

# The Hanover Historical Press



## Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Festival

Summer 2011 - Vol. 8, No. 4

Watch for more information about a new event this fall sponsored by the Hanover Historical Society! The first ever Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 22 from 3-5 p.m. and will be held in the park shelter at City Hall. There will be free cider and snacks and old-time games and activities for the kids.

All children attending will receive a free small pumpkin that they can decorate with markers, which will then be judged with prizes awarded. Adults wishing to participate should bring their all-ready carved pumpkins to the event for judging.

Planning is still in the early stages for this event so watch for updates in the Crow River News and the city newsletter. If you have questions, please contact Tim Zimmerman at 763-370-7373.

## Bridge History Signage Project

Final preparations are ongoing for the bridge history signage project, but we are hopeful to have the signs constructed and installed yet this fall. We are in the process of obtaining bids for the work, while the copy for the two signs has been completed and approved.

In other bridge related news, the bridge stringers were given a fresh coat of white paint recently and three very worn wood planks were flipped and reinstalled on the bridge.

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### 2011 Meetings Remaining 7p.m. City Hall

August 9	November 8
September 13	No meeting in
October 11	December

### Officers/Contact Info

Tim Zimmerman, President  
763-370-7373  
Mike Kehn, Vice President  
763-271-2680  
Mary Coons, Secretary  
763-476-8414  
Torney Marshall, Treasurer/  
Memberships 763-498-7121

Hanover Historical Society  
P.O. Box 13  
Hanover, MN 55341  
Editor: Mary Coons  
marycoons@usinternet.com



## 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.

## Mystery Item Needs Identifying!

Do you know what the item in the photograph might be? It was uncovered this summer in a resident's driveway in Hanover Hills. It appears to be a metal tool for something that possibly once had a leather strap attached to it. If you have any ideas of what it could be, please call one of the members listed on the front page of the newsletter. The artifact is now part of our collections.



## Harvest Festival Flea Market and Antique & Classic Car Event

There is still time to participate as a vendor in the flea market during this year's Hanover Harvest Festival on Saturday, August 6 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Vendor spots are a very reasonable \$15 for a 12x12 space. Please call Mary Coons at 763-476-8414 or download the registration form from [www.hanoverharvestfestival.com/forms](http://www.hanoverharvestfestival.com/forms).

This year we are also sponsoring an Antique & Classic Car Show as part of the festival. Pre-1976 cars are eligible for display along with a \$10 event registration fee. Plaques will be presented to all participants. Information and forms are available at the same website listed above. The cars will be on display beginning at 10 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church's parking lot. Owners are encouraged to register for the parade, and drive their vehicle in the parade that begins at 11 a.m.

***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 History of Labor Day in the U.S.

Boston was the first city to commemorate Labor Day (August 26, 1878) in conjunction with the Central Labor Union, but it wasn't until Sept. 5, 1882 that Labor Day was officially celebrated in New York City.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow New York, and to celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 was celebrated in many industrial centers of the U.S.

The first state to pass the law was Oregon in 1887 followed by Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York. By 1894, 23 other states had adopted the federal holiday in honor of workers. On June 28, 1894 Congress passed an act naming the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday.

According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, the form that the observance and celebration should take was outlined in the first proposal. It was to include a street parade to show the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade

and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. It wasn't until later that speeches by prominent men and women were introduced once more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday.

Today, Labor Day celebrations often include picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays, water sports and public art events in addition to political themes and appearances by candidates running for offices.

Families with school-aged children see it as the last chance to travel before the resumption of school. It is now considered the symbolic end of the summer.

"The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known, and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy," states the Dept. of Labor website. "It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom and leadership - the American worker."

## 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... Bandshell and

### Summer Concerts

*These informal memories are excerpts of information from Edna Saenger Hackenmueller, Willard Weinand, Wesley Roehlke, Audrey Tessmer, Ethel Meyer, Arlene Bursch and Fern Klemm Schiebe from Safe From the Outside World: A Social History of Hanover, Minnesota.*

Hanover's bandshell was located on the corner of Main Street (now River Road) and Mill Pond Road with a signature flag-pole nearby. Arlene Bursch recalls the free summer concerts held and "watching bands playing in there when I was very young."

"It was a fascinating building with its round shape and peaked roof. In the interior around the solid bottom wall was a built-in seat. The upper part had posts equi distant apart. This left the upper section open and airy so that the melodious music went out into the surrounding air. The foundation was made up of latticed boards and looked like the gazebos we see today. You could see it up ahead as you drove across the old bridge from the Hilltop coming into Hanover."

Although it is not known when the bandshell was erected, we do know that the Hanover Band of 1900 under director Max Saenger played there. Some early band members included Frank Klemm Jr. and Frank Klemm Sr., Wally Saenger, Bill Schmidt, Herman Vollbrecht and Ernest Saenger.

The bandshell was sold to some Burschville residents in the early 1930s.



## Website on the Horizon

Joe Kaul is creating a website for our organization. It would be a physical online presence with photos and Hanover history for starters and hopefully linked to the City's website. More details to follow.

## Library Display

The Hanover Historical Society will be featured in a three-week exhibit at the St. Michael Library this fall. Check out our display at the library anytime October 3-24. We will feature 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.

## Festival Parade

Of course, you won't want to miss the 7th annual Hanover Harvest Festival on Saturday, August 6, with its many activities including the popular parade.

Once again, the historical society will have a float in the parade. This year's theme will center around the upcoming Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Contest event. Watch for us in the parade!



**Hanover Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 13  
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