

Shoreview's Will Sulzbach Volunteers to Help Others

He was named 'Senior Citizen of the Year' by Ramsey County

Shoreview's Will Sulzbach, speaks in a low voice about his volunteering; he's reluctant to draw attention to himself. But since he was recently named Ramsey County Senior Citizen of the Year, his contributions to the area are getting to be better known.

As they should.

His Ramsey County honor was underscored by the Shoreview City Council in ceremonies on Sep. 8, wherein Mayor Sandy Martin and council members congratulated Will "for his long time community volunteer work." Part of the ceremonies was the presentation of a handsome plaque extolling his many volunteer efforts and read by Mayor Martin.

Sulzbach's community volunteering is in far ranging pursuits, coming with a sense of commitment and perseverance as well as willingness to take on leadership positions.

A Minneapolis native, Will has lived in Shoreview for the past 40 years and has immersed himself volunteering with the Boy Scouts Council for the past 35 years. A former Eagle Scout himself, Sulzbach strongly believes in scouting's virtues for young people.

Recently he has served as the district's membership chair, a member of the President's cabinet and merit badge counselor. In addition, he has held a variety of leadership posts over the years. The Boy Scout council marks its 100th anniversary this year.

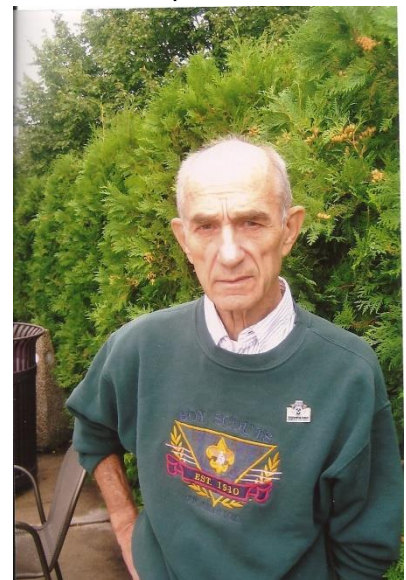
A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Master of Science degree in financial services, Will has volunteered to help others prepare their income tax forms for some 15 years. His own career experience included work with the IRS and the Prudential Insurance Co. Living a retired life has provided some

time for volunteering. "Many do volunteering (who go unnoticed), I just happened to be the one nominated for the county honor," he says.

As to future community volunteering, Sulzbach says he will continue. "Maybe I will look for spots where I can be helpful in a support role," he says. "There are many qualified persons who can be part of new leadership, and I may help (through my past experiences.)"

Will's special hobby interests include biking and he was among a group of cyclists who made a 1,800 mile trek out east earlier this summer. He enjoys gardening and is an avid reader of history.

He also plays flugelhorn in a German band--- The Bavarian Musikmeisters --- and also plays with the St. Paul Police Band. He has supported and been involved in a number of fund raising projects for civic causes. He also was a year around sports coach for



Will Sulzbach

A man of many interests.

community young people for 14 years, commencing in 1975. He has been with other organizations including the Shoreview Historical Society, the

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(Editor's note : this is another story in a series about area seniors whose life experiences help make the Shoreview area a richer one.)

Historical Shore *VIEWS*

Shoreview's 53rd Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

October 2010

From the President Volunteers All

As you will see upon reading this edition of *Historical ShoreViews*, the SHS board members have been quite busy this summer.



Peggy Wedell went through an accumulation of articles, photos, and papers collected through many years of public service by

the Wedells and has created a display on the Community Center's 20th anniversary. (pg. 1)

Don Follett earned a grant from his former employer, Center-Point Energy, which was gratefully accepted by the SHS (pg. 2); and Doris Claeys and Lucena Slaten are updating files and photos for more efficient accessibility by all. They work closely with Pam Videen as she updates our website.

Both Lucena and Jim Bucher had major roles at the Slice of Shoreview: Lucena worked with the Guerin family (pg. 3) and Jim created a pictorial exhibit documenting the history of Shoreview's parks.

Looking ahead, the SHS will be fundraising to help restore the Guerin gas station by applying for grants, seeking donations, and accelerating sales of *Shoreview Reflections*. (available at City Hall) Tax deductible donations can be made to SHS, 4035 N. Victoria, #101, Shoreview, Mn. 55126.

---Jacci Krebsbach

City's Community Center/City Hall Mark 20 Years

This photo Shows early construction of Shoreview's City Hall and Community Center building off Victoria St. in 1989. It is one of many on display at the Community Center as the SHS notes the buildings' 20th anniversary.

Photo by
Peg Wedell



Construction of the Shoreview City Hall and Community Center was completed 20 years ago this year, an event featured in photos and other materials in a SHS display maintained in the Community Center.

SHS board member Peg Wedell photographed the progress of the building's construction on virtually a week by week basis. Peg's husband, Dick Wedell was the city's mayor when the new Community Center and City Hall combined buildings were built.

The land, of course, was formerly farmland owned by the Frank Sinna family. Since its construction in 1990, the building has been expanded and also a large picnic pavilion was added on grounds east of the center. Other land was utilized for sports and recreation fields. The Ramsey County Library, built in 1994, is located just to the west of the city hall and community center.

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FOCUS CONTINUES ON GUERIN RESTORATION

The focus continues on the former Guerin service station garage for SHS as it works with the city's restoration efforts on the small but unique structure that dates back nearly a century.

Earlier this summer, the Shoreview City Council approved steps to go ahead with implementing the restoration, working with area restoration experts. SHS has urged the restoration for years after being gifted the building, but costs have been a major hurdle. SHS is hopeful the project can be completed by next summer.

Shoreview News Notes

+ Visitors at James J. Hill's North Oaks Farm.

SHS board members were among visitors to North Oaks James J. Hill Farm, on the national register of historic places, in mid-September. The North Oaks Historical Society outing featured a self-guided tour for visitors. A blacksmith machine shop, granary and dairy barn are still on the premise near Pleasant Lake. The farm was known for its experiments in breeding and feeding farm animals and was said to have a role in the westward settlement of the country. During the 1880s, Hill spent more than a quarter of a million dollars (about \$5.5 million today) to purchase the finest blood line of polled Angus beef cattle and Shorthorn dairy cattle from overseas. Later he switched to Ayrshire cattle. Hill, of course, was a national figure in the railroad industry.

+ In Memoriam. (Historical Shore Views notes those city residents, age 80 and over, who have died in the last quarter.) **+ Jane Agnew**, 88, died July 23. She is survived by son Robert; and daughter Linda; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. **+ Harry Anderson**, 92, died Aug. 24. He is survived by sons Thomas and Norman; and grandchildren. **+ Ralph Barr**, 82, died Sep 18. He is survived by wife Joyce; and son Alan. **+ Fern Check**, 85, died July 29. She is survived by husband Joseph; daughters Gail and Jill; and son Curt **+ Dale Faulds**, 86, died Sep.16. He is survived by his wife Mae ; sons David, Craig and Kevin; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. **+ Rita Fenlon**, 82, died Aug. 27. She is survived her husband Gerald; daughters Molly, Privette and Judy; and grandchildren. **+ Laura Nagel**, 92, died July 28. She is survived by daughters Janice and Judy; son Paul; and grandchildren. **+ Clarence Pohl**, 90, died

July 20. He is survived by his wife Margaret; sons Dan, Michael and Joe; daughters Mary and Ginny; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. **+ Robert Zenz**, 86, died Aug. 24. He is survived by son Steven; daughter Kari; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

+ CenterPoint Energy Grant Received. SHS is the recipient of a \$200 grant from CenterPoint Energy (CNP) as part of its employee-retiree GIVE grant volunteer program. SHS member and CNP retiree Don Follett presented the check to SHS at its board meeting last quarter, the second from CNP in recent years. CNP retirees who volunteer a specified number of hours annually with a non-profit agency may designate that organization for the CNP grant.

+ At SHS Board Meetings (*Editor's note: Discussion of key agenda items at recent SHS board meetings, held on the third Tuesday of the month, are included in Historical ShoreViews.*) The SHS Board----

- encouraged close contact with the city officials on restoration of the small former Guerin garage building.
- discussed expanded uses of its website; website will be down while new features are added.
- moved to promote attendance at North Oaks Fall Festival. There will be no SHS fall program.
- commended the ancestors of the David and Emilie Guerin family--its Heritage family for 2010--- for their work during the Slice of Shoreview celebration.

Sulzbach---continued

Friends of the St. Paul library and Ramsey County Parks, the Minnesota Conservation Federation and a youth sports coach.

Another service Will performed was that of serving his country through the military. He is a retired U.S. Army reservist, serving mostly in military intelligence and psychological operations units. He was on active duty during the 1950s as a Second Lieutenant. Years later he graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Historical Shore VIEWS is published quarterly by the Shoreview Historical Society, 350 W. County Highway 96, Shoreview, MN 55126 for its members and friends. SHS board members are Jim Bucher, Doris Claeys, Don Follett, Jacci Krebsbach, Lucena Slaten, Pam Videen and Peggy Wedell. You are encouraged to contribute information by contacting editor Don Follett, 3772 Rustic Place, Shoreview, MN 55126 Tel: 651-490-7510; email: DHFCVF29@USfamily.net. To join the society, contact Doris Claeys, 4035 Victoria St N #110, Shoreview, MN 55126

Membership Application or Renewal for Shoreview Historical Society

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Telephone _____

Indicate preferred type of membership.

Annual dues:

___ Adult \$15; 3 yrs – \$37.50
 ___ Sr. Citizen \$10; 3 yrs – \$25
 ___ Family \$18; 3 yrs -- \$45

Additional tax deductible donations are welcome

Volunteer opportunities: (Check here or call 651- 483-2416 or 651- 490-7510). Detach & mail with check to: Doris Claeys, 4035 Victoria St N. #110, Shoreview, MN 55126

Membership includes a subscription to Historical ShoreViews.

Ancestors of the SHS David Guerin Heritage Family in the Slice of Shoreview parade were represented by grandson David and granddaughter Carol Grogan aboard a classic Mustang on a sunny Saturday.



City Hall/Community Center---continued

News reports at the time indicated overall citizen satisfaction, although some questioned the necessity of the building. Interest in having a new Community Center building commenced in the 1970s, and in 1976 the city purchased 35 acres of farm land from the Frank Sinna family, on Highway 96 and Victoria St. and named it Shoreview Commons. A survey in 1987 showed that 63 percent of the population supported the move funded through a bond issue.

In 1988, a bond referendum for \$10.5 million, part of an overall plan, was passed and included the community center, park improvements and trail construction. Construction of a new City Hall was added, and while raising the price was seen as a cost-effective construction move to build both units together.

Official groundbreaking was in mid-1989 and a grand opening was held in November 1990.

The community center has subsequently become a popular gathering place for families and young people from Shoreview and several surrounding communities.

The center's large, new meeting rooms have been a nice venue for city celebrations as well as receptions for graduations, weddings and club meetings. Congregate dining was once held in the center and now Meals on Wheels are prepared there. In short, the center has brought a new vigor to the community.

The beginnings of the City Council chambers take shape in 1990 in top photo below, while the bottom photo shows a running track installed inside the community center which includes complete exercise facilities. *Photos by Peg Wedell*

