



NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 56

Spring 2015

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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
Spring Membership
Meeting Will be
Held Saturday April 18th
at 1:00 PM*

*in the
Shakopee Library
Downstairs Meeting
Room*

We hope to see you there.

Editors Notes

By Don Wagner

OOPS. I forgot to remind our members that our annual membership dues were supposed to be paid in January. We are all overdue if not paid up by now. Guess we have to consider ourselves responsible and give anyone who has still not paid, an extension. Please contact Pat Ploumen at the next meeting or mail her your dues for 2015. Pats address is 805 East Seventh Avenue, Shakopee MN 55379.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in the SHS and or becoming a member please ask for a brochure from a Board member to give to them.

We remind you again that you are welcome to bring a friend to our meetings and also that we are anxious for any hints from our members on how to improve the newsletter or what topics our speakers might cover for you.

The City and County are still working on the trail and the area around and under the bridge near the Mill pond. The Shakopee Heritage Society had pledged money to build a kiosk in that area a few years ago. Joe Collins, our president, who is heavily involved in this project will update us on its progress.

Our guest speaker for the April 2015 meeting will be David Schleper. Dave has a fabulous accumulation of history on Shakopee and has just recently published a book. Don't miss his presentation.

A bit of history from 150 years ago from Daniel Storer's Diary.

March 1st to 4th. Stormy and trade dull. The 4th is Inauguration Day. Abraham Lincoln President and Andrew Johnson of Tennessee Vice President.

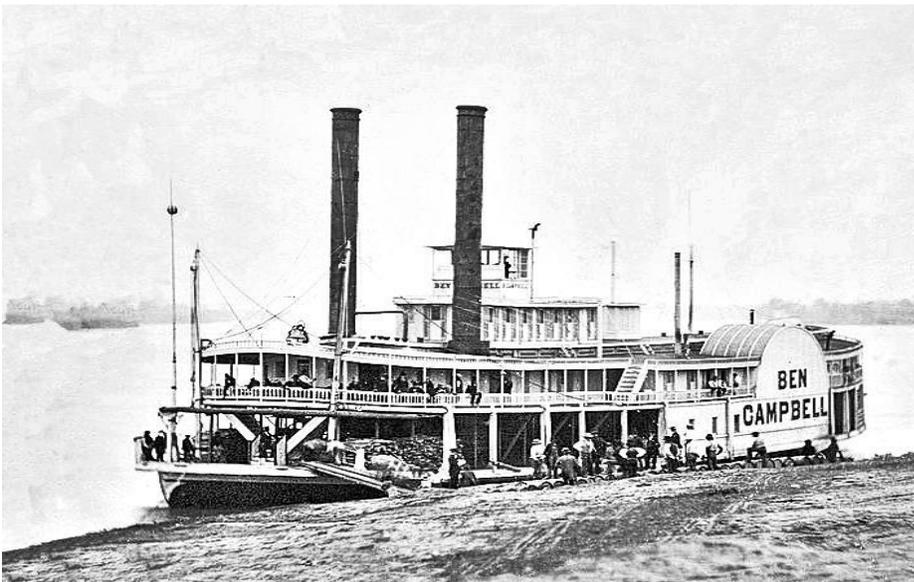
5th. Sunday. Pleasant. Went to Louisville to Forester Shures Funeral Service preached by the Rev. Mr. Heth of Belle Plaine. Elmeda Spaulding was the chief mourner.

March 6th to 12th. Coldest weather this winter. Trade dull.

13th to 17th. Cool. The 14th over a foot of snow fell. There was a row at Busse's saloon the 14th and Mike Corbet got put in jail by the mean's of it. Pat Donnelly's house burned the 17th.

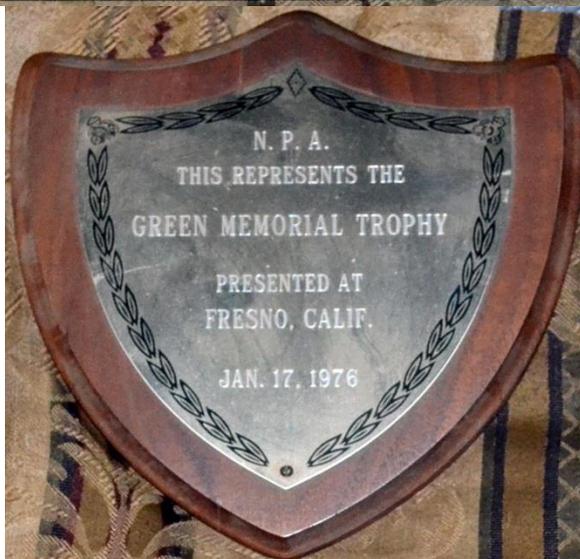
18th to 22nd. Pleasant. The snow is melting off very fast and the traveling is awful.

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Please remember to look for any pictures or letters or references to the Steam Boat traffic on the Minnesota River, especially as it relates to Shakopee.

Don Wagner



A few of the plaques donated to the SHS by Paul Darfle,

Paul Darfle, a new resident of Shakopee, donated some plaques he found to the SHS that once belonged to former Sherriff Rip Schroeder. Paul found the items in the attic of the house he bought in Shakopee, Rips old house. These are plaques presented to him at various meets around the US for raising and competing with his homing pigeons

See the article on next page about the Sherriff and his pigeons.

Thanks to Paul a small piece of history is not lost.

W.B. Schroeder was known by his nickname RIP Schroeder locally. I see it is on some of his awards also.

Information for this article researched by Wes Reinke. Thanks Wes.

Oct. 7, 1965 Shakopee Valley News

Scott County Sheriff, Pigeon Fancier Since Age Of 18 Years Finds His Birds 'Comparable To People'

By Sally White

"Pigeons are like people, there are fighters, timid birds, those who have large families, those who have small families. Breeding pigeons is a real rewarding hobby. If you like them, you see beauty in them. They are a continuous source of satisfaction."

This is how Scott County Sheriff, William B. Schroeder, describes his hobby of breeding White King pigeons. Sheriff Schroeder should know what he is talking about. An acknowledged expert in the field of pigeon breeding, he has been awarded numerous trophies and ribbons for his birds, is past president and present public relations chairman of the American King Club, and is a nominee for the National Pigeon Association Hall of Fame.

Sheriff Schroeder first began breeding pigeons as a boy of 11 years in Omaha, Nebraska.

A pigeon breeder on young Schroeder's paper route gave him a pair of Carneau pigeons. Since then he has bred Fantails, Pouters, Rollers, Homers and Kings. He now specializes in White Kings exclusively.

The White King pigeon is native to the United States, Sheriff Schroeder says, having first been introduced in 1890, by the crossing of four other existing breeds of pigeons. The American King Club was organized in 1915 and now has its own shows throughout the nation.

In recent years German pigeon breeders have become interested in the White King.

Sheriff Schroeder has shipped 40 birds to this country since 1955. The birds, he has shipped, have won several championships in Germany. Sheriff Schroeder has been made an honorary member of the King Pigeon Club in that country.

Sheriff Schroeder also judges at numerous pigeon shows and has written articles for several pigeon publications, mainly on the breeding of White Kings.

There are 350 different breeds of pigeons, Sheriff Schroeder points out, although most people, he adds, think almost exclusively of Homing pigeons when pigeon breeding as a hobby is discussed. When asked for some pointers for youngsters who might be interested in starting out on this fascinating hobby, Sheriff Schroeder said there are several points the novice breeder should keep in mind.

Of prime importance, he states, is a proper place to house the birds. This should consist of enough rooms for the birds to fly around.

For example, a wired off section of the family garage would make an ideal spot. Two and one half square feet of space is required for each pair of pigeons, something that should be kept in mind when deciding how many birds to keep at one time. Pigeons, Sheriff Schroeder assures us, can stand almost any amount of heat and cold, but not dampness. Therefore, it is important to have a nesting area for them, which is completely rainproof. Roosting poles are helpful but not necessary.

As soon as a proper place for the pigeons has been arranged, says Sheriff Schroeder, proper care is the next most important step. Pigeons should be fed once a day, preferably on yellow corn, wheat, dried Canadian peas, or Kaffir. Any of these feeds are available at feed stores. Cages should be cleaned out at regular intervals, he added, with ground up corn cobs making the most satisfactory litter.

For any youngster wishing to start out with a pair of pigeons, Sheriff Schroeder feels that the first step he should take would be to subscribe to a pigeon publication and read the articles.

He recommends The American Pigeon Journal, published at Watertown, Wisconsin, as probably being the most helpful to the beginner. It would also be helpful, Sheriff Schroeder feels, for anyone interested in starting on this hobby, to attend pigeon shows to watch the judging, and talk

to the breeders. There are several pigeon shows held annually in the area, including the Minnesota State fair, and the Minnesota Pigeon Association show held each November in New Ulm. But most important of all, warns Sheriff Schroeder, is that someone purchasing birds for the first time should go to a reputable dealer, who will offer a pair of young healthy birds.

Prices for pigeons vary, he added.

“I remember once at a show in California seeing a breeder turn down as much as \$500 for a champion bird. But this is unusual. A breeder will usually give a youngster starting out a ‘pretty good deal.’ A youngster should be able to pick up a pair of breeders for around \$10 for the pair. Prices usually range from \$10 to \$100 a pair.”

In answer to whether disease was a problem to breeders, Sheriff Schroeder replied that pigeons are mainly susceptible to two diseases, Canker and Paratyphoid.

“Any experienced breeder can spot the symptoms right away” he said, “in Canker there is a visible swelling in the throat, young birds are more likely to contract Canker. With Paratyphoid the joints swell, at the hocks and the wings.

“In recent years antibiotics have been developed which are effective and may be purchased at a feed-mill,” he added.

At present, Schroeder has about 50 birds, all White Kings.

Next January, he and his wife and some of his pigeons will take their usual vacation to coincide with National Pigeon Association Grand National show, to be held in Santa Ana, California.

And as usual he can be expected to return to Shakopee with the appropriate number of awards.

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23rd to 31st. Warm and rained some. The night of the 23rd the Sunday School had a great exhibition at the court house. Tableaux music etc. I had the management of the instrumented part. Dan Apgar got his shoulder put out of joint the eve of the 25th here in town. Nathan and I went up to his fathers with him. The old Capt. Apgar got hurt with a train a few days ago and he is not able to sit up.

April 1st and 2nd. Was at Mr. Cheever’s the 2nd visiting. The S. B. Ariel Jones St. Paul got here the night of the 2nd.

3rd. Pleasant. Market Fair day. News came at night that both Richmond and Petersburg are taken by General Grant and there was a great time in the eve, cannons fired, bonfires, etc, etc.

4th to 6th. It rained like fury the 5th and snowed hard all day the 6th. I never saw a worse day than the 6th in my life. The stage from St. Paul did not get here at all.

7th to 11th. Cool the most of the time. News came the 11th of the surrender of the rebel army under General Lee to General Grant. Almost every house in Shakopee was illuminated. I never saw a better representation in my life.

12th to 17th. Cool. News came the 16th that President Lincoln was murdered at a theatre in Washington the eve of the 15th and an attempt made to murder Wm. H. Seward the Secretary of State. The first boat of the season got through Lake Pepin the 10th.

18th to 23rd. I never saw so cold weather before at this time of year. The season is most awful backward.

24th to 30th. Cool. I am having quite a lot of trees set out around my place this spring. Paid brother Nathan the money I owed him.

May 1st and 2nd. Pleasant. J. H. Tibbits got home with his family from Omaha the 2nd, glad enough to get back to Shakopee.

3rd to 9th. Pleasant the most of the time. Tibbits and Nathan’s folks were here the 3rd. Trade is dull. Am now giving 8# brown sugar for \$1.00. There was a fellow here the 6th from California by the name of Groves that plays the fiddle first rate. Got a barrel of oil burst the 9th putting it into my cellar. Lost as much as 10 gallons oil.

10th to 14th. Cool. The prospect for crops is discouraging this year. W. W. Bragdon got here from Yonkers, New York the 11th with his wife, a pretty little woman. Cressey's folks have a nice boy born the 3rd.

13th to 18th. Stormed some. Mr. Bragdon's folks came here to Bran the 18th. Our forces have captured Jeff Davis in Alabama trying to get away with his wife's skirts on. All of the rebel forces on the east side of the Mississippi river are surrendering.

19th to 31st. The last few days were as hot as fire almost. There was one of the worst showers the 20th that I ever saw. A great deal of hail, any quantity of windows glass broken. Was at Porter's. Played the fiddle with Mr. Groves, he is a splendid player.

Strange: Looking at the temperature extremes for spring of 1865 it does not look too much different than this year and last year.

Everyone have a great spring and see you at the meeting April 18th.

Shakopee Heritage Society
519 First Avenue East
Shakopee MN 55379



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