



# PDHS REVIEW

Newsletter of the  
Pond Dakota Heritage Society

**Volume 12 Issue 2**

**Bloomington,  
Minnesota  
April 2015**

**Inside this issue:**

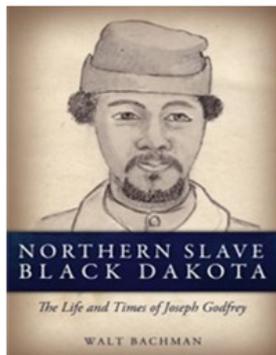
Slaves and Slaveholders' Stories	1
Dakota Language Camp	1
Calendar of Events	2-3
Map to Pond Dakota Mission Park	3
The Pond Dakota Heritage Society	3
2015 Officers	4
New PDHS Mailing Address	4
Sousa Band Returns!	4



## Minnesota Slaves and Slaveholders: Stories and Conundrums

Sunday May 3, 2 pm  
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church  
2200 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington

Based on his extensive research into the role played by the U.S. Army in bringing slavery to Minnesota, historian and retired attorney Walt Bachman will describe the army's pay system that rewarded officers for keeping enslaved servants and discuss some officers' manipulations of that system that increased their profits from slave-keeping. He will recount stories of individual slaves, based on new research, including how they were treated and what became of some of them in later years. Walt Bachman is the author of *Northern Slave, Black Dakota* published by Pond Dakota Press in 2013. Copies of *Northern Slave, Black Dakota* will be available for purchase and signing - cash or check.



---

## Dakota Language Camp

Tuesday - Thursday, July 7 - 9, 10am - 3pm  
Pond Dakota Mission Park

Announcing our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Dakota Language Camp at Pond Dakota Mission Park! Learn the Dakota language through traditional Dakota games, crafts, songs, dancing, and foods.

The camp, a joint venture of Bloomington Parks and Rec and the Dakota Language Department of the University of Minnesota, welcomes both Dakota and non-Dakota children and their families. For more info contact Jay Ludwig at or 952-484-0477 or [jludwig@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:jludwig@BloomingtonMN.gov).

Cost: \$40 per person, includes lunch. Scholarships are available.



## Events at Pond Dakota Mission Park

The Pond House is open year round on Sundays from 1:30 – 4 p.m. Admission to programs and tours is free for Pond Dakota Heritage Society members and youth through high school. Suggested donation of \$2 for non-member adults.

### APRIL

**Sunday, April 5—The house will be closed.**

#### **Making Hand-dipped Candles**

**Drop-in program, 2-4 pm Sunday, April 12**

Agnes Pond made their family's candles, which were the only source of light for the Pond family before the 1860s. Try your hand at dipping candles with expert candle-maker Cindy Hilsgen, and make one to take home. Learn firsthand why the Pond family was so pleased when kerosene lamplight became available! House tours 1:30 - 4 pm.

#### **"The Pond House" Award-Winning Video Sunday, April 19, 2 pm**

View the award-winning video, "The Pond House", which traces the history of the house through its builder and his great-grandson, and focuses on their important relationship with the Dakota people. The half-hour film will be followed by Q&A with filmmaker Barbara Britain, videographer Amy Okaya, and participants Jay Ludwig and Jeff Williamson. Mrs. Britain produces history-related programs for her show "Prairie Profiles" which is shown on Suburban Community Channels in White Bear, MN every Saturday evening. House tours 1:30 & 3:30 pm.

#### **Open House & Agnes's Sewing Circle Sunday, April 26, 1:30-4 pm**

Join Agnes Hopkins Pond (portrayed in costume by Sheila Smith) for a tour of the historic Pond House this Sunday, and after your tour enjoy cookies and conversation in the parlor. If you have knitting, crocheting, darning, or other small projects, bring them along! All ages are welcome.

### MAY

#### **Open House Sunday, May 3, 1:30-4 pm**

Tours of the Pond house will focus on Dakota life and customs, featuring Samuel Pond's book, *Dakota Life in the Upper Midwest*. This book has been described as "unrivaled ... for its discussion of Dakota material culture and social, political, religious and economic institutions."

#### **Open House Sunday, May 10, 1:30-4 pm**

In the spring of 1836 Gideon Pond moved from Lake Calhoun to the Lac Qui Parle Mission. Tour the Pond House and hear about the ingenious translation of the Bible into Dakota at that mission.

#### **Flintknapping**

#### **Drop-in program, 2-4 pm Sunday May 17**

Handle stone tools, use a stone-point pummel drill, try throwing darts using an atlatl, and watch a presentation on Minnesota archeology. Experience the world's oldest and most continually practiced craft, presented by expert flintknapper and archeologist Rod Johnson, President of the Minnesota Archaeological Society. House tours 1:30 - 4:00 pm.

#### **Open House Sunday, May 24, 1:30-4 pm**

Gideon's first wife, Sarah Poage, passed away in May 1853. While touring the historic Pond House, see her kitchen and pantry, and hear first-hand descriptions of this courageous woman.

#### **Open House Sunday, May 31, 1:30-4 pm**

Born in May 1843, Gideon and Sarah's second son, George Hollister Pond, lost a leg in a gun accident and later died from cholera at age 23. Learn about some of the perils of 19th century life on a tour of the Pond House.

## JUNE

**Design a Doll Day****Drop-in program, 2-4 pm      Sunday, June 7**

Bring your imagination and create a family of dolls to take home! Join historic seamstress Pauline Bold, who will demonstrate how to make corn husk dolls, cloth dolls, and yarn dolls. These popular toys for Native American and frontier children will be a unique addition to your collection. All materials will be provided. House tours 1:30 - 4 pm.

**Open House      Sunday, June 14, 1:30-4 pm**

Why would a father take his 5-year-old daughter to live in Connecticut, far from her family in Minnesota? Tour the Pond House and learn about one of the most difficult decisions Gideon Pond had to make.

**The Land Through Lakota Eyes****Sunday, June 21, 2 pm**

Join Cante Suta (Francis Bettelyoun), Coordinator for the Native American Medicine Gardens at the U of M Twin Cities, for a walk through the native prairie that is being restored in Pond Dakota Mission Park. Learn how Native Americans used native plants for food and medicine. House tours 1:30 & 3:30 pm.

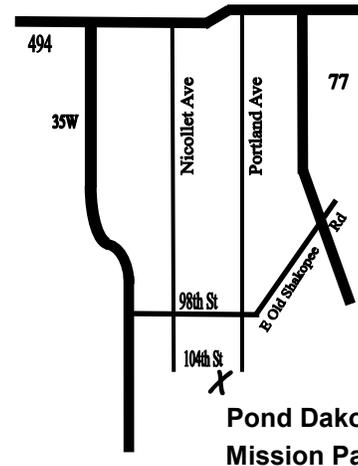
**Also on Sunday, June 21: A Free Concert at 7 pm  
John Philip Sousa Memorial Band Outdoor Concert**

The Sousa Band, directed by Mr. Scott Crosbie, has been entertaining local audiences for 40 years, providing great crowd-pleasing music. Volunteer musicians in period costume from all over the Twin Cities recapture the spirit of bands at the turn of the 20th century. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy some delicious ice cream.

**Open House & Agnes's Sewing Circle****Sunday, June 28, 1:30-4 pm**

Join Agnes Hopkins Pond (portrayed in costume by Sheila Smith) for a tour of the historic Pond House this Sunday, and after your tour enjoy cookies and conversation in the parlor. If you have knitting, crocheting, darning, or other small projects, bring them along! All ages are welcome.

**Pond Dakota Mission Park**  
401 East 104th Street  
Bloomington, MN 55420



Interpretive signs describing the history of the Dakota in the Minnesota River Valley, and Gideon and Samuel Pond, missionaries who arrived in 1834, are located along the walking trails in the park. The 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The park is open daily until 10 pm.

For more information about Pond Dakota Mission Park or private tours of the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, contact Mark Morrison, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, 952-563-8693, or [mmorrison@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:mmorrison@BloomingtonMN.gov).

More about the Pond House at  
[www.BloomingtonMN.gov](http://www.BloomingtonMN.gov)



Follow us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com.GideonAgnesPondHouse](http://www.facebook.com.GideonAgnesPondHouse)

**Pond Dakota Heritage Society**

The Pond Dakota Heritage Society discovers, preserves, promotes, and shares historical knowledge about the Dakota and white settlements in Minnesota in the 1800s. PDHS sponsors programs, lectures, and events for all ages, many of which are held at the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, which is owned and operated by the City of Bloomington. Annual Membership: Individual \$20, Household \$30, Sustaining \$100-\$499, Benefactor \$500 or more. For more info, email [ponddakota@gmail.com](mailto:ponddakota@gmail.com). Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/PondDakota](http://facebook.com/PondDakota).

**Pond Dakota Heritage Society**  
P.O Box 20511  
Bloomington, MN 55420

**Return Service Requested**

**PDHS Officers for 2015**

President - Sheila Strobel Smith  
Vice-President – Stephen Osman  
Secretary – Rod Myers  
Treasurer - Jay Ludwig  
Members at Large - Larry Granger,  
Vonda Kelly, Jeff Williamson,  
Candy Williamson

The Pond Dakota Heritage Society has a new mailing address!

Pond Dakota Heritage Society  
P. O. Box 20511  
Bloomington, MN 55420

**The John Philip Sousa Memorial Band  
Returns Sunday June 21, 7 pm.**

**Come join the fun!**

