



# Deep Valley Sun

NEWSLETTER OF THE BETSY-TACY SOCIETY

To promote and preserve Maud Hart Lovelace's legacy and her work,  
encourage and support literacy and conserve historic landmarks in Mankato

VOL. 7 ISSUE 1

SPRING 2011

## Maud Hart Lovelace: Influencing Young Readers Yet Today

It has been nearly 120 years since Maud Palmer Hart was born in Mankato, Minn., yet her spirit continues to influence and inspire those who encounter her work.

Her legacy lives on in a variety of forms.

### 1961 – DEDICATION OF THE MAUD HART LOVELACE CHILDREN'S WING IN THE MANKATO LIBRARY

The Lovelace Wing mural, created by local Mankato artist Marian Anderson, depicts scenes from Lovelace's 10 Betsy-Tacy books.

### 1980 – MAUD HART LOVELACE BOOK AWARD

The year Maud died, the Minnesota Youth Reading Awards established the Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award, a children's choice award. Children in grades 3 through 5 who have read or listened to at least three titles from the Division I nominee list and children in grades 6 through 8 who have read or listened to at least three titles in the Division II nominee list are eligible to vote for the award. The winning titles, along with the nominations for the following year, are announced each year around April 25, Maud's birthday.

### 2009 – INDUCTION INTO MINNESOTA WRITERS HALL OF FAME

Maud was one of the first writers to be inducted into the Minnesota Writers Hall of Fame in 2009. Inductees' work "distills the essence of our state – the people, the land, and the spirit of Minnesota."

### 2010 – BETSY'S AND TACY'S HOMES DESIGNATED LITERARY LANDMARKS BY THE ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES, ADVOCATES, FRIENDS AND FOUNDATIONS

What do F. Scott Fitzgerald and Maud Hart Lovelace have in common? We know they were both born in Minnesota, they both lived in the Twin Cities, and they both eventually moved to New York.



But, more importantly, their birth or childhood homes are both listed as Literary Landmarks by the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations. This is quite significant since there are only three such designations in the entire state of Minnesota – Betsy's house and Tacy's house, both in Mankato, and Fitzgerald's birth home in St. Paul.

### ANNUAL YOUNG WRITERS AND ARTIST CONFERENCE

Also in 2010 the BTS once again partnered with South Central Service Cooperative to hold the annual Young Writers and Artists Conference at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. Nearly 1,000 students from more than 50 schools across south central Minnesota, along with their teachers, parents, and other chaperones, participated.

Excellent, great, cool, amazing, wonderful, fun – these were just a few of the adjectives used to describe the 2010 conference.

Local and regional authors, artists, actors, composers, dancers and other talented individuals held sessions for students in grades 3 through 9.

The BTS offered workshops in journal writing, stressing the importance of writing regularly and document daily life in the way Maud did for her Betsy-Tacy series. ❖

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**The Betsy-Tacy Society**  
 Est. 1990  
 P.O. Box 94  
 Mankato, MN 56002-0094  
 507-345-9777  
 www.betsy-tacysociety.org  
 501(c)3 organization

Executive Director  
 Deborah Fors

Board of Directors  
 President - Susan Brown  
 Vice President - Jackie Hilgert  
 Secretary - Laurie Pengra  
 Treasurer - Barbara Schnoor

Board Members  
 Joan Brown, Katherine Hughes, Candy Laven, Doug Laven, Pat Nelson, Lisa Wolf

Newsletter Editor: Deborah Fors  
 Newsletter Copy Editor: Betsy Sherman  
 Newsletter Layout: Jackie Hilgert

**Annual Membership Levels**

Basic	\$25.00
Patron	\$50.00
Silver	\$100.00
Gold	\$250.00
Lifetime	\$500.00

For more information, see pg. 11

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 Membership:  
 membership@betsy-tacysociety.org  
 Shop: shopkeeper@betsy-tacysociety.org

Shop Catalog:  
 Shop our online catalog:  
 www.betsy-tacysociety.org.  
 Credit cards & PayPal available.  
 For a catalog: send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002-0094 and mark CATALOG on the front of the envelope.

Tacy's House and Gift Shop  
 March - May and September - December:  
 Open every Saturday 1 pm - 3 pm  
 June - August:  
 Open every Saturday 10 am - 3 pm  
 Closed: January - February  
 Tacy's House is located at 332 Center Street in Mankato and Betsy's House is at 333 Center Street. Saturday Admission - Adults \$3, Ages 6-16 \$1. Under 5-Free (no admission to gift shop only) BTS members are admitted free during regular hours with current membership card.

Special House Visits: Call 507-345-9777  
 For special house visits, advance reservations are requested 2 weeks in advance.  
 Admission for special appointments: \$20 - up to 5 people. Over 5 people, additional \$3 for adults and \$1 for ages 6-16. This fee applies to members and non-members of the BTS. Special rates available for bus tours or school visits. Contact us for more details.

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Lois Lenski/Vera Neville illustrations © used with permission from HarperCollins.

**Welcome New Members**

Nov 1, 2010 - Feb. 28, 2011

**Lifetime Members**

Patricia Clarke, Pennsylvania

**Patron Members**

Deborah Fors, Minnesota  
 Coleen Gray, Minnesota

**Basic Members**

Marilyn Bickel, Illinois  
 Mary Belmore, Connecticut  
 Christy Brizendine, Washington  
 Mary Budge, Minnesota  
 Barbara Conger, Washington  
 Nora Freeman, Illinois  
 Madeleine Freeman, Illinois  
 Barbara Halter, Maryland  
 Katherine Hughes, Minnesota  
 Sarah Jensen, Massachusetts  
 Samantha Johnson, Wisconsin  
 Kristin Konchar-Schafer, Minnesota  
 Rallah Madison, Minnesota  
 Nancy Parode, Maryland  
 Megan Santa Ana, Virginia  
 Sharon Shanks, Colorado  
 Karen Takao, California  
 Laura Taylor, Virginia  
 Elizabeth A. Vanzomeren, Iowa

**All Gifts to BTS are Gratefully Appreciated**

The BTS gratefully acknowledges donations received from Nov. 1, 2010 - Feb. 28, 2011 from the following:

**Gifts greater than \$1,000**

Bob and Susan Brown  
 Lyle and Kay Jacobson

**Gifts from \$500 to \$999**

Norma and John Thomas  
 Jean and Richard Thomas, Restoration & Assessment funds

**Gifts from \$100 to \$499**

Kathleen Baxter\*  
 Eugene Biewen  
 Bob and Susan Brown\*, In honor of friends of BTS  
 Courtney E. Crepeau  
 Patricia Freymuth  
 Helen Gift  
 Mary and Dirk Landis  
 Eloise and Robert Layman  
 Cheryl Lundgren  
 Mary Jordan\*  
 Laurie Pengra\*

**Gifts from \$50 to \$99**

Colleen Jacks  
 Linda Karow  
 Arlene Kase, In memory of Morris & Esther Eidelberg  
 Candy Laven\*  
 K. Kay Lewis  
 Tamara Merrill\*  
 Pat Nelson\*  
 Sherri Newhouse  
 D'Lene Sandleback  
 Susan Shanahan

**Gifts up to \$49**

Anonymous\*  
 Elizabeth Baer  
 Pat Baker  
 Jean Baughman  
 Bob and Susan Brown, In Memory of David Noy  
 Carol Burger  
 Colleen Canavan, Endowment, in memory of Adeline Hermanson Betchwar  
 Alyssa Carlson\*  
 Joyce Celinski, Restoration  
 Julie Chuba\*, In honor of Margaret Chuba  
 Julie Cohen  
 Audrey Faber  
 Connie Fahling\*  
 Dena Fleurichamp  
 Carole Huber  
 Mary Huntley  
 Susan Hynes\*  
 Theresa Jarosz Alberti\*  
 Kimberly Johnson\*, In honor of Trudi Johnson-Richards  
 Michele Kronlund\*  
 Frieda Maheras  
 Susan Mavrinac\*  
 Nora McInerney\*, In honor of Beatrix Wilker  
 Sally and Mike Olander  
 Peggy Olearczuk\*  
 June Parnell\*  
 Melissa Peterson\*  
 Diane Poythress\*  
 Wendylee Raun\*, In honor of Jenmarie Anderson Reemts  
 Dorene Reed, Restoration  
 Linda Rouzer, Restoration  
 Julie Schrader\*  
 Janet Schwarz\*  
 Pauline Tugwell  
 Linda Watson  
 Helen Waugh\*  
 Laura Whisney  
 Rhonda Whiting\*  
 Meghan Wilker\*  
 Marilyn Williamson\*  
 Rose Marie Yudiskas, Restoration  
 \*Denotes Give to the Max Day participants.

**Paver Fundraiser**

Nov. 1, 2010 - Feb. 28, 2011

Helen Gift  
 Jim Hilgert  
 Cheryl Lundgren  
 Katie Mendenhall  
 Karen Thielen  
 Marilyn and Alan Youel

**In Kind Operating Donations**

Bob and Susan Brown  
 Jackie Hilgert  
 Denny Weiss  
 Voyageur Web  
 Minnesota Valley Chorale

**Artifacts and Archive Donations**

Nov. 1 2010 - Feb. 28, 2011

Colleen Canavan  
 Barb and Dennis Huebsch  
 Corinne and Elvin Heiberg

**Thank You, Volunteers!**

Nov 1, 2010 - Feb. 28, 2011

Ana-Brit Asplen  
 Penny Banwart  
 Halle Blais  
 Bob Brown  
 Joan Brown  
 Susan Brown  
 Lona Falencykowski  
 Brian Fors  
 Kathryn Hanson  
 Jackie Hilgert  
 Jim Hilgert  
 Susan Hynes  
 Judy Kraft  
 Candy Laven  
 Doug Laven  
 Jack Madsen  
 Pat Nelson  
 Alex Oldenburg  
 Renata Olson  
 Sue Orchard  
 Laurie Pengra  
 Kelly Reuter  
 Barbara Schnoor  
 BryceStenzel  
 Norma Thomas  
 Lisa Wolf

Past editions of the Deep Valley Sun can be found in the members section of the BTS website: www.Betsy-TacySociety.org

## Message from the President

Spring is a time of new beginnings and a fresh start and this spring the Betsy-Tacy Society is inspired by its new beginning! Besides having a new executive director, Deborah Fors, we're starting another new season of activities and events. The snow is melting, the bench is visible again, and flowers are trying to peek through the ground. It is a setting similar to the early spring Maud describes in the first two chapters of *Betsy-Tacy* when two friends meet on Hill Street.

Springtime brings new life and colors to a neighborhood and a new director brings fresh ideas and perspectives to an organization. We welcome Deborah's leadership! The interview team was impressed with her nonprofit experiences, her appreciation of volunteers, and her interest in books and history. Deborah encourages teamwork and collaborative problem-solving.

Deborah was hired from an impressive group of candidates who came forward for consideration. Because some big snowstorms forced us to cancel and reschedule some of the interviews, the hiring process stretched longer than we had anticipated. Each interview seemed to start with a conversation about road conditions, parking, and the last storm before we moved on to our prepared list of questions about our mission and the role of an executive director. As we listened to the candidates' ideas for the BTS, the hiring committee was inspired to imagine where we could go as an organization.

I am grateful to Jackie Hilgert for her excellent job as interim director. I truly appreciate all the volunteer hours given by the board of directors to the BTS. Together we have worked very hard to adhere to the BTS mission with integrity and commitment. Certainly we are proud of what we have accomplished, but we also are rejuvenated by Deborah's enthusiasm and the loyalty of our membership. We look forward to the future of the BTS. Welcome to a new season in Deep Valley!

*Susan Brown*

President, Betsy-Tacy Society

## Board News

Katherine Hughes joined the BTS board in December. Hughes came to Mankato from South Dakota in 1962. She received her B.A., Bs. Ed., and M.A., from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Her master's thesis studied Mankato's founding and early years. She attended the University of Oklahoma where her research concentrated on the changing emphasis of the memorials of the Dakota Conflict of 1862. Hughes taught American history at Minnesota State University, Mankato, between 1994 and 2006. She formerly served on the boards of the Merely Players Community Theater and the Blue Earth County Historical Society and continues her association with those organizations. Hughes recently retired from Carlson Craft where she was a marketing assistant.

## Update from the Director

As I sit here at my desk in what would have been Tacy's bedroom, I can look out across the street at Betsy's house. The melting of the snow and the coming of spring reminds me of the possibilities of growth and opportunities that lie ahead of us.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as executive director of the Betsy-Tacy Society. There could be no better combination of responsibilities in a career than the marriage of historic preservation and the promotion of books and literature – the promotion of Betsy-Tacy in Deep Valley.

I have lived in the Mankato area for almost four years now, moving here from Wisconsin where I was the executive director of a small college foundation in Michigan's upper peninsula for almost 11 years. I grew up in Minnesota, and it's good to be back.

Before coming to the BTS, I had unofficially retired from a 20-year career in fundraising and non-profit management, having worked in several different parts of the country, including Minneapolis; Iowa City, Iowa; and Annapolis, Md. Currently I am also working to complete my certification through the National Genealogical Society to become a professional genealogist.

Looking back to 1990 and the beginning of the BTS, it is truly amazing what a small group of very dedicated local individuals has accomplished with the support of its membership from across the country. The Betsy-Tacy books are now back in print, the two homes – Betsy's and Tacy's – have been purchased and restored with the mortgages paid in full, and the legacy of Maud Hart Lovelace lives on stronger than ever.

After establishing this foundation, we are now poised to move on to the next stage of growth. In the coming months and years, I want to continue the promotion of Maud Hart Lovelace and the Betsy-Tacy books, and to increase our membership. I also want to ensure that future generations have the same opportunity to know and love Betsy-Tacy as we all do, and can visit the homes here in Deep Valley. In order to do that, I would like to establish an endowment fund in the name of Maud Hart Lovelace to help preserve this legacy.

So, a huge thank-you to the Betsy-Tacy board of directors for giving me this opportunity.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you here in Deep Valley.

*Deborah Fors*



## Committee Reviews Feasibility of Tib's House Acquisition

Tib's House Committee was formed last fall to explore the feasibility of buying "Tib's house" on the corner of Bradley and Byron Streets in Mankato. In *Betsy-Tacy and Tib*, readers learn that "Tib lived in a chocolate-colored house which was the most beautiful house Betsy and Tacy had ever been in." It is "one block down and one block over" from where Betsy and Tacy lived. Henry Gerlach, a prominent Mankato architect and father of Marjorie 'Midge' Gerlach (Tib), designed the house in the late 1800s.

On March 10, 2011 the Board of Directors voted to accept the following recommendation from the committee:

*After reviewing the information from the City of Mankato and discussing possible income sources, Tib's House Committee concludes that the Betsy-Tacy Society is financially unable to purchase Tib's house at this time. Adequate funds and volunteers are not available for the purchase, restoration, and long-term maintenance of the property.*

The recommendation was the result of much research and discussion. Many BTS members hoped the Society could purchase the chocolate-colored house. Many members had offered financial pledges of support along with suggestions regarding use of the property. However, many other members were concerned about the financial obligations involved with this large purchase.

The committee knew it was imperative to develop a revenue stream to cover all related expenses. It met twice with city planning and zoning officials to determine what could be done with the property. The purchase price, monthly expenses, restoration costs, and anticipated income were considered.

Because Tib's house is in a neighborhood zoned R-2, no commercial uses, such as office space rentals, are permitted. If the BTS bought the property, it could apply for a rental housing license, but there would be additional expenses to comply with current city licensing codes. If it were granted a rental license, the BTS could rent all or part of the home in one- and two-family units.

A conditional use permit is required for other uses, such as museums. Property owners submit their plans, and the city analyzes the property before granting approval. There are off-street parking requirements.

The current owner graciously gave the committee a tour of his home from attic to basement. The BTS board has appreciated the opportunity to consider buying Tib's house, but believes it is financially impossible at this time. Maybe someday it will be.

By Susan Brown

## Volunteers Keeping Busy



Our Victorian Christmas included many costumed volunteers and carolers. From left: Alex Oldenburg, Ana-Brit Asplen, Halle Blais, and Susan Hynes.



Volunteers spent two Saturdays in March cleaning and preparing Betsy's and Tacy's homes for our spring opening. Here Brian Fors took care of the floors in Tacy's home while Jim Hilgert washed windows.



The Betsy-Tacy Society partnered with the South Central Service Cooperative in the Young Writers and Artists Conference (YWAC) at Bethany College this spring, promoting Maud's legacy through journaling. Above, Board President Susan Brown shares Betsy-Tacy stories with young writers. Below: Brown and Board Vice President Jackie Hilgert assisted YWAC participants in creating their own personal journals while learning about Betsy-Tacy.



# News & Notes

## Heavy Snows Hard on the BTS Finances

This has been a particularly hard winter here in Deep Valley. More snow than many of us can remember. Because of this, we have had bills over \$1,200 in snow removal from our walks and driveway and a \$1,350 bill to clear the ice off of Betsy's house. This was critical so that the ice-build-up would not cause damage to the beautifully restored home.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Memorial Walkway Makes a Lasting Impression

The paver fundraiser has been significant in helping to raise much needed funds to help with the continuing restoration and maintenance of our two literary landmarks. For more information on how you can be part of this project, check out our website.

Visitors from across the country tell us they enjoy reading the inscriptions and meaningful memorials given by the BTS supporters and Maud Hart Lovelace fans. Here are just a couple comments from donors who've received photos of their installed pavers:

*"Thank you for the update and for the photo! It's been hard, but I've kept this a secret from my wife all summer long. I can't wait to show her the photo. We'll try to get out and see it in person as soon as possible." [Their paver is about being modern day Betsy and Joe.]*

*"Thank you so much for the picture of our paver! My childhood was made richer by the Betsy-Tacy books and I passed them onto my daughter, Michelle, and bought the series for my granddaughter, Justice, who I know will love them as much as her Mother and I did and still do! Blessings to all of you and your devoted volunteers who help keep this legacy alive." - Rhonda Joa*

\* \* \* \* \*

## MHL Society publishes songbook

The Maud Hart Lovelace Society has published *The Betsy-Tacy Songbook*. It is available at [www.maudhartlovelacesociety.com](http://www.maudhartlovelacesociety.com).

MHLS members Barbara Carter, Jennifer Marshall and Kathy Baxter assembled the 212-page book, scanning original vintage copies of the titles chosen for what they say is a "first volume" of songs from the beloved Maud Hart Lovelace books. Both the sheet music covers and the sheet music are included. Further, there is information about each song and where it appears in the *Betsy-Tacy* books. Biographical information about two of the musical stars, Chauncey Olcott and Joe E. Howard, also



is included. There are 40 songs in the 8 1/2 by 11 inch volume: Alexander's Ragtime Band, Because You're You, Brown October Ale, By the Beautiful Sea, The Cat Duet, Cheyenne (Shy-Ann), Come Josephine in my Flying Machine, Crocodile Isle, Dreaming, Everybody Works but Father, From the Land of Sky-Blue Water, Giannina Mia, The Girl I'll Call My Sweetheart, Honeymoon Trail, I'd Love to Live in Loveland with a Girl Like You, I'm Afraid to Come Home in the Dark, I'm Lonesome for You, In my Merry Oldsmobile, In the Good Old Summertime, It's a Long Way to Tipperary, I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now, K-K-K Katy, Let Me Call You Sweetheart, Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland, The Merry Widow Waltz, Moonlight Bay, Morning Cy!, My Wild Irish Rose, Oh, You Beautiful Doll, Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag, Peg O' My Heart, Same Old Story, San Antonio, School Days, There's a Long, Long Trail a-Winding, Tonight Will Never Come Again, Waiting at the Church, What's The Use of Dreaming?, Yip-I-Addy-I-Ay, and You're Here and I'm Here.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Book advertisement brings memories, smiles

Nicole Elzenga, collections manager for the Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum, found this advertisement in the back of the *Horn Book Magazine* (Vol 29 Feb-Dec 1953 book edition). It's a fun reminder about how literature used to be promoted.



\* \* \* \* \*

## Author Visits Deep Valley

October 24, 2010 was a "dream come true" day for Melissa Wiley, who wrote the forward for the newly-released editions of *Carney's House Party* and *Winona's Pony Cart*. That was the day Wiley visited Deep Valley, accompanied by Kathy Baxter. Wiley's friend Margaret Berns accompanied them; Berns described her friend Wiley as "downright giddy" as she toured the Betsy and Tacy houses. Wiley even let out a discernible squeal when she spied the brass bowl in the display case. BTS President Susan Brown led the trio on their special tour, welcoming them with a bowl of fresh berries and homemade bars. ♦



Save the date for  
 “The Winding Hall of Fate!”  
 July 18-22, 2012



Introducing the Betsy Tacy Convention so huge, it requires two cities to contain it! Join us in July of 2012 for a two-part convention in Minneapolis and Mankato.

Five days and two cities sounds perfect to us, but if you can only join us for part of the convention, you can opt to register for only the days you can attend.

We begin Wednesday afternoon with a cruise on Lake Minnetonka, followed by an evening at the Minneapolis hotel of your choice. Don't worry, we will have suggestions and great discounts to help you choose

Thursday we will tour “Betsy’s Minneapolis,” visiting the Bow Street apartment, seeing the Canoe place house, and having a B-T picnic. After a special visit to Maud’s literary papers at the Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota, we will hop on a bus to Mankato. The party aboard will probably include yelling, “Poor old St. John,” at the appropriate towns, and giving squashy pastries to any police we encounter! Thursday night in Mankato will include dinner and getting-to-know-you activities.

Friday begins the Mankato portion of the convention, with visits to the Hill Street houses, Deep Valley tours, and optional visits to Murmuring Lake. There may even be pontoon boat rides. In the afternoon there will be speakers and Maud scholars who will discuss Maud’s work and the history and people behind her stories. You will be given plenty of time to prink for the costume parade. Kathy Baxter will speak that evening, and then the Perfectly Awful Girls will undoubtedly be up to some shenanigans after more seemly activities wind down.

Saturday morning allows for more touring time so everyone can get their fill of Deep Valley scenes. In the afternoon we will have a very special “current authors” panel discussion on how Maud’s writing has colored their fiction. Jennifer Hart, the publisher responsible for getting B-T back in print, will discuss the place of Betsy-Tacy in today’s publishing world. Saturday evening will include the beloved Legacy Panel, wherein descendants of actual B-T characters share their memories of the people who have become “our crowd” through the books we love.

Sunday you have time for church in Deep Valley, if you like, or free time to roam. We will meet up for cocoa at the Depot before the busses leave for Minneapolis and we say goodbye.

We hope you can join us for this wonderful trip to the places that feel like home thanks to the wonderful writing of Maud.

Paver Fundraiser

Set your name in stone or honor the memory of a loved one by purchasing a paving stone for Betsy’s house. An order form can be downloaded from the BTS website. This fundraiser/memorial will continue until the entire walkway by Betsy’s house is filled with engraved pavers! Blank pavers are replaced by engraved pavers as the orders come in.

You can order a paver as a gift and we’ll send you a certificate, then follow up with a photo once the paver is set.



This BTS fundraiser has allowed us to finish restoring Betsy’s House and now allows the society to keep this historic literary landmark in its best possible condition for visitors, some of whom travel from across the country for their Betsy-Tacy experience.

Visit the Betsy-Tacy Society website



We are continually adding new information to our website: [www.betsy-tacysociety.org](http://www.betsy-tacysociety.org). A member benefit is a “Members Only” page. Members only need to create a password to enter this page, which features current and back issues of the *Deep Valley Sun* and other special articles and member information. Don’t forget to check out our updated shop!



Visit the Betsy-Tacy Society page on Facebook. **You don’t have to be a member of Facebook to view our page.** Browse the commentary and join in if you’d like.

You can find us at: [www.facebook.com/BetsyTacy](http://www.facebook.com/BetsyTacy)

Due to increased printing costs, this newsletter is being printed in black and white, the most affordable option available. A full-color version of this newsletter is available on the BTS website, in the Membership section: <http://www.betsy-tacysociety.org/memberlogin.php>

**New Members**

Every new member receives a new member packet that includes the most recent newsletter, a history of the BTS, a Maud Hart Lovelace timeline, and much more. With each new paid lifetime membership you'll receive a hardcover copy of *Winona's Pony Cart*, a Betsy's House ornament, and a lifetime membership certificate.

As a member of the Betsy-Tacy Society you will:

- Be kept abreast of developments with the society and its outreach.
- Have access to the "Members Only" page on the BTS website, where society archives are available.
- Be an integral part of the BTS mission to preserve the Betsy-Tacy houses, which are historical literary landmarks.
- Help BTS reach a new generation of readers as it introduces the timeless works of Maud Hart Lovelace.
- Be a part of the movement that values history and appreciates literature.

**Great Gift Idea**

Membership to the Betsy-Tacy Society makes a great gift for that special person on your gift list. With each paid gift membership, we'll send a new-member packet and sign your name to a special card announcing your gift. Just fill out the membership form at right with the recipient's name and mailing address and tell us how to sign your card.



**When contacting the BTS....**

By Mail - Always send mail to the following address:

Betsy-Tacy Society  
P.O. Box 94  
Mankato, MN 56002-0094

Do not use the address printed in the back of the older issues of the Betsy-Tacy books and do not address mail to us at the Center Street location. We do not have a mailbox at either house, and the mail carrier cannot deliver to these addresses.

**By Email** - When sending an email, ALWAYS use "Betsy-Tacy" in the subject line. This will help ensure your message does not get caught in spam filters.

**By Phone** - Our phone number - 507-345-9777 - reaches an answering service. Please leave your message and it will be returned by someone with the society who can best help you.

**Privacy Statement**

The Betsy-Tacy Society is committed to respecting the privacy of our members. Please be assured that we do not rent or sell our mailing list. If you have any questions about your member information and how it is used, please contact us at [membership@betsy-tacysociety.org](mailto:membership@betsy-tacysociety.org) or 507-345-9777.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Address Changes**

Please remember to inform us if your mailing address or e-mail address changes. Most of our mailings are sent via bulk mail to save on postage costs and keep membership rates low. Bulk mail is NOT forwarded even when a change-of-address card is left with the post office.

*Betsy-Tacy Society Annual Membership Form*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New       Renewal

I would like:  Mailed Newsletters

Electronic Newsletters

*Choose electronic newsletter - save money for the BTS and save a tree!*

**Membership Levels**

\$25    Basic (*Foreign members receive electronic newsletters - if mailed are preferred move up to the next level.*)

\$50    Patron

\$100   Silver\*

\$250   Gold\* (Gift A or B - circle one)

\$500   Lifetime (Gifts A and C)

Pay in 4 installments of \$125

*\* Denotes business memberships*

Please do not send my gift. I want my full contribution to support the BTS.

**GIFTS**

Gift A: *Winona's Pony Cart* - hardcover

Gift B: Immortal Trio notecards

Gift C: Betsy's House ornament

Donations

I would like to make a tax-deductible gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ above my yearly membership dues.

I would like to allocate my gift to:

Unrestricted

General Fund

Restoration Fund

Assessment Fund

No acknowledgement for donation required

Donation in Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Donation in Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues and monetary gifts cover a growing part of the BTS annual operating budget. Thank you for your support as the BTS preserves and promotes the legacy of Maud Hart Lovelace.

Please return this form to:

BTS Membership

P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002-0094



*Betsy-Tacy Society*  
P.O. Box 94  
Mankato, MN 56002-0094  
www.betsy-tacysociety.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Rochester, MN  
Permit No. 4

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## Calendar of Events

### April

- 2 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 4 Program Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m. Tacy's House
- 14 Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tacy's House
- 16 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 23 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 26 Maud Hart Lovelace's Birthday
- 30 Betsy's Birthday Party - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the homes of Betsy and Tacy – homes and shop open

### May

- 7 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 14 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 18 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 19 Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tacy's House
- 21 Betsy-Tacy Homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 28 Betsy-Tacy Homes open for tours and shopping, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### June

- 3 Maud Palmer Hart (Betsy Ray) graduated with honors from Mankato High School in 1910. "Miss Maud Hart read a delightful dissertation on "The Heroines of Shakespeare" as part of the program.

- 9 The Betsy-Tacy Society Annual Meeting
- 11 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 18 Lincoln Park Lawn Party: Refreshments, games, carriage rides, Lincoln Park home & garden tours, Betsy-Tacy home tours, and more.
- 25 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 29 Special Betsy-Tacy tour for the Gaylord Public Library Grant Participants, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### July

- 4 Celebrate the 4th of July
- 9 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 13 Frances Kenney's (Tacy) Birthday
- 14 Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tacy's House
- 16 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 23 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 30 Betsy-Tacy homes open for tours and shopping, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Board Committees continue to meet throughout the year. All meetings dates have not yet been scheduled. If you are interested in working with any of our committees, please contact us at [btsmankato@gmail.com](mailto:btsmankato@gmail.com) or call 507-345-9777. Committees include: Archives and Collections; Facilities and Restoration; Program Committee, and Shop Committee.