



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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Construction nearly completed on church addition



photo by Linda Loomis

The historic church addition is almost complete. Sod was laid and watered in just before a sudden early snowfall with below normal temperatures. The balance of the landscaping will be completed

next spring. The interior of the addition however, which will house the Golden Valley museum, is now a vacant room. The board of directors will be hiring museum experts for planning and layout of the mu-

seum during the coming year. A grand opening will be held after the now vacant room is furnished with the heritage of our community. Watch our newsletter for the date and time.

Richie regales with remembrances of Robbinsdale

The November 13 general membership meeting featured local author, Peter Richie, with a verbal presentation of his recently published book, "Robbinsdale." Richie grew up in Robbinsdale, Minnesota, and remembers collecting stories about the area's history when he was a paperboy. He attended Noble Elementary School and gradu-

ated from Armstrong High School in 1986. His book contains many stories and historic photographs of that city. His accounts of the founders of the city, the early businesses, Whiz Bang Days, parades, the history of Captain Billy, and of course the round-a-bout at the entrance to Robbinsdale from Minneapolis, entertained 37 members and guests.

Annual report compiled

The Golden Valley Historical Society annual report for fiscal year 2013-2014 has been compiled by Secretary Don Anderson, and is available to members upon request.



Crew cleans grounds before snow

On Saturday, November 8, just in the “nick of time”, member volunteers cleaned the grounds of the historic church of leaves and other debris. The following Monday, snow arrived along with its friend ice. It was one of the earliest arrivals of snow on record. Many of you can remember the 1940 Armistice Day blizzard with shirt sleeve weather the day before and the morning of Armistice Day and temperatures plunging below freezing during the day. Many duck hunters

died in their duck blinds. There was none of the sophisticated weather forecasting available today; thus no warning of the approaching blizzard. Not too many years ago we also had the Halloween Blizzard, but we had early warnings from modern weather forecasts and few, if any, deaths occurred. The great volunteers for this fall’s historic churchyard clean up were: Ken Huber, Jim Hera, Jim Nielsen, Jacob Breth, Justin Breth and Nancy Azzam. Thank you to you all.

Street signs still available for purchase

Second-generation Golden Valley street signs are a popular holiday gift. Contact Secretary Don Anderson to find out if your street sign or another of significance to you is still available. (maryanddon3030@aol.com or 763-588-8578)



2015 brings variety of programs

January 8, Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. will bring Nuance /a duo featuring Dan Wascoe and Baibi Vegners back to the historic church. Wascoe has played the piano in venues as varied as an airplane hanger, cruise ship, army base, hotels and restaurants, the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota Governors’ office, and the president’s residence at the University of Minnesota. Vegners joined a professional touring band at age 19 but also performed close to home as lead singer with bands at Eddie Webster’s restaurant and Rupert’s night club. They will be presenting the history and music of George Gershwin. I assure you that the rafters of the historic church will rock at this program.

January 11, Sunday, from 2:00

to 3:30 p.m. will be a first for the Golden Valley Historical Society – a hosted community conversation. Members and non-members are invited to the historic church to hear and share their ideas about what should be displayed in the Society’s new museum space. The meeting will be lead by Erin Anderson of the museum experts Museology. Mark your calendar and come to share your thoughts on what about Golden Valley should be displayed on a permanent and/or rotating basis in the museum. All Society members and friends of the Society are welcome to participate.

February 12, Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. Doug Ohman, of Pioneer Photographers, will return with his latest research on the Great Depres-

No December meeting

The members of the Society’s board of directors wish you all a very merry holiday season! It has been the Society’s custom, since 1973, that the general membership meeting and program be suspended in December. There are a great number of activities already in December, with families, work places, schools, churches, colleges and friends, that keep us all busy. The after-holidays line up of Society meetings and programs are listed below.

The volunteer members of our board of directors for fiscal year 2014-2015 are:

President Ken Huber, Vice President James Hera, Secretary Don Anderson, Treasurer Linda Loomis, Directors: Nancy Azzam, Crystal Boyd, John Colwell, Betty Crews, Nancy Kochenderfer, Rudi Martignacco, Peggy Nelson, DeDe Scanlon and Steven Schmidgall.

sion work projects of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and other federal government agencies. Ohman has been researching and presenting his findings about these Minnesota projects for the last ten years. Don’t miss this popular presenter and great photography.

March 12, Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. Marshall Tanick, a lawyer, Golden Valley resident and legal history expert, will describe how laws were changed in Minnesota as a result of World War I.

All general membership meetings are held at the historic church, 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427. They are free and open to the public.