Peers Helping Peers
Since 1991

Chase on the Lake
502 Cleveland Blvd W
Walker, MN 56484
218-547-7777

Info:
MALHM Coordinator
Marci Matson
612-500-7460

MALHM Treasurer
Jill Wohnoutka
Kandiyohi County
Historical Society
320-235-1881

2017 Annual Meeting and Conference
April 26-27
Chase on the Lake in Walker, MN

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
- Investigating Interpretation at Itasca State Park • 1 p.m.
- Informal Evening Mixer at Chase on the Lake • 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
- Conference Sessions • 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- Keynote Speaker Steve Stark, “Drawn to History” • noon
- Cass County History Museum Open House • 4:15 to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday Evening Mixer—Trivia Challenge! • 7:30 p.m.
  Benson’s Eating & Drinking Emporium, downtown Walker

THURSDAY, APRIL 27
- Conference Sessions • 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- Minnesota History Awards & Annual Meeting • noon
Peers Helping Peers: More than a Motto

Local history organizations formed “The Alliance” in 1991 to work together to raise the level of professionalism in the field and advocate for local history issues. Twenty-six years later, we remain true to that mission.

The Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums holds workshops and an annual training conference, develops and shares resources for the entire community, assists colleagues in finding solutions, and recognizes outstanding work with its annual Minnesota History Awards. MALHM helps build the capacity of the more than 500 small and medium sized local history organizations throughout Minnesota.

Our conference is one example of the growth of our organization. From a one-day workshop, the conference expanded to two days with two tracks to this year’s three-tracks over two days, plus a pre-conference event. The conference would not have been possible without the donated time of our speakers, who share their knowledge with their peers. Thank you!
Investigating Interpretation at Itasca State Park

Sponsored by Bemidji Bus Line
Clearwater County Historical Society and Beltrami County Historical Society

Pre-registration required.

How does Itasca State Park train hundreds of volunteers and temporary staff to provide accurate and entertaining interpretation? Visit the park’s historic structures and learn “train the trainer” skills from full-time naturalists. Receive free interpretation tools from the federal park system.

Bus leaves Chase on the Lake at 1 p.m. Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in in the main lobby. We’ll return around 4:15 p.m.

Dinner on your own, 4:15 to 8 p.m.
Downtown Walker is just a couple of blocks away. Enjoy dinner and explore the many unique shops.

Informal Mixer, 8 p.m.
Chase on the Lake bar, fireside area
Relax and connect with colleagues in the cozy bar after you check in. There’s an incentive for arriving on time; complimentary beverages and snacks will be served from 8 to 8:30 p.m., followed by a cash bar. This is a fun time to meet new people, connect with old friends and share ideas in an informal setting.

LOCAL HISTORY MATTERS!
Every county and local historical organization in Minnesota has important history, and MNopedia, the digital encyclopedia of Minnesota history, is a great place to share it. Contribute articles about key people, groups, places, events, structures, and things in your corner of the state.

Visit www.mnopedia.org, or contact LINDA CAMERON at 651-259-3216 or mnopedia@mnhs.org

TO LEARN MORE!

MINNESOTA’S HISTORIC NORTHWEST
Over 40 historic sites, museums, and places of interest.

“Promoting Our Area’s History and Celebrating Our Area’s Richness and Diversity.”

www.mnhistoricnw.org
## Local History Museums 101

**Don’t take yourself so F’ing Serious: What being an Executive Director of a Small Historical Society has Taught Me**

Hayes Scriven, Executive Director
Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center
Dustin Heckman, Executive Director
Goodhue Historical Society

The life of small historical society director (or employee) can seem glamorous and fun, but did you ever think you would have to clean up three inches of s&!$ in your workspace during the busiest event of the year? Or call the bomb squad to handle an artifact? Dustin and Hayes will share some of their most memorable moments as EDs of small museums and what these episodes have taught them. Attendees will learn that yes, we work in a fun field, and yes, some tasks just ruin our day, but we have to look at the more humorous side of our job to keep us all sane.

## Outreach/Education

**Exploring Paranormal Activity at Your Museum**

Dustyn Dubuque, Museum Manager
Washington County Historical Society
Justin Miner, Johnsdale Paranormal

Washington County Historical Society’s “ghostly programs” are often the most successful throughout the year in attendance, money, and advertising. Dubuque will be joined by Justin Miner, lead researcher of Johnsdale Paranormal, who will speak on his fascination with the paranormal, what his group does during an investigation, working with historical societies, and how they help impact organizations. Whether you have a house museum or historical society, paranormal type events reach a wide audience and bring awareness to your organization.

## Collections

**Collection Management Software Update – Progress at Last**

Ann Grandy, Collections Manager
Pope County Historical Society
Joe Hoover, Digital Technology Outreach Specialist, Minnesota Historical Society

At long last, there are new developments on the Collection Management Software front! MAHLM and several partner museums and repositories have applied for a Heritage Partnership grant to migrate data and run CollectiveAccess at five organizations. Learn about MAHLM’s proposed pilot project and recent changes in the Collection Management Software landscape. You will also have the opportunity to have input on the design and functionality of CollectiveAccess.

### Break: 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.

**Exhibit Graphic Design 101**

Erin E. Anderson and Larry Hutchings, Principals, Museology Museum Services

Exhibit designers are charged with the important job of visually representing complex ideas, stories, and topics to enhance the visitor experience. Good graphic design starts with decision-making about space layout, color, materials, lighting, typography, and visitor participation. This session will observe and analyze a variety of these considerations in museum exhibits, as well as exploring the basic principles of good design.

### Sessions: 10:45 to Noon

**How Do I Meet Their Standards?**

Kevin Maijala, Manager, K-12 Programs & Services, Minnesota Historical Society

It has been six years since the new academic standards for Social Studies were launched. In this session we will give an overview of the new standards, look at trends in how they are being implemented (both good and bad) and explore how linking your resources and experiences to English Language Arts and STEM standards can increase use of your offering AND support student learning about history.

**The Art of Photographing Collections at the Museum**

Adam Smith, Curator
Carver County Historical Society
Heather Hoaglund, Collections Manager
Hennepin History Museum

Taking photographs of your artifacts is an important part of collections care. This session will go over the basics of photographing artifacts and provide tips and tricks for taking high quality usable photographs on a budget. We will also discuss how to utilize these photographs to preserve and promote your collections.
Local History Museums 101

Panel on Collections: What is This and What do I Do With It?
Moderator Cathy Osterman
Curator and Archives Manager
Northfield Historical Society

Theresa Norman, Curator, Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

Mo Galvin, Curator
Institution: Sherburne History Center

Stephanie Hess Curator of Special Collections and Digitization
Northfield Historical Society

Christopher Welter, Archivist
Minnesota Discovery Center

This informal, drop-in session will feature five museum professionals knowledgeable about various areas of collections management. These professionals will be available one-on-one during the session to take individual questions and provide solutions to collections challenges. A resource list recommended by the presenters will be compiled and available to further aid participants after the conference. The topics being covered are 3D collections, photograph collections, textile collections, archival collections, and collections documentation from policy to paperwork. Participants are encouraged to ask questions relevant to their own collections and hear their peers’ advice or brainstorm solutions. Even those who have no specific questions are encouraged to drop in.

Outreach/Education

The New Facebook: Your New Newsletter, Your Best Educational Platform and Your Best Way to Bring New Visitors
Dan Hartman, Director, Glensheen

Learn some strategies to adapt to the new era of Social Media. Even though some of us are bored with it, Facebook is still the #1 social platform that all of our audiences engage in. Whether we like to admit it or not, it has become our newsletter to many of our loyal fans. Also, with the creation of Facebook Live it has become easily one of the best educational tools in our arsenal, especially for reaching into the classroom. Of course, it also has become the top marketing platform for reaching visitors in almost all geographic and demographic areas. Dan will present strategies that are mostly free and adapted immediately. Dan will go live on Facebook to have the audience interact and watch first hand how it is not as scary as folks think.

Collections

Help! I’m Drowning in Genealogists: Tips & Tricks to Effectively Assist Researchers Without Losing Your Mind
Jennifer Rian, Reference Library
Minnesota Historical Society, Gale Family Library

Genealogists can be the most enthusiastic and dedicated users of local history collections, conversely they can also be some of your most demanding researchers. Learn tips & tricks for assessing information needs, leveraging pre-existing resources, developing your own reference tools, and managing workflow all so you don’t lose your mind. Formal presentation will conclude with an opportunity for participants to share their own institutional approaches for working with genealogists.

Above: Genealogists are among the biggest supporters of local history museums and the most demanding customers. Find out how to serve this audience without straining your workload and budget. (See description above.)
Day One: Afternoon Sessions

Break: 2:45 to 3 p.m.  Sessions: 3 to 4:15 p.m.

Local History Museums 101

So You Want to be a Museum Geek?: Maximizing Internships and Volunteer Work to Build Your Resume
Dustin Heckman, Executive Director
Goodhue County Historical Society

So you want to join the wonderful world of museums and become a certified museum geek (or nerd depending on your preference)? Well there is more than just coursework that you need to do to get there! Hear from other museum professionals who have once been in your shoes and learn the importance that internships and volunteer experiences can have on landing your first museum job or working towards your dream job. Learn about other networking opportunities that may also provide you with a leg up when the job search begins. Ensure your cover letters and resumes get reviewed by avoiding common mistakes. This session will not simply be a discussion but a networking event in and of itself.

Students, bring your resumes and talk with mentors! Hiring Managers, bring your job descriptions, especially those that may post this year.

Outreach/Education

Gaming the Museum: Making History Fun While Staying True to Your Mission
Mike Worcester, Executive Director
Cokato Museum and Akerlund Studio
Kim Purscell, Executive Director
Steele County Historical Society
Gary Rozman, Executive Director
Beltrami County Historical Society

Three Minnesota local history museums’ unique programs have drawn huge crowds and media attention. Their secret – fun, innovative and interactive games based on local history. Cokato Museum created Minnesota’s first “escape room.” Participants must solve a historical puzzle inside a locked room within the allotted time, or an alarm sounds. Steele County Historical Society’s “History Uncorked” invites visitors to serve as jurors as real attorneys argue a real case from the county’s past. (Unlike real jurors, however, visitors can sip on wine and beer as they consider the case.) Beltrami County Historical Society hosts a “History Mystery” party. Costumed party-goers solve a murder mystery from the community’s past. The whodunit is a twist on the board game Clue.

Collections

Curators Affinity Group Session: Archival Work for the Non-Archivist
Tom Steman
University Archivist/Professor
St. Cloud State University

In most history organizations, processing archival collections is often a curator’s responsibility. This session, featuring Tom Steman, University Archivist/Professor at St. Cloud State University, will provide an overview of archival processing for the non-archivist (of course, actual archivists are welcome to attend, too!). Tom will cover the basics of processing, standards/best practices, retention schedules, and so on, giving participants an overview of the process from start to finish. His presentation will be followed by a Q & A. Then, if time permits, the Affinity Group will enjoy a roundtable meeting.

Stay connected on Facebook! Follow “MALHM Curators” on Facebook to get info on future training sessions and meetings and to consult with your peers.

Sessions end at 4:15 p.m.

Explore downtown Walker!

Cass County Historical Society
Open House 4:15 to 6 p.m.
201 West Minnesota Avenue

Dinner on your own or join a dinner group going to Benson’s 400 West Minnesota Avenue

Don’t miss Minnesota Trivia Challenge
Free Evening Mixer at 7:30 p.m.
Details on next page.
TRIVIA NIGHT

Take on your colleagues for the title of Minnesota’s Greatest History Buff!

Free Appetizers and Beverages • Prizes • Networking • Fun!

7:30 p.m., Benson’s Eating & Drinking Emporium
400 West Minnesota Avenue, downtown Walker

Thank you to our Sponsor!

Digitize Your Collection  Tell Your Story  Amplify Your Reach

Visit us at reflections.mndigital.org to see historical materials shared by Minnesota’s cultural heritage organizations or mndigital.org to contribute.

Map of Leech Lake, Hennepin History Museum, reflections.mndigital.org
Day Two: Morning Sessions

Check-in and Continental Breakfast: 8:30 to 9 a.m.
Introductory Remarks: 9 to 9:15 a.m. Sessions 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.

Executive Director

Sensitive Subjects: I Was Never Trained for This!
David Grabitske
Manager of State History Services
Minnesota Historical Society
Todd Mahon, Field Services Specialist, Minnesota Historical Society

History organizations are part of the fabric of any community, and sometimes those communities are a little messy. This session will feature group discussions on how history organizations and their leadership can handle crises, and near-crises that tend to crop up around all nonprofits. The session features group discussion on example situations, including how to handle culturally sensitive objects, human resources issues, ethical considerations and more.

Outreach/Education

Think Outside of the (Historic House) Box: How to Create Experience-Based Programming at House Museums
Jayne Becker, Program Manager
Ramsey House and James J. Hill House

Holly Johnson, Executive Director
Hormel Historic Home

Visitors, in ever-increasing numbers, are looking for experience-based programming at historic sites. But what does that mean and what does that look like at a historic house museum? This session looks at the nuts and bolts behind developing unique and creative programming for all ages. Participants will have the opportunity to “think outside of the historic house box” and learn how to create programs that attract new audiences and encourage repeat visitation. Discover what experiences historic houses can offer, while still staying true to their educational mission.

Collections

Your Collections can Bring in Money!
Steve Penick, Head Archivist
Stearns History Museum

Managing collections take time and money, but your artifacts also can bring in dollars to your organization. Steve Penick will talk about how you market what your organization already does by focusing on your strengths. This can be a simple process from making photos available online for public purchase. Exhibits, newsletter articles and programs are other possibilities. More in-depth fundraising strategies can include dinner/speaker presentations, behind-the-scenes tours to relationship building events. In any case, it’s time to be creative in connecting the museum’s value to your community – and in the end, help generate funds for your organization!

Break: 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.

How to be Historical without coming across as Hysterical
Moderator: Kathleen Klehr
Scott County Historical Society
Mike Worcester
Cokato Museum
Rebecca Ebnet-Mavencamp
Anoka County Historical Society
Chris Schuelke
Otter Tail County Historical Society
Susan Garwood
Rice County Historical Society

Local history is often overlooked by officials and even the community - with the caveat we do not provide an “essential service.” Those of us in public history rightly dispute that notion. The key to thriving into the future depends on our ability to convey that message to local government, businesses, grantors, and the general public. How do we in the field, especially in the day of instant communication and information overload, effectively convey that importance?

Prototyping 101: What It Is & How to Do It
Erin E. Anderson
Larry Hutchings, Principals
Museology Museum Services

History museums sometimes get a bad rap for being a “no touch zone.” This session will explore ways to create in-gallery, hands-on opportunities that are integral to the museum experience – not just an afterthought. Participants will discover the meaning of prototyping and the importance of front-end testing for history exhibits and programs, hear stories and ideas to take back to their museums, and engage with a prototype.

Deaccession:
Considerations from the Field
Moderator Adam Smith
Carver County Historical Society
Leah Bowe, Collections Associate
NAGPRA, Minnesota Historical Society
Anjanette Schussler, Government Record Asst., MN State Archives
Ann Grandy, Collections Manager, County Historical Society,
Cathy Osterman, Curator and Archive Manager, Northfield Historical Society

Five museum professionals will share their experiences on how to make deaccessioning collections easier for our colleagues and an easier practice in the field itself. The session will begin with the basics of deaccessioning – what it is, why we do it, and how we do it. Topics will include NAGPRA laws and culturally sensitive items, and obsolete media formats. We’ll share real-life experiences on what works (and what doesn’t) and other true tales from the field.
Executive Director

Recruiting the Right Volunteer
Julie Vreeland, Greater MN Outreach and Partnership Manager, Minnesota Association for Volunteer Administration (MAVA)

Often when staff or members of an organization are involved in recruitment, they are so anxious to fill slots or add to the membership that little care is given to finding the right person(s). Everyone can relate to the impact on the volunteer and the organization when the wrong person is recruited.

Successful recruitment involves marketing your organization’s volunteer needs to the segment of people who can fill your needs while simultaneously filling their own. Recruitment is not merely following prescribed techniques to attract potential volunteers but rather designing a strategy to find the right volunteer and then utilizing an appropriate outreach technique to invite them to consider becoming a volunteer or member. The Primary Purpose of this training is to explore targeted volunteer recruitment: a strategy of invitation to reach the best people to fill your volunteer positions.

Outreach/Education

Partners in Education:
Local History Museums and Schools
Rebecca Ebnet Mavencamp
Executive Director
Anoka County Historical Society

We’ll share ways that Anoka Public Schools 6th grade team has collaborated with the Anoka County Historical Society in staff development, the creation of "Museum Boxes" and an after school History Club! Several "Museum Boxes" - collections of hands-on artifacts - will be available during the session for participants to preview. We’ll also share some ideas of how to fund these projects.

Collections

Crash Course: Preventive Conservation for History Museum Collections
Elisa Redman
Director of Preservation Services
Nicole Grabow, Senior Objects and Preservation Services Conservator
Midwest Art Conservation Center (MACC)

This double session will explore the concepts behind Preventive Conservation and how small and mid-sized history museums can actively build a preventive conservation program for their collections.

What is the difference between “archival” and “acid free”? What is Preventive Conservation? We will start by defining essential terms, and will broadly cover a variety of topics in the overall care of a mixed media history collection. Topics covered will include: defining collection parameters and related policies; environment, light, and agents of deterioration; basic concepts in artifact handling, maintenance, storage, and display; classes of materials and their highest vulnerabilities; Integrated Pest Management and mold prevention; volunteer management; and a discussion of preservation versus access. You don’t need to be a conservator to implement Preventive Conservation practices that will protect and sustain your collection for generations to come.

The session will integrate lecture, discussion, and demos in basic handling and cleaning.

Upper Left: Anoka County Historical Society offers “Museum in a Box” as part of its partnership with Anoka Schools. Left: Midwest Art Conservation Center helps organizations learn how to prevent problems before they start.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive Director</th>
<th>Outreach/Education</th>
<th>Collections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily Steinmetz</td>
<td>Erin E. Anderson and Larry Hutchings, Principals, Museology Museum Services</td>
<td>Continuation of double session. See description on previous page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Regional Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JoLynn Langaas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW Regional Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Council of Nonprofits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many executive directors find that while they know the museum and history field, they’re unprepared for the responsibilities of running a nonprofit. Along with collections care and outreach programs, executive directors must deal with human resources, financial management and other administrative issues. In 1994, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits became the first state association of nonprofits to develop a set of accountability principles and management practices to support nonprofit leaders in their roles. Learn how *The Principles and Practices for Nonprofit Excellence*, can help you in your leadership role.

### Beyond the Questionnaire: Alternative Methods for Museum Evaluation

Evaluation is an important tool in helping you communicate your museum’s impact. Increase your evaluation capacity by learning alternatives to the standard questionnaire. Pop-up polls, informal interviews, visits to community events and other tools can bestow greater insight and more immediate results. This session will explore three main types of evaluation and provide a toolbox of ideas that will enable you to take your evaluation practices to the next level.

---

**The Donning Company Publishers**

The Donning Company Publishers is a specialty book publisher of limited-edition commemorative volumes, pictorial histories and contemporary portraits. Donning limited-edition books are custom-tailored to preserve and celebrate your heritage. Each Donning book is created with the highest standards for editorial and design excellence and quality craftsmanship.

**Barry Haire**  
Project Director  
Donning Company Publishers  
402-575-0670 Cell  
barry.haire@donning.com

Learn how to publish your book at donning.com

---

See you next year in Marshall, MN!  
2018 MALHM Annual Meeting & Conference  
April 25-26, 2018
Agenda

1. Annual Meeting called to order—President Dustin Heckman

2. 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes—See Page 12

3. 2015 Annual Treasurer’s Report—See below

4. New Board Member Election—President Dustin Heckman
   Candidates for re-election are:
   Jill Wohnoutka – 3rd term, Mike Brubaker – 2nd term,
   Janet Timmerman – 2nd term, Ann Grandy – 2nd term

5. Legacy Strategic Agenda—Board Member Dustin Heckman

6. A Year of Accomplishment—Coordinator Marci Matson
   See Pages 13-14

Minnesota History Awards
Presented by Board Member Jill Wohnoutka, chair of Awards Committee
See Page 15


Starting Balance
January 1, 2016 $25,377.47

Income
Donations $0
Membership Dues $1,225.00
MNHS/MALHM Partnership Grant $39,000.00
MNHS/MALHM LSA Partnership $25,000.00
Workshops $345.00
Annual Meeting $5,197.00
Total $70,767.00

Expenses
Office Supplies $1,795.50
Annual Meeting $6,559.59
Coordinator Expenses $2,767.59
Website $324.13
LSA Grant $10,415.00
Payroll Taxes $11,686.81
Grant-Wages $25,533.61
Total $59,082.23

Ending Balance
December 31, 2016 $37,062.24
MALHM 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2016 – Willmar Convention Center, Willmar, MN


Meeting was called to order at 1:14 pm by President Dean Vikan. A motion was made by Elzenga to approve the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Heckman and the motion carried.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Jill Wohnoutka. Total membership to date is 78 and there is a balance of $25,377.47 in the bank account. A motion was made by Edevold to approve the Treasurer’s Report. The motion was seconded by Heckman and the motion carried.

New MALHM Coordinator Marci Matson gave a presentation on the previous year’s accomplishments. Highlights included: hiring a coordinator, formation of two affinity groups, conducting a member survey, a website revamp, new newsletter and social media efforts, and three grant projects.

Board member Dustin Heckman presented an update on the Legacy Strategic Agenda and the possibility of MALHM partnering with the Minnesota Historical Society to administer to the new LSA collaborative.

Heckman and Matson presented outgoing MALHM board members Scriven (Northfield Historical Society) and Vikan (East Polk Heritage Center) with awards of appreciation.

New Board Member Election:
Dustin Heckman (3rd), Goodhue County Historical Society, Alyssa Auten (2nd), Nicollet County Historical Society, Sara Markoe Hanson (2nd), White Bear Lake Area Historical Society were recommended for re-election. Milissa Brooks-Ojibway (1st), Glensheen Mansion, and Tamara Anderson Edevold (1st), Clearwater County Historical Society were recommended for ballot. After hearing no other nominations from the floor Grandy moved to approve the slate of candidates as presented. The motion was seconded by Schuelke and the motion carried. Heckman moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:35pm.

2016 Minnesota History Awards:
Six Minnesota History Awards were presented by Heckman and Matson for completed projects that took place from Jan. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2015. They are as follows:

Lifetime Achievement Awards
Art Warner, Morrison County Historical Society (deceased)
Jan Warner, Morrison County Historical Society
Marlys Hirst, Lake of the Woods Historical Society

Project Awards
Northfield Historical Society
Behind the Scenes:
The Legacy of Malt-O-Meal Stays in Northfield

2016 Minnesota History Award winners: Marlys Hirst (Lake of the Woods); Cathy Osterman, Stephanie Hess and Hayes Scriven (Northfield); Sheila Morris (Waseca County); and Jan Warner (Morrison County).

Northfield Historical Society
Public Programs: 40 for 40 Exhibit

Waseca County Historical Society
Public Programs:
The Timeline of Unique Stories from Waseca County

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Auten, Secretary
A Year of Accomplishment

EXPANDED CONFERENCE

Our membership survey last year confirmed that the conference is the highlight of the year for members. We focused efforts this year in making it an even better event for the local history community.

We added:
- A third track, which focuses on “Museum 101” topics on Day One and Executive Director topics on Day Two.
- Advertising and sponsors to fund expanded mixers and programs and a popular keynote speaker.
- A pre-conference event at Itasca State Park.

Through the survey and meetings with regional groups, we identified training needs and sought out speakers on those topics. Our first-ever Conference Program Committee helped brainstorm ideas to attract new audiences and, we hope, make this the most valuable conference yet for our attendees.

CONFERENCE HOST SITE SELECTION

We’re planning ahead to create great programming for our upcoming annual conferences. We sought RFPs for host sites, scouted potential locations, and booked the next three years. Because MALHM focuses on local history, we want to our conference to showcase the museums, historic sites and amenities our host sites have to offer. Who best to help us with that than our peers, who will form host committees to plan events.

### 2018 Marshall
Lyon County Historical Society
Marshall CVB

Conference will be at Southwest State University

### 2019 Red Wing
Goodhue County Historical Society
Pottery Museum of Red Wing
Red Wing CVB

### 2020 Austin
Hormel Historic Home
Mower County Historical Society
Spam Museum
Discover Austin

**MALHM Programs**

**Program Committee**

**Chair**
Jill Wohnoutka
Kandiyohi County Historical Society

**Cathy Osterman**
Northfield Historical Society

**Tamara Edevold**
Clearwater County Historical Society

**Steve Penick**
Stearns County Historical Society

**Missy Hermes**
Otter Tail County Historical Society

**Holly Johnson**
Hormel Historic Home

**House Museum Affinity Group**
**Chair:** Jayne Becker
Ramsey House, James J. Hill House

**Vice Chair:** Holly Johnson
Hormel Historic Home

**Secretary:** Milissa Brooks-Ojibway
Glensheen

**Curators Affinity Group**
**Co chair:** Theresa Norman
Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

**Co chair:** Jaimie Timm
Mower County Historical Society

**Collections Management Project**
**Project Manager:** Ann Grandy
Pope County Historical Society

**Legacy Strategic Agenda**
Pat Koppa – LSA Coordinator
Mike Brubaker – Sherburne CHS
Chris Schuelke – Otter Tail CHS
Susan Garwood – Rice CHS
Mary Warner – Morrison CHS
Steve Penick – Stearns CHS

**Minnesota History Coalition rep**
Sara Hanson, White Bear Lake Area Historical Society
MALHM Annual Meeting

A Year of Accomplishment

NEW WORKSHOPS and EVENTS

MALHM Mingle
Networking event showcasing the Smithsonian Water/Ways exhibit at Nicollet County Historical Society and highlighting other traveling exhibit opportunities for small museums.

House Museum workshop
Full day workshop at Ramsey House in St. Paul with sessions on Museum Security, Instagram and House Tours as well as a House Museum Affinity Group meeting.

Save our Stones
Reserve your space now for a full day workshop on restoring and preserving cemetery tombstones. Register online at the MALHM website for the May 19 event in Red Wing.

CMS and WEB HOSTING PROJECT

Taking the lead on a software solution
For years, many local history groups have talked about finding a cloud-based Collections Management System (CMS) that could be customized to fit Minnesota’s needs.

MALHM decided to take a leadership role in selecting a CMS alternative. If each institution chooses its own CMS, we lose the opportunity to create a system collectively. By sharing a system, there are significant savings in webhosting, training, and updates. The new software will also allow for future expansion and data sharing capabilities. The decision is pending Legacy grant approval. For more info, see session (Page 4): Collection Management Software Update – Progress at Last.

NEW MEMBER BENEFITS

MALHM membership has always paid for itself with discounts on the conference and other events, but we wanted to add more tangible benefits such as the new 15 percent discount on Gaylord Archival products.

In addition, this year MALHM will offer at least two $250 scholarships to members who want to attend national conferences and share their knowledge at a MALHM conference.

LEGACY STRATEGIC AGENDA

Taking action for the local history field
How can history groups meet the needs of schools? What are some ways history museums can tell the stories of new immigrants and other minority groups? How can the Legacy grant programs continue to have transparency, operational excellence, and enduring value?

Any of these issues would be too much for one museum to take on, but Legacy Strategic Action teams will examine each of these issues and come up with resources and ideas that can be used by anyone in the state. With a Partnership grant with MNHS, MALHM is administering the program and hired consultant Pat Koppa to coordinate the work.

ADVOCATES FOR LOCAL HISTORY

MALHM began with the mission of advocating for small and local history groups and we have stayed true to our roots.

Not only do MALHM Board Members serve on statewide committees affecting history policy (HRAC, Minnesota History Coalition, LSA), but MALHM also monitors legislation, updating its members and advocating for the local history community with letters and phone calls to elected officials. We also participate in History Matters Day at the State Capitol.
Kathleen Bergan (Gilbert)
Kathleen Bergan began her work with the Iron Range Historical Society in 1986. During that time, she has been editor of a quarterly newsletter, published ten books and been a dedicated volunteer. Over her thirty years of service to the Iron Range Historical Society, she inventoried and organized the Society’s collections.

Mark Peihl (Moorhead)
Mark Peihl began his career in local history in 1985 at the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County in Moorhead, MN by volunteering. In 1986, he became their archivist and is responsible for the Historical Society’s photo and manuscript collections, corporate records, and public reference services. He has written multiple articles for the Society’s newsletter and produced over 30 exhibits on Clay County and Minnesota History.

Chris Schuelke (Fergus Falls)
Chris Schuelke has worked at Otter Tail County Historical Society since 1987, when he started as Curator. He has served as executive director since 1989. Among his many accomplishs are creating the Historical Society’s endowment, awarded an American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) award in 2006 for the preservation of the Kaddatz Hotel in Fergus Falls and completed a major renovation of the museum’s Agriculture Wing. Chris Schuelke was a founding member of MALHM.

Vickie Wendel (Anoka)
Vickie Wendel began at the Anoka County Historical Society in 1986, moving from volunteer to program manager. She was a leading force in the capital campaign for a larger facility which resulted in a new facility that opened in 2002. She has researched and designed exhibits, traveling programs and events for the Historical Society. Vickie is a leader of outreach and created many relationships outside the museum walls. The exhibit, Vietnam: The Veteran’s Experience was nationally recognized with an award from the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) in 2007.

The Lifetime Achievement Awards, in its second year, recognizes leadership in the field.

Public Programs
Minnesota Discovery Center (Chisholm)
for their exhibit “Enough! The 1916 Mesabi Range Strike”. This exhibit commemorates the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Mesabi Range strike. The Minnesota Discovery Center used primary materials and direct quotes to tell the story from all perspectives so the visitor can interpret the story.

Pope County Historical Society (Glenwood)
for their documentary “Pope County 150, 1866-2016”. This video was created in celebration of Pope County turning 150. It captures the history and culture of the Pope County community since 1866.

Publications
Washington County Historical Society (Stillwater)

Collections
Cokato Museum and Historical Society (Cokato)
for their digitization project of the Gust Akerlund Negative Collection. The Cokato Museum and Historical Society digitized 14,019 negatives, the entire collection of Cokato photographer Gust Akerlund ranging from 1902-1950.
ClearImage Solutions Presents the Award Winning ST ViewScan III Microfilm Scanner

ST ViewScan III
Microfilm, Microfiche, Aperture Cards, Opaque Cards & More

Custom Camera:
○ TRUE 14 Megapixel Image Sensor
○ Full Color Camera
○ USB 3.0 Interface

Additional Features:
○ Familiar Film Controls
○ Durable Steel Construction
○ Customizable

Get More From Your Microfilm Scanner!
Make beautiful crisp scans from black and white and color film slides or strips.

Multi-Year Platinum Modern Library Award (MLA) Recipient
Discover for yourself what makes the ST ViewScan III the only scanner to win the Platinum distinction from the MLA’s all three years! The only awards for libraries and judged by librarians.

Contact Neil Milkowski for more information:
888-932-9002
clearimage@g2a.net