

RAMSEY COUNTY  
**History**  
A Publication of the Ramsey County Historical Society



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AASLH Certificate of Commendation.

**Spring, 1994**

Volume 29, Number 1

**The 'Fighting Saint' —  
The U.S.S. St. Paul and Its Minnesota Connection** Page 4



Women from the Yokosuka, Japan, Folk Dance Association perform Japanese folk dances for U. S. S. St. Paul crewmembers as the heavy cruiser prepares to leave Yokosuka for the United States on July 6, 1962. See article beginning on page 4.

**D-Day Remembered By Seven Who Were There**

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## RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY

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# RAMSEY COUNTY History

Volume 29, Number 1

Spring, 1994

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## A Message from the Editorial Board

The Ramsey County Historical Society recently lost a loyal and long-time supporter when Lester B. LeVesconte, a grandson of Heman and Jane Gibbs, died in Illinois. In 1849 the Gibbs family established the pioneer farmstead that today we know as the Gibbs Farm Museum. Lester LeVesconte, whose mother was the Gibbs's daughter, Lillie, was instrumental in working out in 1949 the arrangements by which the Gibbs farm became a museum under the auspices of the Ramsey County Historical Society.

The Society's debt to Lester LeVesconte extends beyond the Gibbs Farm Museum because over many years Mr. LeVesconte actively promoted the publication of historical material about the Gibbs family and Ramsey County. Thus he helped support financially the Society's publication of his mother's book, *Little Bird That Was Caught*, about Jane Gibbs's experiences as a young pioneer in the wilderness that became Minnesota. His advocacy of the publication of Ram-



Lester LeVesconte

sey County history extended to the Society's broader plans, which included this quarterly magazine, *Ramsey County History*.

We honor Lester LeVesconte's memory and his many contributions to the Ramsey County Historical Society. We are inspired by his example and his vision for history.

—John M. Lindley, chairman,  
Editorial Board

*The Ramsey County Historical Society wishes to express its deep appreciation to those major supporters, listed here, who made possible the Society's interpretation and preservation of the county's history during 1993.*

*A special thank you goes to the Board of Ramsey County Commissioners for its support through the years. If anyone has been inadvertently omitted, please call the Society at 222-0701 so they can be included later.*

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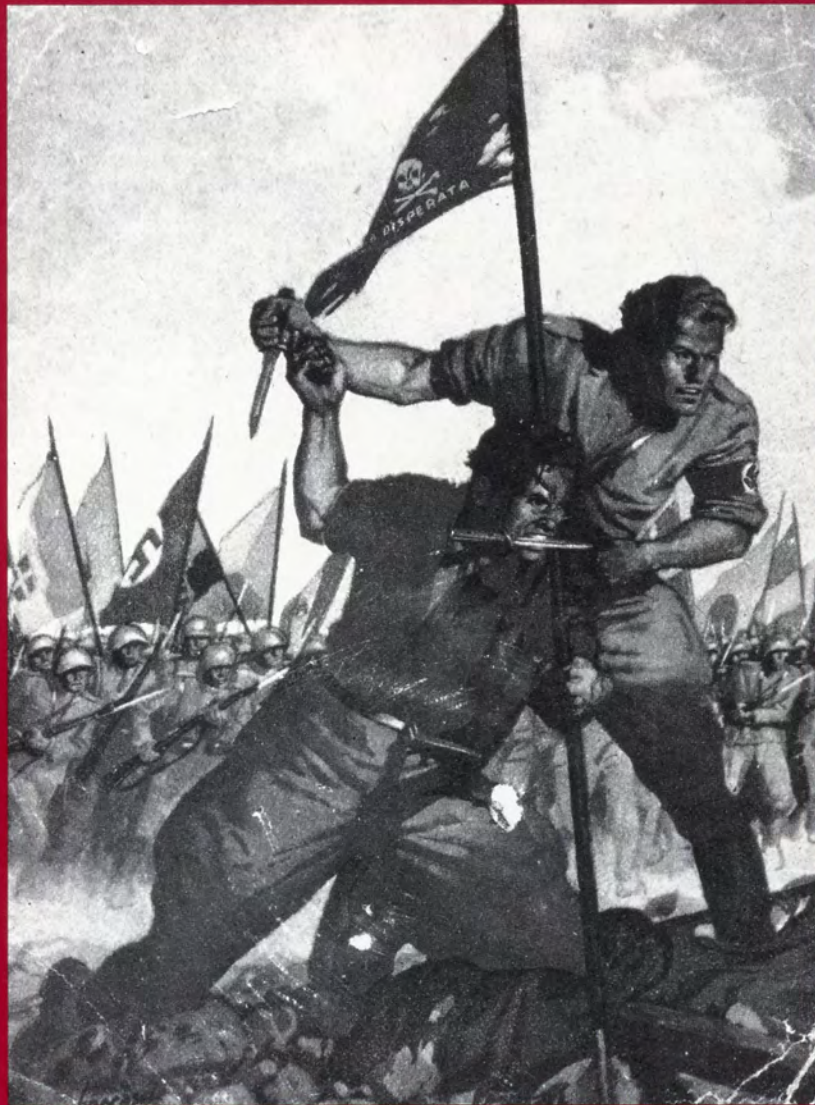
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*A German propaganda card given to Russell W. Anderson by a German soldier taken prisoner during the Normandy landings. "He was a nice guy," Anderson remembers. See the article beginning on Page 9: "D-Day Remembered by Seven Who Were There."*

**R.C.H.S.**  
RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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