2018 Annual Report

Treaty Site History Center, in the early morning. Celebrating 25 years in this building.

photo by Jessica Becker
**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.

NCHS is a community organization. While not all County residents and visitors may step foot on to one of our historic sites, or attend one of our programs—we’re here to make all of our lives better. Those new to the area learn about area history and meet folks who share their interests. We strive to make history accessible to learners of all ages by providing information and opportunities to connect our past to our present. We hope the 20,498 people who visited our historic sites in 2018 enjoyed their experience.

But we're not just about our sites and our mission isn't either. You don't have to come to one of our buildings to be served by the Society because chances are we’ll reach you through outreach, publications, and even digitally. We work with local government like Nicollet County and the City of Saint Peter, state agencies like the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and special interest groups like Southern Minnesota Tourism Association and the Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway to advocate not just for history, but for all of us.

Just like brick and mortar stores are struggling to compete with online retailers, our sites are facing competition from the online world too. Many people are choosing to learn their history from our online resources over visiting our sites. The Society served over 486,000 people online in 2018. Our social media presence has grown rapidly over the past year and we’re reaching hundreds of thousands via our six Facebook pages, Twitter and Instagram. Many of you know we have over 1,500 photographs, maps, and more available anywhere in the world for free through the Minnesota Digital Library and Digital Public Library of America that was seen by over 3,000 users, and our event listings on the Explore Minnesota Tourism website had over 9,000 hits.

Our mission is to discover, preserve and disseminate the history of Nicollet County. The Society has shown that one doesn’t just have to visit our historic sites to be affected by the work we are doing, but we sure hope you do.
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.

NCHS 2018 at a Glance

20,498 onsite visitors at the five sites
25,731 website page views with 7,137 unique visitors
3,065 Minnesota Reflections collection views
Over 242,000 radio listeners on KNUJ & KTOE
2,733 combined Facebook page likes & 433,979 people reached
17,740 Twitter impressions
30 new NCHS memberships

NCHS welcomed visitors from around the world in 2018. They came from 44 states and 15 countries! In how many languages can you say “thanks for visiting”?

Twist of Fate event in the Saint Peter High School Auditorium, including visiting speaker, Sen. Amy Klobuchar

Below left: The Annual Heritage Plant Sale fundraiser for the E. St. Julien Cox House drew many green thumbs to the house in May.

Below right: A portion of the photographs, clippings, and items documenting the March 29, 1998 tornado on display during “Bent But Not Broken: Our Story in Pictures.”
Director’s Report

As I reflect upon the past year I cannot help but feel pride in the Society’s many accomplishments. We successfully navigated a full summer of road construction at three of our sites and even recorded some of our best attendance numbers in recent years at the Treaty Site despite the highway detours. The Treaty Site opened two exhibits, combined our sites offered over seventy programs, we paid off the 2013 HVAC loan and so much more.

From our very first meeting in 1928 to our meeting this year, we’ve seen many changes over the years. But through good times and bad times, our mission has remained the same—to preserve, protect, and share the history of Nicollet County. As you will see in the following pages, we have put your membership dollars and donations to good work. Your support provided our patrons with opportunities to explore Nicollet County history through new programs, exhibits, additional research tools, and much more. We also continue to work with community partners who help the Society by offering speakers for programs, planning or sponsoring events, or by becoming business members.

As we bid farewell to 2018, I want to thank everyone who supported the Society this year—our members, donors, friends, volunteers, board members, and staff for their continued commitment to our mission. Your support through financial assistance and gifts of time, talents and treasures directly contributes to our success now and always. The hard work of 2018 is a tribute to the exciting things to come in the year ahead.

Onward and forward!

Jessica Becker
Executive Director

President’s Report

It has been a challenging, yet exciting year for your Nicollet County Historical Society, and I am happy to say we have finished strong.

2018 has been referred to as the “Year of Road Construction.” The Highway 169 project directly affected the Treaty Site; detours and road closures deterred visitors both at Harkin Store and Fort Ridgley, and those two sites will continue to be dealing with MNDOT for another year. We experienced lower admissions and lower gift sales at each site, but thankfully the board approved a budget which took many of these obstacles into consideration. Through expense reduction, and controlled purchases we were able to stay on budget.

There were fresh, new exhibits and programming at all the sites. A small sample of the outreach programs include: Bent but Not Broken—Tornado Anniversary, State of Mind—State Hospital Museum, New Ulm Battery at the Fort, Resurrection Cemetery Tour, Old School Days Display at Harkin Store, County Historical Markers seen at the fair, and the Commemorating Controversy exhibit at the Mankato Pow Wow. I encourage you to watch for the upcoming exhibits and events as the year unfolds.

NCHS also reached a milestone by celebrating our 90th anniversary. This is quite an honor, and it shows the dedication and commitment many have given through the years to ensure a continued appreciation for our area history.

In order to continue being a vital community resource, the board is launching our “90 FOR 90” Refer a Friend Membership Drive for 2019 and we need your help! Our goal is to welcome 90 new members in honor of our 90 years, and if you refer someone who becomes a member, your own membership will be extended for 90 days. We all know family, friends, neighbors, and businesses who may be interested in our mission, so please help promote NCHS and the benefits we have to offer.

In closing, on behalf of the Board of Directors I wish to extend our deep appreciation to Jessica for her dedication and commitment; thank you to the staff at all our sites for their contributions of time and talent; and the many volunteers for their outstanding efforts as NCHS ambassadors. We also want to acknowledge and thank all of you, who are the foundation of this organization and will be vital in continuing to keep us active for another 90 years.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

Maria Lokensgard
NCHS Board President
Harkin Happenings / Site Report

Harkin Store had many visitors from 36 states and 8 countries this year. They were fun to visit with and share with them our history of Nicollet County and Minnesota. They were happy to see 40% of the original merchandise from the 1870s era making it possible for them to connect with the Harkin Store time period. Many would say it brought back memories from their families.

Unfortunately, we didn't have many field trips this year but we are hoping that will change this year. Bus tours were down as well because many of our adult visitors are now traveling with old cars or motorcycles, or visiting with their grandchildren.

Harkin Store opens on Friday, May 3rd in 2019 with our programs still on Sunday afternoons. We have a new program “Arriving in West Newton” on May 19th with a display of items that would have been brought with arriving settlers. Our Father’s Day program will be a week earlier with men’s hobbies. Leatherworker Dan Cochran will be displaying leather products, an important vocation at that time.

Again back by popular demand is the “1870 Dress Review” on July 7th.

We hope that not only people from other states and countries will visit in 2019 but also locals to learn about our area of Minnesota.

Those of us who work at Harkin are glad to tell the story to our visitors and we hope they had a great time with us.

Ridgely Report / Site Report

The 2018 season was a good one. We had visitors from California and as far away as Sweden visit Fort Ridgely this past year. Our research library has been the biggest draw for out-of-town visitors doing genealogy research on their families. The staff at Fort Ridgely has put in many hours answering questions and assisting these visitors with their research. We really enjoy being able to provide this service to our visitors and love getting to know them and their stories.

Programs at Fort Ridgely are always a draw to visitors of all ages. The Flag Program is always the largest draw. Staff member Anna Endorf wrote this wonderful program a couple of years ago and we are always surprised at the amount visitors who come to learn about “Old Glory.”

We are looking forward to a great season in 2019 and hope to see new faces throughout the year. Happy New Year from the staff at Fort Ridgely!
This was a year renewal and new beginnings at the Cox House. After being open by appointment recently, the house was open for guided tours over the summer every Sunday, from May 27th until September 2nd. Tours were offered on the hour in the afternoons and lasted about 40 minutes.

Our Summer Social Season was filled with Victorian entertainment and amusements. Cox House volunteer Richard Tostenson presented a series of programs to augment the open hours. Attendees heard some of the personal and political stories of the time, with interesting architectural views of why the Victorians used various design elements on their homes. Visitors glimpsed the new inventions and time-saving era products that the industrial revolution brought, and of course some tongue in cheek banter of societal norms and expectations of the time.

Once the house closed down for the summer, there was still a lot happening at the house. In the fall a new Cox House Committee formed in order to better serve the house. The first decision taken was to reinstitute the traditional Christmas at the Cox House open house over a weekend in December. In concert with community volunteers, the house was decked out in fine Victorian style. The evening tours were a resounding success with punch, cookies, and costumed Cox family interpreters. The second day was capped off with a visit from Santa for the children. With the remarkable impersonation of Richard Tostensen as Judge Cox, the event was a resounding success.

On other fronts, the rooftop squirrel problem was addressed in the fall, but it proved ineffective as they have returned and will have to be dealt with again. The Committee was pleased to accept a bid from Spring Touch to deal with the Creeping Charlie problem in the lawn, and with Crown Underground’s offer to sponsor the yard restoration in the coming year.

Outstanding issues at the Cox House remain including; tree pruning, repair of woodpecker damage on the front bay, the need to repair or eliminate the garden fencing, and the eventual need for the exterior painting of the house. It has been a successful year but with challenges ahead.

We thank everyone for their continued support of this truly wonderful local gem.
The Nicollet County Historical Society has been fortunate over the years to have a board of directors that is 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 2019; thank you for your service!

Executive Board
Maria Lokensgard, Norseland
President (2nd term ends 2019)
Eileen Holz, St. Peter
   Vice President (2nd term ends 2019)
Nita Aasen, St. Peter
   Secretary (2nd term ends 2018)

Directors
Tim Bartelt, St. Peter
   (2nd term ends 2021)
Tom Brown, St. George
   (2nd term ends 2020)
Amanda Frie, St. Peter
   (1st term ends 2018)
JoAnn Gieske, Brighton Township
   (2nd term ends 2018)
Tom Hagen, North Mankato
   (1st term ends 2019)
Ruth Klossner, Bernadotte
   (1st term ends 2019)
Gabriela Roemhildt, St. Peter
   (1st term ends 2020)
Loren Sundboom, St. Peter
   (1st term ends 2020)

Office Manager:
   Elaine Deschaene
   Amanda Johnson
   Erica Smith
   Robert Weber

TSHC Janitor:
Ruth Grelwe
Donna Dose
Justin Grewe
Robin Grewe
Glenn Stryker

Harkin Store Site Manager:
Ruth Grelwe
Donna Dose
Justin Grewe
Robin Grewe
Glenn Stryker

Harkin Store Site Guides:
Ruth Grelwe
Donna Dose
Justin Grewe
Robin Grewe
Glenn Stryker

Fort Ridgeley Site Manager:
Amber Bentler
Cory Becker
Opal Dewantz
Annaliise Endorf
Charlotte Nack

Fort Ridgeley Site Guides:
Amber Bentler
Cory Becker
Opal Dewantz
Annaliise Endorf
Charlotte Nack

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: Kris LeClerc
(TJan.–Mar.)
Ruth Einstein
(Jul.–present)

TSHC Museum Assistants:
Amanda Johnson
Erica Smith
Robert Weber

Harkin Store Site Manager:
Ruth Grelwe
Donna Dose
Justin Grewe
Robin Grewe
Glenn Stryker

NCHS volunteer Nita Aasen leads a tour of Resurrection Cemetery just outside St. Peter.

“Nice job very professional site!!!
Learned alot about a city I only lived in for six years. Thanks.
– Andrew J. Rodgers

NCHS Volunteer Nita Aasen leads a tour of Resurrection Cemetery just outside St. Peter.

In 2018 NCHS worked with many community organizations on programming, displays, and exhibits. Some of these included the Arts Center of Saint Peter, Saint Peter Community & Family Education, St. Peter Reads, KSMQ Public Television, the St. Peter Treatment Center, Gustavus Adolphus College, and many others. Visitors and audiences went back in time to experience the thrill of artillery fire at Fort Ridgely, took in a documentary film, celebrated Christmas with the Cox family, and many other exciting events and programs.

Images of our past year’s activities and programs are interspersed throughout your annual report.
Each year many volunteers contribute time, expertise, and energies to NCHS. They researched, greeted visitors, gave dozens of tours, pulled weeds or maintained trails, built things, and so much more. All these tasks and more translate into literally hundreds of things we couldn’t have done without them. Thank you!

Archives & Collections
Nita Aasen
Mike Bidelman
Marcy Muchow
Marlin Peterson
Bob Sandeen
Linda Schwarze

Guides & Docents:
Treaty Site & Traverse des Sioux
John Chamberlain, Cindy Freeman
Tom Freeman
Steve Hogberg

Harkin Store
Jolene Leighton
Jenny Menzer

E. St. Julien Cox House
Richard Tostenson

Treaty Site Front Desk
Warren Michels
Bill Pedersen
Loren Sundboom

Treaty Site Building & Grounds
Tim Bartelt
Genevieve Brand, Seed to Site, LLC
Steve Guse
John Mayer
Brian Oviatt
Herb Poncin
Adam Stensrud
Robert Weber
The Prairie Enthusiasts—Many Rivers Chapter

Treaty Site Events & Exhibits
Michael Cimino
Bob Douglas
Eileen Holz
Martin Lang
Kate Martens
Karen Mesrobian
Tami Menzer
Friends of District 6
Nicollet County Farm Bureau
St. Peter State Hospital
Museum & St. Peter
Treatment Center volunteers

E. St. Julien Cox House
Sarah Busse
Elsa Cornell
Ella Henry
Thomas Hagen
Will Jentges
Dave Johnson
Gregory Prunty
Mark Roehmildt
Loren Sundboom
Dwight Tostenson
Hans Tostenson
Caleb Wunderlich
Nicollet County Master Gardeners
Minniehaha Questers
SouthPoint Financial
Credit Union employees:
Nick Burger, Brad Haynes,
Sandy Ruckert, Joel Schwartz, Shane Wilmes
& Lori Wolkow
Many local students working on community service projects

Interns & Student Workers
Minnesota State
University, Mankato
Rachel Vang, Intern,
Jeremy Freeman, Intern,
Hallie Uhrich, Service
Learning Student

We hope we listed everyone
but please let us know if we missed someone!

Committees:
Annual Meeting
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Amanda Frie
Ruth Klossner
Maria Lokensgard

Archives/Collection
Nita Aasen
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Ruth Einstein
(Research Coordinator)

Exhibits
Nita Aasen
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Tom Brown
Ruth Einstein
(Research Coordinator)
JoAnn Gieseke
Eileen Holz

Cox House
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Tom Hagen
Lindsay Prunty
Gabriela Roehmildt
Loren Sundboom
Roxane Sundboom
Richard Tostenson (Chair)

Programs
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Elaine Deschaine
(Office Manager)
Tami Skinner
Loren Sundboom

Membership
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Elaine Deschaine
(Office Manager)
Amanda Frie
Eileen Holz

Fundraising
Jessica Becker
(Executive Director)
Amanda Frie
Eileen Holz
The Nicollet County Historical Society was fortunate to have had a monetarily uneventful year! We were able to operate within our means and major disasters were not to be found. NCHS would like to thank Nicollet County for its unwavering financial support of our mission. We continue to diversify our funding overall, but the taxpayers of Nicollet County provide an important and stable base. And of course, our relationship with the Minnesota Historical Society and their historic sites we operate is also important to us. To all of you who supported us this year, we offer our deepest thanks.

(Please see the meeting packet for financial statements)

## 2018 Monetary Donors

The Society is exceedingly grateful for the support we receive from our members, patrons, and supporters. We would not be able to operate our buildings, create exhibits or offer programming without it. We cannot express our gratitude enough.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anonymous</th>
<th>End of Year Donations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Crown Underground LLC</td>
<td>Mildred Anderson</td>
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<td>E. Lorraine Gatchell</td>
<td>Eric Annexstad</td>
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<td>Scott Hermanson</td>
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<td>Cindy &amp; Larry Mohr</td>
<td>Eunice Holz</td>
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<td>Marlin Peterson, in honor of</td>
<td>Emilie Lokensgard</td>
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<td>Janet Hoffmann</td>
<td>Maria Lokensgard</td>
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### 2018 End of Year Donations

- Mildred Anderson
- Eric Annexstad
- Carl & Bev Annonsen
- Peg Bindner
- Mel Craig
- Marie Dranttel
- Fred Hanson
- Scott Hermanson
- Eileen Holz
- Eunice Holz
- Emilie Lokensgard
- Maria Lokensgard
- Beatrice Martinson

## 2018 Memorials

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<th>In Memory of</th>
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<td>Margaret Annexstad</td>
<td>Z. Sam Gault</td>
<td>Warren R. Jacobson</td>
<td>Clair McRostie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Given by William &amp; Marilyn Robertz</td>
<td>Given by Nicollet County Bank Employees</td>
<td>Given by Leanne Jacobson</td>
<td>Given by Ed &amp; Bev Wetherill</td>
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<th>In Memory of Patricia Burg Stark</th>
<th>In Memory of Audrey Hanson</th>
<th>In Memory of Ruth Larson</th>
<th>In Memory of Marjorie Eckberg</th>
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<tr>
<td>Given by Eileen Holz</td>
<td>Given by Stuart &amp; Mary Ann Hanson</td>
<td>Given by Evi Davenport</td>
<td>Given by Loren &amp; Roxane Sundboom</td>
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<td>Richard Holz</td>
<td>Judith Scholl</td>
<td>Dorothy Grosvenor</td>
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- \(500\) Golden Ticket winner
- Give To The Max Day
- Steve, Mary Ann Hanson
- Judith Scholl
- Stenson Family Farms
- Nils & Kristi Stolen
- Robert & Dorothy Wells
- New bricks installed in the TSHC front patio.
Memberships

$1000 Crossing Circle
Life Members:
Marian Anderson
Roberta Bartholdi
Steven & Becky Briggs
Verlin Carlson
Mel Craig
Mark & Mary Davis
Marie Dranttel
Garfield Eckberg
Julie & Sam Gault
Lisa Gault
Tom Hagen
Delores Holteen (dec. 6/29/2018)
Emilie Lokensgard
James & Patricia McPherson
Brian Oviatt
Arlene Sandeen
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Schmidt
Loren & Roxane Sundboom
David & Linda Witte

$1000 Champion
Business Members:
Crown Underground LLC
Gustavus Adolphus College

$500 Benefactor
Business Member:
Patrick’s on Third

$200 Advocate
Business Members:
Arts Center of Saint Peter
Brighton Township
First National Bank
Nelson Printing
New Sweden Mutual Insurance Co.
New Sweden Township
Nicollet County Farm Bureau
The Nicollet House
Volunteer Services,
St. Peter Treatment Center

Life Members:
Carl Aanonsen
Ken Albrecht
Mildred Anderson
Lois Annaestad
Phyliss Annaestad
Marshall & Janet Anthony
Willis & Rachel Anthony
Marian Babcock
Paul & Helen Baumgartner
Napoleon Chagnon
Stanley Davis
William Dobbs
E. Lorraine Gatchell
Bruce & Sue Gray
Fred Hanson Jr.
Charles Hendrickson
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hilding
Janet Hoffmann
Eunice Holz
Carl & Susan Johnson
John Kvamme
Mrs. William Lager
Ben Leonard
Elgene Lund
Eugene Majewicz
Beatrice Martinson
Ursula & Clair (dec. 2018) McRostie
Robert & Kay Moline
Mrs. Herbert Monk
Barb Olmanson
Dr. & Mrs. Vern Olmanson
Lorraine Olson
Dennis Paschke
Carol Peterson
Marian Peterson
Dean & Peggy Pettis
Herbert & Louise Poncin
Bill & Marilyn Roberts
Marilyn Rodning
Wayne Schmidt
Judy Scholl
Robert Swedberg
Linda Swenson
Betty Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Volk
Merton & Margaret Wenner
Ed & Beverly Wetherill
Val Youngblom

Patron Members:
Nita & Paul Aasen
Bernard & Pam Bidelman
Buffalo Commons Press,
David Solheim
Nannette Chambers
Chris & Jolly Corley
Brian & Deborah Fors
Donald & Beverly Gustafson
Stephen & Elizabeth Hogberg
Lori Ann Lahlum
Kate Martens
Janice & Robert Meyer II
Nicollet Chamber of Commerce
Bill & Durene Pedersen
Lawrence Potts
Gene Retka
Bob Sandeen
Nathan Sterner
Edith & Roland Thorstenson
Sally Webster

Sustaining Members:
Milton & Elaine Brostrom
Julie & Chris Gilberg
Eileen Holz
Gayla Lueck-Mattson
Janet Prehn
Dean & Jane Wahlund
Buster & Nina West
Richard & Janet Wettergren
David & Faith Wicklund
Memberships continued

**Family Members:**
- John & Julianne Allerson
- Mark & Frani Anderson
- Rolf & Jean Annesstad
- Tim Bartelt
- Steve & Jen Baxa
- Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Beatty
- Jessica Becker
- Amber Bentler
- William & Marilyn Bessler
- Jack Buser
- Andrew & Sarah Davis
- Duane & Brenda DeBlieck
- Arden & Marilyn DeBoer
- Dwight & Geni DeBoer
- Elaine Deschaine
- Brian Frew
- Myrtle Gieszke
- Robin Grewe
- Ruth Grewe
- Daniel Groebner
- Jerry & Shileen Gulden
- John Hall
- Stuart & Mary Ann Hanson
- William Hanson
- Andrea Hawker
- Bruce & Elizabeth Hawkinson
- Joel Henderson & Jane Coleman
- Donald & Rhonda Hermanson
- John Hickman
- Ann Hokanson
- Julie Huivas Mascetti
- Lisa Isenberg & Philip Friedlund
- Robert & Leona Isenberg
- Barbara Jerabek
- Ray & Liz Jacobson
- Amanda Johnson
- Bradford & Linda Johnson
- Dave & JoAnn Johnson
- Chris Jones
- Allison Kim
- Tom & Sue Kretschmer
- Robert & Sally Lambert
- Sally Lambert
- Kristina LeGerc
- Dave & Pam Lendt
- Tim Lokensgard & Family
- Mike & Maryetta McCarthy
- Benjamin & Leah Matzke
- Malcolm & Phyllis Maxwell
- Joe Metzen, Ken Brandt & Cordelia Metzen
- Carolyn & John Meyer
- Jim & DeeDoe Michels
- Warren Michels
- Tuff & Ginny Miller
- Cindy & Larry Mohr
- Joel & Carol Moline
- Dale & Kay Mowbray
- Elizabeth Mulvehill
- David & Doris Nelson
- Thordild & Arthd Nelson
- Janet & Byron Nordstrom
- Roger & Gail Norland
- Revae Nygaard
- Dan & Lor Oachs
- Trudi Olmanson & Eli Hoehn
- Steve Ream & Elaine Hewitt
- Marjorie & Earl Renneke
- Harold & Louise Rodning
- Mark & Gabriela Roemhildt
- Ken & Patsy Rossov
- Rich & Colleen Ryan
- Dennis & JoAnn C. Schmidt
- Doug & Judy Schultz
- Jeff & Tami Skinner
- Erica Smith
- Karen & John Smithers
- Emily Stark
- Marty & Mary Carol Sterner
- Tamara Stoffel
- Glenn Stryker
- Owen & Evie Swenson
- Jeff Wettergren & Melioyn Lymard
- Sara & Peter Wenstad
- Jerry & Peggy Wolfe
- Lawrence & Joan Zambino

**Individual Members:**
- Joni Anderson
- Eric Annesstad
- James Bartels
- Kathleen Bouchie
- Maria Erling
- Jacquelyn Feldman
- George Ferrell
- Carol Forbes
- Michael Frederick
- George Green III
- Scott Hermanson
- Julie A. Johnson
- Maria Lokensgard
- Barbro Martensson
- RaVae Nygard
- Molly Reimann
- Sara Samuelson
- Mary Ann Scharf
- Terry Sveine
- Patrick Tanis
- Lois Weber
- Robert Weber
- Caleb Wunderlich

**Senior Members:**
- Eunice Amos
- Peg Bindner
- Patrick Bowden
- Bonnie Brandel
- James Brown
- Thomas Brown
- Herbert Brunner
- Melvin Christianson
- Elsa Cornell
- Melanie Covell
- Lois Currier
- Roger Currier
- Sharon Domeier
- Eleanor Depuydt
- Opal Dewanz
- Gail Dummer
- Alma Forst
- Audrey Gatchell
- JoAnn Gieszke
- Jane Haala
- Pat Halter
- Barbara Hanson
- Ronald Haugen
- Kay Herbst Helms
- Thomas Hergert
- Elaine Hermanson
- Dale Himmelman
- Lynnette Hoffman
- Richard Holz
- Susan Hynes
- Roger Jackson
- Charles L. Johnson
- Marjorie Johnson
- Mavine M. Johnson
- Victoria M. Johnson
- Ellis Jones
- Patricia Judd
- Myron Kaduce
- Marolyn Kleinert
- Ruth Klossner
- Gretchen Koehler
- Donna Kowal
- Willis Lindquist
- Loren Lindsay
- Mary Long
- Harriet Mason
- Margaret Muchow
- Jim Muynes
- Sylvia Nesheim
- Arnold Nimp
- Elizabeth Peters
- Lonnie Peterson
- Marshall Peterson
- Ranae Peterson
- Sharon Pinney
- Tim Pulis
- Donna Resner
- Karen Reyelts
- Karen A. Robison
- Ronald Roselli
- Kenneth Saffert
- Kenneth Saffert
- Helen Schauer
- Agnes Stensby
- Judy Teigen
- Bernadine Thompson
- Mary Topp
- Bonnie Tostenson-Sellner
- Linda Vogel
- Barbara Wilkinson
- Nancy Zins

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**Great staff! Beautiful grounds! Programming is family friendly and fun for all ages!**

~ Cheyanne St. John about Fort Ridgely

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Bottom, left to right:
The NCHS booth at the Nicollet County Fair in August 2018 featured a sampling of the many historical roadside markers that dot our county.

Visitor views Commemorating Controversy exhibit in the Education Tent at the Mankato Pow Wow.

Fort Ridgely grounds showing some of the foundations, the monument, and the Commissary.
Fifty-two donations of historical materials that illuminate the lives of Nicollet County families, businesses, churches, and organizations became part of our archival collections in 2018.

- Photographs and other items chronicling the 1998 tornado and its aftermath.
- Autograph books, ledgers, photographs, and documents relating to the Martin Peterson family of New Sweden and the Scandian Grove Lutheran Church
- A scrapbook/album documenting the design and creation of the North Mankato Centennial Quilt, 1998. The quilt was handcrafted by over 30 area quilters.
- Photographs and genealogies relating to the Andreas Ritz family of Granby Township.
- Several wonderful photographs of rural schoolhouses.
- Artifacts collected by physician and Indian Agent Jared Daniels, as well as supporting documentation, a family genealogy, and digitized family photographs.
- Donations of textiles include coveralls and a meat lugger’s uniform from Johnson Uniform Company, and a batboy uniform for the St. Peter men’s baseball team dating to the early 1960s.

Research requests are made regularly, most often concerning family history. A notable example was the monumental task of tracing several generations of a Nelson family and an Olson family. An e-mail with the subject “Happy customers,” reads “My sister and I were squealing with delight with all of the original documents you sent concerning our ancestors… I was so concerned about Christine and then she married a younger man and had three children. I hope she had a happy life. We also were so glad to get all of the other tidbits of news about family members. You really did dig deep and obtained things that we never could.”

Hats off to volunteer Nita Aasen for her extraordinary effort, which brought in $300 to the archives.

Nita Aasen
Bruce Aiton
Frani & Mark Anderson
Jean Olson Andreen
Susan Bogenschutz
Kay Deren Brown
Brown-Nicollet
Environmental Health
Fay Choban
Lois Currier
Roland & Bonnie Danielson
Anne L. Davis
Carol Dearholt
Bob Douglas
Eric Elias
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Dianne Fields
Marcus Flygare
Ronald C. & Donna Giefer
John Glynn
Joan Goetteman
Janet Goff
Daniel Groebner
Donald & Bev Gustafson
Barb Haack
Sara Hanson
Family of Raymond Hein
Nancy Hennen

Tom Herzog
Bonnie Holz
Eileen Holz
Andy Hopp
John Hurd
Lois Johnson
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Carol Miller
Tuff Miller
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Kay Mowbray
Brian Oviatt
Marlin Peterson
Gene Retka
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Victoria Irons Walch
Harold F. Roth
Betsy Sagens
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Diane Schoettlin
Steve School
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Greg Seitzer
St. Peter Lions Club
Cliff Stemper
Edwin Stock
Gerald Strand
Roxane Sundboom
Ashley Thronson
Janet Wettergren
Desmond Whitney
S. Ken Ziegler
Karen Zins

“Twist of Fate” and “Bent But Not Broken: Our Story in Pictures”

Donors:
- Arts Center of Saint Peter
- Brown-Nicollet
- Environmental Health
- John Chevalier
- Michael Cimino
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- Jon Smithers
- St. Peter Herald
- St. Paul Pioneer Press
- St. Peter Treatment Center
- Terri Stratton Hicky
- Loren & Roxane Sundboom
- Lisa Vickstrom

First communion of twins Magdaline (Lena) and Tresea Molitor, St. Michael Catholic Church, Belgrade Township, c. 1906.

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