

Historical ShoreVIEWS

www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

Shoreview's 60th Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

January 2017

From the President

Happy New Year; Happy 60th Birthday, Shoreview!

At the Shoreview Historical Society, we know that partnerships are productive. That's



why we are excited to announce a schedule of events and programs at the new Shoreview Library after its grand

opening Jan. 28.

Starting in March, the SHS will join forces with the library to present programs on the second (continued on page 2)

SHS Heritage Family for 2017 is The Larson Family of Turtle Lake

The 2017 SHS Heritage Family will be the Larson Family of Turtle Lake. The central figure to be celebrated is Dr. Eva-Jane Ostergren Larson, whose great grandfather, Olaf Swenson, built a large summer home on the east shore of Turtle Lake in 1913, and subsequently a stone cottage in 1930.

The Heritage family will be honored on Apr. 23 at the Shoreview Community Center.

Eve-Jane and her husband Bert spent their married lives in the latter home which remains in the family today. Six generations of the clan have enjoyed what is now Shoreview, for more than 100 years.

Eva-Jane was well known in the area, in part related to the many times she repaired lacerations and removed fish hooks on the table in her small kitchen. She served as health nurse for Shoreview for several years. She and Bert were **Eva-Jane Ostergren**

active in the formative years of Shoreview, when everybody knew everybody" The couple raised two children.



circa, 1916

City Notes its 60th Year in 2017

Shoreview marks its 60th birthday this year, springing forth from a village of 5,300 population within Mounds View in 1957 to a stand-alone city of more than 26,000 today.

City historians will remember it was a citizens group who petitioned Ramsey County to incorporate the Village of Shoreview in April 1957. A close vote followed on April 23 and a community was born.

(continued on page 3)

See photo on right.

On Mar. 13

Archaeologist to Address SHS Membership Meeting

Dr. Jeremy Nienow, local archaeologist involved with local digs seeking Native American artifacts in the Shoreview area, will address a SHS members meeting at 7 p.m. Mar. 13 at the new Shoreview Library.



Dr. Jeremy Nienow

Among other topics, he will summarize the field notes taken at a Lake Vadnais dig in 2016. He has been an advisor to the North Lake Owasso Neighborhood Group (NLONG) in its digs, and his work has centered on public-led surveys of smaller lakes in Ramsey County,

(continued on page 3)



This iconic photo shows Shoreview's first elected officials gathered for a photo following Shoreview's incorporation in April 1957. Bottom row, from left, Trustee (TR) Max Tyler, Clerk Willis Wilson, Mayor Ken Hanold, TRs Godfrey Frey and Harold Koeck. Back row, Justice of the Peace (JP) John Wallraff, Deputy CL Ruel Breitbarth, Constable (Con) Cyril Olund, JP Floyd Oleson, Con. George Gagnon and Treas. Ed Sitzer. Photo from SHS Achieves.



Pumps of the Past Molly Fitzel watches her sons, Brecken and Max, act as gas station service attendants at the restored Guerin Texaco gas station now set-up at the Historic LePak/Larson farm home site on LePak Court and County Rd I. They attended an SHS-sponsored open house at both facilities in November. The gas station once operated for real at Rice St. and N. Owasso Blvd. from the 1930s to the 1970s.

(From the President—continued)
Monday evening of certain months.

Our first program, “Archeology at Lake Vadnais”, will feature archeologist Jeremy Nienow at 7 p.m. Mar. 13.

On Monday May 15, Jean McElvain, curator of the Goldstein Museum of Design, U of M, will discuss the history of fashion.

Other scheduled dates for library-based events are Sept. 11 and Nov. 13, with programs to be announced.

Join us also on Sunday. Apr. 23 at the Shoreview Community Center as we honor the Larson family of Turtle Lake, medical pioneers in Shoreview, our SHS Heritage Family of the Year!

Consider becoming a SHS member – benefits include preferred seating at the programs as well as 6:30 pre-program reception. Also, follow us on Facebook!

---Jacci Krebsbach

Karen Eckman---continued

While at 3M, she earned an MBA in Marketing from the University of St. Thomas.

A persistent photographer, she has recorded her trips to foreign lands, emphasizing nature, of course, and bird life in her shots.

Active in the St. Paul Audubon Society, including having served as its president, her activities are more than what you might call hobbies. They are laced with leadership, long service and help for the community. She has taught elementary classes on birds and their habitat.

Current Interests

Since 2011, Landscape Revival—native Plant and Expo Market is an annual event requiring Eckman’s time. It is held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the first Satur

day in June in Roseville’s Cub Foods Community Pavilion. (Note: Beginning in 2018 the Landscape Revival is moving to Shoreview.)

The Expo exhibitors explain the multiple benefits of urban and suburban landscaping, the native plants that were here, evolving with our wildlife, before settlers arrived, Eckman explains.

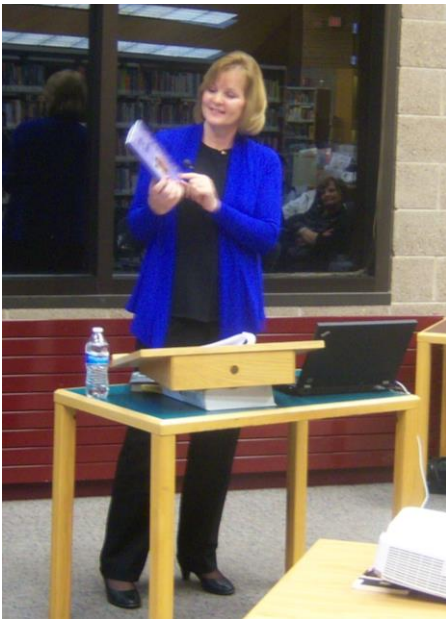
Unbeknownst to Eckman when she moved to Shoreview in 1985, she learned she had early relatives of a century ago who lived here. “I had no idea that the Bye family once had farm land just a short distance northeast (near Island Lake) of my home today,” she explains.

Short references to the Bye family are found in both the *Shoreview Reflections* and *Imag*

es of Shoreview books.

A member of SHS, Eckman last year recorded much of her family information for the SHS oral history files. While Karen has spent some time with Ancestry.com software in her search, she says, “truthfully, I have had too many other things to pursue.” Case in point: During the past year she also started leading the Wild Ones Shoreview project to restore a five-year-old native plant garden at Island Lake Elementary School.

If there are new challenges and future volunteer opportunities in preservation of the natural environment locally, one could expect Eckman might be involved. She’d be too curious to stay away.



Author Lee Burtman, above, spoke about writing her book *"Fighting for Delphine"* at November's SHS membership meeting. Her true story traces the journey of Ken Krueger, a local U.S. soldier in WW II and his interrupted love affair with a young French woman. Lee showed numerous photos of Ken's return trip to France and Paris many years later and told how the local French residents showed their appreciation. A retired teacher, she is planning a second book, another military story, this one tied to the Korean conflict.

Archaeologist---continued

which, he says, has "produced a well-spring of knowledge."

Dr. Nienow owns and operates Nienow Cultural Consultants, and consults as a licensed historic and prehistoric archaeological Principal investigator.

SHS Honored by City

SHS's Board of Directors were honored along with directors of 14 other volunteer groups at a City of Shoreview annual appreciation dinner in November.

In addition, Jacci Krebsbach's long service of 20 years as SHS President was noted.

Shoreview Mayor Sandy Martin saluted the volunteers' important efforts as helping keep Shoreview as a city with willing volunteers.

Our 60th year---continued

As to the years and the decade ahead, City Manager Terry Schwerm, feels there may be a different focus. "Most of the land in Shoreview today has been fully developed," he points out. "So the emphasis and challenge will be on 'redevelopment'--- improving areas with the new buildings (whose purposes) best meet the city's long term needs."

That would occur with commercial building as well as citizen housing, he says. "Redevelopment" has become a given within many urban Minnesota communities.

One of the new scenes on the building horizon in Shoreview in the past decade has been the increase in senior housing, where many units were added and met a need that was recognized several years ago.

The couple raised two children who matured with the Shoreview Community.

Historical ShoreViews is published quarterly by the Shoreview Historical Society, 350 W County Rd. 96, Shoreview, MN 55126, (marking 25 years in 2016) for its members and friends. SHS board members are: Carol Gross, Don Follett, Jacci Krebsbach, Bob Minton, Lucena Slaten, Michelle Reichow, John Vadnais and Pam Videen. To join the society, contact Pam Videen, 4305 Parkview Court, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127. To contribute items to the newsletter, contact

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Please make your check out to: Shoreview Historical Society, and mail to Pam Videen, 4305 Parkview Ct., Vadnais Heights, MN 55127.

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 the deeds of our people. Since its inception, the society has worked to fulfill that mission. If you are interested in participating, please give any director a call.

' . . . Time out for a commercial '

"A good New Year's resolution is to pay your dues early. If you pay year-to-year, then your SHS 2017 dues can be paid now. The SHS depends upon its members' support---having the same inexpensive dues as 20 years

ago. You can do it--go ahead and write a check today." Thank you.

'Curiosity' Drives Community Volunteer Karen Eckman

"Curiosity is the engine of achievement."

--- Ken Robinson, British Author

I have an interest now in every little bug or flower or plant," says Karen Eckman, almost with a sense of exhilaration.

A long-time Shoreview resident identified with various county and city water management volunteer committees with goals to improve the water quality and the environment, Eckman is recalibrating and expanding upon her other interests focusing on native plant life in Minnesota, a subject as big the outdoors itself.



She has shown a long-time bond with nature. A renaissance woman, whose life has taken a couple of career paths, her skills and interests are many and varied.

She has a natural "curiosity about things," she

Karen Eckman says, unmoved about wading into new challenges, part of her DNA. Don't talk to her about sitting back in retirement. The routes in her life's journey always seem to trigger new energy.

"Retirement" as such wasn't really in her plans, as her community volunteering and travel schedule shows.

Her volunteer resume since retirement in 2002 is lengthy, working with water conservation and environmental agencies, among them the Shoreview Green Community Clean Water Committee and the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District. She also served as manager and chair of the Grass Lake Water Management Organization.

Her efforts were noticed by others, and she was named Shoreview's "Citizen of the Year" in 2008, an honor given those who make significant contributions to the city. (Note: a recognition also earned by three

other SHS members.)

As to her interest in water conservation, her grandmother's tales of having to carry and conserve water as a homesteader stayed with her.

Growing up and schooled in southeastern South Dakota, she taught school in a small town there. Young teachers are sometimes asked to be flexible and Eckman taught not only kindergarten--- but directed the school's debate squad as well.

Leaving education, she created and managed a small advertising shop, following a brief time with a South Dakota TV station where she handled general communications tasks and was the station's artist. "At one time I thought I wanted to be a commercial artist, she recalls.

However, more opportunities beckoned her to come to the Twin Cities, and as a single mom with three children they could use the added income.

Living in St. Paul and later in Shoreview, Karen worked in marketing for industry giant 3M, from the 1980s through the '90s.

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Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles about Shoreview seniors whose experiences contribute to making this a richer community.



Karen has established rain gardens at her home, and helps maintain them at her church and the local fire station, plus restoring a native plant garden at Island

Lake Elementary School. Above, she checks a bird feeder at home in prep for the winter season.



Shoreview was designated a city by the state of Minnesota in 1974 and is now ranked as the 35th largest city in the state, just behind Winona and ahead of the City of Ramsey in Anoka County.

+ + +

+ *Until lions have their historians, tales of the hunt shall always glorify the hunters.*
---African Proverb

To mark the city's 40th anniversary, the SHS produced a video "From Township to Today", and the city held a giant fireworks display.

At its golden anniversary, in 2007, the city held a special program honoring past city servants and noted a population nearing 27,000. In 1992, a new county library was built on Victoria St, and its customer popularity has resulted in another new library set to open in January, 2017



SHS Volunteers Honored At City Appreciation Dinner

SHS's Board of Directors were honored along with directors of the city's other 14 volunteer groups at a City of Shoreview appreciation dinner in November.

In addition, Jacci Krebsbach's long service of 20 years as SHS President was noted.

The city holds the annual dinner as recognition of the many volunteers' service. Shoreview Mayor Sandy Martin saluted the volunteers' important efforts as helping keep Shoreview as a city with willing volunteers.

Steve Gallop was named Shoreview's "Citizen of the year," an honor four members of SHS have earned in recent years.



streets

From the President---continued)

Library on the 2nd Monday every other month starting in March.

Our first program, Mar. 13, will feature archeologist Jeremy Nienow (see story). In May, Jean Mcilvaine, curator of the Goldstein Design Museum will discuss the history of fashion.

Other scheduled dates are Sept. 11 and Nov. 13, with programs yet to be confirmed.

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Happy New Year - Happy 60th Birthday, Shoreview!!! Partnerships can be mutually beneficial as we of the Shoreview Historical Society realize. We are excited to announce a schedule of events and programs at the new Shoreview library which will host a grand opening on January 28th. We will host and cohost 7 pm programs with the library on the 2nd Monday every other month starting in March - Our first program, March 13th, will feature archeologist Jeremy Nienow (see story) In May, Jean Mcilvaine, curator of the Goldstein Design Museum will discuss the history of fashion. At this time, we do not have a scheduled July program because of the Slice of Shoreview - although this may change - Other scheduled dates are September 11 and November 13 - programs to be announced. Join us also on April 23rd at the Shoreview Community Center as we honor the family of Dr. Bert Larson, medical pioneers in Shoreview, our SHS Heritage Family of the Year. Consider becoming a SHS member - member benefits will be preferred seating at the programs as well as 6:30 pre-program reception! Also, follow us on Facebook



