



# The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society

7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427

August 2010

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## League of Women Voters marks 90th anniversary

On August 26, 1920, the Secretary of State signed the proclamation enacting the 19th amendment to the constitution giving women the right to vote. This date is now celebrated as Women's Equality Day. The League of Women Voters United States was formed in February of 1920 by women who had worked for years for the passage of an amendment giving women the right to vote.

According to the history book, "Golden Valley 1886-1986", authored by the Golden Valley Historical Society, the League of Women Voters Golden Valley was officially established in January 1948, after two years of active existence as a study group and provisional League. The January 1955 volume 1 number 1 of the League newsletter, which would become the Valley Voter, describes that first meeting. "In January, 1946, a small group of women met to organize a League group in Golden Valley. The first officers were, Mrs. R. G. Parlin, President; Mrs. Hartupee, Vice President; Mrs. Putnam, Treasurer; Mrs. Johnson, Secretary; Mrs. R. Jacobson, Program Chairman."

The League has maintained

the basic purpose of educating citizens to become informed and active participants in government at all levels. The League studies issues and lobbies on its positions but never provides partisan support for candidates or political party positions. Some of the issues the League has studied and worked on locally over the years are: the present form of city government; a complete parks system with hiking and biking trails; open space protection; a responsive and service oriented police department; greater diversity of housing; recycling; and a comprehensive land use and traffic plan. The League's special contribution to the community was recognized when the group was named "Citizen of the Year" by the Golden Valley Sun newspaper in 1972.

In Golden Valley, League members have been very involved in local government serving on advisory commissions and as elected officials. The first woman elected to the City Council was League member Pat Moberg. She was elected in 1972 and served from 1973-1975. The first woman to be elected Mayor of Golden Valley, in 1979, was League member Rosemary

Thorsen. She served from 1980 – 1983. All of the mayors who have served since that time have been League Members. Mary Anderson (1984-1990 and 1996-2001), Larry Bakken (1991-1993), Blair Tremere (1994-1995), and Linda Loomis (2002 to present). (In May, 1974, the National LWV voted to allow men to become members.) Of seventeen City Council Members who have served since the election of Pat Moberg, ten have been members of the League at some time -- Mary Anderson, Rosemary Thorsen, Gloria Johnson, Larry Bakken, Martha Micks, Jan LeSuer, Blair Tremere, Mike Freiberg, Paula Pentel and Dede Scanlon. Currently, Mayor Linda Loomis and Council members Mike Freiberg, Paula Pentel, and Dede Scanlon are members of the League.

The League of Women Voters of Golden Valley continues its mission of studying issues, informing citizens and encouraging participation in government. They welcome all to their meetings and invite all citizens to become members.

**LWV continued on back.**

## Society awarded \$7K state grant

Our local organization directly benefits from funds appropriated by the Legacy Act.

The Minnesota Historical Society awarded a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant in the amount of \$7,000 to the Golden Valley Historical Society. The grant was approved by the Society's awards committee on July 22 and will support its Asbestos Contained Asphalt Floor Tiles Abatement project.

Minnesota Historical and

Cultural Heritage Grants are made possible by the Minnesota Legislature from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund created with passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution in November 2008. The grants are awarded to support projects of enduring value for the cause of history and historic preservation across the state. The GVHS project will be completed by December 31, 2010.

## It's time for membership renewal

Thank you to the members who have already sent in their dues renewal for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The dues are the same as ever: \$20.00 for an individual membership; \$25.00 for a family membership; \$10.00 for a student membership; \$250.00 for a lifetime membership; \$25.00 for a non-profit organization; \$50.00 for a small corporation with less than 100 employees; \$100.00 for a large corporation with more than 100 employ-

ees. Make your check payable to the Golden Valley Historical Society and mail to 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. With the financial support from the City of Golden Valley on hold, your support is vitally needed. We thank you for your continued support of the Society's mission to find, preserve and educate about the heritage of our community - Golden Valley, Minnesota.

## Note these upcoming events

**September 9, 2010 (Thursday):** The September 9 Annual Meeting program will feature Doug Ohman of Pioneer Photography, who will show his most recent research and photos about historical libraries of Minnesota. This is also the annual meeting of the Society and will include the election of members of the board of directors. Your attendance is most important.

**September 18, 2010 (Saturday):** The Society will be co-hosting an antique appraisal show at the Woodbury Estates Senior Residence in Woodbury from 2-4 p.m. More details to follow.

## LWV continued from front

On August 17 the Golden Valley City Council will issue a proclamation celebrating the 90th Anniversary of Women's Equality Day and recognizing the contributions of the League of Women Voters to Golden Valley. For questions or further information contact Mary Anderson at 763-588-8578 or maryanddon3030@aol.com.

## Salute to Board

As the Society comes to the end of its 35th fiscal year, the officers and members of the board of directors are given a huge round of applause for volunteering their leadership and services to the organization and are given a hearty "well done"! The board of directors meets monthly on the third Wednesday of each month at the Historic Church and Museum at 7:00 p.m., except in August, when a Dutch treat business meeting is held at a local restaurant. The directors function as the policy makers of the organization. There is now an opportunity for any Society member in good standing, who wishes to become a candidate for election to serve on the board of directors. The election will be held September 9, 2010. For questions or for further information you may contact the Nominations Committee chairperson, John Colwell. Phone: 763-377-1975 or email: John@colwellcolour.com. .