



DAN PATCH

Historical Society

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 62 / SPRING 2025

MISSION

The Dan Patch Historical Society collects, preserves and disseminates historical knowledge and artifacts about the horse, Dan Patch, and its owner M.W. Savage

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DAN PATCH



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dan Patch Days

GET YOUR 2025 BUTTON

PRICE: \$5.00

WHERE TO BUY: Savage Public Library, Savage City Hall, the Dan Patch Historical Society Booth at Dan Patch Days or ask a DPHS Board member.

DRAWING: Saturday, June 28, at 5:00 p.m. at the Dan Patch Historical Society Booth. Need not be present to win.

Purchasing a button gets you a chance to win one of three prizes:

- 1970 Dan Patch Whiskey Decanter (empty), donated by Tausha Chamberland
- Limited Edition Savage Blanket, donated by the Jens Bohn Estate
- 3 Dan Patch Collector Plates, donated by the George Augustinack Collection

DESIGN: Acknowledges the long tradition of Dan Patch Days.

Proceeds support the historical preservation and traditions of the city.

Collector buttons have been a tradition at Dan Patch Days ever since the community event was started in 1953. The complete button collection is on display at the Heritage Room, and some are still for sale!

Come and see us at our booth on Saturday from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. to learn more about how we're preserving the city's history and how you can help support our nonprofit organization.



Button design by Anika Lind, daughter of Board Member Greg Lind.





HORSESHOE HUNT

Clues released FOUR WEEKS before Dan Patch Days, and if needed a fifth clue will be released!

The annual horseshoe hunt is sponsored by the DPHS and takes place every year preceding Dan Patch Days. A horseshoe is hidden somewhere within the city of Savage, on public property. Clues are available on the Dan Patch Historical Society's website, www.danpatch.com/horseshoe-hunt or at the Savage Library. The hunt has taken place since 1996 and has always been sponsored by the DPHS.

Rules:

- Clues are given out each week that will lead to the location of a special horseshoe hidden somewhere on public property within the city of Savage boundaries.
- Whoever finds the horseshoe MUST have purchased a 2025 Dan Patch Days button in order to win \$100.
- The lucky winner also gets to keep the commemorative horseshoe.

Remember: To win the \$100 prize, you must have purchased a Dan Patch Days button. Five dollars is a great investment, not only for the prize money, but also for bragging rights! The winner has the opportunity to ride with the Dan Patch Historical Society in the parade.

VISIT THE DAN PATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOTH

Saturday, June 28 – 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Come visit us at the Dan Patch Historical Society booth and pick up some great swag, such as coloring books, keychains, and candy; plus, get famous on Instagram by taking your picture with the Dan Patch cutout.

We will be selling DPHS buttons and memberships, and you'll enjoy learning all about your hometown's history while cooling off in the shade of our tent. Learn about Dan Patch's prowess as a racehorse, the colorful history behind the city's namesake, and find out about the Japanese language military school that played an integral part to the country's WW II effort.



PARADE

The Dan Patch Days Grand Days parade is a time-honored tradition that brings the community together. It runs from 11:00 a.m. – noon on Saturday, June 28, in downtown Savage. Check the Dan Patch Days website, www.danpatchdays.org, for the parade route and full schedule of events.

Mr. Savage and Dan Patch will be on our float, so you can't miss us! We look forward to seeing your smiling faces and waving to you from our top spot near the beginning of the parade. We will be throwing out candy and honoring our Horseshoe Hunt winners.

OTHER EVENTS

Most Dan Patch Days 2025 activities take place at Savage Community Park, 13500 Dakota Ave., unless otherwise noted. For more detailed information, go to www.danpatchdays.org. In the event of inclement weather, visit the Dan Patch Days website and social media channels (Facebook and Instagram) for the most up-to-date information on the status of events, including closings or postponements. Dan Patch Days tickets are non-refundable.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

- Savage Rotary Craft Beer and Wine Tasting Fundraiser: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the McColl Pond Environmental Learning Center. Cost: \$25. Tickets go on sale June 1.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

- Adult Night at Dan Patch Days: Music/Food Trucks/Vendors: Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$17 general admission ticket to get into the park and enjoy all of the bands. Also \$7 each for alcoholic beverage and cocktail ticket (No outside coolers/food allowed). Live music by Gen X JukeBox at 6:00 p.m. and Good for Gary at 8:30 p.m. Bring your own lawn chairs.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

- Dan Patch Days Grand Day Parade: Lineup is at 10:00 a.m. Parade starts at 11:00 a.m. in downtown Savage. No cost to attend.
- Family Day at Dan Patch Days: Noon – 11:00 p.m. No entrance fee. A variety of family friendly activities and music topped off by fireworks. (No outside coolers/food allowed)

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

- Savage Fire Department Pancake Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. – noon at Fire Station #2, 13105 Dakota Ave. Cost: Free-will donation.

From The President

33 YEARS – WHAT A REMARKABLE JOURNEY!

By Joe Cade

Thirty-three years ago in March 1992, I was a member of a small group from the Savage community that came together and formed the Dan Patch Historical Society. Our goal was to collect and preserve the local history of Dan Patch and his owner, Marion W. Savage. It was an ambitious goal – we had no memorabilia or artifacts, no financial resources, and no place to display anything even if we had something.

Our effort was prompted by the death of Joe Egan, a Savage resident and long-time collector of Dan Patch memorabilia, and the impending sale of his collection at auction. Although we weren't able to raise funds to be a buyer at that 1992 auction at the Meadowlands Racetrack in East Rutherford, New Jersey, the heirs of Joe Egan donated some items from his collection, and we were able to purchase a two-wheel sulky that was believed to have been used by Dan Patch. Our collection has grown considerably since then.

Initially our collection was so small that it was displayed in a glass case in a bank lobby (that's me on the right in the snazzy sweater in the black and white picture with Community Bank President Tom Hanson). Some of it was even kept in the bank vault!

As donations increased, we needed a larger space to display our growing collection. In 1997, at the insistence of Mayor Don Egan, the newly constructed Savage Public Library included a room for the preservation and display of local history. In 2024, the library was expanded and the Heritage Room devoted to local history was enlarged. If you haven't visited the library and Heritage Room since that expansion, I urge you to do so. It is open seven days a week, and you will be amazed at what you will see and impressed with how far we have come. I am proud to have been a small part of this exciting journey.



Recent Donations

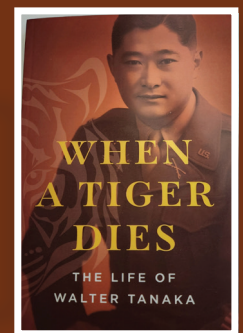
Neide Cooley, Sedalia, Colorado, donated a horse brush from the M.W. Savage Company Catalog which had a price of 45 cents on the original catalog page.

Bill Neubauer, Lake Lillian, Minnesota, donated a popular framed print featuring Dan Patch (1:55) alongside George Gano (2:02) and Minor Heir (1:58.2), titled "Fastest Stallions in the World." It was originally a premium offered with feed purchased from the International Stock Food Company.

Dr. Karen Tanaka Lucas of Apple Valley, Minnesota donated "When a Tiger Dies, The Life of Walter Tanaka" the story of her father, an American Nisei soldier who served at Camp Savage.

An anonymous donor donated a Dan Patch whiskey decanter from Oxford, IN, the birthplace of Dan Patch.

All of these items can be found in the DPHS Heritage Room at the Savage Public Library. If you have something relating to the history of Savage that you'd like to donate, email us at questions@danpatch.com or call 952-890-1669.



MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

ANNUAL DUES: Student (\$10) Individual (\$20) Family (\$30) Benefactor (\$55) Corporate (\$250+)

Please mail completed form and check to: Dan Patch Historical Society; P.O. Box 1:55, Savage MN 55378
Annual renewal date is listed in on the address label of your newsletter. Thank you for your support.

DAN PATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEW & RETURNING MEMBERSHIP

Savage Chamber of Commerce
Dawn Bergman, Wilsonville, OR
Ed Egan, Prior Lake
Kaisa Leina Erickson, Minneapolis
Rob/Lori Fendler, Savage

Patricia Harter, Angola, IN
Richard Nash, New Prague
Barry/Lorna Stock, Prior Lake
Jed/Jennifer Williams, Savage
Travis/Kylea Palmer, Prior Lake

**WE ALWAYS WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, TELL A FRIEND ABOUT
THE DAN PATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**

IN THE NEWS



Board members Joyce Bohn and Janet Williams at the DPHS table at the Friends of the Library Book Sale.

PARTNERSHIP WITH 'FRIENDS' REAPS BENEFITS

After the DPHS moved into our new space at the library, we took the opportunity to review items in our collection that were being stored. After careful review, the Board decided that there were several items that were no longer needed and to offer them to the public for free-will donations.

In the fall, DPHS formed a partnership with the Friends of the Library to display the items and set up a table at the annual book sale. In two hours, Board members Janet Williams and Joyce Bohn collected \$524! Plus, they sold three memberships and one "Images of America-Savage" book. Moreover, we created a wonderful partnership with the Friends group that we hope to continue in the future.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BUS TOUR

Last fall, the Dan Patch Historical Society partnered with the Savage Recreation Department for a historical tour of Savage. Board members Will Williams and Barry Stock narrated the tour and those on the bus went to the Ports of Savage, International Stock Food Farm, Boiling Springs, Camp Savage, Savage Fen, Savage Depot, and finished up at the Heritage Room at the Savage Public Library, where members from the DPHS were available for questions.

We are planning to continue this partnership in the future, so watch the city's fall Recreation Bulletin for more information about dates and times.



Savage Applies for WW II Heritage Cities Designation

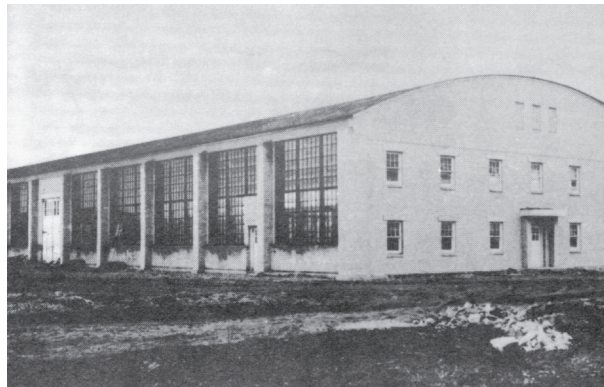
The Savage City Council has applied for a heritage designation through the American World War II Heritage Cities Program, which was established by the National Park Service (NPS). The program recognizes the contributions of towns, cities, counties, and the citizens who supported the war effort during World War II.

Savage's rich history during World War II includes three key contributions:

- **Camp Savage:** From 1942-1944, the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) operated in buildings along Highway 13. Some 5,000 – 6,000 Japanese American (Nisei) soldiers were given intensive and accelerated classes in the Japanese language and were an integral part of the nation's war efforts.
- **Port Cargill:** The U.S. Navy contracted with the company to build auxiliary oil and gas carriers (AOGs) and towboats. A total of 18 AOGs and four towboats were built in four years. During peak production times, the shipyard employed approximately 3,500 people at once.
- **Savage Tool Company/Continental Machines:** Manufactured machine tools and precision gauges used entirely for the war. Many of the company's employees resided in Savage.

The historic designation program recognizes "the historic importance of the United States' involvement in World War II." If selected, Savage would join 40 other WW II Heritage Cities such as Oak Ridge, TN, New Orleans, LA, and Pensacola, FL.

"World War II permeated every aspect of American life and resulted in a large migration of people within the United States. Individuals and families relocated to industrial centers for good paying war jobs and out of a sense of patriotic duty," according to a description of the program. "Many industrial centers became 'boom towns,' growing at phenomenal rates. Workers from around the nation had to intermingle with each other and overcome differences in order to meet war demands, forever changing the cultural landscape of the United States."



Coming Up

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Dan Patch Historical Society's Annual Meeting will be on July 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Savage Public Library, 13090 Alabama Ave.

VISIT US

Heritage Room / Museum
SAVAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

13090 Alabama Avenue
Savage, MN 55378

HOURS

Monday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Wednesday	12 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Extended Access Service is available. Anytime the library is open, you can visit our museum. Extended Access allows residents and other Scott County Library Services cardholders aged 16 and older to use the Savage Library anytime from 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. every day. Enrollment is required and can be completed with library staff during regular business hours.

NEED A SPEAKER?

Let us know! We specialize in Dan Patch, M.W. Savage, and Savage, MN area history.

In person or virtual options available.

We speak for free, but a donation to the Dan Patch Historical Society is welcomed and gratefully appreciated.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE LATELY?

www.danpatch.com

See the latest news, read about Dan Patch, obtain back issues of our newsletter and more!

CONTACT US

questions@danpatch.com

www.danpatch.com

Library Phone: 952.707.1770

DAN PATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Savage, MN 55378

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