

2021 Annual Report



Chippewa County
Historical Society

Chippewa County Historical Society

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2021 Annual Report

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Chippewa County Historical Society

Montevideo, Minnesota

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Board

David Lauritsen, President

Jonathan Rich , Vice-President

Sandy Erickson-Jeremiason, Secretary

Dawn Sletten, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Terms expiring in April, 2022

Dawn Sletten, Third District (*partial term*)

David Sletten, At Large (*partial term*)

Cindy Walter, At Large (*partial term*)

Terms expiring in April, 2023

David Lauritsen, First District (*2nd term*)

Sandy Erickson, Fourth District (*1st term*)

Bob Berven, At-Large Representative (*partial term*)

Appointments

Bill Pauling, County Commissioner

Darla Schmidt, City Appointment

Endowment Board

Audrey Arner - Chair, 2017 Board Appointment

Bill Pauling - 2022 Board Appointment

Marlin Schoep, April 2023 (*2nd term*)

Scott Lynne, April 2024 (*2nd term*)

Jackie Lindvall, April 2025 (*1st term*)

Annual Meeting

2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Chippewa County Historical Society

The Annual Meeting of the Chippewa County Historical Society was postponed, and then finally held on a small scale in October.

The Board of Directors and Officers were elected by mailed and in person ballots. Thank you to all who returned your ballots in a timely manner. We welcomed new Board members Amy Rager, Dawn Sletten and David Sletten. Officers elected were President, Dave Lauritsen; Vice President, Jon Rich; Secretary, Sandy Erickson Jeremiason; and Treasurer, Dawn Sletten.

Hall of Fame honorees Bob & Sig Olson and Corky & Bev Lauritsen were installed.

Our Stewards retiring from the Board or Endowment were Bob Berven, JoAnn Grote, Carol Thomton, Rich Huber, Carol Westberg and Sue Kempe. We are most grateful for their service.

A delicious dessert of pie & coffee was enjoyed surrounded by fall décor from the Swensson Farm.

President's Report

by Dave Lauritsen, CCHS Board President

In the game of poker 'three of a kind' is almost always considered a very good hand. Many players with a hand like this would bet the farm. The Chippewa County Historical Society has its own version of 'three of a kind.' This includes the 17-acre Swenson Farm, the Lac Qui Parle Mission, and historic Chippewa City. As members of the historical society our main responsibility is to maintain these historical treasures and make our historical society the best it can be.

In 2022 we are fulfilling this responsibility by developing another version of '**three of a kind.**'

The first of the three is **strategic planning**. Leaders in this group include Amy Rager, Dawn Sletten and Sandy Erickson. Other board members along with the director are also involved. This group is working on developing a vision and a solid plan for the future. What do we want to look like in ten years? In 20 years? What do we currently have that we should be promoting now? Let's look in the mirror. Are we missing some opportunities?

Do we need better signage? As one can imagine this planning group is very important to the future of our society. **Preservation and restoration** of the Swensson House will be high on the list of priorities set.

The **security committee** is concerned with improving security and protecting our assets at all three locations. Presently, grants are being applied for to replace aging security systems. Improvements include a new alarm system at both the Swenson Farm and the Village along with high quality cameras. Some improvements that we can make immediately include installing new gates and installing a cable through the white poles already in the ground at the Swenson Farm.

Collection management is the final prong in the 3-pronged plan. This is a work in progress and will always be a work in progress. It involves developing an accurate description and inventory of what we have and where it is located. Think of a parts shop or a public library. You have the item listed in your catalog with a number that tells you its current status and location. We can do the same! Since we have limited space one of the major concerns of this group is duplication. How many spinning wheels do we need? This sounds simple but this can be a real emotional challenge for the committee when it comes to actually making a decision.

As a society we are hoping that Covid will become less of an issue in 2022. It has been a real pain in the butt the last two years and negatively affected the society in how we do our programming and run our business. However, we did have a couple of bright spots. One of these was Horse Power Event held at the Swenson farm in September. The weather was absolutely perfect and attendance was really good. Christmas in the Village started slowly but ended up being very successful. There were still many people participating at 4pm when the event was to conclude. Several commented how much they enjoyed it. Once again, the weather cooperated and this helped make a difference.

It would make for a long list to mention all of you who have donated your time and labor, talent, money, or equipment to the society. So, to ensure that I will miss nobody I will not mention anybody. You know who you are and I hope you know how much we appreciate your generosity. It is people like you who make this historical society a success. **Thank you!!!**



Director's Report

Celeste Suter, CCHS Executive Director

My new normal is to continually get used to new normals. –unknown

“Isn’t this over yet!” could have been the motto for 2021. With knowledge of the history of pandemics, we knew it wasn’t *quite* over yet, but there were signs of hope. Vaccines became available, mask mandates slowed transmission, the virus mutated to become less deadly and warmer weather gave us all a much needed break from cabin fever.

We enhanced precautions to continue to protect our staff and volunteers and were able to be open for the tourism season! Visitors were cooperative with masking in the Gift Shop area. The touch free soap dispensers, cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer and masks were all made possible thanks to a CARES grant through the county. It was sad to not be able to welcome students for Heritage Week due to schools being virtual, but thankfully, we were able to host our Mission Sunday, Horse Power Event, and Christmas in the Village, safely. What a joy to be able to welcome visitors again!

There are a lot less Xs on my calendar this year. The Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums Conference was held on-line again. The group of museum professionals, that began gathering virtually last year, continues to meet twice a month to this day. Many have found it easier to meet when we don’t have to drive so far, so I’m sure virtual meeting options will stay as remain part of our normal operations going forward, even as in person meetings resume. Some good has come out of all of this.

Work continues on the grants received last year. A series of new grants to continue the work of updating and improving security at Historic Chippewa City and the Swensson Farm Museum, work on the Swensson house restoration, and collections management project phases will continue to be written.

We also received a Montevideo Area Community Foundation Grant to repaint the sign by the school house to be more inviting and welcoming to those driving by. Look for a vibrant new sign in the Spring!

The Endowment Board funded two grants. One for a wired shed for our new electric cart and another to replace many of our gas powered landscaping tools with environmentally friendly, quieter, lighter and more economic electric versions. The shed will be installed and wired as soon as the ground has thawed enough to get the base in.

The bi-monthly Pioneer Crier newsletter has been well received. If you would like to contribute a story or have an idea for the newsletter, please let us know.

Thank you all for your support, kind words, encouraging phone calls and emails and smiley faces on notes. They mean the world to me!

In Memoria



Lois
Hein



Ada
Hunstad



Lowell
Kaff



Deanna
Olson

Lois Anderson Adelaine Lageson Lowell Anderson
Lamore Kittelson Pauline Kittelson Joel Lund
Emma Koenen Georgia Jacobs
Ernie Streich Hilda Garcia

Thank you to each of these members and friends we have lost this year. Your years of service, dedication and friendship will be missed. Rest in love. Our sympathies to their families and friends.



*Little by little grief slowly fades.
But love always burns brightly.*

2022 Calendar of Events

January

3rd ~ New Year's Day Observed – Office Closed

11th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

17th ~ Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Office Closed

February

8th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

21th ~ Presidents' Day – Office Closed

March

8th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

22nd - Annual Meeting (1st choice) 6:00 p.m. - Clara City

TBD ~ MN Valley Draft Horse Association Annual
Membership Meeting – Granite Falls

April

5th - Annual Meeting – 6:00 p.m. (2nd choice)

4th – 22nd ~ Clean Up Days at Historic Chippewa City

12th ~ Board of Directors Meeting City – 5:00 p.m.

22nd ~ Clean Up Day at Lac qui Parle Mission – 10 a.m.

24th ~ Lac qui Parle Mission Open House – 1-3 p.m.

May

2nd – 6th ~ Heritage Week

10th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

28th ~ Historic Chippewa City Opens – 1- 5 p.m.

28th ~ Swensson Farm Museum Opens – 1- 5 p.m.

31st ~ Memorial Day – Office Closed

June

14th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – Lac qui Parle Mission – 5:00 p.m.

July

4th ~ Independence Day – Office Closed

4th ~ Historic Chippewa City Open 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

12th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

10th ~ Mission Sunday – 10:30 a.m.

August

9th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

September

4th ~ Swensson Farm, Last Day Open, 1-5p.m.

5th ~ Labor Day – Office Closed

5th ~ Historic Chippewa City Open 1:00 p.m. -
5:00 p.m.

6th ~ Lac qui Parle Mission Closes for the Season

10th ~ Horse Power Event – 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

13th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – Swensson Farm
Museum – 5:00 p.m.

30th ~ Historic Chippewa City Closes for the Season

October

10th ~ Indigenous Peoples Day – Office Closed

11th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

TBD ~ Haunted Village

TBD ~ Enchanted Evening- Swensson Farm

28th ~ Trunk or Treat

November

8th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

11th ~ Veteran's Day Observed – Office Closed

24th ~ Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed

December

3rd ~ Christmas in the Village – 10:00 a.m. -
4:00 p.m.

13th ~ Board of Directors Meeting – Historic
Chippewa City – 5:00 p.m.

23rd ~ Christmas Eve Observed – Office Closes at
Noon

26th ~ Christmas Day – Office Closed

30th ~ New Year's Eve Observed – Office Closes at
Noon

January 2022

2nd ~ New Year's Day observed – Office Closed

WORK PLAN 2022

Historic Chippewa City –

Church – Fix posts, paint & replace sign, replace Plexiglas, finish painting peaks on north side
Re-attach bell? (ED to find out what it would cost); Screen on top of furnace exhaust (bird barrier)
School House –repair bell tower rot & paint
Gateway –Front door trim. Front railings Blue, trim bright yellow – touch up as needed.
Get estimate for new energy efficient front door with handicap opener. Opener for rear door also.
Large sign by School repainted – Historic Chippewa City – a pioneer village -MACF Grant
Directional signs (ED to work with City Manager & City on placement)
Trim trees - city to remove diseased trees
Continued critter control esp. groundhogs
Barber Shop – finish painting
Print Shop back peak second section and trim in front – scrape & paint
Fire Hall - scrape & paint all
Blacksmith – Replace horse and install trim, touch up sign
Law Office - scrape & paint back and sides
Ice House – touch up back and sides; repaint sign; front trim, sides & front
Buggy Shop – scrape and paint N, E, and W sides; fix SW corner – ask Lee Hagemeyer?
Post Office – apply wood protector annually to ALL Log cabins
Bank – Scrape and paint sides east (back)
General Store – remove moss from back, scrape and paint front & west, NE trim sides and back; sign trim
Harness Shop – scrape and paint as needed
Ag Building – scrape & Paint E & W sides; touch up rest as needed, grade down high spot under sliding door
Ness House – scrape and paint peaks and upper parts & trim; continue treatment for wood borers
Anderson Cabin – Boracare holes on SE side & cover with screen, apply wood protector
Dr. Burns – Re-shingle west side
Village Hall – add gutters and replace bottom rotted panels – paint inside ceiling in spots; paint & scrape front; paint letters
Trading Post –Fix porch trip hazards; paint touch up; scrape & paint E & W sides
Power wash ramps to remove slippery moss buildup (esp. School House, Ness House)-reapply non-slip texture
Dr. Burns- scrape & paint bottom board
Outhouse/Woodshed – scrape & paint
Church Museum - scrape & paint all
Gazebo –ADA accessible ramp – ED will look into
New gate for staff entrance
Add hook to interior of side door of Church to secure during wind events

Swensson Farm –

Continue to remove diseased trees – priority to ones near buildings
Draw up work plan for House – apply for restoration grants
Add handle to Women's outhouse door
Clean grove – sell some scrap metal; open trees to pond
Fix gate wheel; paint front gates
Belting under outside equipment
Clean Moehring Building display and organize for public viewing
Install Lowell Haff replica farm display in basement of house

Lac qui Parle Mission – (need MNHS approval for all projects)

Scrape and paint building
Paint interior
Make closed shutters more secure, wax for easier opening & closing
Clean hillside above Mission of buckthorn

Historic Chippewa City

We managed two grants this year. The Security Assessment grant was completed. We will be working with a local security company to improve our alarm system, including adding cameras and fire alarms. Our goal is increased protection of our historical sites and artifacts while ensuring the safety of our volunteers, staff and guests.

The Conditions Assessment of the Swensson Farm house is nearing completion. We will work on grants for the first phase of restoration and obtain a Historic Structures Report to help us be more accurate in our portrayal of the time period and character of the house.

While we were unable to hold Heritage Week in the spring, we were able to be open for the tourist season with additional measures in place to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. Prior to opening weekend, the Gateway/Office building was painted and the front railings redone with brighter colors to draw attention of passersby. A glider bench and two chairs were added to the front porch, courtesy of Juliette Youngren from her mother, Phyllis's, estate. Visitors have enjoyed sitting on the porch and relaxing. Amy Rager and Sandy Erickson assisted with painting, sprucing up the front gardens and filling planters. We certainly looked fresh and cheery for visitors! Randy painted the rest of building including area repaired in 2020, and touched up the Tourist Information sign that hangs on the south side. Heat tape was put up on the north and west sides of the Research Library area and thus far has done its work of preventing ice jams which means no more leaks above the dugout canoe and mural.

A new idea implemented this year, was taking part in area parades during the summer. David Sletten volunteered to drive his vintage car and, along with his wife Dawn, attended parades in Clara City, Maynard and Montevideo. His car sure looked snazzy with our new magnetic signs. Thanks to DC Signs for replacing the one that went missing from the car in Maynard.



Work on buildings continued throughout the summer. Randy Sietsema did an amazing job fixing the Post Office door, replacing lights, painting buildings, keep our sites looking great, installing heat cable to the Research Library roof, fixing the rotting School House ramp and so many more maintenance tasks. The new electric cart funded by an Endowment grant was very useful in these duties.

The city of Montevideo assisted us in removing a large branch that split off a tree by the School House and continued to provide mowing of the Village during summer and plowing of the parking lot in the winter.

Sprinkled throughout the summer were tours for a couple by a girls' home group and a visit by a Willmar student care center, presentations for a ladies aide group and a family reunion, and site visits for the grants. A math class from the Montevideo Middle School came once again to reenact the life of a logging crew. They used math to figure out how many board feet of lumber could be obtained from a tree to how much food was needed to feed the crew.

We got more of the High School yearbooks digitized. The discs have OCR recognition and are searchable. We hope to install a computer in the research library soon so folks can access the discs and use it in their genealogy research.



Two new displays were set up. One is all vintage toys, many from the collection of Phyliss Youngren and more from our archives. Don Haugerud did a great job putting the display together in the Welcome Information Center room. There is also a small display in this room honoring Vernon Lund, former caretaker and his one-man band.



The second display is a compliment to the dugout canoe in the Research Library. This display contains indigenous Dakota artifacts including tools, weapons, beaded and quill work items. Posters document original territories of the Dakota and other midwestern tribes before European settlers moved in to the area.

We also had a Yellowstone Trail display up for the summer, courtesy of the Danube Historical Society.

With the help of David Buchanan, Randy, our caretaker, installed a new bench in memory of Wally and Lavonne Sletten near the Blacksmith Shop. It was enjoyed by those in attendance at Christmas in the Village as they waited for wagon rides or just to stop and have a snack.



We decided to show our appreciation for the community and bring a few more new people to Historic Chippewa City by hosting an Ice Cream Social in October. Thank you to Amy Rager for organizing this event and the Chippewa County Dairy Association for donating ice cream.

Historic Chippewa City was one of the artists sites for the Meander Art Crawl the first weekend of October. We had several hundred visitors, many of whom were first time visitors. Several plan to come back in 2022 when we are open again!

Our Annual Meeting was postponed until October. Though we had a smaller event at Village Hall, it was a joy to gather and install our Hall of Fame recipients for 2021, Bob & Sigrid Olson and 2022, Corky & Bev Lauritsen. We had a lovely fall theme with décor coming from the Swensson Farm pumpkin patch and colored corn field.

We were also excited to be able to welcome the community for Christmas in the Village! We were able to once again utilize the Christmas Village from Lois Hein to make a close replica of Historic Chippewa City! It has been decided to leave the display up all summer to encourage guests to return for our event in December 2022. We simplified the event this year, and it turned out to be one of the best ever! We welcome new ideas to streamline and add excitement to future events.

CCHS has been working with other regional organizations to increase our reach and take advantage of networking opportunities. The Yellowstone Trail Association of Minnesota (YTAMN) received a grant to work with regional historical societies and museums to create a brochure and website to highlight the Yellowstone Trail in Minnesota. The Swensson Farm is on the original Yellowstone Trail! Perhaps you have noticed the sign installed on the front gate of the farm? The YTAMN hosts a Sociability Run each year, the same weekend as the Horse Power Event. The Yellowstone Trail also goes through Montevideo, Watson (there is a large Yellowstone Trail mural on the north side of the road on a building there), Milan and then on up to Appleton and Ortonville. Interest in traveling these old tourism routes is regaining popularity. We now have a few of the guide books in our Gift Shop if you are feeling the call of the road. The group is currently working with a consultant to help us determine how we can best support and network with each other and come up with a plan to increase visitors to the region. It is in the beginning stages but we are very excited by what the consultant has shared with us so far.

The Minnesota River Valley Scenic ByWay Alliance is another partner organization. We work together on advertising in the region and out state to show potential visitors all we have to offer along the 'river of stories'. We have partnered with them and other museums and tourism groups to create a tear map that highlights area sites in both Dakota language and of importance to the local indigenous peoples. This map will hopefully be available this summer.

The West Central Minnesota Historical Association is composed of regional museums. The World War I display we hosted a few years ago was a result of a partnership grant. We are hoping to collaborate on a new display on the Farm Crisis over the next few years. We have been able to also do cooperative advertising that makes advertising more affordable and effective. Working with a group of museum peers is also very beneficial when it comes to sharing ideas, discussing problems and finding support.

Artifacts have continued to come in over the last year. Some of the more interesting are a small 1863 wooden trunk, a wooden butter churn from the early 1900s, WWII Naval uniforms, early Montevideo banks artifacts, and Covid 19 items have begun to be catalogued. We are ready to have volunteers come in to work on archiving projects in 2022. Some of the tasks include retagging textiles, entering information and photos into CollectiveAccess, and working on new exhibits and displays. Please call or email if you are interested. We'd love to have you join us!



Swensson Farm Museum

The Museum was open for the season with a wonderful new Weekend Host, Karrie Houseman.

The Security Grant also included the Swensson Farm Museum. Many of the suggestions in the final report were put into place right away including trimming of bushes, locks on all doors, and safety measures for staff and visitors. A new alarm panel was installed when the previous one failed. A gate was put on cemetery opening to prevent unwelcome people from driving onto the property after hours.

Board President David Lauritsen organized cleaning out of the Moehring Building. It was determined that much of the equipment there was not owned by Swenssons and that did not relate to the time period when Swenssons were farming. Excess equipment, including a Cadillac and our old belly mower, was auctioned off once it was determined where it had come from and there were no encumbrances to it being sold. Now that the building is cleaned out, we are hoping to have the well-done agricultural equipment display available for guest to see. The trees behind the building were cleared out to prevent roof damage, and farming pieces that were back in the woods brought out so they can be seen. Belting will be put under the tools to help preserve them and decrease maintenance requirements. It is our hope to open up more of the treed area to establish a view of the pond.

A private tour was led for a group home in August.

Once the Conditions Assessment final report is in, we will begin work on restoration and preservation projects and grants.

The Horse Power Event well attended. We had beautiful weather to enjoy the day. The potato crop down due to lack of rain, but we had a good pumpkin crop as Arnold Zempel hand planted and watered often. Rope making, house demos, horse demos, and wagon rides all added to the fun of the day. A dress up station of pioneer clothing was set up by the clothes washing station and was a big hit. Everyone enjoyed Papa food truck again. Porta Potties were donated for use by Dustin Shourds.

In October, Doug Ohman filmed for a Pioneer PBS Landmarks program on cemeteries. He was able to learn more about Olaf Swensson, the forms for the grave markers and then took a tour of the family cemetery. The program will be aired February 2022.

Lac Qui Parle Mission

The Mission Open House was held on a chilly day the end of April.

Mission Sunday was held on a hot but not too steamy in July. The fellowship of the potluck after worship was in the park across the dam. Some attendees got to take a driving tour to the site where the Pettijohn school had been, just south of the Mission.

(continued next page)

In July a program on the history of the Mission was presented for an area WELCA group.

A revival was held at the Mission by a local Baptist church in October. After this event the Mission was cleaned and prepared to be closed for the winter.

For National Public Lands Day, the Mission fronts steps and railing were re-stained by Eliza Buchanan and Regan Diggins. Other crew members cleaned out more buckthorn and other invasives. The parks department hauled away 2 big loads of debris.

Wedding contracts and fees for all three sites are being updated by a committee of the Board of Directors to bring them more in line with comparable venues.



Visitors

Being open again sure brought people in! We had nearly 4000 visitors at Historic Chippewa City! Our guests came from all over Minnesota, about 40 different cities, including regional, from the metro area to up north and everywhere in between! States other than Minnesota that visitors reported coming from include Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. We even had a few visitors from Uruguay! We usually have many more international folks come through but that was way down due to travel restrictions.

We got some very nice comments too! “A hidden gem in Minnesota!”, “Great place to visit—shop”, “Super great!”, “Loved this place!”, “Nice town”, “Great experience,. Well worth the money. The children’s faces were lit up with enthusiasm!”, “Good maps/information”, “Very impressive and interesting”, “Love the new Native display”, “Nice. I’ll be back”, “One of the best exhibits”, “Very interesting pieces of history and great staff”,

Some of my favorites, “Like stepping back in time. A wonderful experience!”, “LOVE, LOVE, LOVE”, “What a hidden jewel in Minnesota!” and “A hidden GEM on the prairie!”, “Most excellent! Like walking through time!”

The Lac Qui Parle Mission guest book showed about 450 visitors. They came from all over Minnesota, and Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, and the countries of Costa Rica, Czech Republic, and New Zealand.

Swensson Farm Museum visitors numbered about 166 and came from Minnesota, California, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

There were an additional 325 or so in attendance at the Horse Power Event.

We look forward to welcoming more world travelers and even more visitors in the coming year. Thank you to all our volunteers who are so welcoming to our guests. We get many comments on how wonderful the staff is! And greeters have said how much fun they have meeting our guests. Sign up for Weekend Hosts will begin soon.

**Chippewa County Historical Society
Endowment Funds Balance as of Dec 31, 21**

ASSETS Current Assets

Checking 20778-31 \$110.27

Savings 20778-A \$18,987.07

Total Checking/Savings \$19,097.34

Other Current Assets

CCHS Endowment \$155,147.18

Norma Stevens Memorial \$111,220.67

Tilden/Founders Fund \$46,183.55

Total Other Current Assets \$312,551.40

Total Current Assets \$331,648.74

TOTAL ASSETS \$331,648.74

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Unrestricted Net Assets \$302,242.10

Net Income \$29,406.64

Total Equity \$331,648.74

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$331,648.74

YOU
can make a
DIFFERENCE!

Planned Giving

With the Willie Skreberg fund, we were able to add covers on the gutters to prevent leaf build up and overflowing gutters on the Gateway/Office building. Thanks to the fund set up many years ago for just this purpose, we were able to help to better protect our building. Mr. Skreberg had the foresight to know that sometimes unexpected major expenses come up. Willie's legacy has helped save our office building and the archives located within!

Would you like to be our next hero? A named fund can be dedicated to whichever purpose is closest to your heart can be set up in your name or an honoree of your choosing. Contact a Board member to learn more. If you would like to set up an Endowment Fund you can contact a member of the Endowment Board.

Thank you!

CCHS Endowment Report 2021

I want to begin by thanking all the other Endowment Board members for their energies and willingness to serve: Marlin Schoep (our treasurer), Dave Lieser, Scott Lynne and welcome to new member Jackie Lindvall. Also, special gratitude to retired members Bob Berven, Carol Westberg and Dixie Tilden for their time spent in service to the Endowment.

As in the year before, in 2020, during the continuing great pandemic, we met through email communications and in person once in November 2021 to continue to advance our mission to provide future income to support the Chippewa County Historical Society and to help maintain its projects and properties. We have a protocol that includes an application for use of endowment funds which is how requests are to be made. As any of the society's members or even non-members consider giving to the endowment, please remember that any contribution of \$10,000 or greater is entitled to create a new fund within the endowment named for a family or organization. It is a good long-term investment.

At 2021's minimized Annual Banquet we gave a report on our activities. It is our intention to continue the tradition of an elegant dinner for four at the Olof Swenson Farm Museum when the pandemic is completely behind us.

Two grant requests were funded this year. A shed with electricity will be installed near to the Gateway Building to house the electric cart. The current gas powered landscaping tools will be replaced with electric models which are cleaner, more energy efficient and easier for staff to use.

I want to extend a reminder to all the society's members that the endowment board entertains ideas for new project support through an application process and we will consider proposals from within the Society for potential funding in 2022. We are not under any obligation to spend the interest generated from our investments, but we will certainly consider allocation support for special projects outside of the Society's regular budget which will advance our mission.

And, as ever, we are patient.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Arner, Endowment Board Chair

Endowment Donations

General Endowment - Donald & Mary Ann Bennett, Carol Westberg

Tilden Endowment - Dixie Tilden, James & Sherron Thein

June Lynne Endowment - James & Sherron Thein

Donations

Heritage Week - Knights of Columbus

General Fund - Lois Willand, Larry Larson,, Maurice Erickson, Joan Groothuis, Bonnie Crosby, Evelyn Bourne, Xin Gao, David & Avis Swenson, Paul Jacobs, Donald & Betty Ma-land, Stanley & Marilyn Freese, Dale & Kathy Knoshal, Terry Vanderpol, Carol Westberg, Keith & Kay Zempel, Vernon & Joyce Youngren, Elroy & Ardis Dragsten, Jim & LeAnn VanDerPol

Facebook Fundraiser , Network for Good & Might Cause

Mission Sunday

Wally & Lavonne Sletten Memorial Benches - David & Dawn Sletten

Village Maintenance Fund - Bob & Diane Berven

Memorials -

Audrey Arner, in memory of **Jean Rekow**

Bob & Diane Berven in memory of **Gertrude Rigge**

Thank you to all donors listed here and those who donate for special events like Christmas in the Village. We couldn't carry on our mission without you!



Thank you volunteers for assisting with all our events from cleaning buildings, to helping with Mission Sunday, to Horse Power Event and Christmas in the Village. Whether you were on site in person, donated or had words of support, we couldn't do what we do without you. **THANK YOU!**

A new memorial bench and pad to honor Wally & Lavonne Sletten was installed overlooking the grist mill and pastures to the east. Thank you to the Sletten family for your generous donations.

The Director is only able to take vacation due to the volunteers who man the office while she is gone. Thank you, Dottie Mast, Amy Rager, Dawn Sletten and Jackie Lindvall, for making my time off possible.

Chippewa County Historical Society Income 2021

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Jan - Dec 21
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Admissions	4,722.40
Donations and Contributions	
Endowment contribution	
Jean Rekow Memorial	25.00
Endowment contribution	350.00
Total Endowment contribution	375.00
FaceBook Fund Raiser	485.00
Donations and Contributions - Other	8,763.46
Total Donations and Contributions	9,623.46
Grants	
Chippewa County Allocation	33,750.00
Government Grants/ CVB Allocati	6,450.38
MN Historical Society	32,550.00
Security Grant	1,000.00
Total Grants	73,750.38
Investment Income	
Interest Income	1.56
Savings Interest	12.58
Total Investment Income	14.14
Membership Dues	
2021 Membership Dues	5,427.12
2022 Membership Dues	4,730.00
Total Membership Dues	10,157.12
Other Types of Income	
Bake Sale	654.76
Crafter's Fees	253.00
Miscellaneous Income	15,473.03
Other Interest Income	203.06
Patronage Dividend	50.05
Research	110.00
Candy - Candy	540.25
Total Other Types of Income	17,284.15
Refunds and Reimbursements	143.21
Rental Income	50.00
Sales of gift shop products	4,040.37
Special Events Income	
Event Fee Income	1,773.74
Total Special Events Income	1,773.74
Total Income	121,558.97

Chippewa County Historical Society Expenses 2021

Collective Access Grant Expense	2,330.51
Cost of Sales	
Consignment Payment	165.20
Merchandise for Resale	1,357.74
Total Cost of Sales	1,522.94
Credit Card Fees	46.13
Equipment maintenance	
Equipment gas & oil	253.28
Equipment repairs	359.99
Total Equipment maintenance	613.27
Equipment purchases	254.00
Event Expenses	
Event Supplies	187.58
Food	113.65
Singers/Speakers Mileage	500.00
Total Event Expenses	801.23
Facilities maintenance	
Alarm monitoring	514.96
Building repair/painting	4,375.86
Cleaning	1,000.00
Supplies	1,342.72
Facilities maintenance - Other	1,115.25
Total Facilities maintenance	8,348.79
Facilities Utilities	
Electricity	3,118.26
Heat	2,656.60
Telephone	2,227.28
Water, Sewer, Garbage	1,520.88
Facilities Utilities - Other	0.00
Total Facilities Utilities	9,523.02
Operations	
Accountant Fees	5,053.50
Advertising Expense	2,425.64
Annual Banquet	53.00
Continuing Educations	50.95
Dues and Subscriptions	500.00
Heritage Week	-500.00
Horse Power Event	29.66
Insurance	
Crime Bond Insurance	285.00
Property & Liability Insurance	3,696.07
Vehicle Insurance/Registration	353.00
Volunteer Liability	225.00
Total Insurance	4,559.07

Chippewa County Historical Society Expenses 2021

Office Expenses	
Office Equipment	844.92
Office Supplies	1,906.73
Total Office Expenses	2,751.65
Postage, Mailing Service	
Postage - Newsletter	738.89
Postage, Mailing Service - Other	327.23
Total Postage, Mailing Service	1,066.12
Safe Deposit Box Rent	45.00
Travel and Meetings	
Mileage	1,500.00
Total Travel and Meetings	1,500.00
Total Operations	17,534.59
Payroll Tax Expense	
SUTA	2,141.00
Payroll Tax Expense - Other	-9,693.86
Total Payroll Tax Expense	-7,552.86
Security Assessment/System Audi	10,000.00
Taxes	
Assessments	5.00
MN Sales Tax	15.97
Registration/Filing Fees	84.25
Total Taxes	105.22
Wage Expense	
Wages - Other	11,807.72
Wages - Director	31,395.00
Total Wage Expense	43,202.72
Total Expense	86,729.56
Net Ordinary Income	34,829.41
Net Income	34,829.41



Adopt - A - Building Sponsors

Bailey and Woodward Bath and Shine - Bob Christensen	Burns Fur Trading Post - Montevideo Lions	
Village Church - Montevideo Area Community Foundation	Gippe Cabin - Montevideo Women of Today	
Post Office - Larry Larson	Fire Hall - Bob Berven	Ness House - Amy Rager family
Chippewa Bank Building - Old National Bank	General Store - Pat Roberts and Cathy Kay	
Peder Jacobsen Blacksmith Shop - Rich Huber & Pat Huber	Gazebo - Montevideo Community Band	
Dr. Burns Office - Pat Roberts	Ice House - Endowment Board	School House - Board of Directors
Print Shop - Joe & Mary Keller	Harness Shop - Hawk Creek Saddle Club	
Law Office - Nelson, Oyen, Torvik, PLLP & Stermer & Sellner, Chartered		

You or your organization can Adopt any of the following AVAILABLE! Buildings; Anderson Cabin, Ag Building,, Buggy Shop, Millinery Shop, Village Hall, or the Church Museum. Call to secure 'your' building today!

Who is eligible to Adopt a Building at Historic Chippewa City?

Chippewa County Historical Society Individual or Business members; Organizations and civic groups; other interested individuals.

Why Adopt a Building?

To help support the mission of the Chippewa County Historical Society. But really it's to have fun cleaning and changing out displays to best represent your building and it's place in our history. Decorating for Christmas in the Village is magical. Follow the theme for the year or do your own thing! Sponsoring a building takes some time off of the Historical Society's staffs' schedules and allows them to work on other projects.

What does a building Adopter have to do?

Adopt-a-Building participants will clean their adopted building during cleanup week each April prior to Heritage Week and Opening Day, help host and find volunteers to staff the adopted building during the following Chippewa County Historical Society events (if/as necessary): Heritage Week, Christmas in the Village, and future programs established by the Board of Directors; assisting with fund-raising to acquire the necessary funds for the major maintenance needs of their adopted building, i.e. roof replacement/repair, painting; assisting with needed repairs as necessary and as available; assist in changing displays in the adopted building periodically, with the permission and assistance of the Executive Director.

What will the Chippewa County Historical Society do for Adopters?

Signs will be placed in the adopted building showing the individual's/organization's commitment to the Adopt-a-Building program; Press releases will be sent to the appropriate news agencies and in the Pioneer Crier that show the individual's/organization's commitment to the Adopt-a-Building program; Staff will work with the individual/organization on fund-raising requests and will bring such requests to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Membership

Business Members

Platinum Business Membership

Keith Hein, CLU
Minnwest Bank Montevideo
Minnesota Valley Cooperative

Gold Business Membership

Old National Bank

Silver Business Membership

Chandler Industries
Dooley's Petroleum
Farmers Union Oil Co.
Grandstay Montevideo
Groats
Millennium Theater
Montevideo Family Dentistry
R & R Bakery
State Farm Insurance
Stermer & Sellner, LLC

Bronze Business Membership

Budger's Dinner House
Clara City Herald
Co-op Credit Union
JSB Design Works

Benefactor Membership

Mary Ann Bennett
Sally Haugan
Glen & Jackie Herfurth
Mary & Joe Keller
Pauline Kittelson
Larry & Alicia Kittelson
Steve & Karen Kling
Lance & Dee Knoshal
Arlen Kvanli
Larry Larson
David & Juanita Lauritsen
Dr. Frederick & Catherine Lauritsen
David & Karen Lieser
Marv & Jane Link
Olaf Minge
Ron & JoAnn Molde
Dr. Kevin & Jane Myhre
Julius Ost
Harold & Sharon Petersen
Keith & Vicki Poier
James & Sherron Thein
Dixie Tilden
Marvin & Shirley Timmons
Del & Shirley Wehrspann
Keith & Kay Zempel
Byron & Shirley Zurn

Tostenson, Inc.
Thank you members! Feel free to print the membership form at the end of this report to give to family, friends and businesses. Membership funds help to support our mission to preserve our county history and keep it alive!

Membership (continued)

Contributing Membership

Solveig Halbakken
Kevin Hein
Kerry & Mark Jaspersen
Dick Koopman
Gene & Linda VanBinsbergen

Sustaining Membership

Christine Andreas
Michael and Sharon Arends
Pamela and David Arneson
Richard Handeen and Audrey Arner
Lois Baker
Tim and Merrie Bertrand
Dr. Tom Birkey and Doris Thompson
Sherri Mortenson Brown
Kathryn & Kurt Carlson
Gregg & Mary Nell French
Thomas Garratsee
JoAnn Grote
Philip & Sandy Gustafson
Bill & Barb Homan
Deron & Shannon Homan
Paul "Buck" Jacobs
Shirley Kalmoe
Bob & Sue Kempe
Barb and Dwayne Knutsen
Dr. Nick & Donna Krueger
Polly & Mary Sue Kruger
Jim & Gaynelle Lee
Ruth Leppke

Brendan & Trisha Lien
Ralph & Barbara Lunde
Wally and Sharon Lutz
Jean Moe
Robert & Sigrid Olson
Tom Payne
Peter Rekow
Dick and Nancy Ryman
William and Nancy Schuller
John R. Schulz & Miriam Rykken
Chuck Shellenbarger
Dawn & David Sletten
Evelyn Sorenson
Doug Spray
Rick Stermer and Ellen Moore
John and Kathy Swenson
DeVon and Lois Vien
Chip and Jan Worsech
Dr. James & Sonja Zenk

Family Membership

Kris & Barry Bahl
Robert & Janet Barwick
Bob & Diane Berven
Kati Birhanzl
Marv and Judy Boike
Marilyn Boraas
Fran Bruns
Dave & Pat Craigmile
Bonnie Crosby
Sandy Lynn Erickson

Membership (continued)

Family Membership (continued)

Jeff & Kate Fitzkappes
Jim & Jan Flaherty
Stanley & Marilyn Freese
Dave and Liz Gilbertson
John & Linda Givan
Alan & Dixie Golden
Lee & Carin Hagemeyer
Jane Hauger
Kathy & Jack Hendrickson
Kurt & Lori Hoehne
Rich & Jeanne Huber
Ralph & Ada Hunstad
Carolyn & Leroy Jans
Ben & Tia Johnson
Allan & Nancy Johnsrud
Cathy Kay
Dale and Kathy Knoshal
Kenneth & Emma Koenen
Patrick & Mary Moore
Brett & Patty Opdahl
Bill & Connie Pauling
Dale & Jan Peterson
Amy Rager
Franz Allbert Richter
Bob & Judy Ronning
Paul & Paula Sachariason
Marlin & JoAnn Schoep
Dave & Dorothy Schultz
Diane Shimp
John & Kathryn Skoglund

Galen & Beth Slater
Dave & Cindy Smiglewski
Evonne Smith
Mark & Celeste Suter
Corrie & Kathleen Swenson
Gerald & Lynette Swenson
Wayne & Kathy Thalberg
Tim & Carmel Thein
Paul & Sandra Thompson
Ron & Carol Thomton
Stacy & Karen Tufto
James & LeeAnn Van Der Pol
Elaine & Jim Vik
Ann and David Voller
Steve & Marsha Walstrom
Vernon & Joyce Youngren

Individual Membership

Barb Anderson
Dode Aronson
Jackie Ast
Darrell and Marilyn Augeson
Kathy Bangsund
Steve Bennett
Robert Berge
Nancy Bergeland
Judi Bohm
Diane Borgendale
Evelyn Bourne
Robert & Kathleen Christensen

Membership (continued)

Individual Membership (continued)

Sandra Smith Dinanni

Pastor Marie Eckberg

Maurice Erickson

Vivian Evans

Emily Evenson

Dave Finnes

French Glass

Marilyn Gades

Mary Habstritt

Linda Haff

Joan Haugland

Virginia Homme

Dean Jansen

Yvonne Janssen

Susan Jenson

Eric Jerve

Qian Jianhua

Vern & Jan Jordahl

Donna Kemen

Kellie Knudsen

Ruth Koenen

Jon Kuhlmann

Lorna Kuno

June Kurtzbein

M.L. Lanes

Jackie Lindvall

Gerri Lovehaug

Krystal Lynne

Scott Lynne

Susan Marcinkowski

Dottie Mast

Lesa McCarty

Leann M. Miller

Dr. Brad Moseng

Barbara Oleson

Dorothy Olson

James J. Olson

Diane Ostlie

Jonathan Rich

Pat Roberts

Robert Ryan

Cheryl Schmieg

Clean Sites, LLC - Dustin Shourds

Maxine Slettum

LaVonne K. Stegeman

Dave & Judy Stendahl

Dallas Thompson

Kathy Toft

Terry Van Der Pol

Carol Westberg

Lois Willand

James Wollan

Lifetime Memberships

Sharon Alton

Carol Anderson

Kathy Beito

Steve Bennett

Connie DeVries

Elroy & Ardis Dragsten

Shirley Formo

Membership (continued)

Lifetime Membership (continued)

Adela Fuls

Joan Groothuis

Dr. N.L. & Joyce Hagberg

Gary & Donna Halverson

Paul Handeen

Kathy Jo Haugan

Deanna Hodge

Mike & Amy Jorgenson

Larry Larson

Paul Lines

Donald & Betty Maland

Debra Moe

Steve & Karen Mortenson

Dale & Sonja Norman

Paul Ostlie

Wayne Ostlie

Doug Oxenreider

Galen & Diane Petersen

Larrie Quam

Dawn Schuler

Mary Sellner

Diane Shimp

Neal E. Simons

Ronald Siverhus

Evelyn Sorenson

Paul & Sandra Thompson

Paul Wallien

John & Betty Wanke

Arnold & Carolyn Zempel

Membership roles are current as of December 31, 2021

**Members, you are History Heroes.
Thank you for helping to carry the load!**





CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INDIVIDUAL 2022-23 MEMBERSHIP FORM

AN INVESTMENT IN OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!

2022-23 CCHS Annual Membership Benefits

Individual \$20.00 Unlimited Visits to Historic Chippewa City and Swensson Farm for 2 Adults, Bi-monthly Newsletter, 10% Gift Shop Discount, Check out Privileges at the Interpretive Library, Free Admission to Christmas in the Village for 2 Adults
Family \$30.00 All of the Individual benefits + Unlimited Visits to Historic Chippewa City and Swensson Farm for 2 Children + Free Admission to Christmas in the Village for 2 Children
Sustaining..... \$50.00 All of the Family benefits + 1 guest pass
Contributing \$75.00 All of the Family benefits + 1 guest pass, 15% Gift Shop Discount
Benefactor \$100.00 All of the Contributing benefits + 1 additional guest pass

Benefits begin now and continue until your renewal month in 2023.

------(Detach Here- Fill out and return bottom portion)-----

Chippewa County Historical Society Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Referred By _____

Membership Level:

☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Sustainer \$50
☐ Contributor \$75 ☐ Benefactor \$100

Additional donation \$ _____

Mail to: Chippewa County Historical Society,
P.O. Box 303 Montevideo, MN 56265

*Thank you for your membership with the Chippewa County Historical Society
which will help our preservation efforts.*

(320)269-7636 chippewahistory@outlook.com www.chippewacohistory.org



Office use only

- ☐ 22-23 New Dues
- ☐ 22-23 Renewal Dues
- ☐ Check # _____
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Credit Card
- Amount _____
- Month _____
- ☐ NL Database
- ☐ Member Database
- ☐ RDX
- ☐ Card
- ☐ PC

Let's Make History Together!



CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BUSINESS 2022-23 MEMBERSHIP FORM

AN INVESTMENT IN OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!

2022-23 CCHS Annual Membership Benefits

Bronze Membership..... \$75.00 Unlimited Visits to Historic Chippewa City and Swensson Farm for 2 Adults & 2 Children + 1 guest pass, Bi-monthly Newsletter, 15% Gift Shop Discount, Check out Privileges at the Interpretive Library, Free Admission to Christmas in the Village for 2 Adults & 2 Children

Silver Membership \$100.00 All of the Bronze level benefits + 1 additional guest pass

Gold Membership \$150.00 All of the Bronze level benefits + 2 additional guest passes

Platinum Membership \$250.00 All of the Bronze level benefits + 3 additional guest passes

Business Memberships are Non-voting.

Benefits begin now and continue until your renewal month in 2023.

------(Detach Here- Fill out and return bottom portion) -----

Chippewa County Historical Society Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Referred By _____

Membership Level:

☐ Bronze \$75

☐ Gold \$150

☐ Silver \$100

☐ Platinum \$250

Additional donation \$ _____

Mail to: Chippewa County Historical Society,

P.O. Box 303 Montevideo, MN 56265

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which will help our preservation efforts.*

(320)269-7636 chippewahistory@outlook.com www.chippewacohistory.org



Office use only

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- ☐ Credit Card
- Amount _____
- Month _____
- ☐ NL Database
- ☐ Member Database
- ☐ RDX
- ☐ Card
- ☐ PC

Let's Make History Together!