



# 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  
October 2014

Don Anderson, Editor

763-588-8578

e-mail: maryanddon3030@aol.com

## October 9 meeting...

### Sannes focuses on Civil War in 1864

Darryl Sannes, co-author of the Patriots of Brooklyn book series, will present the year 1864 of the Civil War and the drawing of the Battle of Acton.

Sannes was appointed to the Minnesota Civil War Commemoration Task Force by Governor Mark Dayton in 2011. The commission was established to commemorate Minnesota's role in the American Civil War with a wide variety of programs and events. Sannes has also been a long-time member of the Brooklyn Historical Society

(Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park) and co-authored the Patriots of Brooklyn book series. He recently retired after a 35-year career with Medtronic and now pursues history full time.

The general membership meeting will be held at the Golden Valley Historical Society's historic church at 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the program. The meeting is free and open to the public.

## Program review...

### Boyd described bee population, protective legislation

The September 11 kickoff program was presented by Crystal Boyd, entomologist with the Minnesota DNR. Boyd described the biology of our state's native bees, the important legacy of bee research in Minnesota, recent legislation to protect pollinators, and the components of a bee-friendly back-

yard. Boyd is also a bee specialist with the Minnesota Biological Survey. Her power point presentation was well done and the 34 members and guests in attendance flocked to ask her questions following her presentation.

(Boyd graciously substituted for Doug Ohman who was ill.)

### Members approve four for three-year terms

Society members attending the September 11 general membership meeting elected to a three-year term on the Society's board of directors: Don Anderson, Crystal Boyd, Betty Crews and James Hera. Other board members with two-year terms remaining: Kenneth Huber, Nancy Kochenderfer, Linda Loomis, Rudi

Martignacco and Peggy Nelson; and with one-year terms remaining: Nancy Azzam, John Colwell and DeDe Scanlon. Director Steven Schmigdall was appointed by the Golden Valley City Council to a one-year term at the beginning of 2014.

## Mark the dates for future programs

**November 13** – Peter James Ward Richie, Robbinsdale author, will present the history of Robbinsdale, including early photos of fishing and boating on the city's sparkling lakes, nostalgic images of the city's beautiful old movie theaters, Captain Billy and Robbinsdale's Whiz Bang legacy, its bars and streetcars on West Broadway.

**January 8** – Nuance/duo will present the life and music of George Gershwin. Dan Wascoe will play the piano and Baibi Vegners will sing and narrate photos of Gershwin.

**February 12** – Doug Ohman will return with his latest research on the Great Depression, which resulted in the WPA, CCC and other government-sponsored work projects that put thousands of men to work building various structures, parks and other public improvements in Minnesota.

## Fall cleanup set for November 8

The Society's Director of Buildings and Grounds, Jim Hera, has scheduled the fall yard cleanup for Saturday, November 8, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please mark your calendar and plan to join other volunteers that morning if you are able to help. Check the November newsletter for more information.

## Society represented prominently at GV festival

The Golden Valley Arts and Music Festival, formerly Golden Valley Days and the Lilac Festival, was moved from May to September and returned from Brookview Park to the City Hall campus. The parade was also relocated back to Golden Valley Road, between Hampshire and Winnetka. The Society was ably represented in the parade by Don Minor and his son, driving their restored Ford truck properly appointed with “GOLDEN VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY” signs.

The Society's assigned booth was right at the entrance to the festival adjoining the parking area. There volunteers set up a canopy, table and chairs, historic displays and a new display of second-generation Golden Valley street signs.

The parking area next door was where Ken Huber was going to display his antique riding toys for the kids to enjoy peddling around. However, Huber looked at the situation and the potential of someone



getting injured, either a small child or a pedestrian walking in close proximity to the kids on riding toys, decided the risk was too great, and took his stable of riding toys home to wait for a better site next year. Huber did however bring one of his antique cars to be shown in the antique car display.

Members and friends who

helped with the Society's festival activities were: Jacob Breth, Christina Inman, Jim Hera, Linda Loomis, Don Anderson, Nancy Kochenderfer, John Colwell, Peggy Nelson, Scott Nelson, Jim Nielsen, Rudi Martignacco, Catherine Martignacco, and Ken Huber. Thanks for the great help!

## Street signs continue popularity among current, former residents

At the September 10 board of director's meeting, it was reported that 273 second-generation city street signs had been purchased by current or former Golden Valley residents.

Common reports from those purchasing a sign are: “I grew up living on that street, I want a piece of my old neighborhood as it brings back fond memories”; “I planted the sign in my garden and my neighbors want to know where I obtained it”; “I want an unusual surprise birthday present for my wife/husband who grew up on

that street”; “My name is Beverly and my parents named me Beverly because we lived on Beverly Street”; “Our son/daughter/grandson/granddaughter is in college and wants wall decorations, so Duluth Street and Welcome Avenue signs will add to their décor and it is also appropriate being from their home town”; “I want that sign because it was on the corner of my street for years – it is a great keepsake in my house”; “I am going to give a street sign to each of my siblings this holiday season – what a great idea to sell the old second generation street

signs, congratulations Golden Valley Historical Society!”

Purchase your own street sign by calling or emailing Secretary Don Anderson at 763-588-8578 or [maryanddon3030@aol.com](mailto:maryanddon3030@aol.com).

## PCA joins Society as lifetime member

Packaging Corporation of America, 4300 Highway 55, Golden Valley, MN 55422 joined the Society as a lifetime member. Marguerite Reiner will represent PCA.