



# 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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## **STATE REPRESENTATIVE DEAN URDAHL WILL KICK OFF THE SOCIETY'S NEW FISCAL YEAR WITH A PROGRAM - "LIVES LIVED LARGE: MINNESOTANS IN THE PUBLIC EYE."**

Urdahl taught American history for 35 years at New London-Spicer schools and was first elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2002. He served as Minnesota's commissioner to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and was instrumental in forming the Minnesota Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. Urdahl also serves on the Capitol

Restoration Commission and chairs the House of Representatives Legacy Committee.

The general membership meeting will be held at the Society's historic church located at 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427, on Thursday, September 10th, at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the program.



Rep. Dean Urdahl

## **VFW POST #7051 BUILDING TO BE DEMOLISHED FOR NEW, LARGE APARTMENT/CONDO COMPLEX:**

VFW Post #7051 had a long active journey with many meeting locations since it was formed in 1960 with 34 members. To be a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) the minimum requirement is overseas service during wartime.

In those days receipts from early poppy sales, a smoker, and a raffle assured the Post of financial responsibility. The Post was off on its first quarter century of community service in 1960 when \$20.00 was drawn for a youth fire arms training program and \$139.00 expended for Christmas baskets for the needy.

A special meeting of the Post was held on February 24, 1975, where it was decided to meet in a store building at 7775 Medicine Lake Road in Golden Valley. At the November meeting a lease for the site was read to members and unanimously accepted and \$5,000 was borrowed to purchase equipment. Further additions and improvements were made in 1977 and at a meeting on September 14, 1977, the approval of a food license was announced. The kitchen was operated by post and auxiliary members, as a service to members and neighboring industries.

A hearty lunch was served promptly for a reasonable price.

The blood donor program was one of the successful services rendered by Post 7051. This activity has received many State VFW awards for excellence.

On June 11, 1985, the Post members voted to purchase the building that had served as the Post home for the previous ten years. The Post home is expected to be torn down before the end of 2015. (Source: Golden Valley 1886 – 1986 Minnesota, published through the efforts of the Golden Valley Centennial Committee. Copyright 1986.)

## PREVIEWS OF UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**October 8** – Lyndon Griffin – “Women in Command – some of history’s great women leaders.”

**November 12** – Carole Van Valkenberg, Miss Golden Valley – 1969.

**December** – No general membership meeting.

**January 14** – JoAnn Funk, “Pearl Button Boom” – lecture.

**February 11** – Dan Wascoe and Baibi Vegners, Nuance/a duo – Songs written by or made famous by women composers.

**March 10** – Doug Ohman, Pioneer Photographs – The trail of Henry Sibley in 1863 in the Dakota War. All general membership programs are held at the Society’s historic church at 7:00 p.m.

Thanks to all the contributors to the Society’s collections of Golden Valley. Do you have any items about Golden Valley – homecoming buttons, advertising pins from Golden Valley companies, Golden Valley Lilac Festivals pins or ? The Society would certainly welcome your donating them to the new museum. Contact Don Anderson to discuss what you might have. 763-588-8578; email: maryanddon3030@aol.com.

## ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY:

Tami Zeigler, Ed Jordan’s granddaughter, loaned to the Society 30 photos of Edward Jordan to copy and place in the new museum display.

Dick and Rosemary Thorsen donated 8 newspaper articles about various events taken place in the City of Golden Valley including an article about David Hanson who served on the Watershed Commission for 15 years and was the leader of the Sweeney Lake Association who championed the importance of water quality in Sweeney Lake. (Rosemary Thorsen was the first woman mayor of Golden Valley, who ran in the election in November, 1975, and was elected to a four year term.)

The City of Golden Valley donated 63 framed, Black History prints in 12 cartons and 32 aluminum easels with one wooden one, for display of the Black History prints.

Barbara and Thomas Gearty donated the following items from the John Gearty farm: two aerial photos of the Woodlawn Park development; one Sythe; one Crosscut saw; two display boards with articles about John Gearty; one black and white photo of John Gearty, and one black and white photo of John Gearty with his grandson.

Crystal Boyd donated an article from the May, 2015, Mpls. St.Paul Magazine about a new business just starting in Golden Valley, AlwaysMod, a new 4,000 square-foot showroom featuring furniture, lighting, textiles, and home accents.

Crystal Boyd also donated a copy of an abstract of title for 1300 Castle Court, Golden Valley, Mn 55427. This property belongs to Crystal’s neighbor, Anna Bergquist. Anna says that her husband, Rollin Bergquist, paid a lawyer to research the ownership of their property, and it covers 1856 to the early 1980s.

Jeanne Andersen, trustee of the St. Louis Park Historical Society, wrote a note saying that the St. Louis Park Historical Society was presented with a 300+ piece collection of St. Louis Park-related paraphernalia donated by a Park resident and antique dealer Fred Mutchler. Among the many Homecoming pins he had collected was a Golden Valley Homecoming 1962 pin which she “was sending home to its rightful spot” in the Golden Valley Historical Society museum.

## THREE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TERMS EXPIRE:

The 3 year term of office on the Golden Valley Historical Society board of directors has expired as of August 31st, 2015, for Nancy Azzam, John Colwell and DeDe Scanlon. We offer our thanks to them for their contribution of time, talent and enthusiasm during their tenure.