



THE MINNETONKA MILLWHEEL SPRING 2018



Minnetonka Historical Society's 2018 Archive Inventory Project

The MHS Inventory Project Phase 2 is underway at the Burwell House this spring!

Thanks to the generous help of the Minnesota Historical Society, who awarded us a Legacy Grant, we have hired two Inventory Technicians and a Curator to guide us through the inventory process with the latest technology, and adhering to all of the standard practices. Leanne Brown, John Crippen, and Larry Hutchings (the Curator from Museology) are halfway done with a comprehensive inventory of all of our archives and the objects in the Burwell House. This is being done for the first time since 1986 when it was partially finished by Judith Payne with an ancient Apple II computer. Utilizing our new laptop computer and Past Perfect Software we are able to assign the number that we attach to each object to it's detailed description and photographs. Our goal is that soon we will be able to field questions about Minnetonka's historic people, places, objects, photos, and documents by searching this database for the corresponding information, and to responsibly manage our collection.

Inventory Technicians discussing strategy with Lorena Hooyman and Laura Ronbeck. Entering object data in the Burwell House.



Our Inventory Curator is advising us on how to manage our collection more efficiently by assessing and de-assessing objects to and from the buildings in which they are housed: the Burwell House, the Museum, the Cottage, and the storage room.



Curator Larry Hutchings advises Lorena Hooyman, Petey Ellis, and Phyllis Mattill about which items to keep in the MHS collection.



Inventory Technicians Leanne Brown and John Crippen inspect 130 year old quilts for inventory labels.

About half of the objects did not have a 1986 inventory assessment document so they had to be re-created from scratch. There are about seven fields on the inventory checklist that have to be filled out for each object for example: Size, provenance, and condition. In March we were labeling, photographing, and entering data on all of the objects in the Burwell house. This final month of April we are working on everything else from our collection that we have gathered in boxes in the cottage, the museum and our storage room.

MHS Calendar: Spring 2018

May 8th, Tues 7PM:
Minnetonka City Hall - MHS
Presentation - Inventory Treasures

June 2nd to August 22nd
Sat., Sun., and Tues. Noon to 3PM
Burwell House Tours

June 12th Tues 5PM:
MHS Board Picnic

June 23rd Sat.
Minnetonka Ice Cream Social

MHS Email Newsletter

Petey Ellis, our newest MHS Board member has been writing a **Monthly MHS Newsletter** about our history and related events going on in Minnetonka!

The 12th one page issue was sent out by email this month using our member list. Please let her know if you want to receive it by sending your updated email to **pellis7@cs.com**

We wish to thank Laura Ronstad and Kathy Magrew for their help in locating old inventory records that they worked on at the City of Minnetonka 25 years ago. They helped us with information about many objects in the house from their years working for the City of Minnetonka.



Laura Ronstad shows us her 2005 partial inventory records.



Leanne Brown coaches Petey Ellis about labeling objects.

Bill Jepson entering data into Past Perfect in Loring Burwell's bedroom.



Minnetonka Historical Society Board 2018

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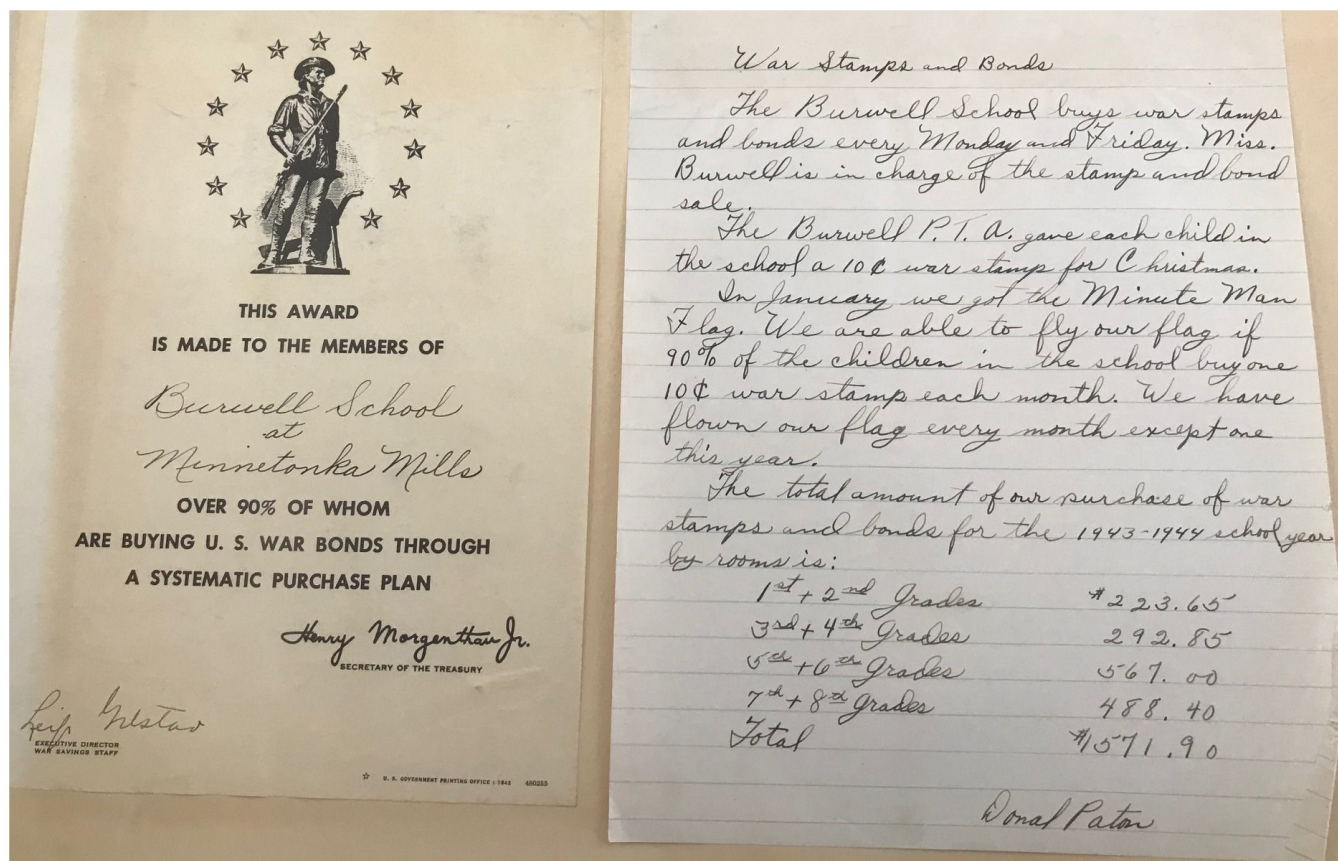
Spring Presentation - Inventory Project Treasures

On May 8th there will be a presentation given by Bill Jepson and other Board members about some of the wonderful historic objects, photographs, and documents that we have discovered as we have methodically documented everything in our collection. Many things have not been seen for decades. For example a collection of wood bound scrap-books from the Burwell School classrooms during World War 2. Also the personal scrapbook of local historian Dana Frear from the early 1900's. He wrote the quintessential history of Minnetonka in the 1800's that we hope to publish some day. Also a series of maps for the 1976 Bicentennial showing the route through Minnetonka that a horse drawn covered wagon took for the occasion. We will share many newly discovered historic photographs and excerpts from letters which will be of interest too.

Please join us at the City Hall on May 8th at 7PM. Beverage and cookies will be provided as usual.



Burwell School students - First grade 1949



One of many handwritten descriptions and lists of people participating in historic wartime activities at the Burwell School (which will be shown at the Spring Presentation.)



1943 wood bound Burwell School scrapbook

THE MILLWHEEL

Minnetonka Historical Society

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MHS Membership

All of us in the Minnetonka Historical Society would like to invite you to become a member. With your membership, you will receive this semi-annual Historical Society Newsletter, "The Millwheel." You will be kept up to date with Society events and happenings in and around Minnetonka and have a 'voice' in preserving Minnetonka's past. We all greatly appreciate the support you have given us, so that we can continue with our vital projects and activities that preserve Minnetonka's heritage.

Individual: \$15.00, Family: \$15.00, Student: \$10.00, Senior: \$10.00

Contributor: \$25.00, Sponsor: \$50.00, Benefactor: \$100.00

Last Name: _____ First Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

This is a new membership ____ Yes ____ No Today's Date: _____

I would like to help the Minnetonka Historical Society by: _____