

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER
FALL 2014 – Volume 19, Issue 4

The past three months have been very busy at the Depot Museum. Display walls have been removed from the Homestead room in the Depot, radiator removed, floor patched, walls repaired and painted. Book cases were ordered and hopefully installed by mid-November in the homestead room. Museum research library, family histories, school year books, periodicals and copies of our photos will be moved to the book cases. All of our file cabinets with research materials have been moved to the research room. A flat screen TV will be installed on the south wall. Two window displays were moved from the East wall to the North wall. Additional outlets will be installed in the research room. Our microfilm reader was also moved. A grant was written to purchase two new computers and printer for visitor use. Computers are on order. The funds from the Zilverberg estate were used to put together the research facility.

We need someone to help us organize and catalog our research library so it is easier to find information after the book cases are installed. The historical society has a membership to ancestry.com and we will make that available on the computers in the research facility. Visitors will be able to bring their lap tops to the museum and use our wireless internet connection. It is our hope that this new facility will make it easy and fun for visitors to do research. The society is looking forward to seeing you at the museum to check out our new research facility. The opening will be announced in the Aitkin Independent Age.

Do you have information or photos that should be in our new facility? The society is looking for information and photos about: schools, churches, riverboats, resorts, logging, trains or any other subject pertaining to Aitkin County. Do you have any information or photos of any ghost towns that were located in Aitkin County? How about the 1918 fire or one of the many floods? We need everyone to help us find and complete the history of Aitkin County.

The Historic Map of Aitkin County coming soon. The sites have been chosen, their GPS location noted, grant money received, and all information has been sent to the printer. 15,000 copies will be printed and distributed throughout the County. Visitors to our county will be able to explore Aitkin County history. This has been my personal project and I am looking forward to sharing it with everyone when it is completed. It is important that we get it distributed to everyone before the summer of 2015 tourist season starts. **Please help me find all of the locations that it should be sent to.** (I.e. gas stations, resorts, chamber of commerce, tourist attractions, etc.) Let's make sure that we do not miss any location that should have this new brochure to help Aitkin County tourism.

The society continues to explore the possibility of an addition on building #2 for additional displays. Originally we were looking at going west, now we are looking at coming east with the addition. The main reason is the difference in cost of site preparation. Also, the railroad tracks start to curve south so we would be too close to the tracks. Walkways, gardens and artifacts will have to be moved. The other issue is the purchase of the land under our two display buildings. The land has been appraised and now we will approach the railroad and try to work out a deal.

The Cookie Walk marks the end of my sixth year as Administrator and the start of my seventh. I have enjoyed working as your Administrator more than I have enjoyed any other job that I have had. It has been a great part time job; no it has been more like a labor of love. The volunteers are great and I would not have been able to accomplish so much without their dedication and hard work. My sincere gratitude goes out to all of the volunteers that have worked so hard the past six years and made this job so enjoyable.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!
Gregory Leach (Administrator)

TRAINS NEEDED!

The Aitkin County Historical Society is still looking for model trains to put on display in our Depot museum railroad room.

Do you have a model train of any size that could be donated for this permanent display? Not ready to get rid of it. Could you loan it to us for our display. We need seven more to fill our current display and fifteen when we build our third display cabinet. Please help us fill up our display. The trains have been a great addition to our railroad room.

MEMBERS NEEDED!

Our society has reached our goal of 472 members which is double our membership in 2009. Please consider donating a membership to a friend or relative. We have been growing fast and because our membership has grown we are receiving a lot of great photos and information pertaining to the Country Schools of Aitkin County.

More membership means more people know what we are looking for. New goal is 500.

You're not a member?

JOIN TODAY!!!!

SCRAP COPPER

The society is now **collecting scrap copper as a fundraiser.**

Pieces of scrap copper pipe, connectors, or electrical wire.

Do you have small pieces of wire taking up room in your garage or basement? Not enough to make it worth your while. Please consider donating it to the historical society. Wire or copper plumbing pieces can be dropped off at the Depot museum during open hours.

(Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 9am to 4pm.)

THANK YOU!

LOOKING FOR NEW FUNDRAISERS!

The Aitkin County Historical Society and Depot Museum are always looking for new ways to raise funds to operate. Besides our Garage Sale, Raffle and Cookie Walk can you think of any other fundraisers that would help us to raise additional funds? The society is looking for something that would not be as physical as the garage sale, but could raise additional funds. Put those thinking caps on and let's see what we can come up with. **Don't be shy; your idea might be exactly what we need!**

2014 RAFFLE PRIZE'S COLLECTED

1. Dinner & Show for 2, Chanhassen Dinner Theater – Donated by KKIN radio (\$140.00 value)
2. Mille Lacs Grand Casino Hotel/dinner for two – (\$125.00 value)
3. One 18" x 68" Dressing Mirror donated by Aitkin Glass – (\$116.00 value)
4. Ripple River Motel Jacuzzi Room – (\$85.00 value)
5. Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarm donated by Northern Air Plumbing & Heating – (\$60.00 value)
6. 2013 US Mint Proof Set donated by Peoples National Bank – (\$49.95 value)
7. Amana Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating – (\$40.00 value)
8. Necklace donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$39.00 value)
9. Necklace donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$39.00 value)
10. Oil Change donated by Brandl Motors – (\$35.50 value)
11. 20 LED Camp Lantern – (\$35.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
12. Squirrel Feeder – Donated by Hyytinen's Hardware Hank – (\$35.00 value)
13. Welcome Bear donated by Aitkin Furniture – (\$34.95 value)
14. Garstang Loving Monkey donated by Crossroads In Time – (\$34.95 value)
15. A gift Subscription to the Aitkin Independent Age – (\$32.00 - \$37.00 value)
16. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Auto – (\$32.00 value)
17. Oil Change donated by Cuyuna Auto – (\$32.00 value)
18. Case of Canoe Wild Rice – (\$30.00 value) Donated by Mille Lacs Wild Rice Corp.
19. \$30.00 gift card from Paulbecks County Market
20. \$30.00 Visa Card – Donated by Security State Insurance
21. \$30.00 Visa Card – Donated by Security State bank
22. \$30.00 gift card from Paulbecks County Market
23. Minnesota Sweat shirt donated by Shirts Plus – (\$29.95 value)
24. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
25. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate
26. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
27. \$25.00 Gift Card to Freedom Gas Station

28. \$25.00 Gift Certificate Aitkin Pet & Farm supply
29. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate
30. \$25.00 Rialto Movie Theater Gift Certificate
31. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Hometown Building Supply
32. \$25.00 Roadside Restaurant Gift Certificate
33. \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Gramma's Pantry
34. Lawn Chair donated by Bremer Bank – (\$25.00 value)
35. \$25.00 Verizon Gift Certificate
36. Sterling Ring donated by Jessica's Treasure Chest – (\$25.00 value)
37. \$25.00 off a \$50.00 purchase at Lightning Motorsports
38. Universal Notebook Case donated by American Legion – (\$24.95 value)
39. 8" DQ Cake – (\$21.00 value) Donated by Aitkin Dairy Queen
40. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for the Office Shop
41. \$20.00 Gift card to 40 Club Restaurant or Player's Sports bar
42. Universal Remote – Donated by Enberg's TV – (\$20.00 value)
43. 3-in-1 Power Tools for kids donated by Midwest Machinery Co. – (\$20.00 value)
44. \$20.00 Gift Card from CVS Pharmacy
45. \$20.00 Gift Certificate for Aitkin Lanes
46. \$20.00 Gift Card from Toby's Thrift Shop
47. 10 ½" X 15" Picture donated by Unclaimed Freight North – (\$20.00 value)
48. First Aid Kit from Riverwood Healthcare Center – (\$20.00 value)
49. \$20.00 Gift Certificate to Aitkin Municipal Liquor Store
50. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
51. \$18.00 Gift Certificate for Lorrie's Hair Studio
52. Coombs cuts gift certificate – (\$18.00 value)
53. Stonetech Stone & Tile Cleaner donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile & Tech stain remover – (\$18.00 value)
54. Hand saw donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$17.60 value)
55. Tire Rotation – (\$16.00 value) Donated by the Tire Barn
56. Umbrella donated by Bremer Bank – (\$15.00 value)
57. Snap Fitness cup plus one week pass – (\$14.50 value)
58. 1-Large 2 topping pizza donated by Farm Island Store – (\$13.99 value)
59. 1-Large 2 topping pizza donated by Farm Island Store – (\$13.99 value)
60. Mohawk Carpet Stain Remover donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile & Tech stain remover– (\$13.00 value)
61. 40-Club Restaurant & Bar shirt (XL) – (\$12.00 value)
62. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
63. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$11.99 value)
64. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Sew Much & More
65. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for the Beanery an Internet Café
66. \$10.00 Gift Certificate to Cedarbrook Lumber Company
67. \$10.00 Gift Certificate for Rasley Oil Co.
68. Snap Fitness Journal – (\$10.00 value)
69. Two McDonalds Sandwiches - (\$8.00 value)
70. Subway 6-inch fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
71. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
72. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – (\$8.00 value)
73. Subway 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
74. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
75. Two McDonalds Sandwiches – (\$8.00 value)
76. Subway 6-inch Fresh Value Meal – (\$8.00 value)
77. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
78. Measuring Tape Holder for belt donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$7.90 value)
79. Aitkin County Soil & Water hat – (\$7.00 value)
80. Pine Insurance Agency cozy and flashlight (\$6.00 value)
81. Aitkin County Naturally bird book – (\$5.00 value)
82. 12 pack of Pepsi donated by EZ Stop – (\$5.00 value)
83. Tech Stain Remover 2oz bottle donated by Hudrlik Carpet & Tile – (\$3.00 value)

Final drawing on December 6th at 2pm

THIRD QUARTER ACCESSIONS

7/1/2014	14.79	Richard "Bud" Johnson	WWII Flight Simulator
7/5/2014	14.80.	Peggy Trojan	Numerous School photos - Information
7/5/2014	14.81	Kaufmann	Alumni Directory 1901-1935, Vol 3 No. 8 Aitkin Hi-lite
		Cuyuna Country	
7/1/2014	14.82	Heritage	Advertising item - Studebaker Service
			White cloth gloves, beaver muff, black velvet lady's coat, dickey
7/7/2014	14.83	Linda Braceaule	
		Cuyuna Country	
7/10/2014	14.84	Heritage	Photo - 6 - postcards
7/10/2014	14.85	Bob Wold	5 - Misc. River booklets
7/10/2014	14.86	Joan C. Marino	Newspaper & Memo Spindle
7/10/2014	14.87	Doris Nordean	10 - Library books, Post Office Information
7/14/2014	14.88	Elsie Nelson	Cart for hauling wood made in the 1940's
			2 - Photos - 1929 Basket Ball team, 1929-1959 Reunion Program
8/5/2014	14.89	Cheryl Crawford	
8/5/2014	14.90.	Harriet Sinell	Jewelry box and contents
8/5/2014	14.91	Ellen Erickson Rippon	2 postcards - 1 NP Depot, 1 Soo Line Depot
8/5/2014	14.92	Donohue Sarff	Autobiography - Duane Hazelton
8/5/2014	14.93	Eric Johnson	4 - Postcards & info Ak-Sar-Ben gardens
8/5/2014	14.94	Lillian Abrahamoman	Ledger - Ronald School
8/5/2014	14.95	Phil Knoeppel	Christening gown/dress from approximately 1900
8/5/2014	14.96	Sylvia Eckstrom	History of Raby
8/5/2014	14.97	Bryan McGinnis	McGregor - Sandy Lake Information
8/5/2014	14.98	McGarry - ?	Photos & Information on Bain
8/13/2014	14.99	Marlys Gustofson	Two pair leggings
8/13/2014	14.100.	Corrine Walker	4 - Outlet papers from 1970 & 1971
8/13/2014	14.101.	Tom Pennaz	Spinning Wheel
8/13/2014	14.102.	Josephine Blanch	Postcard from 1913 addressed to Shovel Lake
8/15/2014	14.103.	Lyon Co. Historical S.	Button - 1973 McGregor Wild Rice
8/15/2014	14.104.	Rick Kazee	Photos & letter
		Roger & Donna	Marching band Shako hat w/plume worn by Robert
8/20/2014	14.105.	Hasskamp	Hasskamp
8/20/2014	14.106.	Debra Janzen	Antique Trunk
8/22/2014	14.107.	Gerald Hedberg	AHS - Letter for letter jacket
8/27/2014	14.108.	Phyllis Grolla	NP Ash Tray, bar of soap, Safety Award Throw and plate
8/28/2014	14.109.	Mitch Stanley	NPRY Metal Can
8/28/2014	14.110.	Marlys Morris	Misc. Advertising Items
9/10/2014	14.111.	Herman Janzen	Catalogues
		Gloria Humphrey	
9/10/2014	14.112.	Boyer	Advertising items
9/12/2014	14.113.	Donohue Sarff	Notebook on Schools in Workman Township
9/12/2014	14.114.	Sue Benson	1929 Aitkin Republican, 2 - old coolers
9/12/2014	14.115.	Ardith Kane	80 - assorted photographs of Aitkin County
			2 - Large Insulators, 6 - Sm Insulators, 2 Large Light globes from the city of Aitkin
9/12/2014	14.116.	Alice Fageroos	
9/13/2014	14.117.	Jeanne Kogl	Aitkin MN. Wishing Well
9/17/2014	14.118.	Evonne Pearson	Childs Snow Suit
9/17/2014	14.119.	Bryan Schlagel	Flood photos
9/19/2014	14.120.	Herman Janzen	4 - books - Cedar Lake School
	14.121.	Unknown	Black tails & suit - Tux
9/19/2014	14.122.	Eleanor Lemire	Green footed bowl
9/19/2014	14.123.	Larry Hayes	Ice Auger, Brace & bits
9/26/2014	14.124.	Colleen Bremner	Doll

**We have received
Memorial Money for the
following:**

Larry Turner
Stewart Lehrke
Wilma Holder
M.M. Welshons
Jeannette Zilverberg
Dwight A. Coleman
Evelyn V. Coleman
Marie M. Sellers
Johanna M Reiter
Larry Nelson
Patricia Cummings
George "Everett" Landrus
Lyndon Hasskamp
Juanita Honnold
Helen Torgerson
Lucille Young
Frayda Nitschke
Allan Westerlund
Terryl Ann Way

GOALS FOR 2014

1. Membership surpasses 472 – **Reached!**
2. Raffle over \$3000.00 again – **Surpassed!**
3. Garage Sale over \$7000.00 – **Accomplished!**
4. Publish book about our Aitkin County Country schools. - 2015
5. Visitor count over 5000. – **Surpassed!**
6. Research library & facility set up. - **Coming soon!**
7. Find a Caboose or railroad car for display.
8. Publish Historic map of Aitkin County. - **Ready to go to Publishers!**
9. Publish GPS walking tour of the City of Aitkin.

Donations Received

1. **Woods & Shores** donated a commercial copy machine, 2 rugs
2. **Elsie Paulson - \$42.50**
3. **Garrison Disposal** – 10yd dumpster for garage sale
4. **Hometown Building Supply** – 11 Aprons for garage sale
5. **Cedar Brook Lumber** – Use of truck to move some logs
6. **Hyytinen Hardware** – Use of forklift to move WWII Flight Simulator 2 times
7. **Aitkin Auto Body** – Use of truck to move WWII Flight Simulator
8. **Sally H. Prill - \$100.00**
9. **Greg Leach**- 2 cases of bottled water & candy
10. **Diana Santrizos - \$25.00**
11. **Mary Keel - \$96.00**

ANNUAL DINNER

January 21, 2015

Save the date and plan on attending. We currently plan on having the event at the 40-club again this year. The cost per person will be \$12.00 per person.

5:30 Social Hour
6:00 Dinner
6:30 Annual Meeting

2014 will be reviewed and the challenges and changes of 2015 and our future will be discussed.

Purchasing the land under our buildings, adding onto our current buildings, building new buildings, fund raisers

Two new board of directors will be elected to fill three year terms. If you would like to be on our board, please contact Greg for further information.

VISITOR NUMBERS AT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January	30	24	40	40	86	45
February	18	22	22	55	29	46
March	30	61	23	187	99	307
April	28	36	48	153	48	61
May	77	72	50	100	110	116
6th Graders	84	109	101	91	91	74
June	84	157	472	183	127	180
July	149	229	266	356	251	294
County Fair	1331	1441	1171	0	1500	1695
August	202	201	214	202	248	213
Garage Sale	1232	1356	1423	1814	1723	1825
September	42	68	128	118	132	126
Rendezvous	0	0	0	1077	0	0
October	77	141	75	72	102	89
November	30	43	93	41	150	
Open House	77	60	83	71	66	
December	13	23	48	50	132	
	3504	4043	4257	4610	4894	5071

Money received for Historical Map of Aitkin County

1. Tourism Grant from Aitkin County for \$1,000.00
2. Mille Lacs Energy Roundup Grant for \$1,000.00
3. Mille Lacs band of Ojibwe grant for \$500.00
4. Funds raised from individuals - \$400.00
5. Memorials – 2000.00

Total funds collected for project - \$4,900.00

WEB SITE ACTIVITY

	Page	Unique	First Time	Returning
	Loads	Visits	Visits	Visits
January	755	387	279	108
February	1,016	475	362	113
March	1,290	605	464	141
April	884	439	360	79
May	1,087	530	416	114
June	1,395	686	592	94
July	1,498	847	716	131
August	1,405	652	533	119
September	1,118	538	452	86
October				
November				
December				
Totals	10448	5159	4174	985

WEB SITE PROJECT

The Society will be starting to work on an index listing all of obits in our files. Volunteers will be needed to type all of the names with the date of birth and death that we have in our files on a excel spread sheet. That way people that visit our web site will know if we have an obit for their relative.

We currently have six full drawers of obits dating back to 1883 up to the present. All of the obits are from the Aitkin Independent Age. Additional obits will need to be located in other Aitkin County newspapers.

If you would like to work on either of these projects please contact Greg at the Depot Museum. (218) 927-3348)

Importance of our web site

Our presence on the internet is becoming more and more important to our survival. Without a strong presence on the internet the younger generation will not find us. It is very important that we continue to add not only new photos but more substance to our site. The more interesting we make it and the more we add to it, will encourage more people to return to our site. We should probably have some short videos of events or happenings at the museum on our site. The society is looking for people to help with this project. If you would be interested in helping please contact the Depot Museum.

Cookie Walk Coming on December 6th

Dust off your holiday cookie recipes. Once again it is time for our Annual Open House/Cookie Walk. **Saturday December 6th**. We ask that our members **donate 4-dozen cookies** for this event. Come to the event and pick out a variety of holiday cookies for only \$3.00 a dozen. The Cookie Walk starts at 9:30am and runs until the cookies are gone. Usually the cookies are gone between 11:30 and noon. There will be 1000's of cookies to choose from. Offer a variety of cookies at your holiday parties this year. Cookies can be dropped off at the Depot Museum on Wednesday December 3rd and Friday December 5th.

FINAL RAFFLE DRAWING

December 6th, 2014

Our final raffle drawing will be held on December 6th at 2pm. 82 – Prizes will be given away. Now is the time to get your tickets and money turned into the museum. The raffle drawing is our second largest fundraiser. A wide variety of prizes will be given away. (Check out the list in this newsletter). When shopping in one of the stores that donated a prize please thank them for helping out the Society.



Grace Lutheran Church, McGrath

The Aitkin County Historical Society has 1000's of old photographs from the early 1900's to present day.

But we are looking for more. The society has photographs of only half of the river boats that traveled the Mississippi out of Aitkin. We are looking for photos and histories of the resorts that once covered the shores of the lakes in Aitkin County.

Need photos and histories of all the Churches that once operated in and/or still operate in Aitkin County.

Photos and information received will be used in future books published by the Aitkin County Historical Society. Please share with the Society.



Butts School – District #2 – Farm Island

School Photographs Needed

The Aitkin County Historical Society is looking for information and photographs of the Country Schools that were located in Aitkin County. 274 different schools have been located in the county. The society

has photographs of about 100. If you have any photographs or have information pertaining to one of the schools in Aitkin County please contact Greg at the Depot Museum. We are working hard at collecting photos and information for a book about the Country Schools located in Aitkin County. Help us make it as complete as possible. This book will be published in the later part of 2015.

GARAGE SALE

I would like to remind you that we collect items for our Annual Garage sale all year long. When you are replacing furniture, cleaning out your garage, basement, shed or extra rooms in your house please consider donating those unwanted items to the Aitkin County Historical Society. Moved to a smaller home or apartment and find that you brought too much stuff? Donate your extra stuff. Items can be dropped off at the Depot museum in Aitkin or give us a call and we can pick your donations up. Remember, this is our largest fundraiser of the year. **Donations are tax deductible!**

What does the museum need?

1. Toilet Paper.
2. HP 564 Ink Cartridges.
3. 8.5 X 11" Copy paper.
4. 8.5 X 11" photo paper.
5. Folgers Decaf Coffee.
6. Wrapped chocolate candy.
7. Clear Sheet Protectors.
8. Cleaning supplies.
9. Mop heads.

"BARNs OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA"

Our book "Barns of Aitkin County" has been well received. This was the first book in a five book series. The other books are "Country Schools of Aitkin County" (currently researching and collecting photos, information and stories), "Resorts of Aitkin County" (collecting photos and information), "Churches of Aitkin County" (collecting photos and information), and "Riverboats of Aitkin County" (collecting photos and information). When Barns of Aitkin County came out we donated 90 books to Schools, Libraries, Senior living centers and various organizations around the state that helped with the book. It is our plan to continue this policy when future books are published. Over 600 Barn books have been sold. **"Barns of Aitkin County" makes a great Christmas present for that hard to buy for relative.** Books are available at the Depot Museum in Aitkin, DAC Mart in Aitkin, Shirts Plus, Jacques, McGregor and McGrath historical groups and the Aitkin Age office.

Greetings,

The year is coming to a close and another successful year has taken place. Organizing a resource room is a big project. This room will be used for visitors to do checking on past history of families and happenings in Aitkin County. A card catalog will be in this room stating the many different files to check into for family information. Many books will be available to take in the history of the area and much more. Computers are in the procedure of being obtained for search of family information on the many local and foreign sites on the Internet besides Ancestry.

What happens to family collections? Many families have collections from the past and continue to pass on these collections to the next generation. When the collection becomes estate property these collections and/or artifacts may be sold personally or through antique dealers. At times antiques and collectables are on a auction bill. Also other times some of these collections are passed on to historical site. There have been times, sad to say, that collectables are lost to a fire or even tossed out. Collections may be found in families who are cleaning out the attic, basement or secret storage place. Some families may have collections on display as dishes in a curio cabinet. Historical items and/or memories are important to everyone. Recently, a family going through papers that they found in a uncle's attic, discovered a court document with a name change that occurred in 1921. The uncle hung on to papers his mother gave him without looking at them and the name change document was found among these papers.

Preserving any historical item is very important to everyone. In this issue I would like to share the information I found on how to preserve books. It is noted a book printed on good paper -ideally acid free- has the potential for a long live with proper attention. The best protection against mold and aide damage is to keep your books at a constant, moderate temperature and relative humidity. The temperature should be not higher than 75 degrees Fahrenheit and the relative humidity should be as close to 50% as possible. Excessive light is another hazard for books. Prolonged bright light especially direct sunlight causes fading and accelerates chemical reactions. You should not store books in basements, attics or unheated buildings nor close to heat sources. Dust and inspect books annually for mold or signs of pest infestation. Books shelved should be standing upright with air circulation. Removing a book from the shelve should be done by pushing back the books on either side, then grasping the spine between the thumb and fingers and pulling book out. Many books have been damaged by pulling them by one finger at the top of the spine. Because wood, even treated wood contains natural acid which will accelerate its deterioration. Wood shelves should be lined with polyester film or heavy acid-free paper board. There so much in regards to care of books, I will mention more next newsletter.

Warm Wishes,

Darlene Maciej, President

Aitkin County Historical Society

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Business Members – 34, Individual Members – 25, Senior Members – 122, Family Members – 276,
Life Members – 16, Perpetuity Members – 2
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 475 (NEW GOAL IS 500)

Board Members

Darlene Maciej – Prez.
Cheryl Meld – VP
Colleen Bremner – Sec.
Alice Dotzler
Connie Pettersen
Susan Benson
Carol Bailey
Ron Kemmett
John Hendrickson
Bob Lake
Lorraine Liljenquest
Joel Hyytinen
Allen Ladd Hakes
Russell Peterson
Mark Wedel – CC
Sherry Arvidson – Acct.
Greg Leach – Admin.

New Members

Gilbert Eigsberg Jr.
Donald & Ellen Marpe
Sally & George Prill
Gary & Jacquelyn
Enberg
George C. Bailey
Warren Nelson
Virginia Van Horn

Members Lost

During 2014

Gordon Root

6/20/1939 to 1/24/2014

Elsie Dotson

11/22/1938 to
5/30/2014

Larry Nelson

11/26/1937 to 6/5/2014

Lucille Young

3/11/1933 to 9/21/2014

BUSINESS MEMBERS

Aicota Health Care Center
Aitkin Auto Body
Aitkin Chamber of Commerce
Aitkin County Abstract Co.
Aitkin Family Chiropractic
Aitkin Flowers & Gifts
Aitkin Furniture & Carpet
Aitkin Independent Age
Aitkin Iron Works
Aitkin Lodge #164 IOOF
Aitkin Motor Company
American Legion Post 86
Arvidson Tax & Accounting
Bremer Bank
D.Q. Grill & Chill
Eyecare Center of Aitkin &
McGregor
Garrison Disposal
Gobles Sewer Service
Gravelle Plumbing & Heating
Hasskamp Brox. Well Drilling
Hudrlik Carpet & Tile
Jim Blakesley Enterprizes
K 7 J C-Stores, Inc.
KKIN-KEZZ Radio
Lundberg Plumbing & Heating
Members Coop Credit Union
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
Neighborhood National Bank
Paulbecks County Market
R & K Cabinets
Schwebel, Goetz, Sieben
Security State Bank
Sunset Bay Resort
The Tire Barn, Inc.

**Please Support Our
Business Members!
They Support us.**

2014 PROJECTS

COMPLETED

1. Past perfect software updated.
2. Train display case repaired.
3. Loft built in log cabin. Bldg. #4
4. Fence repaired at Depot.
5. Property line surveyed.
6. 2-Glass display cases repaired for use in Depot.
7. Electrical outlets added to Homestead room in Depot.
8. Walls for log cabin display in Depot removed.
9. Radiator removed from homestead room for added space.
10. Metal hauled to recycle.
11. Walls repaired and painted.
12. Two additional outlets added.
13. Two built in window cases moved.
14. File cabinets moved into research room. (family, school, events, business, churches, obits, cemetery, military, and community)
15. Microfilm reader moved to the new research room.
16. Flat screen TV ordered for research area to show Warren William movies and interviews.
17. Family histories moved to new research room.
18. Copies of photos moved to new research facility.
19. Ladders and tools organized in Depot storage area.
20. Commercial color copy machine added to our office.
21. New appraisal of depot property completed.
22. Railroad notified of our intent to try and purchase land under our display buildings.



Kimberly School

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
20 Pacific Street S.W. / P.O. Box 215
Aitkin, MN 56431

We are located just 2 blocks south of the stoplights in downtown Aitkin, south of the railroad tracks and west of highway 169.

Phone: 218-927-3348

Email: achs3348@embargmail.com

Web Site: www.aitkincohs.org



NOV 03 2014

Aitkin County
Board of Commissioners
209 2nd Street N.W.
Aitkin, MN 56431

56431\$1269 C002



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

Annual Open House/Cookie Walk/Raffle Drawing December 6th, 2014

We ask members to donate 4 dozen cookies for this event. Please bring them to the museum on Wednesday Dec. 3rd or Friday Dec. 5th.

Annual Dinner/Meeting January 21st, 2015

Our Annual Dinner/Meeting will be held at the 40-club again this year. This year's cost will be \$12.00.

Two board members will be elected.

5:30 – Social Time, 6:00 – Dinner, 6:30 – Meeting.

JOIN ACHS TODAY!!

MUSEUM HOURS

June thru August

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday &
Saturday 10am to 4pm

September thru May

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
10am to 4pm

THE PRESERVATION OF
OUR HERITAGE
DEPENDS ON YOU

Editor: GREGORY LEACH

**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED IN
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDER, AITKIN COUNTY
DURING October 2014
DEPOSIT OF CHECK OR CASH \$ 33,249.45 TO AITKIN CO TREASURER**

NATURE OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED			AMOUNT OF FEES RECEIVED
UCC			0
NOTARY			120
NOTARY SURCHARGE	9.2030	Expired 8/1/10	
TORRENS			91
TORRENS ASSURANCE	*** 9.2031		10.5
COUNTY GENERAL FUND			8917.5
STATE GENERAL FUND	*** 9.2036		6531
RECORDER TECH FEE			6220
UNALLOCATED			6842
STATE WELL CERT.	*** 9.2027		1020
COUNTY WELL CERT			180
AMENDED DEATH			40
BIRTH CERTIFICATES			272
CHILDREN'S SURCH.	*** 9.2024		93
BIRTH/DEATH SURCH. (124/436)	*** 9.2022		560
DEATH CERT.			358
2010 LEG. SURCH 144.226 SUBD 3 (b)	***		310
COPIES & C/COPIES			1684.45
TOTAL			33249.45

**WORK DONE FOR VARIOUS COUNTY AGENCIES
FOR WHICH NO PAYMENT WAS RECEIVED**

RECORDING HONORABLE DISCHARGES	0
AITKIN COUNTY	0
AITKIN CO ROAD & BRIDGE	0
OTHERS	276
TOTAL	276

AITKIN, MN October 31, 2014

ZIP 628

YEAR TO DATE 4331

PREVIOUS YEAR \$31186.05

*Diane M. Lafferty Co Recorder
by Adam C Hopper, deputy*

Handout
3C

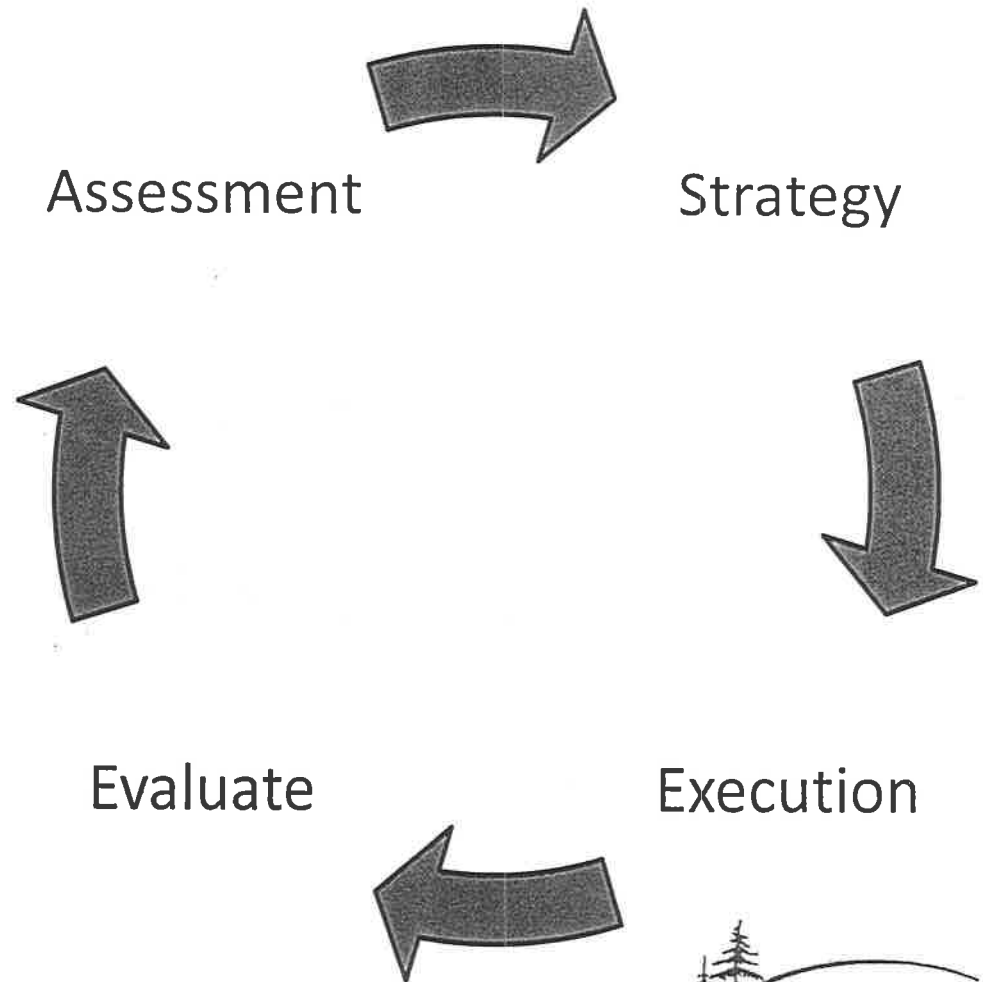
Strategic Management

Presentation to
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
November 11, 2014



What is strategic management?

- Takes strategic planning to an actionable level
- Strategic planning frameworks and methodologies vary but tend to have four basic phases.
- Many different names and levels of complexity.
- Strategic planning and management systemizes the disciplined use of long term objectives and data to make decisions about prioritizing work today.



The business case for strategic planning and management

- Articulate direction and destination
- Identify barriers and enablers
- Prioritize objectives
- Establishing key performance indicators
- Align efforts and resources for action
- Establish a culture of organizational learning and continuous improvement



"I've got it, too, Omar ... a strange feeling like we've just been going in circles."



The WIIFM of strategic planning and management

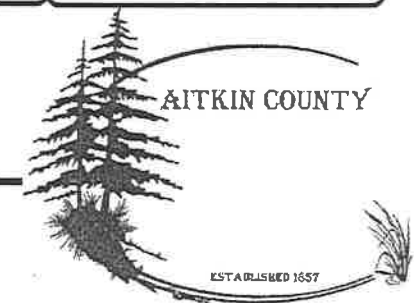
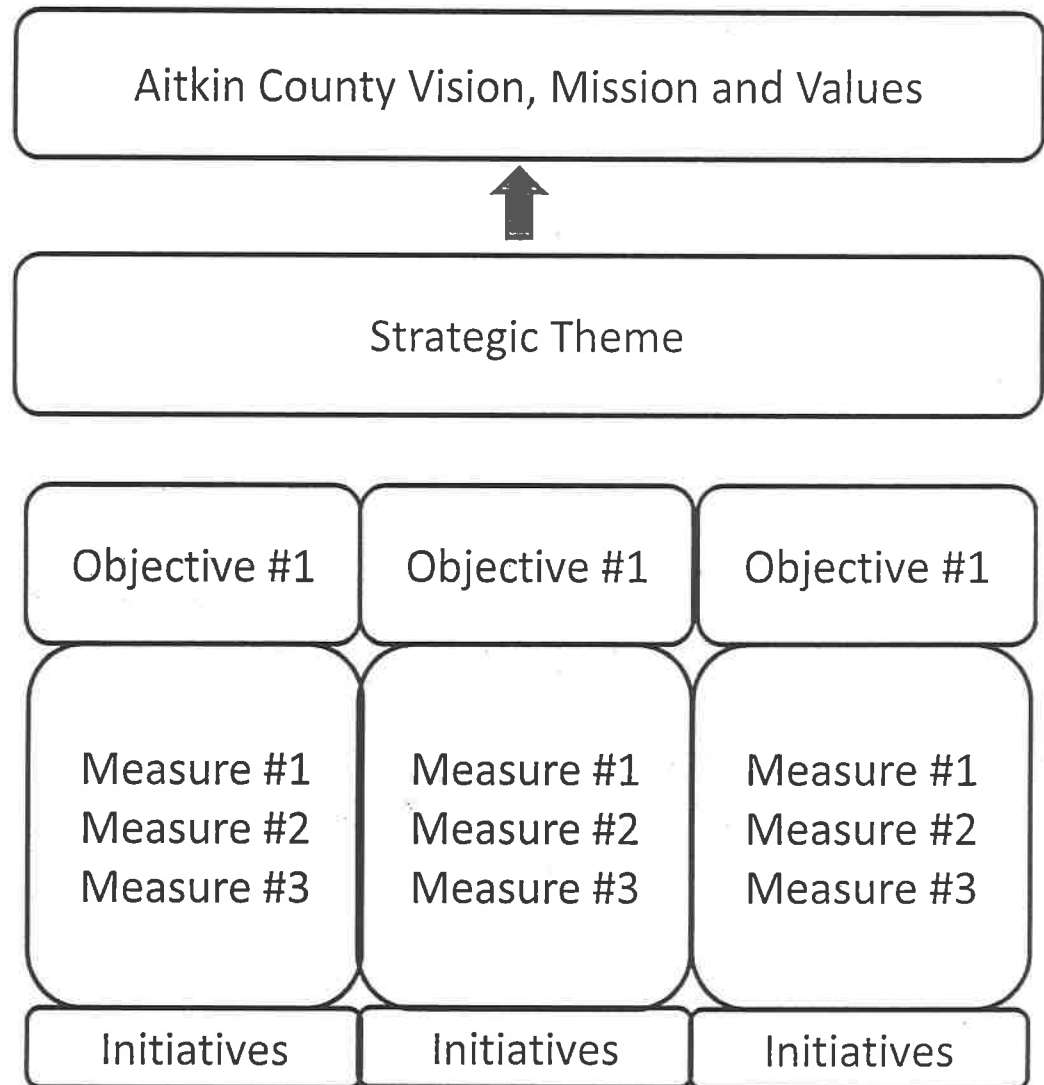
You should be:

- Better able to tell a compelling story about your organization's mission, value and contribution
- Better able to build a culture that values and empowers employees
- Better able to prepare for and manage change events
- Better able to accomplish the results that are most important to customers/clients/community



More details about strategic management

- Vision – What do we want our organization/community to be?
- Mission – What do we do to move toward our vision?
- Values – What are the core tenets we hold as we take steps toward our vision?
- Strategic themes – What are our service delivery areas?
- Objectives – What are the most important things we want to accomplish?
- Measures – What data can we collect to tell us how we are doing?
- Targets – What are we trying to get our measure to reach? (if appropriate)
- Initiatives/Projects – What are we going to do, outside of our normal work, to improve our performance?



Some principles of strategic management

- Clear and concise vision from leadership
- Half of the work is getting buy in from all levels
- Organic, ground level up implementation
- Perfection is not the objective
- Solution oriented focus
- Be aware of what you can control
- Simplify the plan as much as possible
- Do not over-reach!



How strategic management is used – Part 1 (example: not real data)

Objective - Ensure people are safe traveling Aitkin County Roads

Measure - % of Aitkin County Roads with first pass of plowing complete prior to 8 am after 1" or greater snow event.

Target: 100%

Actual: 94%

What are your options (just a few ideas)?

Change the expectations

Extend the time frame (example: from 8 am to 9 am)

Increase the amount of snow that must fall (example: 1" to 2")

Lower the target (example: from 100% to 94%)

Increase the resources

Add another plow truck and driver

(estimated cost = \$74,000/yr)

Look at alternatives

Identify lower priority roads and plow those last

Identify possible partnerships

Evaluate the plow routes and seek more efficient options



**How strategic management is
used – Part 2
(example: not real data)**

Objective – Ensure
people are safe
everywhere in Aitkin
County

Measure – Average
minutes public
safety response
time (call to arrival)

Target: 12 minutes

Actual: 16 minutes

What are your options (just a few ideas)?

Change the expectations

Only count “hot calls” where life loss or significant injury is likely or possible

Increase the target

Increase the resources

Add an additional deputy 3 nights a week and 10 major holidays
(estimated expense \$74,000)

Look at alternatives

Consider crime/incident mapping to strategically place patrol vehicles

Train first responders at strategic locations throughout the County



How strategic management is used – Part 3 (example: not real data)

Scenario

The County's department heads and staff have worked diligently, strategically reducing the County's budget by \$74,000.

The County Board has the opportunity to choose how to allocate the \$74,000 based on policy priorities.

County staff has made some recommendations to the County Board for consideration.

Winter road maintenance

1. Change the expectations
2. Increase resources
3. Look at alternatives

Public safety response time

1. Change the expectations
2. Increase resources
3. Look at alternatives

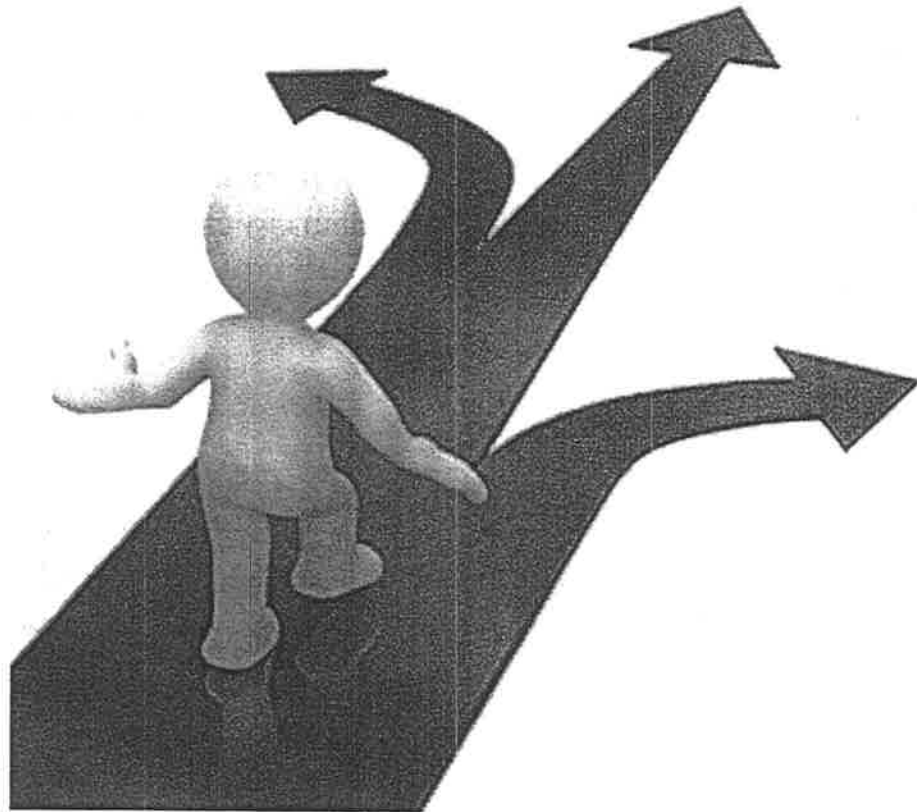
Wild Cards!

1. Invest in enhanced GIS mapping applications (benefits the entire county operation)
2. Reduce the levy



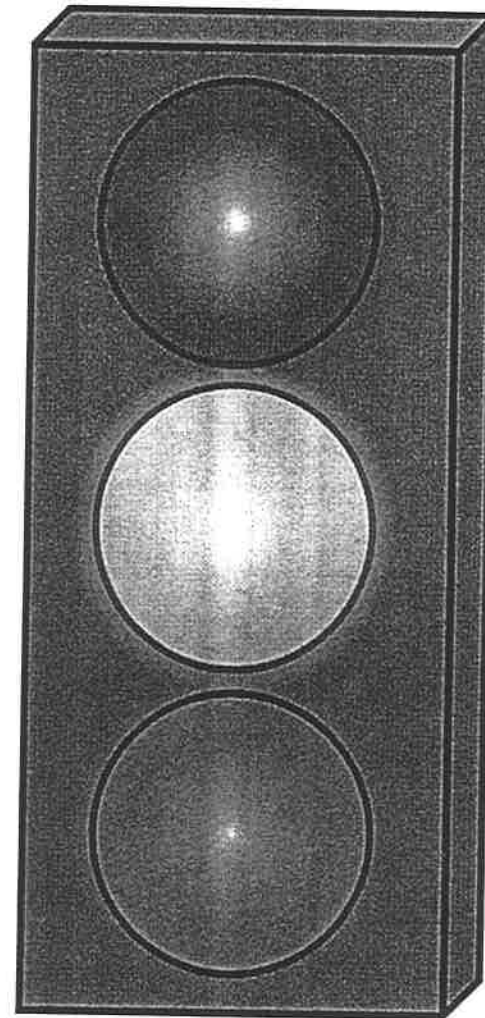
So what will it take to get to strategic management?

- It won't happen overnight!
- Planning can start any time
- Support and leadership of the Board
- Commitment of the Board to work to make decisions in a strategic context
- Commitment of the department heads to lead
- Every ounce of energy we have to get staff level buy in



So what are next steps?

- If the Board is interested in this direction, simple consensus direction to get started (or a time frame to get started)
- If more information or examples are needed, ask questions and I will provide information as soon as possible
- If this is not a direction the Board is interested in, say so... the Board sets the direction, I help steer the ship



Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Board Meeting Attendance Record

Date: November 11, 2014

[illegible]