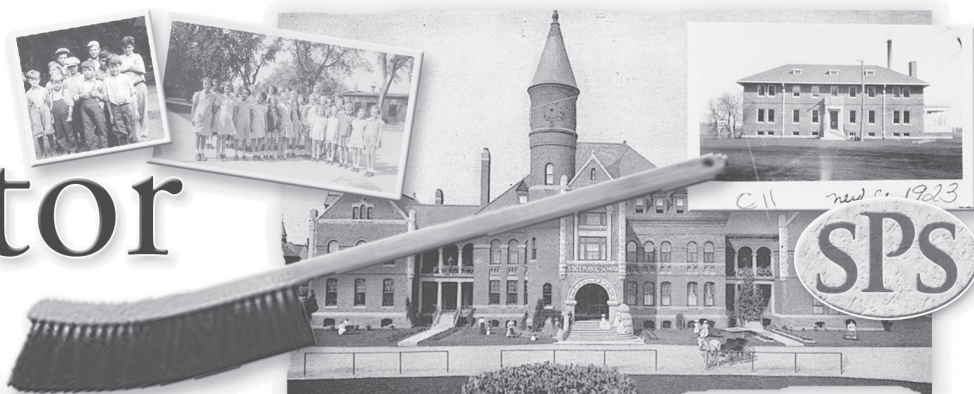


The Radiator Brush



Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum & Historic Cottage 11 Boys' Dormitory
~ Summer 2019 Newsletter Edition ~

2019 MUSEUM FALL CELEBRATION SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 - 1PM- 4PM DEDICATION OF MAXINE RONGLIEN MEMORIAL GARDEN - 2PM

Please join us for our annual Fall Celebration on Saturday, September 14, at West Hills.

We will again be offering the popular horse-drawn wagon rides on the grounds, an outdoor scavenger hunt, and other family activities. Of course, the Museum, Cottage 11, and Root Cellar will also be open. And refreshments will be available.

Admission is free of charge, but goodwill donations are always appreciated.

At 2:00, we will have the dedication of the Maxine Ronglien Memorial Garden.

If you're interested in the history of the Minnesota State Public School for Dependent and Neglected Children, come take advantage of this unique opportunity.

Our 50/50 Raffle tickets will also be on sale, and the winner's name will be drawn at the end of the event.



2019 50/50 RAFFLE

Your raffle ticket is here! It's your chance to contribute to the Orphanage Museum and-- if you're lucky--share in 50% of the money raised! The more tickets sold, the larger pot to split. This year's tickets are \$20 each.

2016 Winner: \$1987.50

2017 Winner: \$1,300.00

2018 Winner: \$1,430.00

2018 Winner: \$? - it could be you!

Send a \$20 check (made out to the Orphanage Museum), your ticket, and a contact phone number in the enclosed self-addressed envelope by September 13.

Though donations to the Museum are tax deductible, the raffle ticket purchases are not.

MAXINE RONGLIEN GARDEN DEDICATION

Slowly, but surely, progress is being made on Maxine's Garden! We want the space to be as special as Maxine was.

A lot of infrastructure work has been done to make the garden a reality. The old, overgrown flower garden was cleared, water and electrical lines were bored from the Main Building, plumbing is being installed for a water feature, and a handicapped-accessible walkway through the garden is almost ready for cement. A unique fountain, designed by Silvan Durben, Owatonna Arts Center artistic director, is being created. When this work is done, we'll be ready for the flowers!



A dedication ceremony for the garden is planned for 2:00 on Saturday, September 14, as part of our annual Fall Celebration. Thank you to everyone who donated.

A PLACE OF “INTERNATIONAL HISTORIC IMPORTANCE”

That moniker was given to the Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum by Jim Goddard, Chair of The Care Leavers' Association (CLA) in the United Kingdom and Senior Lecturer in Social Policy at the University of Bradford. The CLA is a national charity which works for adults who lived in care (in children's home or in foster homes) as children.

Jim scheduled a visit to Owatonna several months ago and we are pleased with his reaction. He spent 5 days on the grounds, experiencing everything the Museum has to offer. He also used his Twitter account to share photos with other CLA members during his visit. Here are a few tweets:

“Where else in the world is there a statue to children who grew up in institutional care? Owatonna has had one since 1993.”

“Definitely worth a visit on anyone's travels through the USA.”

“The gravestones are original. The crosses were erected later by volunteers, for those children with just numbers to commemorate them. At dusk the fireflies flit about over this graveyard.”



“I had the great pleasure and honour of spending over an hour talking with Harvey Ronglien, formers inmate--or State Schooler--of the Owatonna State Public School.”

For several years, Jim has harboured a dream of setting up a museum in London. He was particularly taken by the support of the City of Owatonna, allowing the Museum to share space on the complex. He hopes he can find an equally supportive organization.

Everyone and anyone who has helped in any way with creating the Museum should take great pride in what has been accomplished here..a place of international historic importance!

More information is available at www.careleavers.com.

WELCOME BACK, STATE SCHOOLERS!

It's always a highlight when former State Schoolers come back to visit. We were able to grab photos of three of them, but we know a couple others have been here with their families as well.

Raleigh Obenchain

Raleigh celebrated his 90th birthday this year. One of his friends thought it was time for him to make another visit to the State School. A small group happened to be touring the day Raleigh came and the folks were delighted to run into a real live State Schooler. He was very gracious answering their questions. Raleigh lived In C-11 for many years, at the same time as Harvey.



Jerry Prondzinski

Jerry brought a group of residents from his Bloomington co-op down for a visit. As with any State Schooler, it's great to hear stories from the folks who actually lived here. Each has their own perspective. Thank you for bringing your friends and for adding to the conversation, Jerry!



Vivian Swan Manthe

Winning the prize for distance traveled was Vivian Manthe and her family. They drove up from Texas--she brought her husband and four children.

Vivian's memory is sharp as a tack, so it's wonderful to hear her stories and pick up new information. Always learn something new.

Vivian once explained that having her children visit the Museum is a way for them to understand how she grew up. In Texas, they were familiar with the Manthe side of the family.

Coming to Minnesota was like visiting the Swan "Grandma's House."



Harvey Ronglien and Vivian Swan Manthe

DONATIONS

MEMORIALS

Elizabethe Schenian
Helen Hoover Bowers

OEC Social Committee
Beverly Macht

LaVonne Gilyard
Capitola Anderson

Shirley Wilson
Jim Gleason

Shirley Wilson
Kathy Jones

MAXINE'S GARDEN

Arlend "Buzz" Wilson

LEGACY TRUST

Devan Griffin

Jeanette Drake
Stanley Drake

Margo Dinneen & Jon Zoller
*Alvilde Margaret Hansen, Elise Ragne Hansen, and
Norman Earling Hansen*

J. Patrick & Judith Litecky

The Family of Violet Bachman
Don McKenney

Vivian & Don Manthe

Len & Fred Fritz

Robert Charnall

Corky & Al Kolander

GENERAL FUND

Bob Charnell

Mary L. Smith

DeLoyce Anderson

Curtis Teague & Loretta Simonet

John B. Winters, DVM

Mark Livingston

Knights of Columbus Council #945

Raleigh Obenchain
90th Birthday Celebration

WORD OF DECEASED STATE SCHOOLERS

Valeen Breitbarth Altenburg

Did you know we keep an Obituary Book?

If you are aware of a State Schooler's passing, please let our office know so we can share the news. We also maintain an obituary book with as many people associated with the State School as we can to preserve the history. Our contact information is listed below.



Total \$62,171.43 in Legacy Trust.



Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 7

Owatonna, MN 55060

Return Service Requested

If you plan to change your address please let us know as each returned newsletter costs the museum \$0.55 plus \$0.55 to re-send. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps us to save \$\$\$.

Interested in purchasing "The Children Remember" or brick on the School Plaza? How about purchasing an "apple" for the Apple Giving Tree displayed in C-11? Please fill in and mail to our address the form below. Your support is greatly appreciated! Checks should be written out to: MN State School Orphanage Museum. Donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

☐ I'd like to order a copy of "A Real Treasure" 1930 historic film DVD at \$25.00 plus \$7.00 for shipping/handling.

☐ I'd like to order a copy of "The Children Remember" documentary DVD at \$25.00 plus \$7.00 for shipping/handling.

☐ I'd like to purchase ☐ brick(s) at \$100.00 each. Fill out inscription below.

☐ I'd like to pledge an "apple." (☐ Red (\$1,000+), ☐ Gold (\$500-\$999), ☐ Green (\$250-\$499) ☐ Silver (\$100-\$249)

☐ I'd like to make a tax-deductible donation of _____. (☐ Donation for C-11 ☐ Legacy Trust ☐ Non-specified)

If you wish to purchase a brick, please print clearly the words you wish to have inscribed.
