

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

Since the last newsletter ...

December to March is not a real busy time for the DHS, but we are starting to plan for the spring and summer at the museum. We begin the season with our **Annual Meeting**, to be held on **Thursday, April 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the Danube Community Center**. Rolls and coffee will be provided. All members are welcome and encouraged to come and hear about our projects. Any ideas you may have are also welcome! We have a committee to finalize plans for a storage/concessions building. To be decided are: where to place the building on the grounds; size of the building; materials to be used (steel? wood? Vinyl?); whether or not to include sewer and water for restrooms and kitchen facilities. Of course the cost is directly affected by the answers to these questions, and we need to make decisions that will make the best use of our funds, which are your donations. There will be other items to share at the meeting, so come and find out what is happening!

A group has formed in the last couple of months in the 212 Corridor from Granite Falls to Buffalo Lake in order to celebrate the history of the Yellowstone Trail in our area. On Friday, March 9, a meeting was held in Olivia with about 20 people present, to hear John and Alice Ridge from Wisconsin, who founded the Yellowstone Trail Association in order to map the trail and promote its history. They had an informative video of early days on the Trail, which began in South Dakota in 1912 to provide roads between towns with the advent of the automobile. By 1918 it was "A Good Road from Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound" and one of the first coast-to-coast auto routes. We will continue to work with this group as they determine their focus. Nancy Standfuss is the designated Danube representative for this group.

Danube Fun Days will again take place this summer from Wednesday, July 11 through Sunday, July 15. The museum will be open extended hours then, and we hope to see many visitors. A few Danube classes are organizing Class Reunions for this weekend - Classes of 1958 and 1978 are starting to make plans. Class of 1968 has yet to organize anything formally at this point. Any others? The Danube Historical Society has an extensive mailing list and can assist any organizers with contact information for classmates if needed. Contact us if we can be of help! Contact info is above, or on the back page.

amazonsmile

Our  **Org Central** donation, from your purchases designated for Danube Historical Society, totaled \$47.53 from sales in the 4th quarter of 2017. (Oct - Dec) Thanks! To participate, go to www.smile.amazon.com and find Danube Historical Society in the list of participants. Then just shop as usual, and .5% of your total dollars spent is donated to DHS. We receive it quarterly. Thanks!

This just in!!!! Amazon Smile will TRIPLE their donation for FIRST TIME purchasers from March 12 - March 31!!!!!!

Spring

DONORS and PAID MEMBERSHIPS

Al Schochenmaier
John & Georgia Smedstad
Larry & Ramona Breittkreutz
Marlys & Robert Melius
Bruce Goldhammer
Andy Seehusen
Gleva Krause
Linda Kline
Randy & Pennie Kaven
Carol Laumer
Nancy Klecker

PAID MEMBERSHIPS

Elaine Nyman
Dick & Sue Grosklags
Sheldon & Kerry Manthei
Rick & Tammy Ferguson
Gene & Sharon Machacek
Russ Folkerts
Ardu Cleveland
Woody & Mary Ann Schemmel
Kevin & Candy Zaske
Ann Zaske
Carol Peterson
Norm Falconer
Orville Molenaar
Ken & Kathy Johnson
Shirley Holbrook
Howard & Judy Bredesen
Carolyn Barsness
Robert & Sharyn Taylor
Douglas Reck
Shirley Zaske Sweeney
Nancy Mueller
Leroy Nere
Bob & Lois Wigen
Margy Dodge
Carol Melby
Cindy Grosklags
Marlyne Majerle

THANK YOU

RECENT DEATHS

Mike Houdek, DHS class of 1979
Don Metag, Sr.
Kevin Block
Guy Olson (husband of Shari Seehusen)
Bob Gens, DHS class of 1956
Rochelle Lang Linde, DHS Class of 1985
Alice Wertish Goelz, DHS class of 1963
Frances Schemmel Arvizu, DHS class of 1942
Gilbert Bratsch
Elaine Schafer Wetzel, DHS Class of 1967
Eunice Tesch
Connie Kemnitz Grewe, DHS class of 1965
Mary Ann Serbus Schmoll
Scott Schochenmaier (son of Al Schochenmaier and Carol Stellmacher Schochenmaier)
Lowell Fischer, DHS class of 1963

Danube Connections

We are interested in compiling stories that make us realize what a "small world" we live in, with Danube being the common thread. For example, here are a couple of stories we have been made aware of:

A couple of months ago, a 6th grade teacher in Bakersfield, CA was teaching a lesson on family roots, and mentioned the Danube River in Europe. He told his class that his mother grew up on a farm outside a small Minnesota town named for that river, Danube. One of the students in the class raised his hand and said that his great-grandmother lives in Danube, MN. It turned out to be a great "small world" Danube connection – the teacher was Scott Arvizu, son of Frances Schemmel Arvizu and the student was Quentin Lueck, great-grandson of Grace Lueck, grandson of Lowell Lueck and son of Joel Lueck. We have since been informed of Frances' death at the age of 93 in Bakersfield. Thanks to Woody Schemmel, Jr. for calling from Florida to relate this story to Rod Black. Woody's cousin, Jane Stockhaus from Crystal, MN also called and told us more, later sending Francys' obituary and a family photo of the Schemmels. Thanks to Joel Lueck for verifying that it was his son. Quentin truly earns the credit for making this Danube Connection!

Another one.....

Cal and Suzie Lueck travelled near and far serving Dad's Belgian Waffles in the upper Midwest for several years. At a fundraising event for the High School Booster Club in Altoona, WI a few years ago, one of the attendees had eaten his meal, noting the Dad's Belgian Waffles placemat advertised its home as Danube, MN. He waited for a lull in the serving line, and returned to ask the man cooking waffles if he was from Danube. Cal replied that he was. Recognizing Cal as close to his own age, he asked if he'd gone to Danube High School, and what year he graduated. Cal thought this odd, but answered that he'd graduated from Danube in 1968. The man then remarked "I was in your class up until 2nd grade!" His name is Galen Schroer, and he lived in the Danube area until 2nd grade, then moving to Coon Rapids, where he finished school. He is now retired from teaching in the Eau Claire area.

Do you have a "small world" story with a Danube connection? Please send them to us by mail (PO Box 463, Danube, MN 56230) or email (danubehs@gmail.com) or call us and we can put the story together for you: (phone numbers are in the right-hand column of this page)

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**Membership Dues** - \$10.00 per individual. January 1<sup>st</sup> begins new year.  
\$10 per person per year. Use the form below and mail  
to PO Box 463, Danube, MN 56230  
Your support is very important to us and we appreciate you very much!

**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\_\_\_

## MEMORIALS

### Monetary Donations

#### In Memory of:

- Shorty Kaiser** by Russ & Phyllis Manthei, Ardus Cleveland, Lavonne Voelz, Terry & Deb Holwerda, Les & Pat Schneider, Doug & Lavina Knutson, Wayne Tepfer, Dan & Barb Trochlil, Paul Felska, Nyla Lingenfelter, Gloria Mattson, Gordon Bergo, William & Mary Ryden, George & Evonne Lund, Harris & Connie Duinick, Mari & Todd Damhof, Greg & Annie Tepfer, Carolyn & Jerome Jacobs, Maurice & Harriet Schroeder, George & Janice Fousek, Greg & Jeanette Lecy, Sheldon & Kerry Manthei, Allen Olson, Barb Woltjer, Charles & Sharon Olson, Gene & Colleen Alex, Danelle (Nellie) Wersal, Jody Kamholz, Catherine Bonde, Scott Solheim, Dick & Barb Gunderson, Cal & Suzie Lueck, Mary Erickson, Linda & Gary Nelson, John & Georgia Smedstad
- Al Grosklags** by Dick & Sue Grosklags
- Mary Lee Black** by Al Schochenmaier, Gerry & Judy Seehusen, Dick & Barb Gunderson, Cal & Suzie Lueck, Gene & Colleen Alex, Robert & Sharyn Taylor
- Jerry Lingenfelter** by Russ Folkerts
- Hulda Gilbert** by Marlys & Robert Melius
- Duane Standfuss** by Norm Falconer
- Janet Caldwell Bickman** by Shirley Zaske Sweeney
- Mary Ann Schmoll** by Gene & Colleen Alex
- Delores Wertish** by Lee Nere



**MUSEUM HOURS :** May to October:  
**Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 1:30 – 4:00 or by request. Call:**  
Rod 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays @ 9:30  
From November – April, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 9:30  
All members welcome to attend.