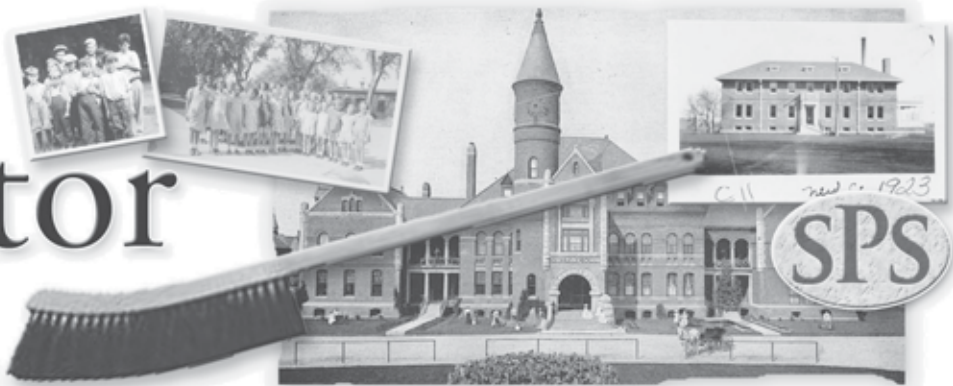


The Radiator Brush



Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum & Historic Cottage 11 Boys' Dormitory
~ Fall 2017 Newsletter Edition ~

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

The past 12 months have been filled with a wide range of emotions for everyone involved with the Museum. In May, we celebrated the 90th birthday of our dear Harvey Ronglien, with a festive open house. Then, in June, we mourned the passing of our beloved Maxine Ronglien, as well as long-time Board member Carol Raetz. Maxine, along with Harvey, built a strong foundation upon which we can continue to grow.

The number of visitors who come each year is amazing and 2017 was no different. Some we can count, while others we can't. Of course, we have our group tour traffic that brings in many people. Then, there are people who find us by searching Google, Explore Minnesota, or Visit Owatonna for things to do in Owatonna. How often we hear, "I never knew this place existed!" Once people have been introduced to the stories captured in the Museum, they won't forget. Field trips by school students are another category of visitor we get, ranging from third grade to middle school to high school or Alternative Learning Centers to college social work classes.

A very special group of individuals who stops by are former State Schoolers and their family members. What a treat to meet them and hear them share their memories. Some come from as far as Texas and Florida! Because Harvey and Maxine started the Museum project, there is now a place for them to "come home" to. It may not have been perfect, but

it was their childhood home nonetheless. It helps them explain their unique childhood to their own children and grandchildren.

We're not the only ones who think highly of the State School Museum. The Museum was once again voted Best Museum/History Center in Southern Minnesota. Publicity like that brings in more visitors!

Are you on Facebook? Today 1,674 people follow us there! It's a fun way to keep up with the day-to-day activities at the Museum. Search for "Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum" to join our group. One never knows who might show up or what we might discover.

We had a very successful fundraising event on campus on Saturday, September 16. More details and photos from the event are included on the inside pages of this newsletter.

In early 2018, the Board is going to do some strategic planning to make sure the Museum stays vital and can continue to tell the stories of the 10,635 children who made their home in Owatonna. We would welcome any ideas for displays or fundraising.

***May 2018 be a good year for all our readers.
We are grateful for your interest and support.***

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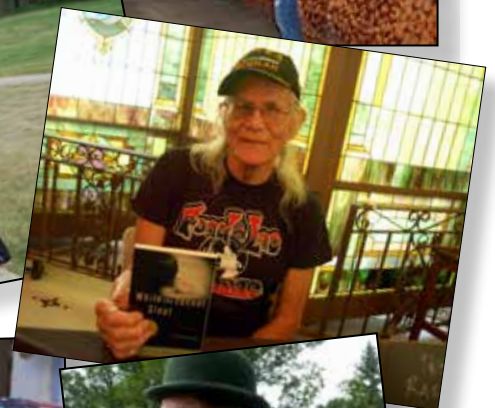
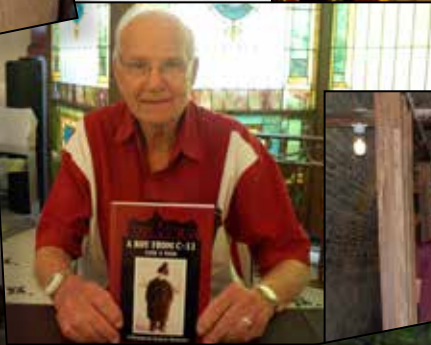
5TH ANNUAL



ORPHANAGE MUSEUM
FALL CELEBRATION

Saturday, Sept. 16th
2:00 – 5:00 PM
West Hills Campus

*Minnesota State Public School
for Dependent & Neglected Children
Owatonna, Minnesota
1886-1945*



DONATIONS**MEMORIALS - MAXINE RONGLIEN**

Donations received in memory of Maxine will go toward the Maxine Ronglien Memorial Garden.

Harvey Ronglien	Dave & Kim Ramsey	Caroline & Herbert	Dennis & Jacqueline
Bev Miller	John & Linda Meinerts	Sorenson	Meillier
Shelby Zempel	Jon & Carol Larson	Ardella Brenner	Gwen Fichten
John & Denise Perhay	Randall & Brenda Baud	JoLynn & David	Sally Alexander
Al & Corky Kolander	Jerry & Janet Besser	Chadwick	Ken & Dorothy Carroll
Rebecca Gross	Ken & Sandra Dille	Gwen Kubista	Donna Froman
Russell Tenhoff	Jackie Dulas	James & LeAnn Meservy	Virginia Stirens
ERA Gillespie - Barry	Nancy & Tim Sletten	Rita Michaelson	Sue & Warren Simons
Gillespie & Patty Huset	Dale & Cindy Tracy	Bill Thompson	Jean Oberg
Lisa & Craig Havelka	Bob & Diane Jungbluth	Steven & Michelle Phelps	Sharon West
Rose Branderhorst	Orvin & Alberta	Alice Wiese	John & Lylia Iverson
Bernie & Sue Prihoda	Grunklee	Darryl & Alice Hill	Linda A. Schmidt
Margo Dineen & Jon	Alexandra Wright	David & Jane Ihrke	Corlyn Peters
Zoller	Cheryl Ekerholm	Shirley Petri	Dan & Bonnie Lewis
Kate Sherman	Tom Bonacci	Barbara White	Bob & Bev Seykora
Silvan Durben	Deb Stewart	Lindy & Todd Lund	Carol & Glenn
Faye Kottke	Jerry & Carol Zetah	Harland & Mona	Kruckeberg
Ronald & Cynthia Hewitt	Patricia Ralls	Strohschein	Mark Walbran
Richard & Nancy Shaeffer	Dennis & Marcia Bartz	Renee & Peter Belina	Todd & Cindy Boeddeker
Violet Thorland	Joann & Jim Hartle	Ken & Sandy Dinse	Jill & Matt Kath
Julie & Paul Tinberg	Orvin & Carolyn	Jim & Marcia Partridge	Alta & Margaret Healy
Al & Maren DeLaitsch	Thompson	John Fraser	Barb Loquai
Jean & Edith Zamboni	Lee Johnson	Don & Nancy Jewison	Lloyd & Virginia
Shirley Grass	Jack & Nancy Reuvers	Darlene Schmidt	Underdahl
Charles & Betty Herdina	Sharon Johnson	Patricia A. Fischer	
Les Thomas	Paul & Julie Proft	Jerry & Delores	<i>Our apologies to anyone</i>
Greg & Darlene Thomas	Gary & Kathleen Stoltz	Prondzinski	<i>whose name may</i>
Gary & Pat Oman	Dan Gorman	Katherine Gilles	<i>be missing.</i>
David & Julie Lyons	Dan & Patricia Kenow	Terry & Robin Hansen	
Jeanne Brick	Mary E. Larson	Anne Peterson	
Dave & Pam Bostrom	Ed & Donna Gaul	Lowell & Betty Schultz	

DONATIONS- CONTINUED**MEMORIALS**

Shirley Wilson
Stan Gilman

Shelby Zempel
Carol Raetz

Rebecca Ryan
Mary J. Moriarty (Matron)

Patricia Peacock
Mary Ryan & Mae Moriarty

Margaret & William Gray
Ted Stockey

GENERAL FUND

DeLoyce Anderson

Patricia Hill

Fred H. Fritz

Dale and Kathy Sellner

Shirley Wilson

WORD OF DECEASED STATE SCHOOLERS

Goldie "Toni" Wilson Allen

Carroll "Dale" Cole

LEGACY TRUST

Dan Gorman

Brick-Meger Funeral Home

Federated Insurance

Rebecca Gross

Vivian & Don Manthe

Peter Razor

Silvan Durbin

(H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Gayle C. Reineke

LegacyTrust Total: \$58,306.30

**During This Season of Giving...**

Please consider making a year-end donation to the Orphanage Museum.

General Fund — The Museum relies on private donations, group tour fees, and Gift Shop sales to cover annual expenses, which average about \$25,000 a year.

Children Remembered Legacy Trust — The fund was created to help ensure the Museum survives for future generations by providing a steady source of interest income. We have reached \$58,000 of our \$300,000 goal.

Your financial support is crucial in helping us fulfill our mission to preserve the history of the Minnesota State Public School for Dependent & Neglected Children and to honor the memory of the State School children.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the General Fund or Legacy Trust. A self-addressed envelope is included for your convenience. Donations can also be made on our website at www.orphanagemuseum.com.

Thank you to everyone who has generously supported our organization since it began!

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RAFFLE TICKET WINNER

Dan Gorman's ticket was drawn as the lucky winner of this year's 50/50 Raffle! We sold \$2,600 in raffle tickets, so he received a check in the amount of \$1,300. *The Museum Board plans to hold another raffle in 2018, perhaps over a longer period of time to make the pot grow even bigger!*

2017 ORPHANAGE MUSEUM FALL CELEBRATION

With the threat of rain forecast for the afternoon of September 16, some last-minute adjustments were made to our plans, but, fortunately, the rain stayed away and we had a wonderful event. The musical entertainment, food, and book authors were moved inside the Owatonna Arts Center (thank you, Silvan Durbin!), while the horse-drawn wagon rides and scavenger hunt continued outside as planned.

This year we had two wagons available to accommodate the number of people who wanted to take the guided trip around campus. These rides are definitely a highlight. The Scavenger Hunt was a new event where participants had to go to the six outdoor audio stations to find answers to 23 questions about the State School. The family who won the Scavenger Hunt received a certificate for night's stay, as well as seven wrist bands for the Serengeti Waterpark, donated by the Owatonna's Holiday Inn & Suites!

The Mush Eating Competition returned this year with some new twists and turns. Participants actually donated \$5 to participate and they could buy additional condiments to make the "mush" easier to eat. Some people bought milk and brown sugar. Others strategically sized up the competition and paid money to add condiments to other participants' mush—horseradish anyone? Mayor Tom Kuntz and Chamber President/CEO Brad Meier were just two of the celebrities who participated in the event. The victor of the final heat

was Shannon Guy. He and his family also won a Holiday Inn & Suites package.

Musical entertainment throughout the day was provided by our favorite husband and wife duo, Curtis & Loretta, and harpist Sheila Rame. This was Sheila's fourth year at our event. She played hymns that the children sang. Curtis & Loretta did a variety of original music, including two songs Loretta wrote about former State Schoolers—Harvey Ronglien and Peter Razor.

The event also offered face painting, a kitty petting station, and book author signing.

Our thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy the day and learn more about the State School.

We're planning for more fun in 2018.

Thank you to our 2017 Sponsors!

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Kirchner Siding & Windows
Wenger Corporation





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Owatonna, MN 55060

Return Service Requested

2017 TOURISM REPORT

Forty-two formal group tours were booked this year, which brought 1,019 visitors to the Museum. Cottage 11 hosted nearly 2,700 in 2017. People came from Minnesota and surrounding states, but also as far away as Japan, Finland, South Africa, and Australia.

The Museum also was named *Scene Magazine's* "Best of Southern Minnesota" in the Museum and History Center category, making it our third win in four years. Online voting determines the winner, so we greatly appreciate the honor.

