



Dan Patch NEWS

Potpourri of projects keep us busy

May 13, 2006

The last four columns focused on the depot project. Perhaps we should step back a minute and write about the Dan Patch Historical Society.

We were incorporated in March 1992 and formed exclusively "for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of historical knowledge about the horse, Dan Patch, and its owner, M.W. Savage." With our mission of education about local history which includes Camp Savage and Cargill, we give talks at local schools, service clubs, churches, senior clubs, scouting groups and to anyone who asks.

- The society partners with the Savage Public Library to maintain the display cases at the library and monitors the collection and files in the Heritage Room.
- In cooperation with Dan Patch Days Inc. we design and sell the Dan Patch Days buttons, provide a booth at Dan Patch Days and sponsor the "Find the Horseshoe" contest. Our "cluemaster" writes the clues, hides the horseshoe and we provide the prizes.
- We helped Nodin Press of Minneapolis with the book and DVD The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage by Tim Brady to be published in time for Dan Patch Days. Reserve your copy now as we get a portion of the proceeds.
- We are working with the Minnesota State Fair to celebrate "Dan Patch Day at the Fair" on Aug. 29. We will be participating in the flag raising, be in their parade and have a booth by KSTP near the grandstand. The U.S. Postal Service will be canceling letters with a Dan Patch picture that day. The fair will be producing a souvenir button for the day.

As you can see, we are pretty busy. Check out our Web site at www.danpatch.com for items we have for sale and other interesting facts. Consider joining us, as we have 60 members from across the United States.

Book on Mr. Savage and Dan Patch is for sale

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During the first decade of the 20th Century, when automobiles were a novelty, the sporting world was enthralled by the exploits of a well-loved pacer named Dan Patch.

"The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage" by author Tim Brady, tells the story of the pair. Dan Patch broke racing records with ease throughout the nation, and set a mark at the

Minnesota State Fair 100 years ago this September that held for more than 30 years. M.W. Savage made use of the horses' celebrity status to promote a variety of products throughout the world, and became a multi-millionaire in the process. An accompanying DVD contains rare footage of Dan on the race track, and daily life on the lavish stock farm Savage built on the banks of the Minnesota River in the town that now bears his name.

A portion of the book sales will be donated by Nodin Press to the Dan Patch Historical Society. The book is available on a pre-order status through the Dan Patch Historical Society's Web site, www.danpatch.org or by mailing a check to the Dan Patch Historical Society, P.O. Box 1:55, Savage, Minn. 55378. The price is \$25 for the book and \$6.25 for shipping and handling. It will also be available on June 24 at Dan Patch Days. The author, Tim Brady, will be signing copies of the book.

The Dan Patch Historical Society proudly works to keep the heritage of this community alive. This bi-weekly feature is a partnership with the Dan Patch Historical Society and the Savage Pacer. Information is provided by the historical society. For more information on the city's history, go to www.danpatch.com.