

# St. Michael Historical Society

Fall 2007  
Volume 2, Issue 1  
Newsletter



## St. Michael Band in 1936



### *Meetings for 2007*

Nov. 5th, 2007  
Dec. 3rd, 2007

Meetings 7:00 at City  
Hall.

Anyone is welcome

### **Special Points of Interest**

- **St. Michael Band**
- **Family Tree  
Presentation**
- **St. Michael  
Memorabilia**
- **Mission Statement**

Created by:  
Genny Kieley

**Front row**—Normie Steffens, Ernie Schumacher, Leon Weber, Alvin Eicher, Edward Lenz, Oliver Schumacher, Neil Zachman, Linus Schumacher, Allen Jaeb, Victor Korte, Roman Eicher.

**Back row**—Meiny (boy) Daleiden, J.B. Korte, Richard Korte, Bill Kessler, Herman Schumacher, George Kessler, Gene Kessler, Dave Haberman

## Family Tree Researcher Presentation--Stephen S. Barthel



Stephen Barthel was accredited in German research in 1981. His insatiable interest in genealogy led to a career of twenty-one years, working for the largest genealogical repository in the world, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. He worked as a reference consultant for Central European, Eastern European and International research. For five of those years it was his privilege to work in the VIP Unit of the Family History Library, not only hosting VIPS, but doing research for such notables as the Queen of Sweden, presidents of the United States and Germany, several U.S. senators and governors, nationally known television news anchors, and many other high profile individuals.

Stephen Barthel is a former resident of St. Michael and gave a slide presentation and a talk about the St. Michael founding families and their German origins. He told of how to get started researching your own family trees; starting with what you do know and adding more from the internet and other sources. It was a great turnout and we hope he comes back again.

According to Stephen, "Genealogical research or tracing family trees is fun! It is similar to hiking up a hill to see what's on the other side, and then you keep going to see what lies further ahead. It is like being a detective, gathering and examining evidence found in records. Records provide clues, leading you on a paper trail that can span several centuries of record keeping. Perhaps 'the frosting on the cake' for me is to travel to these ancestral villages and rub shoulders with my German and Polish relatives, who settled in the St. Michael and Delano areas. It is more rewarding than visiting castles and other tourist traps, because you immerse yourself into the lives of the people and their culture."

Stephen has just completed an ancestry book on the Frank Theodore Aydt and Mary Anne Igel family. Frank Aydt was among the early settlers of St. Michael, leaving Europe through Le Havre, France at the age of 12, arriving in New Orleans on Jan. 30, 1852 with his mother, Theresia and three of his siblings, Agatha, Carolina and Thekla.

Frank was from Ersingen, Baden, Germany and married Mary Anne Igel in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mary Anne was from Herberlingen in Württemberg, Germany. They eventually settled in Frankfort Township, which is now St. Michael. He has traced their lines back to the 1600s.

According to Stephen, many of the original 14 families of the people from St. Michael came from two villages in Baden, Germany, which are located in the southwestern part of the country— Bilfingen and Ersingen. This area is now called Kämpfelbach. Many of the founding families lived close to one another in Germany, came over to America together and then settled in St. Michael. Later they communicated with others who wanted to settle in a place where they knew people and of course could speak the language.

### **Good places to Start Research**

LDS library in Robbinsdale  
Maps.google  
Family search.org  
Minnesota death index  
Minnesota birth certificates  
Great River library link to obits  
Obituaries from Star/Tribune  
Social Security Death index  
Church Records  
Military, land and school records

*Parts of this were taken from an article in the **Crow River News**  
by Stephen Barthel April 2006*

*Stephen's Biography is from [www.Icapgen.org](http://www.Icapgen.org)*



**International Harvester Farmall "H"  
Tractor 1949 Owned by Ralph Kasper**

## We are looking for St. Michael Memorabilia



*Parade Float of St. Michael Memorabilia  
Collection of Mary Ann and Clarence Eull*

We are also looking for photos of quilts, old farm machinery and pretty farm fields.



**Bob Zahler Collection:** Jaeb and Zahler Gas Station, Vic's Tavern and Grocery, Security State Bank, Dehmer's Meat Market, Howard Sipe Tavern, Clarence Gutzwiller, Eddie's Bar, Schumm Electric, Vern's Red and White Grocery, Wright County Co-op Oil, Big Tom's Supper Club

# 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.*



## 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.



## St. Michael Historical Society

*Collecting, Preserving and Sharing the History of St. Michael*

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues:** Individual/Family .....\$ 10.00 Business ....\$ 25.00

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Tax deductible contribution ... ..\$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Operating endowment .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *Thank You!*

**REMINDER; Membership Dues are good till the end of the year and expire on December 31, 2007.**



Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS tax codes.

**We welcome your comments or memorabilia.**