

Our Times: Lake City in History

“Preserving Yesterday’s Memories for Tomorrow”

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PRESIDENT’S CORNER

BY ELOISE BLATTNER

Memories are great. The older we get the more we find ourselves thinking about “the good old days” of our childhood—playing with friends, car rides on weekends to visit relatives, birthday parties, neighborhood ball games, playing “ante, ante over” the garage roof. And, of course, the memories of our school days.

One of my favorite subjects was music. Our teacher was Miss Hulterstrom, who we now know as our Historical Society colleague Shirley Luettinger. Look on page 5 for her memories as well as other recollections of their (mostly) fond days attending Washington Elementary.

On May 30 LCHS Secretary Don Schwartz led a walking tour of historic homes that line both sides of South Oak Street. I was part of the group of some 15 people who participated in the inaugural program. Plans are being made for future guided tours. A tri-fold brochure was created as a hand-out for tour participants. To facilitate self-guided tours, we’re making the brochure information available on page 3.

On behalf of the LCHS, I want to express our appreciation to Sharon Nelson of Red Wing for placing in our hands a complete record of Lake City businesses from the earliest days through 1940. (See page 4.)

“For some reason,” she wrote, “it has become a passion of mine to try and figure out city histories and put them in order according to years. It is the same as putting a jig saw puzzle together—and Lake City was a very difficult puzzle.”

Posterity will be the beneficiary of her many hours of meticulous attention to local history. We are pleased to confer upon her the status of Honorary Lifetime Member.

Descendant of Rahilly, McCahill Families Honors LCHS with Gift

A year earlier, Charles (Chuck) Denny, Jr., of Minneapolis met with members of the Lake City Historical Society to discuss a donation to the organization centering on a valuable pocket watch purchased originally in 1913 by his great-grandfather, Patrick H. Rahilly. On April 26 of this year, at a luncheon gathering held at the home of LCHS Treasurer Georgene Arndt, Denny reported that the watch had been sold in Hong Kong through the Sotheby’s auction house, and he presented a check for more than \$23,000 to LCHS President Eloise Blattner.

Denny’s act of philanthropy is in keeping with generosities bestowed by his forebears on local people and institutions for more than a century. Patrick H. Rahilly once spent \$200,000 in legal fees trying to force owners of a failed warehouse to repay area farmers for grain they had lost. He never sought repayment. The McCahill side (his grandfather was a McCahill) is remembered from gifts that supported, among other things, a Catholic school, ballfield and play park.

Penniless when he arrived in America from Ireland with his family at age 16, Rahilly found his way to Rochester when he was 22, and in six years of work had saved enough to buy 160 acres of Mt. Pleasant farm land, eventually (Continued on Page 2)

On behalf of the Lake City Historical Society, Eloise Blattner, president, accepted a check for \$23,398.45 from Charles (Chuck) Denny, Jr.



LCHS Receives \$23,000 Gift

(Continued from Page 1)

expanding the operation to 1600 acres. As he prospered, he extended his energies to church and civic affairs. In 1925, Pope Pius made him a knight in the Order of St. Gregory. He served in both houses of the state legislature, two terms in each, and for half a century, according to one eulogist at Rahilly's death in Lake



Patrick H. Rahilly

City at 98, "he filled the pages of Minnesota history with a choice collection of adjectives concerning the shortcomings of railroads and politicians."

In his coverage of Denny's gift to the LCHS in the June 9 *Lake City Graphic*, staff writer Andrew Eggenberger reported:

"One day [Denny] was in the area and decided to knock on the door of his grandfather's former home at 304 S. Oak Street. He remembers a very gracious welcome from owner Gilda Kay, who has since allowed him and other family members to tour the home.

"It was through Kay that he met two of her neighbors, Georgene Arndt and Don Schwartz of the Lake City Historical Society. Denny made a presentation on McCahill and Rahilly family history to the society and donated copies of family history books he created.

"Everybody at the society has been just as kind and gracious to me as they could possibly be and I much appreciate that," Denny said."

Denny placed no constraints on how the donation should be used. LCHS President Blattner said no firm decisions have been made, but the Society plans to move forward in the near future on two more DVDs on local history, a follow-up to the first "Famous Names of Lake City" and a first-ever documentary on Ralph Samuelson and the invention of water skiing. "We can't underwrite the entire cost," she explained, "but we can provide seed money and look to local businesses and industry to invest in the projects as sponsors."



Text of Check Transmittal Letter

It is my pleasure to present the Lake City Historical Society a check in the amount of \$23,398.45 representing the sale of my great-grandfather's Patek Philippe pocket watch at Sotheby's auction.

[Detailed description of watch, case, fob and chain.]

This watch was owned by my great-grandfather, Patrick Henry Rahilly, an early and long time resident of Lake City. Born in the Parish of Killaloe, Ireland, in 1832, he died in Lake City in 1931 (three days after my birth). The watch was made in 1912, and purchased by Patrick H. Rahilly in 1913.

The watch was passed down to me by one of his grandchildren. It seems appropriate to me that the watch, now monetized, be returned to its original home.

[Signed] Charles M. Denny, Jr., Great-grandson of Patrick Henry Rahilly

Water Ski Days Program

Documentary filmmaker Ben Threinen of Lake City will be at the Lake City Public Library on Saturday during Water Ski Days to show DVDs he has produced on local history. Three are approximately 40 minutes each, including:

THE SEA WING DISASTER on Lake Pepin off Central Point which took 98 lives, the majority from Red Wing, on July 13, 1890. A storm overturned the vessel as it was returning upriver after delivering some 200 passengers to a Sunday afternoon outing at the National Guard encampment at Camp Lakeview just south of town. (Showings at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.)

LAKE CITY AND THE SEA WING, a lecture by historian and author Fred Johnson, which focuses solely on Lake City's role as first-responder to the tragedy, a responsibility it assumed without hesitation although the Lake City downtown was ravaged itself by the storm that damaged 30 buildings and nearly demolished three. (Showings at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.)

FAMOUS NAMES OF LAKE CITY, featuring individuals who were instrumental in shaping the community from its earliest days, including Abner Dwelle, Oliver Francisco, George and Mary

Patton, Alice Grannis Murdoch, Nell Mabey and Ralph Samuelson. (Showing at 12 noon.)

To fill out the one-hour time slots, Threinen will show his 7-minute film on the clamming industry that was so vital to the Lake City economy during one period, and an 8-minute film on the proposed bike path between Lake City and Red Wing.

The Lake City Historical Society

Officers, 2015-2016

Eloise Blattner, President
Ben Threinen, Vice President
Don Schwartz, Secretary/Archivist
Georgene Arndt, Treasurer
Constance Anderson, Board Member
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Website: www.lakecityhistoricalsociety.org/

Sample Historic Homes with Walking Tour

On November 10, 2015, the Lake City City Council approved the designation of the South Oak Street Historic District as a Heritage Preservation Site.

Houses within the Historic District document the evolution of American domestic architecture in nine distinctive styles. The District is also closely identified with early pioneers who contributed to the physical and cultural development of Lake City.

This self-guided tour of home exteriors begins on the Center Street edge of Oak Street and proceeds down the

west side of Oak for four blocks to Lakewood Avenue, then back toward Center on the east side. Two homes with Marion Street addresses and one home on West Center are included.

In addition to the three styles pictured below (Neo-classical, Craftsman and Queen Anne, the tour includes examples of Italianate, Prairie, Homestead, Greek Revival, Foursquare and Gothic Revival. A Walking Tour brochure is available from the LCHS with photos illustrating each of the styles.

West Side

Presented by address, historic name, style, and year built:

204 Oak, Gates House, Italianate, 1870

208 Oak, Duerre House, Foursquare, 1910

220 Oak, Hanisch House, Greek Rev., 1864

315 Marion, Hoyt House, Prairie, 1912

304 Oak, Rahilly House, Neo-classical, 1863

310 Oak, Stout Cottage, Gothic Rev., 1872

318 Oak, Sinclair House, Queen Anne, 1885

404 Oak, McCall House, Italianate, 1866

410 Oak, Brettschneider House, Craftsman, 1923.

422 Oak, Tibbetts House, Greek Rev., 1866

506 Oak, Van Vliet House, Greek Rev., 1866

602 Oak, Clement House, Greek Rev., 1880

606 Oak, Gludt House, Foursquare, 1900

304 S Oak: Neo-Classical



410 S Oak: Craftsman



603 S Oak: Queen Anne



East Side

Presented by address, historic name, style, and year built:

621 Oak, Wallis House, Queen Anne, 1895

613 Oak, Rueckert House, Queen Anne, 1898

603 Oak, Neal House, Queen Anne, 1899

519 Oak, McRostie House, Homestead, 1890

515 Oak, Pierce House, Homestead, 1890

509 Oak, Snyder House, Homestead, 1880

501 Oak, Dilley House, Gothic Revival, 1885

409 Oak, Gillett House, Italianate, 1870

403 Oak, Foley House, Foursquare, 1900

319 Oak, Bowers House, Prairie, 1920

303 Oak, George Patton House, Greek Revival, 1872

205 W Marion, Hiram Patton House, Queen Anne, 1888

221 Oak, Gibbs House, Queen Anne, 1897

217 Oak, Kemp House, Queen Anne, 1898

Sharon Nelson Compiles Early Business History

In 2004, when she retired from Jostens (Diploma Division) in Red Wing after 30 years, Sharon Nelson looked around for a hobby. Never having been to the Goodhue County Historical Society in all the years she had lived in Red Wing, since 1949, she decided to pay the museum a visit. After looking through albums of Red Wing's early buildings and businesses, Sharon was fascinated and adopted this particular facet of local history as her hobby.

During the next four years she read through many of the early newspapers, researching businesses and copying ads. She organized an album, store by store, identifying who ran the store and when. Besides the early businesses, she kept notes on the fires that destroyed and damaged businesses, the shooting of two Red Wing police officers, and other news items she believed today's readers would find of interest.

Her book "Early Red Wing Businesses—Street by Street" was published in 2015. It is available for sale at the GCHS. Two other books she compiled were published earlier, "Red Wing's Early Neighborhood Groceries & Meat Markets" and "Frontenac Station, The Early Years." They can be purchased at the GCHS and Koplín's Village Market.



During a regular monthly meeting of the Lake City Historical Society, Sharon observed two members having a friendly disagreement about what early business was in a particular building. The conversation indicated that what she had done in Red Wing might be done in Lake City to capture and organize the community's early business history. She suggested as much, and LCHS members responded with an enthusiastic "yes."

Beginning last fall, Sharon made two trips a week to the Lake City library to sort through microfilm records of newspapers going back as far as 1861. "I was particularly interested in the livery stables, wagon and carriage shops, and also the harness shops," she said of the pre-automobile, pioneering era when farms were being carved out of the frontier at a rapid pace. Although peripheral to her focus on the business scene, she made notable events part of her preservation work as well, the great fire of 1882, for example, and the killing of a Lake City police officer in 1892 (see separate article on this page).

"It was fascinating how businesses changed hands constantly and how buildings were moved from place to place so easily," she commented. "Thirteen buildings were purchased from Wacouta and transported to become Lake City business locations." Today's Lake City Glass business at the corner of Washington and Chestnut is but one example, as she explains in a caption under a photo taken in 1938. "This is one of two buildings ... moved to Lake City from Wacouta, Minnesota, in 1864. This building was built in 1857 by George W. Bullard in Wacouta,

where it housed the Bullard Hotel. Wacouta was once a very small but growing community between Red Wing and Lake City. Eventually, the community began to dwindle and there was no need for the hotel. [It was] moved to Lake City on the ice during the winter months where it was then used as a general store, a creamery, a veterinarian office, and a print shop."

Sharon completed her project in May, true to the schedule she had laid out for herself, and at the May meeting of the LCHS she turned over five binders containing an estimated 480 pages of detailed information on each business location. She put each page of text into a plastic sleeve to accommodate advertisements and photographs she copied to illustrate the text. She also made the text content available in digital form on a flash drive. More than 700 hours of her time went into the project. In coming months, the LCHS will decide how to make her work more accessible to the general public.

As with her three previous history projects, Sharon presented the results as a gift to posterity, requesting no reimbursement for time or materials.

Marshal Fatally Shot On Lake City Street

On Tuesday morning about half-past eight, City Marshal Brad Rogers was fatally shot by a lunatic on the corner of Washington and Center streets.

The man who did the shooting was Danny Bush, son of Frank Bush, one of the most highly respected citizens in the town of Lake City. The young man had been confined in the insane asylum at Rochester for two years, and was released from that institution some three or four years since. Each season during the hot weather he has shown symptoms of insanity, but of so mild a form that no fears have been felt that he could become dangerous.

On Monday evening he went to the Opera House just before the concert began and walked about talking in a boisterous manner. Marshal Rogers was summoned and conducted him to the lock-up where he remained through the night. In the morning he appeared more rational and was released from custody.

About half-past eight he again began talking loudly upon the street near Dwelle Bros. store and Mr. Rogers went to him and was conducting him to lock-up. He walked along until he passed the Republican [newspaper] office when he suddenly turned and started back to the corner. When opposite the bank and Mr. Kemp's store, he managed to draw a revolver and began firing on the marshal. He fired three shots, but only one took effect, that being directly between the eyes and was fatal.

After the shooting, Bush walked up Center Street to Main [Lakeshore today] and turned onto Lyon Ave. and turned again on High Street and followed that to the corner of Center, where he stood at bay, a large number of men being in pursuit armed with weapons of various kinds. The lunatic had two pistols which he fired right and left at his pursuers. He started on the run up the street with a large amount of men in pursuit. When he reached Garden Street he sought refuge in the Catholic Church. Henry Dressen and a few men entered the church and overpowered him and conducted him to lock-up. He was committed to the county jail in Wabasha.

Marshal Rogers was taken to his home where he died a few hours later.—*The Republican*, July 30, 1892.

Memories of Washington Elementary

In 1872 the First Ward Washington School was constructed in the 300 block of Doughty Street for elementary pupils living on the north side of Lyon Avenue. It consisted of four rooms. The school took up a half block with the front facing Doughty and the sides North Garden and Oak. In 1924 an addition at the front provided four more classrooms and a basement gymnasium. The last school year was 1974-75, The building was later torn down and homes now occupy the space.

In our previous newsletter, when we featured the residential grocery stores that were so prevalent around Lake City into the early 1950s, author Eloise Blattner received enthusiastic responses to her request for recollections of those stores and the people who ran them. Below we record her memories and those of others who had personal associations with Washington Elementary.

Shirley Luettinger

I taught elementary school music for many years in both Washington and Jefferson Elementary School buildings. These classes were for children, kindergarten through 6th grade. Their music training included singing, note reading and singing in parts. The basics of music, such as note values, treble and bass clef work, and reading rhythms were included, as was learning about many different instruments, and songs from different countries and cultures. The focus was to encourage and increase the student's enjoyment of music.

At Christmas time, we would have carol sing-a-longs with the 4th, 5th and 6th graders sitting on the three large stairways. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders sat on the first floor surrounding the very large Christmas tree which was located in the center of the floor. The children really enjoyed those times singing there as the music seemed to echo through that old school. During these sing-a-longs, each class would have one new carol to present to the other classes. The students also would listen to records of other Christmas music and carols from other lands. Hopefully this experience helped the children gain an appreciation of the many different wonderful carols from around the world.

Phyllis Whempner Gilbert

When I was in kindergarten, my classmate Mike Finney was a reluctant attendee, and often didn't make it to class even though he lived just across the street. One day the teacher said, "Phyllis, go across the street and see if Mike is home." I looked through their screen door and called, "Is anybody home?" After a pause, a muffled "No" drifted down from some far corner of the house. I marched back to school and reported back that, "No, Mike isn't over there today." Somewhere down the line, Mike caught the learning fever and became a scholar and professor for the Wisconsin college system. Another Washington success story!

Eloise Sanborn Blattner

One of my most wonderful memories to this day was that in 5th grade my teacher's name was Eloise Mobley. What a joy to know another Eloise in Lake City! We were in a combination 4th and 5th grade. There were also full classes of 4th and 5th grades. There must have been a lot of students about the

same age because in 4th grade some of us were sent to Lincoln Grade School on the south side of town.

Miss Oberg taught multiplication and division to us in third grade. It was imperative that we practice the flash cards so we would do well when she handed out those dreaded papers full of problems to solve as fast as we could.

I'm not sure what grade it was when we learned to write in cursive. Whenever we had free time we were encouraged to practice getting our loops, curves and slants just right! It was helpful to have perfectly written alphabet cards arranged in a row above the black boards for us to look at and try to imitate. In the Historical Society's archives there are some valuable old documents that exhibit the beautiful handwriting of our forefathers. I feel sad that cursive is no longer taught.

Audrey Wise Sass

On George Washington's birthday the entire school would sit in the basement and celebrate his birthday and we enjoyed treats. Milk was delivered in bottles early every day and was just left sitting in the halls outside each classroom. It would be a while before each class had their morning snack and by then the milk was quite warm. I was unable to drink even cold milk so when I had to drink it warm I got sick. After a few times, the teacher quit making me drink it. Mary Gludt had a time with it also and she was excused, too. The school had at least one wrought iron fire escape from the second floor. When we reached 6th grade, we had two teachers instead of one. I think it was to prepare us for 7th grade. When we got to school, no matter what the weather, we stayed outside until the bell rang.

Judy Whempner Srnc

Unfortunately, my memories of Washington School aren't especially happy. I started kindergarten when I was 4, had a speech problem, and was extremely shy, which made for a lot of teasing. Each day, my mom would tie a scarf tightly under my chin and, hoping for the best, sent me off with my twin, Janet. Two minutes later I'd be back home, having thrown up in the alley. Mom would deposit me on the couch and serve me cocoa

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Washington Elementary, 1872-1975 (circa 1955)

Pearl Lookin' Good at One Hundred Fifty

Some buildings age better than others. "The Lake Pepin Pearl Button building in Lake City is aging very well," according to Don Schwartz, Lake City Historical Society's secretary.

The building which has been standing tall (two stories tall) since 1866--150 years--has a long and proud history. It was built by James C. Stout, a Wisconsin native, who came to Lake City with a dream and the determination to start a business. The building, the first in Lake City to be constructed of brick, was completed in 1866. According to local folklore, it housed some of the area's returning Civil War soldiers soon after the war and while the building was under construction.

The building's impressive facade is covered with more than 60,000 cream-colored bricks which Mr. Stout had shipped in from Chaska, MN. During the building's recent restoration, the hard to find and rare bricks cost \$11.00 per brick in order to replace the ones that were missing or broken.

The structure, known now as the Lake Pepin Pearl Button Company building, has been home to a myriad of different businesses over its long life. One of the most interesting periods was between 1916 and 1920 when 226 South Washington Street was engaged in producing "blanks" from clam and mussel shells that were then finished into buttons. These buttons were very fashionable around the world from 1910 to 1930. At one time, more than 400 Lake City residents were gainfully employed directly or indirectly in the clamming and blank-making business. However, the industry was short-lived because of over-fishing, pollution, world events and the advent of alternative material.

Once the clams were culled from Lake Pepin, the shells were offloaded and sent into the basement of the building through basement windows at the front of the building. The shells slid down chutes and into large concrete vats measuring 6 feet by 15 feet and almost 4 feet deep. The water-filled tubs helped clean the clams and keep them moist until ready for punching out the blanks. The rare pearl found within the clam was not used to make buttons as it had far greater value when sold to make jewelry.

The building's elevator transported equipment, shells and employees, serving all three floors. The elevator is a hand-pulley, rope system with massive counter weights and a wheel at the top of the shaft that measures five feet in diameter. The elevator passed its state inspection just a year ago and is still used to move large items. It remains one of the oldest hand-operated elevators still functioning today in the Midwest.

Before that, from 1907-1914, the building was used to make shirts by the Guiterman Shirt Factory. In the early 1920s the

building was used for a funeral home and casket-making company. At that time, the distinctly green and brown tin was installed on walls throughout the building. The natural aging process of the painted tin has left the interior walls with a unique and beautiful patina almost 100 years later. Between 1921-1927, the building was home to Herron Chevrolet. If one looks closely at the interior's framing and finishing work, one can see the outline of where the large doors were filled-in that once allowed the cars to pass in and out of the building.

In the 1930s the building was used as a hatchery for poultry. During the restoration in 2010, a delivery list was discovered which had been penciled on a window sill and read "12 chicks, 4 geese, 3 ducks" dated June 3, 1938. This was at the midpoint of the Great Depression, no doubt a factor in its closure that year.

It is a striking fact that the building was boarded-up from 1938 until 2010. It was essentially ignored (thus preserved) for 72 years. It wasn't until 2010 that the building was brought back to life and, oddly enough, somewhat to its original purpose as a "general store." In 2010 Lora Schwartz, Rene Lawson and Dave and Juleen Close purchased the building from the Wise family and took on the challenge of restoration. "It was not easy or cheap," said Rene Lawson when thinking back about all the work, planning and money that went into it.

The building was reopened for business in the second half of 2010 primarily as an antique store with approximately 25 dealers. "It was more than a labor of love," commented co-owner Schwartz. "We feel the restored building with its new business add significantly to Lake City's downtown. We hope others will be encouraged to follow suit." Lora went on to observe that, "The store is more eclectic now and, in addition to antiques, offers gifts, apparel, nautical items, a small museum and a coffee and sweets shop."

In late 2014 a new partnership was formed when Lawson and Schwartz were joined by Jodee Glenna, Suzie Spain, Sharon and John Hutchinson and Mary Jane

and Tom Rasmussen. The new partnership and the Lake City Historical Society have worked together to expand and preserve the building's storied history and integrity. The partners donate prominent space to the Lake City Historical Society and the Society displays samples of the clamming equipment used 100 years ago along with clam shells from which the button blanks were punched. In addition, there is a wide assortment of "pearl" buttons on display in different sizes and colors.

The Historical Society hired Ben Threinen, a local videographer, to make a 7-minute video which addresses the building, the clamming/button industry and local history. The video runs continuously, free for the watching. The museum space also of-

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The Pearl Button at 150

(Continued from Page 5)

fers for sale items produced by the Lake City Historical Society, including post cards, note cards, and decorative pieces affirming Lake City's certified claim as the "birthplace of water skiing."

The public is invited to visit the museum to learn more about the building's history, view its post-and-beam construction, observe its tin walls and inquire about many of the building's other fascinating features. The owners have a website at pearl-buttonco.com and a Facebook presence at Lake Pepin Pearl Button Co.

Washington School Memories

(Continued from Page 5)

an enabler. My report card shows I attended kindergarten one more day than I was absent. Hey! I bet I set a record! Yahooo, me. [There is irony here, as Judy became a kindergarten teacher.]

Mary Ellen Sanborn Miller

We started kindergarten when we were 4 and our teacher was Miss Podis, who taught us how to get along with others and how to spell our names. Nap time on a little rug wasn't my favorite thing to do. We played outside year around except when it rained. There was a low ceilinged basement where we played lots of fun games like "Do You Know the Muffin Man?" There was a cloakroom for each classroom where we hung our coats, ski pants and boots. Mr. Meyer was our janitor for many years and we really liked him.

Patty Wise McDonald

After 75 years, I still remember the gleaming hardwood floors and the scent of the wood oil polish inside Washington School. Kindergarten was all about play and coloring and learning to socialize. There was a sandbox on legs in the back of the room. First grade was when my life-long love of reading began—"See Dick, Jane and Spot." [Afternoons] our teacher would read a chapter each day from Winnie the Pooh. In second grade we constructed a post office out of a large cardboard box, painted it red, and took turns being Postmaster, delivering the letters we wrote in handwriting class to each other. In my scrapbook, I have a letter I wrote in May of 1942 in cursive penmanship in ink, to my best friend, Lucille Niebling (she came from a family of 19 children!). I wrote, "It is so hot today I feel like just wearing my pants." My scrapbook also preserves a report card which gives me a "C" in self-control.

There were 10 of us from that kindergarten class who graduated from Lincoln in 1952. Warm memories include sneakily licking the art class white paste that smelled like vanilla off our fingers. And beloved Valentine's Day parties, when we decorated a hat box from Woodward's, and every kid got valentines, often home-made, from classmates. I have saved one of those as well. During kindergarten, we participated in an all-school operetta performed on the stage at the high school. A group of us were dancing flowers; the costumes were blue and yellow crepe paper, and paper hats with green stems. We sang something about "Bluebells." Washington School building is gone, but not the memories!

First-Ever Samuelson Documentary Planned

The first documentary solely about Lake City's Ralph Samuelson, the inventor of water skiing, will enter the production phase in the next few weeks under the auspices of the Lake City Historical Society. Jeff Kuznia of Lake City, a frequent portrayer of Samuelson in local history programs over the past decade, will assume that role once again.

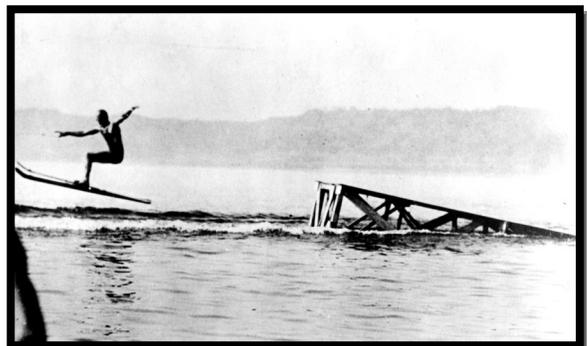
Local videographer Ben Threinen will film Kuznia at various stages of Samuelson's life, as a youth perfecting and popularizing the sport, and as an adult, when Samuelson confronted catastrophe as a turkey farmer and adversity in his personal circumstances.

Threinen will assemble the video, narration, and music track into a 30-40 minute production. Local companies and individuals will be invited to help underwrite the cost by becoming sponsors at one of several levels. The resulting DVD will be offered for sale.

Threinen already has several locally-based documentaries to his credit. "Famous Names of Lake City," a 40-minute production, describes the lives of several community pioneers, including Abner Dwelle and George and Mary Patton. He was contracted by the late Bill Webster to produce a 90-minute program on Old Frontenac, and recently put together a 7-minute look at the era when clamming and the button-making associated with it were prosperous local enterprises.



**Jeff Kuznia portrays Ralph Samuelson.
Below, a Samuelson demonstration, 1922.**



LCHS Membership (May, 2016)

* Designates Life Member (H) Designates Honorary LM

The Lake City Historical Society appreciates the support and encouragement of the members listed below. Annual dues support projects and programs that preserve local history for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations. See membership application form at right.

Marsha Alexander	Shirley Luettinger
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Ralph Lentz	Carol Warfel
Chad Lewis	Dave Wenzel
Susan Links	Terri Zessman
Cheryl Luettinger	

Please Join Us ...

... in our mission to preserve yesterday's memories for today. We meet the fourth Tuesday of each month, 2 p.m., second floor conference room of City Hall. Your input is always welcome.

Yes, I Would Like to Join the LCHS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Annual Membership:

**\$10 Per Individual, or
\$25 Per Family**

I also want to support the Society's Annual Fund. My contribution of \$ _____ will be added to annual membership(s).

I have included in my payment gift memberships for the following persons at the individual rate:

Gift Membership For:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Gift Membership For:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

My check for a total of \$ _____ is enclosed and made payable to the Lake City Historical Society.

**Mail to: Lake City Historical Society
POB 246
Lake City, MN 55041**

The LCHS is a non-profit organization and contributions are deductible for tax purposes.