



The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society

7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427

March 2010

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March meeting...

The story of The Minneapolis Russian Art Museum

Carol L. Veldman Rudie from The Museum Of Russian Art will describe how TMORA re-purposed a landmark building while retaining its historic look and feel. She will also describe the Russian art showcased by the museum.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 11, 7 p.m. at the Society's historic church, 6731 Golden Valley Road. Refreshments will be served following the program. Invite a friend to join you.



The Museum of Russian Art is the only museum in North America dedicated exclusively to the preservation and presentation of Russian art and artifacts.

Stolz recalls history of the Old Log and its actors

Don Stolz, at age 92, was the reason that 56 people came out to the Society's General Membership meeting on February 11. Stolz talked about the history of art and culture in the Minneapolis area and other historical topics. He described how he came

to buy the Old Log Theater in 1946 and his association with numerous actors—some of whom have gone on to star in theaters on Broadway in New York and in the movies—who started their acting careers at the Old Log. His presentation was education-

al as well as entertaining.

Don's book, **The OLD LOG THEATER & ME** was published in 2009 by Beaver's Pond Press, Inc. It is available from (www.BeaversPondPress.com).

Mark your calendar for these upcoming programs

April 8: Sixty-nine years after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Bob Laskey, assisted by Bob Provost, will present the controversy over who shot down Japanese Admiral Yamamoto, planner of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

May 13: Gedney Tuttle, author of a book on the history of the Gedney Pickle Company of Chaska,

Minnesota, will bring the history of that famous Minnesota company to our historic church.

September 9: To kick off the Society's new fiscal year, Doug Ohman of Pioneer Photography, will give his newest photo presentation on the "Historic Libraries of Minnesota."

Firefighters' items donated

Golden Valley Fire Marshall Ed Anderson has donated several items to the Society's Golden Valley Fire Department archives: "pre-planning" diagrams of the commercial and industrial buildings of Golden Valley showing where the nearest fire hydrant is located, where the electric shut off box is located and other needed information in case of a reported fire; a 1950's hand held

radio set that enabled fire fighters to receive fire calls at their home; a battery operated device fire fighters carried in their car on which the location of a fire would be received. The device would be plugged in at home to re-charge for the next day's use. Thanks to Ed Anderson for thinking of the Society and adding to the historical archives of Golden Valley.

Fire prompts establishment of city's Fire Department

Volunteer fire departments have been known to exist in this country since early colonial days. It was in the atmosphere of WW II that the Golden Valley Volunteer Fire Department first came into being.

About that time there was a fire at the Lynde home, situated on the northwest corner of Glenwood and Xerxes. When Mrs. Lynde discovered her roof was on fire, she called the Minneapolis Fire Department. The firemen arrived promptly and put a ladder against the house. But before anyone could scramble up, the Minneapolis Fire Chief arrived and ordered the ladder removed. The house was not located in Minneapolis and Mrs. Lynde was advised to call the St. Louis Park fire department. When they also refused to help she called Robbinsdale. Before Robbinsdale would send

a truck, \$35.00 would have to be deposited at city hall. Then they would furnish one truck and three firefighters. In the meantime, neighbors formed a bucket brigade and extinguished the blaze. That incident heightened the concern of all the residents of Golden Valley. Credit for spearheading the initial Golden Valley volunteer fire department is generally given to Fletcher Olson, owner of the local lumber yard, which was located on the present site of the Golden Valley City Hall.

to be continued...

New members

John and Norma Magnuson, 4640 Ensign Avenue North, New Hope, 55428;

Christine White (renewal), 1621 Independence Avenue North, Golden Valley 55427.

Challenge tops 60% of goal

This is President Ken again, with another plug for our ongoing matching grant challenge with the City of Golden Valley. I'm happy to be able to report that we are at about 60% of our goal of \$5,000. That's pretty good but we still have a ways to go. Thanks to those who have already sent a contribution including the Rotary Club of Golden Valley and the Women of the Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church of Golden Valley. And there is nothing that says we have to stop at \$5,000. In previous years we have raised over \$75,000. So please keep those dollars coming and let's make this our best matching grant drive ever! A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Byerly's decorates with Society items

The interior decorator for Lunds and Byerly's has had several photos and a map from the Society's archives reproduced for the purpose of hanging them in the public meeting room of the renovated Byerly's Golden Valley store. The meeting room is available for members of the public to reserve. Lund's and Byerly's have displayed similar photos in cooperation with the historical societies of Edina, St. Louis Park and Plymouth.