

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society  
7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427  
March, 2010

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The story of the Mpls. Russian Art Museum is the March Society's General Membership Meeting

Carol L. Veldman Rudie from TMORA will be presenting an interesting story how TMORA has re-purposed a landmark building and retained its historic look and feel in the process. Her presentation will include information about the building as well as about Russian art.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 11, 2010, 7 pm at the Society's historic church, 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Mn. 55427. Refreshments will be served following the program. Invite a friend to come to the program with you.

**MPLS. RUSSIAN ART MUSEUM**

**IN REVIEW:**

Don Stolz at age 92, was the reason that 56 people came out to the Society's General Membership meeting on February 11, 2010. Stolz talked about the history of art culture in the Minneapolis area as well as several other historical topics. He gave the members and guests the details as to how he came to buy the Old Log Theater in 1946 and his association with numerous actors who started their acting careers at the Old Log, some of whom have gone on to star in theaters on Broadway in New York and the movies. His presentation was educational from a historical side as well as entertaining. His book, *The OLD LOG THEATER & ME* was published in 2009 by Beaver's Pond Press, Inc. ([www.BeaversPondPress.com](http://www.BeaversPondPress.com)).

**UP-COMING PROGRAMS:**

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Thursday - In the 66<sup>th</sup> year of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Bob Laskey, assisted by Bob Provost will present the controversy over who shot down Japanese Admiral Yamamoto, who was the planner of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Thursday - Gedney Tuttle, author of a book on the history of the Gedney Pickle Company of Chaska, Minnesota, will bring to our historic church the history of that famous Minnesota company.

September 9, 2010 – Thursday - 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".

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**PRESIDENT HUBER APPEALS FOR MORE HELP**

Hi Society Members and Friends of the Society,

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 are not quite there yet, with a ways to go. Thanks to those who have already sent in a matching contribution including the Rotary Club of Golden Valley and the Women of the Spirit Hope United Methodist Church of Golden Valley. And there is nothing that says we have to stop at \$5,000. So please keep those matching dollars coming and let's make this our best matching grant drive ever! A return envelope has been enclosed with your newsletter for your convenience.

**WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS:**

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

Christine White renewed her membership – 1621 Independence Avenue North, Golden Valley 55427;

Greet them at our next general membership meeting.

#### **ANTIQUA ROAD SHOW IS AT CALVARY CENTER COOPERATIVE SENOR RESIDENCE:**

On Saturday, February 27, 2010, Society volunteers will work in cooperation with the staff at Calvary Center Cooperative to host another antique road show from 2 – 4 p.m. Thanks to the 13 Society volunteers who will assist in making the event run smoothly, be entertaining and educational: Nancy Azzam; Betty Crews; Don Minor; Lyle Mottinger; Harriet Betzold; Ken Huber; Doris Sovde; Don Anderson; Paula Pentel; Iona Schuller; A.C and Gladys Carlson; and Shelly Hansen; Look for the announcement of the next antique road show in June, 2010.

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#### **ACCESSIONS (DONATIONS) TO THE SOCIETY:**

To add to the Society's Golden Valley Fire Department archives, Golden Valley Fire Marshall Ed Anderson has donated several items: Several three ring binders with "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 in the building and other needed information in case of a reported fire at the building; An actual radio hand held set used by fire fighters at their home to be able to receive calls to a fire, circa 1950's; A battery operated devise which a fire fighter carried with him/her in their car in which the location of a fire call would be received. The devise would be plugged in at home to re-charge the devise for the next day's use. Thanks to Ed Anderson for thinking of the Society and adding to the archives of the heritage of Golden Valley.

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#### **SOCIETY'S PHOTOS AND MAP TO BE HUNG IN BYERLY'S GOLDEN VALLEY STORE:**

The interior decorator for Lunds and Byerly's has had several photos and a map obtained from the Society's archives and had them reproduced for the purpose of hanging them in the renovated Byerly's Golden Valley store in the public meeting room. The meeting room is available for members of the public to reserve dates and times for their use. Lund and Byerly's have received similar photos in cooperation with the historical societies of Edina, St. Louis Park and Plymouth, so far, as the stores are remodeled.

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#### **AND SPEAKING ABOUT THE 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 roof fire in the Lynde home, situated on the northwest corner of Glenwood and Xerxes Avenue, now a part of Wirth Park. 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. Before anyone could scramble up the ladder, 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 refused to come she called Robbinsdale. Before Robbinsdale would order a truck, \$35.00 would have to be deposited at city hall and then they would furnish one truck and three firefighters. In the meantime the 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 located on the NE corner of Winnetka and now Golden Valley Road, the present site of the Golden Valley City Hall. To be continued....