



The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society

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Golden Valley Days

Cool, windy weather doesn't hamper festival fun

Many thanks to Society members and friends of the Society who participated in the Golden Valley Days parade and greeted visitors at the Society's booth in the city hall campus area on Saturday, May 16. They were: Don Minor, Phoebe Sellke, Alekai Hongsell, Jerry Breth, Jacob Breth, Nancy Azzam, Don Anderson, Leone Johnson, Ken Huber, Cathy Waldhauser, Paula Pentel, Betty Crews, Dede Scanlon, and Mike Freiberg. Special thanks to Ken Huber, who brought a dozen of his antique riding toys for the kids to enjoy. Young Ms. Sellke and Mr. Hongsell, dressed as bride and groom, rode in the back of Don Minor's Model A truck to promote weddings at the Historic Church. The truck was to have wedding decorations and signs attached, but high winds cancelled those



Phoebe Sellke and Alekai Hongsell rode in the back of Don Minor's classic Model A Ford truck in the Golden Valley Festival parade. Don also brought his antique riding toys, including the fighter plane pictured above.

plans. Likewise, the winds kept volunteers busy securing the displays in the tent.

Temperatures started out at a crisp 38 degrees and warmed

up to 55 later in the afternoon, but winds were 15-25 mph with gusts up to 35-40 mph all day long. At least it was sunny and dry!

Haidet impresses with "Greatest Generation" presentation

The May 14 general membership meeting program presenter, Mark Haidet of the Minnesota Historical Society showed us a power point presentation and a 10- minute DVD about the MHS "Greatest Generation" project,

which began in 2004. It was one of the best produced programs we have had the pleasure of enjoying at our membership meetings. The project honors the men and women who experienced the Great Depression and World War

II, and who built the world as we know it today. Twenty-nine members and guests attended this preview of the MHS tribute to these amazing people, which is now on display at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

Antiques at Heathers campus June 20

The next Antiques Road Show will be held at the Heathers Estates, 2900 Douglas Drive in Crystal on June 20. Due to limited space, **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** Each person attending may bring up to five items to be appraised by Appraisal Specialists Midwest, Bonnie Lindberg and James Marrinan. Items to be appraised should be brought between 1:30 to 2:00 p.m. Oral appraisals will be made from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Due to extensive research need-

Questions, we get questions!

We get asked questions about many subjects. For instance, local attorney, Jim Moran, called to ask, "when did the Golden Valley High School become Breck High School?" Checking out "Golden Valley - A History of a Minnesota City - 1886 - 1986", authored by the Golden Valley Historical Society and published through the efforts of the Golden Valley Centennial Committee, we found on page 27 that "Breck School purchased the Golden Valley High School campus in 1981. "

Dave Carl, son of the owner of the property at 428 Sunnyridge Lane, Golden Valley, asked if the Society had any information about the granite grave marker beside the driveway at 400 Sunnyridge Lane. The marker reads "Cornelius Pedersen 1876 - 1929". We found nothing in our records about Mr. Pedersen.

ed, the appraisers are not equipped to appraise items like dolls, watches, jewelry, large art or large furniture. A donation of \$5.00 per item will go to the Golden Valley Historical Society museum rehabilitation fund. Admission is \$1.00 if you don't bring items for appraisal.

Light refreshments will be served. To make a reservation, call Ms Judy Brown, Manager, The Heathers Estates at 763-544-1220. For questions, call Ms. Brown or Don Anderson at 763-588-8578.

Checking with the City Cemetery clerk, nothing was found in the city records either. Who knows something about Mr. Cornelius Pedersen? If you do, call secretary Don Anderson at 763-588-8578.

Finally: Who remembers where Otto Hirschhoff lived in Golden Valley? Otto is now 95 years old and lived in the Village in the 1920's. His niece, Paula Hirschhoff of Washington, D.C. wrote a book about the Hirschoffs coming from Germany and eventually settling in Golden Valley. She came to visit Uncle Otto and to drive by the old homestead. They checked the 1888 map on display at the Society's display cases in City Hall and the Franzen Farm rang a bell. So with that information, they attempted to locate Otto's former home. Their search was not totally complete as one possible house did not meet Otto's

GV history quiz

Q: Around 1920, the Village-hired 'Road Boss' was given orders by the Trustees (council) to build or repair certain roads in the Village. The Road Boss got the work done by: A. Doing the work himself; B. Hiring day labor; C. Hiring the low bidder contractor. **Answer:** A and B. Doing the work himself and/or hiring day labor. Day labor rates were set for "man and team of horses", "man," or "boy."

Members clean up

Saturday, May 2, 2009, was the semi-annual yard clean up date for the Historic Church. Thanks to volunteers: Jerry Breth; Jacob Breth; Don Anderson; Don Minor; Betty Crews; Cathy Waldhauser; George and Jane Martinsen; and Mike Freiberg.

Volunteer needed

A part time volunteer is needed to transfer the audio and video tape archive lists from a paper index to a computer archival program. Call Don Anderson at 763-588-8578.

remembrances but might have been his. Paula is donating her book to the Society and would still like to find the exact address of the Hirschhoff residence. Who remembers the Hirschoffs? Call Don Anderson at 763-588-8578 if you have any information that might help us identify the former Hirschhoff home.