

Historical Society Newsletter

**NBAHS Annual Meeting April 28**

New Brighton Area Historical Society will hold its 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 28, at **6:00 PM** at the New Brighton Community Center, Room 224, 400 10th St. NW, in New Brighton. We will hold our annual election of officers prior to our program.

We are pleased to present a program on "The Dakota People on Long Lake," by our own NBAHS Director Dr. David Peterson, who holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology and who will, along with NBAHS Board Member Jim Nebel, discuss the Society's arrowhead collection from the Rice Creek area.

We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to our annual meeting event. Refreshments will be served.



Dr. David Peterson



Jim Nebel

**Otonwewakpandan – The Dakota People on Long Lake**

There is a long history of Native Americans living in the New Brighton area before settlement by European immigrants. Around 1740, Dakota people settled near Rice Creek to harvest the wild rice that gives the creek its name. According to Gene Skiba, the people that settled on the north side of Long Lake near the inlet of Rice Creek called their village Otonwewakpandan or "Village on a Stream." The French are reported to have called it Grand Village. No one knows at present when the village was founded or precisely when it was abandoned. Native mounds containing human remains and a variety of artifacts have been recorded along Rice Creek, and one still stands where Rice Creek joins Long Lake, which is protected by the State of Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act. The French met the Dakota at Long Lake in 1755-1760 and they remained another 15-30 years or the same time the Revolutionary War was ending. In time the Dakota lived in fewer and fewer settlements, including Prior Lake and Shakopee where the Mdewakanton remain to this day. However, the Aronson arrowhead collection from the area of the village on the north side of Long Lake includes early Eastern Woodland types that may be as much as 1500 years old. In the future, NBAHS will closely investigate the age, types, and sources of materials used to make them, and what this indicates about the movement of early Native Americans in the region.

The NBAHS Annual Meeting on April 28 will feature a talk about the arrowhead collection, previous investigation of the Dakota settlement of Long Lake, and the new exhibit of the collection that will open in the spring at the New Brighton History Center. We are excited about the new exhibit of evidence of the early Native occupants of the New Brighton area!



Above: New exhibit in planning of the Aronson arrowhead collection acquired from Jeff Ingebritson in 2001

## From President Fred Behrens



Well, with spring finally in the air, all of us at the Society are eager to dive into a “normal” season. And nothing could highlight this more than a good old-fashioned “Rhubarb Festival,” which had been put on hold for the past two years.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, June 5 @ 1:00-4:00 PM at the Depot which, conveniently, officially opens for the

Season on June 4. This is always a fun-filled occasion, which has traditionally been supported by hundreds of New Brighton area citizens over the years. It’s also an excellent way to support the Society, while mingling with your friends and neighbors.

As in the past, the rhubarb will be harvested fresh on June 4, crafted into delicious pastries overnight (by Keys Restaurant), and served the very next day to our many attendees. Our special thanks go out to Dave Nathe of Riverside Farms and to Keys for their loyal support every year, without which the Festival would not be the same. (We will also have 4-pound bundles of rhubarb stalks and plants available for sale.)

If you can help pick rhubarb on June 4, please call 651-270-3623.

Notwithstanding the operational challenge posed by the last two years, our Board has continued meeting to plan, upgrade and improve our Depot Museum. In fact, for the past six months we have retained a graduate school student intern, Erik Pearl, studying museum science at Texas Tech University. Erik, now a New Brighton resident, performed a very thorough role in reviewing the Society’s methods and procedures, with an eye towards recommending critical changes, many which either were, or are, being implemented. After more than 40-years, it was indeed a refreshing, and much needed, overview of our entire system, and will make our facility an even more inviting venue.

Given our diverse and talented Board of Directors, the Society is continuing to improve and exploit its extensive artifact collection. One example of this concerns our rather unique display of Native American arrowheads, most being indigenous to the north end of Long Lake—less than a mile from our Depot. As stated on page 1, our board member Dr. David Peterson, an anthropologist, has researched this collection, and has offered to make a presentation at our April 28 Annual Meeting titled: “**The Dakota People on Long Lake**” We normally meet during the day for our annual meetings, but decided to offer this meeting at **6:00 PM** to try to attract more residents to this event, especially those who work during the day.

In other words, there’s a lot going on. Come to the Annual Meeting, come visit the Depot. We are so blessed to have such a talented and hard-working Board—all volunteers! As you can see, we are very proud of the role we play in the community; and we thank you all for your support!

See you at the Depot!

## 2022 NBAHS Proposed Calendar of Events

Annual Meeting: Thursday, April 28, 6:00 PM, New Brighton Community Center

Museum Cleanup: Saturday, May 21, 9:00 AM at Depot

Rhubarb Pull: Saturday, June 4, 9:00 AM at Elk River. Call (651) 270-3623 for more info

Rhubarb Stalks & Plant Sale: Saturday & Sunday, June 4 & 5, 1:00 until all sold at depot

Rhubarb Fest, Sunday, June 5, 1:00-4:00 PM.

Museum Opening for Summer: Saturdays and Sundays, June 4-September 25 1:00-4:00 PM

Stockyard Days: Aug. 11-15 Depot open Saturday & Sunday for extended hours

Harvest Dinner: Sunday, October 9, 1:00, Eagles Club, New Brighton.

## New Brighton History Tidbits

### The Hipp Family Farm

By Mark Haidet



The below article, written by former NBAHS Board Member Mark Haidet, a resident of Applewood Pointe, was done for its monthly newsletter. Mark is a professional historian that helped craft the Minnesota Historical Society into what it is today. He spent 36 years at MNHS as Director of Development leading capital campaigns for the Society. He then transitioned into the Senior Development Officer for the Minnesota State Fair Foundation. He has now retired.

The Hipp Family owned the land directly across Rush Lake from Applewood Pointe for nearly a century. Peter and Rosalia Hipp began farming the land on the east side of Long Lake immediately north of the stockyards in the 1880s. Their son, Frank, and grandson, Joseph, succeeded them. By the 1920s the farm was called Lakeside Berry Farm known for its ever-bearing strawberries. A Lakeside Berry Farm ad in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* in 1924 advertised 50,000 strawberry plants for sale.



The driveway was essentially where the park road is today. The farmhouse stood near the lake by the majestic oak tree between the two hills north of the beach. Large farm fields were located at the beach and parking lot, the parking lots by the depot, and the main picnic pavilion, ball field and the large meadow just south of the main pavilion. Hipp also raised squash on rented farmland on Cleveland Avenue and stored the squash in a root cellar built into the side of the hill north of the house.

Under Joe's ownership after World War II, the "truck farm" supplied strawberries and rhubarb to the growing number of supermarkets that sprang up in the Twin Cities, including Super Valu and National Food. He also sold produce daily at the Minneapolis Farmers' Market.

Recognized as "the Rhubarb King," Hipp raised a special type of rhubarb he developed known as Radical Ruby Red Rhubarb. A 1969 *Minneapolis Star* article on the Farmers' Market written by Barbara Flanagan claimed you can always "count on Joe Hipp of New Brighton to bring in the rhubarb."

Lakeside Berry Farm provided summer employment for ten to fifteen New Brighton teenagers every year. The boys, between 12 and 19 years of age, performed multiple tasks including planting crops, weeding and hoeing, harvesting and packing strawberries and rhubarb, and moving aluminum irrigation piping (water was pumped from Long Lake to irrigate the sandy fields). Because Joe Hipp had the contract for removing manure from the neighboring stockyards, one of the more unpleasant tasks was moving the manure to the farm and spreading it on the fields as needed.



Ron Cota worked for Joe Hipp in 1947 when he was twelve years old. He remembers "planting thousands of strawberry plants in the field south of the main picnic pavilion. I worked for 25 cents an hour. One year was enough for me. Being responsible for maintaining a large garden at home, the extra work was not worth it."

In 1970, Joe Hipp agreed to sell his 109-acre farm to the rapidly growing community of New Brighton for a future park. As part of the agreement, he reserved the right to farm the land until 1980. Hipp relocated Lakeside Berry Farm to Anoka and transplanted many of the rhubarb plants at the new location. A small patch of original rhubarb plants is located near the depot.

Special thanks to New Brighton Area Historical Society Board members Fred Behrens, Wayne Searles, and Ron Cota for sharing stories of their work on the farm in the 1950s and to Board member Joyce Klonecz for her assistance on this article.

## 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Wayne Searles, Treasurer

FISCAL YEAR MARCH 2021 TO APRIL 2022

INCOME	\$17,852
• DEPOT SALES	229
• BOOKS	1,025
• DONATIONS	16,108
• MEMBERSHIP	490
EXPENSE	\$10,913
• ELECTRIC	868
• PHONE	367
• MAINTENANCE	729
• SECURITY	1,099
• PROPANE	544
• TAXES	54
• SPECIAL EVENTS	2,022
• INSURANCE	2,048
• PROMOTIONS	3,182

Dear NBAHS Members:

All of our strategies for earning funds in 2021 were shut down. We are very thankful for all the support we get from our members. A little extra from individuals and some book sales were very helpful. The New Brighton Lions Club helped a lot and we are very grateful. Also a special thanks to Rotary, Eagles Auxiliary and Culvers. We are looking forward to 2022 to recover. **Remember annual dues are due in April!** See form on p. 3.

Wayne Searles, Treasurer

## 2022-2023 Proposed NBAHS Slate of Officers

President: Fred Behrens

Vice President: David Peterson

Treasurer: Wayne Searles

Secretary: Joyce Klonec

Director: Peg Joyce

The following directors' terms are not up for re-election:

Director: Art Oglesby

Director: Ron Cota

Director: Jim Nebel

Director: Lori Nebel

### Welcome New Board Members



We welcome new NBAHS board members Lori and Jim Nebel. Jim became interested in joining NBAHS last year while filming interviews for CTV/9North on the 40th year of Stockyard Days. Jim volunteered for years as a CTV producer and Stockyard Days fundraiser & promoter.



Lori joined NBAHS after years of volunteering with Hospice, Stockyard Days secretary & publicist and CTV. Lori owns Mind, Body Sole Massage inside the New Brighton Community Center.

We're already taking advantage of their expertise and new ideas for the society. As you can see, they're Vikings fans.

Welcome to the NBAHS Board, Jim & Lori.

### Facebook Outreach Project

Since last fall, Secretary Joyce Klonec has been posting vintage historical photos on three Facebook pages: "New Brighton Area Historical Society," "Neighborly New Brighton," and "If You Grew Up in New Brighton." To date, she has posted over 500 photos in the following categories: business & industry, including retail, stockyards, saloons; schools, churches, plat maps, Stockyard Days & Old Timers' Night, military service, weddings, arsenal history, residences and farmsteads, transportation, including horses & vintage cars; New Brighton police and fire, and our Gold Star Mother Lizzie Schafman. She is now posting photos about early New Brighton families. Plus upcoming is a subject called "Charming New Brighton Children."

Why are we posting? Because we are trying to reach out to our younger New Brighton residents, many of whom don't know our interesting history and are avid Facebook followers. With the overwhelming "likes," comments and connecting with our families, it's apparently working. We encourage you to go to one of the Facebook pages and join us in our fascinating New Brighton history.

**Registration Form**  
**New Brighton Area Historical Society**  
**For new and renewing members.**

Mail to: NBAHS, Box 120624, New Brighton, MN 55112

The New Brighton Area Historical Society preserves our history and operates our New Brighton History Center, located in Long Lake Regional Park. Your membership supports our all-volunteer organization and allows us to showcase our history and honor our heritage for years to come. Help us preserve and share the fascinating history of the New Brighton area by becoming a member today and/or making a donation to our cause! **Our Society's Future Depends on Your Support. We Thank You!**



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Options (Check One)**

Single \$10.00     Family \$15.00     Business/Club \$100.00

Please consider an extra donation for museum maintenance

**• A Great Gift Idea for Your Family •**  
**Four Historical Books**

- 1. HISTORICAL SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST**
- 2. A PICTORIAL HISTORY: NEW BRIGHTON AREA, MINNESOTA, FROM THE 1880s - 1950s (2002)**
- 3. A CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF NEW BRIGHTON, MINNESOTA (1987)**
- 4. A PICTORIAL HISTORY: NEW BRIGHTON AREA, MINNESOTA, FROM THE 1950s - 2000s (2005)**

**Available at:** • New Brighton Community Center • Beisswenger's Hardware  
• New Brighton History Center (summers) or by mail

Mail form below to: **New Brighton Area Historical Society, PO Box 120624, New Brighton, MN 55112**  
Payable to: **New Brighton Area Historical Society.**

Each hardbound book, including tax **\$25; Snippets \$12** - Packaging & Mailing (per book) \$6.00

Book(s) and number(s) requested: Snippets \_\_\_\_\_ 2005 \_\_\_\_\_ 2002 \_\_\_\_\_ 1987 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

