



PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 1983

PRESIDENT'S CORNER by: Steve Zinnel

This is the second issue of the Plymouth Historical Society's Newsletter and the first one that we've mailed out to members and prospective members. It's a necessary communication vehicle that shows how far the Historical Society has grown since it's founding in 1975. We hope this Newsletter will pique your interest enough to make you want to join us at our monthly meetings. (dates are listed elsewhere in this Newsletter).

If you are not aware of where the Plymouth Historical Society is located, I have some directions for you. The building you see pictured at the top of this Newsletter is the home of the Plymouth Historical Society and is located at 3605 Fernbrook Lane North. Fernbrook Lane runs north and south and intersects Hwy. 55 just west of 494. Turning north off of Hwy. 55 onto Fernbrook you go approximately 6 blocks and on your left you will find Plymouth's original Town Hall built in 1885 and now the home of the Historical Society.

To date we have been "open to the public" one evening a month; the 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at which time we conduct our monthly meeting. Our goal is to expand our "Open Houses" this next year to allow the citizens of Plymouth more opportunities to visit their past. The first such "Open House" will be Sunday, Oct. 9th from 1 to 5 p.m.

We have set our objectives for the next 12 months and they are as follows:

1. EXTERIOR LANDSCAPING

- a.) A high priority in 1983 will be to complete the exterior landscaping. This would include grading, black dirt fill, sod and crushed rock where appropriate.
- b.) Arrange for the regular maintenance of the grounds. This would include spraying, fertilizing and regular cutting of the grass.

2. EXTERIOR SIGNAGE

Work with the City of Plymouth Staff to determine appropriate signage to create public awareness of the original Town Hall and the Plymouth Historical Society's roll in preserving and displaying it.

3. OPEN HOUSES

- a.) Hold a Fall Harvest Festival at the Historical Society building.
- b.) Establish regular open house hours to allow the citizens of Plymouth opportunities to visit their past.

4. HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

- a.) Inventory the historical buildings in Plymouth that should be preserved.
- b.) Develop a presentation plan for these historical buildings.

5. EXPANDED MEMBERSHIP

- a.) Conduct a membership drive to expand membership.
- b.) Complete a membership directory.
- c.) Publish a quarterly newsletter to communicate what the Historical Society is doing and when it meets.

6. SPEAKERS PROGRAM

- a.) Schedule a program at 4 regular monthly meetings that would feature a speaker on a relevant historical topic.
- b.) Develop a speakers bureau that would provide presentations throughout the community on the history of Plymouth. Develop a slide presentation as part of this program.

** We hope you will consider joining **
** us at one of our next meetings ! **

COMMEMORATIVE MUGS

The commemorative mug that the Plymouth Historical Society is offering is one of the few souvenirs you can acquire that promotes the community of Plymouth. It is available at all Plymouth banks, City Hall and selected retail stores in Plymouth. This mug would make an excellent gift to that out of town visitor.

To date we have sold over 250 mugs and we just received our first large order from Northwestern Bell Telephone Company located in Plymouth, which has ordered 210 mugs.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues for the Plymouth Historical Society are \$5.00 for individuals and \$7.50 for family membership. If you were a member at one time and have not recently paid a renewal due, please mail your check to: The Plymouth Historical Society - City Center 3400 Plymouth Blvd., Plymouth, Mn. 55447. For further information please call 559-5632.

SEPTEMBER 28th MEETING

Our next monthly meeting is Wednesday September 28th at 7:30 p.m. The program features a 25 minute film entitled "When We Farmed With Horses". This film is produced by the Iowa State University Research Fund and was obtained through the Minnesota Historical Society. With Plymouths agricultural background this film should be of particular interest.

One of the rewarding aspects of attending our meetings is the opportunity after the meetings to have coffee and cookies and visit with some of our members who grew up in Plymouth. No doubt this film will spark some real stories of farming with horses in Plymouth.

HISTORICAL NOTES - from "History of St. Joseph's" Parish

St. Joseph's Parish is located at the southwest intersection of Co. Rd.#9 and West Medicine Lk. Rd. and is 106 years old. The first Mass was celebrated in 1856 in the log cabin of Eustache Francois Boucher by the newly ordained Father Francis Hurth.

The first log chapel was built in 1858 and stood a few yards west of the present church. Construction on the present frame church was begun in 1876. The 36' X 80' structure was built almost completely by donated labor at a cost of \$2,600.00 including the bell in the steeple.

Mrs. Catherine Ernst, who was 97 yrs. old in 1977, recalled: "My father C. Adam Milbert hauled quarry stone from No. Mpls. along the Mississippi river with oxen team and wagon for the foundation of this church. It seems that the farmers of Plymouth would set out early in the morning, their carts loaded with vegetables for the Mpls. Market and return late at night their carts filled with the "foundation" of their new church."

BIRTHS - PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP * SEPT. 1883

<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Parents</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
9-10-1883	Matilda Heidelberger	Switz & MO.	
9-17-1883	Clemont Neuman	Prussia	
9-02-1883	Willie Winnen	Prus. & Switz	
9-24-1883	William Frick	MN.	



MEETING SCHEDULE: Public Welcome!!!

- September 28, 1983 Mo. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- October 9, 1983 Open House 1 - 5 p.m.
- October 26, 1983 Mo. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- November 23, 1983 Mo. Meeting 7:30 p.m.