

# BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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



**Before railroads** came to Blue Earth County, steamboats on the Minnesota River moved goods and people to the area. Steamboats such as the *Jeannette Roberts* and *Mollie Moher* traveled along the Minnesota River from St. Paul as soon as the ice broke in the spring. The biggest river tragedy near Mankato was the sinking of the *Julia* in 1867. Steamboat traffic on the Minnesota River slowed, and the last boat that carried goods came in 1888.

**The *Henrietta*** (seen above) was a steamboat created solely for people to enjoy the Minnesota River. Captained by Charles DeMars, he began in 1897 with trips between St. Peter and Mankato for fifty cents. These pleasure cruises continued until 1911.

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

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

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## BECHS Annual Meeting

**Sunday, March 5, 2-4 p.m.  
at the History Center**

Join us for the State-of-the-Society business meeting followed by a presentation by Sara Knox and Tom Clements, KEYC Meteorologists. Knox and Clements will present "Something Wicked This Way Comes: A Look Back at October 1991" to correspond with our latest exhibit, *Winter Wonderland: Frozen Fun in Blue Earth County*. The History Center will open

at 1 p.m. for tours.

Free for BECHS Members, \$5 for non-members.

Please RSVP to 507-345-5566 or [Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](mailto:Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) by March 3.

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## Last Chance!

### *Winter Wonderland: Frozen Fun in Blue Earth County*

Open now through Saturday, April 1, 2017  
at the History Center

The weather outside can be frightful, but inside a look at winter's past is so delightful. Explore local winter sports and fashions along with a special look back at the 1920 Mankato Winter Carnival. Free.



## Last Chance!

### *A Witch Bows to No Man* by Rachel James

Open through March 31, 2017  
at the History Center

Artist and illustrator Rachel James' work looks at the "intersection of botanical knowledge and its link to women's work during the Middle Ages and the present." Her research on the history of plants and women's work comes together, creating fanciful, colorful images are reminiscent of old fairy tales, which speak to all ages. Free.



## Upcoming Events

- **March 4**, 2-4 p.m., [Genealogy Class - Beginner's Family History](#), *Class is full.*
- **March 5**, 2-4 p.m., [Annual Meeting](#)
- **March 7**, 10 a.m., [Remember When Coffee Club](#) - Grandparents, *The Remember When Coffee Club is the first Tuesday at 10 a.m. An informal gathering to share memories with fellow local history enthusiasts.*
- **March 11**, 10 a.m. to Noon, [Young Historians](#), - Soil! Trees! Plants!, *Young Historians is held on the second Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. Hands-on history*

*workshops for school-age children.*

- **March 11**, 2-4 p.m., [Genealogy Class - Beyond The Basics](#), *Class is full.*
- **March 16**, Noon to 1 p.m., [History Bits & Bites](#) "Staying Warm and Fashionable in Winter," By Grace Keir, *History Bit & Bites is on the third Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. Hour-long presentations with different topics and presenters each month.*
- **March 18**, 2-4 p.m., [Genealogy Class - Online Family History Research](#), *Class is full.*
- **April 28**, 6 p.m., [Surrounded By History: Blue Earth County on the Move](#), *Tickets will be on sale soon, watch for more information.*

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

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## Volunteer Opportunities

### Tour Guides Needed

The Historical Society is busy scheduling school field trips at both the History Center and the Hubbard House and tour guides are needed. The first tours are scheduled for April, so email [Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](mailto:Museum@BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) today if you are interested or have questions. Training is provided.

[More volunteer opportunities . . .](#)

### History Day Judges

Minnesota History Day is in need of judges for the March 28th Regional History Day in Mankato. Students from our area put so much hard work and effort into their projects we want to give them a great experience. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

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## Around the Social Sphere

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

We wished our fans a [Happy Valentine's Day](#).

People enjoyed [captioning this image](#).

[Sleds were shared](#) in relation to our *Winter Wonderland* exhibit.

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

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## Blue Earth County Historical Society Video

Have you seen our video? Take a look and see all of the things you - our members, donors, visitors, and supporters - make possible at the Historical Society.



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## Township Notes: Jamestown Township

[Madison Lake Main Street, circa 1900s]

Did you know Jamestown Township once contained a village called Volksville? [Continue reading . . .](#)

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



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## 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](#)

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## Connect





**Share with a Friend!**

**Visit [www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com) for more information.**

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**Our Contact Information**

Blue Earth County Historical Society

424 Warren Street

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[www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com](http://www.BlueEarthCountyHistory.com)

