

# LAKEVILLE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE CENTER, 201 10 HOLYOKE AVENUE, 952-985-4680

"In recognition of the responsibility to past and future generations, the mission of the Lakeville Area Historical Society shall be to document, collect, preserve, and teach the history of the Lakeville area."

May 2013

## Visit our new Civil War display

**Imagine wearing a heavy wool uniform and carrying a weighty pack and musket through mosquito-laden swamps and woods in 90-degree weather with high humidity. That was the lot of soldiers who served during the Civil War, including a number of Lakeville-area residents.**

You are invited to view our new window display of Civil War-era material. The windows can be viewed from the central hallway during Heritage Center open hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, through May 31<sup>st</sup>.

One display window features letters to home from Benjamin Pool, a young soldier from Eureka Township. He was stationed at several camps in southern states from September 1861 until his death a year later. Another window includes items on loan from Mike Kinzell, a local Civil War Reenactor. Included are a sack coat, a kepi (cap), trousers, cooking items, pack bags, and other belongings that a Civil War infantryman would have carried from camp to camp and into battle.

The final display window exhibits relics from a Union Army Encampment as found on private property in Virginia. A large poster provides information about the Battle of Gettysburg in which Minnesota soldiers fought. A grave marker and a partial listing of local men who served during the Civil War are also shown.

The Historical Society is seeking any information, including photos and newspaper clippings, about these men and others who may have seen Civil War service. If you have information, please call 952-985-4680 and leave a message or write to the Lakeville Area Historical Society, 20195 Holyoke Ave., Lakeville, MN 55044. This information will help us expand and update our historical files.



## Civil War buffs—visit exhibition at Minnesota History Center

A new exhibition at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul outlines Minnesota's participation in the Civil War. Although the battles were fought far from home, Minnesota soldiers participated at Bull Run, Antietam Creek, Gettysburg and more. On display are diaries, letters, clothing, weapons, photos and maps. A special emphasis features women who tried to keep their families together, run farms and businesses, and avoid losing their homes. The exhibition continues through Sept. 8th. For information about open hours, visit [www.minnesotahistorycenter.org](http://www.minnesotahistorycenter.org).

## May Calendar

The Historical Society encourages area residents to research topics at our location during open hours or by special appointment. Volunteer attendants are usually on hand during regular open hours from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Sometimes, a volunteer needs to cancel at the last minute, making it too late to find a substitute. So if you are travelling to see the historical society exhibits, it's best to call 952-985-4680 to verify that we are open. Both the LAHS and the Senior Center will be closed on May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

Our monthly board meeting will take place on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. All members are welcome to attend.

## See us 'on the home front' at Dakota City's WW II event

The Historical Society will depict activities which would have taken place on the home front during the annual WWII Weekend Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at Dakota City Heritage Village. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. The Village is located on the Dakota County Fairgrounds in Farmington.

Volunteers will be located in the Harris House, a farmhouse in the village. Cooking and baking on the wood stove will be demonstrated, using authentic recipes from the time when sugar and some grocery items were rationed due to scarcity. Other home front activities also will be shown, including victory gardens, war bonds, paper and scrap collecting.

The WWII Weekend will feature over 30 groups performing living history. Groups will represent American, British, Russian, Canadian, Irish Guard, Japanese and German military units. Activities and displays will include army camps, civilian life, vehicles, authentic military displays, weapons demonstrations, military vehicles, a symposium, a military swap meet and a European Theater mock battle. For more info visit [www.DakotaCity.org](http://www.DakotaCity.org).