



Shakopee
Heritage
Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 30

Fall 2008

This edition:

- *More on The Macy Gang*
- *Pictures at City Hall*
- *Pictures and other donations*
- *Our First Annual Indoor Picnic*
- *75 years ago in Shakopee*
- *Notes from the editor*
- *A new feature about members*

Please join us and bring a friend, if any of the following interests you.

- Sharing stories of Shakopee's past.
- Listening to stories of Shakopee's past
- Finding the answers to the questions you have.
- Reminiscing and telling stories of your past.
- Meeting new people or making a new friend.

The Shakopee Heritage Society
Summer indoor Picnic
Or pot luck dinner held July
16th At the Northridge
Apartment community room
was well attended, had door prizes, and stories, and even a show and tell. It was a good evening for all those who could attend. ----- See more inside

The
Fall Membership Meeting
is Saturday October 18th at 1.00 PM at
the Shakopee Library downstairs
meeting room. Your Guest Speaker is
Peggy Phillips on the old Calvary
Cemetery east of Shakopee.

Hangings of Historic Pictures

The Shakopee Heritage Society presented six historic pictures of people that founded Shakopee for exhibit at Shakopee City Hall, 129 Holmes St South in Shakopee.

Mayor John Schmitt was contacted for permission to hang the historic pictures.

The first site chosen at Shakopee City Hall was the Council Chambers, but it was decided it would not be an appropriate location. The location chosen was in the main hallway in the City Hall where they would be seen by those using the services of City Hall.

Thanks to Joe Collins and his wife, who rewired and repaired some of the frames. Also thanks to Mark Noble (City Planner II) and the maintenance person who helped in placement of the pictures. Thanks to Don McNeil, Shakopee Heritage society President, who did background work for this to happen.

The pictures are accompanied by a description of each person pictured. The Pictures also have a name card crediting the SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY. For additional information about the exhibit, call 612-418-7964.

Submitted by: Bob Smishek-Board Member

See the Picture on Page 4

Macy News

1937

By Jim Lonto

At our meeting last Thursday night "Rudy", our manager, of 1935, was elected to be manager the forthcoming season. Charles Lonto was reelected business manager.

"Rudy claims he has some good ideas pertaining to a great team for us this next season. We also expect to see a few new faces on the team although no names were mentioned.

After the noise was quieted down and all arguments stopped "Rudy" took the floor and gave what he claimed a serious lecture.

We have the honor of thanking the Messrs. Hamilton and Strehlow for Typing out the contracts which will be sent out soon by the business manager.

When the meeting was adjourned the Macy orchestra played a tune commonly called "Organ Grinders' Swing," which really sounded like it until "Snuffy's" Harmonica got plugged up then it sounded more like the feud between the martins and McCoys. "Schimmel" Duede has been practicing on the shoe horn for the past week. He expects to get a place in the orchestra soon. More power to you "Schimmel."

"Ham" and "Kenny" seem to have other problems than kittenball. We wondered what it was until "Stutz" sat on "Hams" lap at the skating rink the other night and naturally "Kato" got mad. Now we know what the other problems are.

The other day we asked "Deacon" to look over Macy field and report its condition. After scraping away a handful of snow he reported that the grass was growing good and the field would be in fine shape. Thanks for the trouble "Deacon." _____

Notes from the editor

If you missed our first annual indoor Picnic you will have a chance next year to get in on the 2nd annual in 2009. The success of this one was definitely worth the extra work by the board members and feedback has been good. If we can get the same accommodations next year we probably will do it there again. Watch you newsletter next year for the arrangements.

The articles on the Macy gang are written as they appeared in the Shakopee paper with no attempt to change spelling or the language mannerisms of the time.

The Shakopee Story Reprint is still coming along and we hope to have it ready for Christmas sales this year.

There is an article from Eileen mentioning the donation by Marie Stay. In addition to that donation, Marie Stay has donated a number of items earlier this year and has done so for a few years running now. Thanks again Marie. _____

Shakopee News 75 years ago 1933

Excerpts from the Shakopee Argus-Tribune by Eileen Schnitz

January 5, 1933- Notice of August Abel's funeral, owner and operator of a tailor shop and director of an orchestra in Shakopee.

January 13, 1933- Shakopee Trio: Known as Purol Trio, members August V. Krueger Jr., Harris DeMers, Sylvester Devenney will sing at an oil men's convention at the Lowry Hotel in St. Paul, MN.

January 26, 1933- "Whoopee John" and his nine Fat Dutchmen have been booked to play at the annual Luxemburger Ball at Dawson's Hall on February 3rd.

February 2, 1933- Three new additions to the Shakopee Business circle: (1 A new restaurant known as the J&F Hamburger Shop was opened in the Henry Mergens Building at First and Holmes. (2 A new Beauty Parlor under the operation of Verona Bigot was opened in the east half of Gillen tailor shop. (3 Wm Wermerskirchen has taken over the business operated by Frank Gillen--- he has moved his pressing and cleaning equipment in the west half of the building.

April 20, 1933- The Shakopee Community Sportsman's Club, organized last month, has arranged for a crow shoot from April 20th to May 4th. The new organization claims 40 members. Officers are: President, E.G.Leibold -- Vice President, Dr. H.P. Fisher—Secretary, R.D. Hill—Treasurer, Elmer Kelm.

April 27, 1933- Andrew Kopisca has turned over the operation of his service garage to Math Sames Jr .and Fred Paron. **DANCE:-** Riverside Pavillon, Carver, MN. Leonard's Dance Band Sunday. April 30-----25cents per person" **KING KONG**" at the GEM April 30, May 1-2. Remodeling of the Fred Berens Store on the corner of First and Lewis is nearly completed. The front half of the second story has been converted into four suites of office rooms. Dr. Clement Nickolay will set up his dental office in one suite. The west half of the first floor will be occupied by A.B.Wise's mortuary.

August 3, 1933- Dr. P.M. Fisher who operates the Shakopee Hospital has formed a partnership with Dr. H.R. Rice. Dr. and Mrs. Rice with their son will reside at 119 West Sixth St. John W. Schmitt became the owner of the Peter Lebens property on West Fourth St. The property includes all of lot 4 in block 47, with the two story frame house situated on it. The Joe Weiland family, former occupants, will move to the Casper Lenzmeir house on West Seventh St.

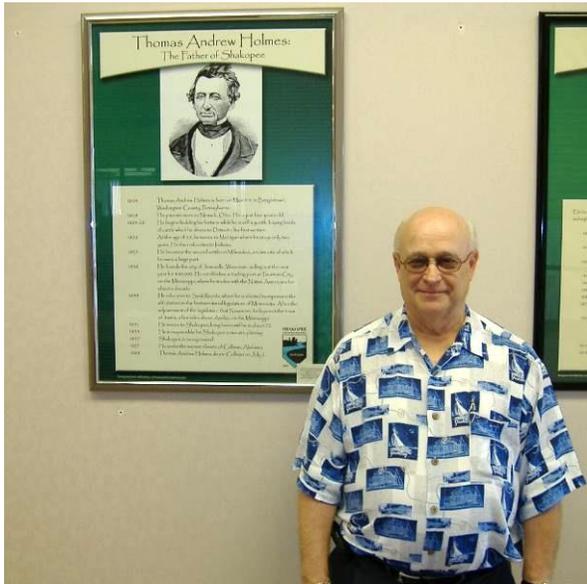
August 17, 1933- The Atwood Coffee man was in Shakopee Saturday. The Atwood Coffee Company is among the most outstanding coffee roasters in the Northwest. The company is adding spices and extracts to the excellent line of Atwood coffee and teas.

August 24, 1933- Happ Pavilion Night Club and Breezy Point Pavilion, located one mile North of Shakopee at the junction of highway 5 and 51 are attracting throngs.

September 14, 1933

Mrs Marian Ries went to New Prague Sunday to be in attendance at the baptism of her grandson, Eugene Roland Ries, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Ries.

September 21, 1933 Charles Manaige, Shakopee's lone Civil War veteran, went to St. Paul Monday to be in attendance at the sixty-seventh national encampment of the G.A. R.



Bob Smishek at City Hall getting the pictures hung.

There were twelve of these made by the Sesquicentennial Committee and all twelve were taken to city hall where six will be displayed and then switched for the other six. If you go to city hall or are close by stop and take a look at the pictures.

They are on loan, to the city, not donated, and are marked as such on each picture.



A photo of most of the members attending the First Annual indoor picnic (pot luck) event in July.



Joe Collins wins a door prize at the pot luck dinner.

Joe is our newest board member who had fallen into the job of Secretary to the Heritage Society within months of becoming a board member. Working the booth at the Race Track and Derby days we have really put Joe to work.

September 28, 1933

Scott County 4H club members who have won free tickets to the World's Fair are the following: Vince Marschall, Phoebe Pierson from Shakopee—Irene Krueger from Lydia—Jerry Flicek, Emil Dietz from New Prague—Elaine Heiland from Belle Plaine.

October 12, 1933

Burglars loot M.J. Berens Store---Theft loss placed at \$500.00

November 2, 1933

Shakopee Masons observe 70th Anniversary marking the founding of King Solomon Lodge No. 44, A.F.&A.M.

November 23, 1933

Leonard Ayd, genial proprietor of the Rock Spring Café, hosted a pre Thanksgiving turkey dinner for his Shakopee and St. Paul friends. About 250 guests were served. Orchestral music was provided.

December 14, 1933

Cards assigning 213 men to various Civil Works Administration jobs in Scott County were sent out Saturday.

December 28th 1933

Drivers are warned to install lights on horse drawn vehicles due to a growing number of accidents on the highways.

A note from Eileen Schmitz

Maria Stay of Shakopee has donated to The Shakopee Heritage Society the following Items:

- (1) One glass mug Commemorating Inaugural Day of Thoroughbred Racing in Minnesota, June 26, 1985,**
- (2) One Canterbury Downs spoon,**
- (3) One Mystic Lake Spoon.**

The Shakopee Heritage Society Thanks Maria for her many gifts, pictures and items for the Shakopee Heritage Societies Archives.

Eileen Schmitz has also started a new section for the newsletter that I think everyone will enjoy. She will try to get a little history from our members and we will add it to the newsletter whenever we can. We surprised Betty with this one and among all her pictures and keepsakes she was unable to come up with a picture of herself as a child in time for this edition. We will try to add it to the next newsletter after she finds one.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

By Eileen Schmitz

Member Betty Robinette

Betty Robinette was born in 1924 in her parent's home which stood where the Senior High Rise is now located. Her parents John Theis and Lillian Wampach Theis were born and raised in Shakopee also. Her father worked at the Sanico Foundry in Shakopee and was a WWI veteran. He was the first commander of the VFW in Shakopee and was active in the American Legion. Her great-grandfather John "Cap" Theis immigrated to the USA and settled in Shakopee. He was a Civil War Veteran. Theis, Wampach, Breeggemann, and Lenzmeier are Shakopee family names in her family tree.

Betty attended St Mark's School and the Shakopee High School. After high school graduation in 1942 Betty went to work at the munitions plant in New Brighton, MN.

Later she found employment with O. B. McClintock in Minneapolis, which manufactured burglary alarms. She met her husband Donald Robinette in Minneapolis after the war and they married in 1947. They are the parents of six children.

Betty has been a member of the Shakopee Heritage Society since the beginning of the organization. Over the years Betty has been a great historian for the Shakopee Heritage Society relating stories pertaining to the early years of Shakopee, her family and sharing her many pictures of various Shakopee area businesses, residents and artifacts pertaining to Shakopee history.

We do thank all those members and interested citizens who have come up with a picture or keepsake or other memorabilia that they have donated to the society. We have received donations from as far as Florida.

Always keep an eye out. Whenever you hear someone is cleaning up all that old stuff and going to toss it, be sure to remind them that we need old pictures, memorabilia, letters etc.

Thank you all. The Editor

**Shakopee Heritage Society
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