

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

The St. Paul Society  
for the Hard of Hearing  
*Kristin Mapel Bloomberg  
and Leah S. McLaughlin*

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**Winter 2010**

Volume 44, Number 4

*Recollections of Cathedral Hill*

A Glimpse of Old St. Paul from an Up-and-Down Duplex  
on Holly Avenue

*Mary Reichardt*

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*One of the distinguishing features of the up-and-down duplex at 444 Holly Avenue in the Cathedral Hill neighborhood is its spacious front porches that encourage conversation and reminiscing about old St. Paul on warm summer days. Photo courtesy of Mary Reichardt.*

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# RAMSEY COUNTY History

Volume 44, Number 4

Winter 2010

THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON DECEMBER 20, 2007:

The Ramsey County Historical Society inspires current and future generations to learn from and value their history by engaging in a diverse program of presenting, publishing and preserving.

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*Publication of Ramsey County History is supported in part by a gift from Clara M. Claussen and Frieda H. Claussen in memory of Henry H. Cowie Jr. and by a contribution from the late Reuel D. Harmon*

## A Message from the Editorial Board

Sometimes, reading history fuels our imaginations. This issue contains some great moments that we can conjure up in the comfort of our armchairs. Kristin Mapel Bloomberg and Leah McLaughlin's history of the St. Paul Society for the Hard of Hearing lets us join in when a hard-of-hearing person went to the movies in St. Paul and, thanks to technology pushed by the Society, could for the first time "hear with ease the slightest whisper . . . the baby's gurgle, the villain's chuckle." We are there, too, when Norm Horton inched along drifted roads during the Armistice Day Blizzard to get home to fill the oil heater for his family, after working his shift at the Ford plant. And we share Mary Reichardt's thrill when, on purchasing her house on Holly Avenue, she received a postcard from the Dow family, the house's longtime former owners, opening up a rich vein of family and neighborhood history. Join us to read these stories, and contact our editor if you have your own to share.

*Anne Cowie, Chair, Editorial Board*

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A special thank you goes to the Board of the Ramsey County Commissioners for their continuing and loyal support. Their partnership through the years gives the Society a solid foundation on which to build. Thanks to Tony Bennett; Toni Carter; Jim McDonough; Rafael Ortega; Jan Parker; Victoria Reinhardt, Chair; and Janice Rettman. Special appreciation goes to County Manager, Julie Kleinschmidt, and to countless members of her staff for their excellent professional assistance.

**R.C.H.S.**  
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If you would like to become a member of RCHS or make your own contribution to the organization, please call 651-222-0701, or visit our web site [www.rchs.com](http://www.rchs.com).

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While we do our best to include everyone, sometimes we make mistakes. Please call 651-222-0701 to correct any errors or omissions

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Operating contributions as well as membership support are critical to continue quality programming for the Society. This year we appreciate deeply the substantial support from the following individuals: (Please call 651-222-0701 to correct any errors or omissions)

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*The Northern Pump Company produced this poster of naval guns in 1942 to promote the work that its Naval Ordnance Division did to support the war effort. Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society. For more on the CCC and working at the Ford plant and Northern Pump, see Norman C. Horton's article on page 19.*