George, always more to learn...

Just when I think we know everything there is to know about George and Lillian Hormel, I start researching and find more interesting tidbits. Like the fact that George served as Mayor of Austin on a few different occasions.

On Monday, August 31, 1896, the Austin Daily Herald printed the following tidbit.

“In the Absence of Mayor Crane, Alderman Hormel Will Act. Mayor F.I. Crane expects to leave tomorrow morning for the Twin Cities, and to this end has called upon Alderman Hormel to look after the wants of the people during his absence. In sending in your complaints you will find Mayor Hormel over the telephone at No. 100, or at the packing house.”

He was referred to as ‘Acting Mayor’ in both 1902 and 1903. George was also a member of the Law and Order League that was formed to protect young people from “vice and corruption.”

Stories about Lillian Hormel are more difficult to come by. However, in a letter dated 1896, one of George’s colleagues spoke of her great qualities and good character in a letter to George. That letter is one of many we were recently given dating to the 1880’s. I will share with you the fantastic stories we are uncovering as we attempt to read the now rarely seen and hard to decipher formal handwriting. I love my job!

Spring Donations Thank You!

The Hormel Historic Home is grateful for the support of so many individuals and organizations. Every donation allows us to better fulfill our mission of preserving the Hormel family home and legacy.

Memberships and Donations since April 1:

Carriage Club $25: Linda Edd~Anna Otto~Karen Schaub
History for Half Pints Club $40: Jack & Shari Bergstrom
Atrium Club $100: Leslie and Dustin Wollenberg
Business Donation: Endres Windows, Annual cleaning of all HHH windows inside and out valued at over $1300.
In Honor of: Gen Moeykens by Mike and Barb Ruzek $50
General donations: Alverne Diekmann $100; Marjorie Burton $300

Shaping History for Kids

A History for Half Pints Event
Friday, July 21
10-11:30 a.m.

Families are invited to enjoy a tour of the Historic Home especially designed for kids. A character guide will lead groups on a search for unique shapes while showing the architectural features of the home. Activities will run throughout so guests are welcome to come anytime.

Crafts and snack included
$2 per child ages 2-10.
Free for History for Half Pints Members
All ages welcome but tour and craft geared for up to 10.
Hormel Historic Home

2017 FREE Summer Concert Series

Join us in the Peace Garden for family friendly entertainment.
Bring your lawn chair or blanket. Beverages will be available for purchase.
Rain or shine.

Musical programming made possible through the generosity of MarySue Hormel Harris

Monday, June 12
Workshop and History Happy Hour
Concert by Charlie Maguire
2 p.m.-3 p.m  Gripping Tales Songwriting workshop
Join Charlie in creating a song using the unique history of George Hormel. Activity appropriate for ages 10+ but all ages welcome.

6:30 p.m.  Gripping Tales of Minnesota told through story and song
Known as the “Singing Ranger”, Maguire tells stories of our state’s past and sings the praises of our many natural resources. His Woody Guthrie style of singing will bring out the folk music lover in all.

Monday, June 19
2:30 p.m.  Koncert for Kids
Tricia and the Toonies perform family friendly fun and interactive musical comedies with a unique use of music, puppets, skits, and audience participation. Ice cream treats will be provided following the concert.

Thursday, July 13
6:30 p.m.  Mac and Reino
Local Acoustic duo of Casey McIntyre and Jeff Reinartz. With a focus on Americana and Rock and Roll, Mac & Reino provide entertainment for all.

Thursday, July 20
6:30 p.m.  JCA, Jamie and Cody Acoustic
Local favorite known for their former association with SEEDS in an acoustic show for your listening pleasure. Some of Jamie’s originals, some favorite SEEDS covers and plenty of fresh material just for fun.

Friday, June 30
6:30 p.m.  Austin Community Jazz Band
Directed by Brian Koser, this local music favorite has an annual tradition of performing at the HHH. Join us for classic jazz and fun arrangements performed by local musicians. Featuring guest saxophonist John Paulson

Monday, August 14
History Happy Hour & Concert
Bissen Family and Friends Band
6:30 p.m.  Learn the history and music behind some of Minnesota’s greatest bands and singers. Popular local musicians will educate and entertain.

Thursday, July 6
6:30 p.m.  Lehto and Wright
Performing modern interpretations of Traditional Celtic and American Folk Music. The musicians bring a fresh approach to the world of folk and folk rock.

Monday, August 21
6:30 p.m.  Jack & Kitty
Emmy award winning organic vaudeville folk duo hailed by the Minneapolis Star Tribune as “one of the most entertaining groups in the Midwest,” Jack and Kitty will entertain guests of all ages with their fun and infectious talent.
In an ongoing effort to promote education in and around the Home, we offer daytime educational programs. Please join us as we explore various topics relevant to all. **Events are free but donations are appreciated.** Programming will resume in September.

The series is a partnership between the Hormel Historic Home, the Mower County Historical Society and the Friends of the Austin Public Library. Members of our organizations are invited to attend the programming for free while non-members pay $5 per person. Our goal for the programming is to offer a social time with light snacks and drinks for history lovers as well as meaningful content that will teach and inspire those in attendance.

For the summer we have combined History Happy Hour with our Peace Garden Concert series and the events will be free for all. See the concert schedule on page 2 for details.

Thank you to all who helped us raise over $8000 to support the Autism Programming at the Hormel Historic Home. This will be the 8th year of providing a summer camp experience to youth on the Autism Spectrum.

Through the Pizza Ranch Tip Night, the Stepping Out for Autism Walk, and donations from the Austi-Con Convention, we have raised necessary funds to continue the programming.

**2017 Corporate Sponsors:**
- Bollingberg Chiropractic ~ CRC ~
- Games People Play ~ Hormel Foods ~
- Kwik Trip ~ Mayo Clinic Health Systems ~ McDonalds ~ McFarland Truck Lines ~ Midtown Auto Clinic ~
- Minnesota Corrugated Box ~
- Minnesota Vikings ~ Palleton, Inc. ~ QPP ~
- Rolling Green Fencing ~ Worlein Funeral Home

**2017 Grant Supporters:**
- United Way of Mower County ($23,000)
- Hormel Foundation ($11,500)

**Camp Schedule:**
- Circle of Friends Day Camp—June 26-30
- All Access Community Explorations—Mondays and Wednesdays, July 10-Aug. 9
- Camp Just for Me—Mondays, July 10-Aug. 7

**Autism Friendly Austin**
Launched in April, the Autism Friendly Austin initiative is making progress. Over 40 partners have indicated interest in becoming better able to serve those with Autism and other special needs. A tool kit is being developed by the AFA team and we are looking for volunteers to help with the implementation. For more information please contact us at autism@hormelhistorichome.org or 507-433-4243.
The Open Road—Autobiography of George A. Hormel

I am so excited to announce that the long awaited official publishing of George Hormel’s masterfully written autobiography is here. Covering details of his entire life, George wrote about his adoration and value of family and faith, his belief in democracy, and his commitment to those he employed. He also provided a history of that which is uniquely Austin. The books are currently available at the Hormel Historic Home. In a wonderful gesture of generosity, the Hormel family has made the HHH the publisher meaning all profits from the sale of books will be used to support our mission. The first printing is limited so don’t delay.

Hard Cover: $24.95 + tax  Soft Cover: $21.95 + tax
HHH Members receive $2 off.

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

HHH....where the past inspires the present....

Hormel Historic Home
208 4th Ave. NW
Austin, MN  55912

HHH Calendar of Events:
June 6  Tour Group
June 12  Charlie Maguire Events
June 19  Koncer for Kids
June 19  Board of Directors
June 20  Board of Trustees
June 26-30  Circle of Friends Day Camp
June 30  Tour Group
June 30  Austin Comm. Jazz Concert
July 1  AHS Class of 1982 Reunion
July 4  Office Closed
July 6  Lehto & Wright Concert
July 10  All Access Community Explorations and Camp Just for Me begin
July 13  Mac & Reino Concert
July 17  Tour Group
July 17  Board of Trustees
July 20  JCA Concert
July 21  Shaping History for Kids
July 27  The Jolly Huntemen Concert
Aug 10  Tour Group
Aug 14  Bissen Band Concert
Aug 15  Board of Trustees
Aug 17-18  AHS Class of ’77 Reunion
Aug 21  Board of Directors
Aug 21  Jack & Kitty Concert
Aug 23  Tour Group