



Shakopee
Heritage
Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 50

Fall 2013

This edition:

- *Notes from the editor page 2*
- *Colored Pictures page 3*
- *There was a field trip, see page 2, and the colored picture page.*
- *Some notes on Derby Days page 2.*
- *More Pictures this issue.*

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's
Fall
Membership Meeting
Will be held
October 19th at 1.00 PM
in the Shakopee
Library Downstairs
Meeting Room*

We hope to see you there.

Editors Notes

By Don Wagner

1. *The fall season is upon us once again. Time to do all those chores before we are pretty much restricted to indoor activities. Good luck with yours.*
 2. *The SHS field trip scheduled for Saturday September 7th was well attended and Melissa Whiting took some pictures of the trip and of our members for the newsletter.*
 3. *The winners of our SHS Prize Drawings at Derby Days are all named by Pat Ploumen in the article on derby days just below.*
 4. *We have an exciting contribution to the SHS that will be disclosed at the meeting. Try to be there.*
 5. *October Membership Meeting speaker will be Dave Greening who will share with us "growing up" in Shakopee.*
 6. *Lorraine Ries was given the photo of a "Shakopee Brick" by her son Gary Ries, see page 4.*
 7. *A brick and its building. By Eileen Schmidt. See page 5.*
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A report on the SHS Field Trip as relayed by Lois Wendt.

The Heritage Society's field trip on Saturday September 7th saw 13 members of the Society touring the Straight, Kosse, Duffy, home at 414 west 3rd Avenue in Shakopee. The home was built in 1890 by Congressman G. L. Nye and later occupied by H. B. Strait Mayor of Shakopee. The home was divided into 3 apartments and a few of our attendees had stories to tell of friends or relatives who had lived there. In recent years Ron Kosse a local photographer used the home and its very big yard as a photography studio. Presently Greg and Dixie Duffy own the home and are remodeling it back to a very gracious single family home. The Duffy's were wonderful hosts and showed the entire home from basement to attic. The yard is still filled with the backdrops of the Kosse photography studio.

After the tour the group went to another Shakopee landmark, Wampach's, for lunch. Everyone had a great time and hopefully more members can make the next field trip.

The Board wishes to thank Lois for her work organizing and arranging all the field trips for us.

BRIEF REPORT OF SHS ACTIVITY DURING DERBY DAYS by Pat Ploumen

The SHS had a booth at Huber Park during Derby Days, starting the afternoon of Friday, August 2 and continuing thru evening of Saturday, August 3. The weather was perfect throughout the Derby Days celebration and everyone had a great time. Lots of people stopped by the booth, including one young girl from Shakopee who loves history and traveling around the country and one young lad from Edina who at age 5 has already written two children's books!

About 140 people registered for the SHS drawing and the winners: A Shakopee brick (from Jim and Lucy's place, donated by Don McNeil) - Pam Holzem from Hastings; A copy of the Shakopee Story - Jerry Schesso, Shakopee (nephew of long-time member Darlene Schesso, who said he's never before won anything in a drawing); and A copy of the Shakopee Scrapbook - Stan Stier, Shakopee (see site number 4 in the walking tour book). We also added a new member to our ranks.

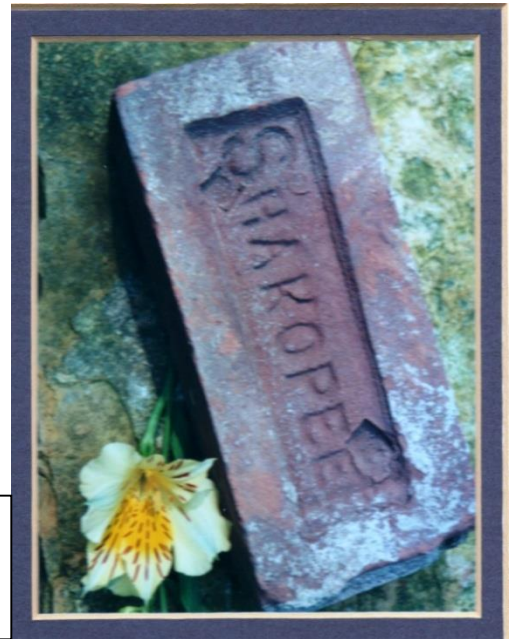
A number of people purchased various books, caps, coins, etc. We even made a financial profit from activities during the festivities! A financial report will be given at the next membership meeting on October 19. Special thanks go to those who erected/took down the booth and those who worked in the booth during the Derby Days celebration.



Pictures by Melissa Whiting, *Read Field trip on page 2 from Lois Wendt's Notes.*



Above is a picture of the Greening brothers, Left to Right Carl, Wallace and Morris in the late 1930's in front of the Blue Inn Cafe. The picture on the right above: Lorraine Ries was given this framed photo of a "Shakopee Brick" by her son Gary Ries.



Above left is a picture of the Duffy house by Mellissa Whiting. Melissa had an equipment problem and was unable to get more pictures of all the beautiful woodwork that day. So on the right is a picture of a fireplace at the Duffy home that is from the SHS files a few years ago when it was still a photographic studio. Everyone said that those of us who missed the outing missed a very good one. Thanks' again to the Duffy's for being such excellent hosts.

A story about “A BRICK AND ITS BUILDING”

By Eileen Schmitz

This is a short story about the Shakopee Brick that was donated by SHS member Don McNeil as a prize drawing from our SHS booth at DERBY DAYS, July 2013.

As a background for the story I'm guessing that most Shakopeans are aware of the Schroeder's Brick Yard that was a flourishing industry in Shakopee. The brick yard was founded by Herman Schroeder in the 1880's and furnished the surrounding area and other states as well with bricks for the building of towns and cities. Residents of Shakopee value and save these bricks.

Back in the late 1990's when it quite apparent that the traffic flow through the main street of Shakopee had to be changed and a new bridge over the Minnesota River was needed many of the old buildings in Shakopee had to disappear. The buildings on the north end of Main Street were demolished and the debris was hauled away.

Some industrious members of the Shakopee Heritage Society took it upon themselves to salvage “Shakopee Bricks.” This “brick” in my story is one of those bricks that was saved.

Per “the grapevine” “the brick” in the story came from the building that housed “Jim and Lucy's” café and bar on the west end of Main Street in Shakopee. This was one of the buildings that had to “go.”

I was curious and wanted to know more about the building. Through the process of interviewing Shakopee residents I was able to go back as far as the late 1920's or early 1930's when it was a saloon.

A Mr. Charlie Trost could have been the owner of the bar in the early 1940's. Sometime later it was under the ownership of Russell Hickman when it was known as “The Blue Inn Café.” Mr. Hickman lived in the apartment above the store. Once again it changed hands and Mr. Victor Haas was the owner and operator. Mr. Haas left Shakopee to go to Waconia where he opened a Marina. Mr. Clarence Regan took over the business after Mr. Haas left. This brings us to the early 1970's when Jim and Lucy Rein purchased the business. Jim and Lucy operated the bar and café until the rerouting of State Highway #169. “Jim and Lucy's” was a popular spot for eating and many of us frequented the bar and café. Everybody will remember the great hamburgers, French fries and the homemade pies.

The prize winner of “the brick” was Pam Holzem from Hastings, MN.

That's it, “The Story of the Brick.” I'm not sure how accurate the dates of ownership are; maybe our members will be able to add to the story.

David Greening supplied the picture of his father and uncles standing in front of a car, parked in front of the building. Judging from the cars the year could have been in the late 1930's.

SHS member Lorraine Ries supplied the photo of a “Shakopee Brick” that was purchased by her son, Gary Ries, framed by him and given to Lorraine.

“Thank you” to Lorraine, Gary and Dave for the use of the photos for our Newsletter and to SHS member Don McNeil for the donation of the brick.

The references to Main Street are actually of First Avenue which was and is the Main Street of Shakopee.

Did you know? 101 years ago. By the Editor.

Before a campaign speech in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Theodore Roosevelt, the presidential candidate for the Progressive Party, is shot at close range by saloonkeeper John Schrank while greeting the public in front of the Gilpatrick Hotel. Schrank's .32-caliber bullet, aimed directly at Roosevelt's heart, failed to mortally wound the former president because its force was slowed by a Glasses case and a bundle of manuscript in the breast pocket of Roosevelt's heavy coat. (A manuscript containing Roosevelt's evening speech). Schrank was immediately detained and reportedly offered as his motive that "any man looking for a third term ought to be shot." Roosevelt, who suffered only a flesh wound from the attack, went on to deliver his scheduled speech with the bullet still in his body. After a few words, the former "Rough Rider" pulled the torn and bloodstained manuscript from his breast pocket and declared, "You see, it takes more than one bullet to kill a Bull Moose." He spoke for nearly an hour and then was rushed to the hospital. Despite his vigorous campaign, Roosevelt, who served as the 26th U.S. president from 1901 to 1909, was defeated by Democrat Woodrow Wilson in November. Shrank was deemed insane and committed to a mental hospital, where he died in 1943.

And 150 years ago

Confederate General Robert E. Lee attempts to drive the Union army out of Virginia but fails when an outnumbered Union force repels the attacking Rebels at the Battle of Bristoe Station. In a very short engagement, the Confederates suffered 1,400 men killed, wounded, or captured, while the Union lost only 546. "Bury these poor men," Lee somberly told Hill, "and let us say no more about it." The Union army was driven back 40 miles from its original positions, and the Confederates destroyed a large section of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, a key Union supply line. Nonetheless, the gains were temporary. The next month, Meade drove Lee back behind the Rapidan River.

Shakopee Heritage Society

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