



St. Michael Catholic Grade School



Our Mission

People of the present day can learn about how to direct the future of the City of St. Michael by revisiting the path taken by those who came before us. Honoring the contributions of our forefathers and mothers and preserving their artifacts can help us remember their hard work in establishing our City's strong foundation. We hope it can inspire us to persevere in the work they began.

4th and 5th graders
About 1935

Top: left to right

Elda Eull, Lucille Zachman, Rita Goeb, Esther Kasper, Rita Mastley, Arleen Dehmer, Marion Barbeln, Virginia Duerr, Seraphine Duerr, Rita Eicher, Verena Hackenmueller

2nd Row

Dorothy Zachman, Mildred Zachman, Esther Zachman, Bertila Kasper, Alice Zachman, Marvel Weber, Vernon Zachman, Octave Zachmann

3rd Row

Andrew Kasper, Leroy Dehmer, Francis Vetsch, Leon Zachman, Vernon Eicher, Wilfred Becker, Clifford Niesen

Bottom Row

Donald Weinand, Allen Lenneman, Vernon Dehmer, Alfred Zachman, Leander Becker, Richard Lenneman, Clifford Daleiden, Gerhart Duerr, Anthony Eicher

Special Points of Interest

- Catholic Grade School
- Mission Statement
- Historic Round Barn
- Barns of Minnesota Presentation
- Sign up for Membership

Meetings for 2007

June 4, 2007
Aug 6, 2007
Aug 27, 2007
Oct 1, 2007

Meetings 7:00 at City Hall.
Anyone is welcome

Historic Round Barn

A St. Michael Landmark

It's sad to see that all across the rural parts of Minnesota, slices of farm history and architecture are rapidly disappearing. Old barns are nostalgic icons. They are the common man's architecture and reminders of a rural economy that formed the backbone of this nation. They are also reminders of a different lifestyle that many of us would like to get back to. A slower and more independent way of life when families had more control of their own destiny.

Many old barns are functionally obsolete. Some have collapsed in disrepair or have been damaged by lightning and storms. Others have been razed because of all the new housing developments being built on former farmland.

Concerned historic preservationists want to keep some of these in tact. They warn there won't be any around in twenty years. Eventually they will all fall down, be burned or torn down.

We never seem to notice these kind of things until it's too late.

A study made by the Minnesota Historical Society estimated that the number of historic barns in Minnesota have dramatically declined by 75 per cent since 1930, roughly about 2 per cent or 1000 per year. Don't we need at least some fields of wheat, corn, and farm buildings to rest our eyes upon as we drive to work, shop and visit other parts of town. Minnesota's first grass roots barn preservation group called Friends of Minnesota Barns was formed in 2004. They're helping folks from all over Minnesota save their barns.



Aerial photo of Lenneman farm August 1991

Barns of Minnesota Presented by Doug Ohman

June 4th 7:00 at City Hall

Back by popular demand, photographer and public speaker Doug Ohman has traveled throughout the Midwest photographing historic architecture. His work has been widely published in magazines, calendars and books.

Doug will share stories and interesting historical information about Minnesota's most treasured buildings, old barns and school houses that are quickly being lost to history.

Many of the photos Doug will share have been featured in his book *Barns of Minnesota*. He will also tell about his passion for history and love for photography and how he combined them into a successful career.

Anyone is welcome to come and join in the fun. Come with your stories of farm life or days spent in a one room school house.



**Round Barn owned by Lenneman Family
May 1974**

Lenneman Round Barn

This St. Michael landmark is one of the few historic round barns left in Minnesota. There is something beautiful and enduring about the unique structure. More than 2 dozen millioned windows dot its 64 foot diameter, and carefully nailed boards encircle the soaring 60 foot tall domed roof.

A book of the history of Wright county claimed it was the most completely equipped and handsomest barn of its kind in the whole county.



Ceiling of Lenneman Barn Aug 2001

George Meyer and Louie Klatt built the barn and the house in 1906. No one really knew the intention of the builders and why they built a round barn. But relatives say that Meyer was a perfectionist.

The farm was sold to Nick and Theresa Lenneman in 1914 and later to Henry Lenneman in 1917. His sons, Richard and Ronald purchased the farm from their dad.

The barn once sheltered cows and pigs in the bottom and the hayloft and straw was kept on the top floor. The milkhouse was attached to the barn. A bad wind storm hit the barn and took off the two big doors going into the haybarn in the 1990s.

The owners, Richard, Margery, Ronald and Delrose Lenneman have moved and the surrounding fields

have been sold to developers.

The barn has since been purchased by a couple who plan to make it into a



Lenneman Barn 2003

coffee shop and antique store in the Kimbal area. They hired a moving company that will take it a part and move it at night.

To visit this historical barn take #19 North to #34 West to Jaber Avenue North about 3-4 blocks Located on Jamison Avenue.

St. Michael Historical Society

St. Michael City Hall
3150 Lander Avenue NE
St. Michael, MN 55376
Phone : 763-497-2041

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4

We need your photos and stories

If we don't record it, some history will be lost forever.



St. Michael Historical Society
Collecting, Preserving and Sharing the History of St. Michael

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Dues

Renewal
New Member
Individual/Family\$ 10.00
Business\$ 25.00

I have also enclosed an additional tax deductible contribution of ..
\$ _____

SMHS General
Operating Endowment
Fund tax deductible
Contribution... ..\$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____ - _____ - _____

Please make checks payable to:

St. Michael Historical Society
3150 Lander Avenue NE
St. Michael, MN 55376

Contributions to the St. Michael Historical Society are tax deductible in accordance with IRS tax codes.

We welcome your comments or memorabilia.