



# Transcending Time

CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

38/4: Fall, 2017

**Inside—**

Page 2

**Snippets**

Page 3

**Around the County**

Page 4-5

**Will Yetzer WWII**

**Memories**

Page 6

**Education Department**

Page 7

**Membership Update &**

“If history were  
taught in the form  
of stories, it  
would never be  
forgotten.

~Rudyard Kipling

Chaska History and CCHS Life member Audree Sells passed away recently. More details honoring this Life member will appear in the next issue of *Transcending Time*.

## Chanhasen Cemetery Walk Saturday, October 7

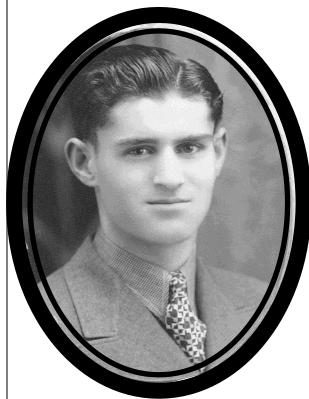


Back by popular demand! It's time to bring back the Cemetery Walk, including visits to a few additional past citizens of our community. You'll see Chanhasen history come to life as we walk through Chanhasen Pioneer Cemetery and St. Hubert's Cemetery. Actors will portray prominent past citizens who will share Chanhasen history and pioneer life.

We will meet on the plaza in front of historic St. Hubert in downtown Chanhasen and board a bus to begin the tour. For those who may find it difficult to walk through the cemeteries, a performance has been added at the Chanhasen Senior Center. This is a FREE event but registration for the guided tour is required. Sponsored by the City of Chanhasen and the Chanhasen Historical Society. *Saturday, October 7, FREE*, call 952-227-1100 or make online reservations at [kmeuwissen@ci.chanhasen.mn.us](mailto:kmeuwissen@ci.chanhasen.mn.us) Each tour is limited to 50 participants

**10 a.m. Indoor Performance, Chanhasen Senior Center, 7700 Market Blvd.  
1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m., Walking Tours and Performance , Bus Service included**

### Reminiscences of Will Yetzer



Long time Waconia resident Will Yetzer passed away almost a year ago. On November 18, 1999 he shared his memories of his time spent in the military with interviewer, Stacey Heimbrecht-Wilson.

Yetzer was one of five brothers who all served during WWII. Yetzer worked on the front lines along side doctors and nurses.

This month we present a selection from that interview in our center research section, of this newsletter.

# SNIPPETS

## *Two Steps Forward, one Step Back*

Wendy Petersen Biorn

Do you ever have one of those days or weeks? I think we all do, even if you don't outwardly admit it. It has been a year since we first learned the grant for the Historic Structures Report, (HSR), was turned down. A lot has happened in the last year. We have had wonderful successes including raising the funds on our own to complete the project. With the help of Representatives Nash and Hoppe, we won \$160,000 in Legacy funding from the State for the farm. These are our two steps forward; now for the one step back.

The HSR is still not complete and we are running a race with time. The Jeffris Family Foundation will be making their decisions about who to fund in January. If the HSR is not complete and approved by the January meeting, we will be looking at reapplying to Jeffris in January of 2019. If this happens, we lessen our chances of matching the State funds. It should be noted the Foundation will not make the decision about whether to match or not until AFTER the January meeting. I am sure you are all asking about this time, "So what has been the hold up?" That is a very good question. This is where we take our step back.

The problem is that MacDonald & Mack has been recommending that we "deconstruct" the large 1917 barn. The reasoning behind this is that the building was built AFTER Peterson died, making it outside the period of significance, as noted on the National Register Nomination. The decision of what to do with the 1917 barn is as large as the building itself.

On September 7th, Royce Yeater from the Jeffris Family Foundation met with the CCHS Board of Directors and representatives of MacDonald & Mack. As the conversation progressed, the group came to realize that we both could win in this scenario. If the building stayed, and it will be very expensive to keep, we could interpret it as a noncontributing building. Meaning, we could use it as an interpretive center or as a venue for events such as weddings. Thereby, helping raise funds for the sustainability of the property, but reconstruction work would not be eligible for Legacy funding. With this understanding, the HSR is once again moving forward.

In this case, it was two steps forward, one step back, and now two more steps forward. I am certain this will not be the last time we proceed in this manner, but with the excellent advice and support of those around us, we will get there.

**Nickle Dickle Day 2017** presented the CCHS with a fun and unique opportunity to market and advertise. The Rotary annual "Duck Races" allow businesses to create ducks to represent their business, and get the word out. These races are very popular, especially with kids.

To represent us, a duck was created to resemble Andrew Peterson, holding a sign featuring the logo of the farmstead. A fun and unique promotional opportunity to let people know about the Historic Andrew Peterson Farmstead.



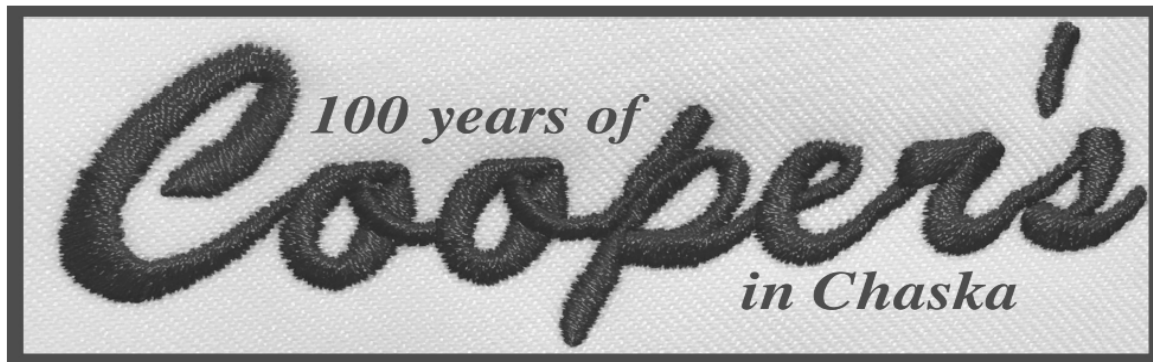
---

# News from Around the County

Chanhasen Historical Society Chaska Historical Society

Willkommen Heritage and Preservation Society of Norwood Young America

Watertown Area Historical Society



...Miss the exhibit over River City Days? It's not too late! The "Coopers in Chaska" display highlights the history of this long-time community grocery store. It will be up until mid-November.

The History Center is open 1-4pm Tuesdays through Fridays at 112 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Downtown Chaska.

Using the funds from a recently awarded Minnesota Legacy Grant, the Chaska Historical Society has been busy preparing the revised and combined version of the Chaska history books! Using LaVonne Barac's reworked volume I text and clearer copies of pictures and clippings from both volumes, this combined work will include an introduction, a new format, and an index.



Want to be notified when this book becomes available? Send your name, e-mail address and phone number to [historical@chaskahistory.org](mailto:historical@chaskahistory.org) or to the Chaska Historical Society, 112 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Chaska, MN 55318. We'll be sure to contact you when we're ready to go to press!

**Special Thanks to CCHS Donors,  
New and Renewing Members  
July – September 2017**

***New CCHS Members***

Garrett Aalfs  
Lori D. Cox  
Collin R. Day  
James A. Dondono Jr.  
Emily Eggers  
Marlaine C. Gman  
Laura Hamelau  
Judy Horvick  
Kathryn Koch  
Anne Marie Moen  
Richard Schmid  
Toni Maria Schmid  
Ruthann Soley  
Shannon M. Terwedo

Maureen Farrell  
Warren Flusemann  
David Granlund  
Chuck Hoese  
John & Emma Holm  
Shirley Jaeger  
Gary & Cheryl Jensen  
LuAnn Kerzman  
Susan Krech  
James Maiser  
Paul Maravelas  
Bonnie Matthews  
Matthew McDougall  
Laurel Means  
Sharon Montague  
Cynthia L. Mote

Jack Speckel  
Phyllis Stender  
Sandra Tanck  
Renee Wyatt

***New- Chaska History Center***

Shirley Meyer

***Renewing CCHS Members***

Alice Allen  
Lynette M. Bledsaw  
Adrian Braswell  
Leon Buescher  
Carol Burmeister  
Wayne Chapman  
Carol Ciavarelli  
Kay Dickman  
Susan Dressen

John Nelson  
Kermit Ohlsen  
Dale & Megan Pederson  
Meg Peitersen  
Margaret Perry  
Kathy Petrick  
Mary Beth Pottratz  
Edward Schneider  
Celeste Schug  
Christine Smith



A patron recently donated this postcard showing the Wa-Co Drive In. The Wa-Co was owned by Orville Schwalbe from 1953 until he sold it in 1958. Photographs like this are valuable to the collection of the historical society as it shows local business in the area and how they developed and changed over time. If you have photographs from the county you'd be interested in donating to the CCHS please feel free to contact us!

## ***CCHS Library Happenings:***

- ⇒ A master index of surnames, all cross-referenced, was created for the Family Trees, to expedite genealogical research
- ⇒ Translations, as well as place/name indexes, were created for issues of the Evangelical Lutheran Parish Newsletter (Evang. Lutherische Gemeindebote) of which the CCHS has numerous issues dating 1921-1932
- ⇒ All Family History, Cemetery, Personal and Subject file drawers in the library have been reorganized, collated, and condensed for easier searching and use
- ⇒ Carver County Birth, Death, and Marriage indexes have been color coded and separated chronologically for ease of access

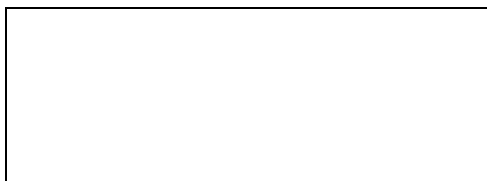
*Thank  
You*

# CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

555 West First Street  
Waconia, MN 55387  
Phone: 952-442-4234  
www.carvercountyhistoricalsociety.org  
E-mail: historical@co.carver.mn.us

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit 17  
Waconia, MN

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### Museum & Library Hours

Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### Board Members

Peter Gustafson (President),  
Waconia  
Darlene Fasching (VP), Minnetrista  
Lin Deardorff (Treasurer), Waconia  
Matt McDougall (Secretary), Waconia  
Dan Lund, Chanhassen  
Gerry Johnson, Victoria  
Michael Fahey, Carver  
Mike Coleman, Cologne  
Burton Johnson, Chaska  
Mark Willems, Cologne  
Maureen Farrell, Chanhassen  
Randy Maluchnik (County Liaison),  
Chaska

### Staff

Wendy Petersen Biorn (Exec. Director)  
wbiorn@co.carver.mn.us  
Adam Smith (Curator Collections)  
asmith@co.carver.mn.us  
Heidi Gould (Curator  
Education/Exhibits.  
hgould@co.carver.mn.us  
Marilyn Braun (Researcher)  
mbraun@co.carver.mn.us  
Linda Nelson (Office Mgr.)  
lnelson@co.carver.mn.us

## CARVER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEW MEMBER FORM

- Senior Citizen \$15.00
- Individual \$20.00
- Family \$30.00
- Sustaining \$55.00
- Please mail me my newsletter.
- Please accept my donation of \_\_\_\_\_ toward your annual fund drive.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Membership to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The Carver County Historical Society is a nonprofit organization supported by memberships and contributions from county residents, business, and government. All members receive *Transcending Time*, this newsletter.