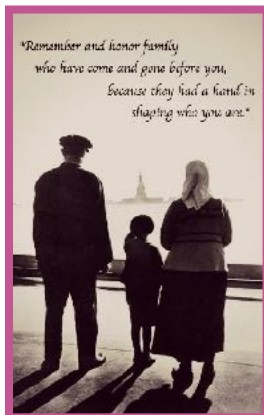




SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



Shakopee Heritage Society Meeting October 28, 2023

The Shakopee Heritage Society's meeting is on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from noon until 2 pm at the Shakopee Library. Please attend! A presentation will be happening!

Ai G. Apgar

1853 - 1856

While fishing on the web, David Schleper found a site that has a picture of Ai G. Apgar, who is buried at Valley Cemetery in Shakopee. After talking to Sarah Deppe, from the Scott County Sheriff Office, I found out that the picture IS of Ai! The SHS will do a brochure, but here is the info that Sarah found. And guess what? She is a history nut!

In 1828, Ai G. Apgar was born into a farming family in New York. When he was in his early 20s, Ai, along with his wife, parents and several siblings moved to Minnesota and made property claims in Scott County. Ai, his older brother Daniel and younger brother Milo married three sisters from the Dimon family (also from New York) - Daniel married Minerva, Ai married Phebe, and Milo married Diana "Jeannette" Dimon. The families settled in Shakopee.

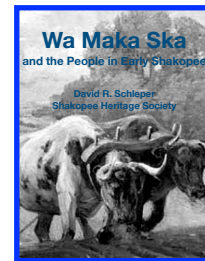
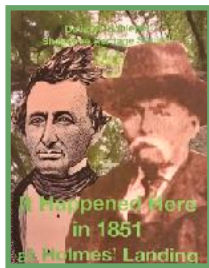
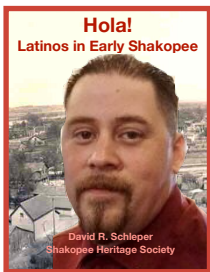
In 1853, Scott County was organized into one election precinct and territorial Governor Alexander Ramsey appointed Ai G. Apgar the first Sheriff of Scott County and his brother Daniel the Justice of the Peace and Judge of Probate. Their father, Samuel Apgar, was also an election judge at the first election held in 1853.



After Sheriff Apgar's term ended, he soon moved to the proposed village of Hennepin (present day Eden Prairie). He purchased what was originally the first store in town that served as both a store and hotel. He kept open the hotel but closed the store, and it continued this way until it was destroyed in 1867. Apgar returned to farming and died in 1877 at the age of 49. <https://www.scottcountymn.gov/1520/History-of-Sheriffs-Office>

Presentations Coming Up

Here is the list of the History of Shakopee Series from David Schleper of the Shakopee Heritage Society. The monthly presentations are on a Tuesday, and are free. Usually about 40 people attended. For the last 5 years, the monthly meetings have been fun! If questions, contact Mary Feltmann at 952-233-9507. SHS is at shakopeeheritage.org or at David at 952-693-3865. Presentations (free) are at the Shakopee Community Center.



Hola! Latino/a and Hispanics in Early Shakopee at the Shakopee Community Center 1-2 pm on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

Thomas A. Holmes and William Quinn at Holmes 'Landing in 1851 at the Shakopee Community Center 1-2 pm on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

Wa Maka Ska and the People in Early Shakopee at the Shakopee Community Center, 1-2 pm, on Tuesday, November 14, 2023.

A Place of Our Own

Richard and Juanita Luis, a strong supporter of the Shakopee Heritage Society, gave \$5,000 to the Shakopee Heritage Society as a support for getting more money for a place for us to display our materials and share memories of growing up in Shakopee. Over the next year, the Shakopee Heritage Society will work with people, organizations, and businesses in order to increase the money for the purpose of a building for Shakopee.

Thanks to Richard and Juanita!



180 Atwood Street North Shakopee

The Shakopee Heritage Society board members had a get-together at the Mallards in Shakopee!



Brochures

The Shakopee Heritage Society brochures will be sent shortly. It includes 24 new brochures. The brochures are on-line, and available for schools and others. So far, the SHS 274 brochures, including half women and half men, and 40% people of color.

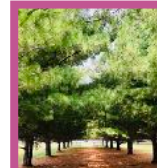
Want more information about People of Sha K' Pay? Go to <http://shakopeeheritage.org/people-of-sha-k-pay>.

Cemetery Tours

Catholic Cemetery Tour was on Saturday, June 17, 2023 from 10 am to Noon. The SHS talked about John Joseph Doody (1855-1917); Catherina Maria Melchior Schmitt (1852-1933); Tanner Allen Wicahpi Izita Albers (1977-2011); Robert Carlos Joaquin Huerta Zanotelli (1982-2007); George Henry Vierling (1821-1901); Emilie Justine Anne Marie Weld Dellwo (1859-1916); Nancy Mai Pham Nguyen (1945-2004); Lone Anne Krell Engel Theis (1917-2016); Elizabeth Betty Schmitt Dols (1930-2022); Mary Joyce Pomije Stocker (1924-2016); Maximus Guido Wermerskirchen (1931-1959); Warren Ernest Stemmer (1922-2005); and Marilyn Laddusaw Lang (1936-2016.)



Calvary Cemetery Tour was on Saturday, July 29, 2023 from 10 am to Noon. The Calvary Cemetery Tour included information about Peter Jost Yost (1822-1895) who was a police officer in Shakopee in 1870...for two dollars a day; Mary Julia Ehman Lies (1832-1869), who died at age 37 after having 7 children; Dennis O'Loughlin (1824-1864) who was a volunteer in the 9th Minnesota Infantry, and was killed during the Civil War in Nashville; and Vitaline Lebeau Boan (1836-1919) who finally kicked out her husband for being a drunk who beat the family, along with several others tombstone. The tour included discussion about the haunting of the cemetery.





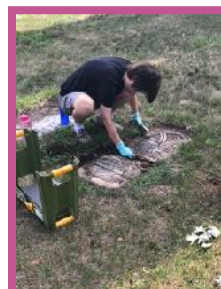
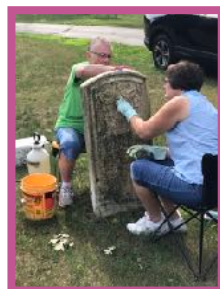
Valley Cemetery Tour was on Saturday, August 19, 2023 from 10 am to Noon. The tour including information about Karen Anne Preiss Fowler Short (1967-2015); Frederick Schmidt (1838-1863); David J. Strehlow (1945-1959); Patrick Biyogo Ayienda (1962-2021); Johannes Gresfleisch zur Landen zum Gutenberg (ca. 1400-1 and relative of John Guternburg 1828-1880; Dora Vichman Gutenberg ca. 1830-1875); Bernhard Swatzki Sawatsky (1850-1905); Alice Hinds Spencerbox (1854-1900); Melinda Perry Apgar (1806-1874); Sophronia Perry Sommerville (1817-1872); Mack Christiansen (In Shakopee 1950); Wilhelmina Minnie Lohiheide Enters Ahlswede (1839-1919); and Jane Lamont Titus (1822-1899.)



Marystown Cemetery Tour will be on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 10 until noon. On this date, the SHS will talk about several people from the Marystown Cemetery, including Kenneth Anton Theis (1927-1951); Barbara Brück Brueck Geiß Geis (1845-1934); Margaret Legel (1800-1874); Margaretha Wolf Hennen (1841-1909); Peter Sames (1865-1931); Elizabeth Gerdesmeier Lenzmeier (1835-1909); Gary John Geis (1953-1993): and more! Make sure to bring a lawn chair!

Cleaning the Tombstones at Valley Cemetery

Twice a month people from the Daughters of the American Revolution and volunteers from the Shakopee Heritage Society have cleaned tombstones at Valley Cemetery. Note the difference in the photo above on the right! It's been fun! We meet at 9:30 am for two hours. Next one will be on Thursday, September 21st. Feel free to stop by!



Why Local History Matters

Identity & Belonging: Understanding the history of your local community fosters a deeper connection and sense of identity, strengthening the bond with the place you call home and its people.

Preserving Cultural Heritage: Local history preserves the community's unique cultural heritage, enabling future generations to learn and celebrate customs and traditions.

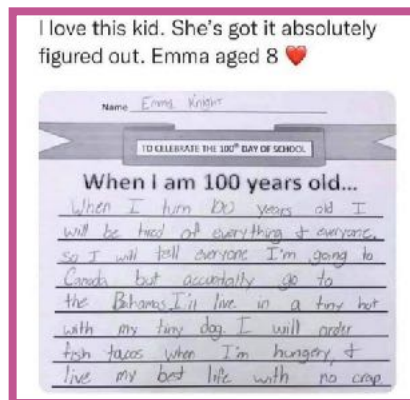
Understanding Social Change: History reveals changing social norms, attitudes, and values, fostering empathy, acceptance, and an inclusive society.

Environmental Awareness: Studying local history reveals past community-environment interactions, promoting environmental consciousness and sustainable practices.

Community Unity & Pride: Knowing the community's history fosters pride, unity, and togetherness by celebrating local heroes and leaders.

Strengthening Community Resilience: Past generations' resilience inspires and motivates us to overcome present and future challenges.

Stearns History Museum at info@stearns-museum.org





Bison Will Arrive in Shakopee!

The largest terrestrial animals in North America, bison once roamed in herds numbering in the millions dominating prairie and forest ecosystems. Now reduced to a fraction of their current range and population, bison survive mainly in conservation herds, according to <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/american-bison>.

The largest terrestrial animals in North America, bison are characterized by a hump over the front shoulders and slimmer hindquarters. Both male and female bison have a single set of short, sharply pointed, hollow horns that curve outward and up from the sides of the massive head. The head, neck, forelegs, and front parts of the body have a thick coat of long, dark hair. The adult bull adds to this thick coat with a black beard about one foot long. The rear part of the body is covered with much shorter hair. The shaggy head is the most heavily insulated part of their body, which has adapted as such to withstand blizzards as the animal stands facing into the wind. Heavy coats are shed in the spring as the animals roll to loosen the hair, which falls off in gobs.

Bison have an excellent sense of hearing and smell, but cannot see very well, so an entire herd can stampede if it is startled. Bison have cloven hoofs, and can reach speeds of 30 miles per hour).

From the redlakenationnews.com Babaamaajimowinan "Telling of news in different places" from July 28, 2023.

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community to reintroduce bison

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) today announced its plans to reintroduce pte [puh-TAY] (bison) on its tribal lands in Shakopee. The Dakota people consider the pte a relative, and the tribe has been conducting an extensive planning process to bring bison back to its lands in a sustainable, safe and ecologically beneficial way.

Late this fall, the SMSC will welcome a small herd of up to 15 bison from the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate in South Dakota. The herd will live on 165 acres of tribal land southeast of the junction of County Rd. 83 and Eagle Creek Blvd. in Shakopee, north of the tribe's current Organics Recycling Facility. Fencing is being installed at the site.

Historically, the SMSC looked after and had a reciprocal relationship with the natural surroundings, including bison, which the Dakota people depended on for food, medicine and materials. When colonization occurred, the bison were violently removed from the area and nearly exterminated.

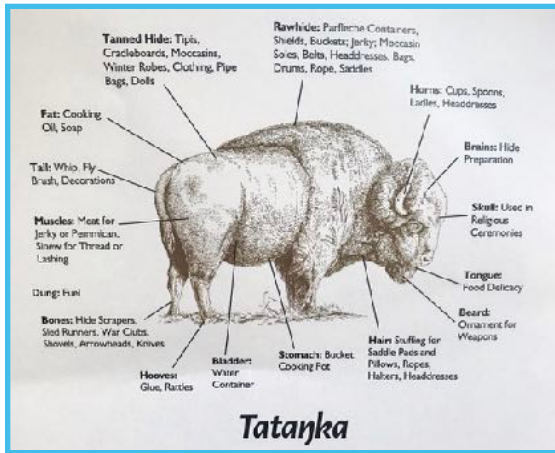
"The story of the bison mirrors the story of Dakota peoples in many ways, and both are resilient," said SMSC Chairman Keith Anderson. "Our tribe has restored and revitalized its relationship with our plant relatives over the decades, and we now have the opportunity to revitalize our relationship with our relative, the pte. Reintroducing bison to our homelands will allow us to bring back traditional ceremonies and food and medicine important to our people."

The bison will roam freely within an enclosure and graze native prairie plants. Wetlands and prairies were once widespread in Scott County, and the SMSC has worked to restore both ecosystems on the reservation. The SMSC has restored more than 1,000 acres of prairie over the past 20 years; the bison will help maintain prairie health.

The SMSC's land and natural resources department is overseeing the planning process, including learning from other tribes and organizations that have successfully reintroduced bison. The SMSC has been completing a safety plan and will be working with local municipalities and public safety agencies to ensure the safety of the herd and local residents. More information is available at ShakopeeDakota.org/pte.

About the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Dakota tribal government located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. Following a Dakota tradition of generosity, the SMSC is one of the top philanthropists in Minnesota and is the largest contributor to other tribal governments and causes across the country. It is a strong community partner and a leader in protecting and restoring natural resources. The SMSC's government, Gaming Enterprise and various other enterprises are collectively the largest employer in Scott County and attract millions of visitors to the region.



Hočokata Ti in Shakopee has a wonderful exhibit called *Mdewakanton: Dwellers of the Spirit Lake*. Worth visiting!

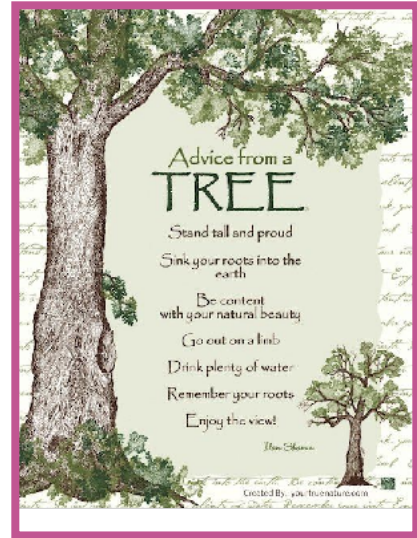
Gone, but not forgotten!



Shakopee Heritage Society
2109 Boulder Pointe
Shakopee, MN 55379
President: David R. Schleper
Past-President: Lois Wendt **Vice-President:** Joanne Musick
Treasurer: Liz Lundin
Secretary: Donna Lane **Trustees:** Sandy Olson, Dave Regan

Talk to Us!

Facebook: [shakopeeheritage](https://www.facebook.com/shakopeeheritage)
Web: [shakopeeheritage.org](https://www.shakopeeheritage.org)
Email: newsletter@shakopeeheritage.org
Phone: 952-693-3865



Don't forget annual membership renewal (and thanks all who did!). Cost is \$20 a year for the newsletter, 96 brochures, and more! Send check to SHS at 2109 Boulder Pointe, Shakopee