

The Hanover Historical Press



www.hanoverhistoricalsociety.org

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Vanishing Landmarks Presentation Slated for February

Travel the back roads and small towns with photographer Doug Ohman as he explores the stories and history of Minnesota through historic buildings that are quickly disappearing.

Doug will share information along with his own experiences about a variety of sites from Minnesota's oldest courthouse to the last Civil War recruiting station through this exciting slide presentation entitled Vanishing Landmarks.

Join us for this free presentation on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 7 p.m. at Hanover City Hall. The presentation should last for about one hour allowing time for questions and answers.

Free refreshments will be served.

Photography is like any other form of artistic expression, personal. Each of us sees the world through the camera differently. As a photographer, Ohman's perspective view of the world around us is sure to be different than our own.

A self-taught photographer and popular public speaker, Ohman has developed an artistic style that shows through in his photographs of historical landmarks and scenery.

This free event is sponsored by the Hanover Historical Society, whose mission is bridging the past with the future while preserving history and enhancing a sense of community.

For more information, please email Mary Coons at marycoons@usinternet.com.

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2015 Meetings

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

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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. **An immediate need is for organizing our storage area and cleaning the display cases.** 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. Very few copies remain.

Join us next year for another fabulous Caroling at the Bridge Event. Thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers and sponsors for their time and donations.

Caroling Event Crowds Have a Great Time

Thanks, in part, to unusually warm weather, our 10th annual Caroling at the Bridge event enjoyed an unprecedented crowd of 300-plus. Thanks to the following choirs for their beautiful music: Step by Step Montessori, St. Paul Lutheran, St. Michael Catholic Church and Salem Lutheran.

Old St. Nick was on hand, along with the Hanover Royalty, to the delight of the children. Plenty of family photos were staged in the 1800s sleigh; bonfires, cookies and hot chocolate kept everyone warm, and the festively-lit trees on both sides of the bridge, as well as the sparkling bridge lights, kept the Christmas spirit well represented.

Families remained until the event ended, enjoying the company of fellow neighbors and new acquaintances. It was a wonderful way to welcome the Christmas season and create a sense of community.



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.

The Many Uses of Mom's and Grandma's Aprons

From the 1920s through the 1950s, most women were homemakers and did handiwork during the day, such as embroidery, applique work, quilting, cross-stitching, knitting and needlepoint. In the early days, they used flour sacks cut to size, bleached white, and they applied iron-on transfers in their desired patterns, which they embroidered.

Every homemaker wore - and the majority of them made - an apron. The principal use of the cotton pinafore was to protect the dress underneath because a woman often had very few. It was easier to launder aprons than dresses.

The humble apron had many uses. An apron served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was perfect for blotting children's tears. From the chicken coop, an apron was a pouch for carrying eggs.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. When the weather turned cold, a woman would wrap it around her chilled arms. Those big old aprons mopped many a perspiring brow, whether bent over a hot wood stove or picking snap peas in the garden. Her apron

served as a carrier for kindling and wood chips brought into the kitchen to stoke the fire. From the garden, it carried the fresh vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

Come Autumn, the apron bundled the apples indoors for preparing apple butter and pies. When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. Toys and shoes were toted to bedrooms in it as well.

When dinner was ready, Mom or Grandma walked out onto the porch and waved her apron as an alert to the menfolk to come in from the fields for her buttery biscuits or homemade bread.

While Grandmother once set her hot baked pies in the window sill to cool, her granddaughters set theirs out to thaw.

There are many cooks today that would fret over the stains and germs on our mother or grandmother's apron... but it is doubtful that anyone caught anything from her apron but her love and affection.

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

Louis Strunk was proprietor of the City Meat Market located on the corner of Church and Main (now River Road) streets, which opened for business in 1907. Strunk was born in 1887 between Hanover and Rockford, and worked at Strunk's prior to his marriage in 1913.

"Here may be found at all times a full assortment of both fresh and smoked meats, bologna, sausage, fish, game and oysters in season, as well as an assortment of delicacies and relishes. Mr. Strunk does his own killing and sausage making, thereby insuring to his customers only wholesome meats," boasts *The Great Northwest Magazine*, December 1909.

Previous butchers of Strunk's Meat Market were "Old Strumbold" back in the early 1920s, George Maus, and then the Hackenmueller brothers from St. Michael.

Prior to the building serving as a meat market, Ione Schalo lived there. According to Rodger Vollbrecht's 1991 tape-recorded interview, "From what Ione tells us, the house was originally across the street near the old creamery from where it is located now, and built by Henry Invie. He moved it to its present location, and it was a bar for a short time. Then the Strunks took it over and made it into a meat market and soldering house. The center section was the Schalo residence and the end section was the meat market."

The corner lot now is home to Comfort Matters Heating and Cooling.

Vollbrecht Photos

A box containing hundreds of Vollbrecht photos were recently given to our organization. They were found in a house about 12 years ago and marked Vollbrecht-Hanover.

New BankWest Display

We have a new updated display case at the Hanover BankWest location. This quarter's theme we feature a justice of the peace/police and law theme.

Stop by and check it out!

City Hall Display Cases

The next time you are at City Hall in Hanover check out our newly rotated display cases. There is bridge restoration information/artifacts, and we have spotlighted some of our older artifacts that have not been displayed before.

Membership Renewals Now Due

If you have not already renewed your membership for 2015, please do so by completing the renewal form on page 3 and mailing it to the Hanover Historical Society. Thank you for your support over the past year. We are always looking for new members and have numerous volunteer opportunities available for those wanting more hands-on involvement.



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