



DAN PATCH *Newsletter*

A Publication of the Dan Patch Historical Society

Number 39 • Fall 2013

www.danpatch.com

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2013 Dan Patch Days Button
still available for purchase

For more information about our organization, visit our website www.danpatch.com

DAN PATCH DAYS 2013 CANCELLED

Dan Patch Days 2013 was ultimately cancelled due to inclement weather and lack of electricity. We were unable to have our booth on Saturday and the big grand day parade on Sunday. Prior to the event



2013 Intarsia Winner Jeff Pribyl with Jed Williams of DPHS



2013 Horseshoe Winner Tyler Shaver and Jens Bohn, president of DPHS

we had our annual horse shoe hunt with Tyler Shaver finding the shoe before the event. For two Sundays after DP Days we had a table at the Savage Farmer's Market where we sold our buttons and other

items. On the last Sunday we had the grand drawing for the intarsia of the button and the blanket. Winner of the intarsia was Jeff Pribyl of Golden Valley, MN and blanket was won by Kathleen Grimes of Rome, NY. We look forward to a better than ever Dan Path Days next year!



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

Nancy Allen, *Savage, MN*
Lylia Andreen, *Stewartville, MN*
Roger Applegate,
Wilmington, OH
George Augustinack,
Savage, MN
Jens/Joyce Bohn, *Savage, MN*
Grove Bradbury, jr.,
St. Paul, MN
Joe Cade, *Lakeville, MN*
David Christopherson,
Farmington, MN
Kathleen Dempsey,
Pompano Beach, FL
Rob/Lori Fendler, *Savage, MN*
Don Forsyth, *Stratford, NJ*
Bob/Thelma Glaspie,
Oxford, IN
Carl Hanson, *Savage, MN*
Drema Huston, *Anderson, IN*
Carrie Johnson, *Perham, MN*
Marsha Johnson, *Savage, MN*
John Lause,
Brooklyn Park, MN
Maureen McColl,
Port Orchard, WA
Rita McKenna, *Clinton, CT*
Charlie/Helen Moriyama,
Mililani, HI
Jim/Laurie Ross, *Savage, MN*
Michael Simpson/Sharon Allen,
Savage, MN
Barry/Lorna Stock,
Savage, MN
Will/Janet Williams,
Savage, MN

RUNNING ACES



The Minnesota Horsemen's Association held a Dan Patch Day at Running Aces Harness Park on August 24, 2013 and invited DPHS. Running Aces is 5/8 mile harness horse racing track in Columbus, MN just north of St. Paul, MN. We had the display and members were there to answer questions about Dan Patch and Mr. Savage. DPHS and the Savage Chamber of Commerce provided prizes for the trivia game.



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

Our BIG Horseshoe



DPHS 3 ft. Wooden Horseshoe on display in the window as you enter the Savage Public Library

The Savage Chamber of Commerce sold wooden cutouts of a horseshoe actually about 3 feet by 2 to promote Dan Patch as a fundraiser to be decorated however the purchaser saw fit. The Dan Patch Historical Society purchased one and have decorated it in black/white with historic photos and copies of our buttons through the years. Tausha Chamberland, a member of our board and editor of the newsletter, put her talents to work to create a true work of art. It is currently on display at the library and will be part of a contest at Winterfest, Dec. 5.



DPHS 3 ft. Wooden Horseshoe

Matsumoto and Merrill's Marauders

In our last newsletter we wrote about the mission of the Dan Patch Historical Society and the vast local history collection at our museum at the Savage Public Library. We talked about a presentation at the Twin Cities World War II Roundtable on Camp Savage at Fort Snelling and now we had another event.

On August 29 thru 31, 2013 Merrill's Marauders held their convention in Bloomington MN and invited us to have our Camp Savage display. Merrill's Marauders were 3000 army volunteers in WWII involved in the



Burma, India, China (BIC) theater. Roy Matsumoto, now 100 years old, was at

the convention, visited our museum at the library and the historic site of Camp Savage. He was a Nisei soldier at Camp Savage and wanted to return to where he only has fond memories of the Camp and MN. (see donation)



Karen Matsumoto, George Augustinack (Vice President of DPHS) and Roy Matsumoto

THE FIRST DAN PATCH DAYS

by Jim Ross

The headlines scream "Prisoner Escapes Jail" then steals a car to escape; "Three Injured in Head-on Collision" on Hwy 169; and "Tax Hearing Tonight" where the city council will consider increasing assessments. If this isn't bad enough "this week... the temperature soared into the nineties". Seems there's no good news anymore. But wait – these headlines from the Shakopee Valley News dated Thursday July 30, 1953- did include some good news too, as a nun in full habit is pictured preparing for the

More good news comes on page 13 where it is reported that the Savage Lion's Club will be hosting the first annual Dan Patch Days to raise funds

This group of Lion's and Savage pioneers, who discovered that county records still had not yet changed the name of the village from Hamilton, used a folded over mimeographed sheet of paper for its program of activities.

The Lions Club president was Edward Allen of Allen's Towing, Eugene Kearney of Kearney's Food Market - later Kearney's Variety Store, was the festival chairman. Other Lions of note were James McCoy, on the original roster of 22 Savage Firefighters; Charlie Oster – the last agent at the Savage Railroad Depot; Ben Morlock – Justice of the Peace and collector extraordinaire; and Gene Newstrom of the Savage Lumber Yard and the building inspector. Newstrom is shown in a three column picture on the same page 13 visiting the closely guarded location of the grave of Dan Patch. Along with Gene is Mikey Zeller, then 74 years old and a former maintenance man at M.W. Savage's stables. The stables were known as The International Stock food farm and Dan was buried on land there. After Savage's death the land went to the Kearney's farm and then to Port Cargill. Dan is buried on the banks of the Credit River there, known by old timers as simply the creek. The grave is still unmarked as their memorial plans and plans throughout the years, even the family's plans at the time of Dan's death in 1916, have yet to produce results. Zeller points from the picture to a spot off camera, to a patch of grass and weeds, very near where a massive cottonwood has crash landed. He says, we are told: "that's it – there he is".

The First Dan Patch Days, continued on Page 5



for playground equipment. Ed Allen, Lion's Club President, noted that Savage has 150 children of school age with no playground, "such facilities are badly needed." The mid August festival tapped into the nostalgic memories of the famous pacer (Dan and his owner M.W. Savage died in 1916) and events included a kiddie parade, a horse racing parade and a dance. On Sunday there was a rodeo and a showing of original motion pictures of Dan Patch that were owned by Harold Savage, soon to be a Grand Marshall of the parade and M.W.'s son.

One thousand buttons were sold for a dollar a piece (these quickly became collector items) and were required for admittance to both the dance and the movies. The Dan Patch Days Queen was chosen by the girl who sold the most buttons. Queen bee in '53 was Lois Beggemann. The formal Dan Patch Days programs (which have also become collectables) were not produced until the second annual Dan Patch Days in 1954.

THE FIRST DAN PATCH DAYS

by Jim Ross

*The First Dan Patch Days, continued
from Page 4*

Flooding has changed the topography almost yearly and Cargill one year re-routed the crick making it even more problematic to find. But I've heard tell of one local yokel who has the GPS co-ordinates.

Yet the more things change, the more they stay the same. Headlines this summer again had news of Hwy 169 and rising taxes. But there was also news of the 60th anniversary of Dan Patch Days, of the city coming together, joining in fellowship and sharing in the community of neighbors. But this year the festivities were almost completely cancelled due to severe weather. Perhaps Mother Nature took offense since she may be the only one who really knows the location of the final resting place of the greatest pacer ever to take the track – Dan Patch.

Editor's note: Archives of The Shakopee Valley News and The Scott County Argus, which also chronicled life in Savage, can be found at the Scott County Historical Society and the Shakopee Library.

This article was researched and written by Jim Ross, lifelong resident of Savage, MN and board member of DPHS.

DONATIONS

DVD: Honor & Sacrifice – Roy Matsumoto Story- A Japanese American Hero in Merrill's Marauders donated by Greg & Barb Walker of Savage, MN in memory of her father Wilber Littler.

Mr. Littler was in Merrill's Marauders with Roy Matsumoto.

An 18 inch rasp with "Dan Patch" engraved above the point, framed sketch of Oxford, IN, a plate of Oxford, IN and a brush with a Dan Patch Sticker donated by Harry & Kathy Ploumen, Shakopee, MN.

Items for Sale

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



- Dan Patch Postcard.....\$1
- 2013 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
- Images of America, Savage Book.....\$23.50
- Dan Patch Electric Railroad Book...\$15 (non-members).....\$12 (members)

*Items available at The Razor's Edge Barbershop, through the website 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

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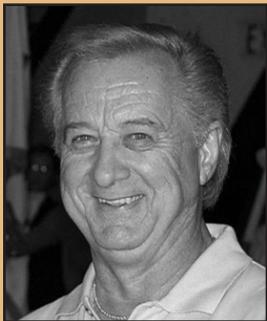
**Contact us at: 952-890-1669
Email: questions@danpatch.com**

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-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT...



Jens Bohn

On July 24 we held our annual meeting at the Heritage Room at the library. We elected the same officers but had a discussion of a process to replace an officer who no longer was interested in serving.

Besides our website we are now on Facebook. We are always open to your comments as to what you would like to know about us, our activities and something particular about history as it relates to Dan Patch and M.W.Savage. Let us know if there is a

particular story you would like to see in our newsletter now in color!

Our membership remains stable as we continue to have members from all over the United States as reflected in our list of new and renewing members. We are supported by our member dues and through the sale of our other items as listed in our newsletter.

Stop at my shop if you need to buy a postcard, book or button.

Jens

***For more information
about our organization, visit our website
www.danpatch.com***