



Crosslake Area Historical Society

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Summer 2021 www.crosslakehistoricalsociety.org 218-692-5400

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The Executive board of the Crosslake Area Historical Society is shown as they study their documents on the deck of the Town Hall in preparation for the June 1, 2021 Annual meeting. From left to right: Dorothy Anderson, treasurer, Kate Williams, president and Kathy Brodin, secretary. Each won re-

election to their respective positions on the board! Ollie Skurdahl was added as a new board member. Other returning board members are Dodo Fraser, Steve Roe, Mary Dischinger, Marsha Schoeb, Priscilla Balmer, Linda Andrews and Tom White. The board meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:00 in the afternoon. Members are welcome to join the board at these meetings. The Historical Society is inviting new board members with new inspirations! Ideas for fundraising and activities are always appreciated! This board needs some revitalizing! Please consider becoming an active member of the board!!

We have all been affected by COVID-19 restrictions and protocols that have impacted our operations at the Historic Log Village, but we feel confident that we can resume activities now. Yes, the Historic Log Village is OPEN every Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. As always, VOLUNTEERS are needed to keep our Village open to visitors. If you can spend part of your weekend at the Village to help open and close the buildings and assist guests, we would be extremely grateful!

Pioneer costumes will be available for visitors who would like to take photos in our historic setting. The Scavenger Hunt will be offered to families as they journey through the Village buildings to seek out specific artifacts and information to complete the hunt. The Visitor's Center gift store has been updated with new items for sale. Come and see!

Donations of artifacts have continued and the task of inventorying and accessioning them is a daunting assignment. The board has agreed to update our Past Perfect Museum software, but because of extenuating circumstances, it has not been implemented. We are in desperate need of some individuals to help with this project. Persons are not required to have experience or knowledge, but the willingness to help us with this endeavor.

June 23, 2021 Presentation



Bob and Char Wrobel spoke at the Village about Wild & Free, a program that is very dear to them. They are long time volunteers working with rehabilitating and releasing orphaned and injured wildlife at the non-profit program based in Garrison, MN. The program provides food, shelter, medical and surgical care to over 700 wild animals annually. The program is run entirely by volunteers. Even the veterinarians volunteer their time! Wild and Free began in 1984 by Dr Debbie Eskedahl in Champlin and moved to Garrison in 1990. Veterinarian, Dr. Katie Baratto was instrumental in bringing the program there. An 18-acre plot of land is owned for wildlife rehabilitation. Wild & Free

receives no government funding and relies solely on volunteers, donations and membership dues to continue in their mission to professionally rehabilitate wildlife, educate the community and to promote the conservation of the natural environment.



PINE RIVER 6TH GRADERS TOUR – Teacher, Tim Ramler arranged with Dodo to bring 45 students to our Historic Log Village. They were met by volunteers, Linda, Priscilla, Kathy, Mary and Dodo. The group was split into groups of 15 students and guided through the Village. To complete the day, they assembled in the Learning Livery to hear and participate in a special presentation by Ollie Skurdahl as he shared the story of the history of logging. Those 6th graders were fascinated and enchanted by his educational program. They listened and asked questions. This was a very enjoyable and well-behaved group of students!!

Remember, we NEED volunteers to keep our Historic Log Village in operation. Please contact Linda Andrews at 513-807-0392 or Marsha Schoeb at 602-418-0440 if you can spare some time to help! Your talent and willingness will be greatly appreciated!! You might even have FUN!



Sunday, August 8 – VILLAGE FAMILY FESTIVAL. 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. This day-long event is being planned to feature lots of fun for the whole family. It will include pioneer demonstrations along with food and games for all ages. Artisans are being invited to demonstrate pioneer craftsmanship. Volunteers are asked to dress in costume to add to the festive atmosphere. If you or anyone you know would like to participate in this event, or if you would like to bring more ideas or activities, please contact Mary (the lye soap maker) at 612-940-1575 or committee chairman, Priscilla at 218-839-0502.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Wed, July 7TH & July 14 - 7:00 PM “RIPSAWS TO RAFTERS”

A story of logging will be presented by Ollie Skurdahl at the Village Learning Livery in two parts. Part 1 will be given on Wednesday, July 7th. Part II will be on Wednesday, July 14th. Both programs begin at 7:00 PM. Come, take an imaginary walk with us into the virgin forests around Cross Lake that in 1890 touched the sky. Hear rip saws cutting into the massive white and red pine trees and hear them crack just before the shouts of **"TIMBER"** from the lumberjacks! Take a ride on the rails with us as our loads of logs creak their way towards the dump site. Feel the splash of Cross Lake's waters as the logs roll down the Moonlite Bay hill and submerge into the lake. Watch the "PIGS" dance upon the logs with their Peavey poles as they guide the timbers towards and through the dam. Then cover your ears to protect them from the loud "BOOM" caused by the dynamite explosion that loosens the log jam on the Pine River. At journey's end in St. Anthony, put on your safety glasses to protect your eyes from the sawdust and splinters flying everywhere in the mill. And yes, there is still more to the story...



Wednesday, July 21 - 7:00 PM

“RAINBOW WOMAN – THE LEGACY OF ONE LAKOTA WOMAN’S STRENGTH. “Growing up.... I was never a victim.” These words, spoken by Karen Sterner, a Lakota Indian Elder who is wheelchair bound today and faces dialysis three times a week, are powerful, and they represent the title of an upcoming program that will involve sharing a glimpse into the life of this remarkable woman. Dr. Susan Krook, a professor at Normandale College in Bloomington, Minnesota, is honored and excited to show this recently completed film, “Rainbow Woman – The Legacy of a Lakota Woman’s Strength.” It will be introduced first in Crosslake to share this woman’s way of passing on the Lakota way of life to others. Dr. Krook will introduce the film and explain how she met Karen years ago and has been honored to learn so much from her and her family for several years. She will help us trace the life of Karen, from her childhood on the Rosebud Reservation to the boarding school experiences, to painful accounts of bullying in schools, her representation of Midwestern Indians in Washington D.C. and being with Eleanor Roosevelt, to college and eventually sharing her strength with others through teaching. Karen shares her philosophy for living and staying strong – weathering hardships and today finding contentment with her family members. Her story is one for all of us.



Wednesday, August 25 - 7:00 PM

“TRAVELS ON THE ABERCROMBIE TRAIL”

Speaker Candace Simar is a Pequot Lakes, Minnesota author with a passion for her Scandinavian heritage and a deep love of history. Candace grew up dreaming how life might have been for her family in the early days of Minnesota settlement. She became concerned when her college-aged children did not know this history. She took her son’s challenge to “write a book.” Her historical novels include the award-winning Abercrombie Trail series and

Shelterbelts that received awards from both the Midwest book awards and the Willa Literary Awards in Historical Fiction.