



PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2016

Winter

The Plymouth Historical Society wishes you a very Happy New Year



Membership Renewal

It's the New Year so remember to renew your 2016 PHS Membership. The renewal form for 2016 is included at the back of this news letter and you might want to think of becoming a Life Time Member. Please help keep your Plymouth Historical Society active. The Plymouth Historical Societies mission is the discovery, preservation and dissemination of historical knowledge about the City of Plymouth, Minnesota.

Old Fashioned Christmas

On Saturday, December 5th the Plymouth Historical Society and the Plymouth Park & Recreation held the 29th Old Fashioned Christmas in Plymouth. It drew record crowds estimated at 1200 and approximately 325 children saw Santa and Mrs. Claus. The highlight was not only Santa Claus but his

Reindeer along with Bob Gasch telling stories, crafts, s'mores and hayrides. It is always a great photo opportunity for the families. Here are a few photos of the wonderful day.



Just waiting for the children



Oh my list is so long



Santa's helpers making decorations



Oh the stories that were told



Reindeer



S'Mores taste so good



Armstrong Chamber Singers

The Cavanagh's knew how to party!

William Cavanagh married Mary Elizabeth McGowan on October 1, 1889. William had received an unoccupied farm from his father Patrick and a house was built prior to their marriage. The house and barn are located on the west side of Vicksburg Lane just before you cross the Canadian National (formerly Soo Line) railroad track. The house and barn have been restored and are still standing but discussions are underway to move them. See pictures at the end of the article.

It was reported in the newspaper in 1914 that there was a Silver Wedding Anniversary party starting Saturday Oct 3rd at the Cavanagh's farm that lasted all weekend – non stop. These types of celebrations were very big events in the rural life of Plymouth families. The article is shown below but retyped here to make it easier to read. The article and information was taken from the Cavanagh family genealogy book. The information was provided by Maureen Cavanagh Brown through her tireless work over many decades and pictures of the parlor set from Rosemary Cavanagh Harriott.

A couple of comments; the Luce Line reached Plymouth in 1914 and the reference to the Robbinsdale cars probably meant people rode out on the train that went through Hamel (Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault St. Marie Railroad later called the Soo Line) and conceivably could have done a “flag stop” by the farm. There was no mention of that new fangled method of travel the “Automobile”.

Silver Wedding in Plymouth

Surprised By Their Many Friends Saturday Oct. 3rd

Saturday October 3 being the 25th Wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wm Cavanagh; They were pleasantly surprised at their home near Hamel by a party of friends and relatives from Plymouth, Parkers Lake, Lake Minnetonka, Maple Plain, Minneapolis and St. Paul.

As the home is amply supplied with the metal appropriate on such occasions the relatives were greatly puzzled in their decision of a useful gift until T. Ryan and J. T. McGowan relived the situation by naming a committee of three to select a parlor set to cost not less than \$125. The committee showed excellent judgment in selection of a beautiful black mahogany leather upholstered three piece set. Most of the guests were conveyed in buggy and wagon loads from the Luce Line and Robbinsdale cars.

Music and dancing with an over abundance of the best and daintiest of refreshments were the

features of the evening. The dancing continued into the wee hours of the morning when the entire party turned loose into a boisterous charivari band. They charivariated the bride and groom until they with their willing helpers; their family of 12 rosy, robust children pledged themselves to set up a bountiful breakfast.

While the breakfast was being prepared the guests spent the sunrise hour in viewing the pretty autumn sights on the Cavanagh Farm. Some of the men folks who were not so interested in autumn views partook in a game of hide and seek. Tim and Pete McGowan were the victors in the game.

After the bountiful breakfast was done ample justice there was some church going. Then all the guests with many visitors returned to enjoy the real wedding feast which was served continually from noon until midnight.

When all summed up words fail to express the enjoyable time passed by all who took part in the occasion.

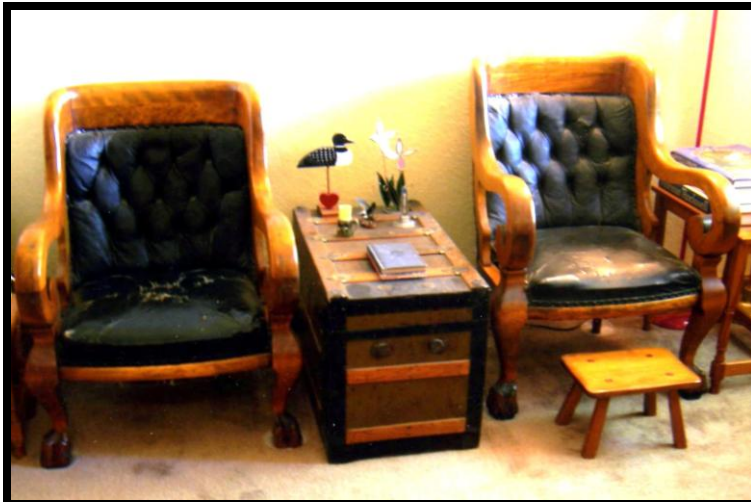
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cavanagh and family are noted for their genial hospitality on all occasions. Any one who visits their home wants to come back

again and so felt every member of the wedding party.

Mr. and Mrs. Cavanagh were both former residents of Plymouth their parents being among the early settlers of this township.

He spent most of his days on his father's farm where he became a good all around practical handy man. When he became of voting age his father helped locate him on a heavily timbered farm near Hamel. Will took an axe and grub hoe and set to work at clearing the site of his present comfortable home which by the way is the product of the labors of himself and his trusty helpmate.

When his house was completed he wooed and won the heart of the bright little lass, Mayme, daughter of Philip McGowan, who was then training as a teacher in the St. Cloud Normal School. Mayme has proven herself equal to the occasion a good farmer's wife who has filled her husband's home with the "Sunshine of St. Eulalie". Their 25 years of domestic tranquility, their honest industriousness, their earnest efforts to train their large family in Christian duties and good citizenship, has long made them respected leaders in this community. Everybody wishes them health and long life to enjoy the fruits of their honest labors.



The 1914 Silver Anniversary Parlor Set

(Preserved and lovingly cared for by Cavanagh family member all these 101 years. Love seat is gone but chair on left was converted from rocker. The rockers that were taken off have been preserved so it could be converted back. It should also be noted that \$125 was a very generous gift back in 1914 as the average hourly wage was .22 cents per hour or \$2.04 dollars per day.)



William & Mary Cavanagh's 25th Wedding Anniversary photograph with children



Guests at the Silver Anniversary Party



Today Restored – Original house ca 1889



Barn today

The Descendants of Patrick Cavanaugh and Mary Ryan

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1914 Newspaper Article

Rosemary Cavanagh Harriott-4 has the chairs from the above-mentioned parlor set.

Website

The Plymouth Historical Society website is:

www.plymouthmnhistoricalsociety.com

Check us out!

Note: All past newsletters dating back to 1986 are available on-line in PDF format for viewing or printing.

Donations

Donated by: Questors Club:

- \$50

Donated by: Dist 284 PTA:

- \$200



Meetings

The Museum is also open the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in the afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 PM during the Spring, Summer and Fall.

The monthly business meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth Historical Society Building, located at 3605 Fernbrook Lane North, Plymouth, MN.

Open by special appointment in January, February & March.

Current Officers

The following are the present officers:

President	Dennis Jacobson	763-972-0988
Vice President	Kay Bertrand,	763-249-0138
Secretary	Betty Jacobson	763-972-0988
Treasurer	Gary Schiebe	763-473-4889



Mailing and Membership List

If you are not a member and want to sign up or if you have any questions, please call: Kay Bertrand, 763-249-0138.

The 2015 annual dues are:

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Individual Lifetime	\$100.00
Family Lifetime	\$150.00

If you would like the newsletter delivered via E-mail please notify Kay Bertrand or send an e-mail to: info@plymouthmnhistoricalsociety.com

If you do, it is a plus for both of us. When you receive via e-mail it will be in color. When sent by mail it is in black and white and costs PHS about \$2.00 per copy to print and mail.



PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.plymouthmnhistoricalsociety.com

Dear Member:

This is a reminder that you're **2016 Annual PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY Dues** are payable starting in January 2016 unless you are a Life Time member.

We hope you enjoyed the events and newsletters of our Society during the past year, and we thank you in advance for your continued membership and participation.

Please tear off the lower part of this sheet and send it with your check in the enclosed envelope. If you itemize deductions on your income tax forms, you may qualify for a deduction.

Yours truly,

Kay Bertrand
1154 Black Oaks Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-249-0138

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Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-Mail _____

I am interested in helping with:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Cataloging | <input type="checkbox"/> | Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Collecting Art-facts | <input type="checkbox"/> | Programs for meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Interviews for oral history | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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