



# 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, April 11, 7 p.m. program...

## First Minnesota Regiment served with honor and valor

For decades, Wayne Jorgenson has researched the men and history of the First Minnesota Regiment Volunteer Infantry, offered in service to President Lincoln after the fall of Ft. Sumter. Men and boys attended patriotic rallies throughout the young state and signed their names to papers that pledged they would answer the president's call. They were strong men, toughened by rugged pioneer life, and in the next three years they drew on that strength time and again.



Wayne Jorgenson

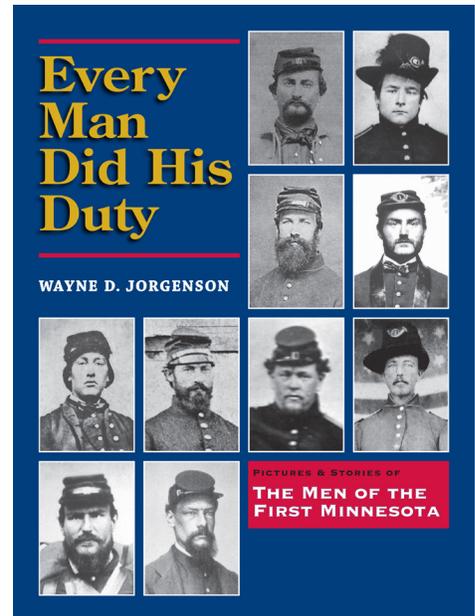
The men of the First Minnesota served with the Army of the Potomac in nearly every major battle of the eastern campaign and were frequently cited for their professional conduct and bravery in the field – nowhere more so than at the Battle of Gettysburg, where their harrowing sacrifice saved the Union from defeat and helped turn the tide of the war.

Jorgenson gathered stories from diaries, pension records, newspaper articles, and family archives, as well as published histories. Along with the individual histories of the men, his book includes hundreds of photographs, including historical photographs, portraits of the men, and color photographs of artifacts selected from

archives and personal collections across the country – including his own extensive collection – thus creating an unprecedented visual record of the regiment. His book “Every Man Did His Duty” is a finalist for the

2013 Minnesota Book Award, which will be announced on April 13. “Every Man Did His Duty” is now available for purchase at [1stminnesota.net](http://1stminnesota.net).

Jorgenson's presentation will be given at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, at the Society's Historic Church, 6731 Golden Valley Road. Refreshments will be served following the program. All GVHS programs are free and open to the public.



## April 6 is Church cleanup day

Building and Grounds Director Jerry Breth has scheduled the annual spring yard clean up at the historic church for Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. until noon. Bring rakes, pruning tools, and work gloves. In addition to leaf pick-up, trimmed branches need to be hauled to the curb for city-contracted pick-up. Many hands make short work. Lend us your hands and bring as many others as you can with you on that day, please.

### Program review...

## Britain recalls "Return to Shetek"

The March 14 program was Barbara Britain with the DVD she produced, “Return to Shetek, The Courage of the Fool Soldiers.” Two powerful stories from the past transform present day relations between the descendants of Native Americans and white settler families of 1862. Thirty-one members and visitors were “spell-bound” by her story.

**Society studies street names...**

## Share your knowledge of streets

A few months ago, a committee of Society members was formed to research how and why Golden Valley streets got their names. Some names are pretty well documented. For example, according to Minnesota Geographic Names, Winnetka Avenue was named for Winnetka, Illinois by Sarah and Charles Peck, who settled in Minnesota in the 1850's. Winnetka is an American Indian name meaning "beautiful land." Presumably, the Pecks were from Illinois. Many street names have changed over the years, some several times. Golden Valley Road was once Watertown Road, then 19th Avenue North and, in western Golden Valley, 6th Avenue North. (1996 Golden Valley Historical Society program by Beth Knobloch transcript.) Some streets are continuations of the "alphabet streets" we share with Minneapo-

lis and other suburbs, but many are unique to Golden Valley.

Records in Golden Valley City Hall are not very complete and the Historical Society has very little information on this subject. **We need your help!** If you have information about the history of a street name, please call or e-mail one of us: **Leone Johnson** lonrj@usfamily.net; phone: 763-529-8400; **Betty Crews** phone: 763-544-6382; **Nancy Kochenderfer** phone: 763-544-2676; **Don Anderson** maryanddon3030@aol.com; phone: 763-588-8578. Or, you can send information to the Golden Valley Historical Society, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. The committee has had one response from a member already, but we have many streets to go! What information can you provide?

## Braun Intertec to do soil borings for museum addition

The first step has been taken toward construction of a new addition to the historic church. The addition will provide suitable space for displaying the 40-year collection of the Golden Valley archives. Braun Intertec Corporation has been retained to do four soil borings in the footprint of the new addition to determine subsoil composition and placement of concrete footings to support the new structure.

Yes, there were six feet of snow and ice over three of the boring locations, but a generous neighbor who operates a snow removal company brought his Bob-Cat tractor over and cleared all the boring locations in about half an hour. Generous because he was at the location within an hour of contacting him and did the snow job pro-bono. Thank you generous neighbor!

**May 9 program...**

## Tremere investigates Wounded Knee

The May 9 program, presented by Blair Tremere, will be: **Dancing With Ghosts: Wounded Knee, 1890: Forty Years Later.** Tremere has re-



Blair Tremere

searched and found lucid accounts of contemporary events and perspectives regarding the challenges faced by both the American Indians and settlers' institutions (religious and secular) seeking to affirm their claims.

**Golden Valley Days is Saturday, May 18. The Society will again have a booth at Brookview Park. Mark your calendar and contact Don Anderson if you can help with setup, teardown, or staffing the booth.**

**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		