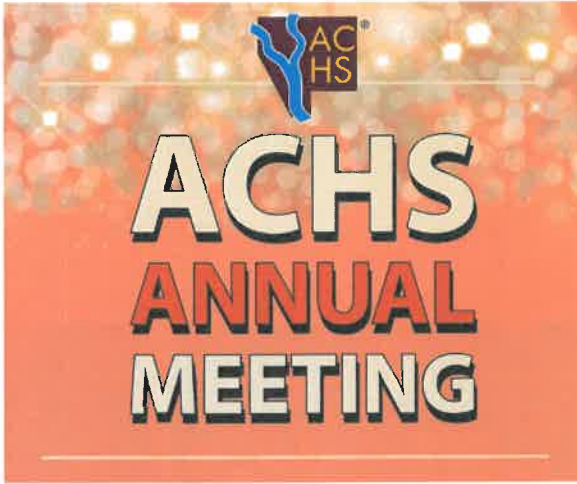


HISTORY 21



History 21 (in honor of the 21 cities in Anoka County) is published by the Anoka County Historical Society six times yearly as a member benefit. The ACHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible within the allowable limits of the law.



When: May 19, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Northtown Library, Blaine

This year's speaker is Rebecca Gillette, Community Engagement Lead of Mapping Prejudice. Operated by the U of M, this program has worked to document the racial covenants on property abstracts by creating interactive maps for Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota—and now Anoka County. Gillette will discuss the project, her personal story, and how you can be more involved. Check it out at mappingprejudice.umn.edu

The ACHS bylaws require five percent of our membership to attend the annual meeting to qualify as a quorum. Please put **May 19 at 1:30 p.m.** on your calendars and count yourself as an active part of the organization (we'll have refreshments, too!)

Members can expect to see election ballots in April to vote to select our Board of Directors. Results will be announced at the annual meeting as part of a short business meeting.

Front Cover: 1945 Annual Report Caption: "Home and Community Committee at Riverside Park Meeting." Photographer: unknown. Object id: AG100.1945.22

Annual Report



Adopted



2023

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Looking back always feels hard to me—not from the standpoint of fear, but in realizing how MUCH life got crammed into 12 months. I vacillate between wonder that we accomplished so much and frustration that we still have a to-do list a mile long. Ideas come quickly and naturally in our work environment, which means letting go of many goals, ambitions, or projects becomes necessary (I admit to struggling with this!) I would love nothing more than to increase the budget enough to not only pay existing staff a living wage with benefits, but also add folks to our ranks.



My ask to you for 2024—help the Board of Directors maintain their commitment to staff for equitable pay, to the building for its care and maintenance, and to the residents of Anoka County for ensuring their story remains for generations. Plant the seed so the oak tree can grow long past any time we will see it mature.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Ebnet-Desens".

Rebecca Ebnet-Desens
ACHS Executive Director



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It's time for me to hand the Presidential gavel to a new person for this role. Over the past few years, our board members have brought more history to all areas of the county at City festivals and events. Our challenges include aging building systems and never enough hours in the day to process all the artifacts, articles, and tidbits for our archives. I've genuinely enjoyed my time here as a board member. I've met so many great people who share our love for history. I will leave the board when my term ends, but I hope to continue volunteering with city

festivals and ghost tours in Anoka. It's time to travel and see the historical sites this country and the world have to offer. I want to thank our staff, who work tirelessly to make this historical society one of the best in the state.

Please consider volunteering here at the history center--it's fun, and you get to hang with cool people. If you can't volunteer, please help us out with a monetary donation or adopt an artifact and help preserve our collection. Thank you to our members. Your membership and donations help us create displays and new programs in our history center and all corners of the county.

Though my role as President may end, my commitment to preserving and cherishing our history will endure. I look forward to witnessing the continued growth of ACHS and staying connected with this community that has become an integral part of my life. Thank you once again for the privilege of serving as your President. May ACHS continue to thrive, inspiring curiosity and fostering a profound sense of pride in our shared heritage.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Oxley".

Richard Oxley, ACHS President

THE 2023 ACHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Pearson, *District #1 Representative*

Daryl Richard Lawrence , *District #2 Representative (Secretary)*

Open, *District #3 Representative*

Steve Florman, *District #4 Representative (Vice-President)*

Richard Oxley, *District #5 Representative (President)*

Orville Lindquist, *District #6 Representative (Treasurer)*

Lotus Hubbard, *District #7 Representative*

Allison Schmitt, *At-Large A*

Dennis Berg, *At-Large B*

Wes Volkenant, *At-Large C*

Maddison McNamara, *At-Large D*

Scott Nolan, *At-Large E*

Jessica Nelson, *At-Large F*

Open *At-Large G*

Open, *At-Large H*

Mandy Meisner, *Anoka County Commissioner Liaison*

ACHS STAFF

Rebecca Ebnet-Desens, *Executive Director*

Sara Given, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Kassandra Mckenthun, *Archivist & Collections Manager*

Don Johnson, *Digitization*

Karen Johnson, *Office Staff*

Cindy McKinney, *Front Desk*

Jan Bergstrom, *Transcription*

Andover, Anoka, Bethel, Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Columbia Heights, Columbus,

Coon Rapids, East Bethel, Fridley, Ham Lake, Hilltop, Lexington, Lino Lakes, Linwood, Nowthen, Oak Grove, Ramsey, St. Francis, Spring Lake Park

A Look at 2023



WINTER

- 6th Grade Civil War program
- Strategic planning, BOD
- Staff development
- Genealogy classes and programs

SPRING

- Present two sessions at MALHM
- Present at MDL conference
- AMM Essential Question series
- Annual Meeting
- Anoka Memorial Day service

SUMMER

- Summer festival season begins
- Blaine Jell-O race
- Anoka Riverfest and yard sale
- Anoka County Fair
- Nowthen Threshing Show
- Edward B. Cutter trunk at the American Legion
- Exhibit openings

FALL

- Ghosts Tours
- Community programs
- Wargo Nature Center programs
- File 990, complete audit
- Install Centerville Exhibit
- Emergency Prep workshop
- Tony P. dinner fundraiser





ACHS continues to fulfill its mission to gather, preserve, and share the stories of all the people and communities that are a part of Anoka County. Since 2020, we have focused on program and collection accessibility to help researchers and the generally curious outside of office hours. This has meant recording conversations for *History 21: The Podcast*, converting films and tapes to digital formats, making digital images of the artifacts, and transcribing manuscripts (blasted cursive!). We continue to add portions of our collection to the online database, MNCollections, available through our website, as well as adding bonus content to *History 21: The Vault* for subscribers. One of our 2024 goals is to present programming from our “bookshelf” and record them. This will provide a lower-cost alternative for people to enjoy our programs, acting much like on-demand viewing services.

THE PRIORITIES OF ACHS

- Provide a fun, safe environment for the public, researchers, and staff.
- Provide high-quality customer service to the residents of Anoka County.
- Care for Anoka County memories entrusted to us like they’re our own.
- Convey the critical nature of each individual preserving their personal and family stories.
- Maintain a board of directors dedicated to the mission of ACHS.



The Year in Numbers

AnokaCountyHistory.org

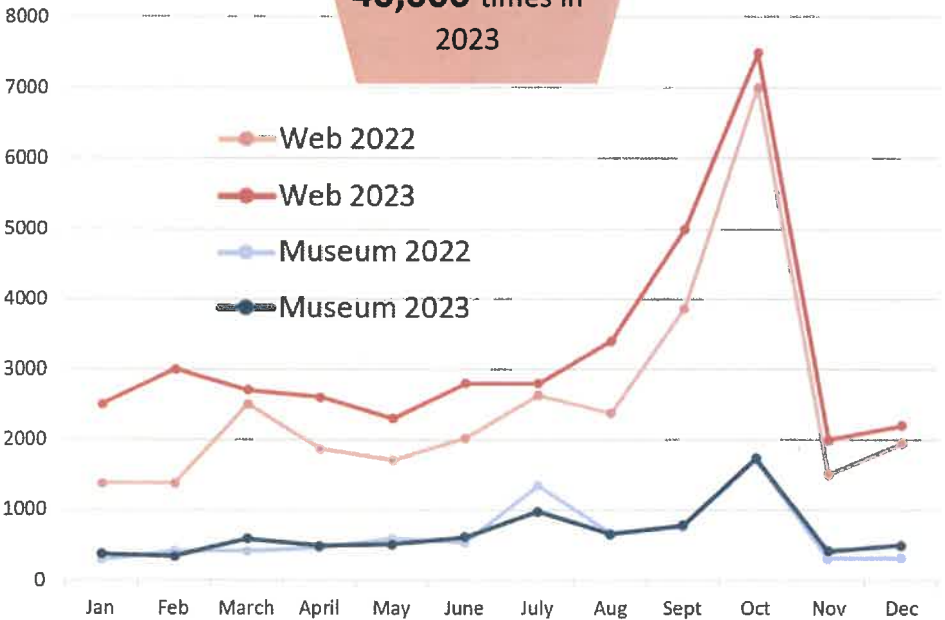
2023 vs 2022



As one board member said, our website is our 24-hour storefront to the world. Now five years old, this digital asset boasts links to our collection, blog articles, the podcast, digital programs, a gift shop, and general “about” information. We can take event registrations, memberships, donations, and artifact adoptions through online payment portals.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our website was viewed nearly **40,000** times in 2023



RESEARCH REQUESTS

In an effort to understand how much the museum resources and collections are used for research we started counting this in a new way partway through 2023. Research requests come to us in a variety of ways including email, the phone, Social media messaging, and drop-ins.

The questions range from property inquiries to who Grandma was related to, as well as business backgrounds, identifying the location in a photograph, school projects, or matching animal bones.



Megan Hedberg

48 reviews · 1 photo

★★★★★ 3 months ago

Staff was able to assist me with looking for one specific Federal Monark issue. We enjoyed the displays and my daughter had fun looking at the collections. We have done several ghost tours and are looking forward to another in a few weeks!

↩ Reply 👍 Like



Marcus Brandel

Local Guide · 165 reviews · 413 photos

★★★★★ a month ago

Awesome helpful staff!

↩ Reply 👍 Like

HOW DO WE STACK UP?

RESEARCH

622

REQUESTS

That's two per day all year. No wonder we felt busy! We provide this service without a charge to keep it accessible, but do encourage donations and memberships.



SOCIAL MEDIA

The fastest way to share items in the collection and the fantastic things ACHS does throughout the year is on our social media channels:

Facebook and Instagram. Programs such as Adobe Express help us manage the posts and allow us to schedule them in advance. Knowing what will resonate with humans and become our most popular posts is hard, so we post a wide variety of content.

INTERN KASSIDY

This summer, 9th grader Kassidy [right] joined the ACHS team as our youngest intern. She dove into whatever project was needed at the time—even using her fresh German language skills to help translate some WWII documents. She also used her creativity to help make short video reels for our social media about the resources she found here and her projects, which included helping to make sure items in our clothing cabinets were organized by number properly.



The best part of waking up ... is history in the morning! I love that my days at ACHS are never predictable. Sometimes I'm creating the podcast, helping volunteers, perhaps finding a mention of a decades-gone murder in the newspaper, and other times enjoying a day of data entry. **Sara Given, Volunteer Coordinator**



HISTORY 21 THE PODCAST!

3

SEASONS

SEASON 3

1. Tony Palumbo
2. Meet Cassandra Mackenthun
3. Myra Blumenthal Shapiro
4. Lester Peterson
5. Jill Morrison
6. Coon Rapids Dam
7. Vickie Wendel
8. Cemetery Tours Behind the Scenes
9. AMM Essential Questions
10. Conference Fun at MALHM
11. Secret Archeologists at ACHS
12. MinneCulture's "The Tiny City that Almost Wasn't"
13. James Groat Fan Fiction
14. Richard Sorenson
15. Lynn Klonowski
16. Genealogist Jane LaMusga
17. The Diaries of Alice Starrett
18. Our Haunted House Reboot
19. Kassy Saves the Museum From Disaster
20. Pearl Schenk on the Howling Hound Farm
21. Arthur "Two Gun Pete" Caswell
22. Market Garden Youth Program
23. Charles Triggs Remembers Pearl Harbor
24. Scott LeDoux

Edit

Editing episodes for the podcast helps give new life to older oral histories in the collection and opportunities for new interviews. With Adobe Audition, editing takes a couple hours to a week.

Publish

The growing library of episodes out in the world provides a connection point with the public. We're chatting about the collection? Here's information on a piece of skull. Tornado? We gotcha :)

Subscribe

Linking our podcast with podcast apps makes it easy to listen any time. In addition to Apple, Audible, and Amazon, we added Spotify to the list of places you can find our episodes.

74

EPISODES



BUILDING COMMUNITY



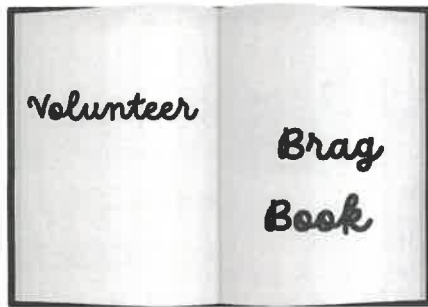
The collections and History Center as a structure helps us build community throughout the year.

VOLUNTEERS share their personal ups, downs, and victories even while they gift us their time helping around the museum or out at events. We come along for the ride of surgery or a new baby—but we really love those postcards!

Like the barber shop of yore, ACHS has **REGULAR VISITORS** who use the public reading room, newspaper subscription, computer, or Wi-Fi. Often, they wait for a bus, escape the weather—or use the only public bathroom in Anoka.

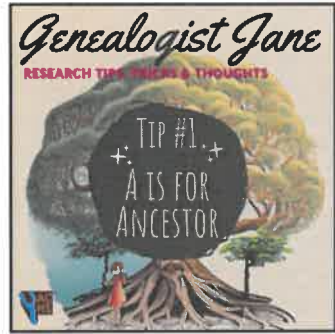
The **PHILOLECTIAN ROOM** is available for groups and individuals to use. Some friends come weekly to quilt together, social clubs meet, and our own board of directors gathers monthly. The room also hosts the Anoka County Genealogical Society programs or offers a quieter place for Anoka County employees to connect with clients.





INTERN LEO

This year, Leo worked on a medley of projects around the museum that tested him physically and mentally. He was instrumental in moving display cases in the exhibit hall and helping our team put away oversized collection items. He also helped process the collection, which was most appreciated! Sometimes, processing the collection can be mentally grueling, especially when it's time to enter information into our database. Leo jumped at the challenge of tackling a donation of postcards and letters this last year that was written in cursive, which he transcribed into our database effortlessly. What's more, in this collection of postcards and letters, he worked on filling in the geographical gaps we have in our collection. Thank you, Leo, for all your hard work in helping us preserve Anoka County's history!



JANE LAMUSGA

Friday afternoons are Jane's domain at the museum. She arrives ready to help ACHS staff with any research questions they might have, or tackle questions from patrons. Sometimes people schedule their visits for when they know Jane will be around to help them solve a genealogy mystery.

This year Jane received the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums (MALHM) first-ever Volunteer Appreciation Award. We are forever grateful for her help and excited to acknowledge her contributions to ACHS.

You can find her best tips and tricks as part of a new social media series where she daringly conquers the past as "Genealogist Jane." Sing with us, A is for Ancestor...

GHOSTS OF ANOKA WALKING TOUR



Kadie Ray

18 reviews · 1 photo

★★★★★ 2 months ago

ACHS Ghost Tour was fabulous!



Reply



Like

The weather tested our 19th Annual Ghosts of Anoka Walking Tour stamina. While public tours run through September and October, the weather took a turn for the unpredictable in the weeks leading up to Halloween. The month was so odd (for many reasons) that we kept tally: 15 tours headed out when the rain was wet and annoying, five tours needed to be canceled for severe storms, and patrons joined the guides inside the museum for a digital (but dry!) version of the tour, and two tours headed out in the snow.

Over 1,500 people from around the state (and country!) experienced the Ghosts of Anoka Walking tour, helping us raise \$28,000 for the museum.

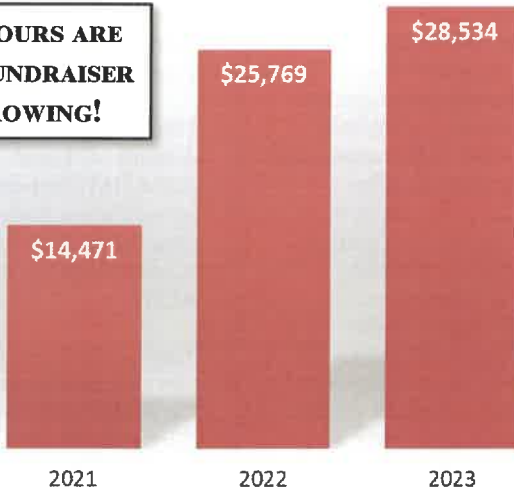
DID YOU KNOW?

The Ghost Tours turn

20

in 2024!

**THE GHOST TOURS ARE
OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER
AND STILL GROWING!**



FACILITY UPDATES

Thanks to Steve Florman, who donated new dataloggers that register the temperature and humidity at the museum, sending up-to-date information straight to our phones. As a result, staff can see when a problem with the boilers or humidifier occurs and find a solution quicker, thus preserving the collection more effectively. This became important in 2023 as we continue to wrestle with the functionality of the HVAC system and the ongoing maintenance it requires. During this time, we replaced numerous parts, recalibrated the machines, and (frankly) suffered through days either too hot or too cold to work effectively in the building.

This year's other challenges regarding the facility included an infestation of fly larvae in the Philo Room, courtesy of something falling from an overhanging branch into the chimney, and biology doing what it does best. Massive shout-out to staff with the dubious task of cleaning the floor and setting "tape traps" to prevent escapees into the collections area.

A couple of places to celebrate before we go: the front doors wouldn't close properly, and it turned out to be only an alignment adjustment and not the entire door accessibility mechanism. We also installed cameras that record activity in the museum and allow for off-site monitoring by staff in real-time. This has come in handy more than once when an alarm goes off, and we must answer the question, "is it a person or a spider moving past the sensor?" And the last bit of good news? We switched internet providers to save some money.



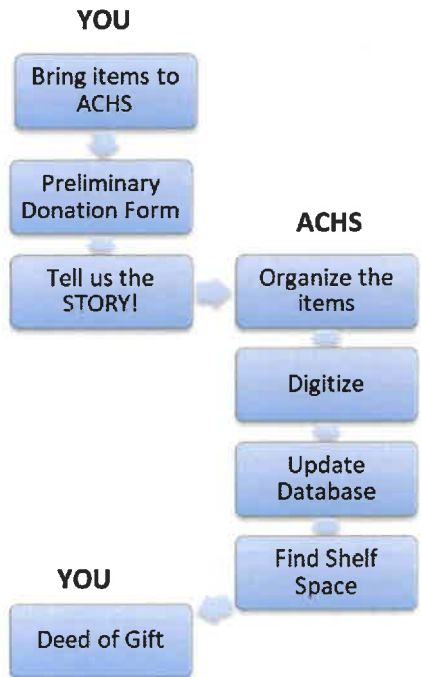
HOW TO MANAGE AN ARCHIVE



HOW TO ?

ADD AN ITEM TO THE COLLECTION

An essential part of what we do here is collect objects of historical significance to Anoka County. This means that the contents of the ACHS collection are in a constant state of flux as we take in new items and retire others to make room for new collections. The new items we take in are called *accessions*, and the items we retire from the collection are called *deaccessions*. The Gather Committee and Cassandra work together to curate a collection that contains impactful stories. Although removing an item from the collection seems counterintuitive to preserving history, it's not the quantity of historical items that is our focus but rather the quality of the story those objects tell.



THE EXHIBIT HALL

ACHS received a grant from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund in 2022 to digitize the Olson Family Collection, representing a family history from the Ham Lake area. Work began in 2023 by selecting vendors to scan the images. From there, staff worked to catalog the scans and enter them into our database, Collective Access. Additional descriptive and metadata information was added before staff selected some 3D items for display (Sara and Kassy are seen at right moving a display case) and created a slideshow to accompany a large-scale wrap print for the exhibit hall.

The exhibit hall underwent some other changes in time for Riverfest visitors as the Federal Cartridge Company artifacts found their permanent home on our storage shelves. We created a new splash wall declaring, “Take your place in History!” and featured adopted artifacts with statements from their sponsors about why that particular object drew their attention.



At ACHS, we say, “the present is the past of the future,” which means that what happens today becomes history—but only if we preserve it. We featured the story of two recent immigrants to Anoka County, Nyakade Tot, and Jolanda Dranchak. Tot loaned ACHS artifacts from her youth in South Sudan, which were on display, including a basket (left), gourd, tuk, and pech. Dranchack, from Lithuania, loaned us a collection of weavings she made during COVID-19 following her husband’s death. Visitors to the exhibits were encouraged to think about their personal stories and to plan for their legacy.

Find more about Tot and Dranchak’s story by visiting our website’s “Exhibits” section.





Exhibits on the Go

While the ACHS exhibit hall remains a vital part of the museum experience, taking history and artifacts to where the people live, work, and play fulfills outreach goals. In 2023, we added the communities of Linwood and Centerville to the regularly occurring off-site library displays. The Linwood Historical Society featured wedding dresses from residents in February, and we supplied textiles worn by Flora May Ruffcorn and Mary Ann Grant. At their Family Fun Day in September, the bison fur coat Thomas Grant wore “came home” and made a special appearance. The City of Centerville uses its “history nook” in the council chambers by featuring stories and artifacts from its past. One exhibit ACHS and the City co-created focused on the scouting programs—complete with scarves and badges. Projects like these highlight the power of collaboration since each organization contributes a portion of the exhibit contents. The more individuals and groups involved in preserving local history, the better—it shows a sense of commitment and priority to the task. It also recognizes that one cannot successfully do it alone.



My first year as a full-time collections manager has come to an end at what seems like lightning speed, but they say time flies when you're having fun! As I think about this coming year, I anticipate it will teach me valuable lessons in managing historical collections. Still, I look forward to cultivating new relationships rooted in a mutual love for history the most. Thanks for another wonderful year as your collections manager!

Kassandra Mackenthun, Collections Manager

Program Outreach

Historical programs generally involve a firehose of information often delivered in a lecture format. While ACHS staff love a good research presentation, sometimes breaking out of the rows of chairs and heading off-site makes the program sing (not literally, nobody needs that). In 2023, ACHS brought back the cemetery tours, featuring the Glen Cary and Forest Hill cemeteries. Our goal is to grow these offerings into a spring fundraiser as effective as our Ghosts of Anoka Walking Tours. That begins with digitizing the material for accessibility (thank you North Metro TV!) and offering them on-demand digitally.



ACHS staff also completed a pilot project with the Anoka Middle School for the

Arts, Creative Writing classes. Using the diary of James Groat from the Civil War, students pictured themselves into the story, looking especially for the unnamed characters. Who sent the mail out? Who did the cooking, operated the train, or answered the telegraph? They then gave that character a profile and created a narrative. Through conversations with each other, they collaborated in refining the story, research, and offering ideas to solve problems. The final step was to record some of those interactions for our podcast, which you can listen to from our website or by subscribing on a podcast catcher such as Stitcher or Apple Podcasts.



ACHS had the pleasure of working with now-retired County Attorney Tony Palumbo to present a cooking class and dinner as a fundraiser at the Anoka Masonic Lodge. Guests tried their hand at chopping, dicing, wrapping, and rolling goodies such as salad niçoise and creamy crab dip on fresh baked bread. Palumbo took the reins for the main event, a flaming moment that created the perfect steak Diane. Beautiful place settings appeared courtesy of Natalie Hass Steffen.



Outreach also includes giving programs and presentations for the wider museum audience of our colleagues. The Association of Midwest Museums invited staff to their “Essential Question” series to discuss “Change, Equity, and Sustainability.” You can listen to the recording at www.midwestmuseums.org/events/essential-questions-series/

THANK YOU!

ANOKA COUNTY

Partnerships that survive the test of time speak to the level of mutual trust and respect between the parties. The staff and board members of ACHS continue to feel gratitude to the County of Anoka for not only saying local history is critical to maintaining the legacy of their residents, but also showing their support to our nonprofit with essential operating funds. Thank you for investing in the preservation of so many stories for our future generations.

CITY OF ANOKA

We thank the City of Anoka for their continued support and advocacy of local history through their generous in-kind donation of rent for the library building ACHS occupies. Valued at \$80,000 annually, this donation allows ACHS to focus our energy on collecting and preserving the stories of the county.

VALUED PARTNERSHIPS

A non-profit couldn't survive without a community believing it ought to—the size doesn't matter. We acknowledge and appreciate each donation, regardless of the amount, made for research help, membership paid, or corporate match.

Some partnerships, however, are deeper and significantly propel ACHS forward in fulfilling our mission. Organizations like the Benedictine Living Community, Anoka, purchased a programming package for 2023. As a result of this investment, ACHS tailored two in-person presentations with digital offerings and rentals of our educational museum totes for their residents.

The American Legion Post 102 and the Vietnam Veterans Association, chapter 470 continue a long tradition of support to ACHS with annual donations and identifying our organization as a final repository for their materials. The VVA relationship began nearly 20 years ago by gathering oral histories and an award-winning exhibit on their experiences in the Vietnam War. A goal for 2025 includes editing and reprinting both volumes — to support this goal, please consider donating to our Veterans Voice fund.



Military history is a critical story to Anoka County residents; partnerships like the “Remember





Them” memorial project for Leslie Cowden and Peter Hedlund offer opportunities for outreach, fundraising, and gathering stories. Led by a small group of community advocates, this memorial will dedicate the Ceder Creek Conservation Area to the memory of fallen service members with markers and links to online information about them ensuring that a life lost in service remains alive when we speak their name.

The Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums (MALHM) provides peer-to-peer support within the history community. ACHS has been in this organization for decades and takes advantage of its resource library, educational materials, workshops, and annual conference (Rebecca even presents now and again!) Most importantly, MALHM hosts the database, Collective Access, which has provided an affordable and reliable cloud alternative to the desktop version of the collections software. It’s tempting to take the strong history community in Minnesota for granted, but MALHM also takes the lead in advocating on our behalf at History Matters Day.



Our relationship with the MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce and the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce also has deep roots. These organizations provide critical networking opportunities for ACHS, translating into business memberships, sponsorships, and in-kind donations. The opportunity to meet with other non-profits in a group called the “Breaking Bread Coalition” exists to allow for problem-solving and resource sharing among the Anoka County organizations. MNC also hosts a non-profit showcase where we and about 20 other groups gather before a Working with Women meeting to spread the word about our missions.

Other ongoing relationships include the Anoka County Library system, which hosts our programs, provides the “Library Minute” on our podcast, and uses us as a pick-up location for their materials; the Blaine Festival provides ACHS with space for “Jell-O races” each year and a financial donation; and District 11 school system who use our education totes and hires staff to bring life to the 6th grade Civil War curriculum each year.



KEY TO THE ACHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each member of the ACHS Board sits on one committee and focuses on improving that aspect of the society. But what are they?

GATHER COMMITTEE—Committee members work directly with the Collections Manager to determine the content of the museum archive, direction of the exhibits, and future preservation needs.

ENGAGE COMMITTEE—These volunteers work with ACHS staff to plan events, programming, and outreach. Often these are the faces you’ll see at festivals!

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE—Every organization needs the “nuts and bolts” people. This group develops the investment strategy, fulfills human resources needs, maintains the facility, and oversees the budget details.

DEFINE IDENTITY—Staying relevant and innovative takes effort, as does creating branding, mission, and developing new board members. This group works to professionalize our approach to the world and encourage questions.

SOME INSIGHTS ABOUT THE BOARD

The Board of Directors helps shape the organization and set the tone for culture and programming. In 2023, they created a three-year rotation for city festivals and expos, guiding future summer outreach for ACHS. By following this plan, we know all 21 communities in the county will see a representative and have an opportunity for a conversation. The BOD is also responsible for maintaining the investment strategy and providing staff with adequate compensation while staying fiscally solvent. They had many difficult discussions that weighed the benefit of increasing wages to remain competitive with other organizations and the reality of a challenging fundraising atmosphere in light of inflation and a pending recession. Their commitment to a growth mindset at ACHS stayed strong, allowing services to continue uninterrupted. The financial report presents a significant draw from our savings account to cover wages and facility repair costs. With strategic effort and advocacy help from our membership, the next decade will see not just the maintenance of wages and services but an expansion in these areas.

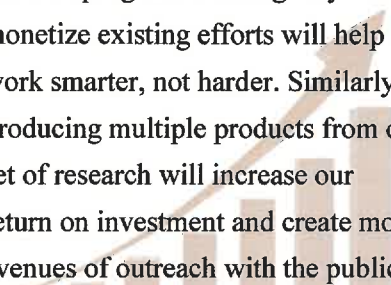


What will 2024 Bring?



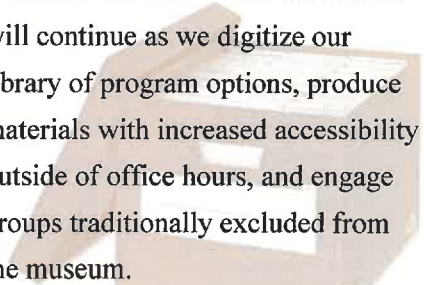
FUNDRAISING


We will diversify our fundraising efforts and expand the Adopt-an-Artifact program. Finding ways to monetize existing efforts will help us work smarter, not harder. Similarly, producing multiple products from one set of research will increase our return on investment and create more avenues of outreach with the public.



INNOVATION

The ACHS staff excels at creativity, engagement, and making the most of available resources. This innovation will continue as we digitize our library of program options, produce materials with increased accessibility outside of office hours, and engage groups traditionally excluded from the museum.



- 
- ⊕ We will begin exploring the history of manufacturing in Anoka County, and partner with Mapping Prejudice from the U of M to prepare for future exhibits.
 - ⊕ We will work to increase our membership in geographically underrepresented portions of the county.
 - ⊕ We will raise critical operating funds through galas, events, tours, and legacy planning conversations.
 - ⊕ Board members will focus their energy on a project of their choice, including outreach to civic groups, monetizing podcast content, and producing merchandise for sale.



2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

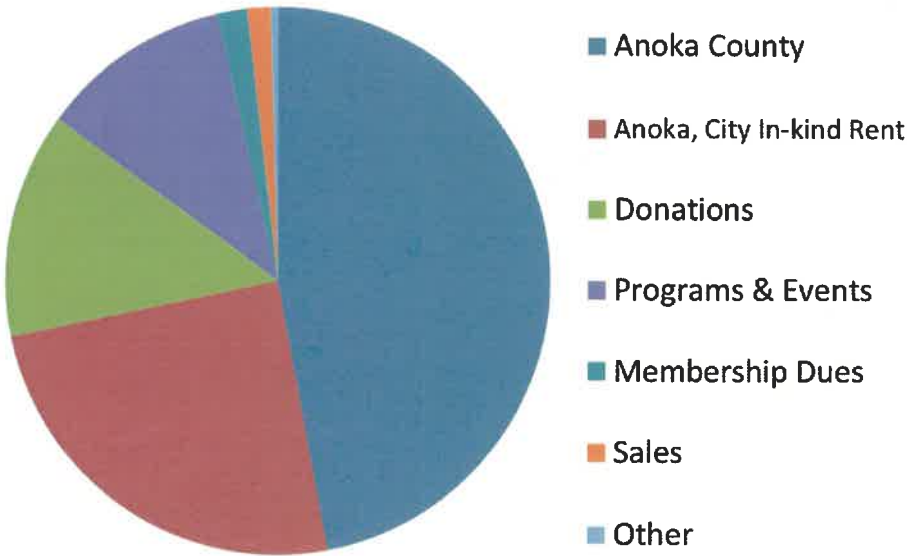
Anoka County Historical Society

Budget vs. Actuals: FY2023 budget - FY23 P&L

January - December 2023

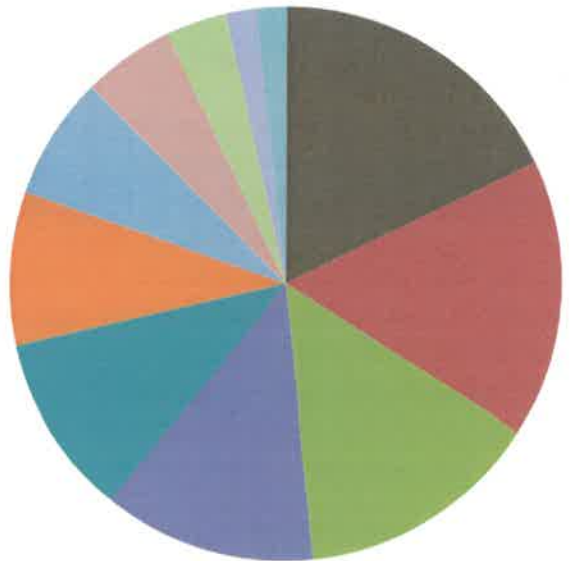
	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue				
Inkind Revenue	80,000.04	80,000.04	0.00	100.00 %
Sales	2,315.05	625.34	1,689.71	370.21 %
Sales of Product Revenue	743.82	4.67	739.15	15,827.62 %
Shipping Revenue	6.00		6.00	
TOTAL SUPPORT				
Admissions	530.00		530.00	
Anoka County	152,623.00	152,623.00	0.00	100.00 %
Donations	43,595.89	92,300.00	-48,704.11	47.23 %
Interest Income	309.06	314.01	-4.95	98.42 %
Membership Dues	5,698.00	6,668.00	-970.00	85.45 %
Other Income	542.21		542.21	
Programs and Events	36,821.92	22,833.69	13,988.23	161.28 %
Sales	1,462.46	2,677.76	-1,215.30	54.62 %
Total TOTAL SUPPORT	241,582.54	277,416.48	-35,833.92	87.09 %
Uncategorized Revenue		65.55	-65.55	
Total Revenue	\$324,647.45	\$358,112.06	\$ -33,464.61	90.66 %
Cost of Goods Sold	\$16.10	\$400.00	\$ -383.90	4.03 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$324,631.35	\$357,712.06	\$ -33,080.71	90.75 %
Expenditures				
Advertising	552.21	800.00	-247.79	69.03 %
Auto Expense		100.00	-100.00	
Bank Service Charges	457.85	1,340.00	-882.15	34.17 %
Building Expenses	62,945.51	41,663.31	11,182.20	126.84 %
Computer/Software Expense	10,336.90	10,000.00	336.90	103.37 %
Contract Labor	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Donor Recognition		300.00	-300.00	
Dues and Subscriptions	4,232.83	2,800.00	1,432.83	151.17 %
Food	677.12	250.00	427.12	270.85 %
Furniture & Other Equipment		400.00	-400.00	
Gifts	43.09	200.00	-156.91	21.55 %
Human Resources Expense	280.00	1,800.00	-1,520.00	15.56 %
Inkind Rent	80,000.04	80,000.04	0.00	100.00 %
Insurance	5,363.93	5,294.48	69.44	101.31 %
Museum Exhibit Expense	3,359.15	2,100.00	1,259.15	159.96 %
Networking	16.14		16.14	
Office Supplies	4,762.48	6,400.00	-1,637.52	74.41 %
OPERATING EXPENSE	25.54	25.54	0.00	100.00 %
LIBRARY EXPENSE	74.90	150.00	-75.10	49.93 %
Total OPERATING EXPENSE	100.44	150.00	-49.56	66.96 %
PAYROLL	226,216.29	240,000.00	-11,783.71	95.09 %
Postage and Delivery	1,388.17	2,400.00	-1,011.83	57.84 %
Preservation Supplies	1,716.39	4,000.00	-2,283.61	42.91 %
Printing and Reproduction	725.15	2,800.00	-2,074.85	25.90 %
Professional Fees	16,681.50	12,100.00	4,581.50	137.86 %
Program Expense	1,052.18	3,706.63	-2,654.45	28.39 %
Purchases	324.53	200.00	124.53	162.27 %
QuickBooks Payments Fees	24.02	40.00	-15.98	60.05 %
refund	-1.79		-1.79	
Repair/Maintenance-Non-Building	10.29		10.29	
Research Expense	13.00		13.00	
Sales Tax Expense	118.00	400.00	-282.00	29.50 %
Travel Expense	1,645.33	1,600.00	45.33	102.83 %
Uncategorized Expenditure	6.05		6.05	
Total Expenditures	\$415,946.80	\$420,844.47	\$ -4,897.67	98.84 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -91,315.45	\$ -63,132.41	\$ -28,183.04	144.64 %
Other Revenue	\$3,139.79	\$47,013.27	\$ -43,873.48	6.68 %
Other Expenditures	\$486.40	\$ -61.00	\$547.40	-797.38 %
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$2,653.39	\$47,074.27	\$ -44,420.88	5.64 %
NET REVENUE	\$ -88,662.06	\$ -16,058.14	\$ -72,603.92	552.13 %

REVENUE



EXPENDITURES

- Building Expenses
- Professional Fees
- Computer/Software
- Printing & Reproduction
- Insurance
- Office Supplies
- Museum Exhibit Expense
- Dues & Subscriptions
- Preservation Supplies
- Postage & Delivery
- Other



* Excludes Payroll

General Donations

Anoka Women of Today
 City of Centerville
 City of Columbus
 United Methodist Church of Anoka
 Vietnam Veterans of America, chp 470
 Dick Bennett
 Dennis Berg
 Nicola Blake-Bradley
 Tony Bolander
 Brian Stephen Boldt
 Sherry Boyce
 Jill Brown
 Gary Campbell
 Rebecca Desens
 Dan Erhart
 Margaret Faherty
 Steve Florman
 Eloise Graham
 John David Heinrich
 Audra Hulse
 Vincent Hunt
 Ron and Belinda Kurtz
 Jane LaMusga
 Melvin Larson
 Debbie LeVasseur

Alan E. Nedohon
 Steve Nelson
 Gladys Odegaard
 Dianne Pederson
 Robert A. Rither
 Dawn Sieber
 Ray Steinke
 Charles Burch Thurston
 Brenda Vaughn
 Catherine Vesley
 Vickie Wendel

New Members
 Greg Lundeen
 Mary & Mike Newberger

Adopt-An-Artifact
 Benedictine Living Community – Anoka
 Coon Rapids Super Senior Club
 Knights of Columbus, 9585
 Yolanda M. Fugelso
 Harvey & Merrie Glowaski
 Eric Hedlund
 John Heinrich
 Suzanne Kennedy
 Mildred Kordiak
 Jane LaMusga

Brad LeTourneau
 Orville Lindquist
 Laura Palmer

ACHS Sustaining Members
 Benedictine Living

Community Anoka
 Elaine Marie Alarcon Totten
 Troy & Karen Brown
 Barb & Gene Case
 Lotus & Richard Hubbard
 Veronica Johnson
 Bradley J. LeTourneau -Blackbird
 Scott Nolan
 Northeast Bank
 Matthew & Shelly Pahl
 Lynne & Terry Rickert
 Robert Rither
 Robert & Cynthia Taft
 Rita Warpeha

ACHS Business Members
 Fifth Avenue Dental
 Ham Lake Senior Center
 River City Resumes

ACHS Remembers



LUCILLE ELRITE

We remember Lucille as a staunch advocate of local history and avid volunteer. She

worked with the Genealogical Society to not only discover her own family roots, but help others find theirs. Lucille always had a comeback and a laugh, living life with a sense of practicality that served both her and ACHS well.



PAT SCHWAPPACH

Chances are, if you have spent any time in the history center, you have touched a project

of Pat's. From interviews to tours to serving on the board of directors, she was an active and resourceful person who propelled ACHS forward. You'll find a video featuring her in 1992 giving a tour of Colonial Hall on our website in the Vault.

1927—2024

1932—2024

History Center Hours—WINTER HOURS through March 31

Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

Wednesday—Saturday: 10-4 p.m.

Call us for a research reservation or to schedule shenanigans!

ACHS Board Meetings

Second Thursday of each month. 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Open to membership and the public. Find the link to attend digitally at

AnokaCountyHistory.org on the calendar.

Adoption Party

When: Tuesday, April 9, 6-7:30 p.m.

Where: History Center

Have you considered adopting an artifact but feel a bit stumped as to which one? Fear not! Join our Collections Manager for a show-and-tell to find the right artifact for you. Admission is \$10. Adopt at the event and receive a \$20 discount!

Movie Night

Break out the Chex mix and snacks and settle in for a cozy movie night at the museum. For our first night, watch a series of video yearbooks from local Anoka County High Schools from the 1990s. The music, the clothing, and hair styles are iconic. Other movie nights will include vintage high school football games, and county home movies. First come first serve on the bean-bag chair.

When: Tuesday, April 16, 6 p.m.

Where: Anoka History Center

Then & Now Anoka Walking Tour

Curious about the City of Anoka's past? Take a stroll around the historic city of Anoka in the newest walking tour from ACHS! Hear the history and stories just waiting for us along our streets with photos showcasing Then & Now in over 160 years of history. Dress for the weather - in the event of severe weather the tour will be rescheduled.

When: Saturday April 20, 4 p.m.

More dates will be scheduled through the spring and summer

Where: Tour starts at the Anoka History Center

