



History Center News

Belle Creek

Belvidere

Cannon Falls

Central Point

Cherry Grove

Featherstone

Florence

Goodhue

Hay Creek

Holden

Kenyon

Lake City

Leon

Minneola

Pine Island

Red Wing

Roscoe

Stanton

Vasa

Wacouta

Wanamingo

Warsaw

Welch

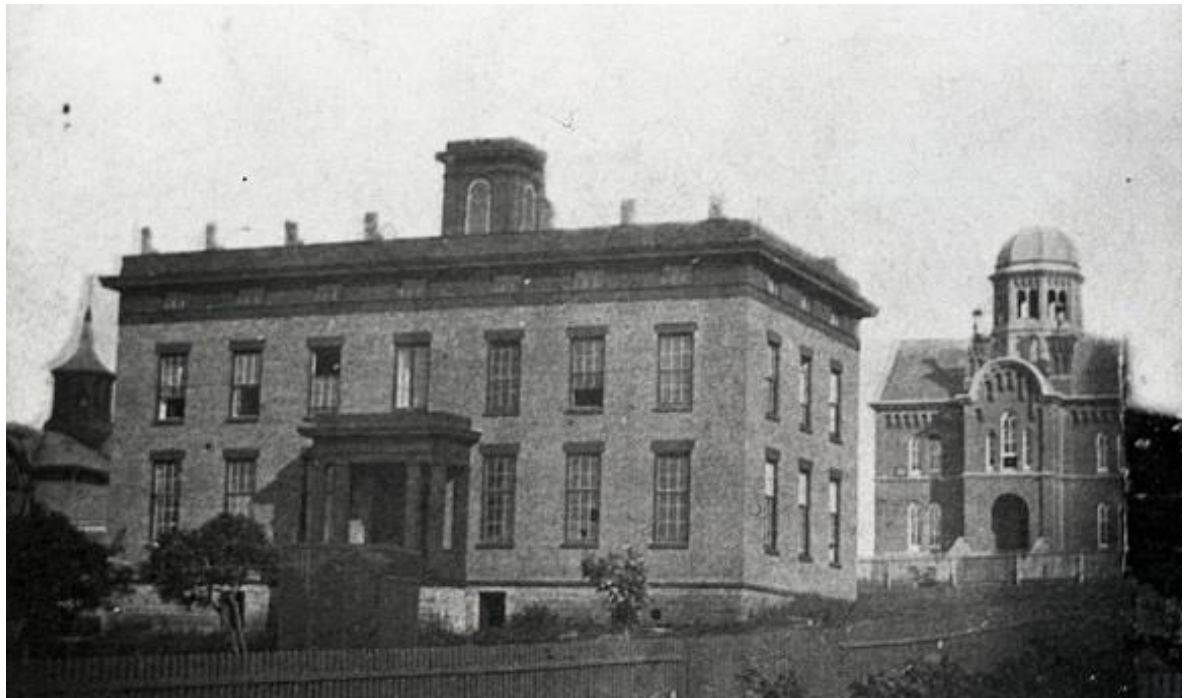
Zumbrota

Volume 51 No. 1– Spring 2017 Newsletter of the Goodhue County Historical Society

Hamline University: The First in Minnesota *By Maddie Milliren*

Minnesota's first university opened in Red Wing in 1854. At the time, there were only about 32,000 white settlers living in Minnesota Territory. Societies were poor and with no public school system. Acknowledgment of the importance of education and the idea that higher education ought to be accessible to all was spreading. Although there were fewer than 800 Methodists living in Minnesota Territory at the time, the Methodist Church decided that education needed to be brought to the frontier. The town was chosen based on the belief that, although only a population of 300 at the time, Red Wing would soon become one of the top cities in Minnesota based on its intelligence, wealth, and population. The school was named after Leonidas Lent Hamline, a Methodist bishop who donated much of the funds.

(Continued on page 3)



Hamline University building in the foreground with the Goodhue County Courthouse in the background.

The mission of the Goodhue County Historical Society is to serve as the steward for county history by collecting, preserving, and promoting the natural and cultural history of Goodhue County and its people.

Goodhue County History Center
1166 Oak Street
Red Wing, Minnesota, 55066

651-388-6024

Website: www.goodhuecountyhistory.org

General information via email:
info@goodhistory.org

Winter Hours (November through April)

Open Tuesday through Friday

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Summer Hours (May through October)

Open Tuesday through Saturday

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Staff

Executive Director: **Dustin Heckman**
Curator of Objects & Exhibits: **Casey Mathern**
Archives & Library Manager: **Afton Esson**
Education & Outreach Coordinator: **Lindsey Rindo**

Board of Directors

Roger Hand, Red Wing, **Chair**
Dennis Schultz, Vasa Township, **Vice-Chair**
Loren Evenrud, Cannon Falls Township, **Secretary**
Marilyn Lawrence, Red Wing, **Treasurer**
Ron Allen, Red Wing, **County Commissioner**
Ruth Nerhaugen, Red Wing
Don Olson, Red Wing
Lars Romo, Wanamingo Township
Ken Roufs, Red Wing
Richard Samuelson, Cannon Falls Township
Sarah Erickson, Red Wing
Roseanne Grosso, Red Wing
Amy Nelson, Hay Creek Township

History Center News is produced quarterly by the Goodhue County Historical Society. Opinions expressed by authors or in quotations do not necessarily represent those of the Society, its Directors or staff. The Society welcomes your comments and suggestions. Except otherwise noted, all photos are from the Goodhue County Historical Society's Photograph Collection.

Executive Director's Column *By Dustin Heckman*

For the last two years, the Board of Directors has been looking into options to provide breathing room for our growing History Center operations, our amazing collection of objects and archives, and the wealth of programming that we are offering to the public. One obvious direction that has been our focus is the vacant Friedrich Community Center, located just to the west of our main building. It is located on the same plot of land as our current facility and shares the same parking space. This building served as the last addition to what was the City Hospital complex. How could this building be utilized to protect and share Goodhue County's history?

In February, we completed a feasibility study looking at what improvements would be needed for the building to be usable. To make the building ready for tenancy, it will take approximately \$1.9 million. That does not include the costs for equipment or room layout to serve a specific purpose. A lot of work needs to be done before this idea can ever become a reality.

Recently the Board met in a joint workshop with the building owner, the City of Red Wing, to discuss moving this idea into the next phase. Both entities agreed to partner together and move toward a site master plan. In the coming months, we'll be developing a project outline and soliciting proposals for firms to guide us through this process. The site master plan will allow us to engage stakeholders in helping us to determine how the History Center can be used differently to meet our needs, how the Friedrich Community Center could be used to provide the additional space we need, and how can we make the park land and overlook area more attractive to visitors but more importantly the neighborhood where we are located.

We do not expect to have this work wrapped up until the middle of 2018 at the earliest. As plans progress, we will share that information with our members and supporters. The possibilities a project like this can bring are exciting.

Enjoy the springtime!

(Continued from page 1)

In 1854, the co-educational school began holding classes on the second floor of the town's general store. There were 73 students on the opening year, 30 women and 43 men. The tuition ranged from \$3.50 in the primary department to \$10.00 in collegiate and \$15.00 in the law department. There were extra charges for music and drawing classes and everyone was required to pay a custodian fee of \$.75. After 1862, clergymen's children typically received a \$5.00 discount. The university was later moved into a Red Wing building in January 1856.

The American Civil War began in 1861, just 2 years after the first class graduated, causing almost all of the able-bodied students and Professor B. Wilson of the mathematics department to enlist. A total of

119 students enlisted, resulting in a massive fall in the school's enrollment. Hamline's financial problems also began to grow and by 1869, the trustees decided that the school would not be able to reopen its doors the next year. University had reached almost 500 students during its 15 years in Red Wing.

In 1869, the final Hamline commencement was held in Red Wing and the school later re-opened on September 22, 1880 in St. Paul. It is believed that the Red Wing school was demolished around 1872 and was later replaced by a park.

Maddie Milliren is an Inventory Assistant with the Goodhue County Historical Society. This article was written as part of her internship experience in the summer of 2016.



View of Red Wing from College Hill shows the Hamline University building on the left, Goodhue County Courthouse with stakes marking an addition in the center, and Central High School on the right. This photo is circa 1870.

*All lists are current from July 1, 2016 to
March 31, 2017 - Thank you!*

**Memorials &
Honorariums**

In Memory of
Phil Revoir
Given by
Audrey Bodin

In Memory of
Diane Pumarlo
Given by
Stan & Ruth Nerhaugen

In Memory of
Marcy Hinrichs
Given by
David & Arlis Meincke

In Memory of
Annette C. Duncan
Given by
Judy Schwartau

In Memory of
Karen Trelstad
Given by
Dennis & Shirley Schultz

In Memory of
Katharine Vogel
Given by
Dennis & Shirley Schultz

In Memory of
Frances Callstrom
Given by
Dennis & Shirley Schultz

In Memory of
Luverne Peterman
Given by
Marion Fitschen
Ralph & Ruth Fitschen

In Memory of
Dolores Ryan
Given by
Dennis & Shirley Schultz

In Memory of
Norman Anderson
Given by
Dennis & Shirley Schultz

In Memory of
Elwood Nelson
Given by
Wayne & Jean Miller

In Memory of
Jane Hansen
Given by
Howard Burfeind
Mike & Sandy Livermore

Deceased Members

Phil Revoir
Karen Trelstad
Helen Sabean
Mary Wahlin

*We apologize if there are any errors or
omissions.*

**Thank you to our Viva Las
Vegas Gala sponsors!**

We appreciate the support that we received from
these local businesses and entities in supporting
our Viva Las Vegas Gala event in November.

High Roller
Sturdiwheat, Inc.
Red Wing Shoe Company

Double or Nothing
Xcel Energy
HBC, Inc.

Even Money
Alliance Bank
Associated Bank
Edward Jones - Paul Reding
Richardson & Richardson
Smith Schafer & Associates

Stardust
Discovery Financial Centers
Prairie Island Indian Community
Merchant's Bank - Red Wing

WANTED: NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS!



Do you like to write? Do you like researching or telling local history? The Goodhue County Historical Society is looking for interested individuals to submit articles for our quarterly newsletter. Article content must be Goodhue County based but can be on any topic that the writer chooses. Our deadline for the summer newsletter is **4 p.m. on Friday, June 16.**

For more information and guidelines on how to submit an article, contact Dustin at (651) 388-6024 or by email: director@goodhistory.org.

Articles will be printed as space allows and may be edited to fit space constraints by the Goodhue County Historical Society staff.



A collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America.

arts.gov/bluestarmuseums

We are a participating Blue Star Museum in 2017!

Once again in 2017, the Goodhue County Historical Society is participating in the Blue Star Museums program. This program offers free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Military personnel just need to show an approved Military ID to have the admission waived.

Exhibits on View

Check out these
exhibits from April
through July!

Coming OF AGE The 1968 GENERATION

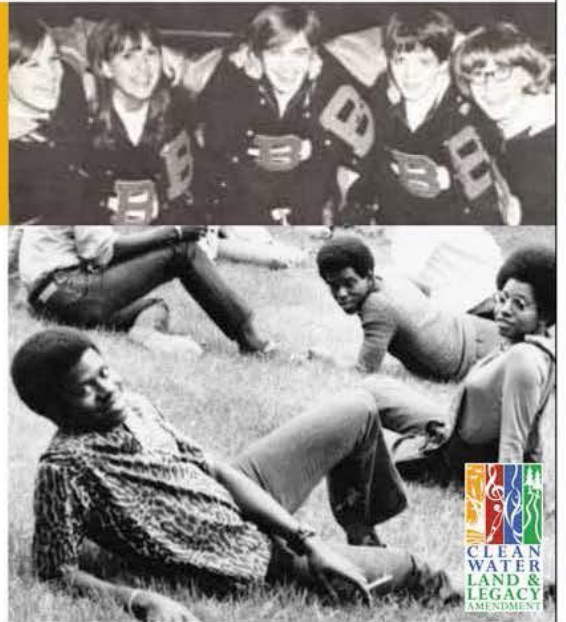


A traveling
exhibit from
the Minnesota
History Center.

GROWING UP AMIDST POLITICAL
TURMOIL and revolutionary social
change had a lasting impact
on teens in the late 1960s. This
special exhibit looks at the pivotal
events—both far away and close
to home—that forever shaped the
lives of this generation.

Don't miss it—

April 29 to
November 11 at
the Goodhue
County History
Center



Cherry Grove Township Now Open

Red Wing Photography Club Spring Flower Show

Opens April 2

Be on the Lookout for These Upcoming Summer & Fall Events...

We'll have more information in upcoming newsletters but wanted to give you a preview of what's coming up in 2017!



1860s Base Ball Matches

Check out the Crescents Base Ball Club of Red Wing on July 15 in Old Frontenac and at the Anderson Center in Red Wing on October 14.

Walk into Local History

Our popular walking tours will once again feature the Jordan Creek (September 10) and Oakwood Cemetery (October 7). Tickets for these events will go on sale in May and June.



History Cruises Return!

For the first time since 2015, we will be putting together some history cruises with the Pearl of the Lake, docked in Lake City. On September 17, we'll explore the shores from Lake City upriver to Old Frontenac. Our popular Sea Wing Disaster cruise returns on October 1. Both cruises will take place in the late afternoon and when the fall color season is hitting its stride. Historian and author Fred Johnson will narrate both cruises. Tickets go on sale May 15 and June 1.



Historic Home Tour

We are planning a historic home tour in Red Wing for Sunday, September 24! More information on this tour will be coming soon and tickets will go on sale in mid to late May.

*Want to keep up on what's happening at the Goodhue County History Center between newsletters? Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter **History Happens**, sent every Monday to your inbox! To do this, send an email to info@goodhistory.org with the subject line "Subscribe to History Happens". Check out our event listings on our website. Every event for 2017 is listed now along with ticket information!*

History of the Red Wing Wildlife League

By Maddie Milliren

The Red Wing Wildlife League is a non-profit organization that was formed in February 1935. Land along the Mississippi River was being privately purchased, so in order to assure the public a place to hunt, the League leased property in the Spring Creek bottoms. During the 1940's, they went on to purchase 80 acres by Spring Creek and Boner's Lake. As of 2004, the Red Wing Wildlife League owned 2,800 acres, thus being the largest landowner in Goodhue County and it had grown to 800 members.

Members of the league go bird-watching, fishing, boating, and canoeing in the summer. In the fall, they trap in the bottoms and hunt deer, duck, and pheasant. The land is open for snowmobiling and cross-country skiing in the winter.

The League is committed to preserving wildlife habitat and giving the public a place to enjoy prime wetlands. The League has built dams to provide water levels sustainable for wildlife, raised and released both mallards and pheasants, and built wood duck houses. One of the league's first projects was a dam on Spring Creek which they built using willow sticks and rock. In 1964, they started a boater's park at the mouth of the Cannon River.

The League works to protect the habitat for migratory birds, but members are also concerned for wildlife within the water. In 1985, the league supported the Minnesota Sport Fishing Congress in an effort to improve fishing in Minnesota. A meeting was held between the Minnesota DNR and the league board in Red Wing to discuss year-round fishing on the Mississippi River.

Fishermen in the league became concerned specifically with walleye and sand pike. They worked with the Department of Natural Resources to have fishermen moved away from the lock and dam so that these fish could spawn.



Members of the Red Wing Wildlife League take a break from building dams in the Spring Creek bottoms for a group photo. Photo is from the Phil Revoir Collection.

In 1990, the league presented a 10-year habitat restoration plan that required restoring water that had disappeared. The plan included re-channeling water, reconstructing the Coon Slough Dam, improving Boner's Lake pullover area, and expanding the dike near the Spring Creek Bridge. This plan was endorsed by the Minnesota

Department of National Resources.

Other league projects have included scholarships to attend Long Lake Conservation Camp, sponsoring to a firearms training course, as well as sponsoring of wildlife films. They have also worked to clean up beaches and riverfronts.

Membership Application

Name _____

Contact Person (Business only) _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Would you like to receive the GCHS newsletter by email? _____

Would you like to receive event and program notices by email? _____

New ☐ Renew ☐

My check is enclosed ☐ Please debit my credit card ☐

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ CCV/CVV # _____

Authorized Signature _____

Yes! I want to be a member of the Goodhue County Historical Society at the following level (please check one):

- | | |
|---|---------|
| ☐ Individual | \$35 |
| ☐ Family | \$50 |
| ☐ Basic Business | \$50 |
| ☐ Supporting | \$100 |
| ☐ Contributing | \$250 |
| ☐ Rev. J.W. Hancock Society (life) | \$5,000 |

Please make checks payable to:

Goodhue County Historical Society

Mail applications to:

**Goodhue County Historical Society
1166 Oak Street
Red Wing, MN 55066**

Meeting Room is Available for Rent!

The Goodhue County Historical Society has meeting space available for rent! Our lower level meeting room can accommodate small to medium sized groups or open house functions. Amenities include WiFi access, reception area directly adjacent to meeting room, coat rack, small kitchenette, projector, and laptop (if needed). Rentals can be for one-time or regular use. Reasonable rates and members receive a discount on rental!

To check meeting space availability and reserve your event date, contact Dustin at (651) 388-6024 or by email: director@goodhistory.org.

HELP US WITH OUR MAILING LIST!

A number of our mailings are returned with incomplete or undeliverable addresses. If you have moved, or have a winter or summer address, please notify us. Even if you have moved to a new apartment in the same building/complex, please give us your new address.

If you would like to save a tree, and help us save on the cost of bulk mailing, you can receive the newsletter by email. Please send an email to: info@goodhistory.org with **Paperless Newsletter** in the subject line to start receiving the newsletter by email. If you have changed your email address as well, please let us know your new address. If you have notified us but have not received the newsletter, check your bulk mail inbox and spam filter settings in your email program.

Meet Lindsey Rindo, the new Education & Outreach Coordinator!



Hello Goodhue County Community!

My name is Lindsey Rindo and I just started as the Education & Outreach Coordinator for the Goodhue County Historical Society. Here's a little of my background: I recently graduated with my Master of Arts in Public History with a certificate in Museum Studies from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. During this time I learned how to create experiences which communicate history themes to audiences - like you! I fell in love with museum education and programming during my internships at the County Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Wisconsin Museum of Quilt & Fiber Arts, and Milwaukee Public Museum. I look forward to applying what I learned to this position.

I feel so excited to get to know you all better through the History Center's engaging programs onsite and during our outreach experiences throughout the community. I want to create an atmosphere in which we all feel connected and have the opportunity to learn something new through innovative, hands-on programs.

Call for Volunteers

The Goodhue County Historical Society preserves our local history and develops exhibits as well as programs to tell our story. But we could not accomplish all of this without the help from volunteers. The Goodhue County Historical Society is in need of volunteers who love history, have an appreciation for local history, and enjoy working as part of a team.

As a volunteer you would have the opportunity to help with programs, collections, archives, and events. We will work with you to find the right fit based on your skills, interests, and available time. We want to work with you to ensure you feel valued while you complete meaningful work to help us keep Goodhue County's history available for everyone.

If you are interested in a volunteer position, please stop by the Goodhue County Historical Society and speak with Lindsey Rindo. She will help you fill out an application and talk to you about your volunteer preferences, your skillset, and your availability.

**BECOME a
VOLUNTEER**
**WE WANT
YOU!**

walk into local history

with the Goodhue County Historical Society

Get outside and learn about the history around you with our Walk into Local History series!

To register for one of these Walk into Local History events, contact the History Center at (651) 388-6024 or via our online store.

\$7 for members per tour

\$10 for non-members per tour

Discover the Lutheran Ladies' Seminary Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.

Explore the former grounds of the Lutheran Ladies Seminary, a center of music, culture, and higher education in Red Wing until burning down in 1920. The program includes a 60-minute presentation at the History Center followed by a 60-90 minute walking tour of the former Seminary grounds. The program is led by Seminary expert Chaplain Todd Walsh. Participants will begin and end the program at the History Center.



Coffee Break at Hok-Si-La Park & Campground Thursday, May 25, 10 a.m.

Enjoy Minnesota's spring season during our Coffee Break with the Goodhue County Historical Society at the Hok-Si-La Campground with a cup of coffee, a leisurely stroll along Lake Pepin, and a brief presentation on the history of the park.

Learn how this area of Lake Pepin became the beautiful 252 acre city park that exists today. Immediately after, Kathy Gates, a Lake City native who loves sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm of plants, will lead you on an exploration along Lake Pepin.

Hok-Si-La Municipal Park and Campground will provide you with coffee and water, and participants are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the park following the program.

Exploring Old Frontenac Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

"Waconia." "Western Landing." "Frontenac."

Different people have used different names for the location that rests on the banks of Lake Pepin, but its beauty and tranquility have attracted people for generations. Native Americans inhabited the land for hundreds of years before the French established a Fort near modern-day Frontenac, and years after the French left, the Garrard Family would shape (and name) Frontenac during the latter half of the 19th century. The Garrard Family, led by Israel Garrard, built stunning homes along Lake Pepin, and guided development for many years.



Hear the stories of 19th century Frontenac as you explore the exterior of a few of Frontenac's most famous homes during this engaging and thought-provoking tour. Each tour will last for two hours.

Mix up your lunch routine with a

History Break

@ the Goodhue County Historical Society

The Historical Society proudly presents “History Break,” a lunchtime learning program series. Every third Wednesday of the month at noon, bring your lunch to the Historical Society for a FREE hour long program on national, state, and local history.

Wednesday, April 19

History of the Church of St. Rose of Lima *featuring Jill Palof from the Friends of St. Rose*

Jill Palof, from the Friends of St. Rose, helped restore St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Cherry Grove Township. Together, the Friends of St. Rose accomplished one of their goals, St. Rose was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Palof will tell all of us about the history of the building and the obstacles she and the rest of the group faced during restoration.



Wednesday, May 17

The Rochester State Hospital *featuring Chris Stout from Minnesota State College Southeast*

Christopher Stout, history instructor at Minnesota State College – Southeast will lead an engaging conversation on the rich history of the Rochester State Hospital. When the Mayo Clinic opened in 1889 with 6 patients, there were already over a thousand patients being treated at Rochester at the state hospital. Over its years of operations, patients from different ethnicities were treated and often the stereotypes and prejudices of the times affected how they were diagnosed and treated. Learn of scandals that led to the statewide investigation and major reforms in the organization of state institutions.



Wednesday, June 21

Women in Historical Fiction & Poetry

featuring Mary Sharratt

Minnesota native and award winning author Mary Sharratt will present a dynamic History Break which will highlight her exploration into the world of women in historical fiction and poetry. Mary has written several critically acclaimed books including *Daughter of the Witching Hill* and *Illumination: A Novel of Hildegard Von Bingen*.

If you miss this History Break event, attend Mary Sharratt's encore evening presentation at 6 p.m.



Community Education Class

Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Save Your Stones Tombstone Preservation Workshop

Registration is \$38 per person. To register, contact Red Wing Community Education at (651) 385-4565.

On Saturday, May 20, the Goodhue County Historical Society will host *Save Your Stones*, a tombstone preservation workshop co-sponsored by Red Wing Community Education. The workshop includes a presentation by *Save Your Stones* founder Jarrod Roll, followed by a hands-on workshop at Oakwood Cemetery in Red Wing. Registration includes a preservation kit and lunch.

In addition to founding *Save Your Stones*, Jarrod Roll is the Director of the Monroe County History Museum in Sparta, Wisconsin. Roll has a passion for helping communities hold onto their local history, and has developed *Save Your Stones* to help individuals preserve their ancestors' grave markers. Recently, he created the take-home preservation kit so that people interested in genealogy and local history can apply professional restoration techniques on their own. If you are a cemetery professional, genealogy enthusiast, or simply a history buff, you don't want to miss this fun and informative workshop.



{free} Family Fun Day

@ the Goodhue County Historical Society

*Enjoy free
admission and
family activities
each month on Free
Family Fun Day!*

Happy Birthday Minnesota! **Sunday, May 7, 12-4 p.m.**

Minnesota Statehood Day will take place on May 11. Visit the History Center on Sunday for an early celebration of Minnesota's 159th birthday. A reading of *V is for Viking* by Kathy-jo Wargin will take place at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Families can use this book as inspiration to write an acrostic poem about what Minnesota means to them. Our friends at ArtReach will bring materials for a creative activity fit for all ages. The Sons of Norway will also be here for a lefse demonstration and tasting. We are excited to celebrate Statehood Day with you!



Back to the Sixties **Sunday, June 4, 12-4 p.m.**

Travel back in time to the 1960s with retro crafts, demonstrations, and activities. The whole family will enjoy this groovy afternoon complete with sounds from the decade and a hands-on creative activity with ArtReach. This Free Family Fun Day is held in conjunction with the History Center hosting *Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation*, a traveling exhibit from the Minnesota Historical Society.



Ice Cream Social **Sunday, July 2, 12-4 p.m.**

It's time for our Annual Ice Cream Social! Spend your afternoon exploring our exhibits, expressing yourself through projects facilitated by ArtReach, and participating in hands-on activities. Bring the whole family for a relaxing afternoon because nothing goes better with a hot midsummer day than a scoop of delicious ice cream and the History Center.



Bluffs & Brews

Bluffs & Brews

Bluffs & Brews is a collaborative program between the Red Wing Environmental Learning Center and the Goodhue County Historical Society. Embark on an outdoor adventure and learn local history in a unique way. Each event offers the opportunity to win a prize from Vasque Footwear!

Price per program: Members: \$15 | Non-members: \$25
Program cost includes equipment rental. Each program will last about 3 1/2 hours, including the social hour.

Hike Frontenac State Park

Wednesday, June 14, 2 p.m.

Saturday, June 17, 2 p.m.

**Special Pricing: Members \$10
Non-Members \$20**



Photo courtesy of Frontenac State Park

This month, we will hike through Frontenac State Park. Our experience will begin with a conversation focused on the park's origin story and move on to why bird-watchers love this spot. After the hike, we will relax during a social hour at a local restaurant.

Kayak Lake Pepin

Wednesday, July 12, 2 p.m.

In July, we will have the opportunity to kayak on Lake Pepin. Discover how the area's earliest explorers and American Indians utilized Lake Pepin and the surrounding area. Immediately after the outdoor adventure, the group will convene at a local restaurant for a social hour to reflect on the experience.

Canoe the Vermillion River

Wednesday, August 9, 2 p.m.

Saturday, August 26, 2 p.m.

For our August program, we will kayak on the Vermillion River. Prior to embarking on the river adventure, the group will hear about the history of human interaction with the river – including industrial pollution, fishing, and recent attempts to clean the river. A social hour will follow at a local restaurant.



Photo courtesy of the National Park Service



Goodhue County
Historical Society
1166 Oak Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

Spring 2017

Minnesota's first county historical society, est. 1869



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Red Wing, MN



We are now on Instagram!

Follow us on Instagram for great
photos of events and collection
items.

Want to see more of the cool stuff
we have? Check us out on
Facebook, Twitter, and
Instagram for weekly posts with
items from our three dimensional
and photo collections.