



700 County Rd. I

Historical Shore *VIEWS*

www.shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

Shoreview's 62st Year

'preserving today's history for tomorrow'

January 2020

From the President



Jacsi
Krebsbach

It's A Brand New Year

It's a brand new year: an election year, an Olympic year and the year that the Shoreview Historical Society plans to invite guests into its new home!

We will be furnishing three rooms in the main level of the Lepak/Larson house in the era of a 1930s farmhouse.

Nancy Cyr, a former SHS charter member, will work with the society as a historical consultant (See page two). With her extensive background in historical architecture and design, she will guide us in choosing the correct pieces for that era.

Because we will be accepting donations for the Society, the SHS Board is in the process of developing a collections policy which will be available in the near future.

Presently we will try to acquire a sink and refrigerator as well as an old radio for the parlor and perhaps a china cabinet from that era. We have accepted a chair, trunk, sewing machine, and a washstand. Stay tuned.

**Third Annual
Free Breakfast for
SHS Members**

When:
Tuesday,
January 14, 2020

Time:
9:00 AM

Where:
Shoreview City Hall in
the Richard Wedell Room

RSVP to:
Bob Minton
651.295.1404
bmint99@gmail.com

Gift: A New Home for An Old Gas Range

Thanks to A Little Canada woman, the SHS kitchen at the Lepak/Larson farm home will feature a near pristine gas stove from the 1930s.

Mary Sample and her husband first came to own the stove several decades ago when they were first married and in need of a stove in their new home, and it came as a gift from an elderly lady.

"I am pleased that someone can make good use of it now," says Sample, a former school teacher and whose family had used the stove for several years prior to moving to a newer home. It remained a basement showpiece at their home, featuring a cream colored surface, four burners and drawers to store many pots and pans.

A native of Owen, WI, Sample said she is excited and waiting to see her appliance in its new setting.



Nancy Cyr to Help with SHS Furniture Launch at Lepak/Larson Home



by Nancy (Welter) Cyr

(Editors note: SHS member Nancy Cyr has volunteered to work with the SHS during initial work in furnishing the Lepak/Larson home. That was a good time to ask her to review her career and Shoreview interests.)

I look forward to working with the Historical Society Board in selecting the furnishing and accessory items for the Lepak/Larson house. We will be focusing on the period of the 1930s and including the prior two or three decades. Because this is a farmstead in the period of the Depression, we will use restraint in picking pieces to reflect the simple life of a farm family.

The two rooms that will be outfitted will be the back parlor and the kitchen. We will be choosing an upholstered couch and chair, wooden chairs and tables, lighting, rugs, and framed pictures for the parlor, and a range, cupboards, ice box, and a lot small items for the kitchen. In addition, we will be looking at paint colors and wallpapers of the period, and some window coverings.

I am excited to assist in making this historic house a living history jewel in our neighborhood.

As to my own background, I was born and raised in St. Paul near Macalester College, I have lived in Shoreview and Vadnais Heights for 36 years.

I am one of the founding members of the Shoreview Historical Society.

I have a Bachelor's of Science in Interior Design and Architectural

History, and a Master's in Museum Studies and Collections Management from the University of Minnesota.

In 1981 I took over my father's textile conservation business and operated Welter Studio for 20+ years working primarily on Civil War Battle flags in the Wisconsin and Kentucky collections. In addition, I worked on baptismal and wedding dresses, samplers, and other two and three dimensional textiles.

While in graduate school and for 10 years after completion of coursework, I was employed by the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minnesota as Collection Manager. This position

included the care, storage, and handling of the historic clothing, textiles, and decorative arts, working with donors and donations processing, and overseeing the installation of museum exhibits. During that time, I also curated four



exhibits, and taught a number of outreach classes in conjunction with those exhibits.

Since the close of Welter Studio and leaving the employ of the GMD, I have worked for the past 16 years as an interior designer specializing in kitchen and bath design in my business Design Transformations.

I am active in my community with the Shoreview Community Garden Club, North Suburban New Neighbors, Larks Women's Chorus, Treble Tones Women's Chorus, and Beta Sigma Phi women's non-collegiate social sorority.

I also love to do genealogy research, and antiquing with my sister.

New SHS Member Sees Lepak/Larson Home as Asset to Community



Jane Bester

(Editor's note: Through a few Q and A's, Historical ShoreViews Talks with SHS member Jane Bester about her thoughts on the SHS and Moving Ahead.)

Q: Tell us a little about yourself.

I live in Shoreview, on the northern end of Lake Owasso. I moved to Shoreview in 1997, after completing my master's degree in Clinical Laboratory Science at the University of Minnesota. I worked for the American Red Cross for many years, and recently retired after completing my professional career in the Mounds View School District.

Q: I understand you are involved with various Shoreview community organizations.

I've played flute in the Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band (SNLVB) since 2012; on the board of the Shoreview Einhausen Sister City Association; played with the Classical Sounds Chamber Trio; volunteered at Slice of Shoreview Days; and other organizations.

Q: What are your project interests with the SHS?

The addition of the Lepak/Larson house is an exciting new venture for the SHS. I am interested in helping it be restored with 1930s style furnishings and décor, as well as helping to organize historical pieces and documents for future generations to access.

Q: How do you see the Lepak/Larson house benefitting the residents of Shoreview and surrounding communities?

The house provides the SHS with a physical space in which to organize, observe, preserve, and pass on the history of Shoreview to future generations

Q: What is your interest in Shoreview history?

I grew up in a small farming community in eastern Wisconsin. Like many rural areas, old buildings frequently get razed and replaced with new structures, shopping or parking lots or new highways. It is important to preserve some of the old buildings and residences so that future generations can appreciate how Shoreview began, first as a farming community and now as a thriving first-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Q: As a resident of Shoreview, what are some of your memories of living here?

I moved to Shoreview "only" 22 years ago, but I remember enjoying exploring its bike trails for the first time, which I could access right from

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Shoreview Historical Society Membership Dues and Dues Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please include your email address to receive your newsletter. This is a private list, SHS does 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 \$ _____

**Historical ShoreVIEWS
subscription included in dues.**

Please make your check out to:
Shoreview Historical Society, and mail to:

Bob Minton,
5818 Prairie Ridge Drive
Shoreview, MN 55126

**Additional tax deductible
donations are welcome.**

**You may also register for
membership through our website:
www.ShoreviewHistoricalsociety.org**

The Shoreview Historical Society was born in 1991 when a group of residents took an interest in preserving and recording both the important 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.

New SHS Member Sees Lepak/Larson Home as Asset to Community

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my house (and still can!)

I remember a tiny market in a strip mall on Victoria and County E, where I could buy a few kitchen staples quickly if I ran out. I also remember family dinners and brunches at Kozlak's.

Q: As a member of many volunteer organizations, you are aware of the challenge to attract new members - how would you encourage others to become involved with the SHS?

I think many people avoid becoming members of organizations because they don't know what they're "signing up" for. One idea for how to get more people involved is to bring people in on a "project" basis - that is, identify a project, such as categorizing old photos, filing a certain type of document, or working with a person to plan the annual member breakfast. The project would have a goal and a "start" and "end" date. That way, people have a good idea of what they are being asked to do, and how long it will take. I realize that it's difficult to put parameters on such things, but if people were told up front how much of a time commitment is expected, perhaps they'd be more willing to jump in to help. And, if they enjoy the "project", maybe they'll sign up for another one!

Oral Histories at SHS

Former Mayors Tell Their Stories of Shoreview's Past



by Bob Minton, SHS oral histories project

Oral histories of three former mayors and one former city council member have recently been recorded and now are part of the SHS archives. It is interesting to skim through and listen to their accomplishments and interests. Bill Farrell, mayor from 1970-75, was justifiably proud of encouraging business and tax development. One of main events of his tenure, though, was the tragic collapse of one of the TV towers in 1971. Seven construction workers were killed and three injured. A Minneapolis newspaper quoted a surviving worker: "The welds didn't hold." After the tower was finally reconstructed, Bill rode an elevator to the top to show that it was safe. Writer John Koblas, in the book *Shoreview Reflections*, reported that on the way up Bill clutched his rosary in his pocket.

Jim Olson followed Farrell as mayor and was described at the time as young and energetic. He was also known as an expert and competitive water skier, and competed for prizes throughout the country. Now at age 88, he can say with pride that he water skied this past summer. Another expert water skier was temporary council member Nito Quitevis who served on the council in 1995. Both he and his wife were champion skiers and he has a room packed full of plaques, awards and medals on display as a result. Jim Chalmers, was mayor from 1993-97, a period of rapid growth in Shoreview. His father was a missionary, and Jim was born and grew up in the Philippine Islands. He maintained a keen interest in the country of his birth, developed plans for some construction activities in the Islands and decided not to run again for reelection.

When Shoreview marked its 50th Birthday in 1997, Historical ShoreViews ran several lengthy stories about each of Shoreview's still living past mayors, including the three above.

(Editor's note: Bob Minton is interested in recording the memories of senior Shoreview residents and others on how they viewed the growth and progress of our great city. Give him a call at 651-295-1404 if you would like to be interviewed.)