

# The Record



## Upcoming Events

Saturday October 25th through  
Saturday January 24th, 2015

During regular museum hours, including the days we are open for the "Christmas in the 1960s"

**Minnesota Disasters: Stories of Strength and Survival Exhibit**  
At Fridley History Center  
Free admission

Thursday, February 12th 6:00 pm  
**Valentine Potluck and Bingo**  
At Fridley History Center

Sunday, May 3, 2015.

### Appraisal Event

Place and time to be determined

Wednesday May 6, 2015

### 50th Anniversary Program Of the Fridley Tornadoes

Fridley Community Center Fireside room 6:00 until 9:00 pm

Sunday June 28th, 2015

(tentative)

**Manomin on the Mississippi tour**

## "Christmas in the 1960s" Drew Many Visitors

by Mary Ann Hoffman

From TV trays to Barbie dolls, from a 1968 Wards catalog to Beatles' memorabilia, dozens and dozens of 1960s artifacts allowed visitors to the Fridley History Center in November and December to experience "Christmas in the 1960s."

A total of 778 visitors were welcomed by volunteers to our 3rd annual Christmas exhibit. Special attractions were a large model railroad, a set of 1960s Fridley High School yearbooks, craft activities for the kids, and refreshments for all.

Thank you to those who attended -- we received many compliments for our efforts. Thanks and appreciation go also to those who diligently planned the exhibit, loaned or donated items for it, put it together, acted as docents to receive and welcome visitors, and helped with snow removal when needed.

Winners of the weekly trivia contests were Grace Norton of Fridley, Tom Heryla of Fridley, Margaret Kalm of Spring Lake Park, Zane Johnson of North Dakota, Julie Fish of St. Paul, Mary Erickson of Fridley, and Bev Schwartz of Otsego.



Maralee Higgins, Isabel Bailey-Seiler, and Sheila Bailey-Seiler trying out a '60s artifact that drew much attention: a bonnet-type hairdryer.

Jack Hawkinson, Paige Gonderchin, and Logan Gonderchin of Fridley create their Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer on Opening Day.



## Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 4 p.m.

### Officers

President	Dorothy Gargaro
Vice President	Mary Ann Hoffman
Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

### Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel  
Mary Sue Meyers  
Allen Taylor  
Rick Hitt  
Teresa Hitt

### Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

### Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

### City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

### Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

### Fundraising

Allen Taylor – 763-422-3878

### Maintenance Committee

Rick and Teresa Hitt

### Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

### Newsletter

Lori Greiner — 612-963-1485

### Public Relations

Open

### Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

## Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

### Thursday, November 6th, 2014

President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at approximately 2:05 PM. Those in attendance were as follows: Judy Anderson, Al Taylor, Pete Bonesteel, Mary Ann Hoffman, Richard Hitt and Dorothy Gargaro. After the pledge of allegiance, the meeting started with a motion being made by Judy to approve the minutes as written for the October 2nd meeting. Al seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously. Al then moved to accept the treasurer's report as written, and Mary Ann seconded the motion, and it also passed unanimously.

### Old Business:

The date for the 50th Anniversary Tornado Program is next May 6, 2015 - Al reported he had gone to see Stephen Keeler, and reserved the FCC Fireside room and both rooms connected to it from 5-9. Dorothy said she would contact Stephen to find out if there would be rent charged. Dorothy has talked with Bob Aldrich about being part of the program that night recalling what it was like at City Hall and all that happened there as far as requests for help, etc. He has agreed to be there. Dorothy will write a letter to be sent to all presenters with the pertinent information (i.e. date, time, place, list of presenters) as it gets closer to the program.

### Committees:

#### **Maintenance:**

Everyone congratulated Richard (and Teresa-absent) on being elected to the Board of Directors! Richard had a request that everyone coming into the history center to please be sure to turn off all lights before they leave.

#### **Membership:**

Mary Ann reported 1 new member, and that renewals were being mailed out with the January/February newsletter.

#### **Exhibits:**

Exhibits – Mary Ann said that the Minnesota Disasters opened on October 25th and the Christmas in the 1960's just needs some finishing touches. She was hoping that everyone would look at the calendar to see when they might be able to be a docent.

#### **Appraisals Event:**

Appraisals Event – Mary Ann said we made \$242 at the Banquets of Minnesota after paying \$300 for rent there. She is planning on adding one more date with Mark Moran, and it will be in August, 2015. Inasmuch as she has not been able to reach the person who rents at Banquets, we might not have to feel obligated there for any more of the appraisal events. We might move the event back to the History Center.

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(Fridley Historical Society November Board Meeting, continued from page 2)

### **Hall of Fame:**

Hall of Fame – In Mary Sue’s absence, Dorothy reported that 116 tickets for the dinner were sold and 6 free dinners for the 3 inductees and their guests, with a total of 122 dinners. In Sue’s report to Dorothy, she said it was a very successful, enjoyable event. The food was good, the program moved right along. Robert Christenson began by welcoming all, and went on to give the history of the Hall of Fame and its benefits. Mayor Lund did his usual good job as Emcee and handing out the awards to the inductees. The program concluded with John Fitzpatrick giving some closing remarks that included promoting the Fridley Historical Society and also talked about the current events, etc.

### **City & Family:**

Dorothy reported that she had invited the Fridley Lions Club to come to see the Minnesota Disasters exhibit on October 28, their social meeting night. She counted it a success as 20 Lions members came, and everyone found it very interesting and worthwhile. They also thought the new paint looked great downstairs.

### **Web Data Entry:**

Al reported that he has a meeting scheduled with Jodee next week, and hopes to get the training and bring it back to us.

### **Bylaws:**

It was discussed that the bylaws need to be amended for signing certain legal documents. This item was tabled until our December 4th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at almost 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Anderson (acting as secretary until we get a replacement for Grace)

## **1965 Tornado Minute!**

Joe Strub, Assistant Director of the Weather Bureau, reported that debris from the Fridley tornadoes was found as far away as Pennsylvania!

Please remember that the Fridley History Center is hosting the “50th Anniversary Program of the Fridley Tornadoes” on May 6th, 2015 at 6pm at the Fridley Community Center!

This is an extraordinary opportunity to hear the story behind the story of the worst outbreak of tornadoes in Minnesota history!

If you have any questions about this event or how to obtain the books on this momentous subject, call Al Taylor at 763-422-3878.



## Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

**Thursday, December 4th, 2014**

Board Members in attendance: Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sure Meyers, Pete Bonesteel.

Absent Board Members: Judy Anderson, Dorothy Gargaro  
The meeting began at 4:12 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mary Ann officiated at Chair and Al Taylor officiated as Secretary taking the minutes.

Mary Ann introduced new member Jan Harding to the meeting. Jan's help last Saturday was much appreciated!

### **Old Business:**

There was a discussion about Julie Doth conducting a survey involving the last Tour of the Mississippi during 49'er days. Future discussions will be forthcoming. 218 Kindergarten Art Fair invitations will be sent out for the upcoming Dec. 13 date. More cookies needed for this event! Please bring to History Center prior to event on Saturdays or Tuesday during open hours! An article for the next newsletter is requested to describe generous gift of train set display from the Irv Peters family. So many people have enjoyed this wonderful display!

### **Committees:**

#### **Treasurer's Report and By-law Change Request :**

These items were tabled due to Judy's absence. The FHC audit will be made on Jan. 6, 2015.

### **Events:**

Mary Sue reported that the Annual Valentine's Day Bingo and Potluck will be Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015 at 6pm. Quick Steps request for compensation is tabled until next board meeting.

### **Membership:**

Mary Ann reported that membership forms will be posted in the upcoming Focus.

### **Maintenance:**

No report from Richard and Teresa except we need to make sure that all the sidewalk salt is used up before the end of the snow season. It tends to melt through the plastic bag onto the floor leaving a big mess!

### **Exhibits:**

Pete Bonesteel reported that he, his son, Mark, and Al Taylor worked on the train exhibit for over 4 hours on Wednesday, Dec. 3 installing 3 lights in the buildings, 4 stops, and 2 re-railers on the track plus cleanup. The display is looking very sharp and is a great addition to the current Christmas Exhibit. More work will be completed in the coming weeks.

### **Website:**

Al Taylor reported that over 3000 people have looked at the FHC website with 88 hits last week alone! A motion was made by Mary Ann to enlist and compensate Jodee Kulp \$200/year for website maintenance. Mary Sue seconded that motion. All in favor-passed. Special note: a tax deduction receipt will be made for services rendered for 2014.

### **Newsletter:**

No report from Lori about newsletter although everyone commented on how great the newsletter looked!

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 pm with a delicious goulash hot dish prepared by our own Chef Al Taylor!  
Minutes submitted by Allen W. Taylor, Fridley Historical Society Board Member

## Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

**Thursday, January 8th, 2015**

Board Members in attendance: Pete Bonesteel, Judy Anderson, Al Taylor, Mary Ann Hoffman & Dorothy Gargaro. The meeting was called to order at 2:08, and the pledge of allegiance recited.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Judy had us look over the numbers, and told us that Elanore had all the paper work for the annual audit. Al made a motion to approve the treasure's report, Pete seconded it and all approved.

### **Fundraising:**

Judy said when someone asks to buy one of our Fridley History Books, we ask for a \$30 donation and give them a book, rather than selling a book and having to pay sales tax at the end of the year. She had checked with Elanore to ensure this was all right to do this, and she said it was.

### **Christmas Exhibit:**

Mary Ann reported for this year's exhibit we had 778 visitors, and received \$511 in donations. Our guests really enjoyed all of it, and spent time reading the factoids, checking out all the wonderful artifacts, watching the train, having treats and taking pictures of their families by the Christmas tree.

### **Kindergarten Art Fair:**

The Kindergarten Art Fair was held on a Saturday during the Christmas exhibit, and we had 269 visitors that day; 55 students brought their families in to see their artwork displayed, take their pictures with it, then enjoy the Christmas in the 1960's exhibit, have cookies and apple juice.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Docent Schedule:**

Committee reports were next on the agenda, and the docent schedule was the first item. Sue let us know that we each had to sign up for 4 dates, and had left the 2015 schedule for us to sign on. After the two dates in January were covered, we decided we'd check our calendars at home, and figure out which other dates we would be available during this year, and finish signing up before the February meeting.

#### **Events:**

The Valentine Potluck and Bingo event will be held on Thursday, February 12th @ 6:00. White elephant prizes are welcome, but don't bring in more than one each. Judy will bring in her Watergate cake and Al will make his specialty, goulash ~ sounds like a great night already!

#### **Membership:**

Mary Ann reported that Lori is including the renewal forms in the newsletter. She also let us know that Donna and Jan are interested in becoming members of the Fridley Historical Society, and also might become part of the Board and also be a docent.

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(Fridley Historical Society January Board Meeting, continued from page 5)

**Newsletter:**

Judy wanted to make sure that the date of the Manomin on the Mississippi tour would be included in the newsletter (June 28th will be the date if it is confirmed that we will go forward with it this year). With all the results of the survey sent to last year's participants being positive, it likely will run again.

**Maintenance:**

In the Hitts' absence, Al reported that Richard had bought some more salt, and comes to the History Center, and shovels and sprinkles regularly.

**Train Update:**

Al, Pete, and Mark have been spending lots of hours adding street lights and lights in some of the buildings, etc., and are planning on adding grass, too. Each one of them has already put in 36 hours of work. It is such a lovely addition to our Fridley History Center. Kids and adults alike really enjoy it.

**Website:**

A \$200 annual fee for 2015 was approved (in December) for Jodee to keep our events information up to date in a timely manner.

**Minnesota Disasters Exhibit:**

The final weekend of the Minnesota Disasters exhibit will be January 24th.

**50th Anniversary Program of the Fridley Tornadoes:**

A meeting will be held next week for those interested in being part of the planning of some events in the Commemoration of the 1965 Tornadoes. Al brought in a copy of what the program might look like for the May 6th event. Al also mentioned that an 8 mm reel of the 1965 tornado as it hit the Fridley High School was brought to him at the History Center when he was docent. Al is looking to have it made into CDs for use during the 50th anniversary year.

This meeting ended with a vote to change the times of all Fridley Historical Society Board meetings to 2:30. Judy made the motion, Al seconded it, and it was passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned @ 3:20.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Gargaro.

A very special **thank you** is extended to the **Irv Peters family** for their donation of the train set. The train set is being enjoyed by young and old alike and is a beautiful addition to our exhibits. It is on permanent display in the basement of the Fridley History Center.



## A Dive into the Archive: Twin City Federal

By Mary Ann Hoffman

The archive of the Fridley Historical Society includes a news clipping announcing the opening of a business that still operates in Fridley: Twin City Federal.

According to the book, *Fridley: It's History and People*, the Fridley branch of Twin City Federal opened in 1970 at 5205 Central Avenue, in front of Skywood Mall Shopping Center.

Do you recognize any of the people in the photo? Left to right they are Don Borrell, Manager; Herbert Bacon, President of Fridley Chamber; Miss Fridley Elizabeth Bowe; Councilman Dave Harris; and R.M. Johnson, President of T.C.F.

Some of the businesses that congratulated Twin City Federal include Powdour Pouf Beauty Salon, Fridley Bus Service, Approved Contractors, Kings Chalet Smorgasboard & Gourmet Grill, Mr. Steak, Fridley Auto Body, Fridley State Bank, North Suburban T.V., Fridley Office Supply, and several businesses within Skywood Mall, including Vanguard Fire Protection, Mr. Outdoors, Carrousel House of Beauty, Bridal Services, Richards Photography Studio and N.E. Marine. Although "Skywood Mall" still stands, the businesses are gone and the building has been taken over as an annex by Menard's.

You can purchase your own copy of *Fridley: It's History and People* at the Fridley History Center whenever we are open for visitors.

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## The results are in for the second Fridley Historical Society trivia contest!

The event was held Thursday November 20th at the FHC.

The Mark Goodman / Bill Todson production was produced by Mary Ann Hoffman. The host was Tom Heryla and Lori Greiner was the time keeper.



Here's the winning team:  
From left are Donna Damm, Grace Norton,  
Linda Waite and Barbara Lindeke.



And here's the second place team!  
From left, they are David Rivard, Joelyn Enge,  
Dave Enge, and Jan Harding.



# FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Lori Greiner, Editor  
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past  
and securing its future*

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## It's Membership Renewal Time

Please fill in the 2014 renewal form below, make you check payable to the Fridley Historical Society, and mail it to us at 611 Mississippi St. NE, Fridley, MN 55432.  
We are no longer sending out membership cards-your renewal will be acknowledged in the newsletter.



\_\_\_\_\_ clip here \_\_\_\_\_ clip here \_\_\_\_\_ clip here \_\_\_\_\_

**2015 dues: One senior—\$10, One individual-\$12.50, Family (2 adults, same household)-\$18.50**  
**Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals.**

Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional tax-deductible donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check here to request an IRS donation receipt.

**Office Use Only**

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Mtg \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you!