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# Historical Shore *VIEWS*

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www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

Shoreview's 56th Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

April 2013

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## From the President

### Remembering Jack Koblas

I first met John (Jack) Koblas almost 20 years ago when he contacted me for some Shoreview Historical information. He had been commissioned to write a book about Herschel J. Jones, owner of the *Minneapolis Journal* and a property owner on the north side of Turtle Lake. I gave Jack some names.



A year later, the SHS was hosting a potluck picnic at Turtle Lake County Park and we were looking for a speaker. So I called Jack, naively thinking I'd offer him a little exposure. Little did I know that he was a renowned author of more than 70 books. Jack graciously accepted our invitation and entertained us all with stories about the Turtle Lake area and shared much new information with our Society !

Fast forward to Shoreview's 50th anniversary with the SHS contemplating writing a history book; Jack's name was at the top of the list for our author. Again, he accepted. Jack and I spent many hours deciding who to interview, content, a timeline, etc. He was curious and a great researcher.

(continued on page six)

## Lawrence and Michalene Trojanowski

### Family Members Were Among Area's Early Farmers

Anyone tracing the Lawrence and Michalene Trojanowski family and its descendents might marvel at its breadth across the rural country side that once made up Shoreview a century and more ago.

With their six children and many, many grandchildren, farming the land and working in the community, they cast a wide pattern of involvement with their presence.



Michalene Trojanowski  
Moved to area with children  
in the 1890s

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**The Trojanowski family will be honored as Shoreview's Heritage Family of the Year at a special program at 2 p.m. Apr. 21 at the Shoreview Community Center.**

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Bernadine Skoglund, daughter of Alice Trojanowski Flor, and great-granddaughter of Lawrence and Michalene, is coordinating the Apr. 21 program. It's the eighth family with roots in Shoreview that the SHS has honored.

(continued on page five)

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## **Looking Ahead with the SHS----**

- + **SHS Annual Meeting** 2 p.m. Apr. 21 Shoreview Community Center
- + **Heritage Family of the Year** 2 p.m. Apr. 21 Shoreview Community Center
- + **Slice of Shoreview** SHS booth July 26-28. Island Lake Park
- + **'Over 80'--Senior Citizens Recognition** 2 p.m. Oct 13 Shoreview Community Center
- + **Early Railroad Days/ Ramsey County and Minnesota.** Railroad Historian John Wikre, Shoreview Library 7 p.m. Oct. 21 Shoreview Library.

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## **Annual Meeting is Set for Apr. 21 at Community Center**

SHS will hold its annual meeting at 2 p.m. Apr. 21 at the Community Center just prior to the SHS membership meeting honoring this year's Heritage Family (see above.)

Note the ballot on page four for election of directors. There are currently six SHS directors with three openings. Interested members are encouraged to contact any current board member for more information. One incumbent is on the ballot, along with write in spaces.

In addition to the election, the meeting will include a treasurer's report, plus an overview of the year's activities by SHS President Jacci Krebsbach.


## Changes Ahead for SHS Website

Shoreview Historical Society Preserving Today's History for Tomorrow



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### Heritage Family of the Year Reception

The John & Michalene Trojanowski family have been named Heritage Family of the Year for 2013.  
Reception will be, Sunday April 21, 2013, 2 p.m. at the Shoreview Community Center.

### Slice of Shoreview

Reserve the dates now for [Slice of Shoreview](#), July 26 – 28, 2013.

### Over 80 Reception

Date: October 13, 2013  
Time: 2 p.m.  
Where: Shoreview Community Center  
Please contact a board member if you are a current or former Shoreview resident born in or before 1933.

### By Pam Videen—SHS webmaster

I am excited about the upcoming changes in the SHS website--- and there's an opportunity for you to have a part in those changes.

Right now our website is very basic, just enough to inform members about upcoming events and to highlight past events. Our web page address--- [www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org)--- is where you can reach us. I am hoping you check us out.



**Pam Videen** We are always looking for photos and objects related to Shoreview history. That's where you can help; what may appear to be just an ordinary photo can sometimes help shed more light on our history. And remember, history includes what happened yesterday, as well as years ago.

Within the next two to three months many features will be added. These include online membership renewal, contests, surveys, donation options and Heritage Family nominations. Eventually, all members will be able to search our collection of images and objects online as well.

## SHOREVIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### MEMBERSHIP/ DUES RENEWAL FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate choice of membership.

#### Annual Dues

\_\_\_ Adult \$15; 3 yrs – \$38

\_\_\_ Sr. Citizen \$10; 3 yrs – \$25

\_\_\_ Student \$10; 3 yrs -- \$25

\_\_\_ Family \$18; 3 yrs -- \$45

*Cut out and mail with check to: Shoreview Historical Society, c/o Pam Videen, 4305 Parkview Ct., Vadnais Heights, MN 55127. For Volunteer opportunities: (Call 651-483-2416 or 651-490-7510). Email: [shoreviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shoreviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)*

**A subscription to Historical ShoreViews is included in dues.**

*The Shoreview Historical Society was born in 1991 when a group of residents took an interest in preserving and recording both the important and informal events in the city, and those that told of our city's growth and deeds of our people. Since its inception the society has worked to fulfill that mission. If you are interested in participating on a SHS committee or on its board, please give any director a call.*

**Historical ShoreViews** is published quarterly by the Shoreview Historical Society, 350 W County Rd. 96, Shoreview, MN 55126, for its members and friends. SHS board members are Mike Cunningham, Don Follett, Jacci Krebsbach, Lucena Slaten, Pam Videen and Peg Wedell. To join the society contact Pam Videen, 4305 Parkview Ct., Vadnais Heights, MN 55127 or email: [shoreviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shoreviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) You are encouraged to contribute informational items by contacting editor Don Follett, 3772 Rustic Place, Shoreview, MN 55126. Tel: 651-490-7510. Email: [DHFCVF29@USfamily.net](mailto:DHFCVF29@USfamily.net)

## **Trojanowski-- 2013 Heritage Family---- continued**

Following her husband's death, Michalene moved to the now Shoreview area from central Minnesota where the couple had first settled upon emigrating from Poland. As her children married, each was gifted 50 acres of land from the family homestead located east of Hamline Ave. Land was gifted to son Michael and daughter Hattie, just south of 50 acres owned by their brother John and his wife Julia. The other children were Frances and Andrew.

Naturally, as the children were married and grew their families, they wound up intertwined with other familiar names many still in the Shoreview community. For example, son Andrew married Frances Moga; Hattie married Joseph Fabyanski; and Frances married John Dombrowski; John married Julia Malaski, a 100 years ago this month (right photo) and the couple had four children, including Bernadine's mother Alice (Trojanowski) Flor. The family lived a Spartan life, digging potatoes by lantern in the fall to beat the ground frost; they sold milk from their cow herd, earning a check for only \$8.40 a month (*Historical ShoreViews*, April 1997.)



**Julia and John Trojanowski—circa 1950**

Alice and William Flor in turn had five children. This branch of the family descendants and others will be noted in the Apr. 21 program. Interestingly, Bernadine's brother Ron Flor possesses a Ramsey County plat map which diagrams all the family's farmlands in the early 1930s.

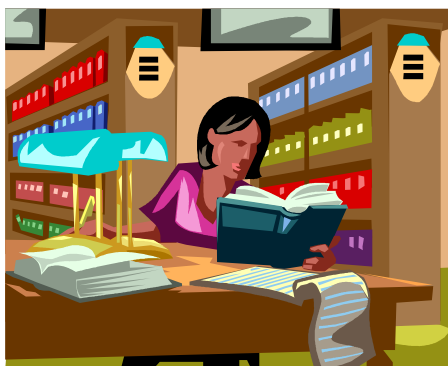
Bernadine, who now lives in Lino Lakes, has assumed the task as the family's chief historian and has painstakingly accumulated birth records, property records and other information which have helped her learn even more about her huge family tree in this year of celebrating her Heritage Family.

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## **Genealogy Research Basics Stressed at SHS January Membership Meeting**

The nuts and bolts of family research was the subject for a large SHS meeting crowd that filled the Shoreview Library room with many attendees sitting outside looking through the doorways.

The January program continued a series wherein the SHS and Ramsey County libraries are collaborating in presenting programs of common interest. "Public libraries have always been involved in



genealogy," said speaker and librarian Adele Morris. "We do genealogy for a lot reasons including helping citizens in the preservation of their family culture, family medical history and (to satisfy) a general curiosity of the topic."

Morris' talk was basic and she said beginners tracing their genealogy can start with existing records they may have, i.e. birth certificates, marriage licenses, documents from foreign countries, in helping trace their family's lineage. She noted several guides that are available for help, as well as On Line tutorials. In one instance, she pointed to the value of local libraries genealogical societies aiding in explaining local culture. She also included a segment on what to do when your search stalls out, called the Brick Wall, pointing to the many aides available in that time of need.

Among regular classes given free at the library is "Genealogy on the Web", usually offered each quarter at a selected county library. January's program continued SHS's efforts to have family genealogy as a topic annually or bi-annually.

## **SHS News Notes**

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+ **SHS Member Harlan Stoehr** has authored an article in the Ramsey County Historical Society's *History* magazine (2013 winter issue) about Robert Freeman, former County Agricultural Extension Agent for about 30 years, from the 1920s to 1950. Several photos from the SHS and Roseville Historical Society archives are in the lengthy article. Harlan, a former assistant professor at the University of Minnesota, also wrote "4-H in Shoreview" in 2007. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> year of extension work in the county.

+ **SHS Sponsoring Another 'Over 80 Recognition'** social set for 2 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Community Center. It will be the third such event the society has held to focus on the community's long-time citizens. Invitations will be sent in the coming weeks. There is no charge for those folks being honored.

+ **Minnesota Railroad Historian John Wikre** will speak to SHS members on Oct. 21 at the Shoreview Library. John's presentation will feature the early railroad companies in state, Ramsey County and rail activities in the county's northern suburbs.

+ **Author John Koblas**, who authored *Shoreview Reflections* and many other books about local subjects, died last month. He was 70. His books were about Minnesotans Scott Fitzgerald and Sinclair Lewis and the James- Younger gangs. He was also was an accomplished musician.

+ **In Memoriam (Historical ShoreViews records the deaths of those persons over 80 in Shoreview who have died in the past quarter.)** d=died; S=survivors; G= grandchildren; and GG= great-grandchildren.

+ **Edith Balthazor**,86, d Feb 26. S: daughter Carol.+ **June Brings**,89, d Jan 26. S: daughter Sue; and G. + **Bea Bohman**,87, d Jan 8. S: children Casey, Chris, Kevin and Jerry; G and GG. + **Patricia Demsey**, 84, d Jan.11. S: sons Timothy and Patrick; daughters Cathleen and Meri Beth; and G. + **Donald Gilsrud**, 84, d Jan 25. S: wife Patricia; daughters Judy and Kathy; sons Gary, Larry, Rick, Brian and Tim; G and GG. + **Don Harris**,86, d Feb 18. S:wife Betty; daughter Jane; and G. + **LaVerne Klemenko**, 86, d Feb. 15. S: daughters Marsha and Colleen; sons Otto, Dennis, and Tim; and G and GG.

+ **Albert Jackson**, 93, d Feb.16. S: daughter Elinor; son Peter; and C. + **Kenneth Kohl**, 84, d Feb. 13. S: daughter Linda; sons Douglas, Steven, and James; and G and GG. + **Lois Kohls**, d Jan 22. S: son Thomas; daughter Cheryl; and G and GG. + **Henry Korngable**, 84, d Jan 5. S: wife Shirley; sons Mark, Kent, and Kurt; daughters Kathy and Lynn; and G and GG. + **Donna Olund**, 84, d Jan 17. S: daughter Linda; sons Tom and Todd; G and GG. + **Shirley Richner**, 86, d Jan. 18. S: husband William; sons Scott, Chris, Steven, and Tim; daughter Susan; G and GG. + **Aloysius Rollinger**, 97, d Feb 14. S: daughters Patricia, Barbara, Carolyn, Maxine, Lea Ann and Kristie; son Gregory; G and GG. + **Richard Simmer**, 89, d Feb 1. S: wife Wanda. + **Lorenz Seutter**, 97, d Feb. 7 S:son James; G and GG.+ **Phyllis Skogen**, 83, d Feb 2. S: sons Karl and Tim; daughter Anne; and G.

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### **From the President----continued**

Unfortunately, at this time, Jack was also diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and his stamina was affected. Luckily, Shoreview resident Jim Radford stepped forward and offered to videotape many of the interviews and then Jack was able to put them into the book. It was a great collaboration and we also got a historical DVD and a book: *Shoreview Reflections* as a result.

Jack spoke at the book release reception at the Shoreview Community Center and also appeared at the 2007 Slice of Shoreview. He was to make one more appearance at the Slice and sign more *Reflections*. We shared a love of history and I read many of his books. Jack died last month and will be missed. I am grateful for his contribution to Shoreview and Shoreview's history.-----**Jacci Krebsbach**

--Shoreview Reflections can be purchased for \$10 at Shoreview City Hall and at the Chickadee Boutique-

## Is There An 'Ethical Will' in Your Future?

### Sharing with Others Those Values That Shaped Your Life

By Charlene Follett

We know that the SHS works hard to record the oral histories of many community residents; we are all interested in their stories of life in earlier days.

Those stories, of course, are treasured by their families as well. Leaving stories, a will, a living will and perhaps an inheritance for others are common expectations.

Just as important to the survivors might be what is called an "Ethical Will" or a "Spiritual-Ethical Will". Perhaps you've never heard of an ethical will. Well, it is an ancient tradition (see Genesis 49) for passing on personal values, blessings, wishes, and advice to friends, family, and future generations. You might call it your legacy.

I have found the book "Ethical Wills" by Dr. Barry Baines to be a valuable resource for those of us who are considering passing along family values, "willing" them to our children and friends. An ethical will is most often

in written form, like a letter. In the process of reviewing, editing, and re-lecting, the writer is able to clarify and articulate more clearly than if she/he was trying to say those words extemporaneously. And, the receiver is able to read it many times over.

How to start: your ethical will could address some of these questions:

- + What are the lessons that you've learned in life?
- + What do you want to pass on?
- + What are you most proud of?

- + What are your biggest regrets?
- + What are your spiritual beliefs?
- + What will you miss most when you are gone?
- + Who have been important persons in your life, and what have you learned from them?
- + What are the dreams and wishes you have for the people you love?

Just as your family might gather to tell stories about past events, wouldn't it be just as interesting to share, on paper those lessons that shaped your life and maybe the lives of others? And if you feel you have not expressed your values adequately, you might find new words in this letter to your survivors --- and even for historians reading it years later.

Here are some sources for those wanting to think more about the subject. There are examples of ethical wills in all of these.

- *The Last Lecture*, by Randy Pausch
  - *Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson*, by Mitch Albom
  - *Man's Search for Meaning*, by Viktor Frankl
  - *Final Gifts, Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs, and Communications of the Dying*, by Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelley
  - *So That Your Values Live On: Ethical Wills and How to Prepare Them*, by Jack Riemer and Nathaniel Stampfer
  - *Women's Lives, Women's Legacies* by Rachael Freed
  - *Ethical Wills: Putting your Values on Paper*, by Barry K. Baines
  - *The Wealth of Your Life: A Step by Step Guide for Creating Your Ethical Will*, by Susan Turnbull
- On the internet: + [www.ethicalwill.com](http://www.ethicalwill.com)

Charlene Follett is a SHS member and a retired psychologist

-----Please cut along this this line and mail in. Thank you.-----

#### SHOREVIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ELECTION of DIRECTORS BALLOT ANNUAL MEETING 2 P.M. APRIL 21, 2013 Shoreview Community Centr

Please vote (check by name) and/or submit name(s) of any write-in candidates as board members for the Shoreview Historical Society(SHS). Board members serve for a three year term. The SHS seeks to have nine directors, with three directors up for election each year. The person listed below is an incumbent.

Lucena Slaten

write in \_\_\_\_\_

write in \_\_\_\_\_

Please return not later than Apr. 15, 2013 to: Shoreview Historical Society, 350 W Minnesota Highway 96, Shoreview, MN 55126

## New Board Member Sees the Positives in a Vital SHS

By Mike Cunningham

I am proud to be a third generation Shoreview resident having lived here all of my 57 years--- and now several of my four children and our five grandchildren are in the area as well.

My Irish grandfather Hugh Cunningham, born in 1900, along with his German wife Alma and their four children, came here when the area was part of Mounds View Township via the Sault Ste. Marie Railroad (later the Soo Line) in the 1930s. He worked as a section foreman out of Cardigan Junction which was the oldest depot in Minnesota built in 1886.

He supervised "section crews" of railroad men whose primary task each day was to maintain and repair as needed the tracks, typically covering an eight-mile distance with his area being between Larpenteur Ave. and Bald Eagle in White Bear.

They raised their family in an isolated rural wooded area along the tracks, near Vadnais Lake where later my eight siblings along with our six cousins grew up and played on a street named Rustic Place.

Life was much simpler then: pond hockey, penny candy at Sacco's grocery store or purchasing minnows at the Paramount Marine so we could fish at one of the local lakes-- Island, Owasso, Wabasso, Snail or Turtle. Maybe we would sneak into North Oaks which was illegal, watching ever vigilantly for the game warden. Not too many of us purchased licenses.

The old Wilbur Lake one room schoolhouse still stood near Island Lake School, while St. Odilia school was being constructed ; the TV towers and I-694 was yet to be built.

For those of us with memories like these or maybe just an interest in the rich history of Shoreview we would like to encourage you to join and support the Shoreview Historical Society. I did--- and have found it most worthwhile, growing in my knowledge of the area and even making contributions in recording its history. Right now I am working on membership.

Shoreview Historical Society was founded in 1991 with its primary mission of helping preserve the area's history through the recording and documentation of key events that have formed and shaped our community. I was also proud that the Cunningham family was selected as Heritage Family of 2012, a program of the SHS.



**The Cunningham Boys.** In this photo from the 1930s at the tracks at Cardigan junction, Mike's father, "Ukie", is pictured (standing, left to right) along with Mike's uncles Pat and Ray with friend Stu Lenz, kneeling.

Now I have even joined the SHS board of directors, consisting of six members who meet monthly. And we are looking a few good men or women to join us.

Also we are in the "story business" would love to hear your stories of Shoreview's past. There are many enjoyable tasks for you to participate in, either briefly or for a longer time commitment. As a member, maybe you have some time to help us with an event or with our display cabinet at the Community Center or with our web site or this newsletter. For persons thinking about becoming members, the form is on page 2.

