

HISTORICAL SHOREVIEWS

Schoonover: The SHS Heritage Family of the Year

In 1953, two young sophomores from Murray High School in St. Paul, Dick Schoonover and Beryl Spooner, crossed paths and ignited a love story that would span decades. With a playful spirit, Beryl quips, "It was a race to see who could get engaged first!" Just a few short years later, on June 9, 1956, this dynamic duo tied the knot at the Como Park Lutheran Church, embarking on a beautiful journey together.

Dick kicked off his career working for his father, Chuck, at Schoonover Auto Repair, while Beryl found her footing at Montgomery Ward's Midway store. As their family began to grow with the births of their three boys - Jeff in 1958, Scott in 1959, and Mike in 1964 - they settled into a home on Larpen-teur Ave. But it didn't take long for Beryl to realize that raising children alongside a bustling road was less than ideal. So, in 1964, they made a pivotal move to the charming "Hills of Homes" community in Shoreview, and with that, 3484 North Chatsworth Street became the backdrop of their joyful family life.

This idyllic neighborhood offered the perfect setting for their active family. The boys thrived at the nearby Island Lake school and became members of the Incarnation Lutheran Church community. With a backyard that transformed into a ballpark in summer and a hockey rink in winter, their home became a playground. The boys could often be found shooting hoops in the driveway or sneaking off for bike rides to Dick's Market, the "Y," or Cederholm Golf Course. Those carefree days included snowmobiling across the fields and walking to school, with great neighbors adding richness to their lives.

However, not all memories were carefree. The dreaded Fridley Tornado loomed large over their childhood, forever haunting them with sirens during storms. The day the TV tower fell, including the deaths of seven men working on the tower was another dark moment, and a close call with a grass fire that threatened their family shop in the mid-seventies nearly turned tragic. The fire was in between propane tanks at the rear of the business's property and the houses on Richmond court. Scott and Jeff helped Dick, and several employees move customer cars to safety and hose down the area to prevent the fire from getting too close to the tanks. Dick eventually passed out from stress and exhaustion.



In 1976, the Schoonovers made another life change, moving from Chatsworth Street to a wooded lot on a tranquil cul-de-sac, 337 Dawn Avenue. Their custom-built home was perfectly tailored for their growing family, where their boys attended Breck, Mounds View, and Chippewa schools, continuing to chase the game they loved - hockey!

Beryl poured her heart into making their house a home. With a flair for hospitality, she created a warm and inviting atmosphere, welcoming nearly everyone, establishing rich traditions around holidays and family dinners - even amidst the chaos that came with raising three hockey-playing boys and a husband who was busy managing a thriving family business.

Dick and Beryl embraced life together, enjoying adventures with friends, cherished Wednesday "date nights" at Kozlak's, and golfing at Midland Hills. They found solace in winter getaways to Palm Springs and Scottsdale, reveling in the sun and relaxation.

The family business, affectionately known as "The Shop," was a cornerstone of their lives. Established by Chuck Schoonover in 1938 with a borrowed \$50 from Harry Slawick, owner of Midway Ford, it became a local fixture on Snelling and Edmund in St. Paul *(continued on page 4.)*

Annual BREAKFAST

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

9:30AM

Shoreview Community Center
Wedell Room

FREE for Members

\$10 for Guests of Members

RSVP:

info@shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org

with
**SPECIAL
GUEST**



Food provided by
Creative Catering

GARY
LARUE





Victory gardens were vegetable, herb and fruit gardens planted during World War I & World War II. They were also called war gardens or food gardens for defense.

People were encouraged to plant victory gardens for many reasons including helping to boost morale. They also supplemented rations and reduced pressure on the food supply.

Some of the food that was grown was atypical of many local gardens. Produce grown included kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, swiss chard, beans, beets, cabbage and carrots.

In the United States, around one third of the vegetables produced by the United States came from victory gardens, Eleanor Roosevelt planted a Victory Garden in 1943 on the White House lawn, "Food will win the war" proclaimed Herbert Hoover.

4-H During the War Years

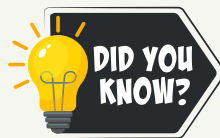
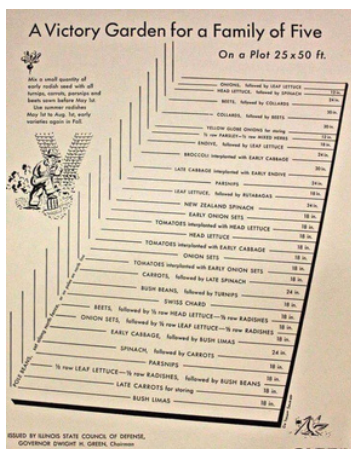
In Ramsey County, membership in 4-H clubs remained high during WWII. In 1943, 4-H members tended 118 acres of Victory Gardens.

Flower for a Farmhouse

On a farm, things needed to be sustainable. Crops were grown to sell or to use for livestock food or for family use. However, there were also some typical flowers that brightened many a farmhouse.

Peonies and day lilies were found near most farmhouses. Irises were easy to grow and provided early color. Spirea bushes, also known as bridal veil, were popular but perhaps the most popular bush grown were lilacs. Lilacs were often planted near the family outhouse for obvious reasons!!

Other popular perennials were hollyhocks, foxgloves, delphiniums, and columbines. Hardy roses were also enjoyed.



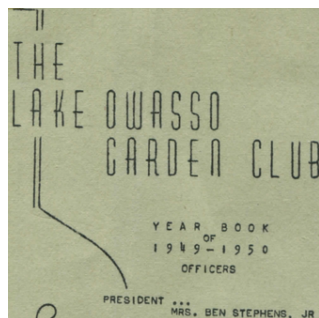
Shoreview Community Garden Club

The Shoreview Garden Club began with 22 members in 1991 and currently has 'grown' to 58 members.

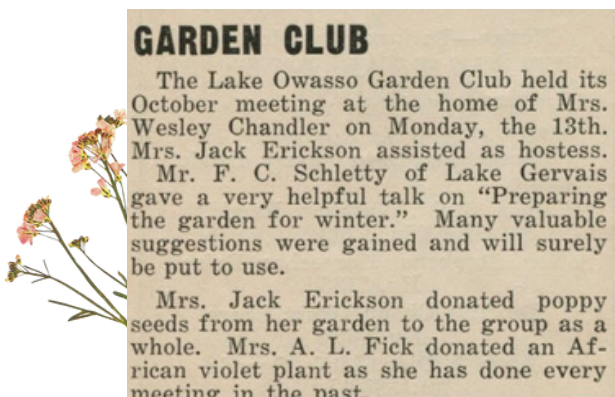
They hold an annual plant sale fundraisers and schedule garden club bus tours during the summer. More information can be found at shoreviewcommunitygardenclub.org

THE LAKE OWASSO GARDEN CLUB

The Lake Owasso Garden Club was established in Roseville and surrounding communities in 1946 and it has been in existence ever since. In 1996, they published a booklet celebrating 50 years of service.



Over the years, they participated in many flower shows and won many awards both local and national. Community projects as well as having an annual plant sale are missions of the Club.



Shoreview's POLLINATOR Garden



The community's first pollinator garden is in McCullough Park. Twenty-seven volunteers from the Arden Hills/Shoreview Rotary Club, the Shoreview Community Garden Club and the city's natural resources team worked in shifts to plant **over 400 plants** to bring the city its first pollinator rain garden.

Spring AWAKENING

The earth is waking up from the long cold winter. Trees bud and flowers begin to push their way through the soil. Things that looked dead were only taking a nap.



by Jacci Krebsbach
SHS President

We, at the SHS, were doing the same thing. We spent the winter getting organized. Pam Vincent, our secretary, scanned hundreds of pages of donated documents to add to our growing database. Lu Slaten, our Vice President, has developed a member's handbook that will be very helpful for SHS members.

Pat Sullivan has been organizing our popular membership breakfast. Mark your calendar for this!!! Our website has even updated thanks to board member Carol Gross, Check it out.

We are excited to plan a tour schedule for the Lepak/Larson house. There will be announced public tours but private tours for organizations can also be booked. Our first scheduled spring tour is Saturday, May 17th from 10AM-12PM.

Thanks to a grant from the Shoreview Community Foundation, the SHS was able to have 36 personal interviews from our Shoreview Reflections book transferred to a flash drive.

I am excited to work with the Schoonover family as they are honored as the 2025 Heritage Family of the Year. Please join us April 19th to hear about the history of Schoonover Autobody and the influence of the Schoonover family in Shoreview.

Now let's enjoy the longer days of daylight as we embrace this new season of Spring!



PLAY FOR PATRICK

The Patrick Schoonover Heart Foundation was created to honor & remember Patrick Schoonover who passed away at the age of 14, due to Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), caused by undetected heart defects.

The goal of the foundation is to bring SCA awareness, education, prevention and eliminate SCA in kids by offering free heart screens for ALL kids 14-24 throughout the Minneapolis-St. Paul area regardless of race, gender, income, or demographics.

More information can be found at www.playforpatrick.org.



THE 15TH ANNUAL TASTE of SHOREVIEW Fundraiser

THURSDAY, MAY 1ST, 2025
5:00-8:00PM

SHOREVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER

\$35 PER PERSON

VIA EVENTBRITE.COM | SEARCH
'TASTE OF SHOREVIEW'

Enjoy an Evening of:

- 🍷 Food Samples from Local Restaurants
- 🍷 Wine & Beer Sampling
- 🍷 Live Auction and Bucket raffle



Hosted by Shoreview/Arden Hills
Rotary, Golden K Kiwanis, Shoreview/
Arden Hills Lions & The Shoreview
Community Foundation



What is a PIE PLANT?



Another popular perennial grown near many a farmhouse was the one called "pie plant."

Today you know it as rhubarb. It was first grown in China before making its way west to the United States.

Rhubarb, which looks like celery, is considered a vegetable but it is prepared like a fruit. Since it is quite tart, sweetener is added when it is made into pies, tarts, sauce and other desserts. Some cooks mix strawberries with rhubarb when making jam or a strawberry rhubarb pie.

Here is a popular recipe:

Rhubarb sauce

- 2 lbs. (about 4½ cups) rhubarb, cleaned and cut into small pieces
- 1 cup water
- 1½ cups sugar

Mix all ingredients in large saucepan and slowly heat, covered. Simmer until tender but not mushy (about 12-15 minutes).

You may add more sugar if necessary. To make a thicker sauce, mix 1 Tbsp cornstarch with a small bit of cold water. Stir well into the sauce as it finishes cooking.

The Friends of
Shoreview
History Facebook page
now has **over 2,100**
members!

Meetings of the SHS Board of
Directors take place on the second
Monday of each month at 5PM at the
Lepak/Larson house (1170 Lepak Court,
Shoreview). If you plan to attend, please
email: info@shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org.

NOTE



Election Ballot for Members of the Board of Directors

Annual Meeting: 10:15 am, April 17, 2025



Board members serve for a 3-year term. The SHS seeks to have nine directors, with three directors up for election each year. Please vote for three (check by name). You may, also, submit names(s) of any write-in candidate(s) for board members

____ **Lu Slaten** (incumbent); ____ **Pat Sullivan** (incumbent); ____ **Pam Vincent** (incumbent); ____ **Lisa Wedell-Ueki** (incumbent)

Write in _____

Please vote at the Annual Meeting, or mail your ballot by April 12, 2025 to: Shoreview Historical Society, 4600 Victoria St N.
Shoreview, MN 55126



SCHOONOVER (continued from page 1) After Chuck's passing in 1966, Dick took the reins and eventually moved the business to Shoreview in 1973, building a state-of-the-art repair facility. A visionary in collision repair, he earned respect as a trailblazer and advocate for the industry, passionately championing consumer needs and uplifting others to enhance their shops at both state and national levels.

Throughout the 1980s, the entire Schoonover family rallied together to grow the business and establish a reputation for excellence. Jeff eventually ventured into finance before returning to the industry, while Scott forged a path in medical sales. In 2000, Dick retired, passing the baton to Mike and his wife Gayle, who now work alongside the fourth generation - their children, Anna and Matthew.

In July 2020, the family mourned Dick's passing, but his legacy lives on. Jeff and Scott returned to Minnesota in 2021, with Jeff residing in Minneapolis with his husband London and their two Frenchies. He has one daughter, Alyssa, and two grandsons. Scott has set roots in Ramsey, owning Clinical Education Referrals and raising two daughters, Lindsay and Courtney, along with two grandkids. Meanwhile, Mike and Gayle call Eagan home and share their lives with four children - Abby, Anna, Patrick, and Matthew - and five grandkids.

Beryl, ever the matriarch, enjoys her time at St. Therese Senior Living in Woodbury, surrounded by friends and family, a testament to the beautiful life she and Dick built together. Their story is a rich tapestry of love, resilience, and family that continues to thrive!

Doug Ostergren (Age 96)

IN MEMORIAM



Longtime resident of Shoreview on Turtle Lake. He practiced dentistry in Roseville for 35 years. A lifelong humanitarian, he is survived by wife Phyllis, 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter. [His full obituary can be found here.](#)

SHS MEMBERSHIP FORM - JOIN TODAY!



Adult Membership
1 YEAR: \$15
3 YEARS: \$38



Senior Membership
1 YEAR: \$10
3 YEARS: \$25



Family Membership
1 YEAR: \$18
3 YEARS: \$45



Student Membership
1 YEAR: \$10
3 YEARS: \$25



Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email(s) _____

Preferred Phone _____

TOTAL AMOUNT*: _____



Please make your check out to
Shoreview Historical Society and mail to:
Shoreview Historical Society
c/o Pat Sullivan
4600 Victoria St N.
Shoreview MN 55126

*Please add \$2 to cover postage for mailing the newsletter, if you do not wish to receive newsletter by email.

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More Information

<https://shoreviewhistoricalsociety.org>

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City of Shoreview

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