



Chanhassen Historian

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Calling All Trivia Fans!

Did you hang out at The Bronco Bar? Remember when Chanhassen had a Drive-In?

If you have a special memory from living in Chanhassen that others might remember too, or just have a fun or interesting fact related to history that you'd like to share, make it into a trivia question!

Whether it was 100 years ago or 2 years ago, we want to hear about it for the first ever:

Chanhassen Historical Society's
**History Trivia Night at the
Chanhassen Brewery!**

Submit questions and answers to:
contact@chanhistorical.org

Watch for more event details to come!

In Memoriam

In October the Chanhassen Historical Society suffered the loss of one of its founding and most cherished members. Arthur Mason passed away at the age of 92. Art's family legacy reaches far back into the history pages of the early settlement of the village of Chanhassen.

Joe and Margaret Mason, Art's great-grandparents, were among several German immigrant families to settle in Chanhassen in the mid-1800s. They had seven children, including Henry and William (Bill), Art's grandfather.

Henry and Bill were notable because they both had early mercantile businesses in the village. In the early 1900s, Bill Mason had a general store called "Mason's Place", located where the Goddard School now stands. Bill Mason's family lived on the second floor of the store, and it was here that Art's father, Alie Mason, was born in 1907.

On New Year's Eve 1927 Alie Mason and Marcella Lallack met and two years later, married at St. Hubert's Catholic Church. Art was born in 1930 and his brother Stanley soon followed.

Art contracted polio in 1934, paralyzing his left leg. His parents sought treatment through a local doctor but treatment for polio at that time could not take place at standard hospitals as it was a highly contagious virus. Research brought Art's doctor to the techniques of a nurse named Sister Elizabeth Kenny. Her treatments were considered unconventional by established medical standards; however, she was having success with polio patients. She acquired her title of "Sister" as a high-ranking nurse in the Australian Army, not a nun in the Catholic Church.

Based on Sister Kenny's research and successes, Art's doctor advised the Mason family to build a small structure that looked like a little doghouse and place it on Art's bed. They were to bury his leg in sand inside the doghouse and install a light bulb in the peak portion of the structure to keep the sand warm at all times. Art was quarantined to his room and doghouse. After two years he walked away completely symptom-free of polio.

As a young adult, Art went to cooking school and became a chef at the Biltmore Hotel in Edina, and later cooked at Cedric's in Edina. He eventually left the restaurant business and finished his career at Onan Companies in Fridley, which manufactured wire harnesses for generators.

Although Art retired at the age of 60, he quickly became bored. Three months later he took a job at McDonald's in Wayzata. After 28 years, and at the age of 88, he was still working 20 hours a week. He became a well-known and loved morning fixture at the McDonald's drive-thru window, sharing his joy and enthusiasm for life with customers.

Art was a founding member of the Chanhassen Historical Society, serving on the Board of Directors beginning in 2012 and continuing as an active, passionate volunteer until his passing. His many generous donations of artifacts and equipment, along with his deep knowledge of Chanhassen history and his joy in sharing that knowledge are irreplaceable and will be cherished.

Thank you, Art, for the joy you brought to all those you touched in life.



ORAL HISTORIES

The Chanhassen Historical Society has oral history interviews from the following list of people on file and available upon request. If you are interested in this project and would like to volunteer to help us expand our collection, please email us at contact@chanhistorical.org

Interviewee	Interview Date
Janet Aldritt	17-Jul-1995
Ada Anding	1995-1996
Carol & Herb Bloomberg	1991
Herb Bloomberg	19-Mar-1996
Viola Buschkowsky	13-Feb-1996
Arnold Chulik	1975
Clarice Coulter	2-Apr-1996
Henry "Hank" Dimler	Nov-1994 & Feb-1996
Andy & Mary Favorite	21-Feb-1996
Frances "Mutch" Amrhein Jacques	31-Jan-1996
Wilber "Red" & Vernice Jorissen	1995-1996
Doug Kelm	21-Mar-1996
Tom Kelm	10-Apr-1996
Cy Kerber	22-Jan-1996
Frank Kerber	Dec-1975
Gladys Kerber Schueren	Feb-1996
Harold & Leona Kerber	Nov-1994
Harold, Adella, Bernard, Vernon & Edwin Kerber	1975 & 1996
Leander Kerber	1995-1996
Tony & Larry Kerber & Julianne Kerber Hennen	26-Apr-1996
Larry Klein	Nov-1994
Tom & Kay Klingelhutz	11-Apr-1996
Al & Mary Jane Klingelhutz	
Frank & Mel Kurvers	1995-1996
Bob Meuwissen & Rita Meuwissen Rjoina	1-Apr-1996
Olive Newman	Apr-1995
Paul Palmer	1975
Art Mason	
Howard Meuwissen	
Rosemary Pauly Mingo	1-May-1996
Willard "Dutch" Pauly	18-Apr-1996
Lawrence "Boogie" Raser	21-Feb-1996
Lorraine Roeser	Mar-1996
Ron Roeser	2-Apr-1996
Stan Roeser	21-Mar-1996
Victor Schmieg	25-Apr-1996
Al & Jean Sinnen	1995-1996
Aldoph Tessness	19-Dec-1995
Dolores Melchoir Theis	
Florian VanSloun	1995-1996
Anne & Claire Vogel	29-Feb-1996
Henry Wrase	1995-1996



Chanhassen History Center Opens for Season!

Memorial Day Weekend

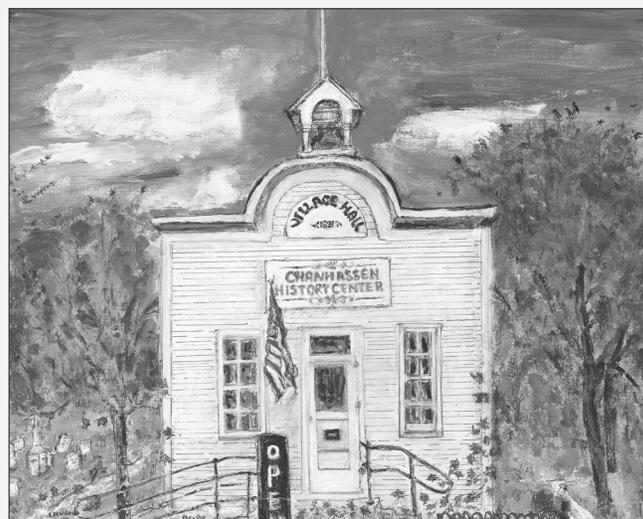
Come visit us in the Old Village Hall building

Saturday May 27th—Monday May 29th

11am-1pm

And Saturdays all summer

We hope to see you all there!



PUZZLES AVAILABLE!



Local Artist Lee Newcomb of Chanhassen created this watercolor painting of the Chanhassen History Center / Old Village Hall in September.

This beautiful painting will be available for purchase as a jigsaw puzzle – coming this summer to the History Center!

Chanhassen Historical Society's Newest Acquisition:

Fyr-Fyter Fire Extinguisher, circa 1931

On October 5th, 1931 the Chanhassen Village Council attempted to form the Village's first fire department with the adoption of Ordinance No. 13. Section 1 of the Ordinance reads:

"That all men residing in the Village of Chanhassen who have attained the age of twenty-one (21) years, and are not yet sixty (60) years of age must belong to the Fire Department."

We believe it was around this time that the Village purchased the Fyt-Fyter portable fire extinguisher (photo above, right). It was housed in a shed (referred to as the Fire Hall) that was attached to the back of the Village Hall (photo right).

The extinguisher is currently being restored by Brian Roerick and Charlie Siegel at Chanhassen City Shops to be displayed at the Chanhassen History Center.

Stay tuned for updates as we learn more about this piece of history, and come see the restoration for yourself!



Join the Chanhassen Historical Society!

It's more important than ever to join or renew your membership.

Please consider an additional donation as we continue to develop the History Center and community events.

Check your address label for current membership status.

Membership automatically includes subscription to Carver County Historical Society's mailing list!

Membership Form

Date _____ Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone# () _____ E-mail _____

Individual (\$15) Family (\$25) Additional Donation Amount \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Chanhassen Historical Society, P.O. Box 941, Chanhassen, MN 55317

OR PayPal payments to: contact@chanhistorical.org



Notes from the President

Greetings friends of history!

It's hard to believe a year has passed since the inaugural opening of the Chanhassen History Center in May 2022. We were open on Saturdays throughout the summer and fall, and we are happy to report we welcomed hundreds of visitors!

We are hoping for even more visitors this summer, and plan to host several events in 2023:

Chanhassen Historical Society's History Trivia Night at the Chanhassen Brewery— Watch for details on our website and in the Chanhassen Villager, and submit your question ideas!

Cemetery Walk— Back by popular demand in September 2023

General Membership Meeting— Tuesday June 13 2023 at the Chanhassen History Center

These are just some of the events we're looking forward to this year. We welcome suggestions and would love to hear your ideas and input for events or topics of interest. Please consider lending your talents to our organization!

If you're interested in an in-depth look at Geographic Infor-

mation Systems (GIS) on a local scale—check out "How to Map With Carver County Data: An Introduction to GIS", a recent event held at the Chanhassen Library. The video is available free of charge on the Carver County Library Facebook page.

Special thanks to Katy Nordby at Lotus Lake Gifts for allowing us to distribute Chanhassen History books to the public during the Holiday Season. Thank you for helping us reach new people in the community!

A very special thank you to Peggy Kerber Tran for her 8 years of service on the Chanhassen Historical Society Board of Directors. Her ideas, input, and many diverse talents were greatly appreciated. You will be missed!

Looking forward to a fun, history-filled summer!

Paula Atkins,
President



Paula Atkins, President

Remember!
Your membership includes access to photo archives
from the Carver County Historical Society!

www.carvercountyhistoricalsociety.org

Username: cchsJan

Passcode: CY72ATZBPNQ4

Chanhassen Historical Society

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