



# PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September 1995

VOLUME XIV

Number 2

## *Plymouth History Fest and Antique Auto Show*



*Saturday, September 23, 1995, Noon to 4:30 p.m.  
Plymouth Creek Park, 3625 Fernbrook Ln.*

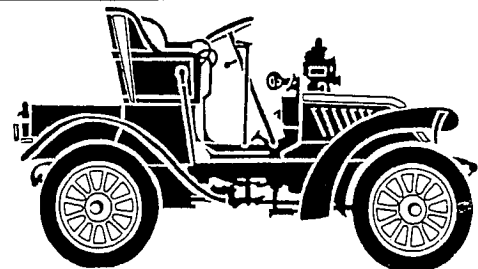
### ♪ Schedule of Events ♪

Noon	People's Choice Antique Car Judging	12:40	"The Plymouth Rockers" - Stage
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Down on the Farm" Petting Zoo</li> <li>• Jam Session Tent</li> <li>• Olde Fashioned Children's Games</li> </ul>	1:00	The Fiddle Contest Begins! - Stage
12, 1, 2, & 3	<i>Bob Gasch, Storyteller</i> , on the hour	3:30	<i>The "C" Notes</i> - Barber Shop Quartet, strolling
12:30 - 3:30	<i>"Angelo the Organ Grinder"</i> , strolling	4:00	Stage Performance by <i>The "C" Notes</i>
12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30	Demonstrations, on the half hour	4:10	Fiddle Awards - Stage
		4:20	Car Parade and Awards - Stage

Admission: \$2.00 (Children 12 and under FREE). For more information, call 509-5200.

Event will be held rain or shine! Bring a blanket or lawn chair!

Major Sponsors:  
Walser Chevrolet, Superior Ford,  
Sharon Anderson Realtor, RE/MAX Results,  
Premier Lincoln-Mercury, Herb's Service Center Inc.,  
Plymouth Tire & Auto, Twin City Music, Erickson's New Market,  
Plymouth Park & Recreation and Plymouth Historical Society.



## FAMILY HISTORIES

The Plymouth Historical Society has quite a few family histories on file. We welcome people to come and look at them, which may help you trace family roots. The following is a copy of one of the histories on file.

### Peter Winnan



**Front Row:**  
Annie Dickey, Peter Winnen, Lilly Keller, Mrs. Winnen, Paul, Mary Frick  
**Second Row:**  
Tara Dillman, Barbara Eddy, Carrie Crawshaw, Josephine Van Bech,  
Sadie Squires, Kate Reum

Peter Winnen, with his father and mother, Michael and Katherine, and his uncle, Peter Webber, came to the United States in the early 1850's. It seems Michael and Katherine had a son, Henry, who came with them but died at an early age as nothing is ever said or told about him. According to Christine Dillman (daughter of Peter), Katherine had sixteen children born in Germany and all died at birth or shortly after Michael was born in Germany in 1808, Peter on November 5, 1835 and Katherine in 1817. The uncle, Peter Webber (brother of Katherine) was born about 1814. Peter Webber was known to Peter Winnen's children as Omar.

The family migrated to the United States, arriving at Detroit, where they stayed one year and in 1854, went to St. Paul, staying until 1855. While in these two places, they most certainly engaged in cabinet making as both seemed highly experienced. From St. Paul, the family arrived in Plymouth Township, but it is rumored that they settled in Medina first, living on the farm known as the old Hansman place or the present (1953) farm of Ed Schommer near Holy Name Church. At any rate, they left and pre-empted the present Winnen farm in Plymouth Township. On October 16, 1860, Michael purchased, at Forest City, near Litchfield, the NE 1/4 of Sec. 32, Consisting of 160 acres.

The family built a log house similar to those in the neighborhood and cleared and farmed the land in the same manner as the rest of the settlers. Peter, a young man, evidently dissatisfied with farming and having married in about 1859 or 1860, left the farm, leaving their young son, Henry, with Peter's parents. Peter worked in a

furniture store in St. Paul, no doubt making furniture as he was a very fine cabinet maker, judging

from the furniture he made at the Winnen home, where to this day, can be seen. The mother of Peter was broken in health, as was her husband Michael, who begged his son Peter to return to the farm and made him promise to care for the mother in event of his, Michael's death, which happened soon after Peter returned. While living in St. Paul, Peter's son, Henry, died and was buried in St. Paul. The father, Michael, died in 1867 and the mother, Katherine, in 1887. Peter assumed the management of the farm and reared his family and cared for his mother.

Peter's wife was Anna Lacker, a daughter of an old settler of Holdridge, Lake Minnetonka. She was born in Switzerland and came here at an early age. Christine Dillman tells of her mother and her grandmother, Katherine, cupping or bleeding people who desired it each spring. It seems to have been a custom similar to the molasses and sulphur theory of thinning one's blood or invigorating it. Whatever part of the anatomy that was to be cut, was washed, cut and a small glass with paper burning in it to cause smoke, was inverted over the cut. The smoke caused a suction and the blood flowed into the glass. Sometimes as many as four or six cups were inverted and applied at one time. The apparatus with which they cut was a treacherous little cube of brass with slots of hidden blades and levers to press to cause the sharp little knives to appear and cut. I believe if anyone being prepared to be cupped saw those sharp little blades coming out suddenly from those slots, they would have fled.

Now, Peter was a great lover of nature. He left part of his farm in a wild state to preserve what he loved, hunting and fishing and observing nature. A son of Francis Clay, Charles (father of Blanche Rosing) told her of his boy hood walks in the woods many times and meeting up with an old man who just sat motionless and peered at a bird or a tree or an animal. This old man was Peter Winnen, finding material to use for designs in his beloved hobby - wood carving. Most all his designs were deer, birds, leaves, flowers, sheaves of wheat, bird's nests and other things too numerous to mention. A cluster of nuts or berries on a tree or a graceful twig could be carved into a very delicate and beautiful design. He had a wood working shop right near the house and it still stands although in a state of disrepair. It was only within the past year (1953) that Paul Winnen's wife, rummaging through the shop found an unfinished wardrobe, still unassembled, the carving completed in every detail. She took it and assembled it to use in her son's bedroom. It was not yet stained nor complete as to finishing but it was very nice.

The old McNair mansion, the present St. Margaret's Academy in Minneapolis, has some carving done by Peter. The Pulpit of the Crystal Bay Presbyterian Church was made and carved by him also and is still in use (1953). The pulpit at the Parker's Lake Methodist Church was also made by Peter, but was partially destroyed in the fire of 1947. It is at present, stored in the barn on the Gus Kretz farm. It is hoped it can be restored to its original beauty by a grandson of Peter Winnen. The old rustic bridge which used to cross the creek below Minnehaha Falls was built by this same Peter. Not only was Peter a fine wood carver, but a good teacher also. He evidently taught his daughters or some of them at least, as some turned out very creditable pieces of wood carving.

Now, Peter was supposed to be a farmer, but by the statement accorded Christine Dillman again, he was a great planner. The work for each of his nine daughters was carefully mapped out each morning by him and he personally saw that it was done. The girls hoed, weeded, planted and did everything to be done on the farm, while Peter went to town to act as salesman. He had a wonderful berry patch, which the girls took care of planting, weeding, hoeing and above all, picking. A man said at the market the berry business was profitable, but it was so hard to get pickers. Peter waved his hand, laughed and said, "Oh, I have nine and all made to order." Mrs. Dillman said that the sorghum making capped the climax. The seed was planted by the father but everything else was left to the girls. First hoeing, then cutting, pressing and cooking. It was pressed by horse power but who drove the horse? Anna, the wife cooked the juice in trays or kettles using a series of them until the juice was perfectly clear and of the right consistency. It was then bottled or put in pails or cans and delivered by Mr. Winnen to regular customers. It was sold for 45 cents to \$1.00 a gallon.

Whenever the girls wanted a new ribbon, trinket or dress, they took to the woods to pick black caps or any other berry in season and hunted ginseng to sell. It seems that a man drive around and bought the ginseng. The money from the sales of the berries and ginseng was used for their very own selves. I imagine the work was done on their own time. Some man on the neighborhood farm (1953) stated that the Winnen girls always had a pretty ribbon in their hair and were very winsome and pretty to look at.

Peter and Anna had quite a family. The children were born at short intervals, nine girls and one living boy. There is a

record of births in the Town Clerk's Registry, 1870 - 1887, of children being born to the Winnens in 1870, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77 and 1883. Three were born before 1870. The one born in 1873 and listed as a male, lived one day. This child was probably buried on the farm. The daughters married sons of neighbors near their home but even at that, it took in quite a territory. Henry, the eldest, died at the age of four and is buried at St. Paul. Mary (Mrs. Alex Frick) deceased, is buried at Parker's Lake Cemetery. Katherine (Mrs. Fred Reum) deceased, is also buried at the same cemetery. Annie (Mrs. Andrew Dickey) deceased, is buried at Long Lake, MN. Christine (Mrs. Eben Dillman) living (1953) in Wayzata. Josephine (Mrs. Henry VanBeck), deceased, is buried in Minneapolis. Sadie (Mrs. Arthur Squires), living (1953), also lives in Wayzata. Carrie (Mrs. Harry Crawshaw), living (1953) in California, as did Barbara (Mrs. Vernon Eddy), deceased, and buried there. Paul, living (1953) on the old Winnen farm is in very poor health. Lilly, the baby girl of the family (Mrs. Ed Keller), deceased and is buried at Parker's Lake Cemetery. Peter and Anna Winnen both died in 1915 and are buried at Parker's Lake, as is Uncle Peter Webber (Omar) who passed away in 1893. Michael, Peter's father, died in 1867, and his wife, Katherine, who died in 1887, are both buried at Holy Name Cemetery, Medina Township, Hennepin County.

Michael and Katherine Winnen had a daughter, Katherine, who married Christ Swaggert and was given half of the Michael Winnen farm. The farm was not divided equally north and south nor east and west, but according to what could be grown to advantage, for instance a hay field here and a cultivated field there. Peter retained the old home and Katherine's land lay to the south. Katherine passed away in 1928 and Christ in 1923. Both are buried in Parker Lake Cemetery.

A notation about Peter Winnen's carving in St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Minneapolis.

"St. Mark's" Published 1953. Page 93

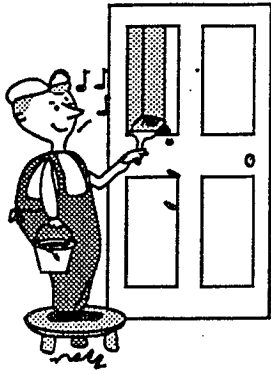
"The Parish House, Chapter 77. The main section of the Parish House was completed before the new church was ready for occupancy and for two years services were held in a large room on the second floor, into which were brought the Altar and Sanctuary furnishings from Sixth Street. Since the consecration of the church in 1910, this has been the Church School Assembly Room. In it have been established memorials appropriate to the place."

The Jaffary Chapel - Page 96

"The southeast room on the second floor of the enlarged Parish House was 'provided and furnished' by the Wednesday Club in memory of Mary Freeman Jaffray, 1891-1923, daughter of Bishop Freeman and first wife of Clive Palmer Jaffray. This room became known as the "Jaffray Chapel". In it were placed the Altar from St. Mark's Church on Sixth Street, the Altar Cross and some of the Altar furnishings used in that edifice.

The Altar was given by Mrs. Elish Eldred of Milwaukee, WI, mother of Mrs. James Lewis (Alicia Marie) Spink, who was a member of one of the founding families of St. Mark's. Mr. Spink was the third Junior Warden. The carving of the Altar was superintended by the Rev. Edward Augustus Bradley, first Rector of the parish, and executed by P. J. Winnen, a local wood worker, who also carved the Bishop's Chair and the Pulpit that were used in the Sixth Street Church. Many years later, Mr. Winnen made a new Pulpit, using wood from the settees of the mission chapel". ■

### A Fresh Look!



Thanks to the City of Plymouth and Jack Tayberry Building Superintendent, for painting the Museum and Carriage House this summer. The building, built in 1885, still has that fresh look and helps preserve part of our heritage for generations to come.

### Donations to Museum

Watercolor painting of Wooden Bridge over Luce Line by Parkers Lake.

Donated by: William and Marian Budnick

Wood Cook Stove - Porcelain

Donated by: Brooklyn Park Resident

A \$350 check. This is based upon a guideline established by John Lavander of a one cent donation per square foot of his building developments in Plymouth.

Donated by: John Lavander, Caliber Development Corp

Kitchen utensils, clothing, depression glass plates, ivory wedding dress and black luggage.

Donated by: Esther Larson

Old map of Plymouth and Medina Townships

Donated by: Kay Tart

Sears Roebuck Catalog

Donated by: Edith Hoppersted

Wooden file cabinet, old bottles, Universal Household Scale, hole punch, misc.

Donated by: Jack & Mary Malmstedt

### Board of Directors

The following is the present Board of Directors:

Name	Telephone	Term
Sharon Anderson	475-1974	1994-1997
Ben G. Broman	559-5721	1994-1997
Alberta Casey	559-9366	1993-1996
Vern Doseth	559-3777	1995-1998
Myrtle Eckes	545-6168	1993-1996
Jim Garvey	559-3047	1994-1997
Edith Hopperstad	473-3427	1993-1996
Joyce McCaughey	557-6948	1993-1996
Cork Ornborg	475-0930	1994-1997
Vern Peterson	559-2317	1995-1998
Barb Rasmussen	533-8444	1994-1997
Gary Schiebe	473-4889	1993-1996
Harvey Schiebe	545-6127	1993-1996
Adeline Schmidt	559-2459	1994-1997
Mable Swanson	545-7705	1994-1997

### Mailing and Membership List



Attention!! Due to increased costs for the newsletter, we have adjusted the annual dues. The annual dues are:

Individual.....	\$ 7.50
Family.....	\$12.00
Lifetime.....	\$100.00

If you have any questions, please call Alberta Casey, 559-9366.

### Old Fashioned Christmas In Plymouth

A reminder to plan ahead since we will be holding the event on Sunday, December 3rd. Mark your calendar!

DECEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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See you Dec. 3rd!  
Ho! Ho! Ho!

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**Saturday, September 23, 1995**

**Plymouth Creek Park, 3625 Fernbrook Ln.**

**Featuring Olde Fashioned Family Fun:**

Story Telling  
Antique Cars from 1890 to 1931  
Fiddle Contest  
Demos of Olde Tyme Crafts & Skills  
Entertainment  
Tour the Historical Society  
Refreshments

Presented by: Plymouth Historical Society and Plymouth Park & Recreation  
For more information or to participate, call 550-5130.

