Grants Received for Museum Upgrades

The museum is fortunate to receive three grants this Spring that all assist in upgrading some aspect of the museum. The first grant is from the Schmidt Foundation for $5,000 which will assure new lighting in the Research Library/Office area late fall or early winter. The additional funds of the $10,000 project have been raised through fund-raisers, year-end appeal and member donations. What a great area the Library/Office will be with a new drop ceiling and energy efficient LED lighting!

The second grant received is from the Crystal Valley Co-op/Land ’O Lakes Foundation. This grant allows the museum to purchase two new computers to update the genealogy and cemetery record database along with upgrading to Windows 10.

The third grant has been on the “wish list” for several years…a large metal file cabinet to store blueprints, maps and large photographs. A grant was submitted to the Minnesota Historical Society in March and good news came last week of approval to begin in July. The project includes purchasing the cabinet, locating the items, placing them in proper folders and inventorying the items located in each drawer. This will help with easier access and simply knowing what we have in the collection. This project has been funded in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.
“Hidden Nature” photography by Jessica Bak

“Impressive, Wow, Beautiful, Absolutely breathtaking...” These are some of the comments from our current exhibit in the Remick Gallery entitled Hidden Nature. The exhibit features art work by Jessica Bak, a professional Windom photographer. Jessica was born and raised in Kentucky. After high school she attended the Rochester Institute of Technology majoring in photography and graphic design. She continued her studies there focusing on business and art gallery management. She moved to Windom in 2012 where she started her photography business and became the social media specialist at the Cottonwood County Historical Society. This exhibit is the summer show and runs through September 2, 2017.

“Come take a journey with me through nature. My photographs portray the beauty that surround us but is often taken for granted. We simple forget to stop, look and say ‘breathtaking’.”

Jessica Bak, 2017

If you are planning a visit to the gallery, our hours are Monday – Fridays from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Return By Haley Tardiff
Opening reception on September 17 at 2:00 p.m.

Haley Rothstein Tardiff is a multi-disciplined artist from southwestern Minnesota who was born in South Carolina. She describes herself as an Air Force brat, who moved with her family across the country more than once. When she was in 8th grade, the family moved to Lakefield, Minnesota. She was introduced to Adobe Photoshop in 2003 and her quest began. While much of what she learned is self-taught, she graduated with an Associate’s degree from Minnesota West Community & Technical School in 2006 and from St. Cloud State with a Bachelor’s degree in Art Photography in 2009. Her first artistic love growing up included drawing cartoons and comics giving them personalities and stories. In 2010 she started painting “joyful figures” which she intended to be a mix of cute and disturbing. Around 2012, her painting began to have tree-related subjects. Her love for trees stems from a craving for a history or “roots” someplace. Stop by and meet the artist on September 17 at her art opening in the Remick Gallery!
Special Events at CCHS

Cottonwood County Fair

August 16-19

Come visit the Cottonwood County Historical Society booth at the County Fair which will feature the exhibit “Remembering World War I”. Find out about the Great War that occurred 100 years ago including the U.S. involvement, Army life and the lasting reminders of World War 1.

A Trip to the Minnesota State Capitol

The museum is planning a trip to the newly renovated Minnesota State Capitol building. Designed by Cass Gilbert and built in 1905, the State of Minnesota is wrapping up a 310 million dollar project to preserve the building and restore the extensive and amazing art work. Its grand opening is planned for the middle of August. We would like to plan our trip for the first week in September. If you would like to go on the tour, please call the office at 831-1134. If there is interest from our members, we will be happy to rent a Reading or Southwest Tour bus and visit this grand Minnesota building. The cost of the trip would be around $30-40.

Annual Fall Fund-raiser in September 11

The Cottonwood County Historical Society invites you to attend their Annual Fall Fund-raiser on Monday, September 11 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the museum located at 812 Fourth Avenue. Join us for our traditional roast beef on a bun served with coleslaw, baked beans, potato chips, dessert and beverage. Take-outs are available.

Pick up your tickets at the museum or purchase them the night of the event. Tickets are $7.00 for adult and $4.00 for children (10 and under). While at the museum purchase your raffle ticket, take time to view the exhibit in the Remick Gallery and check out the Exhibit Hall.
Special Announcements

Book Now Available

The 2017 “Give It Your Best Shot: Focus on Cottonwood County Reflections” book is now available in our gift shop. Hard cover is $35 and soft cover is $25. Stop by and pick it up!

Library Programs at the Museum

The Windom Public Library has scheduled two fun children’s programs at the museum this summer. The first is on June 27 and is a Fairy Dwelling Workshop. It filled up fast, but call the library to be on a waiting list. The second program in on July 12 and is a program entitled “Bizzaro Town” given by Lego Guy, Curtis Monk. He has been a lego fan since the age of 6 and in his adult life has 10 years of experience of working with libraries putting on lego shows. In this program, he will show some wacky buildings and then the kids will be able to make creations of their own. This is open to all with no sign up required. This program starts at 11:00 a.m. Both these programs are funded in part with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

2017 RAFFLE

This year our annual raffle item is an Amish quilted wall hanging purchased at an Amish Store in the state of Washington by our donor Marilyn Wahl. It measures 32” H x 40” W and is ready to hang on your wall. The tickets are $2.00 each with the winning ticket to be drawn December 18, 2017. Buy your ticket today!

Number of tickets________________________
@ $2.00 each
Name:_____________________________________
Address:_______________________________
City, State, Zip Code:_____________________
Send your checks to: Cottonwood County Historical Society
812 Fourth Avenue
Windom, MN 56101

All proceeds benefit the museum!
Hurry in today to buy your raffle ticket of mail a check!
General Fund Donations made between March 25 – June 20, 2017

Gary & Jody Vanderwerf in memory of Ruby Benson; Lucille Nelson; Marilyn Wahl in memory of Darrell Strofferahn; LaVonne Neerland in memory of Myrna Donahue Lage; Wig & Wanda Turner in memory of Richard & LaDonna Robinson; Doug & Priscilla Jacobson in memory of Dick Noyes; Marilyn Wahl in memory of Betty Morfitt; Anthony & Heather Smith in memory of Minnie Getty; Anthony & Heather Smith;

**CCHS Welcomes New Members**

Wes & Elaine Kroeker

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Renewals**

Joan Kaye; Maxine Duncan; Kathryn Tewes; Fritzie Stemm

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Family Renewals**

Linda Fransen & Tom Sanders; Harvey & Esther Buller; Terry & Jackie Jurgens; Martin & Anita Skow

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Patron Level Renewals**

Lance Ludvigson; Vera Rachuy

**CCHS Thanks Our Annual Sponsor Level Renewals**

Doris Schneider

**CCHS Thanks Our Members Upgraded to Lifetime Membership**

Andrew & Nordis Olson; Debra Haar
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