

The Gathering . . . of Morrison County

“A fun, community event inspired by local history and family stories.”

Why would your community want to host *The Gathering* event?

- *The Gathering* event seeks to promote an awareness of and interest in the rich history, the diverse cultures, and the accumulated genealogy of Morrison County, and creates an activity to share these historical experiences with other members of the community.
- *The Gathering* event seeks to strengthen community bonds by bringing together people from your community with members of the Morrison County Genealogy
- Morrison County Historical Society (MCHS) to work together to celebrate an event that includes your community’s local history, your community’s family stories and genealogical heritage, and is a fun, activity-filled event for people of all ages to share together.
- *The Gathering* event seeks to instill a sense of community pride that will lead the members of a local community to continue exploring their shared heritage in ways that might preserve, document, and record their local historic legacy before, during, and beyond the actual Gathering event.

How does *The Gathering* event work?

- The local community, with the assistance of the Morrison County Genealogy and Historical Societies, chooses some type of local historical or contemporary event to be used as *The Gathering* activity for their community.
- The local community, with the assistance of the Morrison County Genealogy and Historical Societies, designs and creates a community wide event that can celebrate the heritage of a place and highlights the interrelationships of the people that live in that particular region of Morrison County.
- The local community, with the assistance of the Morrison County Genealogy and Historical Societies, identifies and brings people in the community together to work to host and celebrate a fun-filled family event in their community.

What can your community expect the Morrison County Genealogy Society to do for *The Gathering* event?

- The MCGS will provide learning opportunities for participants in the local community to collect their family histories by offering beginning genealogy classes to develop the research skills needed to do genealogy.

- The MCGS will encourage Morrison County citizens to generate their own family genealogies (pedigrees and family group sheets).
- The MCGS will assist people involved in *The Gathering* event to showcase (display) and share their family genealogies, their family photographs, and their family stories once they have completed them.
- The MCGS will work to create independent family historians who will continue to work on their family histories after *The Gathering* events in their communities.

What can your community expect the Morrison County Historical Society to do for The Gathering event?

- The MCHS will work to help create the historical and cultural context for *The Gathering* event by using their knowledge of local history and their research facilities so that the members of the local community can better understand and appreciate their heritage.
- The MCHS will show how to properly preserve personal documents and objects, and will assist in figuring out which items should be saved within personal collections by hosting stations and giving demonstrations at *The Gathering* event.
- The MCHS will show how your family's history fits into the larger history of Morrison County through special activities at *The Gathering* event.
- The MCHS will serve as an ongoing repository for copies of your research and will continue to answer further questions on research and object preservation after *The Gathering* event has been concluded.

Who can I contact to find out more information about The Gathering if I think that my community might be interested in hosting an event?

**Morrison County Genealogy Society
P.O. Box 385
Little Falls, MN 56345
Contact person: John Lauer (320) 632-2375**

**Morrison County Historical Society
2151 Lindberg Drive South
Little Falls, MN 56345
Contact person: Jan Warner (320) 632-4007**