



SPRING EDITION 2022

Twin Cottonwoods Journal

NEWSLETTER OF THE PLAINSMAN MUSEUM

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: "THANK YOU!"

I never get tired of saying thank you because that means great things are being done by great people!

Thank you – to everyone who supported our 2022 Annual Fundraiser in February! We very much appreciate the generosity shown either through monetary donation or in support of our online auction. We exceeded \$18,000, which will go a long way in continuing the work to renovate, upgrade and create exhibits here at the museum.

Thank you – to the 2022 Fundraiser Committee who volunteered their time and worked tirelessly to make it a huge success: Berniece Luthy and Janet Boltz – Co-chairpersons, Roberta Cool, Sue Deininger, Verda Friesen, Betty Van Luchene, Linda Ohlson, Marcia Spiehs, Kathy Pollard and Taylor Willis.

Thank you – to the organizations who decorated trees for our Winter Wonderland of Trees held December 2021: Aurora Adopt-A-Pet, Aurora United Methodist Church, Clever Clover 4-H, Hamilton Heroes 4-H, Eager Achievers 4-H, Lucky Sprouts 4-H, First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hamilton Telecommunications, Hampton Legion Auxiliary, Memorial Community Care, Messiah Lutheran Church, My Ladies, Nimble Thimble

Quilt Guild, St. John's Lutheran Church – Kronborg, Tots Learning Center, Westside Covenant Church, Xi Gamma Mu Sorority and Hampton Lutheran School.

Thank you – to our regular volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes using their skills and resources to keep the museum running smoothly. Where would we be without you! Bob Cool, Roberta Cool, Larry Bengtson, Dale Saddler, Jim Davenport, Val Oswald, Don Bish, Walt Jacobs, Gary Bayne, Lynn Koozer, Berniece Luthy, Jane Nunnenkamp, Lynne Nylander, Joannie Beins and Sharon Beyer.

Thank you – to our tour guides who make school tours fun, educational and help to connect so many children with stories of the past – Roberta Cool, Lynne Nylander, Linda Ohlson, Bruce Ramsour, Marlin Seeman, Bonnie Kruse and Becky Lehmer. (cont. pg. 2)



**24 hrs. to
Click & Give!**

Thursday, May 5, 2022

Visit our Go Big Give profile at:
www.gobiggive.org/plainsman_museum

Thank you – to our HCHS Board members whose terms of service ended in 2021 – Paula Johnson, John Thomas, Chad Svoboda, Stephen Knudsen and Steve Pawley.

Thank you – to the 2022 Board of Directors for volunteering your time to do the business of the HCHS and the Plainsman Museum – Mike Irons, William Obermier, Brenda Klawonn, Gabe Hewen, Jana Gibson, Clint Mickey, Faith Gustafson, Tim Huls, Zavien Burr, Jay Schulze, Keith Wasem and Taylor Willis.

Finally, thank you to our Social Media Communications Coordinator, Kathryn Larson for all her work on graphic and web design and support of the various committees to help promote the Plainsman Museum.

Because of all of you we have been able to turn our “can’ts into cans and our dreams into plans”.

- Tina Larson, Executive Director

AG BUILDING UPDATE!

The Plainsman Museum is charged with caring for and exhibiting artifacts donated from around Hamilton County. From Hordville to Stockham, from Phillips to Hampton, and everywhere in between, the stories of the people of Hamilton County are housed within the buildings of the museum. The Wesley Huenefeld Agricultural Building is now thirty-five years old, and over the last fifteen years has seen several repairs due to water damage, etc. In early summer of 2019, high humidity caused a severe mold problem to develop, which became a health hazard to visitors, volunteers and staff, resulting in closure of the building. The Board of Directors set to work right away to develop a plan by which to best recover and address this problem. It has not been a quick process but it has been a very effective and worthwhile one.

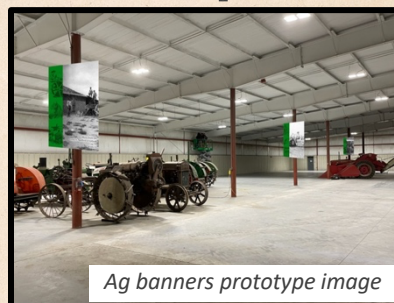
In short, through grants provided by: Hamilton Community Foundation, Kolar

Charitable Family Trust, Dr. James and Mabel Woodard Trust, Bernard K and Norma F. Heuermann Foundation, the Frank M. Farr & Alice M. Farr Trust, and the Myrl S. And Bessie Evan Mather Foundation, the building is now being reimagined and upgraded as an agricultural education center. The funding provided has helped the



New concrete and insulation

museum to put on a new roof (Tillotson Roofing), finish the concrete flooring (Ott Concrete), remove the old, moldy insulation (K.E.N. Roofing – Kirk Niles) and have new spray foam insulation (Midwest Spray Foam and Custom Insulation), new lighting (Juzyk Electric) and a new fire alarm system installed (Nebraska Safety and Fire), and finally sidewalks around the exterior to bring us up to fire code (Willis Construction). Currently, the interior of the building is being cleaned with HEPA vacuums and disinfected for any remaining mold or mildew (Yellow Van). The staff and volunteers have been working nonstop to upgrade the exhibits and clean numerous pieces of equipment and artifacts. Everyone involved in the project is very excited to re-open and showcase the finished project! There is still much to do to, but we are looking forward to when we can open the doors safely to the public.



Ag banners prototype image

Please watch our website and Facebook page for more details, or call the museum at 402-694-6531.

We are proud to be able to honor the agricultural community with this historical display of everything ag!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

DON'T MISS OUT ON WHAT WE HAVE IN STORE AT THE PLAINSMAN MUSEUM!

April 01-30 - Aurora High School Art Show

April 03 - "Orphan Train" Play Production

GRAND ISLAND SENIOR HIGH PRESENTS:

ORPHAN TRAIN

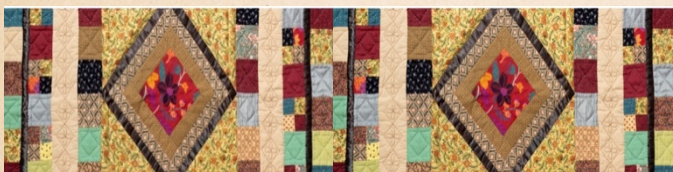
Join us for a special play production performed by the Grand Island Senior High drama team.

When:
Sunday, April 03, 2022
2:00 PM

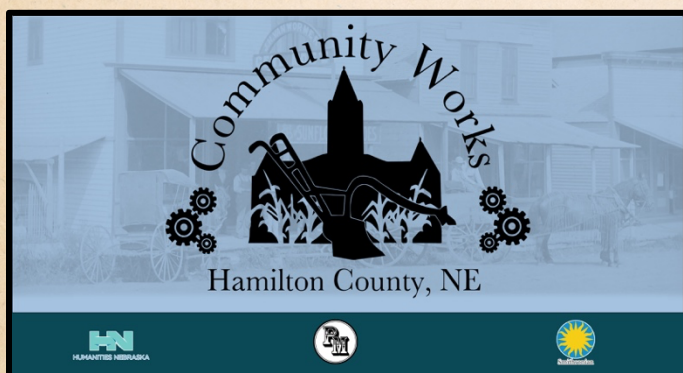
Where:
Plainsman Museum
210 16th Street
Aurora, NE 68818



June 23-25 - Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild Quilt Show



July 1-31 - "Community Works" Exhibition



RETURNING ONCE AGAIN! We at the Plainsman Museum are very excited to once again

bring you, "Community Works" - a special exhibition that explores the theme of work for the last 150 years of Hamilton County's history. The exhibition has been done in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution's "Museum on Main Street" program, and Humanities Nebraska. We will be posting more information about the exhibition on our website and Facebook page as the opening date draws closer, so be sure to stay tuned!

August 30 - September 30 - "Color of Music - Rhythm of Art" Exhibition

Impact Nebraska Artists presents:

"Color of Music - Rhythm of Art"



Patricia Coslor - Poet - watercolor

Come and see Impact Nebraska Artists' latest exhibition, featuring vibrant artwork inspired by music and musicians.

When:
Aug. 30 - Sept. 30, 2022
Open during regular museum business hours.

Where:
Plainsman Museum
210 16th Street
Aurora, NE 68818

For more information, visit the official Impact Nebraska Artists website at:
<https://impactart-ne.org>

ABOUT THE PLAINSMAN MUSEUM

Mission Statement:

"The Plainsman Museum is a not-for-profit institution, which focuses on the time from 1860-1950, that collects, preserves, illustrates, and works to establish the History of Hamilton County, Nebraska through education, exhibits, research, and maintenance of relevant archives and collections."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Mike Irons

Vice President: William Obermier

Secretary: Brenda Klawonn

Treasurer: Gabe Hewen

Zavien Burr

Jana Gibson

Faith Gustafson

Tim Huls

Clint Mickey

Jay Schulze

Keith Wasem

Taylor Willis

STAFF

Executive Director: Tina Larson

Social Media Communications Coordinator: Kathryn Larson

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Kathryn Larson



HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sunday CLOSED

Monday CLOSED

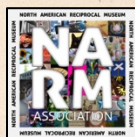
ADMISSIONS:

Adult \$7.00

Senior (age 60+) \$5.00

Student (age 5-17) \$4.00

Children under 5 yrs. FREE



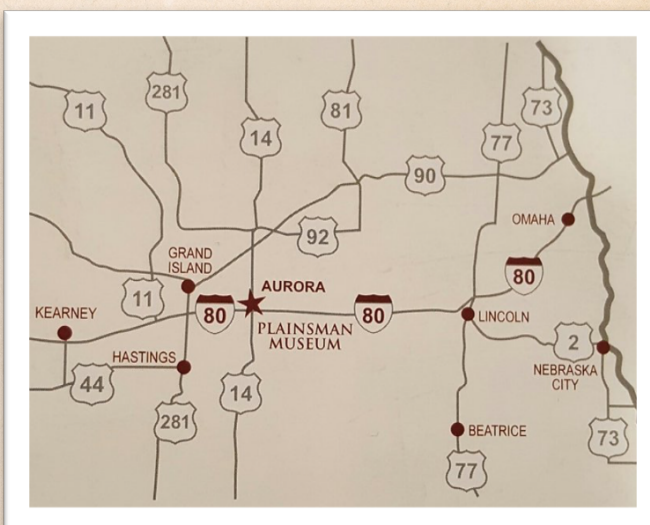
CONTACT INFORMATION

Location: 210 16th Street, Aurora, NE 68818

Phone: 402-694-6531

Email: plainsman@hamilton.net

Website: plainsmanmuseum.org



Visit us on location!



THANK YOU!

**Thank you to everyone who
participated in this year's Annual
Fundraiser!**

**This year we raised over
\$18,000!**

**Thank you all for helping us “continue
on our way” on our “journey through
yesterday” - today and every day!**

Thank You!

**Plainsman Museum Fundraising
Committee:**

**Berniece Luthy, CH.
Janet Boltz, CH.
Sue Deininger**

**Roberta Cool
Verda Friesen
Marcia Spiehs**

**Kathy Pollard
Linda Ohlson
Betty Van Luchene**



THANK YOU!

Innovator – Over \$500

Aurora News-Register - \$1,000
Heritage Bank - \$900
Interstate Battery - \$1,000
Wortman Family Charitable Trust - \$5,000

Homesteader - \$500

American Legion – Lester Harter Post #42
Aurora Cooperative
Aurora Mall & Subway
Hamilton Relay
Berniece Luthy
Dr. Cory and Tracy Ohlson
Matt and Dawn Shaw

Pioneer - \$200-\$400

Robert and Roberta Cool
Cornerstone Bank
Heartland Bank
James and Virginia Koepke
Mid-Nebraska Land Developers
Pinnacle Bank – Aurora
Thomas Realty & Auction, Co.
Shane and Rhoda Thorell
John and Kris Yockey

Trailblazer - \$100-\$199

Larry and Sue Bengtson
Cornwell, Inc. Land & Home
Dan and Anne Daly
Diamond J Custom Services, LLC
First Securities Corp.
Rendy and Verda Friesen
Harmony Nursery & Daylily Farm
Michael and Glenda Hawthorne
Higby-McQuiston Mortuary, Inc.
Janet and Dwight Humphrey
Jim's U Save Pharmacy of Aurora, Inc.
Eric and Nancy Lohrmeyer
Kurt and Sue Mitchell
Steve and Marsha Pawley
Bruce and Kathy Ramsour
William and Jean Schuster
Glenn and Marcia Spiehs
Willis Properties

Surveyor – Less than \$100

Laureate Nu Sorority
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.
Svehla Law Offices
T. O. Haas Tire
Norma Wert

Auction Item/Service Donors

Alder Plant Nursery
Ashley Brooke Jewelry
Aurora Aquatic Facility
Aurora Eyecare Professionals
Aurora Fitness Center
Aurora Lions Club
Britton Bailey
Bulldog Roadhouse
Chances "R" Restaurant
Eager Achievers 4H Club
Element Salon
Espressions
Fancy Fur
Friesen Ford
Grand Island Little Theater
Diane Haden
Hairy Situations
Hello Gorgeous
Hope Home Furnishings & Flooring
Jimmy and Linda Hough
Hy-Vee Food Store
Interstate Battery
Jim's USave Pharmacy Gift Shop
JoJo's Gelato & Grill
Dani Klute
Lied Center-Tickets
Lincoln Children's Zoo
Memorial Community Health
Mo-Net's
NAPA Auto Parts
Nitta's Bed & Breakfast and Catering
The Old Homestead Market and Floral
Padgett Business Services
Pizza Hut
Pleasant Hill Grain
Prairie Plains Resource Institute
Pueblo Viejo
Rath's Cafe
Glenn Rauert
Katie Regier
The Renaissance
Roe Chevrolet Buick, Inc.
Runza Drive-In
Sack Lumber
Dale and Carol Saddler
Sam's Club
Sullivan Companion Animal Clinic
Summer House Kitchen
Susan's Books and Gifts
Tri-City Storm
Urban Creations
Megan Vetter
Wal-Mart SuperCenter-North, Grand Island
Wal-Mart SuperCenter-South, Grand Island
Wal-Mart SuperCenter, York