
Historical Shore *VIEWS*

www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

Shoreview's 61st Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

January 2018

From the President

Remembering Art Larson

It was probably about 25 years ago when I met Art Larson. I



was VP of the newly-formed Shoreview Historical Society and I was introduced to him as someone who lived in

a unique brick farmhouse in north Shoreview and had wonderful stories of the community.

(continued on page 4)

SHS Jan. 29 Program

The Hunt for Cass Gilbert-designed Furniture

Legendary Minnesota architect Cass Gilbert designed more than 1,600 pieces of furniture for the Minnesota State Capitol. More than half of them have disappeared, but Natalie Heneghan from the Cass Gilbert Society is on their trail.

Join her as she talks about her discoveries and what she has learned from the hunt. Presented by the SHS, the presentation is with the financial support of Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

The 7 p.m. Jan. 29 event is free and open to the public without registration. It will be held at the Shoreview Library.

As a Minnesota architect, Gilbert was best known for his design of the Minnesota State Capitol and downtown St. Paul's Endicott Building. (continued on page 3)



Natalie Heneghan

Some Incentives Added

SHS 2018 Membership Drive Gets Underway

SHS will launch a drive in January to build its membership, the first in more than two decades. If you know of someone who may be interested in joining, you may direct him/her to the SHS web site.

SHS board member Bob Minton heads up the membership drive. "We hope to bring the advantages of being a SHS member to all in the city," he says. "Our members enjoy our programs and many are anx-

ious to learn more about our early years. After all, history is one of the foundations of our community." "We want to get more people interested in the history of our community and to join us and participate in SHS activities," says SHS President Jacci Krebsbach. "Our nominal dues have been the same for 25 years (listed on page 3). Our financial situation is in good shape, but we seek more members as we need more involvement from the community which added members would give us." There are both single and family memberships. SHS has approximately 150 paid members. Readers may also use the form on page 3 to join.

Members signing up for this year will be able to realize some savings through purchases with a few local merchants. The membership campaign committee is working on getting more merchants to join in.

SHS performs many activities, so there should be something for everyone (See the President's column in the last newsletter). Over the years, SHS has offered membership programs ranging from "Checking Your Genealogy" to the "History of the Shoreview Topography," from the "Ghosts of Turtle Lake" to its ongoing "Heritage Family" recognition.

Free Membership Breakfast Set for Jan. 16

As part of the SHS membership campaign this quarter, there will be a free breakfast in appreciation for current SHS members. It will be at 9 a.m. Jan 16 at Perkins, at Lexington and I-694. Details on page 3.

ious to learn more about our early years. After all, history is one of the foundations of our community."

"We want to get more people interested in the history of our community and to join us and participate

SHS Discussing Potential Use Of Historic LePak/Larson House

The Housing Resource Center, which has been located in the historic LePak/Larson house near Lexington Avenue and County Road I, recently announced that it would be closing its offices and have now vacated the home.



After learning that the Housing Resource Center was planning to close their office, the Shoreview City Council requested that City staff contact the Shoreview Historical Society and other community groups to determine their interest in the home. They also asked the staff to explore other potential uses of the property.

A few members of the SHS Board as well as representatives from other community groups toured the home with city staff.

Following the tour, SHS President Jacci Krebsbach sent an email to the City expressing strong interest in using the LePak/Larson House for public tours and special events, as well as a potential home for the Historical Society. Krebsbach said, "At this time the talks with the city about the reuse of this home are preliminary, but we have been encouraged by the City to develop a proposal for use of the home and property."

The historic LePak/Larson Chaska brick farmhouse was purchased and restored by the City several years ago and the Historical Society has sponsored a number of open houses and other event at the property. The Property is also home to the restored Guerin Gas Station.

Swedish Immigrants

Sven and Charlotte Lundberg Family is SHS Heritage Family of the Year in 2018

The Sven and Charlotte Lundberg family, who as Swedish immigrants moved to Shoreview's Snail Lake area in 1906, is this year's SHS's Heritage family of the Year.

Here they raised many of their eight children, and also their grandson, Ray Lundberg, who retained the house and then a smaller parcel of the original land. Ray and his wife, Marion, had one son, Donald, who was born in 1925.

Join us at 2 p.m. Apr 22, at the Shoreview Community Center, as the many family descendants share history, stories, and photos of the early days in Shoreview. Ray and Marion Lundberg's granddaughters, Michelle and Marianne, will share memories of life on the Lundberg farm and reminisce of times with their father, Donald, growing up in Shoreview and how this community still has a hold on their hearts.



Pictured here is the former Lundberg farm house which was home to several generations of the family from 1906 up until 1978.

Advertisements like the one below will appear in the Shoreview Press, helping raise awareness of the SHS during its membership drive in the first quarter.

It's January, it's New Year's Resolution Time ---and it's SHS Dues Payment Time



It's January and time to check if you are current with your SHS dues. If not, check the dues form on page 3 and be right with the world. As a 501, c, 3, organization your payment to SHS is tax deductible.

SHS fights inflation, keeping its dues structure basically the same since its beginning in 1991.

HISTORY

Aren't you glad you can be part of it !

Join the Shoreview Historical Society.

Web Site www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org



In Appreciation

A Free Breakfast for SHS Members

A special breakfast meal will be held for SHS members at 9 a.m. Jan 16 at the Perkins Restaurant, Lexington and I-694. It is free to members.

The meal is the idea of the SHS board of directors, as a token of appreciation for the past and current support of the society, says Bob Minton, who is also chairing the society's membership campaign in 2018. Just launched, the campaign has resulted in several renewals and new memberships, he says.

Since space is limited and breakfast reservations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. You may email Bob at bmint99@gmail.com or Tel: 651-295-1404.



SHOREVIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DUES RENEWAL FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

(Please include your email address to receive your newsletter. This is a private list, we do not sell nor distribute.)

Dues are:

- Adult** \$15 - 3 yrs --- \$38
- Seniors** \$10 - 3 yrs --- \$25
- Student** \$10 - 3 yrs --- \$25
- Family** \$18 - 3 yrs --- \$45

Add \$2 to cover postage for mailing the newsletter, if you don't include an email address

Total amount \$ _____

Additional tax deductible donations are welcome.

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.

Cass Gilbert----continued

His goal was to move to New York City and gain a national reputation but he remained in Minnesota from 1882 until 1898.

Information online recounts many of his contributions, noting that many of his Minnesota buildings he designed are still standing, including more than a dozen private residences (especially those on St. Paul's Summit Ave.), several churches featuring rich textures and colors, resort summer homes, warehouses, and railroad depots in Anoka, Willmar, and Little Falls.



Cass Gilbert

The Cass Gilbert Society's (CGS) project to find missing, original furniture and fixtures from the Minnesota State Capitol Building was announced last year and is off to a successful start.

Since last March, the project has uncovered artifacts all over the state. Chairs, desks, and original wood windows have surfaced in Worthington, Cross Lake, St. Paul, and Stanchfield, for example. Some items are in the homes of former officeholders; others are in county historical society collections.

"The project has been going well," says Heneghan, "we didn't set a numerical goal on finding the objects, but between 40 and 50 have been identified.

"Some of the pieces are identified by their former office location," notes Heneghan. "The pieces left the Capitol in legal ways and it wasn't until the 1980s when an inventory of the pieces was developed through old records," she adds, noting she "works closely with the Minnesota History Center, a great resource for me." **(continued on page 4)**

Historical ShoreViews is published quarterly by the Shoreview Historical Society, 4600 N. Victoria St. MN 55126, for its members and friends. SHS board members are: Don Follett, Carol Gross, Jacci Krebsbach, Bob Minton, Michelle Reichow, Lu Slaten, 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 editor Don Follett at Tel: 651-490-7510 or DHFCVF29@comcast.net

Oh, Those Old Railroad Depots No Longer with Us

Oh, those many old railroad depots in small Minnesota towns.

Gone now, and with them a contributing key role in community development. Although the depots have nearly vanished, Shoreview artist and SHS member John Cartwright has chronicled their departure and retained their images through his painstakingly accurate pen and ink detailed drawings.

A small but very interested SHS membership crowd in October heard Cartwright recite the begin-

ings and endings of the depots through an extensive pictorial review via his own photo collection.

He told of old depots keeping their waiting rooms warm with coal heated stoves; many depots provided housing for their station masters, and many stations provided mail pickup and drop-off. Over the years, many of the older larger city depots have been converted into stores or community centers, John said.

He also touched upon the history of the Minnesota Transfer Railway, some parts still in use for industrial customers and located in the northwest sector of St. Paul.

He told of the days when Cardigan Junction in Shoreview, built in 1888, (photo on left) was a stopping point for trains heading to Duluth. Passenger train service at Cardigan Junction stopped in the 1980s and the depot was torn down shortly after. *(Note: The 1958 photo is from SHS files, and was taken by Frank Sandberg of Shoreview.)*

Plan on attending a SHS program in the future.



From the President---continued

Over the years, Art would call occasionally and share some of his stories and also tell some fun jokes. Although I would never visit his home in his lifetime, I could visualize many of the things inside. Art talked about the round oak kitchen table and the family pictures that hung on the wall.

He shared stories of his time as a motorman in St. Paul. One of his memories was of being very ill as a young child. A "spirit lamp" (probably with Vicks melting in the dish) saved his life, according to him.

After Art died, the SHS purchased some items from his estate. We have a small metal trundle bed, his tool box, that round table, his motorman's hat and the spirit lamp. We also have many photos and other items from his home, including his mailbox !

It was Art's dream that the Shoreview Historical Society would someday have a home in *his* home. We are working with the City of Shoreview to make that a reality and hope at some time to be able to share Art's home and some of his possessions with our community. He would have loved that !!

---**Jacci Krebsbach**

Cass Gilbert ---continued

Heneghan's SHS photo presentation will include a focus on the architect's life as well as her work with the search for the various articles of furniture which were at one time in the capitol.

The goal of the project is not to return furnishings to the Capitol. Rather, CGS will trace the stories of "lost and found" items and publish them at www.cassgilbertsociety.org. The final product will be a collection of stories and photographs - a virtual museum of sorts - that captures the spirit and work of Gilbert. CGS invites anyone with knowledge of the Capitol Building's furnishings to contact Project Manager Heneghan at natalie.heneghan@cassgilbertsociety

You can follow the project's progress on Cass Gilbert Society's Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/cassgilbertsociety/>.

The project has been financed with funds provided by the State of Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.