



The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society
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“THE PETERSON COLLECTION: FROM COFFEE CANS TO CLIMATE- CONTROLLED CONSERVATION” IS MAY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM:



KIRSTEN BOEHNE

Kirsten Boehne will be speaking about her experience with a private collection of prehistoric artifacts that was donated to the Science Museum of Minnesota. These artifacts are from a site in Southwestern Minnesota. She will show

the process of accessioning this collection and the value of collaboration between private collectors and museums.

Her presentation will include a PowerPoint slideshow and three small Riker mount cases of artifacts. Plus she will bring information on current exhibits for the Science Museum of Minn.

She has been a volunteer in the Archaeology and Conservation Departments at the Science Museum of Minnesota since 2009.

The general membership meeting is on May 12th at the Golden Valley Historical Society's historic church at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public with refreshments served following the presentation.

A PREVIEW OF THE KICK-OFF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM:

On September 8th, 2016, Steve Marking will bring to our Society “History of the logging industry on the Mississippi River.” This is a fascinating talk about how millions of logs were brought down the Mississippi on lumber rafts by brave and daring men. This was a boom and bust

era that saw the beginning of log rafting, the introduction of steamboats and the end of the beautiful white pine forests, all in the span of one man's lifetime.

It will be at 7:00 p.m. at the Society's historic church, 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Mn.

IT IS PICNIC TIME ONCE AGAIN!

Lifestyles changed during the great depression years of the 1930s and most communities took time out for a picnic. The Golden Valley Commercial Club promoted the annual Golden Valley picnic in Schuller's Grove just east of Schuller's Tavern, a popular neighborhood meeting place. Games, races, dances, and entertainment for every member of the family was planned. One highlight was the kangaroo court that would try businessmen and other well known persons for their crimes against the community. (Of course, they had to provide “bail money” to be released.)

An innovative event at the 22nd annual picnic in 1948 was a husband calling contest. Mrs. Harvey Glorvick of Golden Valley challenged Minneapolis champion, Mrs. Albert Halloran, to a contest. In the words of John Enghauser, chairman of the special committee, Mrs. Glorvick got her training in the wide open spaces. A good husband caller in this town has to have good lungs. Whoever won the contest would be doing so for the honor of Golden Valley since Mrs. Halloran had raised five children in Golden Valley, before moving to Minneapolis. Proceeds from this picnic, which were divided between the two sponsoring groups, the Golden Valley Commercial Club and the Chester Bird American Legion Post, were used for community projects.

GOLDEN VALLEY HAD A TV “TALK SHOW” ?..... REALLY?

Even before cable TV came to Golden Valley, but, it was coming, active senior citizens became involved. “I have a new career now.” Said Irene Novak who was a member of the Golden Valley Brookview senior citizens group. Novak, then 80 years old, was the host of... (drum roll, please!) “S.O.S., - Seniors on Screen,” which was the first program to be produced for Channel 10 in the Northwest Suburban Cable TV franchise area. The show, S.O.S. was a 30 minute program. It began as an every other week production but was later done once a month.

The group was organized in 1982 before cable TV had actually arrived in Golden Valley. Looking forward to the expected installation, a group of interested senior citizens met with the staff of Northwest Storer Cable TV and formed a committee. From this committee emerged a 10-member crew.

After several training sessions of the crew by the Storer staff, the seniors were ready to tape their first program. The show covered all topics from flower arranging to dentistry. Host Novak said, “We just look for outstanding people who can entertain and inform senior citizens.” The senior citizens jumped into the television project and S.O.S had won a certificate and trophy for best “talk show.”

Members active then on the production were: Barbara Bailey, Jeanne Fackler, Lydia Thompson, Jim Gorman, Irene Novak, Mike Johnson, and Mary Dennis. The seniors were proud then, as they are today, to be keeping up with the many changes in Golden Valley. (Ed. Note: reference “Golden Valley 1886-1986 Golden Valley Minnesota”, author Golden Valley Historical Society, published through the efforts of the Golden Valley Centennial Committee, copyright 1986.)

AROUND THE GROUNDS OF THE HISTORIC CHURCH:

OUR MANY THANKS to the members of the Golden Valley Garden Club for again purchasing and planting flowers around the garden areas of the historic church.

AFTER MANY YEARS OF USE, the flood light which shines on the American flag from dark to dawn, finally came to its end. All of the inside components of the fixture had to be replaced but the exterior box still has life and could continue its service. The flag pole was donated by the William Varner family in his memory. William Varner was the charter president

of the GV Historical Society in 1973.

THE SOCIETY HAS AN AGREEMENT with the Golden Valley Golf and Country Club that their grounds crews will plow the Society’s parking lot, shovel the handicapped accessible ramp and front steps during the winter season, and will cut and trim the historic church lawn in the spring-fall. In return, the Society has given permission to the GVGCC to use the Society’s parking lot for their employees and ground crew’s vehicles to park when the GVGCC has functions with guest vehicles over taxing their parking lot.

IN REVIEW:

At the April 14th general membership meeting, Golden Valley Police Officer Scott Goebel gave a presentation on the history of the Golden Valley Police Department. In addition to naming the past chiefs of police, formerly known as constables, he showed a comparison of what the “olden days” police officers wore for their uniforms and their modest equipment and what the modern day officer wears and has belted to his/her body. Part of his presentation talked about the number of officers/cars on duty at any one time. He went into detail on the events of October 30, 1972, in which Leland Wanglie (GV badge #516) was wounded in a gunfight with a robbery suspect and related his working career up to his retirement. Excellent presentation by Officer Goebel who is the historian for the Public Safety Department of Golden Valley. If you weren’t there, you missed an interesting part of GV history. But 26 members and visitors who did attend, thanked Officer Goebel for his presentation.

ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY:

Geraldine Dellwo Larson sent to the Society information about her attending Meadow Brook Grade School from 1939 – 1945, together with photo copies of herself and some of her classmates, including Gerry Eckenberg, Florence Chester, Kitty Rose Johnson, Gloria Anderson, Patty Torgas, Gerry Rein, and Barbara Green. We thank Geraldine for adding to our archives details of Meadow Brook Grade School.