.

We are also hoping to get more of our buildings handicap accessible this year. Thank you immensely to Dennes Borman for checking into these projects for us!

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. Perhaps the largest and most physical task on this project is to move all of the lumber, etc. which sits on the north side of the building!

4. ↗ **Millinery Shop** - We need to repaint the upper front of this building.

The following building must be shingled in 2010 ...

5. ↗ **Chippewa Bank Building** - Asphalt Shingles

ADA RAMPS WISH LIST 2010

6. ↗ Village Church

7. ↗ Burn's Fur Trading Post

8. ↗ Dr. Burn's Office

9. ↗ Blacksmith shop

Future shingling projects ...

10. ↗ **School house** - Asphalt Shingles

11. ↗ **Fire Hall** - Asphalt Shingles

12. ↗ **Garage** - Asphalt Shingles

Add signs to buildings ...

Thank you to Dennes Borman for agreeing to cut out the lettering for these signs, to Ardie Dragsten for agreeing to prime and paint them, and to Shirley Zurn for agreeing to help with their installation! We have several buildings we hope to add a name to this year!