

The Hanover Historical Press



Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Festival

Fall 2011 - Vol. 9, No. 1

Looking for an afternoon of Fall fun? Well then, come on over to the first-ever Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Festival on Saturday, October 22. We'll be waiting for you at Hanover's Settler's Park shelter from 3-5 p.m. for an afternoon of fun.

Only three ingredients are needed for a frolicking, fun, family event: you, pumpkins, and art supplies. Have your parents provide YOU, and we'll provide the rest. Come dressed in your Halloween costume and have Mom and Dad take a photo of you with Rowdy the Scarecrow. Just remind them to bring their camera!

Join in our pumpkin painting competition and maybe win a prize. There are free pumpkins for the kids to decorate plus a surprise ghoulie bag to take home. And when you need a break from decorating, try your hand at the age-old game of Needle in the Haystack, and enjoy cookies and orange drink.

Tell your parents that if they bring their own carved pumpkin, they might win some cool prizes in the adult pumpkin carving competition. They can come in costume too! Whether you come dressed in costume or not, don't miss out on a Fall afternoon of pumpkin fun!

This free event is sponsored by the Hanover Historical Society. If you have questions, please contact Tim Zimmerman at 763-370-7373.

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2011 Meetings Remaining 7p.m. City Hall

October 11 in December
November 8
No meeting

Officers/Contact Info

Tim Zimmerman, President
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763-271-2680
Mary Coons, Secretary
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Hanover Historical Society
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Support Your Historical Society

If you enjoy this newsletter as well as being a member of the Hanover Historical Society, spread the word by passing this along and promoting the Society.

Young and old comprise our membership as well as new residents mixed in with life-long Hanoverians. Take an active role in activities or assist behind the scenes if that's your comfort level. Yearly membership is only \$12. for new and renewing members, please use the application form on page 3.

To learn more about the Hanover Historical Society, please call Tim Zimmerman at 763-370-7373 or Mary Coons at 763-476-8414.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Hanover Historical Society is to identify, preserve, and disseminate knowledge about the history of Hanover through collections, preservation, distribution of historical information, as well as advocate for preservation of historic buildings, monuments and markers.

Caroling at the Historic Bridge

With the gorgeous Fall weather and July-like temperatures we've had so far in October, it's hard to imagine that winter will be on our doorsteps in another month. And, of course, that means the Caroling at the Historic Bridge event is fast approaching also!

Join us again this year as we usher in the holiday season with area choirs, Old St. Nick, photos in the one-horse open sleigh, bonfires, and free hot chocolate, cider and cookies. Don't forget to bring your cameras!

Memories are short, but hopefully this year's event won't be quite as snowy as last year's. Remember the snow falling all day, traffic snarls and our late start? Oh well, it's part of the winter season if you live in Minnesota!

This year's event is Friday, December 2, 6-8 p.m., so get it marked on your calendars now. As usual, everything takes place at the historic pedestrian bridge.

Happy holidays to you from us at the Hanover Historical Society!



***Safe From the Outside World: A Social History of Hanover, Minnesota* by Mary Coons is now in its second printing. The book is available at the River Inn and BankWest in Hanover, Antiques on Main Street in Rogers, and Buffalo Books in downtown Buffalo for \$17. Call Mary Coons at 763-476-8414 if you'd like an autographed copy.**

A Brief Pumpkin Patch History

The big orange pumpkin, familiar to all of us and just begging to become a pie, has a colorful history. But first, a myth needs to be set straight. The pumpkin is NOT a vegetable, but a fruit! A fruit related to melons. It also was unknown in the old world and grew only in the Americas. Although believed to have originated in North America, seeds from related plants have been found in South America (Mexico) dating back to 7000 to 5500 BC.

By about 1700 AD or so, the pumpkin, as well as the potato, squash, corn and many more new world foods, had taken the old world by storm. People began to eat better - or at least enjoy more varied foods - including eating pumpkins.

Native American Indians used pumpkin as a staple in their diets centuries before the pilgrims landed. We know that they sliced and diced the pumpkin and hung it up to dry. Its shell and innards were made into mats and decorative hangings. It also was roasted in slices over the flames.

The early European settlers saw the pumpkins grown by the Indians, and pumpkin soon be-

came a staple in their diets as well. They found that if you removed the insides, added honey, spices and a little milk, and then baked it in the hot ashes of a dying fire, you had a very passable pie. Of course, the crust and pie pan came later.

This big fat orange friend was here to stay. Today, the pumpkin can be found in a variety of sizes and colors. Some for eating, some for decorating and even giant ones - although these are really gourds.

Fall comes and the pumpkin patch contributes its bounty to make our lives, palates and memories that much richer.

Fun Pumpkin Facts

- Pumpkins are 90 percent water.
- Native Americans used pumpkin seeds for food and medicine.
- Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snake bites.
- Pumpkin flowers are edible.
- Eighty percent of the pumpkin supply in the United States is available in October.
- The Connecticut field variety is the traditional American pumpkin.

Membership Application/Renewal Form - Hanover Historical Society

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

email _____



Annual dues: Individual/Family - \$12; renewable in January of each year

Renewal _____ New Member _____ If you itemize deductions on your income tax forms, you may qualify for a deduction.

I am interested in helping with: cataloging artifact collections publicity

fundraising committee programs for meetings volunteering for events

Please clip and mail your application along with a check to the Hanover Historical Society, P.O. Box 13, Hanover, MN 55341. Thank you for your support.

As I Remember Hanover... Veteran's Day

These informal memories are excerpts of information from Safe From the Outside World: A Social History of Hanover, Minnesota.

Veteran's Day, formerly known as Armistice Day, was originally set as a US legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. As such, this new legal holiday honored WWI veterans. In 1954, after having been through both WWII and the Korean War, the 83rd Congress amended the act of 1938 by striking out the word 'armistice' and inserting the word 'veterans'. With the approval of the legislation, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

However, did you know, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs, that most Americans confuse Veterans Day with Memorial Day? So what's the difference? Memorial Day honors servicemembers who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle. Deceased veterans are also remembered on Veterans Day, but the day is set aside to thank and honor living veterans who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime.

We salute Our World's Greatest Generation, and particularly those brave and honorable men and women of Hanover who answered their country's call and served.

On November 11th, let's honor those who are currently serving so that we might enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted. And if you can, visit a local cemetery and take note of the American flags posted alongside a veteran's grave. Just as we never forget our roots, our hometown's heritage and our own family's involvement, let us also not forget those who have served.

Website on the Horizon

Joe Kaul is creating a website for our organization. Although under construction, our official home will be hanoverhistoricalsociety.org.

Library Display

The Hanover Historical Society is currently featured in a three-week exhibit at the St. Michael Library. Check out our display at the library any time October 3-24. We have small artifacts, vintage photos and our Hanover history book in the display case just outside the library entrance. Tell your friends and family about it.

Newsbriefs

Friends of the Hanover Historical Society lost an avid supporter and elder in September. Fern Klemm Schiebe passed away at the age of 93. Fern grew up in Hanover and never forgot her home town. She and her family have requested donations go to the Hanover Historical Society.

Thank you to XCel Energy for their \$500 donation on behalf of Mike Kehn's volunteer time over the past year with our organization.



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