Happy New Year...guess we’re starting 2021 in February since January was a blur!

Under the latest order of Governor Walz, the Hormel Historic Home, as a museum and place of public accommodation, is now allowed to be open!

Our tour hours are currently Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and we are following covid-19 safety precautions such as regular sanitizing, requiring facial coverings and limiting the number of guests onsite.

With this positive news, I have decided to approach the new year with cautious optimism and hope. We have learned how to be safe. We have learned how to adapt. We have learned that we can operate alone, but that we prefer to operate with and for YOU.

We are developing new exhibits and have planned programming and events in the next few months, and we hope you will participate. Some will be in person, and some will be virtual. It's a new world and a new way of operating, but we are up to the challenge and hope you are too.

See ya soon, Holly

Membership Update

Thank you to all for your generous membership gifts. Below are listed those who have renewed or joined since November 1, 2020

Visit www.hormelhistorichome.org to become a member.

Carriage Club $25
1 Anonymous ~ Dianne Barnett ~ Ann Dixon ~ Bill & Idamae Downs ~ Linda Edd ~ Linda Lenz ~ Bev & Dennis Nelson ~ Chad & Jana Norman

Inglenukk Club
2 Anonymous ~ Cole & Amanda Barber ~ Richard & Jan Chuick ~ Jenelle Cummings ~ Jon & Jean Erichson ~ Scott & Carrie Murphy ~ Tom & Patricia Woodhouse

Atrium $100
1 Anonymous ~ Bob & Lavonne Brinkman ~ Jim & Milly Burroughs ~ Matt & Deb Daniels ~ Mike & Holly Johnson ~ Brad & Jenni Lindberg ~ Sue Radloff ~ Pat & Pam Retterath ~ Dave & Sue Ruzek ~ Mike & Donna Skiba ~ Michael Williams

Peace Garden $250
Rick & Marianne Brucker ~ Richard & Laura Carlson ~ Joe & Cindy Fuhrman ~ Sue Grove ~ Jim & Mary Herrick ~ All & Alice Holst ~ Paul & Amy Sheehan

Stained Glass Society $500
Paul & Vickie Spyhalski

Preservation $1000+
Jeff & Diane Baker ~ Jeff & LeeAnn Ettinger ~ Elizabeth Hormel ~ Mark & Tracy Ourada ~ Mahlon & Karen Schneider ~ Jim & Tammy Snee ~ Curtis & Dana Southard

R.I.P. Anita

The Hormel Historic Home is saddened by the sudden loss of our friend, co-worker, and volunteer. Anita left her legacy with us and we will strive to make her proud.
Socializing has become a challenge over the last year. A big part of the mission at the Hormel Historic Home is to open our doors to all for tours, parties, and special events. We now find ourselves having to limit how many can be on site and what they can do when they are here. We are open for tours, but we are delaying some of our annual social events in hopes that we can safely welcome many of you in to enjoy our hospitality.

The 10th Annual Foodie Throwdown Fundraiser has been moved to the week of May 9-15. Watch for details about this fantastic celebration event featuring chefs from many of the past Throwdown events.

Been waiting for the perfect day to say I Do to your someone special? Well, maybe the time is now. We have 1 spot remaining for this fully planned and covid safe event on Sunday, February 14, 2021. Couples and 8 of their family or friends will enjoy an exclusive wedding ceremony event in our historic charming home. E-mail for more details.

Don’t let covid stop you from planning a special event. Join us Sunday March 21 for a limited capacity vendor event to get all your planning done in one place. Tickets will be available for purchase Feb. 15.

The Autism Advocate…

Mary Barinka, Community Autism Resource Specialist

OH what a year it has been!

In January, 2020, the Autism Friendly Austin initiative was honored by Hormel Foods Corporation as a Hometown Hero in Austin and recognized with a lovely promotional video and generous donation. Then COVID-19 happened! The results of Cancelling predictable schedules, wearing a mask (which is a major sensory experience which compounds the already difficult task of reading facial expressions and understanding spoken language), and minimizing social interactions—all to avoid spreading of dangerous germs we cannot see, have had a huge impact on the people we aim to serve!

What can we do—what can’t we do? How do we do it? How long will this last? The ASD team at the Hormel Historic Home has worked hard to adapt our meetings, activities, and support services to best meet the needs of families during these challenging times. Many Zooms and Google Meets, virtual camp kits and a Facebook live fundraising event have kept the momentum going in support of our mission. We are grateful to the community, our partners, camp directors and volunteers who are committed to improving lives and outcomes for those living with autism. And we thank the Hormel Foundation, the United Way of Mower County and many donors who make all of this possible despite a global pandemic. To get involved or learn more contact fee free to contact me at autism@hormelhistorichome.org.

Upcoming:
Friday, April 30 Respite for kids in grades K-6 featuring a Mother’s Day Craft
Saturday, May 1 Teen Event for grades 7+ featuring a Wellness Activity
Sunday, June 6, 2021 Stepping Out for Autism Walk
Harris Music Contest  
Saturday, March 6, 2020  
Musicians on a variety of instruments are invited to participate in this fun and meaningful contest meant to inspire and educate young talent.  
Youth ages 6-18 are invited to register at the Hormel Home or online ~ $20 per entry  
Registration due by February 15, 2021  
Prize pool of $3,200 will be awarded  
Due to covid we will not have a public concert featuring the winning contestants this year.  
Winners will be recorded and a digital program will be made available after the event.  
Event made possible by the generosity of MarySue Hormel Harris

Friday, March 19, 2021  
5 p.m.  
Fun Music Enrichment in your own home.  
Presented by MacPhail Center for Music  
$5 per household  
Includes musical goodie bag to help you SHAKE the winter blues away ~ available for pick up at the HHH.

Saturday, March 13 Through the Looking Glass  
Friday, March 26 Broadway’s My Beat: the Howard Crawford Murder  
In a simpler time, families would gather around the radio and listen to an entertainment program together. In the complex world of 2021 Matchbox Children's Theater and the Hormel Historic Home invite you to gather around your computer to hear & SEE a traditional production of an old time radio show.  
Tickets for the virtual event are $10 per household and are available on our website. Concessions Included.
Collections Update

Seems I have a lot of reading to do when it comes to a few new donations we’ve received.

The ads and stories in these 1911 Ladies’ Home Journals are incredibly interesting—especially the ads by Geo. A. Hormel & Company.

We also received a copy of the 300+ pages of correspondence by Jay C. Hormel during his time serving in WWI.

Yes, I have a lot of reading to do and will surely have a lot of stories to share with you.

The Hormel family valued education and music and exuded a spirit of hospitality. Those values carried on through the work of the Y.W.C.A. and continue today as the mission of the Hormel Historic Home.

Contact Us:

208 4th Ave. NW ~ Austin, MN  55912 ~ 507-433-4243
Office & Tour Hours: Monday—Friday 10 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Self-guided tours are free for members; $5 per person for non-members
Holly Johnson, Executive Director  holly@hormelhistorichome.org
Amanda Barber, Operations Manager  amanda@hormelhistorichome.org
Luke Harrington, Bar/Banquet Manager  luke@hormelhistorichome.org
Mary Barinka, ASD Specialist  autism@hormelhistorichome.org
www.hormelhistorichome.org

HHH where the past inspires the present...

HHH Calendar of Events:
Open for walk in tours Monday–Friday 10 a.m.—3 p.m.
February 8  History Happy Hour Event
February 14  Pop Up Wedding Event
February 16  Board of Trustees
March 6  Harris Music Contest
March 8  History Happy Hour
March 13  Old Time Radio Show
March 19  Music In Motion @ Home
March 21  Wedding & Event Show
March 26  Old Time Radio Show
April 12  History Happy Hour
April 20  Board of Trustees
April 30  ASD Respite @ HHH
May 1  ASD Respite @ HHH
May 9-15  Foodie Throwdown Tribute Week to include:
Mother’s Day Tea
History Happy Hour
Batter Battle
Card/Game Party
Bartender Contest
Music & More
June 6  Stepping Out for Autism Walk
June 10  Autism Symposium