
Historical Shore *VIEWS*

www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

Shoreview's 56th Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

October 2014

From the President

The Days of Horses

Recently, as I drove on Lexington Ave. near the Shoreview Super Target,



I saw the new structure that had been built in the former Blue Fox Bar & Grill location. It

will be the home for a Potbelly Sandwich Shop, Starbucks Coffee Shop.
(Continued on page 3)

We Want Your Ideas on How to Celebrate Our 25th

In just 15 months, the SHS will mark its 25th year. Time for a celebration. But how to celebrate?

The SHS board is mulling over some ideas, and realizes it should do something the membership will enjoy and that the community would appreciate. That's where you come in.

The SHS board of directors welcomes your ideas on the best way to mark the organization's service to the community and its quarter-century commitment to "preserving today's history for tomorrow," one of its principal values. Send in your thoughts---no matter how far out they may seem---to SHS, 350 W. County Rd. 96, Shoreview, MN 55126; or email: dhfcvf29@comcast.net; or tel: 651-490-7510

Membership Program Oct. 12

Let's Round Up a Corral-full for a Revisit with The Ol' Circle S of Years Ago



There were frequent shows and horsemanship at the Circle S, such as this "square dance" aboard horses in 1955. Submitted photo.

Although it's hard to believe that horseback riding and horse shows were popular here in the mid-1950s, many former riders would love to assure you that the Circle S Ranch was the "place to be". It was even the site where the opening scene of a kid's local tv show, Sheriff Sev (Sev Widman) on WTCN-TV was filmed !

Among the many buildings on the Ranch were: a barn which could hold 60 horses, a tack room, bunk house, pop room, well house and out-house. Riders would compete in many events to win ribbons.

SHS members and the public are invited to a special program Sunday Oct. 12 at the Community Center. The 3 p.m. program will feature a panel of former riders and Circle Star Saddle Club members.

Please join us to either share your memories or to learn more about this popular place !

Mark Your Calendar for Feb. 8



Mark your calendar for a special membership program about the history and growth of the Boy Scouts in the Shoreview area, set for 2 p.m. Feb. 8, 2015. The program will be at the Shoreview Library.

National Boy Scout week

is Feb. 8-14

Volunteering Has Marked Shoreview's Carol Fellner's Busy Life

Long-time Shoreview resident, Carol Fellner, can look back at an active life of service and volunteering in her community.

Born to parents who had a small farm in Norwood-Young America, southwest of the Twin Cities, Carol grew up knowing well the labors of working with animals. As the oldest of three siblings, she often drew the more physical tasks. "I still remember pumping water for the animals—summer and winter," she smiles.

Following high school and living in St. Paul's midway district in the 1940s, Carol worked a few years for the then-Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Co. in downtown St. Paul.

She was to meet her husband-to-be, Joe Fellner, while dancing at the Prom Ballroom. "I was a fan of polka music--- but Joe wasn't so sure about it," Carol laughs about it now. There was a two-year courtship and eventually a 1947 marriage. They had three children, Steve, Michael and Linda, all living in the metro area.

Joe was a graduate of St. Paul's Mechanic Arts high School and became a carpenter for much of his life, passing away in 2005.

The couple moved from St. Paul to then-Mounds View onto land at Hodgson Rd. and Snail Lake Rd., into a still developing community. They built a home in 1954 on land that eventually became part of Sitzer Park which was first formed in 1970 and is now a hub of recreational activity. The Fellners liked living adjacent to the park which was growing with sports events; they often had a front row seat. Carol sold the land to the city in 2007, keeping a promise the family had made 30 years earlier to sell to the city

For two decades, 1966-87, Carol worked in elementary education. "I was the first teacher's aide to be hired in the Mounds View School system," she recalls. "I liked the work very much at Snail Lake School --- it was right in my neighborhood."

Over the years, she was a mentor to many aides joining the system and was saluted for her work when she retired in 1987.

In the 1960s Carol and her husband became interested in 4-H activities,

and formed the 4-H "Suburban Starlighters," helping grow the group from 16 members to 91. "I stuck with the home-maker skills, baking and food preparation," she says. (See "4-H in Shoreview", 2007, authored by SHS member Harlan Stoehr).

Joe was also an active volunteer and charter member with the Lake Johanna Fire Department



Carol Fellner

Volunteering seemed a constant in Carol's life, including her efforts with St. Paul's United Church of Christ on Summit Ave., St. Paul, where as a long-time member she headed various committees.

Eastward down the street at the Germanic-American Institute, is where the couple also gave of their time and skills. The institute fosters appreciation and understanding of the German culture and history. Carol served on its board for seven years.

In 1987, she was saluted as WCCO Radio's Good Neighbor, citing her volunteer work with St. Paul's Dorothy Day Center and the city's Festival of Nations.

As a SHS member and resident of Shoreview's Scandia Shores, an independent living center, since 2007, Carol says she has enjoyed having a good group of senior friends with whom to socialize. She helps with special events like birthdays, anniversaries and holiday events.

Carol has also enjoyed traveling--- including multiple trips to Hawaii and Europe, plus many destinations in the states.

Of course, she still drives her car and makes nearby trips as well, like to the Minnesota State Fair. Since her youth she has attended the fair every year it has been in operation.

Editor' note: This is another in a series about Shoreview seniors whose life's experiences have helped make the area a richer one.

Upcoming Events at The Minnesota History Center

Kidnapping Mrs. Piper

True crime writer William Swanson will explore the sensational kidnapping of Virginia Piper who was abducted at gunpoint from her lakeside home in Orono on a July afternoon in 1972. He will speak at 7 p.m. Nov.11 at the History Center. The program is free.

After her husband paid a \$1 million ransom, an anonymous caller led the FBI to a northern Minnesota state park where they found Ginny Piper chained to a tree, filthy and exhausted, but physically unharmed. What really happened on that July day in 1972?

Swanson's latest book is "Stolen from the Garden: the Kidnapping of Virginia Piper" (MNHS Press, October 2014).

+ +

Ku Klux Klan in Minnesota

At one time the Ku Klux Klan was active throughout the country with Minnesotans organizing 51 chapters of the KKK throughout the state.

Minnesota Klan members played town ball, served as church deacons, ran local businesses and were elected to political office. They also held cross-burnings and midnight rides that terrorized their own communities.

At 7 p.m. Oct.14 at the History Center, local history teacher Elizabeth Dorsey Hatle and author of "The Ku Klux Klan in Minnesota" will talk of the activities of the Klan at its height in Minnesota, up until the Invisible Empire lost its foothold in the State. This is a repeat lecture from April 2014. The program is free.

From the President---continued

fee, Noodles and Company and a frozen yogurt shop.

Before the Blue Fox, however, this piece of property was the location of the Circle S ranch. (See story on page one.)

I remember attending some horse shows and a hayride or two at the Circle S. Its heyday was in the 1950s under the ownership of Wade Page.

In researching its history, I've had many conversations with people who were riders and workers---and they all shared wonderful memories of Wade. Some of them will be part of a panel at our Oct. 12 program.

And that's what history is all about -- the stories and the memories. Last fall I sent a request inquiring about Circle S information. I was put in touch with Connie Bubar Kollman, who gave me info on Harvey Karth, who gave me info on Gordy Fickett. And so it went ---more phone calls, more memories, more contacts and names.

We are calling the October event a program, but I think to many it will be remembered as the "Circle S Reunion". Please join us and share *your* memories !

----- *Jacci Krebsbach*

At The Board Meetings

At recent SHS board meetings, the group:
+ approved digitalizing many of its existing audio and visual files.
+ reviewed results of its Slice of Shoreview exhibit.
+ approved upgrading of its web site software.
+ approved updating its current publications: Heritage Trail brochure and the SHS recruitment brochure.

Years Ago with the SHS

+ 20 Years Ago. Members heard North St. Paul author Rosemary Palmer author of "History of North St. Paul" speaks about events leading up the creation of Shoreview. **+ Held a potluck picnic** at Owasso Lake Park and had walking tour of Lake Owasso.

+ Launched a project to research and gather information on early Shoreview government operations. **+ Members enjoyed** a session on clothing preservation by Nancy Cyr.

+ 15 Years Ago. SHS cooperated with New Brighton Historical Society on an Antique Information program. **+ Heard leaders** of the Roseville and Little Canada societies tell of their beginnings and growth. **+ Wintertime ice harvesting** was a well-received display exhibit at the Community Center.

+ SHS held its first dinner honoring those Shoreview citizens age 80 and over. **+ Another program** saluted those Shoreview citizens who served the armed services in WW II. **+ Author John Koblas** told a SHS picnic crowd at Turtle Lake about H.V Jones, landowner at the lake at the turn of the century.

+ 10 Years Ago. + SHS honored its first Heritage Family, Howard Lundgren and Virginia (Karth) Lundgren. **+ Genealogist** Darlene Joyce provided the basics on tracing one's family for SHS members. **+ Several SHS members** volunteered in helping stage the PBS-TV "Antiques RoadShow", at the St. Paul River Centre, later shown on TPT Channel 2. **+ Sujan Mathur**, a Shoreview student, earned his Eagle Scout honor, with part of his community work consisting of organizing the SHS photo data base for citizens to use.



Parading Their Heritage. 2014

SHS Heritage Family descendants Donna Singleton (front seat), and her son Mark Singleton (waving), and her grandson Jesse (in the back), enjoyed the Slice of Shoreview parade in July. Earlier in the year, SHS saluted the family of Cyrus and Agnes DeMars (Donna's grandparents), as its Heritage Family, which includes numerous descendants, many of whom still live in Shoreview and nearby communities..

Bob Minton Named to SHS Board



Bob Minton, a member of the Shoreview Human Rights Commission, has been elected to the SHS board, effective in August.

Readers of *Historical ShoreViews*, might recall a brief profile on Bob in the July issue, noting his community involvement and past service with the Sherburne County Historical Society. He has lived in Shoreview for 14 years. Board members serve for three years There are presently seven SHS board members.

Ancestral Keys' Home Featured

The Shoreview Lake Owasso home of former resident Ancestral Keys, world renown physiologist at the University of Minnesota, was featured in the Aug. 24 *Minneapolis StarTribune*.

Essentially a report about a restored home for sale, the story laid out the home's evolving past and some of Keys' interests. A native of Colorado, Keys came to the University in 1937, moving from the Shoreview home in 1972. He died at age 100 in 2004.

2015 Family Nominees

Nominations for the 2015 Heritage Family of the Year are being accepted now until the end of the year by the SHS.

The Heritage Family program has celebrated a decade of success with Shoreview citizens learning more about their community's early years and the challenges for the early settlers.

The general criteria for nomination asks that the family---traces back at least two generations in the community; been involved in the community and contributed to its betterment; and its land holdings may involve key historical tracts. The SHS board will select the family around the end of the year. Please contact any SHS board member if you have a family to nominate.

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, Dian Gardner, Jacci Krebsbach, Bob Minton, Lucena Slaten, and Pam Videen. To join the society, contact Pam Videen, 4305 Parkview Court, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127. To contribute items, contact editor Don Follett, Tel: 651-490-7510 email: DHFCVF29@comcast.net or mail: 3772 Rustic Place, Shoreview, MN 55126.



SHOREVIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP/DUES OR RENEWAL FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

(It's important to include 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

Additional tax deductible donations are welcome.

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).

A Historical ShoreViews subscription 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 operating board, please give any director a call.

