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# Danube Historical Society Newsletter

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Carmel

Volume 3

PO Box 463 Danube, Minnesota 56230

June, 2007

**Attention! Danube Historical Society Members and interested persons!** You are invited to the Annual Meeting of the DHS to be held June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Danube Community Center at 10 A.M. We'd like you all to be involved in sharing ideas about hours, volunteer greeters and things to include in the School Exhibit for July-October and "what next?" We need ideas from YOU! Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

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**Danube Fun Days.** Mark your calendars.

**Days: July 11th:** Homemade Ice Cream at the United Methodist Church from 5-8 PM.

**July 13<sup>th</sup>:** Volleyball tournaments begin. Get a team ready to play. The Weigel relatives have had a team every year since they started playing volleyball. **July 14<sup>th</sup> –** more volleyball, DHS serving "Dad's Belgian Waffles" from 8-11 AM.

**Parade is at 2 PM. Danube Lions serving Supper from 4:30-7:30 PM. Variety Show at the school at 7:30 PM. Street Dance to follow.**

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**The Depot will be open** at specified times during Fun Days. We are always looking for volunteers to visit with visitors when The Depot Museum is open. Several Class Reunions are planned and we can assume there will be many visitors for the school exhibit. Interest is especially high since the closing of our Danube School building. You may certainly help out by being a host/hostess. It is a nice way to have some great conversations!

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**WANTED:** School memorabilia and history to be on display during Danube Fun Days and the rest of the Summer. Artifacts are always great, but your written memories and anecdotes are especially wonderful for the Museum. *Our history, after all, is all the things that happen in our lives.* These written accounts would be kept in a notebook for others to read and may be signed or not, as you wish! If you have school related items and would loan or give them to DHS we'd be very appreciative.

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**We have some very sad news to share since our**

last newsletter. Anne Nere passed away Sat. May 12<sup>th</sup>. Anne was an inspiration to all of us, both in all she did with us and in the way she faced the 8 1/2 year challenge of living with cancer, with a positive attitude, gratitude for each day and a sparkle in her eyes! She had so many good ideas and knew how to implement them. We will all miss her wonderful leadership given to us, way back to the Centennial in 2001!

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**What's happening now?** The American Legion is establishing a Veterans Memorial near the Depot, so we are doing some landscaping, moving dirt & clay, leveling, etc. to prepare for that. Thank you, Orv Molenaar! You got so much done, now we can begin to visualize it! There will be a beautiful engraved black granite Memorial Stone and flag in a park like setting. The Muellers deeded their grove to the City as part of this project and it will be a wonderful attraction and reminder. There's still much to do and we continue to seek help on these projects. Need a little exercise? We also want to clean debris from the grove, but not remove trees. We do need to remove one in front of the grove that is dying. Anyone willing?

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**Also work can begin in the basement.** Our chief construction person, Jerry Jahnke, had some serious surgery in May and that should slow him down for awhile! Thank you, Jerry for all you've done. We will await your return to good health. **Take care of yourself!**

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**Anne Nere's choice for our Spring Exhibit** was to honor our Danube area veterans. We opened it on Memorial Day after the American Legion program and thank all who attended. It is available now till the end of June. Lots of work & cooperation. Special thanks to Andy Tepfer and Adam Standfuss for sharing photos, etc. from Iraq and Bert from the Renville Co. Veterans Services for many items. Also to all who brought in their uniforms, pictures, stories, etc. Still on display, come and see! **Tues. & Thurs. afternoons.**

**Our loan situation is under \$9000** and we thank all of you donors for your response to the needs we have for the Depot.

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**We always hear a story** about The Depot when someone visits. Charlie Trapp said he hadn't been in the Depot since 1942 when he went with his Father to take his brother to the train to leave for military service during WWII. Also other new stories were told about men & women that served our country in the military services. If you have a story, please write it up and send it to us. This could be about anything that is about Danube! Your family, church, school, military, farming & fun times you remember.

We are collecting original photos and documents for the Minnesota Digital Library website. These must pertain to Danube and area, before 1950, and actual originals. We need 50 to join in and we have much to display in the museum but many are copies. We can return these to you, if you wish. Check their website [www.mndigital.org/](http://www.mndigital.org/) the Renville County Museum is already represented.

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#### **ABOUT VOLUNTEERING**

- Expect to enjoy yourself
- The dirtiest, most physical work is done!
- Come to a planning meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday mornings @ 10 AM. This is during the Summer and most summer meetings will be at The Depot. We like being there!!! It's a great place!
- Host/hostesses get to visit with interested people and the stories shared give more glimpses of the "gold old days"
- Though our members' average age is probably 70+ being together on a project is keeping us active and productive and having a good time. Join us! Help us get that average age down!!!
- **You volunteer for what interests you and for as many hours as you wish.** We don't twist arms here, (unless we're desperate!)

- Bring a friend, we should always have at least two greeters there
- Its very fulfilling to see things polished & preserved. (Mary Lee says her Dad taught her to always leave things better than she found them, were you taught that, too? Well, that's what we do at The Depot!)
- We're beginning to collect items from current & recent businesses, so **history moves forward** in The Depot and you could help us accumulate these items & photos.
- We need to be open Tues. and Thurs afternoons all summer and early fall, we need you
- What would you like to contribute?

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**DON'T FORGET THE "ANNUAL MEETING", JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> \_ 10 AM. DON'T THINK OF THIS AS A BUSINESS MEETING, BUT A MEETING OF MINDS & IMAGINATION & CONVERSATION & TREATS! COME CATCH THE SPIRIT!**

The following was on a certificate we presented to Anne in the hospital.

**Danube Historical Society  
Inspiration Award**

*Anne Nere*

You had the talents, you had a dream, you inspired us to believe, you showed us how to collect, cut, paste, paint & create, you laughed with us and sweat with us and married well as we surely needed Lee's time & talents, too, and now we have the Danube Depot Museum.

Thank You, we love you.

May 11, 2007 *Your Historical Friends*