



# DAN PATCH *Newsletter*

**A Publication of the Dan Patch Historical Society**

Number 36 • Spring 2012

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



Dan Patch Days  
2012 Button

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**For more information about our organization, visit our website [www.danpatch.com](http://www.danpatch.com)**

## SOCIETY ABOUT HISTORY... HAS HISTORY

The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Dan Patch Historical Society, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, was held on March 24, 1992 at 7 PM at the Savage Public Library. Officers elected were: Del Stelling, president; Mark McNeill, vice-president; Joe Cade, treasurer; Janet Williams, secretary. Other members of the board were: George Augustinack, Bill Olson and Hugh Cardenas. Annual dues were set at \$15. The first order of business was to have a booth at Heritage Days to generate interest and to sell memberships. The logo and by-laws were adopted.

Joe Egan, a long time resident and Dan Patch collector died before we were organizing and his collection was sold in New York. The family asked if the society was interested in some of the items that did not sell and we agreed to purchase four items: a cart, a book, a movie poster and the two step music. However we had no money so each board member contributed \$100. That is the only time that the society purchased items. Since then we only accept donations.

*History of the DPHS, continues on Page 3 ►*

## Dan Patch Days, June 21-24, 2012

Dan Patch Days will be June 21-24. Our commemorative buttons are on sale for \$3 each at the Razor's Edge Barber Shop, the Savage Library and Savage City Hall. Purchasers will have an opportunity to win at the drawing on Saturday night, an intarsia of the button or a Savage blanket. A button is required to participate in the horseshoe hunt with the first clue available on May 25. We will have a booth at Community Park on Saturday from 2 until 8 PM with a display of our collection and

a book signing of the newly released pictorial history of Savage, MN. We will be in the parade in downtown Savage at 1 PM on Sunday.



### DAN PATCH DAYS

*A Winning Celebration!*

[www.danpatchdays.org](http://www.danpatchdays.org)

**Mission Statement:** The Dan Patch Historical Society was formed for the purpose of collection, preservation and dissemination of historical knowledge and artifacts about the horse, Dan Patch, and it's owner, M.W. Savage.

## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

**Dawn Bergman**, *West Linn, Oregon*

**Jack/Cindy Bergman**, *Francisville, Louisiana*

**Family of Art Egan**, *Winter Park, Florida*

**Carrie Johnson**, *Perham, Minnesota*

**Tom/Debra Markus**, *Iowa City, Iowa*

**Wayne Mattox**, *Wanatah, Indiana*

**Virginia Odette**, *Elk New Market, Minnesota*

**Jim/Laurie Ross**, *Savage, Minnesota*

**Paul/Robbie Settergren**, *Savage, Minnesota*

**Phil/Betty Settergren**, *Burnsville, Minnesota*

**Barry/Lorna Stock**, *Savage, Minnesota*

**Jed/Jenny Williams**, *Savage, Minnesota*

## DONATIONS

Two framed photographs of the ship "U.S.S. Agawam" in MN River from Port Cargill donated by: **Elaine Summerfield**, *Bloomington, MN*

## DPHS CONTINUES TO SHARE HISTORY

The Dan Patch Historical Society continues to share their knowledge of Dan Patch and Mr. Savage around our community and neighboring communities. On March 18, 2012, Will Williams, Jens Bohn, George Augustinack and Janet Williams spoke to the Bloomington Historical Society.



From left to right: Janet Williams, Will Williams, Vonda Kelly (Bloomington Historical Society), Jens Bohn and George Augustinack.



Powerpoint presentation to a group of 45 at the Bloomington Historical Society.

## Dan Patch Historical Society Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES:**    Student (\$5)    Individual (\$15)    Family (\$25)    Benefactor (\$50)    Corporate (\$250 & more)

*Please mail completed form and check to: Dan Patch Historical Society • P.O. Box 1:55 • Savage, MN 55378*

# SOCIETY ABOUT HISTORY... HAS HISTORY

History of the DPHS, continued from Page 1 ◀

The mission as adopted in 1994 was : **To collect, preserve and disseminate information about the horse, which achieved national fame in the early 1900's and its owner, Marion W. Savage, for whom the city has been named.**

Our goal was always education. We wanted to have all of our residents aware of our rich history and have done that through tirelessly giving talks at all of the schools, service organization and to have a museum for all to enjoy.

That dream came to fruition when we partnered with the city as they began to plan in 1996 for the new public library. The mayor and council at that time wanted the city's history incorporated into that building. We stepped up and planned the Heritage Room/Museum space, made our collection available and still maintain it to this day. We finally had a permanent space for the cart we purchased years before. The grand opening was September 21, 1997, almost 15 years ago.

1996 was the year that Heritage Days was changed to Dan Patch Days. With that we took over the collector button sales and started the annual horseshoe hunt. Our very own clue master wrote the clues that were history related and resulted in someone finding the hidden horseshoe,

winning \$100 and riding in the Dan Patch Days parade. In 1996 we had a booth at Canterbury Race track in Shakopee and at the Victorian Fair in Winona, MN. In 1998 the Savage Municipal Liquor Store closed and the city donated all of the murals from there of Dan Patch and Mr. Savage to the Dan Patch Historical Society. They are displayed in city hall, the library and the depot.

In 2000 we produced a trifold brochure "History of Savage" that we still distribute widely. We have had a newsletter since 1992, reprinted the **International Stock Food Farm Book** and designed a postcard that we have sold since 1994. We reprinted the **Dan Patch Electric Railroad** book also. Our greatest literary events occurred in 2006 when we helped with the book/DVD **The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage** by Tim Brady and in 2008 when we assisted Charles Leerhsen when he wrote **Crazy Good**. In May of this year we look forward to the publishing of **Images of America - Savage** compiled and written by Nancy Huddleston. We will be selling that book at our booth at Dan Patch Days 2012. Between 2002 and 2004 we applied for a U.S. postage stamp of Dan Patch but was unsuccessful.

2006 was our BIG year. On



July 28, the depot was returned to Savage. We were instrumental in raising funds to move it back, procure a site from the city, have the city own it, helped restore it and the city rents it out as a coffee shop with beer, wine, food and music. Much of our memorabilia decorates the interior. We are part of a city committee that oversees its preservation. On September 2, 2006 we had a big display at the MN State Fair to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Dan Patch setting the record 1:55 at the fair. We also were in the parade. The fair created a commemorative button that we distributed to note the event.

We are a member of the Savage Chamber of Commerce and that has helped with our exposure in the city. We participate in Dan Patch Days, Winterfest, Community Fest and the Amazing Pace.

History of the DPHS, continues on Page 4 ▶

## SOCIETY ABOUT HISTORY... HAS HISTORY

*History of the DPHS, continued from Page 3 ◀*

We moved into the technology age in 2004 with the launch of our website [www.danpatch.com](http://www.danpatch.com), which greatly increased our exposure and enabled the receipt of many inquiries about the horse and its owner. Technology changed how we operate too because for the first dozen years or so we met every month. Now we meet a couple of times a year and do our business by email.

All of this is accomplished by an incredible board of directors.

## INTRODUCING.... THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- **Jens Bohn:** president since 1994, lifelong resident, local barber and owner of the Razor's Edge Barber Shop where he displays much of his local history collection and sells our DPHS items.

- **George Augustinack:** vice president since 1994, former owner of All Type Printing, property manager, extensive collector with special emphasis on Mr. Savage and an expert on Savage's local history.

- **Janet Williams:** secretary of DPHS since its inception, lifelong resident, retired county library director, instrumental in forging the partnerships between the city and the DPHS, current Mayor of Savage.

- **Nancy Allen:** current treasurer, involved in family business of rental property and land development, her father was the last agent in Savage when the depot closed, in charge of depot fundraising.

- **Tom Brennan:** Senior Process Analyst for Engineering Systems, Rosemount Measurements, Chanhassen, MN; instrumental in bringing Dan Patch Days back, former Mayor of Savage.

- **Tausha Chamberland:** lifelong resident, daughter of George Augustinack, youngest member, employee of the Burnsville, Eagan, Savage School District, wife and mother of two daughters who love to participate in the parade when we represent DPHS, editor of the newsletter.



Board Members pictured from left to right,  
Back Row: Greg Lind, Tausha Chamberland, Joe Cade, George Augustinack, Will Williams  
Front Row: Jed Williams, Nancy Allen, Janet Williams & Jens Bohn  
Not pictured: Tom Brennan, Rob Fendler & Jim Ross  
Picture was taken at last annual meeting on July 20, 2011.

- **Joe Cade:** charter member and the treasurer for 16 years, local Savage attorney in the firm of Eastland, Solseth, Cade and Hutchinson, oversees all legal documents and operations.

- **Rob Fendler:** collector, owner of Fendler-Patterson Construction, served as construction manager of the depot project. Long time Dan Patch Days Inc. board member, former Mayor of Savage.

- **Greg Lind:** technical services civil/structural/architectural supervisor for Zachary Engineering, MPLS office; active in the Dan Patch Days Inc. and the webmaster for DPHS.

- **Jim Ross:** lifelong resident, cardiopulmonary technician at Children's Hospital and Clinic in MPLS, researches and writes feature articles for the newsletter, current clue master.

- **Jed Williams:** newcomer to Savage after coming to U of M and interested in our history, director of operations, Med-Diet Laboratories, Plymouth, MN, volunteers at all "fests" and along with his wife, Jenny, portrays Mr. & Mrs. Savage at our events.

- **Will Williams:** lifelong resident, retired math teacher, clue master for 15 years, "voice" of the DPHS as he does all presentations in person, radio, TV, created a powerpoint for our programs.

JAW, 3/2012

# WINTERFEST 2011



The Savage Chamber of Commerce Winterfest 2011 was held downtown Savage on December 1, 2011. The Dan Patch Historical Society participated again this year in the parade. Everyone dressed up in costumes portraying the early 1900's including Mr. and Mrs. Savage who were in attendance again along with their friends, Charles Pillbury, James J. and Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Bean, Robert "Fish" and Mrs. Jones.

Dan Patch Historical Society

**Annual Meeting**  
**JULY 25,**  
**2012**  
**Savage Depot**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Dan Patch's  
 Birthday is  
 April 29, 1896

## Items for Sale

- 2008 Dan Patch Pewter 2-1/2" diameter Holiday Ornament.....\$20

- Dan Patch Postcard.....\$1

- 2012 Dan Patch Days Button.....\$3  
 Previous years buttons also available

- M.W. Savage Storyboard.....\$75

- Dan Patch Storyboard.....\$75  
 Storyboards are perfect for homes, offices and waiting rooms



- International Stock Food Farm Book.....\$25 (non-members)....\$15 (members)

- The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage Book....\$24.95  
 DVD also available for \$10

- Dan Patch Electric Railroad Book...\$15 (non-members).....\$12 (members)

\*Items available at The Razor's Edge Barbershop, through the website [www.danpatch.com](http://www.danpatch.com) or call 952-890-1669. Shipping and handling fees apply.

**DAN PATCH  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 1:55  
Savage, MN 55378**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President** Jens Bohn  
12385 Ottawa Ave. S., Savage, MN 55378  
952-890-5260

**Vice President** George Augustinack

**Treasurer** Nancy Allen

**Secretary** Janet Williams

**Webmaster** Greg Lind

**Newsletter Editor** Tausha Chamberland

Tom Brennan

Joe Cade

Rob Fendler

Jim Ross

Jed Williams

Will Williams

**[www.danpatch.com](http://www.danpatch.com)**

**VISIT: Heritage Room/Museum**

**Savage Public Library**

**13090 Alabama Avenue, Savage, MN 55378**

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10am-8pm

Wednesday 1pm-8pm

Friday 10am-4pm

Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 1pm-5pm

## ***FROM THE PRESIDENT...***



Jens Bohn

We recently had an opportunity to spend some time with one of our distinguished members, retired General John Vessey. He joined us at the Heritage Room and

told us about how he and his father worked on the Dan Patch Railroad.

On March 18 we gave our powerpoint presentation at the old town hall in Bloomington for their historical society meeting. About 45 people attended as both societies shared the rich history of Mr. Savage and Dan.

We hope that you enjoyed reading in this newsletter about our 20 year history of what we have accomplished during that short time and introduction of our board of directors. We have a committed board and many wonderful members who support us in our projects.

See you at Dan Patch Days!

*Jens*

***For more information  
about our organization,  
visit our website***

***[www.danpatch.com](http://www.danpatch.com)***