



Shakopee
Heritage
Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 33

Summer 2009

This edition:

- *Guest Speaker at Spring meeting*
- *News from 100 years ago*
- *Daniel Storer from 150 years ago*
- *"The Shakopee Story" Book Printing*
- *Meet our members, Betty Dols*
- *Notes from the editor and much more.*

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

Will be held July 15th

At the Northridge

***Apartment community
room 101 Fuller St. North***

**Bring an item or story for show and tell
and we will be our own entertainment.**

**Things like Pictures, a tool, a
document, or anything of interest, and
then tell us a little about it.**

Picnic Continued on page 6

Guest Speaker
By Eileen Schmitz

Jefferson Spilman, site supervisor at Historic Murphy's Landing was the guest speaker at the April membership meeting. He gave us an overview of the park's history and gave a slide presentation of the various sites pertaining to the Shakopee area. Many of our members remembered the various buildings and were able to share memories of the same.



Notes from the Editor, Don Wagner

Over the past few years it has been a goal of most of the board members to get **The Shakopee Story** by Julius Collier re-published. We have finally met that objective and now are selling the books. With the size of the books and the number that were printed we are talking about 3 pallets of books to sell or store. You have probably noticed the ads in the newspaper and some of the notices. If you have not gotten your copy that you ordered more than a year ago, you should catch Jay Whiting and get it now for the member pricing of \$25.00. **The public pricing of \$35.00 has begun already at the Stans Museum.** -----

2009 Historic Shakopee House & Site Tour The Shakopee Heritage Society is conducting the tour. The tour date is September 12, 2009, hours 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. Tickets sales will began the first part of August at the Stans Museum. Price of the tickets will be \$10.00. **We are looking for members to volunteer to help the home owners with the tour.** More information will be forthcoming at the July picnic. -----

Derby Days is coming up fast and we will be passing around the sign up sheet for volunteers to work our booth at **Derby Days** as we do each year. Please consider a couple hours or even 1 hour with a buddy at this event. The hours we need help are Friday July 31st 3:00 pm to 7:00 PM and Saturday August 1st 10:00AM to 7:00PM Pick a time period during these hours. Ask us what is needed or what happens at the booth if you don't already know. ----

The **Scott County Historical Society** will benefit from a **Flea Market in Huber Park** along the river or walking path area on the same days. Just imagine the cool things you can see at this event. And their Annual **Ice Cream Social** will be held in Huber Park on Saturday August 1st. Try the Ice Cream or a Root Beer Float-----

Some of our neighbors are having events at or near the same time. Jordan has its Walking tour on July 8th and Belle Plain Founders Days, July 11th. -----

As a reminder to our members we publish this newsletter Four times per year prior to the Four **Membership Meetings**. January, April, July, and October. We try to get them in the mail 1 to 2 weeks before the meetings. If you do not get one, let us know as soon as possible and we will get another one to you if possible. It also may help us track down what is happening with the mail. If you notice that your copy has a label coming off or the tape is coming off allowing it to open up during delivery let us know. We never get any back from the Post Office or any complaints from the Post office. There are just mysterious missing newsletters. Thanks for your help.

Shakopee News, 100 Years Ago, 1909
From the Shakopee Scott County Argus
By Eileen Schmitz

(See next page)

- June 4, 1909. *The warm rains of the past week have brought out the vegetation and flowers which have been very backward this year*
- June 11, 1909. *Miss Clara Logenfeil graduated Thursday evening from the Mankato Normal. The Common Council of the City of Shakopee resolved that Block sixty one, be named and designated as Holmes Park of the City of Shakopee. Six pupils have completed the Eighth grade at School District #41. They are: Anna Gillen, Ida Zettel, Laura Schwartz, Mary Lenzmeier, Arthur Berens and Benedict Rohe.*
- June 18, 1909. *The present high stage of water in the river renders navigation by steamboat possible.*
- June 25, 1909. *Ladies of St. Mary's parish will give a lawn festival on the Church grounds Tuesday evening, June 29th. The Pond Mission House, the first frame building in the Minnesota Valley above Fort Snelling, has been razed, and given way to the progress of TIME.*
- July 2, 1909. *Mrs. Mary Donnelly of Cedar Lake paid the first inheritance tax ever paid into the treasury of Scott County. The inheritance tax was passed in 1905. The steamboat PURCHASE and barge TWIN CITY made the trip from St. Paul Sunday having several hundred excursionists.*
- July 9, 1909. *Wednesday July 7, 1909 Miss Rose Cavanaugh became the bride of Frederick Berens at St. Vincent's Church, St. Paul, MN. Fred is associated with his father, John Berens, in one of the leading general merchandise stores in Shakopee. The young couple will make their home on First Street in the Affolter residence.*
- July 16, 1909. *Mrs. H.B. Strait entertained a number of women friends at bridge last Saturday afternoon. The heaviest rain of the season visited this section Sunday. In the course of twenty-four hours 4.33 inches fell. HOUSE FOR RENT: Located at Holmes and 3rd Street. Known as the old Bornarth place. Includes garden which is planted. Apply to Jacob Ries.*
- July 23, 1909. *Thirty-seven Shakopeeites boarded the morning and afternoon trains to Savage Saturday to witness the racing program arranged at M.W. Savage's big stock farm. The big event of the day was an exhibition mile paced by Dan Patch and Minor Heir in 2.05 ³/₄.*
- July 30, 1909. *July Births: To Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klehr, July 25, 1909, a son. To Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Duede, July 24, 1909, twins, a son and a daughter. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Unze, July 26, 1909, a daughter. C. W. Nye is completing a fine tennis court on a lot purchased for the purpose just back of his new home.*

Excerpts from Daniel Storer's Diary regarding the weather 150 years ago 1859
By the Editor Don Wagner

- June 1st. There was a thundershower last night and the lightning struck the ell of the big brick hotel building and tore it down all but the south wall, which blew down today. The main part of the hotel stands yet, but it is cracked a little more than it was before.
- June 2nd, Cold. There was a heavy frost the night of the 2nd. It killed a good deal of stuff. I helped Smith build fence the 2nd. Doctor Weiser and Miss Hunt were married the 2nd. Serenaded them the eve they were married
- July 4th. Cold and rainy. The "Invincibles" came out in the afternoon, and the mock "Sons of Matilda" in the eve. The mercury was only 50 above zero today.
- July 6th 7th. Finished at Dailey's. The mercury was up to 95 above zero the 6th and to 100 in the shade the seventh and in the sun to 120.
- July 24th. Sunday. Warm. Went to the Presbyterian Church and played the violin cello. Was up to the distillery building above town at night. They have got the walls up. It is 3 stories high and a good building.
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Summer indoor Picnic

Or pot luck dinner

Continued from page one.

The outdoor Picnic has been great but July weather can be a real issue for some of us, so we are taking the picnic indoors for the second year now. The second Annual Shakopee Heritage Society potluck (picnic) will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 in the scenic (and air conditioned) community room at Northridge Court, 101 Fuller St. N. (across from Wampach's Restaurant) starting at 6:00pm. You can park in the guest parking area in front of the building or in the lot across the street to the west. Bring a dish to share and the beverage of your choice. Coffee, cups, plates, napkins, and eating utensils will be provided. Also bring a historic photo, item, or story to share with the others. If you need a ride, contact Eileen Schmitz at 445-2860 or Pat Ploumen at 445-2002. Bring yourself and anyone else interested in historic Shakopee. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!

A circa 1920 picture of First Avenue and Lewis Street. This postcard was donated to us by more than one person. A few years ago it was Donated by Patty Thielen a couple of years ago, and then this month by Pat Anderson-Young.



This is a picture of one of the early Jacob Ries Bottling Works fleet trucks. A fleet meaning 3 or more of this truck was in use at the time.

This photo is in a Shakopee Heritage Society file, but it is unknown who the donor was.

The photographer is unknown also.

The location was the alley behind the Bottling Works in Shakopee. Does anyone know something more about this photo???? Let us know at the Pot Luck.

Meet Our Members:

By Eileen Schmitz

Betty Schmitt Dols was featured in an article in the Shakopee Valley News in April of this year. If you didn't get a chance to read the article a copy of it will be at our July meeting.

A lifelong resident of Shakopee Betty is one of the first founding members of what was called the Shakopee Historical Society in the year 1992. Maurice Stans, Shakopee's Home Town Philanthropist was instrumental in the beginnings of the Society acting through Marge Henderson. Later the name of the Society was changed to Shakopee Heritage Society so as not to be confused with Scott County Historical Society.

For more than a decade Betty has worked to build our society to what it is today. She's held several offices for multiple terms and brought to our meetings many interesting and informative "programs."

Betty was born and raised in Shakopee, attended elementary and High School in Shakopee. Her parents, Ted Schmitt was born and raised in Shakopee, her mother Catherine Fritz was a Carver County, City of Chaska native.

In 1947 she married Earl Dols at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Betty and Earl raised two children. After her oldest child was in college she went to work for the Mertz Insurance Agency working there for 25 years, 10 years as manager. As the newspaper article states she became interested in genealogy and her interest in genealogy snowballed from there.

Betty is a past president of the German Genealogist Society and was named Insurance Woman of the year of the Greater Minneapolis Area in the year 1980. We are grateful for all the years, the hard work and dedication Betty has put into our Society. Without her leadership the Society would not have succeeded.



*The Shakopee Heritage Society is sponsoring two musical **Groups** for Derby Days. The **Czech Concertina Club** playing from 1:15 PM to 2:00 PM and **The Wild Rose Cloggers** playing from 2.15PM till 3:15 PM on **Saturday August 1st**. If you are there during any of those hours, take a break, sit awhile and listen. Or just keep your ears perked as you can hear them from **various** parts of the park*

Remember to be a part of the 2nd Annual Pot Luck Picnic or Dinner.

Take a turn at helping with the booth at derby days, check out your booth at Derby Days, or volunteer to help one of the homeowners at the House and Site Tour.

Take the House and Site Tour and enjoy some of our History.

Look in on our neighbors at Jordon or Belle Plain. Offer a friend or a neighbor a ride to one of these events.

Attend the Ice Cream Social or the Flea market at Huber Park, Pick up your copy of The Shakopee Story.

Or maybe do all of these.

And you thought it was going to be a slow summer??

In all seriousness, do watch the hot weather and plan to have adequate water and shade, during whatever you decide to do.

**Shakopee Heritage Society
519 East First Avenue
Shakopee MN 55379**