

BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum • Gift Shop • Research Center • Historic R.D. Hubbard House



Railroads came to Blue Earth County in 1868, when the Minnesota Valley and the Winona-St. Peter lines came to Mankato. Before long, additional rail lines connected to Eagle Lake, Good Thunder, and later, Amboy. Trains became the premier way to transport people and goods around the country.

Trains are still a part of today's transportation story. As transportation modes changed, railroads were used less for transporting people, and more for the transportation of goods. Shown above is the train engine 29, which came through Blue Earth County in 1972.

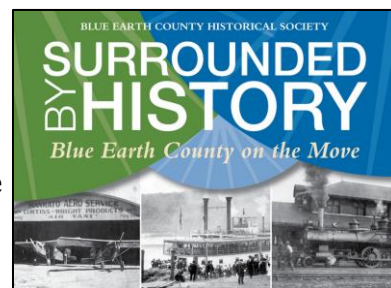
As we steam ahead, look for more transportation topics at our annual fundraiser *Surrounded By History: Blue Earth County on the Move*, April 28, 2017.

Scroll down to for BECHS' exhibits, monthly programs, and special activities.

Surrounded By History

**Friday, April 28, 6-9 p.m.
at the Minnesota State University, Mankato
Ballroom**

From wagon trains to four lanes and airplanes, transportation has always played an important role in our history. Join the Blue Earth County Historical Society for the 6th Annual *Surrounded By History: Blue Earth County on the Move*, Friday, April 28,



2017, 6 p.m.

The evening opens with a social hour including music, cash bar, silent auction and more, followed by dinner and dessert. Guests will enjoy historic photographs throughout the evening and entertained with transportation themed trivia provided by Savants of Question.

All proceeds enable the Historical Society to continue offering history experiences for all ages at the History Center, Hubbard House, and in our local schools.

Tickets are \$50 per person, \$500 for a reserved table of 8 and can be [purchased online](#) or in person at the History Center. Tickets are on sale through April 21.

Surrounded By History Raffle

Tickets on sale now.

For *Surrounded By History: Blue Earth County on the Move*, BECHS is holding a raffle for the following items to be drawn on April 28 at the event. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at the Blue Earth County History Center, 424 Warren Street, Mankato, from a BECHS Staff or Board Member, or by calling 507-345-5566.

You do not need to be present to win.

Grand Prize:



Minnesota Vikings VIP Training Camp Experience

VIP Training Camp Experience with 4 Field Passes, Adam Thielen's Training Camp Bike with tune-up from Nicollet Bike Shop plus more.

Value \$1,000

Other prizes include:

- Mother of Pearl 3-piece Set from the Carolyn Pollack Signature Collection
- Lutsen Vacation Package
- Cutco Studio Knife Set
- Gift Certificate from Tire Associates

For more information, [visit our website](#).

New Exhibit: *Married in Style: Blue Earth County Weddings*

April 22 through July 1, 2017
at the History Center



The Blue Earth County Historical Society's newest exhibit, *Married in Style: Blue Earth County Weddings*, will feature a display of wedding gowns and mementos from the museum's collection, representing Blue Earth County residents from the 1800s through the 20th century. Showcased will be bridal accessories including headpieces, veils, and shoes. Rare documents such as invitations and wedding certificates, along with beautiful photographs will also be on display. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

Opening reception will be April 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New Exhibit: Recent Work by Brad and Ann Kronlokken Widness

April 11 through June 30, 2017
at the History Center

Brad's images study the relationship between object, space and memory and the connections between the intangible and tangible realities of life. His work hopes to engage the spirit and mystery that lies at the core of our daily human existence.



Ann's work intuitively imagines the soul's path through a world full of challenges and unknowns. She hopes her work will provoke questions and perhaps even the desire to dig through the surface layer of daily life into what lies beneath.

Opening Reception will be on Friday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.

Annual Report

The Blue Earth County Historical Society held its annual meeting on March 5. Thank you to everyone that came for the business meeting and program by KEYC Meteorologists Sara Knox and Tom Clements. [The 2016 Annual Report can be viewed online.](#)

Upcoming Events

- **April 4**, 10 a.m., [Remember When Coffee Club](#) - School Dances, *Remember When Coffee Club meets the first Tuesday at 10 a.m. An informal gathering to share memories with fellow local history enthusiasts.*
- **April 8**, 10 a.m. to Noon, [Young Historians](#) - Parks and Recreation, *Young Historians is held on the second Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon during the school year. Hands-on history workshops for school-age children.*

- **April 20**, Noon to 1 p.m., [History Bits & Bites](#) History of the Mankato Airport, *History Bit & Bites is on the third Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. Hour-long presentations with different topics and presenters each month.*
- **April 21**, 7-8 p.m., [Art Gallery Opening for Brad and Ann Widness](#)
- **April 22**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., [Married in Style: Blue Earth County Weddings](#) Exhibit Opens
- **April 28**, 6 p.m., [Surrounded By History: Blue Earth County on the Move](#), *Tickets on sale through April 21*

[Click here](#) for our full events calendar.

Job Opportunity

Hubbard House Assistant

Now hiring two seasonal part-time Hubbard House Assistants to begin May 6. Applications due by April 21 to the Executive Director. [Click here for more information.](#)

[Volunteer opportunities . . .](#)

Around the Social Sphere

In case you missed it on Facebook or Twitter, here are some of our more popular posts from March:

[Beirbauer Brewery](#) was a remembered by many.

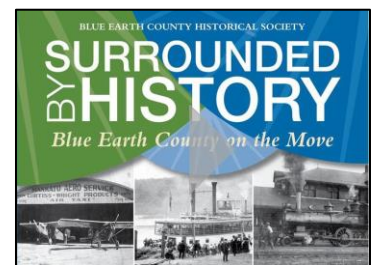
Fans reminisced about the [1965 Blizzard](#).

[Favorite resources](#) in the Research Center were debated.

You do not need to have an account on Facebook or Twitter to read or view these posts.

Surrounded By History Video

Would you like to know more about an evening at Surrounded By History? View this short video to see what the event entails!



Township Notes: Mankato Township

[Mankato Front Street, 1860s]

Did you know Mankato Township has the largest population in Blue Earth County? [Continue reading . . .](#)

Check back next month as we feature another township in the "Township Notes" series.



History Center Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed Sunday and Monday and major holidays

Opportunities:

[Donate](#)

[Membership](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Shop](#)

Connect



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Visit www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com for more information.

Our Contact Information

Blue Earth County Historical Society

424 Warren Street

Mankato, MN 56001

507-345-5566

www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com

