



NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 53

Summer 2014

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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
Summer
Membership Meeting
and Pot Luck Dinner
Will be held
July 9th at 6:00 PM
at the
Whiting's Home*

We hope to see you there.

Editors Notes

By Don Wagner

1. **Remember that the Meeting** will be held at the Whiting's home this time. The address is 520 3rd Avenue East in Shakopee. That is a Wednesday evening, not a Saturday. They will have a main dish and have coffee, water, and lemonade. If everyone else would bring a dish to share, that would be great.
2. If you need to check on you membership status, see Pat Ploumen at the meeting or write her at; Patricia Ploumen, 805 7th Avenue East, Shakopee, MN 55379.
3. Notice that among the other things in Daniel's diary for 1864 that the price of gold had risen to \$2.50 per ounce. That is \$30 per pound. In today's market during the last 6 months gold has traded around \$1300 per ounce or over \$20,000 per pound.
4. For those with the ability to get to Facebook we have a Facebook page now and are slowly adding pictures and information.
5. There is a Facebook page on growing up in Shakopee with a lot of history from present and past residents of Shakopee. It seems that some of these people would enjoy being members of the SHS.
6. The SHS Board voted to donate a copy of *The Shakopee Story* and a Pat Theilen book to the new person that is overseeing the Main St. Program in Shakopee. These are for her to use for her research purpose in connection with the Main Street program. We will also have her contact Mike Huber to get a copy of the *Shakopee Scrapbook*.
7. Wes Reinke, Who designed and set up our Web Site, has been busy putting up a [Facebook page](#) and setting up a QR symbol and updating our Website including the addition of the last few years of the newsletter. Thanks again Wes. The QR code is on the Address page of this issue.
8. Just to be a wise guy, I have one question about WW11. Why do you suppose the Kamikaze pilots wore helmets?

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From Daniel Storer's Diary for 1864. 150 years ago this month.

- July 1st 2nd 1864. Had a good trade. Gold is up to \$2.50 and all kinds of goods are going up in proportion.
- 4th. There was no celebration today, but being Market Fair day, a good many people were in town. Was down to Fulson's for dinner. They set the dinner table outdoors.
- 5th to 6th. Flour is now worth \$8.00 per barrel. It has been only \$5.00 all winter. The Rebels are making a great raid up into Maryland and Pennsylvania. The smallpox is in town again, there being two cases of it.
- 8th. Sunday. Went to church. The little girls were at my house in the eve singing.
- 10th. Sunday. Was up to Spaulding's. Crops look very well.
- 11th to 16th. Warm. I was 36 years old the 11th and brother Nathan 45 the 12th. Wife went to Chaska on the boat the 16th.
- 17th. Sunday. Hot as fire almost. Was down to Nate's to supper.
- 18th to 21st. The mercury went up to 102 several days in succession.
- 22nd to 26th. Hot as fire almost. Cressey arrested a man from Helena for murder the 22nd but the trial did not amount to anything. Took the Agency of the Merchant's Insurance Company of Hartford Connecticut the 26th.
- 27th to 31st. Hot and trade dull. A fellow by the name of Sidwell, from Northfield is here. He plays the fiddle.



Some of the Board members at the April membership meeting left to right

Pat Ploumen Secretary

Joe Collins President

Don McNeil Director

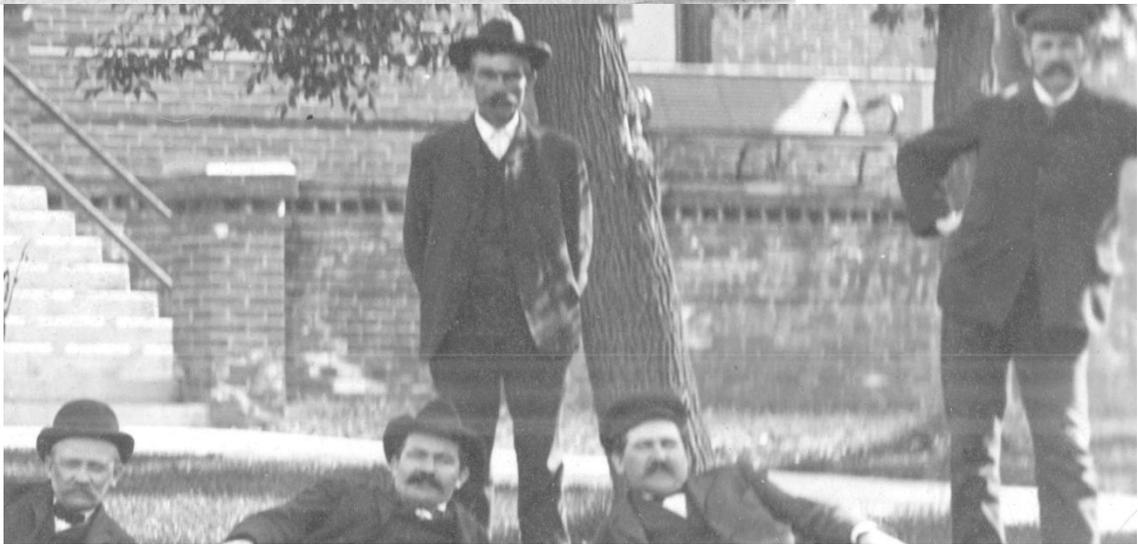
Melissa Whiting Director/Archivist



In addition to supplying the SHS with a space for our meeting, the Scott County Historical Society provided us with a presentation on all the new updates and improvements at the Stans Museum in Shakopee. Thanks' Kathy and Stephanie. If any SHS members have not been at the Museum lately you need to get there and see the changes, remodeling and updates.



Recently acquired photograph from circa 1900. Can you help Identify the building and its location and then look below for an enlargement of the people to help in identifying them.



We will ask at the meeting if any of you know any of these people and the site.

We Want the Band – excerpts from June, 1914 – Shakopee Tribune by Melissa Whiting

It has come to the notice of the Tribune that the Cadet Band, under the leadership of J. Hubert Stans would be glad to make use of the pavilion at Riverside Park for the purpose of giving concerts two evenings a week during the hot weather if only the floor of the dancing pavilion were placed in repair by the city. Chaska has been famous for its bands all owing to the liberal policy of its city and its citizens towards things musical. Surely the modest demands of the Cadet Band cannot be refused by our city fathers when the matter is brought to their attention by the boys as we understand it will be at the next session of the council.

(I didn't see anything about this item in the council proceedings the following week, so I don't know if the pavilion was repaired or not.)

Merchants of St. Paul to Visit Shakopee – excerpts from June, 1914 – Shakopee Tribune

More than fifty of the principal wholesale merchants of St. Paul will visit Shakopee on Monday, June 15 coming by means of a special train which will leave St. Paul on the morning of June 15.

This is the annual trip made by the jobbers of St. Paul. The local merchants constantly meet salesmen representing these houses but it is seldom that they come in contact with the actual heads of the big firms.

A large band will be carried and concerts will be given at each stop. At each town where night stops are made free moving picture exhibitions will be given on some prominent street corner.

For a number of years the jobbers of St. Paul have made this annual tour a feature of the summer. It is not the object of the jobbers to obtain business on this tour, but rather to be personally acquainted with the retailers and in this way to get in closer personal touch with the trade and its requirements.

The train was to visit 60 towns from Shakopee to Sioux Falls.

"Battle of Shakopee, 1858." Minnesota Encyclopedia, Minnesota Historical Society.

The last in a long series of violent conflicts between Dakota and Ojibwe people took place on the banks of the Minnesota River north of the village of the Dakota leader Shakpedan (Little Six) on May 27, 1858. Dozens of Ojibwe and Dakota warriors engaged in fighting that claimed lives on both sides but produced no clear victor.

The Ojibwe and Dakota shared an uneasy coexistence throughout their history in the territory that became Minnesota. Early white explorers to the region wrote of fighting between the two groups occurring as far back as the fifteenth century. Both moved seasonally to hunt deer, gather wild rice, and make maple sugar. They sometimes competed for these resources, especially in the border region. Periods of peace and goodwill marked by treaties, trade, and intermarriage were often broken up by bloody skirmishes, usually on a local scale. This on-again, off-again pattern of fighting continued for hundreds of years.

White immigration and reliance on the fur trade intensified the two groups' competition for resources. The addition of guns made the fighting even more deadly. By the late 1850s, treaties with the U.S. government had confined the Dakota to a reservation straddling the upper Minnesota River and the Ojibwe to lands further north and east. This nominal separation did not prevent Ojibwe–Dakota tensions from turning violent again in 1858.

Details of the May 27 battle can be found in newspaper articles written by white reporters who observed the event from afar. Though their explanations of the battle's cause contradicted each other, many stated that the Ojibwe looked for retribution against the Dakota for a recent series of attacks on their people. In one such attack in April, a family of eleven women and children near Crow Wing were killed while they slept.

On May 26, 1858, between 150 and 200 Ojibwe warriors approached an encampment of Dakota on the Minnesota River near Shakopee. They stopped in the woods on the river's north side and waited to ambush the unsuspecting Dakota the next morning. The Dakota, with no more than seventy men in their party, were greatly outnumbered.

Sometime between four thirty and five o'clock on the morning of May 27, shots rang out from behind the cover of nearby trees. The Ojibwe killed a young Dakota man fishing from a canoe along the south side of the river. Hearing gunshots, between forty and fifty Dakota warriors gathered their weapons and raced to the river to engage their attackers in battle.

The two sides faced off on either end of the river and began firing upon each other. Because their attackers were beyond the range of their weapons, the Dakota climbed aboard Murphy's Ferry and began to cross the river. Once they were across, the battle began in earnest.

The sounds of the battle brought out the townspeople of Shakopee. They watched the fighting from the safety of the bluffs above. At around ten o'clock the fighting stopped. The Ojibwe, reportedly leaving behind four dead, retreated toward Lake Minnetonka. The Dakota, having lost three men, returned to their encampment to fortify it against a follow-up attack.

While the numbers were clearly in the Ojibwes' favor, a significant group of Ojibwe held themselves in reserve in the event the others were to perish. This meant that nearly equal numbers of combatants faced off in battle. Ojibwe Indian agents later reported on the behalf of tribal leaders that only thirty-four of the warriors from their group fought that day—a number corroborated in subsequent written accounts of the battle from onlookers.

After the fighting had stopped, the Shakopee community speculated that the Ojibwe would regroup and attack the Dakota again. The long history of conflict between the two nations had shown a pattern of attacks and counter-attacks. Governor Henry Sibley decided that separating them was the only way to keep this from happening. A few days after the battle, he demanded that the Dakota still in the valley pack up their belongings and return to their reservation land. While there were unconfirmed reports of both tribes assembling in the area for battle, a second attack never came to be.

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