Each January the Bloomington Historical Society Board of Directors begins a new year of service. Our twelve Board members serve two-year terms, with half of the board up for new terms each year.

In November, members at our annual meeting elected three new board members, and re-elected three members. We are happy to welcome Barb Bellorin, Denise Logeland and Ryan Young to the board.

Barb has been a regular volunteer at the Museum on Thursdays. Denise has been at the Museum researching Bloomington families and brings her expertise in genealogy to the board. Ryan has been a regular Wednesday afternoon volunteer, and is experienced in fundraising and social media outreach.

Re-elected Board Members are Frances Stachour, Karl Feind and Ross Johnson. Board Members with one year remaining in their terms are: Jean Belleville, Ken Veness, Patti Nesheim, Jim Goodermont, Jerry Heisler and Rose Underhill.

The first order of business at the January Board meeting was election of Board Officers.

New Officers elected

Our bylaws now have term limits for officers. We thank Fran Stachour for her steady leadership through transition and pandemic. She has done a tremendous job, bringing continuity through difficult years. She now turns her gavel over to Rose Underhill who will serve as president for the next two years.

Ross Johnson has been vice president for two terms, and passes his responsibilities over to Barb Bellorin. Denise Logeland will take the secretary’s position. Patti Nesheim will continue as treasurer, and Jean Belleville was re-appointed as curator.

Committee members sought

In addition to our Board of Directors, there are several committees that keep things running at BHS. All Bloomington Historical Society members are encouraged to step up and join a committee. Some even meet online rather than in person. Join one today!

- Membership
- Technology
- Programs & Events
- Displays
- Long-range Planning
- Budget
Basketball Tournament Time

One Hundred Years Ago

On March 7-8, 1924, the boys from Bloomington High School headed out to Brownton, Minnesota for a district basketball tournament. They came home with a silver trophy, sponsored by the Commercial Club.

The silver basketball, engraved with the names of team members, is now on display at the Old Town Hall Museum along with other school memorabilia.

Let’s Introduce the Team:

Coach Tilford H. Stall was from Belmont, MN. He was a young teacher, newly-wed and starting his career in Bloomington. He later moved his family to Iowa where he was a teacher and became a school superintendent.

Team Captain Theron Keller was born in South Dakota. His family came to Bloomington and lived on Shakopee Road during his high school years. After graduation, Theron stayed in Bloomington. He married, worked for Ford Motor Company and also had a farm along Cedar Ave.

Edward Bolcom was born in Bloomington, the son of a dairy farmer. After graduation he worked on a farm with his brother Percy. He later worked for a hydraulic hoist company. Edward and his wife raised their family on Harriet Ave. in Bloomington.

Charlie Hollenback’s family lived in Richfield, but he spent his high school years in Bloomington living with his Aunt and Grandmother on Portland Ave. After graduation, Charlie worked in highway construction in Missouri for a time. Then he and his wife moved back to Bloomington. They had a farm at 9600 Portland. Charlie also worked as a steam fitter at Ford Motor Company in St. Paul.

Delbert Kelley grew up in Bloomington on his family farm. After graduation he had a career in wholesale furniture sales. He married, and moved away from Bloomington.

Ray Kelley, cousin to Delbert, also grew up in Bloomington. His family farm was along Shakopee Military Road in Bloomington. After graduation Ray worked as an auto mechanic. He married and moved to Richfield.

Gordon Miller became a machinist in an automobile garage after graduation. He married and moved away from Bloomington.

Hiram Scovel was born in South Dakota. He spent his high school years in Bloomington, then moved to Anoka where he farmed with his brother. He became a mechanic for Northwest Airlines at Wold Chamberlain Field, later moving to California as a commercial airline engineer.
Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 27th at 2 PM: Minnesota author and leader of The Castaways, James Donna, will be talking about his book, band, and Minnesota rock and roll history. He is the co-author of The Castaways 1965 national hit record “Liar, Liar” which reached #12 on the Billboard top 100 chart, and sold over a million copies in 1965.

He will be signing copies of his book LIAR, LIAR: From Garage Band to Rockstars, the Story of Minnesota’s Castaways in the 1960’s. Copies will be available for sale.

Sunday, February 11th from noon—3 PM: Quilt Display Fundraiser at Snooze Mattress Company, 3701 W. Old Shakopee Road. A unique opportunity to see these rarely seen quilts from the Bloomington Historical Society collection. They will be displayed on the beds at Snooze Mattress. Donations received will provide new archival storage boxes for museum quilts and textiles. Quilts on display include the 1893 Pond Dakota Album Quilt with signatures of Native American women, and the Fisher Crazy Quilt with Civil War Memorial ribbons. These quilts are NOT regularly on display at the Museum. Some have not been displayed since the 1970s.

Saturday, March 9th 1:00-4:30 PM with a formal program at 2:00: Rachel Payne of Saga Bookbinding will bring tools, materials and samples to demonstrate book repair and bookbinding. A one-hour presentation will show the process of book repair in more detail at 2:00.

Outreach Presentations: We have been invited to give history presentations for Creekside in January, the Federated Women’s Club in February, St. Michael’s Lutheran Church in April, and Presbyterian Homes in May.

More events will be added soon. Check our website calendar for the most up-to-date information.

2024 MEMBERSHIP FORM
Memberships fund our programs. Join today! See our website for online giving options.

NAME__________________________
PHONE__________________________
ADDRESS________________________
CITY____________________________
STATE/ZIP CODE__________________
EMAIL____________________________

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

_____Individual $30.00
_____Family $50.00
_____Contributing $100.00
_____Supporting $250.00
_____Patron $500.00
_____Corporate $600.00
_____Benefactor $1,000.00

Additional donation: $____________

Please make checks payable to: Bloomington Historical Society

Mail to: Bloomington Historical Society
1800 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431

_____YES, I’d love to volunteer at the Old Town Hall Museum. I’m available: (circle)

Tuesday afternoon  Wednesday afternoon
Thursday afternoon  Thursday evening
Saturday afternoon  Other: __________
Founded in 1964, the Bloomington Historical Society is dedicated to the discovery, preservation and dissemination of knowledge about the City of Bloomington.

Our mission is to collect, preserve and hold in the public trust the many artifacts, photographic images, memorabilia and life stories of the people who have lived in Bloomington.

The organization is run entirely by volunteers and we depend entirely upon your donations for our operations, programs and displays. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

Old Town Hall Museum
Penn Avenue at Old Shakopee Road
Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1 to 5 pm
Thursdays 1 to 8 pm
Additional open hours by appointment

Bloomington Historical Society
1800 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, Minnesota 55431