

# The Hanover Historical Press



[www.hanoverhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.hanoverhistoricalsociety.org)

Summer 2014 - Vol. 11, No. 3

## Antique Vehicle Show a Highlight of the Hanover Harvest Festival

Saturday, August 2nd is the date to remember! The 4th Annual Antique Vehicle Show will once again be a feature of the popular annual Hanover Harvest Festival. The event runs from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Again, our car event will be centrally located at the corner of Highway 19 and 5th Street in the vacant lot next to the fire station. Last year we had 57 entrants with their vintage cars, motorcycles and tractors.

If you're on the shoulder and not sure about registering your vehicle - it's only 10 bucks - then give Jeff Grupp, event coordinator, a call at 612-817-8830 or send him an email at [jeffgrupp@comcast.net](mailto:jeffgrupp@comcast.net). He'll give you all the details. There is a limit of three vehicles per person. Car show exhibitors are automatically registered in the parade if they wish to participate. The parade begins at 11 a.m.

Award categories will again consist of Best in Show, first through fifth place for Best Class/ Antique Car or Truck, and first and second place for best NON car or truck. This category includes motorcycles, tractors, and other small engines. O'Reilly Auto Parts in St. Michael is again sponsoring the trophies for the event.



Registration forms can be downloaded from the festival website: [hanoverharvestfestival.com](http://hanoverharvestfestival.com). If you don't participate, be sure to stop by and check out the sweet old vehicles, learn about the restoration process from vehicle owners, and enjoy their stories and experiences.

*Best in Show 2013 - Lyle Hafften's 1941 International Panel Truck*

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### 2014 Remaining Meetings

July 8	Aug. 12
Sept. 9	Oct. 14
Nov. 11	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 BankWest location, which has autographed copies, as well as the River Inn and Hanover City Hall. The book costs \$17.

## Historical Society Float Theme

Our float theme this year for the Hanover Harvest Festival parade is Down on the Farm. President Mike Kehn will portray a typical farmer of the 1940s as he settles into his comfy rocking-chair keeping an eye on the potbelly pig that will be fenced in on the float.

It promises to be another great Historical Society float! Don't miss the parade, which begins at 11 a.m. With our large farm scene banner and live "actors", along with the float pulled by an antique tractor, we're pretty sure you'll figure out which one we are!

## Bridge Docudrama Planned

Although we were denied a Legacy Grant this spring to conduct research on our historic bridge and the Crow River for our planned bridge docudrama, we will proceed with the project regardless, but in a scaled down version.

The working documentary title is The Crow River and Bridge 92366: Tragedy, Love & Renewal. We will hire a film director, actors to re-enact certain events, and allow the director some creative freedom rather than the absolute historic accuracy we had originally planned.

If you have any photos and/or home movies of activities on or near the historic bridge from the Depression era, 1940s to '60s, weddings, etc., please contact Mary Coons. We will make copies and return the originals.

The project is expected to be completed in time for Hanover's 125th anniversary celebration in 2016.

## 50th Anniversary of 1965 Crow River Flood and Bridge Collapse Next Year

Check out the Facebook page called *Flooded With Memories: The 1965 Crow River Flood*. We, together with the Rockford Historical Society and Delano Historical Society, are planning displays and a program for next year to commemorate this historic event that has such a profound effect upon our respective communities. Watch for more information throughout the year.

**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 11th 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 the Crow River

Hanover is no stranger to the Crow River's springtime flooding and high water levels. This year was no exception with the road from Hanover to Rockford closed for a few days at the flume due to water on the road in late June.

Historic documentation speculates that an exploring party sent out by Joseph R. Brown, in 1856, to see if there was a waterway from where St. Peter now stands to Fort Abercrombie, near Fargo, were the first Europeans to find the connection of the Crow River to the Minnesota River. In so doing, they discovered that there were at least three major branches to that navigable major river system.

Perhaps one reason for the late recognition of the Crow River was that they may have been talking about it all along, not realizing the surrounding confusion. In fact, what they had been talking about later became the Crow River, while the Dakota Indians referred to it as the Karishon and the Ojibwa called it Undeg.

While all of this was going on, Joseph Nicollet drew the first map of this area that showed its place in the developing nation. Somehow what became the Crow River did not appear

on his map. Nevertheless, his map was surprisingly accurate. It showed the major lakes and the Minnesota River, and the north and south branches of the Crow River, but not the Middle Fork. It is believed this omission happened because he did not personally visit that part of the river system and gathered his information from Indians at Fort Snelling.

No one knows for sure who gave the Crow River its name, or why that name was selected. There is a lot of validity to the question when one considers how Nicollet must have spent considerable time on his visits to the fort and the nearby village of the Little Crow family, longtime residents of their camp site.

The North Fork Crow River flows through central Wright counties, including Delano, Rockford, Hanover and St. Michael. The north and south forks converge at Rockford to form the Crow River, which then flows for 24.8 miles northeast to the Mississippi River. The river's course is used to define the boundary between Wright and Hennepin counties. The Crow River enters the Mississippi River from the south between Otsego and Dayton.

The Crow is a tributary of the Mississippi River and drains a watershed of 2,756 square miles.

### 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*

William Weinand Sr. was a mere 18 years old when he bought the Haefer store in 1913 from Mrs. Haefer. It was originally Haefer's Store / dance hall / opera hall / meeting hall, and renamed Weinand's General Store.

"I used to mow the "park" in front of our store. Before school I would sweep the wood floor (oil coated," recalls Bill Weinand III, "so the dust wouldn't stick), start the coal / wood furnace in the winter, and also shovel the walk before school.

"My dad also had a trucking business. He made trips to South St. Paul stockyards 3x/week with dressed produce (turkeys, chickens). We would stack them in our back room and put brown paper between them, then cover them to keep the flies off. They were not refrigerated. They would be stacked in our truck then for transport. I have no idea how much my dad sold them for.

"People who came to our store mostly bartered and traded with us for their eggs and purchases. I don't remember what anything cost.

"We sold shoes, clothes, canned goods, hair brushes and women's things – it was a basic general store," he says.

"I can remember the farmers coming in and looping their fingers around their bib overalls while standing by the furnace in the middle of the room, spitting into the floor grate and speaking only German."

In the 1940s the Weinands turned the store into a tavern and leased it to Russ and Ellie Wagner, and it was renamed Russ & Ell's Tavern. In 1956 Russ Wagner bought the property from William Weinand. Claude Walesch reportedly bartended in the tavern for many, many years for the Weinands.

### Welcome New Members

New members joining the Hanover Historical Society this past quarter were Jeff Grupp and Kelli Gedart. Welcome!

### Pumpkin Festival and Caroling at the Bridge Events Coming this Fall and Winter

Watch the area newspapers and this newsletter for information about our upcoming fall and winter events.

The 4th annual Pumpkin Decorating Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th. The event is 3-4:30 p.m. with decorating from 3-4 and judging at 4 p.m. You must be present to win.

In September we will have more details about the event, including its location.

Mark your calendars for the ever popular Caroling at the Bridge event on Friday, December 5th. Let's hope that Mother Nature doesn't bombard us with frigid weather this year. If you recall, we had to cancel last year's event due to the constant below zero temperatures and wind chill that week.

Watch for more information this fall about this event, now in its 10th year.



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