

The Hanover Historical Press



www.hanoverhistoricalsociety.org

Spring 2015 - Vol. 12, No. 2

City Hall & BankWest Patriotic/War Display Case Themes

The Hanover Historical Society is planning a patriotic theme for one of our City Hall display cases as well as the BankWest display case this Spring. The displays will coincide with Memorial Day and extend through the 4th of July (May to August) honoring military service.

Can you help us with artifacts? We are looking for individuals to donate and/or loan items that have a military focus from people living and/or who once lived in and around Hanover.

Items might be military uniforms/hats (complete or incomplete), insignia pins and patches, war-related items, photos of local servicemen and women in uniform, etc. Items on loan will be returned to you by August.

If you can provide us with any of the above, please send an email to info@hanoverhistoricalsociety.org and someone will contact you. If you do not have access to email, please call Mary Coons at 763-476-8414 beginning mid-May.



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2015 Meetings

Jan. 13	Feb. 10
Mar. 10	Apr. 14
May 12	June 9
July 14	Aug. 11
Sept. 8	Oct. 13
Nov. 10	No Dec. mtg.

Contact Us

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Hanover Historical Society is to identify, preserve, and disseminate knowledge about the history of Hanover through collections, preservation, distribution of historical information, as well as advocate for preservation of historic buildings, monuments and markers.

If you are a member, we really need your help! Ongoing opportunities include database input, storage inventory, and event assistance. Please consider volunteering to help us out.

Own a Piece of Hanover History

Safe From the Outside World: A Social History of Hanover, Minnesota by Mary Coons is now in its second printing. The book is available at the Hanover Bank-West location, which has autographed copies, as well as the River Inn and Hanover City Hall. The book costs \$17.

Bridge Repairs This Summer

The latest Historic Bridge Rehabilitation Project is scheduled to start and be completed this summer. Thanks to the hard work of City staff, Hanover was awarded \$78,000 of state bonding money for repairs earmarked for 2015.

The Hanover Historical Society, custodians of the historic bridge, first began repairs on the pedestrian bridge in 2004 removing the chain link fence. Members replaced it with wood stringers painted white to return it to the original three-stringer rail.

Phase II of the project, completed in 2009, included the installation of electrical outlets and lights on a timer along the top bridge span that are lit up during the night.

Three years ago some of the badly rotted planks were replaced on the bridge deck along with a fresh coat of paint on the stringers, consisting of Phase III of the ongoing renovation/repairs.

The current rehab work, Phase IV, will concentrate on replacing a number of wood planks with white oak.

The Hanover Historical Society presented \$1,000 toward the cost of an engineering study plus the cost of the first five planks as a goodwill gesture in December 2013 to jumpstart Phase IV. Work will be completed in time for the City's 125th anniversary in 2016.

The historic bridge was constructed in 1885 and is legally known as Bridge #92366. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in December 1979. It was designated a pedestrian-only bridge in 1963, although placed back into service following the 1965 Crow River flood that demolished the new wooden bridge to the west of the pedestrian bridge. It last served automobiles in December 1966.

Hanover's Pratt through truss iron bridge is the third oldest standing bridge in Minnesota and is tied as the eighth oldest, still existing, Pratt through truss structure in the state.

If you enjoy this newsletter as well as being a member of the Hanover Historical Society, spread the word by passing this along to a friend and promoting the Society, now in its 12th year. Volunteering is fulfilling and rewarding.

Young and old comprise our membership, as well as new residents mixed in with life-long Hanoverians. Take an active role in activities or assist behind the scenes if that's your comfort level. Yearly membership is only \$12. Please use the application form on the next page.

A Brief History of Handkerchiefs

Before there was Kleenex, men and women carried handkerchiefs. Women would pin theirs to a blouse or dress as an affordable way to enhance their wardrobe during the Depression. A handkerchief was often the only new item a woman could afford to enhance her wardrobe during these times. She could “change” her outfit simply by changing her hankie.

During WWII, the hankie played a role in fashion. With silk stockings unavailable and little money for hats or blouses, most women expanded their collection of handkerchiefs, with most costing five cents to 50 cents. In fact, numerous manufacturers advertised a handkerchief of the month in Vogue magazine.

With the perfection of color-fast dyes, a vast array of cheerful colors allowed artists the freedom to depict everything from flowers to animals to cocktail recipes.

There were handkerchiefs to celebrate holidays, birthdays, get well greetings, Mother’s Day, monogrammed with initials, and more, often sold in special gift cards and boxes.

Many handkerchiefs were imprinted with maps of the countryside where bombing missions were carried out. Should these young men have the misfortune to be shot down, they literally held an escape

map in their hands.

Hundreds of hankies were printed during both WWI and WWII for soldiers to carry and/or give away as mementos.

The birth of Kleenex proved the downfall for handkerchiefs. Originally invented in the 1920’s as a face towel to remove cold cream, by the 1930’s Kleenex was promoted as the antidote to germs. Kleenex’s popular slogan was “Don’t carry a cold in your pocket”.

Busy housewives eagerly embraced the disposable hankie.

Several years after the war ended, once fashion began to revive, many clothing designers attempted to revive the popularity of handkerchiefs as a final touch to their haute couture. Hankies could be seen tied to the wrist, threaded through the top buttonhole of a suit or popped from the side pocket of a handbag.

Handkerchiefs are widely available today in antique shops and thrift stores at very reasonable prices. A popular use today is making a kitchen valance from a variety of patterned and colorful hankies strung together.

(info courtesy of Wikipedia)

Membership Application/Renewal Form - Hanover Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

email _____ telephone _____

Annual dues: Individual/Family - \$12; renewable in January of each year

Renewal _____ New Member _____

If you itemize deductions on your income tax forms, you may qualify for a deduction.

I am interested in helping with: cataloging collecting artifacts

fundraising committee publicity programs for meetings

Please clip and mail your application, along with a check to the Hanover Historical Society, P.O. Box 13, Hanover, MN 55341. Thank you for your support.

As I Remember Hanover....Early Businesses

These informal memories are excerpts of information from Safe From the Outside World: A Social History of Hanover, Minnesota

In April 1909, Mrs. Augusta Strunk established the first saloon with boarding room and hotel upstairs in a fashionable 24'x70' brick structure built in 1894. Next came an addition housing a barber shop, which later switched to an on-sale liquor store.

Strunk's Meat Market, originally located at the rear of the vintage building, moved to the corner of Church Street and Main Street in 1907.

Christ Lieder bought the bar in 1926, which was operating under the name of the Corner Bar, one of three bars in Hanover. Bernard Lieder was 2 1/2 years old when his family bought the building and business, which consisted of a bar, and to some degree, a restaurant. "We used to serve meals, and we had a butcher shop with two butchers," recalls Lieder. "My mother was a sausage maker with the butchers.

"The front of the bucher shop was the retail part. The butchers slaughtered pigs in the back of our building to make their sausage," he reveals. "We had a smokehouse and the butchers would make their hams and bacon. Toward the end, we also butchered spring chickens.

"The butcher shop had a separate entrance so children and women who didn't want to come into the bar could still do business with us."

From 1930-1935 on the front part of the restaurant portion two barbers plied their trade. Hanover had an infamous visitor one summer afternoon in 1934 when the notorious John Dillinger came in for a shave. Young Lieder saw him, although admits no words were exchanged. Several days later, Federal agents came around looking for the stranger. Dillinger had allegedly been holed up at Beebe Lake in a cabin.

The Lieders sold their building and business in 1936, and several owners have run the restaurant/bar ever since. It is currently the River Inn owned and operated by Rick and Jodi Tappe.

Lions Donation

Many thanks to the Hanover Lions for their recent generous \$1,000 donation to the Hanover Historical Society toward our bridge documentary project.

Civil War Ended 150 Years Ago

April 9, 2015 marked 150 years since the Civil War -- often known as America's deadliest conflict -- came to an end. On April 9, 1865, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in Appomattox, Virginia. An estimated 750,000 people died in the four-year-long fight, and President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated days later.

The Civil War, which was born out of a national argument over slavery, was a sign that "the nation is beginning a new life," as Lincoln told Congress in 1863.

Long-time resident Leon Walesch's grandfather Ferdinand was with General Sherman on the march from the sea to Atlanta. "They destroyed everything and burned Atlanta," Leon said. "Ferdinand said the good cattle they ate and the poor ones they shot. When they got to the sea, they marched back to Washington. He said they destroyed everything 80 miles wide, and did "terrible things" on that march."



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