



# The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society  
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## March 8 meeting ...

### Justice Collins discusses first 50 years of Minnesota statehood

The March 8 Golden Valley Historical Society program, *A Personal Perspective by Former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Loren W. Collins*, will focus on the first 50 years of Minnesota's statehood, with a special focus on the Indian Uprising of 1862 and Minnesota's role in the Civil War from 1861 to 1865. Justice Collins will describe arriving in St. Paul from Massachusetts in 1854, homesteading in Eden Prairie and Northfield, serving in the army through the 1862 Indian Uprising and Civil War, serving in Alabama as a treasury agent after the war, reading for the law in Hastings, and practicing law in Saint Cloud. Justice Collins will also describe his public ser-



Justice Loren W. Collins  
August 7, 1838 – September 27, 1912

vice as Saint Cloud's mayor, a state legislator, district court judge and

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, and his unsuccessful run for governor in 1904. He will also answer questions from the audience about Minnesota's first 50+ years.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Historical Society's historic church/museum at 6731 Golden Valley Road. The program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served immediately following.

**"Justice Collins" appearance has been organized through the supernatural efforts of the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society. Justice Collins is portrayed by Associate Supreme Court Justice, Paul H. Anderson.**

### Two antique roadshows highlight spring events for Society

**March 10, Saturday, 2 – 4 p.m.** The Society is again co-hosting an antique road show with the Woodbury Senior Living Residence at 2825 Woodlane Drive, Woodbury. The public is invited to bring up to 5 items to be professionally orally appraised. See the flyer included with this newsletter for more details. A \$5.00 donation per item to be appraised goes to the GV Historical Society restoration fund.

**March 24, Saturday, 2 – 4 p.m.** The Society is again co-hosting an antique road show with the Calvary Center Cooperative at

7600 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley. As before, the public is invited to bring up to five items to be professionally orally appraised. See the flyer included with this newsletter for more details and a phone number for reservations.

**April 12, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.** "The History of Sweeney Lake", featuring the author of a book about Sweeney Lake, Robert Mattison, will be the program for the April membership meeting. More information will follow in the April newsletter.

**May 19 Golden Valley Day**

More publicity will be forthcoming on this event.

### Accessions to GVHS

Tim Layeau has donated to the Society a Star Tribune, West-Extra Section of December 14, 2011, featuring Golden Valley's best and brightest. The article features the first persons elected to the Golden Valley Hall of Fame in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of Golden Valley. Mr. Layeau also donated a white apron with the Pillsbury Logo on the front.

## Church is popular wedding venue; 22 ceremonies scheduled for 2012

Word continues to spread among brides and grooms 'to be' in Minnesota that one of the best locations for a small wedding is the Historic Church owned by the Golden Valley Historical Society. The Society has hosted over 100 small weddings with as few as four and as many as 80 persons in attendance since the Society acquired the historic church in 1997. Past brides and grooms have said

that they really like the historic and quaint setting, and a number of them have used a photo of the front of the church as the front page on their wedding programs. One couple even hired a horse and buggy to carry them to their reception venue. Local wedding officiates have also suggested the historic church as a venue for their clients' weddings. There are 22 weddings booked so far for 2012.

## Donations to the Society include two gifts of \$5K and two of \$500

The City of Golden Valley and an anonymous donor have each donated \$5,000 to the Society.

Travelers Insurance Foundation has donated \$500, and The Golden Valley Rotary Club has approved another donation of \$500. The Society has also received many dona-

tions in honor of, or in the memory of, persons who have passed on. We are very grateful to all of our donors. It all helps to achieve the goal of renovating the lower level of our historic building and puts the Golden Valley full museum in closer reach.

## Civil War items on display at Golden Valley City Hall

DeDe Scanlon and Jackie Wells have assembled a display of Civil War items in the Golden Valley

City Hall second floor display case.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the United States Civil

## Program review

The February 9 general membership program again featured Roxanne Gould and Jim Rock, who returned for a second presentation about Native Americans in this area. Thirty-seven members and guests were in attendance and enjoyed hearing these Golden Valley residents talk about their Native American heritage and educational activities building on that heritage.

## Drain tile work ends

Gardner Construction Company has completed the installation of drain tile around the basement perimeter including a sump pump pit, pump and battery back-up system. Gardner will return the first week of March to replace three concrete block window wells with steel wells and re-grade the east foundation area, including plastic sheeting and river rock to help keep water away from the foundation.



War. For more information about events and activities honoring the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, see the Minnesota Historical Society website: <http://sites.mnhs.org/>

Also on display at City Hall is a painting of the Hart greenhouse, where the Courage Center is now located, circa 1930, and a map of Golden Valley showing ownership of farmlands around 1920. Farmers' names are on the map so current home owners can find out who owned the farm where their home is located. The map has been very popular with city residents.

**Pictured at left is the Civil War monument at Lakewood Cemetery.**