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The United States Coast Guard in World War I

By Tom Ostrom

War clouds were forming over the British Isles and continental Europe, and would lead to the land and sea confrontations historians would call “The Great War,” or World War I (1914-1918). In that time frame, the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service would merge with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form the United States Coast Guard in 1915.

Captain-Commandant Ellsworth Bertholf would lead the Revenue Cutter Service and then the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) into World War I in joint missions with the U.S. Navy. In the post-World War I period, Commodore Bertholf would fight to maintain the autonomy of the United States Coast Guard, and resist the political forces that tried to abolish the USCG by combining that naval service with the United States Navy.



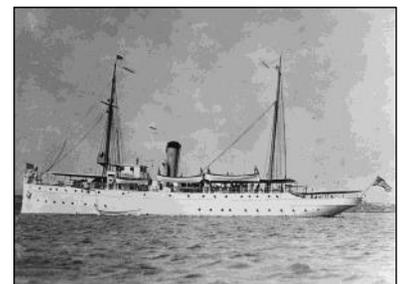
E. P. Bertholf

Unrestricted German submarine warfare threatened U.S. sovereignty, and forced Congress and the President to declare war on the Central Powers of Germany, Turkey, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard escorted merchant ship convoys across the Atlantic Ocean and into the Mediterranean Sea.

During the war, the Coast Guard was responsible for policing the heavy shipping traffic that passed through American seaports and to Europe. Cutters served as convoy escorts, and conducted anti-submarine warfare patrols.

The 190-foot USCGC *Tampa* carried 111 Coast Guard personnel, 4 U.S. Navy crewmembers, and several passengers. The cutter was armed with several naval deck guns, machine guns, and depth charges



USCGC Tampa

under the exemplary command of Capt. Charles A. Satterlee (USCG). The *Tampa* was sunk by a German submarine off the British coast on 26 September 1918 with heavy casualties.

The 205-foot steam and sail powered USCGC *Manning* was equipped with 3” deck guns and depth charge racks. The cutter

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From The Director's Desk



Pat Carlson,
Executive Director

It is amazing how fast the year has gone! It is nearly time to celebrate Independence Day and attend the Living History Fair on July 14 and 15. This is a great way for all to participate in history through battles, activities and new this year, a Medicine Show! 1800's entertainment each day.

Come and visit. The grounds are growing more beautiful each day as the gardens flower and the vegetables gain ground. The expanded community garden is going to host some Master Gardeners as they teach composting, explore heritage seed options, and share additional information about gardening.

On a serious note, the History Center is sending out our mid-year appeal in early July. You all have been so generous in the past. Your gift assures programs are accessible to residents of all income levels, which is important because history is not elitist. It is part of each of our lives. The History Center allows everyone to learn about and hear the stories of others in our community, Minnesota and the nation. We want to do more and do it well.

We send out appeal letters only twice a year so your donation in July means a lot. Thank you for your contributions, your membership and your support. Stop by when you are out here and say, 'Hey'.

From the Board President



Tom Leimer
Board President

My name is Tom Leimer and I will be your HCOC Board President for the next two years. I am Vice President/General Manager at Knutson Construction where I have worked since 2007. I have a wife (Kristine) and two kids – Blake (4) and Brooke (2) who keep me busy in my spare time. I have served on the HCOC Board for three years and I look forward to collaborating with the HCOC Board, Staff, and Volunteers for the next two years.

Our topics of focus for the remainder of 2018 will be:

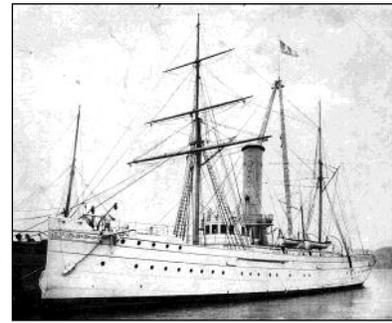
- Continuing to increase our monthly revenue in attempt to operate with a positive monthly cash flow
- Establish a quarterly strategic plan review with the Board and Staff
- Lay-out a succession plan for our current Executive Director, Pat Carlson, who will be retiring in May 2019
- Strengthen our local connection with our key contributors because without them we would not be successful

These will be just a few of our initiatives that we will focus on. As part of our quarterly strategic planning discussions we will be forced to consider our long term strategy with our existing buildings, our property, and the general direction of the History Center of Olmsted County. The future can be whatever we want, but any decision we make as a Board must consider the impact on the future of the History Center.

On behalf of entire History Center Board, I want to thank everyone (donors, staff, volunteers) who support the History Center throughout the year. I look forward to serving as Board President, and I invite you to stop by the History Center over the next few months to see what is new!

patrolled the Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea between Gibraltar and the United Kingdom on convoy and anti-submarine warfare duties.

The U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard joined forces to guard merchant ships bringing wartime supplies to Great Britain. The operation involved a convoy system of merchant ships protected by armed naval vessels. The German navy was advanced in the use of U-Boats propelled by fuel oil and battery power. The American convoy system would be an overall success. By 1918, the Allied convoy system had reduced merchant ship losses to German submarines in the Atlantic maritime realm.



USRC Manning

Coast Guard historian Irving H. King wrote that the decision by the U.S. Congress to maintain the USCG as “an independent seagoing service in the Treasury Department (rather than combining the service with the USN after the Spanish American War) was vindicated by the Coast Guard’s contribution to the Allied success during World War I in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and at major U.S. ports. Coast Guardsmen reduced and prevented losses from sabotage and careless explosive handling.” Coast Guard officers commanded U.S. Navy warships, and saved the lives of mariners and ship passengers during the U-Boat onslaught against merchant and passenger vessels.

Captain Harry Hamlet (USCG) and his crew rescued the crew of the USS *James* as that ship was sinking in heavy seas off the coast of France in 1919. Captain Hamlet and his crew exhibited exemplary seamanship in high waters under gale force winds.

The pre-WWI Coast Guard was tasked with upgrading its telephone communications systems, and networking with shore stations, lighthouses, lightships, and life-saving (life-boat) stations. The placement and testing of the necessary lines, circuits, copper wiring, and technical transmission facilities were extraordinarily complex tasks.

Captain Alex R. Larzelere, USCG (Ret.), wrote in his exemplary history of the United States Coast Guard in World War I, described how the U.S. Navy ordered the entire coastal communications system placed under the authority and supervision of the Coast Guard commandant.

On Veterans Day, 11 November 2010, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Robert Papp commemorated the Coast Guard mission in World War I. The occasion was a wreath laying ceremony at the U.S. Coast Guard Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. The Coast Guard Memorial on Coast Guard Hill was built to honor the combat crew members that were lost when the USCGC *Seneca* and USCGC *Tampa* that were torpedoed in 1918. The World War I Memorial lists the names of all of the U.S. Coast Guard personnel who perished in the Great War.

During the Great War, Coast Guard cutters and crews performed SAR and anti-submarine warfare (ASW) missions, dropping depth charges on suspected German U-boat locations. On search and rescue missions, civilian crews were rescued from damaged or sunken vessels in flaming petroleum-soaked waters. Within U.S. territorial and coastal waters, the USCG managed port security under Coast Guard officers designated as Captains of the Port. Specially trained crews guarded against enemy espionage and sabotage, supervised dangerous explosive loading on and off military and civilian transport ships and railroad trains, and cooperated with civilian fire-fighting teams in port and on shipboard fires. Members of the U.S. Lighthouse Service (USLHS) teamed up with the USCG to administer aids to navigation units, including lightships, lighthouses, and buoy systems.

Larzelere chronicled how the U.S. Navy requested that the USCG assign experienced enlisted personnel and officers to operate and command a variety of purchased and donated yachts and ships. In 1917, the U.S. Navy Bureau of Navigation asked USCG Headquarters in Washington, D.C. to place Coast Guard officers in command

Continued from Page 3

of USN ships and other large vessels and yachts.

Coast Guard officers were assigned to some of the largest warships in the U.S. Navy, and saw combat action on those vessels. These ships escorted vessels across the Atlantic, and patrolled off the Eastern Sea Board of the United States.

The contribution of the U.S. Coast Guard to domestic security and national defense during the war was described by U.S. Navy Secretary Josephus Daniels, and cited by Larzelere: "The professional ability of the Coast Guard officers is evidenced by the fact that 24 (USCG officers) commanded combat ships in European waters, five vessels in the Caribbean, and 23 attached to naval districts."

The commander of the U.S. Coast Guard's New York Division, and Captain of the Port Captain Godfrey L. Carden (USCG), exemplified the professional leadership the Coast Guard provided at home and overseas. Captain Carden operated with the U.S. Navy, but reported to U.S. Treasury Secretary William Gibbs McAdoo. The significance of the improved port administration was indicated by the fact that ship and warehouse fires and explosions did occur in the harbor and port regions of New York and New Jersey, but were successfully responded to, and contained by civilian and Coast Guard firefighters, many of whom earned commendations for their heroic responses.

Larzelere did not neglect the significance of the Great Lakes region in the flow of ships and supplies for the war effort, and the significance of the Coast Guard in the region of the Inland Seas in their role in protecting commerce and providing for the national defense. The Espionage Act of 1917 gave the Coast Guard the responsibility for the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to the movement and anchorage of ships in strategic navigable waters, transferring that enforcement mission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the U.S. Treasury Department and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Treasury Secretary William G. McAdoo assigned Coast Guard officers to security responsibilities at the strategic ports of New York City; Hampton Roads off Norfolk, Virginia; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan at the Soo Locks on the Great Lakes. Eventually, a COTP would be assigned to the Twin Ports of Duluth (Minnesota) and Superior (Wisconsin) at the southwest terminus of Lake Superior.

The Commander of U.S. Forces in France was pleased with the assignment of Capt. Detlef F. A. de Otte (USCG) as the port security commander at the port of Brest. The infrastructure and transportation complexities at Brest were enormous, and significant in the European war effort. The duties of Capt. de Otte included facilitating operations for vessel oiling, watering, and coaling; transporting troops; handling a variety of water craft including ships, barges, boats, and tugs; assigning dock and port anchorage sites; and cooperating with the maritime and military authorities of France.

The USCGC *Mackinac* (Capt. Edward S. Addison, USCG) patrolled the strategic Soo Locks area, assisted by Capt. de Otte in command of the USCGC *Morrill* out of Detroit, Michigan before World War I erupted. Captain Otte was then transferred to Europe. Captain Addison was appointed COTP at the Sault Ste. Marie port. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and armed U.S. soldiers guarded the Soo Locks during the war.

The USCGC *Mackinac* was ordered (10 November 1917) out of Sault Ste. Marie to the port of New York City to guard the anchorage region of ships and explosive loading activities.

Post-World War I congressional hearings, extensive proposals, resolutions, and the testimony of political and naval opponents and proponents of the proposed absorption of the USCG by the USN continued unabated until Treasury Secretary Carter Glass met with President Wilson just before the president left for his national tour to stir up support for U.S. membership in the fledgling League of Nations.

Secretary Glass persuaded Wilson to act on the joint Congressional resolution before commencing his trip. President Woodrow Wilson then issued Executive Order Number 3160 on 28 August 1919. The United States Coast Guard was thereby returned to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Treasury Department where the Service had been since 1790.

For more, see Ostrom's books, available at the History Center.

Meet our new Mayowood Tour Coordinator Kathy Dahl

Kathy Dahl is the new Mayowood Tour Coordinator and Guide Supervisor. She began work on June 5. Her background includes a degree in Education with a Mass Communication emphasis and certification from the International Tour Management Institute. Kathy's work experience includes high school teaching, hands on tour management, Tourism Director for Preston, Minnesota, and Concierge Services at Mayo Clinic.



Meet our new Member Services Coordinator Darla Buss

Hello and thanks for the warm welcome to the History Center of Olmsted County. My name is Darla Buss and I will be the new Member Services Coordinator; taking over for Matt Hanke.

My background is mostly medical with over 15 years experience in Secretarial Services in ICU, Heart and Lung Transplant and Emergency Departments. I also have many years experience in Freight and Trucking industry as a Dispatcher, as well as time spent as an office manager at a small town car lot.

I live in beautiful Chatfield, MN, with my twin daughters who are ten, but I also have a 30 year old son who works in Chatfield for a bus company. I greatly enjoy genealogy, history, gardening and animals, although I am not an expert in any of those fields!

I love working with and helping others, so please feel free to come to me for any concerns or questions that may arise and I will do my best to assist you. I am looking forward meeting all of you.



A Visit to Mayowood



The historic Mayowood Mansion is open for tours Saturdays and Sundays as well as Wednesdays and Thursdays. Tickets can be purchased at the History Center or at Mayowood 20 minutes before the start of the tour. Please see our website for tour times and days when Mayowood will be closed to the public. Tours are \$17 for adults and \$5 for children 2-12 and last approximately 50 minutes.

HCOC is currently seeking volunteers to be part of our Mayowood Mansion Tours as "Trailers." Trailers assist the guides in keeping the tour together and are a second pair of eyes for the guide. This is a great way to learn about the Mansion and the Mayo family. Volunteer hours available when the house is open. Please contact HCOC at 507-282-9447 or visit the history center for volunteer application and more information.

Educational Programming

By Aaron Saterdalen, Education & Program Coordinator

We are looking forward to another busy summer around the History Center, starting with the History Hayrides in June. There will also be 3 summer day camps held at HCOC: Pioneer Life at the Cabin, Civil War Soldier, and the One-Room Schoolhouse. The summer day camps will be open to grades 1 - 8 . Registration is required and is available at the History Center or on the History Center website.



Living History Fair will be held on Saturday and Sunday July 14 and 15, 2018. Vendors, demonstrators, civil war camp life, battle reenactments, 1840's Rendezvous, artillery pieces, black powder guns are all being planned for this educational weekend. New additions to the 2018 Living History Fair are Professor Longley's Cabinet of Curiosities, more 1840's Rendezvous, New Ulm Battery, 19th Century Medicine Show, and Stick and Stump Sutler. Returning attractions to the Living History Fair program include Arn Kind, 3rd MN, 1st South Carolina, Battery I, 2nd MN Light Artillery, 6th WI Light Artillery, Roosters, Civil War Guns and Blades, Civilians, Medical, Christian Commission, tractor people movers, fiber arts, food concessions, tin smith, broom maker, hands-on antique tools, and more. Volunteers are needed to help with parking, admissions, and set-up. Please contact Aaron for more information, 507-282-9447.



Movies Under the Stars will again take place this summer at the History Center of Olmsted County. There will be three movies this summer. The first movie, *Cars 3*, will be shown on Friday, August 10. The second movie, *Moana*, will be shown on Friday, August 24. And the third movie, *Sing*, will be shown on Friday, August 31. All movies will be on Schmitt Field at dusk. Admission is \$5/adults, free for under 12 and over 65.



The 2018 Princess Café monthly lecture series is underway. In July, the scheduled speaker is Ken Allsen presenting, "Hattie and Henry, the Architects". Steve Schmitt presents, "MN Ancient History" in August. Lee Hilgendorf will present, "The Rochester Airport: Its Changing Locations," in September. If you haven't attended a Princess Café this year there is still time! The 2018 Princess Café lecture series schedule is available on the HCOC website, or pick up a copy of the schedule at the HCOC front desk.



The Rochester Roosters and Hens

The Roosters Base Ball club is an educational outreach of the History Center of Olmsted County. We educate and play by the rules of 1860. Our home field, Schmitt Field, is located on the grounds of the History Center. The team was formed by Mary Jane Schmitt back in 1997, and has been an integral part of the history since that time.

Some of the rules and customs that are different in 1860:

- No gloves. Base ball gloves were not invented yet
- Ball is fair or foul based on where it hits the ground, or player
- A ball caught on one bounce (or bound) is an out.
- No over running first base, as you can be put out like at other bases
- Ball is slightly larger (10 inch circumference) vs today's ball at 9 inch
- Pitching is underhand, with no restriction on speed or arc.
- Pitcher is only 45 feet away from home plate.
- Foul balls are not counted as strikes



Some of the rules and customs that are the same then as they are now:

- Nine players per team.
- Three outs per half inning
- Nine innings per game (but a full nine innings, so even if you are ahead in the bottom of the ninth, you still batted).
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd base, shortstop, pitcher, catcher, left-center-right fielders.
- Bases are at 90 feet.
- Three strikes, swinging or called, is an out.

The Roosters also like to be a part of the community, and take part in community based events:

- Rochester reads program at the public library, reading to first graders
- Rochester youth sports night, as part of the Rochesterfest celebration
- Participating in local church baseball nights to help teach the game
- Public speaking engagements with local groups, such as Rotary, Exchange club, and history center events.

If you have an interest in learning more about the game, contact the History Center (507-282-9447) and they will get you in touch with us and we can come to your event and teach you about this great game, and its splendid history.

Our home schedule:

Sunday June 24. Rochesterfest match with Roadrunners. 6pm.

Saturday July 14. Living History Fair, Day 1. Three teams. 10:30am – 3pm

Sunday July 15. Living History Fair. Day 2. Three teams. 10:30am – 3pm

Saturday Aug 4. Rochester Fire Dept. vs Rochester Police Dept. Noon

Saturday Aug 11. Days of Yesterday vs La Crescent. MHRT. 1:30pm



Have a Wedding at the History Center

Looking for a unique outdoor wedding venue? Check out the History Center of Olmsted County's grounds. Benefits of hosting your event at our venue include:

- Beautiful backdrops and settings for ceremonies and receptions
- Photo opportunities with historic buildings
- Attentive staff with years of wedding planning background
- No specialty catering lists to select from
- Plenty of on- site parking

Rental prices range from \$900 - \$2300.

Contact Lorrie Bowe for a showing today! 507-358-5680



New additions to the Board of Directors

Officers were elected at the May 26, 2018 Board meeting. They are:

Tom Leimer, President

Christine Rule, President-elect

Renee Ziemer, Secretary

Eric Andringa, Treasurer

We are pleased to welcome 3 new members to the History Center Board of Directors and one continuing member. They have varied backgrounds but all have a love of history.

Eric Andringa, a financial advisor and former banker, taught military history at The United States Military Academy at West Point, Minnesota State -Mankato, and for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He served tours in German, Bosnia, Egypt and Iraq. He is on the committee for Living History Fair and has past board experience with the VFW and Dakota City Heritage Village.

Maka Boeve, a volunteer at the History Center and served on the Boards of other organizations during her 17 years in Rochester. She has a Master's in Education and serves on our development/marketing committee. She organized our World War I author event and has participated in developing several of our events.

Susan Mackert has a long history as a business owner, volunteer and activist. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Greater Rochester Arts and Cultural Trust and the board Chair of the Minneapolis Athenaeum and the, Art and Science Academy. She is new to the History Center and is excited to work with us on HCOC direction and solutions.

Paul Wilson, who was appointed to a vacant term in 2017, served 23 years as a Olmsted County Commissioner. He has a Bachelor's in History and worked as a floral designer all his life. He was a significant player in national, state and local county governance, having served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties, President of the Association of Minnesota Counties and Chair of the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee.

Mechanical History Round Table (MHRT):

Springing into Summer

By: Ted Kueker, MRHT Historian

Merl Winter reports that the four acres seeded with oats on April 27 are green and growing and should be ripe for harvesting in time for the Days of Yesteryear, August 11-12. The potatoes have also been planted and should be ready for digging by attendees at this year's show. Fertilizer has been applied to the remaining ten acres of arable land by Progressive Agriculture of Stewartville and the soybeans planted in May.

MHRT was well represented at the 24th Annual Transportation Fair held at Goose Egg Park at the Northrop Education Center on Saturday May 19. Antique equipment exhibited at that event included Gene Ohnstad's John Deere AR tractor, Ted Kueker's 1947 Farmall Cub tractor, and MHRT's 1930 Model A Ford, affectionately known as "Woody." An estimated 1,000 people were in attendance at that event, and approximately 500 pre-school age and elementary school age children had their pictures taken while seated at the controls of these units. The small children were most interested in the colors and controls of these items, but many of the parents were curious about the antique tractor, and to many of them, 1947 is ancient history. This event is a good opportunity to publicize our Days of Yesteryear show, and approximately 500 brochures about our show were distributed as invitations.

The Olmsted County Fair is scheduled to be held at Graham Park July 24-29, and John Koenigs is arranging the MHRT exhibit for that annual event. As it has been in years past, our exhibit will be located at the south end of Graham Arena II. Since Farmall is the featured tractor at this year's August show, Farmall will be featured at the county fair exhibit, led by our club's Farmall H and possibly two more Farmall tractors. Other antique tractor lines likely to be represented include John Deere, Minneapolis Moline, Case, Oliver, and Ford. Of course, "Woody" will also be present.

The MHRT exhibit also provides an activity for children. Gen Plantz will be there with his rope-making equipment. He and John Koenigs will help them braid strands of twine into lengths of rope.

Shortly after the fair will be the Days of Yesteryear show, which will again feature threshing, sawmilling, blacksmithing, et al. However, there will be location changes for some of the activities. Poet H.W. Longfellow wrote, "Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands." In past years the MHRT smithy tended his forge and anvil under a black walnut tree, but this year's smithy – who is yet to be named, may be working from the lean-to on the east side of the barn. And the blacksmith shop will be demonstrating an additional piece of equipment that has recently been donated – a triphammer.

This year's show will have the advantage of the conversion of the Quonset building from a storage building to an exhibit area. Items on exhibit include many horse-drawn equipment such as a potato planter and a potato digger, which may date back to the year 1900. Most farm families grew their year's supply of potatoes, and those equipped with these implements had a definite labor advantage. Corn growing implements on display include a very early Deere & Mansur Co. corn planter made in Moline, Ill., a John Deere corn binder, a silo-filler, and an IHC corn shredder. Farmers who had silos cut the green corn bundles into ensilage, and those without silos shocked and dried the green bundles of corn to be used later for livestock roughage. A shredder was used to husk the ears from the corn stalks and to shred the stalks into feed and bedding for cattle. Horse drawn haying implements on display include a John Deere mower and a Minneapolis Moline hay loader. There is also a John Deere grain binder. The power for its cutting and binding mechanisms was provided by the ground-driven bull-wheel.

The 1936 Oliver-Hart-Parr row crop tractor with the mounted cultivator represents the transition from horse power to tractor power farming. The row crop tractor brought the end of draught horse farming.

A Peek into the Archives: Cutshall Photograph Collection

by Krista Lewis

Perhaps the largest collection stored in our Archives is the Cutshall Photography Collection. Eugene Cutshall began working for Clarence Stearns, another local Rochester photographer, right out of high school in 1923. After working there for five years, Eugene went on to study at the University of Minnesota and spent the next several years working at different photography studios around Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Despite the difficulties presented by the Great Depression, Eugene and his wife, Martha, opened their own photography studio in Wabasha in 1932. Five years later, on June 5, 1937,

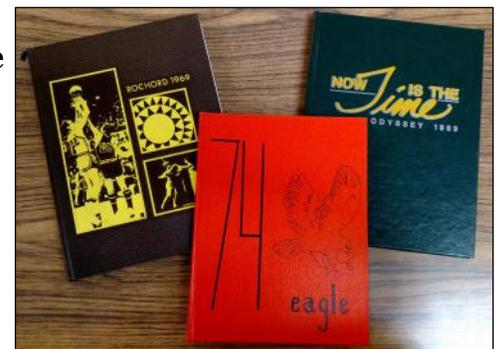


Cutshall Store Front

they opened the Cutshall Ground Floor Studio in Rochester at 117 1st Ave NW. At this new location, the business became a real family affair during World War II when three of his brothers, Earl, Everett, and Lyle, worked at the studio. In 1948, Earl bought the studio and Eugene began taking photos from his home and doing freelance work. In 1970, Lyle bought the studio, which he later sold in 1974. Throughout Eugene's prolific career, the Cutshall Studio faced financial and technical challenges, but he was able to overcome these with determination, ingenuity, and adaptation. While he specialized in portrait photography, there are also a number of street scenes, businesses, and events among the more than 65,000 projects within the Cutshall Collection. Over the course of many years, we had a dedicated group of volunteers index this collection, which is available to search on our website. Now, we have another set of volunteers doing the painstaking work of digitizing the prints and negatives (which are particularly prone to deterioration if conditions aren't just right) for preservation. Such a huge collection requires a lot of care and work, but we are fortunate to have something that captures so much of the life of Rochester and its citizens.

A Visit to the Research Center

If you're from the area, you might stop by the Research Center to look up an old classmate or relative (or even yourself) in one of the many yearbooks kept here. Even if you're not from the area, these yearbooks are interesting to peruse. They're like little time capsules for each year that tell us what students studied, what activities they participated in, what fashions they wore, and who the teachers and administrators were. Some might include messages from students, which shed light on what jokes, phrases, and nicknames were popular during a given period. One recent researcher used them to locate athletes as part of a CTE study. Most of our yearbooks are for schools in the Rochester area, but there are also yearbooks from Chatfield, Dover-Eyota, St. Charles, and Stewartville. While the collection is fairly complete for the schools we have, there are some gaps from recent years, and other schools from Olmsted County aren't represented at all. So if any of our readers have yearbooks they think we might be able to use, let us know!



New Exhibits at the History Center

By Dan Nowakowski, Curators of Collections and Exhibits

This summer the History Center of Olmsted County offers visitors a new area to tour. This area is located on the Ralph Stoppel farmstead inside the Quonset Hut. The area will feature farming equipment from the 19th and 20th Centuries. These machines and implements had specific jobs for farming and would be used at different times during the seasons. One of the machines featured is a John Deere Check Row Planter, which was a machine used in the spring to cultivate corn.

Each machine displayed demonstrates the advancement of new technologies made during the 19th and 20th Centuries, ranging from the corn planter, an advancement over hand planting tools, to the modern farm tractor that replaced horses and oxen. Conversely, some of the machines have themselves become obsolete such as the grain cutter/binder and thresher—farmers now use a combine (a combination of a thresher and grain cutter) instead of the two separate machines.

Opening August 4, *Fur Trade in Minnesota* will feature many hands on components to learn more about the life of fur traders. Hundreds of years ago, Minnesota played a key role in the fur trade, which stretched across five continents. Visitors to the exhibit can lift a 45-pound Voyageur's pack, learn how the fur trade shaped Ojibwe art and discover how beaver pelts could be transformed into sleek, stately hats that were all the rage among wealthy Europeans. This temporary exhibit is on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society and will be on display through September 30, 2018.



Fur Trade in Minnesota

A traveling exhibit from the Minnesota History Center.

HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, Minnesota played a key role in a big business that stretched across five continents. *Fur Trade in Minnesota* introduces you to this global trade network's places and people.

Don't miss it—
History Center of Olmsted Co.
1195 W. Circle Drive
Aug. 4 – Sept. 30, 2018
\$5/adults
\$2/Children 2-12
Free for HCOOC Members



Curiosities from the Collection

In farming communities, the coming of fall meant it was time for harvesting crops. Farmers would spend long days in the field using different types of machines to harvest crops. One of these machines used was a potato digger. This machine's task was to dig up potato plants and separate the potatoes from the plants.

The potato digger has several different features that help with this process. A shovel located on the front removes the potato plant from the ground. Once removed the potato plant travels along an elevator, and falls onto the agitator. The agitator separates the vines of the plant and dirt from the potato. The elevator and agitator are controlled by a belt system attached to the wheels. When pulled by either a tractor or a team of horses, the wheels power the entire machine. After passing through the agitator, the potato falls back onto the field and would be collected by a farmhand.



History Center of Olmsted County
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Rochester, MN 55902

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HCOC Programs and Events Calendar 2018

June

14 - History Hayrides begin
Held every Thursday through August 9

July

11 - Princess Café: Ken Allsen "Hattie and Henry, the Architects"

14-15 - Living History Fair

18 - Summer Day Camp: Pioneer Life

24-29 - Olmsted County Fair

24 - Roosters Home Game

August

1 - Summer Day Camp: Civil War Soldier

4 - *Fur Trade in Minnesota* Exhibit Opens

4 - Roosters Home Game

August continued

8 - Princess Café: Steve Schmitt "MN Ancient History"

10 - Movies Under the Stars: Cars 3

11-12 - Days of Yesteryear

11 - Roosters Home Game

22 - Summer Day Camp: One-room Schoolhouse

24 - Movies Under the Stars: Moana

31 - Movies Under the Stars: Sing

September

12 - Princess Café: Lee Hilgendorf "The Rochester Airport: Its Changing Locations"

For a complete list of upcoming events and more information, visit our website at www.olmstedhistory.com