



PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

April 1987

Volume IV

Number I

OPEN HOUSE / ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 26

Sunday April 26, is the date set for the Annual Meeting of Plymouth Historical Society and the Museum will also be open to all from 2 - 5 pm. Program for the day will be "Plymouth's History As Told Through Its Vernacular Architecture". Learn about a "corn-belt cube", the last remaining smokehouse, hear tales of olden days.

Alice Mellen and Bea Jordan will report on their work for the Historical Buildings Survey in which they visited almost every structure believed to have been built in Plymouth before 1900, photographed most, and interviewed many older residents.

The program will begin at 3:30, preceded by a short message by the President and election of board members.

Incumbent Board members seeking re-election are Margaret Faue, Edith Hopperstad, Jack Malmstedt, Harvey Schiebe, Joyce MacCaughey, Virginia Ohman. Seeking election for the first time are Mrytle Eckes, Mike Roberts, Gary Schiebe.

Regular Board meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Old Town Hall at 7:30 and are open to the public.

NEW BUILDING COMING SOON

The long-awaited storage building for Plymouth Historical Society hopefully will starting to take shape soon; plans will also be on display at the Open House. As soon as the city completes a new survey and we can get approval of the Planning Board (as well as warmer weather), construction can begin on the 24 x 36 1-story building.

Similar to a carriage barn, the building will have 2 large doors, wood siding and "shake" style shingles.

Initially to be used as a much needed storage building for the Society's growing collection of artifacts, the space will eventually be used for display of farm implements and other outdoor items.

Several bids have been received for construction; Vern Peterson has agreed to chair the building committee and is working with the City. He is looking for others to work with him as "sand shovelers, carpenters, sandwich makers (to feed the hungry crews) and other helpers". Contact Vern if you can assist (559-2317).

Donations to help defray cost of the building are welcome, and you may send your tax deductible contributions to Harvey Schiebe c/o the Society.

A dedication ceremony is being planned for fall, and with the building's completion, the Society will once again be able to have its annual fund raising rummage sale.

NEEDED - NEEDED - NEEDED - NEEDED

New or used fireproof file cabinet , preferrably legal size, 4 drawer. If you would be willing to donate a cabinet, or knew where one could be purchased inexpensively, please contact Harvey Schiebe (545-6127).

Volunteer photographer to record artifacts in the Museum on black & white film. Hours can be arranged over the spring and summer, and material costs will be reimbursed. Also contact Edith Hopperstad (473-3427) if you can help with this project.

Pictures or information on the old bridge over the Luce Line at Niagara Lane (near the Workhouse) and the old Parker's Lake Dance Hall on the south side of the lake. Vern Peterson and Edith Hopperstad are most interested in gathering materials on these important parts of Plymouth's history.

Each of the items displayed in the Museum has a tag attached, listing the donor and a number. This is part of an extensive (but not complicated) cataloguing system used by the Society to identify each item acquired. All items received before January 1987 have been catalogued, a process called accessioning.

Edith Hopperstad served as cataloguer (assessioner) for many years and needs to share the duties with someone else so she may retire. She has an able committee to assist in identification, marking each item with accession number, and making of donor tags.

If you have skills in record keeping and research and some spare time to donate to the Society, please call Edith (473-3427) for more details.

LEARN OF PLYMOUTH'S PAST AT HOME ON YOUR OWN VCR

Vern Peterson has been video taping some of the older buildings and farm sites around Plymouth, often just before demolition! Some of these include the McCormick place (formerly on County 47 at I-494), the "Workhouse" farm buildings, and others.

A thumbnail sketch of Plymouth's history as narrated by the late Mark Eckes is also available to borrow.

Contact Vern Peterson (559-2317) about borrowing the tapes, or a showing to a group.

COMMEMORATIVE MUGS FOR SALE

Originally issued to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Town Hall, the mugs are still available as a memento of the town's long history. Mugs feature images of the Old Town Hall as it was in 1885 and the New City Hall. They are on sale at the Museum, City Hall, Schiebe's Hardware and and Museum Open House; a \$5 contribution is asked.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A NEW MEMBER, THIS IS THE TIME!

IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR ANNUAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP
IT IS DUE NOW!

As a member of the society you are aiding the financial support necessary to keep up the Society's ongoing programs. These include operation of the museum, processing acquisitions, library materials, oral history programs, slide show presentations, newsletter. If you have any questions about membership, call Jack Malmstedt, Membership Chairman, at 473-4493. You may bring the handy membership form with you to the Open House April 26 or mail it to Jack.

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT and MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please enroll me as a member of the Plymouth Historical Society. My check (or cash) in the amount indicated below as dues for the year (or life membership) is enclosed. Annual Dues expire March 1.

\$5.00 Individual Annual Membership
\$7.50 Family Annual Membership
\$100.00 Life Membership

Name

Phone

Address

City & Zip

I am interested in helping the Plymouth Historical Society with the following projects:

Please contact me.

Please complete and return this form to

Jack Malmstedt
15 Niagara Lane
Plymouth, MN 55441

If you have any other comments or questions about the Plymouth Historical Society, please write them below and return with your membership form. Thank you.

NEW FLAGPOLE

A new 20' aluminum pole now graces the front lawn of the Museum in honor of the late Mark Eckes, thanks to the efforts of Harvey Schiebe, Vern Peterson, and others.

The old one, donated by long time members Jack and Mary Malmstedt, had been victimized by unknown attackers some months ago.

The flag is flown for open houses and special meetings.

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DUES DUE NOW!

A reminder that it is time to renew your membership in the Society if you haven't already done so. Just \$5.00 individual, \$7.50 family or \$100 lifetime helps the Society catalog its donations and purchase other equipment.

Please send your dues to Jack Malmstedt, 15 Niagara Lane, Plymouth, 55441, not the City Hall address, as mail is not picked up as regularly as could be.

Thanks for your help.

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WE'RE EXPECTING...

Hopefully by the end of this year, the Society will have an additional structure for storage for many more of its possessions.

Plans are underway to construct a 24 x 36 foot garage-type building; a committee of Bea Jordan, Vern Peterson, and Harvey Schiebe are presently meeting with City officials, and a final decision should be made soon as to exact location (behind the Museum) and style.

Watch for news of a ground-breaking ceremony. Donations are most welcome to help offset the costs involved.

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This newsletter is published by the Plymouth Historical Society. Comments and contributions may be sent to its editor, Alice Mellen, 17315 24th Ave No, Plymouth, 55447.