



Dodge County Historical Society

1643 N. Nye Ave. / P.O. Box 766 / Fremont, NE / 68025 / 402.721.4515
www.maymuseum.com

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Look Up!

Roofline Balustrade Project Finished



Mark Boschult (Boschult Engineering), left, and Josh DePatie (Moose Carpentry) tighten brackets that connect rail sections to the newel posts on the May Museum roof.

Jeff Kappeler, director of the May Museum, said the roofline balustrade project was completed the first part of January. It was made possible through generous grants from the Fremont Area Community Foundation, Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and enthusiastic public response to the Sponsor a Spindle fundraiser. Jeff said, "Due to the successful nature of the venture at this time, we were also able to replace the porch railings on the south and east sides. Everything now all looks the same."

Mark Boschult served as general contractor for this project. Jeff said, "I'm sure Mark had many sleepless nights and I truly commend him for being the mastermind behind the entire project."

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Director's Column

Jeff Kappeler



The private reception for 18 WWII veterans in December was an amazing turnout. It was wonderful to have that many veterans together. Truly, it was an historical event.

This reception was a fitting prelude to activities focusing on the 150th celebration of Nebraska statehood on March 1. This is a good time to get out some good history books and plan to attend some of the festivities. Please include a visit to the May Museum to see the "Transplanted" exhibit.

Happy Birthday, Nebraska!

Calendar of Events

Thurs., March 16, 7 p.m.
Quarterly Meeting

Mon., March 27 &
Wed., March 29
Day in the Past
for Dodge County 4th graders

Tues., April 4, 1 p.m.
DAR Awards Ceremony

Wed., April 26
Museum Opens
for the Season

Sat., May 6, 9 a.m.-noon
Plant Sale

Fri., June 2
Museum Fundraiser

Thurs., June 15, 7 p.m.
Annual Meeting

Memorials & Gifts

In Memory of Wilberta Brackenhoff

Steve & Lori Dahl
Cora Hansen
Jeff Kappeler
Jim & Patty Manhart
Gary & Pam Pettitt

In Memory of Sue Cobb Beta Sigma Phi

In Memory of Jody Draemel
Jim & Patty Manhart
P.E.O. Chapter AJ

In Memory of Dave Havat Lloyd & Nancy Morris

In Memory of David Jenkins Delmar & Cathy Driver

In Memory of Jane Kreymborg Mark & Laurie Ferraina

In Memory of Michal Martin Lloyd & Nancy Morris

In Memory of Karen Speas Delmar & Cathy Driver

In Memory of John Norman

Karen Burns
Cliff & Meldene Cushman
Fern Gifford
Marty & Jenna Gifford
Duane & Patti Haberberger
Don & Jan Hinds
Jeff Kappeler
Carrie Kiger
Ron & Karen Kortan
Ron & Susie Kranz
Nick & Cheryl Lamme
Bill & Jeanenne Malmberg
Andy & Charlene Manes
Jim & Patty Manhart
Adam & Lisa Sailer
Monty & Lynnette Sellon
Larry & Linda Shepard
Marianne Simmons
Linden School Staff
Wyatt & Linda Swartz

In Memory of Lila Tillman Delmar & Cathy Driver

Enjoy Some Molasses Cookies

Jane Petersen shared this recipe from her German Grandmother Margaret Heinsen who hid her "stash" of sugar under several quilts in the trunk she brought with her to America at age 16 with brothers who were 9, 10 and 12. This recipe is from an 1890 cookbook and it was translated by Jane's German-speaking cousin in Blair.

1 c. boiling water
3 tsp. soda
4 tsp. cinnamon
4 tsp. ginger

1 c. hot lard
(melt lard carefully)
2 c. molasses

Stir until mixture is frothy. Add 1½ c. flour. Cool in refrigerator until dough becomes somewhat stiff, then stir into a soft dough. Roll until 1" thickness. Cut with small round cookie cutter. Bake at 350 degrees until firm but not dry, about 10-12 minutes. (Jane has used a powdered sugar frosting.)

Funding Allows Porch Railings Replacement

Roofline, continued from p. 1



Jason Frey (J & F Fabrications) welded 21 brackets needed to support the newel posts.

Heavy unseasonable rain delayed the projected start date from June to July. Once progress was underway, the actual installation was completed within two months.

Newel posts from Spectis Moulders Inc. in Canada were fitted over the previously installed brackets.

The next step involved taking measurements between each newel for the rails. Each section of rail was custom-made to fit by Spectis. Roy Ranslem (Ranslem Painting) then painted most of the railing components before installation.

In addition to the roofline balustrade, the porch railings also were replaced. Since the existing railings were deteriorating, Jeff said they soon would have had to be repainted anyway.

Jeff said he is pleased that the final result showcases how the roofline looked when the Ray Nye home was remodeled in 1901-02. That entire

remodeling project cost \$30,000. At that time, the front pillars were also added to the house and the majority of the beamed ceilings, stained glass windows and other ornate interior moldings was installed.

Jeff expressed deep appreciation to McKinnis Roofing and Christensen Lumber for their contributions to this project.



Work began last June on the roofline balustrade and now it looks like it did in 1901-02.

Museum Hosts Successful Events

Director Jeff Kappeler estimated about 250 visitors attended the May Museum Christmas Open House on Dec. 6, 2016. "This is our gift to the community. We enjoy public support throughout the year and this is a way to give back."

Also on Dec. 6, 18 World War II veterans, who were included in the "Forever Heroes" book by Joyce Winfield, and their families were honored at an afternoon reception.

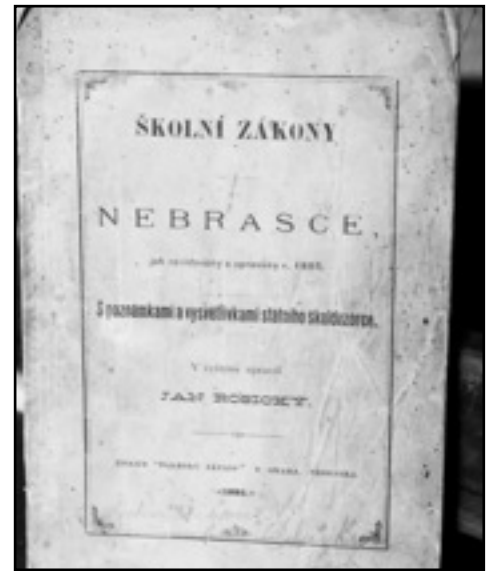


Veteran Warren Hammang said, "It was very nice to be recognized and get to know the other veterans." Mona Cooper, wife of Veteran Alvin added: "It was great. We didn't expect it was going to be such a big deal. Everyone should feel proud."

Languages Transition after Immigration



Marie Rosický, wife of Jan, published the Czech cookbook pictured above. It contains recipes from the “old country.” Many recipes had been handed down through the generations. Since the immigrant Czechs could bring very little with them, they had to depend on their memory for many of the recipes. In 1941, Rose (Jan and Marie’s daughter), translated the cookbook into English, believing the younger generation was losing touch with the Czech language.



Jan Rosický, a Czechoslovakian immigrant, wrote the book pictured above. It is an immigrant guide that may have been sent to those living in Czechoslovakia, urging them to immigrate to America. Topics included may be what household items to bring and how to find land.



Here are three cats.
 They like milk.
 Here is good milk.
 They like rats.
 One is my cat.
 My cat is white.
 Do you see my cat?
 Is my cat beautiful?
 My cat is good.
 Is your cat good?

Första Läseboken (above) was written in Swedish and published by Augustana Book Concern in Rock Island, Illinois. Young children of Swedish American settlers used this primer. It lists words and then uses them in sentences. The example shown is about three cats.

This book was printed in Omaha in 1885. Rosický started the International Publishing Company in south Omaha. He also published Pokor Zapadu (The Progress of the West), a Czech-language newspaper that was printed in Omaha and circulated across the U.S. and in Bohemia.

“Transplanted: The Early Ethnic Settlers of Dodge County” is in the second year for its exhibit. Come visit when the May Museum opens for the season on April 26.