



# The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society  
Mailing Address: 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427  
Historic Church and Museum: 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley  
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**Thursday, March 14, 7 p.m. program...**

## Britain tells the story of the Lake Shetek settlers

Return to the Minnesota of 1862, a time of opportunity for young white settlers. Then turn again to see how the settlers' gain and the Dakota people's loss led to inevitable conflict. View this story of war and captivity through living descendants of the Lake Shetek settlers. Travel Dakota Territory to hear stories of the Fool Soldier rescuers' compassion and courage as described by their descendants.

Imagine the possibility of the Native American rescuers' and white captives' descendants meeting after nearly 150 years of separation. Two powerful stories from the past transform present day relations between the descendants of Native Americans and white settler families.

This program will be brought to us by the producer of the film, "Return to Shetek: The courage of the Fool Soldiers", Barbara Britain. Britain is a member of the Golden Valley Historical Society.

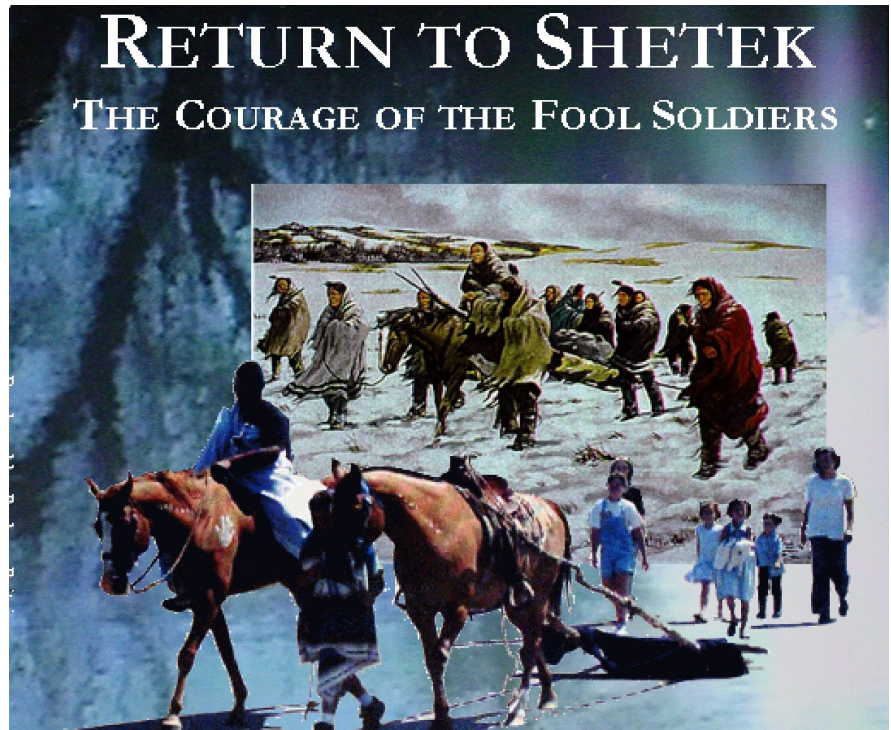


Image courtesy of Barbara Britain

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Society's historic church at 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. Refreshments

will be served following the program, which is free and open to the public.

## Fifty attend Ewald Dairy presentation

On February 14, it was a trip back through memory lane of the Ewald Dairy and the Ewald family as Bill Ewald, great grandson of Ewald Dairy founder Chris Ewald, delivered the presentation. He was assisted by many of the Ewald clan who came to the meeting. It was almost an Ewald convention. The

audience enjoyed the excellent program and following question and answer period. Fifty persons attended. See the reverse side of this newsletter for a timeline of the Ewald Dairy. If you have something from the Dairy that you would consider donating to the GVHS, please call Secretary Don Anderson.

## Upcoming program

**Thursday, April 11** – Wayne Jorgenson, author of "First Minnesota Calvary in the Civil War" will share discoveries from his 20 years of Civil War research. The program will be at 7:00 p.m. at the historic church.

### Timeline...

## Ewald Dairy history tracked from 1884 through 1979

\*In 1884, the Ewald family first arrived in this country. The widowed Moe Ewald and her family of three boys and two girls came to Minneapolis from Denmark and settled on a small farm at 45th Street and 28th Avenue South. Moe's children were named Chris, John, Nels, Bena and Mary.

\*Moe's oldest son Chris at age 14 secured a job on a milk route and eventually purchased the route in 1886. The milk was delivered by Chris and his younger brother John (age 9) who was also in charge of herding the cows. John eventually left the business and started Minneapolis Hide and Tallow.

\*Chris married Gertine Hanson soon after starting the business and had four sons (the Ewald Bros.) and eight daughters.

\*In 1885 Chris Ewald leased the McNair Farms 700 acres, which is now Theodore Wirth Park, for \$1.00 per acre. In 1911 Chris and John moved the family and herded their cattle 12 miles from the original homestead to the McNair Farm. After the move, Chris and oldest son Robert ran the farm and Ray and Dewey delivered the milk. In 1917, Chris purchased five acres of land on the Minneapolis side of Xerxes Avenue. The first milk plant was built on the northeast corner of 19th Avenue and Xerxes and was across the street from the farmhouse and the McNair Farm.

\*In 1923, the Ewalds moved off the farm to a home they built on 2800 19th Avenue North. At this time they purchased all the milk they processed so they could concentrate on delivery. The dairy used horses and wagons until 1930, when they were replaced by a motorized fleet. Back then a horse was purchased for \$100 and pulled wagons for 12 years. During the 1930's, Ewalds partnered with Premier Label Golden Guernsey.

\*Chris Ewald passed away in 1938 and the business

leadership was assumed by Ray and Dewey. During the 1950's Ewald's employed over 500 associates with over 120 routes taking care of 1 out of 3 home delivery customers. At its peak, Ewalds were receiving milk from 61 farms with the milk being delivered by 120 trucks. During the 1960's, customers started buying milk from retailers thereby reducing the need for home delivery. Still producing nearly 75,000 gallons of milk per day much went to the retail outlets. In the early 70's Ewald owned half the milk routes that existed.

\*The dairy was sold—or we like to say transferred—in 1971 to Robert Hosp, who dropped most of the home delivery and concentrated on retail delivery. The last full year of reported operation was in 1979 with sales exceeding 13 million dollars with a reduction in employees to 153. Ewalds filed for Federal Bankruptcy in October of 1980 and was put up for sale. Milk processing soon ceased and the building was razed at the end of February 1982.

\*Throughout their growth the Ewalds never merged or purchased additional routes. Instead they relied on business development and name recognition.

### Bill Ewald

Bill Ewald is the great grandson of Ewald Bros. dairy founder Chris Ewald. Bill's grandfather Ray was one of the four Ewald Bros. and served as managing partner of the creamery. Bill's father Doug along with his brother Graydon were the second generation to carry on the dairy business. His fondest memory from the dairy are his early childhood when his father would take him up to the creamery after kindergarten and let him spend the afternoon drinking chocolate milk with the milkmen returning from their routes.

### Officers and representatives...

## Get to know the 11 members of the GVHS Board

|                             |              |   |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| President Kenneth Huber     | 763-377-1385 | Rudi Martignacco  | 763-588-8148 |
| Vice President John Colwell | 763-377-1975 | Lyle Mottinger  | 763-588-6092 |
| Secretary Don Anderson      | 763-588-8578 | Peggy Nelson  | 763-544-0369 |
| Treasurer Linda Loomis      | 763-545-4659 | DeDe Scanlon  | 763-545-0669 |
| Jerry Breth                 | 763-545-3155 | (Scanlon is the representative to the Board from the Golden Valley City Council.) |              |
| Betty Crews                 | 763-544-6382 |   |              |
| Nancy Kochenderfer          | 763-544-2676 |   |              |