

Inside this issue...

- Gold mine owner coming to town
- Thomas Edison invention smashed to ground in Wayzata
- Hey buddy, have ya got a (historic) chair?
- Keith Waters let it flow
- Elves turn night into warm light



Wayzata Historical Society at the Depot

402 East Lake Street
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wayzata, MN
Permit No. 58

January Program will be a smash hit with PRO STORY TELLER, BOB GASCH

THURSDAY, 7:00 pm • JANUARY 9, 2003 • MERIDIAN MANOR

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS ON SALE NOW

I wish to make a tax-deductible contribution

of \$_____ to support the following activity(ies), check one or more boxes;

- The 2004 Time Line
- The Archives Project
- Web Page Production/Updates
- Restoration of the Depot Station Agents Office
- Other general projects

I have photos to donate or be reproduced by the Society Historical Society Membership Application

(WHS use only. mbsp. # _____ Vol.____)

Membership-is tax deductible

Date: _____

Name/s:(please print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

e-mail address _____

Categories of Membership

- Annual individual.....\$25.
- Senior\$15.
- Family\$45.
- Business\$50.

New membership Renewal

Send check to;

WAYZATA HISTORICAL SOCIETY at the Depot, 402 Lake St., Wayzata, MN 55391 (952) 473-3631

Answers to October's Wayzata Historical Quiz



This is the oldest retail building on Lake Street. It has had only two tenants,

The first being the original user (and the continuation of that business) and the second is the present owner-user.

1. What year was it built? (1906)
2. What was the name of the first store to occupy it? (Pettitt Grocery)

3. Who was the owner who had it built? (H.V. Pettitt)

And the winner of the Wayzata History quiz is..... Egon Anderson. Way to go Egon! Hope you are on the mend, by the way.



Egon Anderson has won more historical contests because he's been around a long time and remembers stuff!

January's Wayzata Historical Quiz



The Gold Mine building at 332 Broadway is the oldest building in downtown Wayzata. It was built by then Postmaster Edwin Braden.

1. What year was it built?
2. What was its first use?

3. How many bay windows does it have?

Mail your entry to **Historical Contest** c/o Wayzata Historical Society, 402 East Lake Street, Wayzata, Minnesota 55391. Earliest, correct postmark wins.



Wayzata Historical Society Telegraph

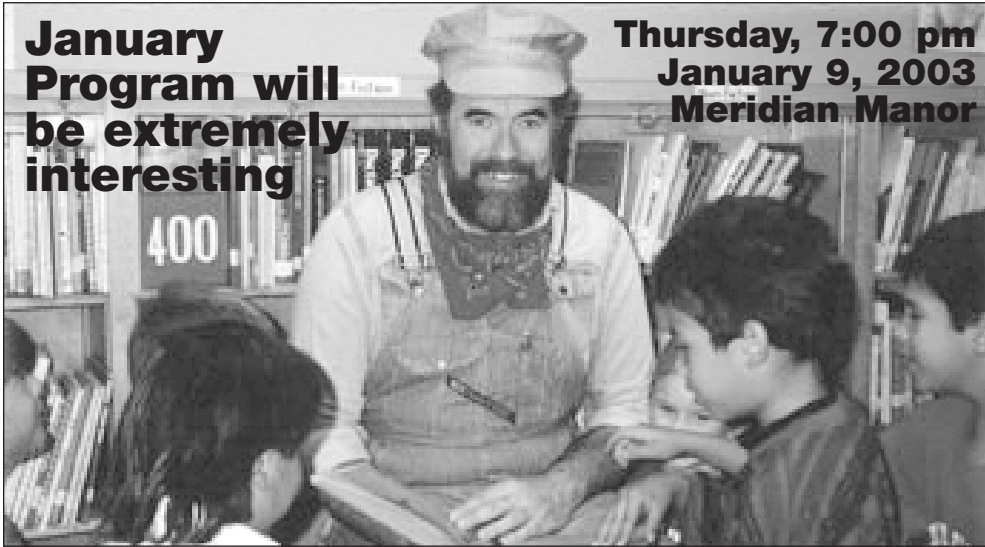
"Preserving Wayzata's past and present for future generations"

22nd Edition

Jan/Feb/Mar 2003

January Program will be extremely interesting

**Thursday, 7:00 pm
January 9, 2003
Meridian Manor**



Professional story teller Bob Gasch will tell about the "Wayzata Sizzler" and other wild tales

Bob Gasch grew up on Maxwell Bay. The alignment of the stars at his birth determined that he would someday be a great story teller. Come to this Program and be highly entertained by his knowledge of Lake history and delightful presentation skills. He is going to speak on many Wayzata happenings including the *Wayzata Sizzler* which was the first Wayzata winter carnival. He has a wealth of additional stories including the "Great Toboggan Slide story."



Bob Gasch, professional story teller

Bob has been associated with the Pioneer Museum in Long Lake most of his adult life. He is an historian and presenter of history,

particularly to school groups who visit the museum. Bob has traveled widely in his story telling trade. Since 1971, Bob has performed at schools, churches, scouting groups and libraries from Alaska, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Colorado to Northern Ireland. His mission is to help people to become more aware of and become interested in history, reading, writing and storytelling. His bio reads like Who's Who. For more information search

www.gaschstoies-puppets.com. And if you see Bob at the coffee table ask him about owning a gold mine!

Wayzata City Council Votes for Eastman Lane Renaming

by Ace Reporter Charlie Schoen

Last summer the Historical Society voted to ask the City Council to change the name of County Road 16 East to Eastman Lane, to honor the only family having lived on one Wayzata land parcel for over 100 years. The **Eastman family** is also the donor of the largest piece of land ever given the City, all the wetlands just east of the Village Shops. The renaming resolution was passed by the Council on November 6, after former

President of the Historical Society **Dave McGill** made our presentation to the City Council. Look for the street, running from Shady Lane to Bushaway Road, to have new signs next spring. We'll advise you of the signage change time and date so that the Society can be represented at the ceremony, which also marks one of our successful efforts to preserve Wayzata's past for future generations.

Thomas A. Edison Wayzata home smashed down

You'll remember the small pre-cast concrete house featured in the last issue of the newsletter...sadly it was razed a few days ago. The demolition marks the end of Wayzata's only cast concrete home--a patented housing concept developed by inventor **Thomas Edison**. The all-concrete suburban cottage was built in 1905 and located at 224 Walker. It was the only pre-cast concrete house found within city limits. It was very unique and a rare house in the Midwest. And it was the only pre-cast concrete house of that very historic design in simulated stone.



Back Home

This late 19th century solid walnut roll top desk, with burl inlays, was recently donated to the Wayzata Historical Society by **Stanley Gregory**. The desk is rumored to have been owned and used by James J. Hill, the railroad baron. For many years the desk was used in the stationmasters office, until 1971 when Great Northern Railroad shut down the office. The desk was then given to Wayzata stationmaster Bill O'Loughlin. O'Loughlin sold the desk to William Gregory. Stanley is William's wife. (WHS thanks Jean Krogness and Barbara Michael of the Gold Mine for their no-charge appraisal of the desk).





Historical Society Calendars on sale now

Load up on easy gift ideas for out-of-town or in-town friends and family. Calendar photos and text covers Wayzata history from 1850 to 1900. It is jam-packed with accurate and interesting information. 2003 Calendar is \$15. If you order ten you get the 11th free, order 20 and get two free. Send check to Wayzata Historical Society, 402 East Lake Street, Wayzata, MN 55391. We'll mail them to you or drop ship them for you at \$5.00 (cost for one or 20)

WHERE TO BUY CALENDARS

These retailers and business people have Wayzata Historical Society 2003 Calendars. Thank them for helping the Historical Society.

Androli Salons-Wayzata Bay Center

Black's Ford-862 E. Lake St.

The Bookcase-607 E. Lake St.

Card Party-856 E. Lake St.

Coldwell Banker Burnet Distinctive Homes, Ellen DeHaven-201 E. Lake St.

Judd Frost Clothiers-across from Five

Special People Gone But Not Forgotten

by Jane Shanard

Marjorie Ott Weber, 81, Wayzata, on Oct. 3, 2002. She was a longtime member of the Wayzata Historical Society. Her husband, Fritz, is a past WHS president. She worked for the Wayzata and Hopkins School Districts and as a secretary to the senior minister at Wayzata Community Church.

Elinor Watson Bell, 91, Wayzata, on Oct. 11, 2002. Music was her primary focus through her involvement with the Minnesota Orchestral Association, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and the MacPhail Center for the Arts. She established the Belford Series giving non-profit organizations the opportunity to invite

Swans, Wayzata

The Foursome Clothing and Shoes-
Wayzata Bay Center

Lake Business Supply-opposite Wayzata
Post Office

Letter Perfect-Deephaven

Wolf's Pharmacy-1310 E. Wayzata Blvd.

(Additional calendars can be obtained from Society volunteer Jennifer Garrity 952-476-9647 and her three children, while calendars last.)

They volunteered their time to create calendar

Thanks to the following who gave their time and talent to make the calendar a reality: **Julie Schaefer, Patricia Anderson, Merrily Borg Babcock, John Brooks, Linda Herkenhoff, Joanie Holst, John and Therese Lebens, Jayne Marion, Ken Searl, Jennifer Garrity and Scott Tripps.**

Keith Waters and others sponsored the calendar

The production of a special calendar is expensive. It exists because these companies contributed money and or time. Thanks to our special sponsor, **Keith Waters** of Keith Waters & Associates, and to **Applied Graphics, Little Advertising, Allegra Print & Imaging, Risdall Linnihan Advertising,** and the **City of Wayzata.**

Historic photo postcards as Christmas gifts

Eight different **historic photo postcards** have been produced by the Society. They are available from friendly retail stores in Wayzata-many stores also have the calendars. These stores are served by our volunteer, Lloyd (Ole) Bergman (952-473-4748). Contact Ole for purchase or resupply.

donors and prospects to her home to learn more about the organization and to seek support. Prior to her death she gave a gift to WHS to help in the restoration of the Wayzata Depot.

Mary Collender Eide, 71, Wayzata, on Sept. 11, 2002. She was a member of the Wayzata Historical Society with a passion to preserve Wayzata. Memorials directed to WHS have been placed in escrow for the Cenacle/Big Woods Fund. Donated gifts will be redirected to other causes if saving the Cenacle property is unsuccessful. Mary was an Interfaith Outreach volunteer and a founder of the Head Start program.

President's Column

by Merrily
Borg Babcock



PEOPLE WHO HELP THE SOCIETY, WE THANK PUBLICLY

We want to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their thoughtfulness and extreme generosity for recent gifts and donations to WHS. Without their kindness the historical society would certainly struggle....so heartfelt thanks to: **Mrs. Stanley Gregory** who generously donated/returned the J. J. Hill Barrel Desk used in Depot until 1971. **C. William Briggs** train buff, for the O Gage Model Passenger Train, a 1896 framed map of Lake Minnetonka and two portraits of *Spider* and *Middle Rider* (two Blackfeet Indians - these portraits were used for publicity by the Great Northern Railway). Also donated was a picture of a Treaty Signing Ceremony, 1964 newspaper clipping of *William Crooks train wreck* at the St. Paul Station and Timetables by **Douglas Hodgdon, Madelyn Frick Paine** sent us some mid 1950's snapshots of the evolution of the city hall from its burnt core after the fire on Lake Street to the ground breaking on Rice and Broadway. **Avery Merriman** sent in some good research on transportation for 2004 timeline.

Charlotte and Richard Buratto allowed us to reproduce some old photographs; "*Swimmers on Wayzata dock*" circa 1900, "*Lake Street, Wayzata between Walker and Mika*" circa 1950 and "*Lake Street, Wayzata between Broadway and Walker*" circa 1950. **Harold Doepke** turned over a batch of newspaper clippings about Wayzata's schools. **Jean Mitchell** turned in a copy of 'Woodman's Minnetonka Map-Directory from 1908 and **Gert Moritz** gave a special edition of the *Minnetonka Herald* and a Wayzata Centennial souvenir booklet. Thanks to **Marvel Sandren** for Wayzata Centennial photos and news clippings and **Teta Fazendin** for 1958 photo for St. Bart's play. **Dave and Wanda Griep** for A. Thomas Frick book-*Memories*. Long time area resident **Polly Patch** has given the society an 1857 copy of James Buchanan's signed '*Register of Land*' document and has written a fascinating early family synopsis of **Amasa Richards** for our records... And finally we thank the extremely kind financial donations by;

The Groves Foundation, annual operation gift
Peter M. Rogers, for his Extended Life Membership gift

**J. Kimball and Helen Whitney
Ellen and Frederick Wells**

Keith Waters and Associates, Inc. for his support of the 2003 calendar.

Jack and Cheryl Amdal plus **Dorothy Prosch** are some of the many who made contributions to the Marjorie O. Weber memorial.



Wayzata Historical Society Archive Committee--
Front, left to right-Mary Ellen Gee, Marilyn
Setzler, Christine Meyer. Standing, left to right-
Terry Middlekauff and Kathie Doerr

Archives Committee Report

by Kathie Doerr, Chair-
kadedoe@earthlink.net

A drop in attendance at the Depot has been noted since the Streetcar boat Minnehaha was put up for the winter. Sales and donations however, have not decreased. Those who do come seem more focused on the station as a destination and stay longer. We hope that high school and college students may want to use the archives for school history projects.

An increasing number of people are making donations of vintage items and train oriented items. We are very enthusiastic about this but we must be quite selective because the Depot has limited space.

Archival digital scanning software has been ordered, although we already can print simple reproductions. Slide shows can be created now too. Cost of reproducing photographs will be \$10.00.

We are in constant need of old photographs from the community to expand our collection. If you could take the time to pour through those hand-me-down old boxes and albums, this committee will be elated.

In the past newsletter we issued a request to the public to visit the Depot in October to identify old photos. I am happy to report the response was tremendous-37 community members came on Saturday and 36 attended on Sunday.

Station Master **Terry Middlekauff** reports the Depot will be closed January, through March. He and Co-Station Master **John Lebens** would like to find a third Station Master so they can rotate weekends next year.

The Historical Society will have about 1300 square feet in the new library building. It will be climate controlled for original photographs, maps, newspaper clippings, and books, freeing up Depot space of existing safe and file cabinets.

Old photographs continue to be "sleeved," and put on disc. Newspaper clipping files will be the next phase of archiving. We are pleased to announce new archives member, **Barbara Thompson**. And we are sad to lose **Marilyn Setzler's** work on this committee-she moved back to Iowa.

WANTED!

Now that we have the wonderful original stationmaster's desk situated in the depot, it needs a **chair**. Also, the "train guys" would like an **old telephone** for the desk. Their preference is the tall kind with a removable hearing piece that fits on a hook or cradle and a mouthpiece on a stand. Please leave a message at the WHS office at 952/473-3631 if you can help.



HOLLY SCHNAPP PHOTOGRAPHY

Decorating Elves get the nod

Thank you Depot Decorating crew; **Joanie Holst**, Christmas Captain, assisted by the following elves: **Pat Anderson, Merrily Babcock, Sue Bangert, Kathie Doerr, Nancy Drake, Jennifer Garrity, Jayne Marion, Carol A. Raschke** with grandson **Johnny Palmer, Julie Schaefer, Katie Searl, Tom & Cristen Shaver** (and her mom and sister), **Susan Sorrentino, Kelly Wirtz** with **Lauren and Samantha Wirtz** and **Dennis Schaefer**. **Terry the Depot Agent** did a creditable job of decorating the station master's office. **Candlelight Floral** donated several GORGEOUS poinsettias.

Your help preparing the Wayzata Depot for the holidays is much appreciated. We had more than 30 visitors the first weekend who were wowed by the decor. It really warms the Depot. Again this year, rail fans will send a "toy" electric train zipping around the Christmas tree. Please stop in with your family. **The Depot will be open weekend afternoons through New Years, then closed until April.**

James J. Hill Days Review

by Jayne Marion, Realtor, and
James. J. Hill Days WHS booth coordinator

The annual membership drive during James J. Hill Days proved to be a great success once again. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out and stayed in the 90 degree heat to solicit memberships and sell Historical Society memorabilia. We had two locations this year...one in front of Caribou Coffee (and people were still drinking coffee!) and at the Depot (nice air conditioned stop)! We enrolled 85 members and of those 26 were new to the society. We sold \$661 worth of merchandise! And we gained several new volunteers for our various committees.

The following volunteers helped during the 2 days: **Kim Gharity, John Brooks, Julie Schaefer, Eunice and Dick Golfis, Joanie Holst, Julia Petersen, Carol Raske, Jayne and Greg Marion, Therese and John Lebens, Nancy Drake, Katie and Ken Searl, Egon Anderson, Norma Goodmanson, Dave McGill, Merrily Babcock, Mike Babcock and Terry Middlekauff.**

Review of October Program



The October program featuring Historic Survey of Wayzata properties was presented at the Meridian Manor.

Historic Preservationist, Robert Vogel handled the subject matter ably.



Allen Olsen, Minnesota State Forester-Metro, made comments from a state perspective

regarding the excellent condition of the Cenacle Big Woods as being one of the best 'urban forests' he has seen!

— Photos by Sue Vnoucek

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Sue Vnoucek has supplied the Society Newsletter with quality photos over the past couple of years. The above photos on the October program are hers. Husband, Steve Vnoucek has contributed his photographic and writing skills as well.

