2019 Annual Report
**Our Mission**

The mission of the Nicollet County Historical Society shall be the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge about the history of Nicollet County and the State of Minnesota.

**We are small but mighty.** Every day we make history accessible to learners of all ages by providing information and opportunities to connect our past to our present. As an organization that interprets five historical sites, we certainly encourage our members and the public to visit these sites and attend programs and special events to form a deeper connection to our shared history. With a long winter, wet spring, and road construction, we weren’t able to share as much history as we would like. However, we hope the 11,440 people who were able to visit our historic sites in 2019 enjoyed their experiences and felt that deep connection.

But we’re not just about our sites, and our mission isn’t either. You don’t have to visit one of our buildings to be served by the Society because chances are we’ll reach you through publications, over the airwaves, through the magic of television, and also online.

In 2019 we worked with municipalities like the City of North Mankato to curate an exhibit, state agencies like the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to offer programs, and special interest groups like Southern Minnesota Tourism Association to advocate the importance of heritage tourism.

The digital era has allowed nonprofits like us to reduce printing costs, yet reach more individuals than ever before. Through social media, our history, stories, and heritage are taught throughout the county, across Minnesota, and around the world. NCHS has a presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We continue to grow our followers every day. Find us and follow us to know more!

In 2020 we’re looking forward to opening new exhibits at the Treaty Site, celebrating 150 years at Harkin Store, and 50 years of preservation at the Cox House.

Our mission is to discover, preserve, and disseminate the history of Nicollet County. The Society has shown that one doesn’t have to visit our sites to be affected by the work we are doing.
**NCHS 2019 at a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VISITORS</td>
<td>11,440</td>
<td>thousands of people from all over the world experienced history at our sites this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FROM WHERE</td>
<td>40 states, 18 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADIO LISTENERS</td>
<td>296K</td>
<td>NCHS news and updates were broadcast over the airwaves at KNUJ and KTOE radio stations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEBSITE VIEWS</td>
<td>10,380</td>
<td>people visited our website for all different types of information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINNESOTA REFLECTIONS</td>
<td>5,874</td>
<td>times our online photo, manuscript, and map collections was viewed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLUNTEER HOURS</td>
<td>1,000+</td>
<td>hours were logged by our dedicated bunch of volunteers during the course of the year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCIAL MEDIA REACH</td>
<td>438+</td>
<td>people, businesses, and organizations were reached through Facebook, Twitter &amp; Instagram.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>movies, talks, demonstrations, plays, walks, tours to learn about Nicollet County.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW NCHS MEMBERSHIPS</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>neighbors, family &amp; friends joined to support preserving history in Nicollet County.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We track physical visitors to our sites, our online visitors and followers, radio listeners, and also our traveling exhibit outreach separately to get a more accurate number of those we serve, and a better understanding of our audience.

Below, top: Business After Hours at the Cox House.

Below, bottom: A volunteer tends the landscaping at Fort Ridgely during Park Day, an annual volunteer event sponsored by the American Battlefield Trust in an effort to help keep our nation’s heritage not only preserved but pristine.
Director’s Report

Many people believe history and museums are about the past when really they’re about change. Our world changes every day. History is about documenting and interpreting the decisions people have made and making it relevant to the present. The Society has changed a lot over time and will continue to do so in the next year and over the next decade, but there are some things I hope don’t change.

County and community support remain high. Our partners provide NCHS with new connections to the community and a wider audience reach as well as a fresh approach to storytelling. Partnerships like that with St. Peter Community and Family Education for our documentary film series, or the Department of Natural Resources to present free and educational nature programming with an area Naturalist.

2019 was a year of successes on many levels. We forged new partnerships, offered new programs like A House in Mourning at the Cox House, and met returning friends like at the Harkin Reunion at the Harkin Store. We stayed debt-free throughout the year, and through generous donors, we were even able to add some cushion to our coffers to get us through future lean times.

But none of what I do or the Society accomplishes would ever be possible without the hard work and dedication of some awe-inspiring and dedicated people, and I’d like to thank them.

I would be hard-pressed to find a better Board than our current one. We’re really going to miss Tom, Eileen, Ruth, Maria, and Gabriela. They are a pleasure to work with, and we’re much better off because of their leadership.

Thank you to our impressive staff. We are fortunate to have such personable, diligent, flexible, and selfless people employed at NCHS. I am amazed at what they can accomplish with the available resources.

And a special thank you to our dozens of volunteers. These tireless and driven people freely contribute their time, talents, and energies to NCHS. They researched, greeted visitors, gave dozens of tours, pulled weeds or maintained trails, swung hammers, and so much more. We’ve said it before, and we’ll say it again - we can’t do what we do without volunteers.

Though change is inevitable, I hope as we embark on a new year and new decade, we are always fortunate to have the support of our members, friends, and partners.

Jessica Becker
Executive Director

President’s Report

Hello from the 2019 Board of Directors. I am happy to report another busy and productive year for our Nicollet County Historical Society. So I have many people to thank.

First, I want to thank all of the board members - they have been working hard in the areas of membership, site improvements, and growth. Second, a lot of work goes into preparing for tours, planning exhibits, networking, posting on social media, and keeping the research materials available. I wish to thank the dedicated staff who are on-site many long hours to ensure this work gets done. Their passion for history and preservation is impressive, and I ask you to personally thank them every chance you get.

Through donations, grants, and additional income, the Society was able to stay on budget and increase wages this past year. The 2020 budget plans for new equipment, upgrades to the Cox House, and continued roof improvements. Thank you for your continued support for our mission through your donations, volunteerism, time and talents.

May we continue to improve and grow as the new decade begins.

Maria Lokensgard
NCHS Board President
Harkin Happenings / Site Report

Our year was very interesting with the extended road closures sending people on roundabout detours and full of the stories that were told when they finally found us. We had 4,024 visitors from 37 states, and ten countries visit the store this year. They came as tour groups, families, and individuals.

Our program days, which are every Sunday afternoon, seem to be the best attended. Music and holiday weekends see the highest visitors every year. We try and have a variety of topics about life or things going on during the 1870s because people are genuinely interested in how things were back then.

We have a young man that came in 2017 for his birthday with some buddies and his family, and he has been coming back every year. Our music programs are done by a variety of different people with different types of music—most have been coming for over 15 years. In 2011, a father and a few of his teenage children came for a tour. He asked the children to bring out their instruments and play on the porch too, and he would record them for their mother. We had an opening program, so they played that season—Carver Creek has been coming back every year and all five siblings and now some spouses, too.

In 2020, the store will be 150 years old, and we hope to have more fascinating programs. We hope to see you in 2020 and are thankful for those who come, work, or offered programs for us this past year.

Ridgely Report / Site Report

The seasons pass by quickly at Fort Ridgely. This past year was like all the others that came before. It brought many visitors from different states and as far away as Japan. We had good turnouts for many of the events and loved getting to meet new people and visit with repeat visitors who stop in every year. They just love the peaceful scenery, wonderful hiking, and history at the Park. The new people that visit are always surprised at all the Park has to offer, and they all promise to make a return trip in the future.

We have been working hard on educating visitors on the “Dakota War of 1862” as well as other aspects and different eras that were also important to the site. There has been increased interest in the Civilian Conservation Corp, and all the program did for Fort Ridgely. Developing a hiking tour and talking about the photographs of the camp that was stationed there, from 1933 - 1936, has been a highlight to many visitors whose family members served in the CCC. It gives them a connection. That connection is what keeps them coming back year after year and bringing friends and family back with them.

The programs have been a draw to visitors, and a few stand out more than others. Scott Kudelka’s programs about the “Minnesota River” and “Wild About Wildlife” were both well attended this year. Scott does a great job of educating visitors of all ages and keeping things interesting. We appreciate all he does, and he will be returning in the new year with more great programming for our visitors.

The New Ulm Battery made sure the season ended with a bang, and we had quite a crowd. The Battery members are always knowledgeable about black powder and very willing to answer any and all questions from the excited crowd.

We are busy planning for next year and look forward to seeing everyone again. The roaring twenties look promising at Fort Ridgely, and we are looking forward to the season of the decade.
It was a successful year as the Cox House Committee continues its vision to welcome visitors to relive and share the history of Victorian daily and to move forward with the new interpretive model outlined in the E. St. Julien Cox House Interpretive Plan.

In the Spring, the dollars raised at the Annual Heritage Plant Sale fundraiser was a bit disappointing due to the weather being cold with rain. In the house, a new on-loan table setting was installed, generating lots of visitor questions about how all the unusual serving pieces were used in Victorian times.

As the summer came on, the Cox House Committee moved forward with the plan laid out in the interpretive plan. Arrangements were made to remove two trees on the property, providing more sun to the garden area as well as to protect the house from pesky squirrels. Talks continued about further repair proposals needed, including house painting and fence replacement and the dollars to fund these projects.

In the Fall, a successful “House in Mourning” program took place as well as the usual Halloween festivities. In preparation for the preservation-focused year ahead, NCHS and Rethos (formerly the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota) applied for a grant from the Historic Preservation Education Foundation to offer a workshop series about repair on windows, limestone foundation, wood rot, painting with lead safety, and fencing. We are awaiting word on that grant decision.

The end of the fall season shifted focus to Christmas. Volunteers quickly prepared for the 2019 festivities, and a first attempt was made at self-guided tours with the use of a preliminary brochure. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we feel this model holds merit.

Preservation is the focus at the House in 2020, but the Committee is considering many ideas for programs, events, displays, and usage for the upcoming year. Money has been set aside to try out the idea of an intimate catered dinner at the house as a fundraiser. Consideration is also being given to a Victorian tea or ice cream social. The highlight of the year came with a substantial gift for the upkeep and maintenance of the beautiful old house.

We look forward to the challenges of the coming anniversary year!
The Nicollet County Historical Society has been fortunate over the years to have a board of directors that are supportive, dedicated and invested in the success of the organization. We are very grateful for those currently on the board, those retiring from the board, and those who have volunteered to join the board in 2020; thank you for your service.

**Executive Board**
Maria Lokensgard, Norseland, President (2nd term ends 2019)
Eileen Holz, Saint Peter, Vice President (2nd term ends 2019)
Gabriela Roemhildt, Saint Peter, Secretary (Jan. ‘19–Oct. ‘19, 1st term ends 2020, Resigned)
Matthias Leyrer, North Mankato, Secretary (Nov. ’19–Jan. ’20, 2nd term ends 2021)
Loren Sundboom, Saint Peter, Treasurer (1st term ends 2020)

**Directors**
Tim Bartelt, Saint Peter (2nd term ends 2021)
Tom Brown, Saint George (2nd term ends 2020)
Tom Hagen, North Mankato (1st term ends 2019)
Ruth Klossner, Bernadotte (1st term ends 2019)
Kate Martens, Saint Peter (1st term ends 2021)
Joe Metzen, Saint Peter (1st term ends 2021)

We know exactly how lucky we are to have the staff that we do. Spread out across Nicollet County and beyond, and worth their weight in gold, they consistently give so much effort, expertise, and excitement. Through their hard work and some dedicated volunteers, NCHS answered thousands of phone calls and emails, talked to audiences all over creation, helped genealogists find lost relatives, preserved historical treasures, and cleaned toilets more times than we care to think about. Any thank you is inadequate, but we’ll say it anyway.

Executive Director: Jessica Becker
Research Coordinator: Ruth Einstein
Office Manager: Elaine Deschaine

TSHC Museum Assistants: Amanda Johnson, Erica Smith, Robert Weber

Fort Ridgely Site Manager: Amber Bentler
Fort Ridgely Asst. Site Manager: Cory Becker, Opal Dewanz
Fort Ridgely Site Guides: Annaliise Endorf, Charlotte Nack

As a person who has deep roots in Nicollet and LeSueur counties, it is amazing the way your displays bring that period to life. The detail of the art and photography and the documentation make you feel as if you are present at the events as they took place. Thank you for doing such wonderful work!

~ Darryl Finn
This past year NCHS collaborated and partnered with a large number of community organizations. Some of these included the New Ulm Battery, the Arts Center of Saint Peter, the Department of Natural Resources, St. Peter Reads, Lonesome Ron, and many others. Visitors and audiences went back in time to experience the thrill of artillery fire at Fort Ridgely, toured ghost towns across Nicollet County, celebrated Christmas in July at Harkin store, paid their respects at a Victorian wake, and many other educational events and programs.

Top: In celebration of the Society’s 90th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Treaty Site History Center, some very special folks performed a re-enactment of our first meeting at the Nicollet Hotel in 1928. Pictured left to right: Herb Poncin, Craig Nelson, Tom Hagen, Val Youngblom, Dave Solheim, Don Gustafson, and Rob Meyer.

Center left: Mourners came calling to the Cox House to pay their respects to Mrs. Cox at the wake held for her husband, Eugene Cox.

Center right: “Shadows at the Crossing: Spirits of Old Traverse des Sioux” returned this fall with reenactors like Al Behrends portraying historical figures telling their dramatic and humorous stories about their lives and experiences at Traverse des Sioux over 160 years ago.

Bottom left: Harkin Store Site Manager Ruth Grewe sharing the history of the Store with visitors.
2019 Volunteers / Gift of Time

Each year many volunteers contribute time, expertise, and energy to NCHS. They researched, greeted visitors, gave dozens of tours, pulled weeds, swung a hammer, and so much more. All these tasks and more translate into literally hundreds of things we couldn’t have done without them.

Thank you!

Top: North Mankato: a stroll through 120 years exhibit celebrating our neighbor to the south.

Center: a visitor to Fort Ridgely studies the exhibit panels in the Commissary building.

Below left: left to right: It takes many hours and hands to curate exhibits. Here volunteers Loren and Roxane Sundboom are attaching new fabric to an exhibit case in preparation for “World War II: Hometown View” which was on display from May 1–June 30, 2019.

Below right: Each year our sites welcome dozens of tours and field trips. At the Treaty Site History Center, docents like John Chamberlain volunteer their time to educate others, like these students from St. Mary’s School in Madelia, MN.
2019 Monetary Donors

NCHS treasures each and every donation that arrives in support of local history. Collectively, every dollar adds up and makes an enormous difference. Thank you so very much to everyone who gives according to their ability.

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Charles Boeder
John & Rosemary Braun
Irene Bussler
Carol Dearholt
Carolyn M. Dobler
Douglas Eaton
GP Engineering, PLLC
E. Lorraine Gatchell
Tom Hagen
Jason & Jackie Harrell
Scott Hermanson
Eileen Holz
Joseph Kastantin
Marta Kurak
Diane Lochner
James McPherson
Beatrice Martinson
Cindy & Larry Mohr
Robert & Kay Moline
Nupa
Lorraine Olson
C.M. Peterson
Herb & Louise Poncin
Michaelle Rees
Marie Rennenke
Janet & Angel Ruiz
SouthPoint Financial
Credit Union
Douglas & Judy Schultz
St. Peter Ambassadors Club
SPHS Class of 1969
Loren & Roxane Sundboom
Linda Swenson
Betty Thompson
Susan Trimbo
Mary Vinquist
End of Year Donations
Rebecca & Steven Briggs
Melvin Craig
Bill & Deb Dixon
First National Bank
Sam & Julie Gault
JoAnn Gieske
Eileen Holz
Eunice Holz
Gretchen Koehler
Emilie Lokensgard
Barb Olmanson
Harold & Louise Rodning
Ken & Patsy Rossow
Jon & Karen Smither
David & Linda Witte

2019 Memorials

During a time when you were remembering another, you also thought of our organization and for that we are grateful.

Anonymous
In Memory of 
Carl E. Anderson
Given by
Mildred Anderson
In Memory of 
Verda Beatty
Given by
Lorraine Olson
In Memory of 
Mary Christianson
Given by
Helen Christianson
In Memory of 
Bonita Covell
Given by
Eileen Holz
William & Marilyn Robertz
Judy Scholl
In Memory of 
Stan Davis
Given by
Janet Anthony
Thomas Ferris
Marlys Knutson
Riley-Tanis & Assoc., PLLC
Harold Rodning
Judy Scholl
Richard & Janet Wettergren
In Memory of 
Daniel Johnson
Given by
Pamela Morson
In Memory of 
Bud & Corinne Johnson
Given by
Richard Holz
In Memory of 
Gerald Johnson
Given by
Sally Webster
In Memory of 
Vreely Nelson
Given by
Ardith & Thorild Nelson
In Memory of 
Doug Nygard
Given by
Janet Hoffmann
Nygard Family
Herb & Louise Poncin
In Memory of 
William Robertz
Given by
Marilyn Robertz
Ed & Bev Wetherill
In Memory of 
Marilyn Rodning
Given by
Kathy Cuthbertson
Janet Lindstrom
Dan Rodning
Karen Rodning
Ken Rodning
Doug & Judy Schultz
In Memory of 
Dorothy Schultz
Given by
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schultz
In Memory of 
Owen Swenson
Given by
Gerald & Jan Albrecht
Ardith & Thorild Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schultz
In Memory of 
Milo Wills
Given by
Ardith & Thorild Nelson
In Memory of 
Gurturde Wright
Given by
Ed & Bev Wetherill
Seventy-eight donations of historical materials that illuminate the lives of Nicollet County families, businesses, churches, and organizations became part of our archival collections in 2019.

Research requests are made regularly, most often concerning family history. Thanks to the efforts of our magnificent volunteer Nita Aasen, we have an index of every obituary published in local papers for which we have microfilm. She has also recently compiled a database of our family history and genealogical materials and is organizing our cemetery records from around the county.

Bob Sandeen is an invaluable volunteer in the archives several mornings a week, and Mike Bidelman is continuing his research on early St. Peter businesses. Marlin Peterson and our wonderful intern, Mitch Meyerhoff, have cleaned and reorganized the back archival storage room. We are also grateful to the members of our Collections Committee: Nita Aasen, Eileen Holz, Brian Oviatt, and Bob Sandeen.

Nita & Paul Aasen
Martin Anderson
John Applin
Susan Berg
Melissa Blackstad
Blue Earth County Historical Society
Donald Borcherding
Jeff Brand
John Braun
Melanie Covell
Bob Douglas
Michael Frederick
Bruce & Sue Gray
Jane Haala
Tom Hagen
Chris Harris
Lori Heslep
Janet Hoffmann
Eileen Holz
Charles Hurd
Ray & Liz Jacobson
Mart Jancoski
Bev Johnson
Robert Lambert
Loren Lindsay
John Luepke
Nancy Luker
Joy Lutzi
Keith Mathews
Maryetta McCarty
LeAnn Peterson Metzger
Robert Meyer
Barb Michels
Dee Dee Michels
Dale Miller
Kay Mowbray
Marcy Muchow
Tom Nelsen
Gary B. Olson
Brian Oviatt
Marlin Peterson
Patti Pherson
Marion Pomplun
Sandy Robbins
Bill & Marilyn Robertz
James Robinson
Bob Sandeen
Doug Schultz
Emily Stark
Lucy Tanner
Jane Timmerman
Judy Tostenson Teigen
Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner
Michele Vogel
Warren Wagner
& Peggy Kreber
Bonnie & Michael Webster
Sally Webster
Ed Wetherill
Marlene Willson
Nancy Woods
Mark & Nancy Zallek

I had a wonderful experience working with Ruth via e-mail. She was knowledgeable, friendly and went above and beyond answering my questions. Also very quick responses! Thank you!

~ Ruth Brittain

Below: Hedwig Bauer-meister Altmann and Anton Altmann of Lafayette Township, celebrating their 50th anniversary, 1951.

Left: Eagle “puppet” from The Gathering, a theater event created by Cherry Creek Theatre director David Olson, St. Peter, August 1981. Images were donated to NCHS by Charlie Hurd in 2019.
Memberships

Your membership is not just a financial donation, but a declaration that you believe local history plays a vital role in the community by preserving the story of the path we walk together. We thank our current members who continue their commitment to the operation of NCHS and look forward to welcoming new members. Help us increase our numbers by inviting a friend to join today!

$1000 Crossing Circle
Life Members:
Marian Anderson
Robert Bartholdi
Steven & Becky Briggs
Verlin Carlson
Mel Craig
Mark & Mary Davis
Marie Dranttel
Garfield Eckberg
Sam & Julie Gault
Lisa Gault
Tom Hagen
Emilie Lokensgard
Sam & Julie Gault
Lisa Gault
Tom Hagen
Emilie Lokensgard
Maria Lokensgard
James McPherson
Brian Oviatt
Arlene Sandeen (dec.)
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Schmidt
Loren & Roxane Sundboom
David & Linda Witte

Corporate Member:
Mrs. Clair McRostie

$1000 Champion
Business Members:
Crown Underground
Gustavus Adolphus College

$200 Advocate
Business Members:
CCF Bank
eholz graphix
First National Bank Minnesota
New Sweden Mutual Insurance
SPRTC Volunteer Services
Saint Peter Food Co-op & Deli
Town of Brighton

Benefactor Members:
Larry & Judy Biederman

Supporter Members:
Joy Lutzi
Jerry Weidy

Patron Members:
Nita & Paul Aasen
Mike & Pam Bidelman
Sandy Chianelli
Stephen & Barb Grams
Don (dec.) & Beverly Gustafson
Eileen W. Holz
Bill & Jane Horton
Ellis J. Jones
Lori Ann Lahlum
Kate Martens
Rob & Janice Meyer
Lawrence Potts
Eugene Retka
David Solheim
Roland & Edi Thorstensson
Dean & Jane Wahlund

Sustaining Members:
Frani & Mark Anderson
Milton & Elaine Brostrom
Nannette Chambers
Julie Johnson
Jan Prehn
Buster & Nina West

Family Members:
John & Julianne Allerson
Dr. Bruce & Debra Beatty
David Bendy
William & Marilyn Bessler
Mark & Lauren Boomgaard
Patty & Darryl Breitenfeldt
James & Tracie Lea Benzmillen
Claude & Sandra Brew
Duane & Brenda DeBlieck
Arden & Marilyn DeBoer
Dwight & Geni DeBoer
Bob & Judy Douglas
Charles & Carol Eggert
Mark Ehlers
John Hall
Stuart & Mary Ann Hanson
Don & Rhonda Hermanson
Lori Heslep
John Hickman
Lisa Isenberg & Philip Friedlund
Robert & Leona Isenberg
Ray & Liz Jacobson
Dennis Kemp
Robert & Sally Lambert
Lucy Lowry
Mike & Maryetta McCarty
Carolyn Mager

Individual Members:
Joni Anderson
Eric Annexstad
Susan Austin
Maria Erling
Julie Ferrell
Michael Frederick
Brian Fresco
Paul Honken
Bradford Johnson
Ryan Kupcho
Matthias Leyrer
Dana Mielus
Trudi Olmanson
DeNel Potter Richert
David Varvreck
Brad Wilmes

Malcolm & Phyllis Maxwell
Joe Metzen, Kay Brandt,
and Cordelia
John & Carolyn Meyer
Jim & Dee Dee Michels
Tuff & Ginny Miller
Cindy & Larry Mohr
Joel & Carol Moline
Dale & Kay Mowbray
Terry Morrow
David Nelson
Thorild & Aridith Nelson
Janet & Byron Nordstrom
Gail & Roger Norland
William Riebesell
Harold & Louise Rodning
Ronald Roselli
Ken & Patsy Rossov
Rich & Colleen Ryan
Doug & Judy Schultz
Jeff & Tami Skinner
Jonathan & Karen Smithers
Evelyn & Harry Solo
Marty & Carol Sterner
Howard & Jane Swenson
Jeff Wettergren
& Melanie Lynard
Gerald Wolfe
We were able to operate within our means and despite a long winter and a wet spring, major disasters were not to be found. 2019 was a good year for the Society. We were blessed with generous monetary donations, including a significant bequest from the estate of Mr. Ralph P. Odegard. Since NCHS was already well-positioned financially, the Board of Directors will continue to diversify investments to ensure Society dollars are properly leveraged.

It is with deep gratitude that NCHS acknowledges the role played by Nicollet County in continuing to fund a large portion of our operations. Without this core support, NCHS couldn't maintain the professional standards of research, preservation, and heritage we're known for. These funds help us create the outreach and educational opportunities found in this report, as well as a multitude of daily tasks too large to list.

Fort Ridgely, Harkin Store, and Traverse des Sioux are important to the Society and our shared history. The funding the Minnesota Historical Society provides us to operate these sites means NCHS has a strong foundation from which to interpret them.

And to all of you who supported us this year, we offer our deepest thanks.

The financials you see, on the following two pages, are not complete but provide a general snapshot of revenues and expenses. If you would like to see full financials please contact Jessica Becker at 507-934-2160.

An effective presentation of well-researched historical information, accurately conveying the impact of the 1851 Traverse des Sioux Treaty, and the transition from native lands to homestead farming in southern Minnesota.

~ Michael Griffin
NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Friday, January 17, 2020

Profit & Loss
Jan. 01, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019

Expenses
Jan. 01, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019
Previous Year **Income** Comparison

All Accounts | Yearly Comparison

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<td>300</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>150</td>
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Prior Fiscal Year(s) | Current Fiscal Year

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Previous Year **Expense** Comparison

All Accounts | Yearly Comparison

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<td>200</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100</td>
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Prior Fiscal Year(s) | Current Fiscal Year
Upper right: In October, attendees enjoyed a morning bus tour of several Nicollet County ghost towns with local historian Bob Douglas, including this stop at Kerns.

Left: Sutler selling his wares during Company B Weekend at Fort Ridgely, the end of winter.

Center right: Carver Creek has been performing bluegrass music at Harkin Store since 2011.

Bottom left: Clearing the snow away from the building was a big task by

Bottom right: NCHS members and friends attend Marlin Peterson’s presentation on the “Sod Fort” constructed west of Norseland. The program was held at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church, Norseland, just yards away from the original fort site.