



Dodge County Historical Society

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www.maymuseum.com

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Remodeled Kitchen Features Better Use of Functional Space

After 53 years, the May Museum has a newly remodeled kitchen. The kitchen was last remodeled in 1966 and Jeff Kappeler, Museum director, said the objective was to bring the room back to resemble its original circa-1900 look.

That meant removing layers of linoleum and tile to reveal the original wood floor.

The drop ceiling was torn out to reveal the 10-foot ceiling. “The new LED lighting is a contrast from the single lightbulb with a white glass fluted lampshade that was discovered,” Jeff said.

Custom cabinets featuring wainscoting panels are a style appropriate to the original kitchen. Old formica countertops were replaced with granite and white subway tile was used for the backsplash. And, new stainless steel appliances were purchased.

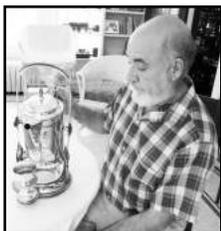
Jeff emphasized that during the remodel “great care was taken not to alter the original structure of the house. We had to work with the existing space and capitalize on repositioning counters and appliances.”



Kitchen, continued on p. 2

Director's Column

Jeff Kappeler



We have been very pleased to host Spencer Bridgmann as a summer intern here at the May Museum.

Spencer is a polite, enjoyable young man who attends UNO. He is a history major and also enjoys language studies as well as immigration history.

Thank you for your volunteer hours Spencer.

As you probably already know, a part of the success of the May Museum is due to an amazing number of volunteer workers.

These workers graciously give of their time and their wonderful array of varied skills.

Calendar of Events

Mon., Sept. 9, 7 p.m.
ENGs meeting

Library open at 6 p.m. for research

Mon., Oct. 14, 7 p.m.
Humanities Speaker

“Dust Covered Dreams”

Barbara Mohrman

St. Timothy Lutheran Church
538 W. 16th St.

Mon., Nov. 11, 7 p.m.
ENGs meeting

Library open at 6 p.m. for research

Tues., Dec. 3
Museum Open House

Memorials & Gifts

In Memory of Deanna Freitag

Jeff Kappeler

Terry, Janice, & TJ Nosal

In Memory of Betty Jelinek

Beta Sigma Phi

In Memory of Jean Kuber

Beta Sigma Phi

In Memory of Janet Larson

Jack & Judy Ekeler

Maxine Mitchell

Judy Vitters

In Memory of Gary Muma

Jane Petersen

Kitchen Renovation Went Smoothly

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The renovation began in April and was completed just before the major fundraiser held at the Museum on June 14.

Jeff said this event was the “first big test” for the new kitchen.



He also shared that those who catered the event were very pleased with the new arrangement, especially appliances.

Mark Boschult, owner of Boschult Engineering Co., served as general contractor. “Mark is amazingly well organized and he carefully coordinated the schedules for all sub-contractors,” Jeff said.

He added that all the sub-contractors who contributed to the remodel were very skilled and dedicated.

Fundraising events and private donations paid for the kitchen remodel. Very pleased with the final result, Jeff said sometimes he just walks into the kitchen because it is so bright and beautiful.

“This remodel should take us well into the 21st century.”

Contestants: How Do You Spell Spectacular?



It was a spectacular evening on June 14 to enjoy an old-fashioned school picnic and celebrate Flag Day. Upper Left: Steve Bunck introduced the spelling bee contestants. Middle Left: Julie Joyce was the spelling bee winner. Jimmy, her husband, was also a contestant. Middle Center: Joe Dickmeyer sold raffle tickets for a prize that included the schoolhouse wall hanging. Renee Bunck helped visitors find locations of Dodge County country schoolhouses. Bottom Left: Jack Ekeler and Bill Wagner served beverages. Upper Right: Guests were treated to a variety of delicious picnic food. Middle Right: Richard Rader provided patriotic-themed music. Everyone sang “You’re a Grand Old Flag.” Bottom Right: Jeff Kappeler, May Museum director, thanked attendees for their support of this major yearly fundraiser. (Special thanks to Steve Bunck for taking most of these pictures.)



Magnum Builders Install New Roof on Lean-to

The lean-to attached to the log cabin has a new brown metal roof thanks to Magnum Builders, a small Fremont business owned by Zach and Reagan Yount.

After 20 years, the lean-to wood shingles were leaking and needed attention said Jeff Kappeler, Museum director. The lean-to is where the gardeners store tools. It is an original part of the log cabin, probably used as a storage/utility area.

Magnum Builders donated all the materials and labor needed for the roof. "They were working during two very hot days in July. Their donation to the Museum is very much appreciated," Jeff said.

Zach replied, "Magnum Builders has always believed in giving back to the community when possible and the May Museum is a worthy cause." Mike Mefford and Eric Nava-Trujillo worked on this project.

Magnum Builders has constructed quality custom metal roofing systems since 1987.

Bunck Offers Workshop Using Early Tools

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Steve Bunck will conduct a workshop in which participants will use 19th century or earlier tools to create small furniture items.

The workshop will be held outdoors under a large canopy beside the log cabin located behind the May Museum. Cost to attend is \$25 and registration must be done at the Museum. Those interested are asked to register quickly because only five participants can be accommodated.

The workshop will be held from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, contact Steve at 402.317.4447.

Donation Features 12 Flags



Julie O'Hanlon and Richard Rader each donated six flags to the May Museum. Steve Bunck will be responsible for raising the flags and storing them. John C. Fremont Days was the inaugural display for the flags. They will be flown for other relevant holidays.

50 Years Old!!

This special birthday of the May Museum will be celebrated in June 2020. Formal dedication of the Museum was in May 1970. Theron and Caroline Nye had the house built in 1874-75 at a cost around \$5,000. More Fun Facts in future newsletters.