

EXPLANATION

Section Line
Barren or Lost Line
Wagon Road
Railroad
Creeks & Springs
Houses
Churches
School Houses
Adjacent lands owned by same party
connected by a line, thus
Post Office
Coal, Lead, or Silver Mine
County Bridge

OUTLINE MAP OF LE SUEUR CO. MINNESOTA • 1898 •

Scale: 2 Miles to an inch.

Les Nouvelles Historiques de Le Sueur

250TH BIRTHDAY FOR THE USA

INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 4TH, 2026

HONORING THE PAST, CURATING
TODAY, INSPIRING THE FUTURE.
VISIT THE GENEALOGY CENTER,
11-2PM, ELYSIAN, MN

HISTORY ON THE HILL

TALK WITH PRESIDENT ABE
LINCOLN 16TH PRES. 1861-65

www.lesueurcountyhistory.org

Historical Society celebrates July 4th in Elysian

The public is invited to drop by the Le Sueur County Historical Society's Genealogy Center in Elysian, Minn. on the 4th of July. The Center, located at 301 NE 2nd St. will be open that day from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Author, educator and LCHS President Bryce Stenzel will be on hand to share some of his fascinating historical knowledge. Stenzel has been known to channel his inner Abe Lincoln – especially on national holidays.

The July 4 event is also a great chance to visit the genealogy center. The list of historic resources at the Center includes church histories, cemetery records and maps, birth records, marriage

Continued inside

Newsletter of the Le Sueur County Historical Society

SUMMER, 2026

The President's Corner...

The United States of America will celebrate its 250th birthday on July 4, 2026.

The War of American Independence actually started over a year earlier, on April 19, 1775, with the firing of "the shot heard around the world," at Lexington, Massachusetts. The war wouldn't end until 1781, with the surrender of British General Charles Cornwallis, at Yorktown, Virginia. It was the Second Continental Congress' approval of the final version of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, that is still celebrated as America's Independence Day.

It was the birth certificate for our nation; containing its highest ideals.

The most "revolutionary" thing about the American Revolution was the Declaration's bold assertion:

"...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness-- That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Without the Declaration of Independence, the Revolutionary War would have simply been another war of independence. In fact; some historians have even argued that the American War of Independence was quite conservative. Many of the people who started it survived the conflict. Most of the leaders of the American Revolution went on to lead the fledging nation through its founding - helping to write the Constitution, which framed the ideals of the Declaration of Independence into practical, written law. Contrast this with the French Revolution, whose monarchy was toppled, and people literally lost their heads; or the Russian and Chinese revolutions of the 20th century, in which millions died, or were imprisoned.

Therefore, "it is altogether fitting and proper" that Americans - as well as freedom-loving people all over the world - should celebrate the "grand and glorious" Fourth of July. As John Adams said, "...with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sport, guns, bell, bonfires, and illuminations, from

one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Abraham Lincoln certainly understood the significance of the Declaration of Independence. He said, "...I recollect thinking ... boy even though I was, that there must have been something more than common that these men [Revolutionary War soldiers] struggled for." On his way to being inaugurated president, in February, 1861, he gave a speech at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. In it he stated, "I have never had a feeling politically, that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence."

Lincoln was proof that the sentiments expressed in the Declaration were not mere rhetoric, but rather, a reality. He was the son of a Kentucky dirt farmer, whose intellect and personal ambition had allowed him to rise above the circumstances of his humble birth, to becoming the leader of his country. At the time Lincoln lived (1809-1865), this would not have been possible anywhere else in the world. It wasn't enough for Lincoln to achieve the status of "self-made man" for himself; he wanted others to have the same chances for equal opportunities as he had been given. This is the reason he fought so hard to preserve the American experiment in self-government, the Union of states, during its darkest hour - the American Civil War.

Even while the war was being fought, Lincoln was determined to expand the American promise of freedom to include recent immigrants from northern Europe, and ultimately; the slaves he emancipated. Legislation passed during Lincoln's presidency - such as the Pacific Railway Act, the Morrill Land Grant College Act, and especially the Homestead Act - were all designed to expand opportunities for people seeking to better themselves by moving to the American West.

The public is invited to join the Le Sueur County Historical Society as we celebrate America's 250th birthday. "History on the Hill," will take place on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Genealogical Center in Elysian. "President Lincoln" will share his thoughts on the meaning of the Declaration of Independence.

Bryce Stenzel

Le Sueur County Historical Society President

The mission of the Le Sueur County Historical Society is to collect and preserve the story of Le Sueur County - telling its history through historic sites, a research center, collections, exhibits and educational programming.

LCHS board conducts organization's annual meeting to a sparse crowd

No one could blame the weather for a poor turnout of Le Sueur County Historical Society members during the organization's annual meeting on April 28. As the single gathering opportunity on the Society's calendar, fewer than 30 people took part out of a membership roster of 256.

Nonetheless, official business did take place in the 4-H building at the Le Sueur County fairgrounds in Le Center, Minn.

On display at the annual meeting were fresh blueprints of the restoration of the former Elysian school. The Society is in the early phases of the multi-million dollar project which will ultimately create a permanent home and museum for Le Sueur County's history.

Attendees of the annual meeting were also able to see LCHS's efforts to preserve the Society's collection of military uni-forms. This time-consuming process is producing remarkable results.

LCHS President Bryce Stenzel provided updates including improvements made to various sites and buildings. Volunteers have begun cataloging artifacts on computer. The modern system will replace the Society's file cards and will provide an inventory of its many treasures with a few keystrokes.

Four individuals were elected to the LCHS board of directors. Bryce Stenzel, Colleen Carlson and Nick Pollack will return to the board. They will be joined by newcomer Paula Cihla-Sexton of Montgomery.



Members of the Le Sueur County Historical Society elected a new face to its board of directors at the organization's annual meeting on April 28. Paula Cihla-Sexton of Montgomery was chosen by popular vote and will take the seat formerly occupied by Mike Fredrick.

Le Sueur County Historical Society's 2026 board of directors are: (front row, left to right) Paull Malchow, Treasurer Colleen Carlson, Bonnie Reak and outgoing Board Member Mike Fredrick; (back row, left to right) Vice President Nick Pollack, Ron Greenwald, President Bryce Stenzel, Dean Pettis, Cihla-Sexton and Secretary Dr. Ruth Collins.

July 4 continued

certificates and indexed obituary clippings from newspapers. At the Center you can find old plat books, maps, and town history books and files. Some family histories which have already been compiled can be found at the Center as well.

History enthusiasts are encouraged to volunteer at the Center. Many current volunteers enjoy researching Le Sueur County history for others and learning a few new things themselves. Along with doing research, volunteers are needed to file obituaries, organizing files, scan photographs and make copies. If interested in being involved, contact LCHS via email at info@lesueurcountyhistory.org or call (507) 267-4091.

Also on July 4, the Louis Hruska storage building will be open to display a number of artifacts during the event.

Many former Elysian residents will be in town to celebrate the 4th. Why not meet at the Genealogy Center before the parade and reminisce?



The guest speaker appearing at the annual meeting was author and storyteller Jason Lee Willis.

Le Sueur County Historical Society Research Center

301 NE 2nd St, Elysian MN

2026 Season April 17-September 19

Open Friday & Saturday 1:00-4:00

Not open on holidays

Phone (507) 267-4091

Email: info@lesueurcountyhistory.org

Postal mail: P.O. Box 123, LeCenter, MN 56057

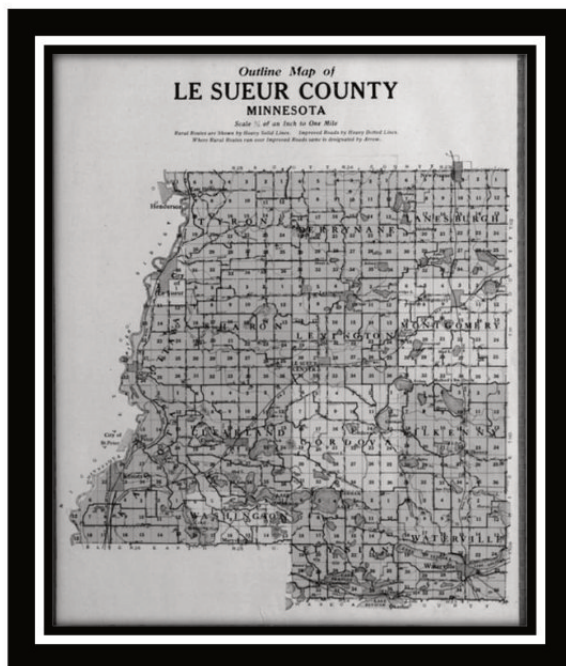
Facebook: www.facebook.com/LCHSHISTORY

Website: <http://www.lesueurcountyhistory.org>



Patron Policies and User Fees

- Research fee: \$10 to use center (free for LSCHS members)
- \$20/hour to have research conducted for you (first 2 hours free for LSCHS members)
- Copies & scans— 25 cents each (B&W) or 50 cents (color)
- No food or beverages while using the Research Center



Research Resources

- Birth announcements and records
- Cemetery records and maps
- Census records
- Church histories, baptisms & members
- County and state history books
- Death certificates on microfilm
- Family histories, donated books & files
- Immigration/naturalization records
- Maps of Le Sueur Co. — 1874, 1880, 1898 & newer
- Marriage certificates & articles
- Military & veteran records
- Newspapers on microfilm (Elysian, Kasota, Kilkenny, LeCenter, Le Sueur, Madison Lake, Montgomery, New Prague, Waterville)
- Obituaries from newspapers (indexed)
- Photograph collection
- Plat books — 1898 and forward
- School records
- Town history books and files

Tools available for researchers

- Knowledgeable staff to assist
- Copy machines
- Microfilm reader with printer
- Internet access
- Photograph scanning by staff

Genealogy Center season is underway

Volunteers needed!

The Society's Research Center at 301 NE 2nd St. in Elysian is open Fridays and Saturdays from 1-4 p.m. through Sept. 19. The phone number is (507) 267-4091.

The building's electrical system was improved to eliminate the network of extension cords, accommodate computers and printers, and make plug-in access safer and more convenient.

The Genealogy Center has proven to be a valuable resource in researching family histories. The list of historic resources at the Center includes church histories, cemetery records and maps, birth records, marriage certificates and indexed obituary clippings from newspapers. At the Center you can find old plat books, maps, and town history books and files. Some family histories which have already been compiled can be found at the Center as well.

A user fee of \$10 is charged, but the fee is waived for LCHS members. If you wish to have Center staff assist with research, there is a fee of \$20 per hour. Document scans and copies are 25 cents each. The Center is equipped with a Microfilm



ScanPro printer/reader. Patrons can view archived newspapers from throughout the county and print selected items.

While most Center patrons are walk-ins, appointments can be made via email at info@lesueurcountyhistory.org or by calling (507) 267-4091.

Volunteers are always needed to help out at the Center with research, filing, organizing and cleaning. Anyone interested in being involved with the Genealogy Center — or any LCHS projects — should contact LCHS via email at info@lesueurcountyhistory.org or call (507) 267-4091.

David Maass (1929-2026)

Renown Minnesota wildlife artist and former Le Sueur County resident David A. Maass passed away on April 29.

Raised with an appreciation for the outdoors, the self-taught Maass designed 38 duck and conservation stamps and two federal duck stamps during his illustrious career.



Students learn about schools of yesteryear

Bette Traxler (photo left) did a great job on May 11 playing hostess at the District 75 schoolhouse. Two groups of 6th graders from Tri-City United schools went low-tech for a lesson on what it was like to attend school in the 1930s. TCU-Le Center teachers involved were Jason Hollom and Rachael Faulds.



"We're your neighbors and friends."

**10 W. Minnesota St.
Le Center, Minn. 56057
507-357-2273**

**701 Ash St. NE
Lonsdale, Minn. 55046
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Board set to submit grant request for Phase II of the Elysian school restoration

Just in time for the LCHS annual meeting, fresh blueprints for the Elysian school restoration were completed. Phase II encompasses the structure's exterior. This includes replacing all windows and doors, tuckpointing brick, and reworking the stairs entering the east and southwest doors to the building to match the original design.



Steps leading to the Elysian school's southwest entrance is just one component of LCHS's efforts to restore the historic structure.

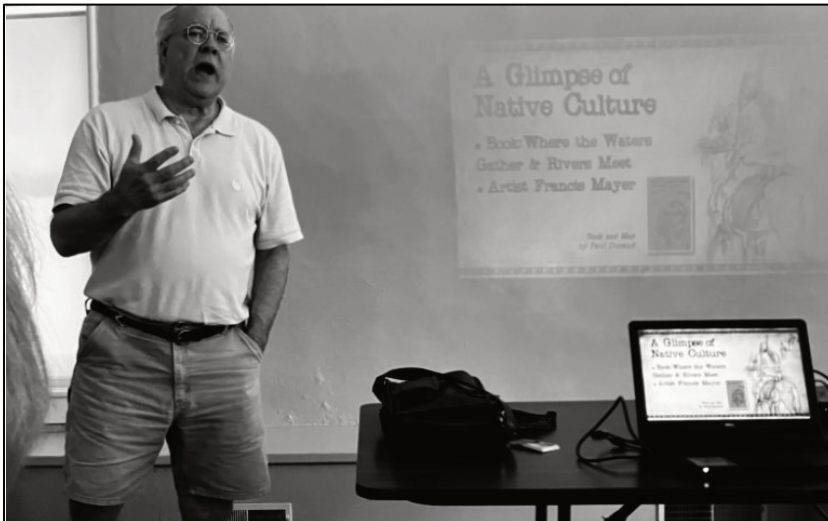
Because the scope of Phase II is so large, the Minnesota State Historical Society suggested breaking it up into smaller parts. This would lower the size of the grant request and improve LCHS's chances of receiving funding (MSHS provided a majority of the funding for Phase I, along with a grant from the Schmidt Foundation.)

The LCHS board is looking to address doors, windows and stairs with the upcoming grant request. Because LCHS seeks government funding, an archeological dig is required to search for buried artifacts.

Society has retained the engineering services of ISG Inc. in Mankato to oversee the project estimating and bidding process for the project. With blueprints in hand, LCHS can now have costs estimated and present those figures in the State Society grant application.

Phase I was comprised mainly of repairs made to the building's roof and bell tower. All work needed to match the original components of the school — including shingles, soffit, brick and mortar types.

Ottawa Historians host special program on area's original residents



On June 13, historian and artist Jeff Jarvis presented "Mni-Waste - 1851." Jarvis spoke on the native names for some of the sites along the Minnesota River between Le Sueur and Kasota. The year 1851 is the time of the Traverse des Sioux treaty and Jarvis shared some of the people who were in the area for the occasion.

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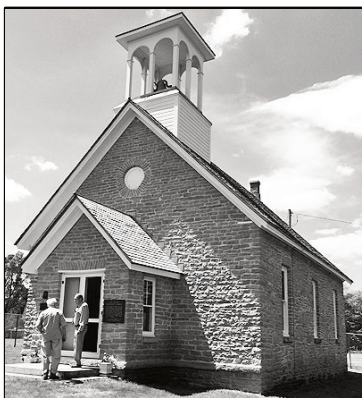


415 4th St. SW
Montgomery, Minn. 56069
507-364-5148

Ottawa Stone Church open on Sundays

Once again this summer, the Ottawa Stone Church will be open to the public on Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

The Le Sueur County Historical Society is also making the landmark available for social gatherings such as weddings, reunions or similar events.



Rental of the church and grounds for an entire day (8 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.) is \$300. A damage, cleaning and key deposit of \$250 is required for all rentals. Late cancellation fees may apply.

Rules and guidelines for renting the church are included on the application.

A rental application must be made to the Le Sueur County Historical Society for review. An application is available on the Society's website <http://lesueurcountyhistory.org/>. For more information, contact the Society via email at info@lesueurcountyhistory.org or call (507) 267-4091.

Make an enchanting day even more memorable with a unique touch of yesteryear!

Seeking old LCHS newsletters

The Society is asking members' help in locating LCHS newsletters printed before 2019. We would like to have an archive of past newsletters to better reflect Society activities over the years. If anyone has any old newsletters they would like to donate, send them to P.O. Box 123, Le Center, MN 56057.

America's Anniversary celebration slated for July 25 in Le Center

Volunteers are hard at work preparing Le Center's 250th Birthday Celebration for America. The event, which takes place in the courthouse square, will be on Saturday, July 25.

Events include a community parade beginning at 4:00 p.m. followed by a selection of family-friendly activities. Grand Finale Fireworks will wrap up the celebration.

LCHS will be participating in the festivities.

Volunteer workers will be needed to make July 25 a grand experience for all. Contact the Le Center American Legion or VFW if you're interested in helping out.

City of Cleveland expresses concerns about church

The Le Sueur County Historical Society has been contacted by the Cleveland City Council regarding the former United Methodist Church located downtown at 300 Broadway St.



The church currently houses much of the contents from the former Le Sueur museum and has serious structural issues - mostly involving the structure's bell tower.

The LCHS board of directors recently conducted a work session to discuss the future of the church. LCHS President Brye Stenzel is working with the City of Cleveland to explore options for restoring the church.



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King of the Hill (1870-1898)

Who owned the Ottawa Road Brewery?

Compiled by Sally Olson

Researching the story of the old brewery located about a mile south of Le Sueur, Minn. on the Ottawa Road proved to be an enjoyable project. Sources included census records, newspaper articles, family stories, and the book *Le Sueur: Town on the River*.

The earliest known mention of the brewery appeared in the 1870 U.S. Census for Le Sueur, which lists a man named George Kienzli (whose name also appears at times as Kingsley) with the occupation of "brewer."

Ownership of the brewery becomes somewhat unclear after that. The grandson of one of the later owners stated that Mr. Kienzli sold the brewery to Emil Bolbreck (a name I later determined was actually Volbrecht), who then sold it to his grandfather, Peter Arbes Sr. Based on other records, however, I believe the sequence may have been the reverse.

Other clues

A biographical sketch for Christian Seifert in *The History of the Minnesota Valley* says he was in the brewery business in Le Sueur starting in 1876 for 15

months. Another biographical item in that same publication says Peter Arbes married "Miss Seifert" in 1875 (it was 1876). A family connection! A Le Sueur County birth record dated 1877 lists the occupation of the

baby girl's father, Frank Redly, as brewery manager.

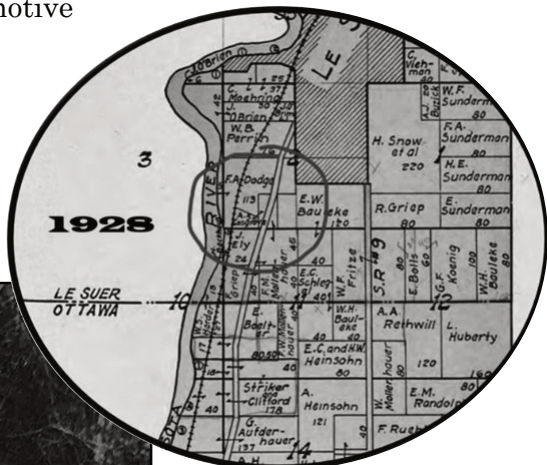
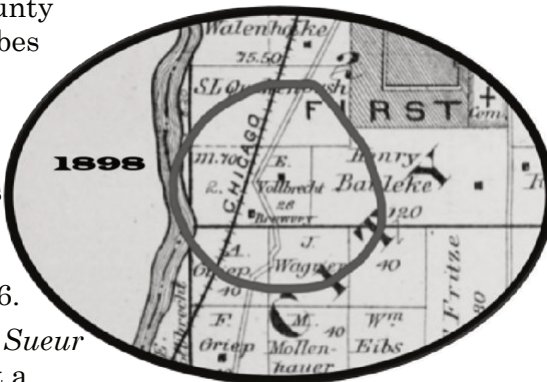
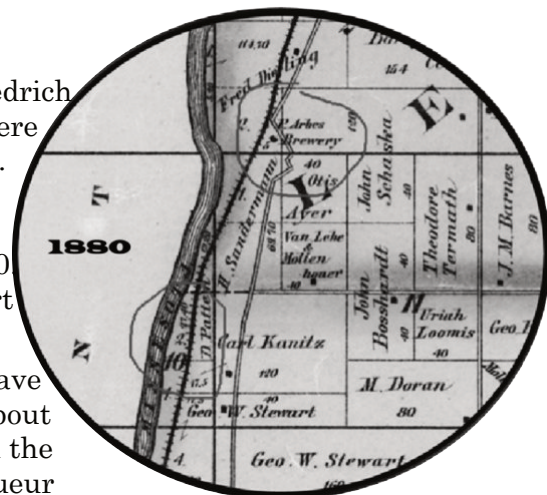
Two property deeds are of interest. In June 1877 Friedrich Krueger bought the lot where the brewery stood for \$400. In November 1877 he sold it to Peter Arbes and Christian Seifert for \$1,100. Arbes married Mary Seifert in 1875.

Peter Arbes appears to have owned the brewery from about 1877 to at least 1887. Both the 1880 U.S. Census for Le Sueur and the 1880 Le Sueur County plat map identify Peter Arbes as a brewer.

Born in Austria in 1850, Arbes had previously lived in New Ulm, where he was also involved in the brewing business, before moving to Le Sueur in 1876.

An 1887 article in the *Le Sueur News-Herald* reported that a spark from a passing locomotive ignited a large pile of wood belonging to Arbes at the brewery, destroying more than 60 cords.

Continued on next page



Kienzli Brewery on
Ottawa road circa 1875

NOTE: The story on Le Sueur County's railroads which appeared in the last newsletter was written by Jerry Swan,



Emil Theodore Vollbrecht

Brewery continued

In 1882, Emil Vollbrecht purchased property from Livingston Quackenbush which appears to have been at or near the brewery site. The St. Peter Tribune reported on May 22, 1895, that Emil Vollbrecht bought the Le Sueur brewery for \$3,000, although the former owner paid \$14,000. In the 1898 Le Sueur County plat book, Vollbrecht was listed as the brewery's owner. Unfortunately, the loss of the 1890 federal census in a fire leaves a gap in the documentary record.

Interestingly, the 1895 Minnesota State Census lists Vollbrecht's occupation as wagonmaker, suggesting that brewing may not have been his sole line of work.

In July 1898, the local newspaper reported Vollbrecht was seriously injured when boiling water ran over his arm at the brewery. Just a few months later, in November 1898, the Le Sueur News-Herald reported that the brewery was destroyed by fire during a raging snowstorm.

Vollbrecht left Le Sueur shortly after the fire and died in 1904 of cancer in Fergus Falls, Otter Tail County, Minnesota.

Le Sueur Has Sleepy Brewery Ghost Reappear

Ed's Note—The following item appeared in a New Ulm newspaper back in 1936, written by Mrs. Ruth Kinsey, who at that time was a reporter for the News-Herald. The faded old clipping came to light the other day and was brought to this office by one of our subscribers. We thought our readers would like to read it.

"Situated on a hillside just south of Le Sueur are the ruins of what once was a brewery. This building, several years ago, was partly destroyed by fire. After the building was abandoned as a brewery, strange stories of a wanderer taking possession of a one of the caves was noised about. This attracted but little attention until the supposed wanderer was seen on several occasions to emerge from the cave, and wander up and down the Omaha railway tracks, carrying a red lantern. When some brave men in the old days tried to follow and catch the wanderer, he was said to vanish into thin air, red lantern and all. Several years elapsed and the man with the red lantern was not heard from.

Many years ago it was said he appeared oblivious to approaching trains, and despite the warning whistles, continued to swing the lantern and jog along. A train was forced to stop to draw his attention, but upon investigation, he had disappeared. This might have passed unnoticed, had it not occurred again and by that time, the whole countryside was aroused.

The man with the lantern was seen at a distance, but upon approaching him closely, he disappeared. Upon examination, save for a few old clothes, a straw tick and a box, the cave was empty, yet neighbors testified that the cave was occupied at night.

Tension was so great that people refused to live in the house across the road from the brewery ruins. An Indian family outstayed the others, and subsequently two sons were killed, one on the track, and one by drowning, both accidents occurring in the early fall, about the time the strange man was said to have appeared.

Just recently the track wanderer has been seen again. Old-timers have revived the early stories of his visits. Even to the point of saying, that rumbling, like machinery running can be heard issuing from the cave, as the villagers in Sleepy Hollow heard the sound of Henry Hudson and his men playing ninepins.

A family occupies a new house across the road, and thus far this miniature Sleepy Hollow has been peaceful. Just how peaceful will be determined by the frequency with which the man with the red lantern appears.

Whatever, it is, until the first snowfall, those who know the legend, make short work of the brewery hill, but after gaining the top, pause for a look down the peaceful valley, half fearfully hoping to see for themselves, the mysterious man, with the swinging lantern."

The old brewery, in question, which for long years, has been unoccupied, was an industry, which meant much to Le Sueur in the early days. It was operated by Peter Arbes, Sr., deceased husband of Mrs. Mary Arbes, well known resident of this city.

In the 1880's, the Fergus Falls county commissioners agreed to pay for a telephone in the new courthouse. The bill for the service was entered regularly in the records as "hello box rent."

In later years, newspaper accounts told of a ghost said to haunt the area where the brewery once stood. One of those stories is attached.

Though the brewery operated only for a relatively short time, The site where it once stood is still known locally as "Brewery Hill."

There are many good reasons for a LCHS membership

Small but mighty, the Le Sueur County Historical Society keeps making progress on projects vital to the group's future success.

Education is a cornerstone of the Society's mission statement. LCHS has hosted a number of elementary student visits to the District #75 schoolhouse located in Le Center. In the Fall of 2025 the Society coordinated a program with Waterville-Elysian-Morristown school district's art department centered around Le Sueur County artists David Maass, Roger Preuss and in particular Adolph Dehn. On President's Day in 2024 and 2025, LCHS President Bryce Stenzel delivered programs centered around Abraham Lincoln and his family. Stenzel also re-enacted Lincoln's inauguration speech of 1864 during the Society's annual Fourth of July event.

Part education and part entertainment, the Society has featured many interesting speakers at its annual meeting, including artist Jeff Jarvis; humorist, bird enthusiast and writer Al Batt; and authors Larry Kortuem and Jason Lee Willis.

The LCHS Genealogy Center continues to make updates to stay abreast of today's technology demands -from increasing the building's electrical capacity to upgrading computer and printer equipment.

The Society is in the early stages of implementing a computerized cataloguing system to improve its record keeping. The goal is to have each and every one of the LCHS artifacts available for viewing by members on the internet.

Anyone who has experienced home maintenance and repair projects can understand the challenges facing LCHS. Now that the Ottawa Stone Church has a new roof and bell tower, and the schoolhouse in Le Center has been renovated, the Society has turned its sights to restoring the red brick school in Elysian. This is a multi-million dollar project undertaken in small steps over a number of years. A new roof has already been installed and the next phase involves the building's doors and windows.

When all phases are completed, the nationally-registered school will serve as the County's historical museum with its treasures on display.

As far as the Society's other buildings, much work is yet to be done. The church in Cleveland has serious construction issues. The Genealogy Center is not currently handicapped accessible and is showing its age. The historic log cabin on the Elysian campus must be renovated before it is safe for visitors to enter. On the bright side, one of the Society's storage buildings has been outfitted with energy-saving LED lighting and the other storage shed received needed roof work. Diligence and hard work has enabled the Society to accomplish much with limited resources; and this is why memberships are vital to continued success.

Do you have a friend who loves history? Give them a membership to the Le Sueur County Historical Society. All members have a voice in LCHS goals and operations, an opportunity to help preserve Le Sueur County history, and free access to the Society's Genealogy Center.

The Genealogy Center has proven to be a valuable resource in researching family histories. The list of historic resources at the Center includes church histories, cemetery records and maps, birth records, marriage certificates and indexed obituary clippings from newspapers. At the Center you can find old plat books, maps, and town history books and files. Some family histories which have already been compiled can be found at the Center as well.

Many current members — along with people from all over the United States, enjoy researching Le Sueur County history for others and learning a few new things themselves.

Individual memberships start at \$30 per year. An entire family can join for \$40.

Not sure a membership is the way to go? Contributions to the Society are always welcome. The Le Sueur County Historical Society is a 501C3 Minnesota nonprofit organization. All memberships and contributions are tax deductible.

HELP US DO MORE

JOIN THE LE SUEUR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

All members have a voice in LCHS goals and operations, an opportunity to help preserve Le Sueur County history, and free access to the Society's Genealogy Center.

LCHS Membership Application

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- ☐ Individual — \$30
- ☐ Family — \$40
- ☐ Supporting — \$100
- ☐ Business — \$250
- ☐ Contributor — \$500
- ☐ Benefactor — \$1,000

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Research at the Genealogy Center without charge

Receive Society newsletters, updates and invitations

Cast a vote at meetings of membership

Dues and donations are tax deductible

Le Sueur County Historical Society is a 501C3 Minnesota nonprofit organization with historic sites in Cleveland, Elysian, Le Center, Le Sueur and Ottawa

I can help with

- ☐ Building and grounds maintenance
- ☐ Recording inventory and artifacts
- ☐ Educational programming
- ☐ Genealogy Center assistance
- ☐ Communications

My signature on this application confirms my commitment to supporting the mission of Le Sueur County Historical Society.

Signature

Date

Mail application with check payable to: Le Sueur County Historical Society

ATTN: Membership

P.O. Box 123

Le Center, MN 56057

For Society Records: Received _____ Reviewed _____ Approved _____



**Le Sueur County
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

**P.O. Box 123
Le Center, MN 56057**

**PRESORT
STANDARD
Permit #55
New Prague, MN
56071**

County Fair fix-up on Aug. 15 at 9 a.m.

In preparation for the 2026 Le Sueur County Fair (Aug. 20-23), the Society is looking to get our exhibits spruced up for the public.

The Le Sueur County Historical Society's Heritage Center and the Dist. #75 Schoolhouse, located on the Le Sueur County fairgrounds, have been popular stops for hundreds of fairgoers over the years. A work session has been scheduled for 9 a.m. on Aug. 15 for tidying up the two sites.

There are jobs of all sizes and abilities which need to be done — mostly general cleaning.

Buckets, rags, step stools, step ladders and paper towels would come in handy if you can bring them, but most of all we need helpful hands.

This is an opportunity to meet fellow Society members and create a good impression of the Society's work to the general public. We look forward to seeing you!

LCHS volunteers needed: Le Sueur County Fair

Once again, the LCHS History Center and the Dist. #75 Schoolhouse will be welcoming fairgoers to the 2026 Le Sueur County Fair (Aug. 20-23).

Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts over the four days. Your help allows the Society to keep

the exhibits open and provides great exposure to the work of LCHS.

Book your preferred day and time slot at info@lesueurcountyhistory.org or call (507) 267-4091. Thank you!

Ottawa annual festival is Sept. 13

The public is invited to take part in Ottawa Historians' annual prayer service and harvest picnic on Sept. 13. The 12:30 pm prayer service takes place at the nationally-recognized Ottawa

Stone Church with the potluck picnic following in the Ottawa Park.

Good food, friendship and great stories come at no charge.