

Danube Historical Society Newsletter

PO Box 463 danubehs@gmail.com Danube, Minnesota 56230

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Sharing the Past, Present and Future with You

Was your newsletter ADDRESS LABEL highlighted in GREEN?

You paid early and your membership dues are paid through 2017!

All others' membership dues (\$10 per person) should be paid in January, 2017. DHS thanks you for your renewals or new memberships. Use the form on the back page. Your support is very important to us and we appreciate you very much!



Ghosts in the Depot?

On Saturday, September 3, a team of paranormal investigators led by Adrian Lee brought their equipment to the Danube Depot museum to determine what they could see and hear. Rod Black and Lee Nere observed their investigation for several hours that night, in darkness and silence for the most part. The team positioned themselves around the depot, on all levels, and recorded sounds and sights. On November 17, in Morton at the Renville County Historical Society community building, 150 or so people came to hear what was found in Renville County by this group. Suzie and Cal Lueck and Rod Black attended from Danube, and it was reported that the ghost of Ben Horst, former Danube resident, was present in the depot and talked with the team. Ben died in 1967 in an automobile accident near the depot, which Mr. Lee had discovered in his research. Other locations in Renville County that were investigated included the Morton School building ("most haunted place we had ever been"), the Bechyn church and cemetery, Birch Coulee battlefield and the Renville County Courthouse. A book will be written with these findings, and will likely be available in fall of 2017. We will let you know more, as we find out more! Lee said that you don't have to believe in ghosts to benefit from the dollars spent at local establishments by those who are curious.

Renville County Celebrates Its 150th Anniversary With Bus Tour

On October 1, 50+ people came to the Danube Depot Museum on a bus tour arranged to celebrate the sesquicentennial of Renville County. These are people from various communities in Renville County. We received many very complimentary remarks and how they enjoyed the visit. Many questions about the Bandstand and if we held concerts in the Bandstand! This made us wonder what we need to do to let people know when there is a concert. We put it on radio, local TV channels, newspapers and posters in 4 communities. It was great having 50+ adults visiting at one time and to listen to their comments. We want to thank the committee that arranged the tour. Two weeks earlier they toured eastern Renville County.

RCW Elementary Classes Visit Depot

On Thursday, Oct. 13, two busloads carrying the 3rd grade and 5th grade students, teachers and paras from RCW school visited the museum. They were greeted by volunteers who divided them into 4 groups, and showed them around outside, the main floor, the upper level and the lower level. We had specific things to point out on each level, and the students had a scavenger hunt to find information throughout the museum. Thanks to the great volunteers that day, and thanks to the well-behaved students!

DONORS and PAID MEMBERSHIPS

John and Georgia Smedstad
Dale and Joyce Neyhart
Mavis Orr
Ken Houdek
John and Pat Bratsch
Gary Kaiser
Erna Rohs

PAID MEMBERSHIPS

Carolyn Manthei Barsness
William Dudek
Dick and Gwen Wacek
John and Alice Goelz

DONORS

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MEMORIALS

Monetary Donations

In Memory of:

Eunice Kramin by Janet Kramin; and Eunice Kramin family

Duane Orr by Mavis Orr
Ordell Jakel by Edsel Bernstrom

Elaine Marks by Rick and Kristi, Tim and Susan Marks; Cindy Ryan; Rod and Mary Lee Black; Edsel Bernstrom; Yvonne Jakel

Homer Haug by Marilyn Hein; Cal and Suzie Lueck; Rod and Mary Lee Black; Edsel Bernstrom; Darlene Haug and family

Jean Voelz by Dorothy Kleinhuizen

Melvin and Arlene Goldhammer by Bruce Goldhammer

George and Bertha Kaiser by Gary Kaiser

Eldon Rohs by Erna Rohs

RECENT DEATHS

Elaine Marks, mother of Rick, Tim, Daniel and Jamie
Harold Zaske, DHS class of 1961

LuVerne Krueger, DHS class of 1942

Nancy Lee Connelly-Dockin, DHS class of 1966

Homer Haug, DHS class of 1942, father of Cindy, Chery, Jolene, Harley, Tammy, Debra, Bradley

Jean Nyquist Voelz, Class of 1944; mother of Charlotte, Robert, William, John

Arnie Muench, father of Sherri Black

Briefly

Water Tower Stories still needed! We have heard from 10 people who had water tower stories to share. We are going to incorporate them into a memory book. Contributors include Kay Voelz Schuette wrote that "my cousin, Keith Schroeder and I climbed the water when we were 7 or 8 years old in 1947 or 1948. Why? It seemed like a fun thing to do!..." Also from the '40's, we heard from Cara Smedstad Fish who climbed the tower when she was about 13 and loved the view from the top. Billy Dudek, Wayne Maurice, and Preston Mattke also submitted stories, then we have a lull in the '70's and '80's, and stories from the '90's from Josh Lueck and others. Josh actually climbed it a few weeks ago and took some amazing photos that will be shared in the book. We would love to hear your story! Statute of limitations has run out, and the cop can't charge you with anything now – so write to us NOW by email at danubehs@gmail.com or by snail mail at PO Box 463, Danube, MN 56230. You didn't have to climb it, even part way, to have a memory of the water tower!

Fall Festival 2016 took place on Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Depot with good participation, good fellowship and sharing of food, fun and laughter. Greg Lippert provided music and was greatly appreciated and well-received. Thanks to the volunteers who always make it a special day.

The memorial tree (Melvin Goldhammer memorial) that was run over by the crew taking soil samples last spring has been replaced!

Do you shop online on Amazon? There is a program that gives a percentage of sales to non-profits, called Amazon Smile. If you log on to www.smile.amazon.com and select Danube Historical Society from their list of eligible recipients, we will receive .5% of your purchases as a donation from smile amazon's foundation. It will not increase the cost of anything you buy, it is simply a way for Amazon to share their profits.

Update of Mary Lee Black:

Oct. 3rd. To Mayo

Oct 11th Surgery to reroute food. It was not passing to the small intestine. Tumor blockage. Could not remove the tumor. Ripple affect.

Oct. 20th to Renville Health Care Center. Being fed by feeding tube. This will last until she drinks 3 pints of liquid per day.

We have an appointment Dec 8th at Mayo.

Her spirit is good!

Rod & Mary Lee Black

Membership Dues - \$10.00 per individual. January 1st begins new year.

Yes, I would like to support the Danube Historical Society

Total Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Dues For: Name(s) _____

Donation - \$ _____

Memorial - \$ _____ In Memory of: _____

From: _____

Address change: _____

E-mail: _____

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Yes___ No___

DHS Gift Shop

Danube-Opoly Games are still available. Contact one of the people below to purchase one for \$35. We also have t-shirts that have a picture of the water tower, stating I ♥ the Danube Water Tower for \$20. They make great gifts!

MUSEUM HOURS : **October to May By Request. Call:**

Rod & MaryLee 320-826-2274

Dorothy K. 320-826-2589

Lowell J. 320-826-2740

Cal & Suzie 320-826-2236

2017 DATES TO SAVE

Planning Meetings: April to November 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 9:30
From November – April, 2nd Thursday @ 9:30
All members welcome to attend.

Wishing You & Yours a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
wherever you will be.

