



Deephaven Historical Society Newsletter Fall Report 2007



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Deephaven Days #3 Another Success!

Our Third Annual Deephaven Days event was once again very successful! Our Historical Society booth a favorite again this year! We enjoyed seeing friends and neighbors and exchanging memories of past days in Deephaven.

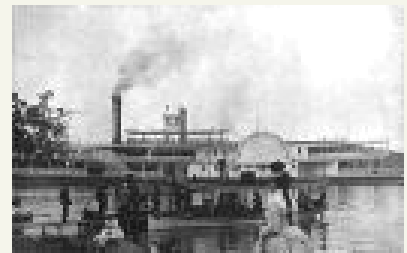
Thanks again to all the volunteers for setting up and manning the booth! We look forward to next years event!

Wayzata Historical Society hosts Joint History Program! – Thursday, October 4th

You're Invited! , Thursday, October 4th , 7PM

Location: Wayzata City Hall Meeting Room, There is no charge to attend.

The Wayzata Historical Society has invited Deephaven and Excelsior Historical Societies to a joint history program on Lake Minnetonka history focusing on the East Shore communities from 1850 to 1900.



This **Part 1** of a 2 Part program will focus on family and settlement through the Glory years (large boats and hotels). Each of the three Historical Societies will speak on the motivation of settlement and business industry in their own area.

Bob Williams will review Excelsior & Tonka Bay history. Maxine Dickson will talk about Minnetonka/Deephaven history and Irene Stemmer will discuss Wayzata history.



Part 2 of this program will be held at a yet to be determined time in 2008, covering the years from 1900 to the present time.

Transportation improvements: streetcar/boat system with Big Island Park and Later Excelsior Amusement park attraction, the automobile effect on improved roadways, permanent homes and businesses will be discussed for this portion of the program.

If you have any questions please contact Maxine Dickson at 952-938-0901

History of St. Louis Bay—by Barb Sykora Part Three

This was a boom period, which the towns especially along the rivers grew. Land speculation was rampant and interest rates on real estate loans and money borrowed from banks were high. The draw on credit was extreme and the banks were pushed to their limits. Because of over lending and the banks having national relationships with other banks, Minnesota banks failed in the Panic of 1857. The boom of the land development market quickly went bust! Companies and merchandisers who had borrowed at high rates could not sell their goods and pay their salaries and bills. The panic effected Minnesota severely, yet even with this major financial crisis, the state continued to grow in population. In 1860, the population increased by almost 22,000 people to 172,023.



As Minnesota celebrated statehood in 1857, it found itself broke. Minnesota had incorporated railroad companies but they had yet to build any railroads. From 1854 to 1857, 27 railroad companies all received charters from the territory to build railroads. Minnesota sought federal aid for these railroads but land grants could not go to companies that were not already “constituted and organized”. No tracks were laid. In 1857, Congress passed another land grant and these grants went to four railroad companies but the Panic of 1857 created financial difficulties for all and once again no railroads were built. In another attempt to stimulate railroad building and economy, the state in 1858 passed the Five Million Dollar Loan with hopes that if the railroads came, land sales and revenues would come in the state to pay for the bonds. The loan was to lay 240 miles of track in the state but the bonds that were offered to cover the loan depreciated so badly that they were nearly worthless.

Railroad building proceeded slowly in Minnesota but by 1865 Minnesota had 210 miles of track laid down. It was a start that would unite the growing cities and towns of the state and create more economic opportunities for all.

After the Panic of 1857, the 1860's saw improved banking in the state, which financially helped contribute to the increase of manufacturing, especially in the flour and lumbering industries. By 1865, the state of Minnesota produced and exported 7 million bushels of wheat from the state. This was the decade where Minneapolis became the producer of the finest flour in the world. Millions of tons of spring wheat from Minnesota and Dakota farms were milled with a new milling process that revolutionized the industry.

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St. Louis Bay History—continued from page 2

The jobs these two water powered industries of lumber and flour producing created were far reaching in the Minneapolis economy. The United States Census of 1870 and of 1880 relates the facts that the importance of manufacturing at the Falls was far greater than the percentages figures indicate. Examples of this would be the bankers, lawyers and merchants who were drawn here to this area because of the growing population.

The decade of the 1870's were rather volatile for Minneapolis and the country. It was a decade a mixture of progress and setbacks. The Panic of 1873 crippled businesses locally and nationally. W.D. Washburn wrote his brother, Sidney, on October, 5th, 1873 and said " Financially, there seems to be a calm after the gale. Minnesota has made it through nobly. No bank in the State closed its doors. The truth is no state in the Union is in really good shape." This guarded optimism by the visionaries of the day would move the state economy forward. This improvement in the economy of the state brought better roads and a demand for more railroads. The population in Minneapolis during the 1870's tripled.

To be continued in our next newsletter

Please note—
Our next DHS Meeting will be held on **Saturday, September 29th at 8:30 at City Hall Council Chambers.**

DHS Meeting Schedule

Deephaven Historical Society meetings are held **the last Saturday of each month at 8:30 AM at City Hall Council Chambers.** All members are welcome!

These meetings involve planning and reporting by the committee chairs, the board, and the President.

Plans for the upcoming year are discussed as well as decisions regarding the gathering and distribution of funds.

MEMBERS!

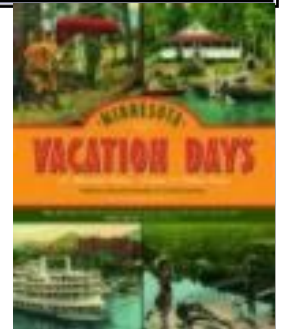
Please let us know your e-mail addresses and we can promptly notify you of any upcoming meetings and/or special events for the Deephaven Historical Society!

Please contact Bob Gerlicher at BookBob@aol.com

History Books for Sale!

Please feel free to browse among the many interesting historical Deephaven and Lake Minnetonka area books for sale at our own Deephaven city hall! They make great "coffee table" books or Holiday gifts!

One example is a wonderful book titled "Minnesota Vacation Days: An Illustrated History" This book offers an incredible one-of-a kind venture into the best of good times with an astonishing variety of vintage photographs, artifacts, recipes and family fun. Come take a look!



DHS

**Acknowledgements –
Current members
Thank You!**

John Ahern	Donald Davis	Frederick & Caden Ladner	Gary & Susan Rappaport
Tim & Pat Alt	Maxine Dickson	Sheila Laughlin	Mark A. Read
Tom & Nancy Anderson	John Dupont	Walter & Constance Linder	Dorothy C. Robb
Nancy Bach	Paige & Ruth Eldridge	Tom & Barbara Maple	Bill & Donna Robinson
Steven & Leah Barnacle	Robert & Judith Evans	Robert & Siri Marshall	Robert Schmitt
Marty Baskerville	Mrs. Paul Flaten	Tom & Carol McGoldrick	Mary Scholer
John & Nan Beard	M.J. Florance, Jr.	Doug McNaught	Romaine & Ben Z. Shank, Jr.
Mary Lou Bennis	Rosemary Fruehling	Leo & Marcia Meloche	Craig & Maureen Shaver
David & Marion Bickford	Furst Foundation	William, Wright, & Kathleen Messerli	Clinton & Lois Shaw
Patricia Blanch	Rob & Ann Furst	Nancy Middleton	Fred Simon
Don & Moonyeen Bongaards	Jerry & Pam Gens	Tyler Middleton	Lewis Sopko
Dianne H. Brackett	Bob Gerlicher	Mark & Michelle Mitchell	Dennis & Nancy Stanga
Tom & Sue Brakke	Paul & Ann Gesme	Edgar & Elizabeth Morsman	Peggy Stefan
Richard & Jean Brown	Marty Gilbert	Kimberly Ann Murphy	Tom Sween
Beth Burgan	Rosemary Gluek	Napolitano, S & Wallace, C.	Bryan & Barbara Sykora
Barbara Burgum	James & Jean Haverstock	Susan Neff	Michael & Laurel Traxler
John & Janette Burton	Louise Heffelfinger	Dan & Joan Nelson	Brad Warner & Lisa Tirner
Mildred L. Carbonneau	Barbara & Leslie Hexum	Nan Nicolle	Paula Winter
Kevin & Maristel Conry	Gordon & Betty Huber	Jim & Lisa Nielsen	Jim & Leigh Woodburn
Kim Crockett	John, Rudy, Allyson Jaffray	Alan & Rosemary Norton	Robert & Nancy Woodburn
Alan & Sara Dale	Kathleen Jewett	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Peters	Dr. Gary & Vicki Wyard
	Burton Johnson	Judd Peterson	George & Cynthia Yared
	James & Camilla Johnson	Julia Cole Peterson	
	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Jones II	Tom Pokonosky	
	Barbara Krig	Ronald Poole	
		David Pratt	

Take advantage of the books that are available for sale at City Hall!

Picturesque Deephaven	\$15.95
The Excelsior Amusement Park	\$10.95
Life in the Early Days of Cottagewood	\$ 6.25
A Post Card History	\$25.00
Sunsets	\$50.00
Lake Minnetonka 1850 – 2000	\$32.00
Lake Minnetonka 1905	\$20.00
The 1893 Handbook & Souvenir	\$10.00
Minnetonka Yacht Club Centennial 1882 – 1982	\$15.95
Tales of the Steamboat Minnehaha 1906—2006	\$20.00
Minnesota Vacation Days	\$34.95

DHS Committee

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