



Benton County agriculture is in full swing!

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Preserving the past and the Present and the Present for the Future

Benton County Historical Society Newsletter



Women In History Banquet Honorees

April 2008

Women In History listed from left to right: Marissa Kantor, Mary Agnes Shimota, Veronica Voight, Sharon Henry, Dixie Morse--not pictured

The Woman In History was a success for all involved! The banquet took place at the Sauk Rapids VFW on April 13th and these women were honored:

Marissa Kantor was our Junior Honoree for 2008. A Senior at Foley High School she has been actively involved in sports, Marching Band/Color Guard, Drama, Varsity Choir, Concert Choir and Madrigal Singer. She also has been involved in the community with American Cancer Society, Big Brother/Big Sister Program, St John's Church, and in 4-H.

Mary Agnes Shimota was one of the 2008 Honorees and worked as a Home Economist at the Extension Service. She is involved as an active leader in 4-H and involved at the local, district and state level, including judging state and county competitions. Mary Agnes has participated in the community as a member of St John's Church. She has been

involved with the Grief Support Group making of their grief and loss videos, St. John's School and Christian Mothers.

Veronica Voight has volunteered in many areas of her life. A 65 year member of Christian Mothers of the Immaculate Conception Parish, teaching religion classes, made quilts and Baptismal gowns for the Church. She has been an active member of the PTA and does clerical work for the school. A member of the American Legion Auxiliary, visiting shut-ins, donating to the food shelf and loves to bake for her friends and family.

Sharon Henry has also been very active in the community owning Henry's Catering, a catering business out in Foley. Actively engaged in the community with herself and the business, she has supported many organizations with time, food and monetary do-

nations. Her involvement with such programs as Touchdown Club, Wrestling Program, Preschool Program, FFA, Spring Carnival Marching Band and Drama Club is just part the reason she was honored. She is a member of Gustavus Adolphus church, involved in WELCA choir, the Fellowship Committee and a mentor for Confirmation.

Dixie Morse has always been involved in the community with the education programs being particularly important. Involved in the local school District 47, she has worked with the PTA, levies and bond issues, drug programs, helping students with sewing projects, Community Education Easter programs, school field trips, Lions School Eye projects, and Girl Scout and Cub Scout programs. She is currently rounding out her volunteer days by helping the senior citizens in the nursing homes.

Thanks to all who participated!

MUSEUM HOURS HAVE CHANGED AGAIN!

Monday thru Friday 10am- 4pm (others by appointment) The Board of Directors have opened the Museum on Fridays! This has changed to make our resources available more days and convenient for travelers!

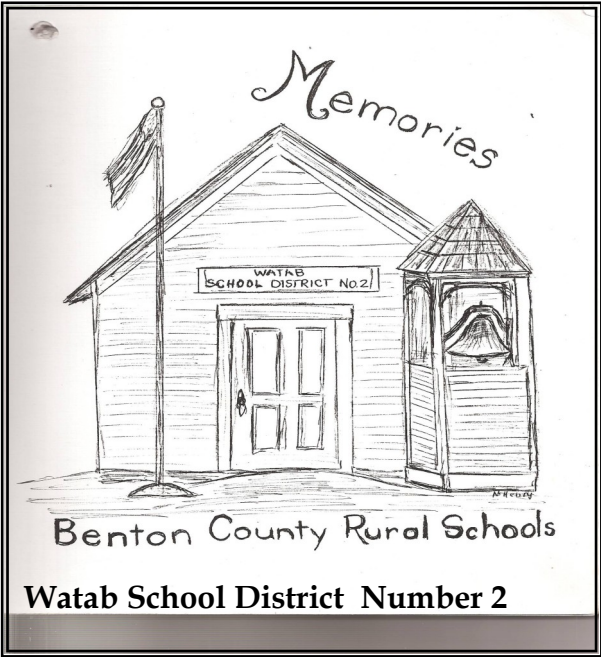
Benton County Fair Coming Soon!

This is the time of the year when most of us are thinking about vacations, and with vacation season we are also pushed forward to the annual season of the County Fairs! Benton County Fair will be occurring this year in the first week of August.. It is the 96th Annual Benton County Fair and it will run from August 5th-10th.

Benton County Historical Society will be present along with the Retired Educators’ who so graciously volunteer at

Watab School District Two to educate about the days of the one-room schoolhouses. It is always a delight to see the faces of people who attended a one –room schoolhouse and listen to the stories and memories that are shared.!

Watab Schoolhouse has been out at the grounds at the Benton County Fair since 1982, and it has been a great cooperative effort for the Ag Society, Retired Educators, and the Historical Society!



NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Members are
an essential
piece to our
success!

NEW MEMBERS

- Lorane Walsh
- Patricia Lezer
- Mary Agnes Shimota
- RENEWED MEMBERS
- Alice Trushenski
- Cecil Wade
- Char and Dan Dhein
- Duane and Kathy Walter

CITY/COUNTY/TOWNSHIPS



Membership Information

Household

- Seniors \$9.00
- Single \$13.00
- Family \$18.00
- Contributor \$27.00
- Supporter \$50.00

Business

- Annual \$50.00
- Supporting \$75.00
- Maintaining \$100.00
- Patron \$150.00
- Benefactor \$500.00

Meetings

Benton County Historical Society Board of Directors meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm at the Museum at 218 1st Street North, Sauk Rapids.
Members and the Public are always welcome!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS		VOLUNTEERS/RESEARCH	WEB PAGE
President:	Ernie Wollak	Fred Joesting	Ron Zurek
Vice president:	Char Dhein	Marjean Keehr	Many thanks to Mr. Zurek for the energy, time and effort he has put into maintaining the Benton County Historical Society web-site! Check us out!
Treasurer:	Renee Kampa	Nellie Hentry	
Secretary:	Ken Schiller	Dorrain Petron	
Directors :	Butch Bukowski	Caren Kalenda	
	Bud Lubbesmeier	Andy Schwalboski	
	Donna Schafer		
	Alice Trushenski		
	Bob Moon		



Time for changes; Goodbyes, Thank You's and Hellos!

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR– Mary Ostby

Bev Abraham has resigned from the position of Executive Director after serving in that capacity for a number of years.

Benton County Historical Board of Directors would like to thank Bev for what she contributed to the organization in her employment and wish her well in her new employment!

With Bev leaving the organization, the Board of Directors advertised for the position, held interviews with a hiring committee; and have hired a new

Executive Director at the Board meeting of May 20, 2008. Thanks from the Board need to go to Andy Schwalboski for Interim Director help!

The Board would like to introduce Mary Ostby as the new Executive Director for Benton County Historical Society who came on officially as of June 9, 2008.

Mary has been involved in the Historical Society in the past as a member, Board member and

past President of the organization. Her knowledge of the Society, the mission statement, the events, and the Museum holdings should help make it an easy transition in the upcoming months, but please be patient as we work through the transition!

Please feel free to stop by the Museum and meet Mary if you have a chance! We are looking forward to a new chapter in our BCHS organization's history!

Wants, Wishes and Wonders

Wants

We are looking for a small to medium size safe for the museum that is fire/water proof to keep some of our documents safe. If you have one that you would be interested in donating, please contact the Museum!

Wishes

For Volunteers!

Grounds Keeping: Looking for

a couple of people to help with the flowerbed and trimming.

Fair Volunteers : to help staff the Heritage Building Displays in August

Museum Display Volunteers: If you love to put things together for show- WE NEED YOU! A couple of people to help with changing displays at the museum every couple of months!

Wonders

As always ,we are looking for the **Wonders** of Benton County history for our collection. If you have items that have historical background of Benton County, and a story or history to go with it, please consider donating it to the Society! We are always looking for items to display at the Museum or at the Schoolhouse.



Volunteers Change The World!

People linking history pieces!



Physical Donations– Thank you to everyone who helps us keep the history going!

Jerry Patton-Sock knitting machine Circa 1930's

Cliff Johnson- various memorabilia from Benton County businesses with their business names /insignia on them. Apollo yearbook

Grace Ann Wolter- Benton County School Books, 1949 homecoming pin, scrapbook of

4-H Duelm, RR Spikes and Great Northern Wrench,

Benton County 4-H- Miscellaneous records /Scrapbooks/ History

Merle Stowe-Glendorado VFW 13 items history- disbanded

Curtis Wilcox- archeological item /tool that we will be looking to identify use of.

Month/Visitors/Emails/Phone			
April	31	7	16
May	21	11	14
	52	18	30
Thanks to all the people who keep the history alive by doing research for their family histories! That is what we are here for!			

PRESERVING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT FOR THE FUTURE...

BENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

P.O. Box 426
218 1st St. N.
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Phone: 320-253-961
E-mail: bchsmus@charterinternet.com
Web: <http://members.aol.com/bchsmus>

CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, CITIES/TOWNSHIP/COUNTY

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008

1st National Bank of Milaca Gilman	Foley Lions Club	Sauk Rapids Herald
Benton Cooperative Telephone	Frandsen Bank and Trust	Sauk Rapids Legion
Benton County	Gilmanton Township	Sauk Rapids Township
Benton County News	Granite Care Home Inc.	Sauk Rapids VFW
Bruce's Outboard	Great River Federal Credit Union	St Cloud Retired Teachers
City of Foley	Sub Rapids Inc.	
City of Rice	Langola Township	
City of Sauk Rapids	Midway Iron	Then Installation
Coborns	Minden Township	Wollak Construction
Dingmann Funeral Home	Rapids Plating	