



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. 5 ISSUE 2

AUGUST 2009

Stop the Presses - Lovelace Back in Print!



The Black Angels
by Maud Hart Lovelace

"They were called the Black Angels from the time they first appeared in Minnesota, a crew of black-haired, bright-eyed youngsters, so unlike their flaxen haired father—seven of them there were, and each one forever singing, except Joseph, who could not tell one note from another. Music was a passion with them from childhood. Small wonder, then, that they greeted with enthusiasm Benjy's plan for an Operatic and Concert Troupe; or that they set out with high hearts upon the venture, thinking their old covered wagon a golden caravan."

(quote from 1926 book jacket)

Maud's first novel, *The Black Angels*, was published in 1926 by the John Day Company of New York, the first publisher to see it. Maud began research for her first novel in the summer of 1924, spending hours in the archives at the Minnesota Historical Society reading newspapers, magazines, memoirs and Folwell's *History of Minnesota*. The story takes place in the fictional Cloudman, Minnesota (Mankato, Minnesota), and

opens in the days before the Civil War. In interviews Maud said the idea for the plot came from a family legend of her Uncle Frank, who ran away from home and joined an opera troupe. She based the character of Alex on her uncle, but the fictional opera troupe was based on the Andrews Opera Company, a family concert/opera troupe from the Mankato area.

Don't miss the chance to own this special limited edition!

Across the country and from abroad, fans have been eagerly awaiting the release of the Betsy-Tacy high school books! These new Harper Perennial Modern Classics editions feature two novels in one volume, original cover artwork by Vera Neville, and forewords by bestselling authors Meg Cabot, Laura Lippman and Anna Quindlen. Books will be released September 29, 2009. Advance orders placed with the BTS will ensure that you receive your books as soon as released!

See inside for more exciting book release information:

- A Betsy-Tacy Fan Cuts Cross-Country
- Betsy-Tacy Party with the Crowd
- Ordering information
- Convert a Betsy-Tacy Fan Week



Bow by Kato Author

Maud Hart Lovelace's Volume Goes on Market

New York, October —Another Minnesota author makes her bow to the American public today. The new author is Maud Hart Lovelace, who was born in Mankato and whose present home is Lake Minnetonka and the first novel she presents to the fiction world is "The Black Angels" published by the John Day Company of New York.

Minnesota of the late pioneer days furnished Mrs. Lovelace with the inspiration and setting for her book. The story of *The Black Angels* relates the picturesque adventures of a family of black-haired youngsters who take possession of the old covered wagon in which their rugged Scottish father had invaded the Minnesota wilds and set out as an "operatic and concert troupe" wandering over the frontier country.

Interviewed in the New York office of her publishers, Mrs. Lovelace said in reference to *The Black Angels*, "The romance of Minnesota has been neglected. Modern realistic novels have not been fair to us. The Middle West has been pictured as harsh and dreary country and the fine traditions of the past have been overlooked for surface defects. Minnesota is a beautiful state with a fascinating history. From the time of the pioneer conquest down through the more gracious days of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Minnesota's past affords a goldmine of material for the novelist. It is some small portion of this material that I have used in *The Black Angels*, which covers the sixties, seventies and eighties, and I expect to write other stories later that will also deal with the old days here

"Newspaper files of half a century back aided me in securing the information I needed for *The Black Angels*", Mrs. Lovelace said, "and of course I've always been interested in the early years of the state's development, the time when our towns were lumber camps and fur-trading posts, and our cities struggling new settlements. That whole period seems to me to be full of romance, and that's why [sic] I've tried to express in my book. I hope that I have succeeded in giving young Minnesota its true color."

Mankato Free Press - October 12, 1926

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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

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(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)

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

For more information, see pg.

Contact information:

Mail:
 P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002
 Executive Director:
 julie@betsy-tacysociety.org
 Membership:
 membership@betsy-tacysociety.org
 Shop:
 shopkeeper@betsy-tacysociety.org

Shop Catalog:

Shop our online catalog: www.betsy-tacysociety.org. 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.

Open every Saturday - May-Sept. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Check our website for hours Oct.-Dec. and Mar-May. Closed Jan.-Feb.

Tacy's House is located at 332 Center Street in Mankato and Betsy's House is at 333 Center Street. Saturday Admission-\$1.00 (no admission to gift shop only)

Special House Visits: Call 507-345-9777

For special house visits, advance reservations are requested 2 weeks in advance.
 Admission for special appointments: \$20.00 -up to 5 people. Over 5 people, additional \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for ages 5-16. 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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Welcome New Members

Feb. 1, 2009 - July 31, 2009

Anderson, Kim
 Andres, Heidi
 Bartel, Julie
 Blethen, Mary Jane
 Cantrell, Brigitte
 Collins, Anne
 Draz, Annette
 Eubank, Rose
 Flores, Dyan
 Griffiths, Jane
 Hackman, Sharon
 Hagen, Katherine
 Halbrooks, Beth
 Hendon, Alison
 Hollowell, Lisa
 Hoover, Susan J.
 Huizing, Jordan
 Korbe, Kristina
 Kuserow, Jeannie
 Lockwood, Marsha
 MacCormack, Nancy
 Melman, Lisa
 Michalets, Jeanette
 Mitchell, Katie
 Morrow, Darsa
 Nelson, Pat
 O'Connor, Maureen
 Posten, Melissa
 Sherman, Marissa
 Skaja, Patricia
 Stryker, Thaddeus
 Szantyr, Gail
 Thompson, Erin
 Tolzmann, Deanne
 Toon, Kathryn
 Weidenhofer, Denise
 Weissman, Jessica
 Wilson, Crystal
 Winthrob, Helen

New Lifetime Members

Hilgert, Jackie
 Nicolassi, Maria Champlin
 Paulson, Lisa
 Sullivan, P.J.
 Sullivan, Vera

Donations

The BTS gratefully acknowledges donations received from Feb. 1, 2009 - July 31, 2009 from the following:

Donations to \$49

AAlberti, Theresa
 Albrecht, Susan
 Allen, Rita
 Arends, Carole
 Bailey, Cathy
 Balcome, Helen
 Bartel, Julie
 Baxter, Kathleen - Cemetery Flower Fund
 Berger, Doris
 Blethen, Mary Jane
 Bowyer, Laura
 Canavan, Colleen - Restoration Fund - Memory of Clarice Hjelle
 Carney, Jamie
 Chapman, Lynn
 Chuba, Julie - Burn the Mortgage
 Collins, Anne
 Conroy, Judith - Honor of Marilyn Straka
 Crepeau, Courtney
 Davies, Elizabeth
 Davis, Becky
 DiPaola, Erica
 Eng, Kathleen - Burn the Mortgage
 Fahling, Connie - Honor of Maud's birthday and recent Hometown show, Memory of

Ernest "Honse" Schultz & his bride of 69 years, Margaret C. Schultz

Faust, Christine
 Fecteau, Barb
 Freyberg, Julie
 Gebben, Mary
 Gullickson, Jim & Shannon
 Haberland, Gail - Burn the Mortgage
 Hackman, Susan - Burn the Mortgage
 Halbrooks, Beth
 Havins, Kathy
 Hendon, Alison
 Holland, Deb
 Huber, Carole
 Hundertmark, Carol - Burn the Mortgage
 Johnson, Karin - Restoration Fund - Memory of Gisela C. Johnson
 Kase, Arlene - Burn the Mortgage
 Kaulzloric, Jayne
 Keohane, Kaaren
 Klitzner, Carol
 Lilly, Judith
 Long, Jeanne
 Masters, Lee & Wendi
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 Moore, Lisa
 Morrow, Darsa Paterson
 Munoz, Carlos
 Nicolassi, Maria Champlin
 Norland, Kris
 Olearczuk, Peggy
 O'Neil, Colleen - Honor of Grandpa Webster on Abe Lincoln's birthday
 Paskal, Marti - Restoration Fund
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 Randow, Judith Ann
 Rolek, Trisha - Burn the Mortgage
 Romeo-White, Angela
 Rouzer, Linda
 Rozier, Hilah
 Sacco, Kathy
 Schultz, Jo
 Schwarz, Janet - Burn the Mortgage
 Seamster, Tracy
 Setering, Jean
 Sherwood, Linda
 Shriver, Elizabeth
 Singerman, Shana
 Smith, Stephanie
 Springer, Elizabeth
 Thayer, David & Edna
 Thiessen, Mary
 Toon, Kathryn
 Topjon, Ann - Burn the Mortgage
 Tucker, C.M.
 Waldron, Vincent & Kathleen - Burn the Mortgage
 Welsh, Susie
 Williamson, Marilyn - Burn the Mortgage

Donations \$50 - \$99

Allen, Rita - Burn the Mortgage
 Banks, Cheryl - Restoration Fund
 Brewster, Erin - Memory of the mothers of Cindy Price, Julie Chuba and Arline Mues
 Brewster, Erin - Honor of Julie Chuba, Oscar contest queen & 2nd place winners
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 Davis-Kay, Jennifer - Burn the Mortgage - Memory of Margaret Chuba
 Fahling, Connie - Cemetery Flower Fund - Honor of Laura and Steve Pipis
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 Jones, Karen
 Kossack, Joan

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 Moore, Augusta
 Parnell, June - Burn the Mortgage
 Posten, Melissa
 So. California Chapter Betsy-Tacy Society - Memory of Lucille Southworth
 Watson, Linda - Restoration Fund

Donations \$100 - \$499

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 Cox, Janie
 Crepeau, Courtney - Burn the Mortgage
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 Jefferson PTO
 Just, John - Restoration Fund
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 Pengra, Laurie
 Rose, Jennie - Burn the Mortgage
 Sarff, Donahue & Marilyn - Burn the Mortgage
 Sasser, Janice
 Schwartz, Andrea - Burn the Mortgage
 Sherman, Betsy - Burn the Mortgage
 Weissman, Jessica
 Whiting, Rhonda - Burn the Mortgage
 Williamson, Marilyn

Donations \$500 - \$1,000

Betsy-Tacy Convention
 Carpenter, Deborah - Restoration Fund
 Gift, Helen
 Gift, Helen - Burn the Mortgage
 Johnson, Janine L.
 Thomas, Norma - Burn the Mortgage
 Youel, Alan & Marilyn - Burn the Mortgage
 Zivny, Giovanna - Burn the Mortgage - Honor of Grace Zivny

Donations \$1,000+

Betsy-Tacy Convention - Willard's Emporium Silent Auction
 Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Jacobson - Burn the Mortgage

Paver Fundraiser

Feb. 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009

Anderson, Judy
 Arth, Joan
 Barry, Maria
 Brewster, Erin
 Carter, Barbara
 Demedis, Margaret
 Falencykowski, Donald & Clova
 Falencykowski, Lona
 Hart, Jennifer
 Holman, Leah
 Huntley, Mary
 John Ireland Catholic School
 Johnson, Warren
 Kase, Arlene
 Layman, Eloise
 Olson, Don & Mary Ellen
 Payne, Gregory
 Rechner, Amy
 Redlich, Joan
 Sannes, Jenika
 Shadowen, Laurie
 So. California Chapter Betsy-Tacy Society
 Stibbs, Jane Miller
 Thomas, Norma
 Timmins, Colleen
 Williams, Sarah
 Williamson, Marilyn

Grants Received

Carl & Verna Schmidt Foundation - \$7,500
for Betsy's House restoration and central air conditioner

In-Kind Donations

Feb. 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009

Mimi Asplen
Julie Chuba
Edenvale Nursery
Hilltop Florist
Michelle Koppein
Paul & Terry Kvittek
Jo Robbins
Denny Weis

If you prefer your name not be published as a donor, please advise us of your wish.

Thank You, Volunteers!

Feb. 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009

Ron Affolter
Elyse Anderson
Ana-Brit Asplen
Penny Banwart
Alicia Bayer
Anna Bayer
Victoria Bayer
Faith Beiswanger
Sarah Beiswanger
Halle Blais
Michele Blake
Kathy Bodelson
Bob Brown
Joan Brown
Susan Brown
Abby Clobes
Dawn Clobes
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Linda Dial
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Patti Sjulstad
Bryce Stenzel
Judy Stow
Norma Thomas
Denny Weis
Beth Winterfeldt
Eleanor Winterfeldt
Jackie Woodwick

Artifacts & Archive Donations

Feb. 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009

Judy Arzdorf - *Chronicles of a Century* (pub. by Free Press 1999)
Katherine Bodelson - porcelain bowl & pitcher set
Michael Coughlan - corner hutch
Joey & Julie Freyberg - cast iron cook stove
Kathryn Hanson - child's rocker, enamelware pan
Linda Harwood - 1958 postcard from MHL
Carolyn Hinz - wicker rocker, foot stool, walnut bed, spool bed, doll, doll buggy, children's toys, linens, hat & shawl, framed picture
Warren Johnson - books to replicate the books found in the Hart home as described by Maud Hart Lovelace: *Wee MacGregor*, *Editha's Burglar Jordan*, *When Knighthood was in Flower*, *Lamplighter*, *Helen's Babies*, *Tanglewood Tales for Girls and Boys*, *Beloved Vagabond*, *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, *Lucile*, *Helmet of Navarre*, *Beautiful Joe*, *Ivanhoe*, *Black Beauty*, *Five Little Peppers*, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Wide, Wide World*, and *John L. Stoddard's Lectures*, post card of Mankato High school, 1st Baptist Church commemorative plate
Sallie Knowles - 1909 graduation dress
Kathy Stollenwerk - books: *The Beloved Vagabond*, *Ivanhoe*, *Helen's Babies* (3), *Ike Eisenhower* by Delos W. Lovelace, *Consumer's Guide*, *Sears, Roebuck & Co. 1900 catalog*, *The Light of the Home*.
Norma Thomas - chamber pot
Wesley Swanson - kerosene lamps

Wish list

Items or financial donations will be gratefully accepted.

1950 Mankato High School
Otaknam yearbook

Breakfront desk for Betsy's House

Dehumidifier for Betsy's House

Archival boxes & supplies for artifacts

LCD projector

Books by Maud Hart Lovelace:
Black Angels, *The Charming Sally*,
One Stayed at Welcome, *The Tune Is in the Tree*.

. . . continued from page 1

A Betsy-Tacy Fan Cuts Cross-Country

I am just back from a magical weekend in Mankato, where I visited Betsy's and Tacy's houses, sat on the famous bench with my sister, admired our paver stone, looked in awe at the "chocolate-covered house," wandered in the Carnegie Library, saw what that sleeping porch on the Sibley house really looks like, gazed out over Murmuring Lake from the famous bay window and visited the grave of Maud Hart Lovelace.

While I was at this year's Betsy-Tacy Convention, which was so amazing, many fellow Betsy-Tacy fans and new friends thanked me for the forthcoming reissues of books 5 through 10 this fall, but what I don't think they quite comprehended was this: My interest in reissuing the books is purely selfish, as I have been a Betsy-Tacy fan as long as I have been reading.

I don't remember exactly when I started reading the early books, but I read and reread the first four books faithfully - and had sand stores in my backyard, made fudge, and wrote stories just like Betsy (though I was too much of a wimp to climb a tree).

I reread the first four books regularly, as our mother didn't immediately tell me about the high school books, thinking, I guess, that they'd be too mature for me at the tender age of 12.

I remember so distinctly the day that I opened up Heaven to Betsy—quite honestly - I was unbelievably excited to find out that the books continued. Not only that, but Betsy now lived such a glamorous (at least from a 12-year-old's perspective) life. As I sat in my mother's chair in the living room, legs flung over the armrest, I saw how Betsy was transformed (just as I wished I would be someday soon) from a sturdy Lois Lenski illustration to a glamorous young woman drawn by Vera Neville. There were boys, there were dances and there were high school hijinks. There were also some shocks: The Rays had moved from Hill Street, Tib had moved from Deep Valley and dreamboat Herbert Humphreys was suddenly a boy with whom Betsy and Tacy were hanging out daily!

I reread the high school books from that day forward, taking them with me to college, and eventually to New York, where I moved after school to work in publishing. In times of happiness I read them, and in times of sadness they were the book form of the ultimate comfort food.

My sister Becky was equally obsessed with Betsy-Tacy. And though we are different in many ways (to put it most plainly: She's a Red Sox fan and I'm a Yankees fan), "with that perfect accord which characterizes our relationship," on the Betsy-Tacy books we have always agreed.

Because we shared this love for the tomes, we never thought we were the only one, but we definitely thought we were the only two people who knew about them. The copies we read over and

Continues on page 4

over were those from the Nashua Public Library in Nashua, N.H. We're pretty much convinced that between the two of us we kept those copies circulating. To this day we know exactly where they are in the library – and if you open any of them up, chances are you'll find traces of the fudge we used to make while reading them.

When I began working at Harper Collins, I was thrilled to be at the house that published Betsy, though I was not in the children's division. I did not realize at that time how I would be able to play a part in Maud's legacy.

When I learned last summer from the fabulous librarian Nancy Pearl that the books were in need of reissuing, I proposed that we publish the tomes as Harper Perennial Modern Classics, a line of books that includes Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Betty Smith's *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, and miraculously, I became the “editor” of a series of books that has long meant more to me than nearly anything else I've read.

When it came time to concept the cover designs, I felt there was no other option than to incorporate the original artwork by Vera Neville into them. (And thanks go to my sister, who has a full set of dust-jacketed copies that we were able to scan for the artwork.) Since each book will contain two of the tomes, the artwork for the book that is not featured on the front will appear on the spine of the book.

The new forewords came easily as well. Meg Cabot had already agreed to speak at this year's convention, so I knew she was a fan, and I learned that Laura Lippman had also recently told *Time* magazine that the books were among her favorites. I think that fans will love what each of them has written, and they perfectly complement Anna Quindlen's foreword as well.

I owe incredible thanks to Julie Schrader at the Betsy-Tacy Society for providing originals of the many archival photos contained in the back of the books, to Barbara Carter at the Maud Hart Lovelace Society, and to Andrea Shaw, literary executor of Maud's estate, who visited my office with five of Maud's photo albums in tow for me to browse through and scan.

Going through those photo albums was possibly the emotional highlight of my career, and to look at them with Andrea was so illuminating – she pointed out how Maud was rarely photographed with her teeth showing, she so hated those teeth parted in the middle. And there were also some holes on those pages that Andrea pointed out – most likely photos that Maud didn't feel were flattering, so they were removed because she knew people would be looking through them one day.

But the people to whom I owe the greatest thanks are all the members of the Betsy-Tacy Society, the Maud Hart Lovelace Society and the Maud-L listserv for all that they have done over the years to keep Maud's legacy alive. It's truly an honor to find myself in a position to now be able to do my part.

My sister and I had long talked about making a pilgrimage to Mankato or to one of the conventions, and when we learned

the convention was happening this summer, the year of the books' reissue, I called her and said, “Well, if we're ever going to go, now is the time.” I am so thankful that we did. It was magical not only to see sites for ourselves, but to witness firsthand the passion that everyone has for the tomes. I look forward to working with BT fans across the country to celebrate the books' publication on September 29th, and I remain,

Your obedient servant,
Jennifer Hart

NOTE: Regional chapters and fans who would like to contact Jennifer about promoting the books in their area should email her at jennifer.hart@harpercollins.com. You can also read about her convention experience on her blog at www.bookclubgirl.com

BOOK RELEASE PARTY

Betsy-Tacy Party with the Crowd

THE BETSY-TACY SOCIETY INVITES YOU
TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE LONG-AWAITED RELEASE
OF THE BETSY-TACY HIGH SCHOOL BOOKS!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2009, 1PM - 3PM

BETSY-TACY HOUSES
332 & 333 CENTER STREET IN MANKATO

ADMISSION – DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT TACY'S HOUSE.

THE AFTERNOON WILL FEATURE REENACTMENTS, DRAWINGS AND
OTHER ACTIVITIES.

CAKE AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

ADMISSION – DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Convert a Betsy-Tacy Fan Week

Betsy-Tacy fans who want to participate in "Convert a Betsy-Tacy Fan Week" the week of September 29, 2009 should email their name and address to marney@wilde.org by September 4th. Each participant will be labeled a Zet or a Philo and will receive a copy of *Heaven to Betsy* to give away to a new fan. They'll then post about the giveaway on BookClubGirl.com and anywhere else they live online (Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube). The group (Zets or Philos) that posts the most conversions will win a paver stone in their name!



Illustrator David Geister displays his original artwork for the cover of the Black Angels at Tacy's House.

For more information about David, his artwork and books, visit www.davidgeister.com.

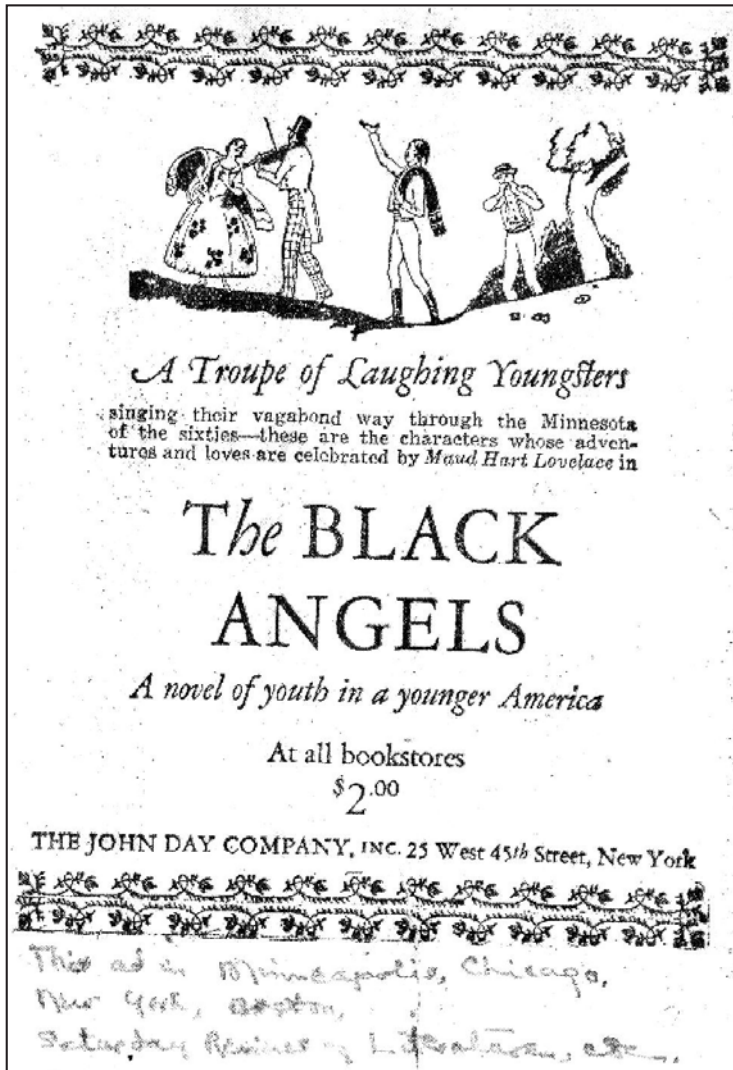
Book Release & Mortgage Burning Celebration

THE BETSY-TACY SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
THE RELEASE OF
THE BLACK ANGELS
AND THE BURNING OF THE MORTGAGE FOR BETSY'S HOUSE!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009, 1 PM - 3 PM
BETSY-TACY HOUSES - 332 & 333 CENTER STREET IN MANKATO

SPECIAL GUEST, HISTORICAL ARTIST AND ILLUSTRATOR DAVID
GEISTER. THE ORIGINAL PAINTING FOR THE COVER OF
THE BLACK ANGELS
WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT TACY'S HOUSE.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AS THEY BECOME
AVAILABLE.

ADMISSION - DONATIONS ACCEPTED
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.



Notice the author's handwritten note at the bottom of the ad:
"This ad in Minneapolis, Chicago, New York, Boston, Saturday Review of Literature, etc.."

From the Maud Hart Lovelace archives

Pre-Order Form

- The Black Angels By Maud Hart Lovelace – \$12.95
 - Heaven to Betsy and Betsy in Spite of Herself – \$14.99
 - Betsy was a Junior and Betsy and Joe – \$14.99
 - Betsy and the Great World and Betsy's Wedding – \$14.99
- (Please print clearly)

DATE: _____
 CUSTOMER NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____

Qty	Title	Price	Total
	The Black Angels by Maud Hart Lovelace	\$12.95	
	Heaven to Betsy/Betsy in Spite of Herself	\$14.99	
	Betsy was a Junior/Betsy and Joe	\$14.99	
	Betsy and the Great World/Betsy's Wedding	\$14.99	
	MN residents add 6.5% sales tax		
	Shipping & Handling		
	TOTAL		

Shipping & Handling:

1-3 books \$4.50. Over 3 books - Add \$1.00 for each additional book
 _____ Check here if you would like to pick up your order at Tacy's Gift Shop. You will be notified by email when your order is ready for pickup.

Check or money orders accepted.

Checks are to be made payable to Betsy-Tacy Society
 Mail to: Betsy-Tacy Society, P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002-0094
 For more information visit: www.betsy-tacysociety.org



Cemetery Flower Fund

A permanent flower urn was installed at the gravesite of Maud Hart Lovelace by the Betsy-Tacy Society this summer. Maud loved flowers, and it will be a tribute from all of her fans to be remembered with flowers each summer. Initial costs were \$180 for the cement pad, wrought iron stand with planter, flowers, and all summer water maintenance. Thanks to donations by Kathleen Baxter and Connie Fahling, we have already raised \$100 of the initial costs.

Future annual costs will be \$75 for planting and maintenance. We also have the option (for an additional fee) to have a wreath placed at the gravesite during the holidays.

To contribute to the Cemetery Flower Fund, you can send a check to the Betsy-Tacy Society, P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002-0094. Or make a donation online through the BTS shop site using PayPal - just include a note designating your donation to the Cemetery Flower Fund.

Paver Fundraiser

There is still time to get your name in stone or to give this as a gift in honor or memory of your loved ones. An order form can be downloaded from our website. This fundraiser 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. All proceeds from the paver sales benefit Betsy's House Restoration Fund.



Breaking News!

BTS to Receive Lovelace Artifacts and Documents

Within the coming months, the Betsy-Tacy Society will be receiving artifacts and collections from the estate of Merian Lovelace Kirchner. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

Harper Perennial Modern Classics Announces Emily of Deep Valley & Carney's House Party to be re-issued in 2010

Betsy-Tacy Book Club



The Betsy-Tacy Book Club is open to children ages 7-12, with club size limited to 10. A new club will begin this fall. Meetings are once a month for 5 consecutive months, and members will read the first four books in the Betsy-Tacy series. There will be book discussions, as well as crafts and snacks all taken from the Betsy-Tacy books. To register or for more information, visit the website: www.betsy-tacysociety.org, call 507-345-9777 or email: julie@betsy-tacysociety.org.

If you don't live in the area and want to begin your own Betsy-Tacy Book Club, just contact us for ideas and we'll help you get started.

Betsy-Tacy Society Website Gets a New Look!

After months of preparation, the BTS launched a new re-designed website in June. The new site offers more information and is easier to navigate. We also have the added benefit of a "members only" page. Members just need to create a password to enter this page. On this page we will post the Deep Valley Sun and other special articles and member information. A "Learn about Maud" page features a wide variety of information about Maud and her books, children's activities, teachers guides, book clubs, parties and games and more. You can keep up to date with our restoration projects and get information on tours and open hours. And don't forget to check out our shop!



Betsy's House Mortgage News

Our goal of burning the mortgage was achieved in April 2009!

Thank you to all who have supported the Betsy-Tacy Society with your memberships and donations over the years. We have achieved this milestone together! Thank you!

Of course, this achievement deserves a celebration. Everyone is invited to attend the Mortgage Burning Celebration on Sat., October 17, 2009. Watch our website for details.

In recognition and appreciation to those who generously gave to the Burn the Mortgage fund 2007-2009.

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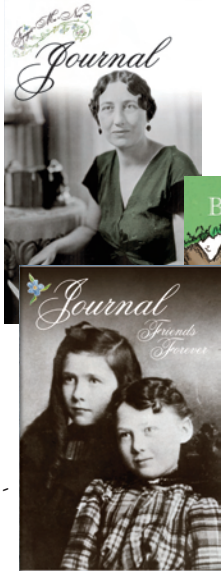
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Shop Talk

Unique new products available in time for the upcoming holiday season.

Gift shop sales are a wonderful way to support the BTS! Whether you're shopping for yourself or for that special someone on your gift list, we have unique gifts which are sure to please. Many of our items are custom made especially for the BTS and are not found anywhere else. Visit our website to see the new products, which include:



Betsy-Tacy/Lovelace Journals - A truly unique keepsake journal in which you can capture your dreams, inspirations and treasured memories. Choose from 3 beautiful covers: Betsy in the maple tree (colorized Lois Lenski illustration of Betsy in the maple tree taken from *Betsy and Tacy Go Downtown*), *Friends Forever* (picture of Maud & Bick), or *Maud Hart Lovelace* (picture of Maud holding a book).
Hard cover, 112 lined pp.
\$12.95

Betsy-Tacy/Lovelace bookmarks

Laminated full-color bookmark matches the journals and has a tassel with a brass book charm. Back of the bookmark lists books written by Lovelace.
\$2.95

Journal Gift Set - Choice of Betsy-Tacy/Lovelace journal with matching bookmark and two matching Betsy-Tacy pencils.
\$15.00

Betsy-Tacy Post cards - Choose from 7 new designs: Betsy's house, Tacy's house, Maud & Bick (Betsy-Tacy), Midge (Tib), Maud & Delos, Maud Hart Lovelace, Mankato High School (Deep Valley High)
\$1.00 ea. or set of 10 for \$9.00 (set includes Maud's 5th birthday, Immortal Trio and Maud/Merian post cards)



Being Good Notecard/Envelope (package of six)
Illustration by Lois Lenski. Back of card features color illustration and a quote from Betsy-Tacy and Tib. Blank notecard folded with envelope - 5-1/2" x 4-1/4".
\$7.50



Betsy's Trunk Notecard/Envelope (package of six)
Illustration by Vera Neville. Back of card has quotes from Betsy and Tacy Go Downtown and Heaven to Betsy.. Blank notecard folded with envelope - 5-1/2" x 4-1/4".
\$7.50

Betsy's List Notepad
Perfect for all your lists! 50 lined sheets, white w/green ink - 8 1/2"x3 1/2"
Illustration by Vera Neville featured in *Heaven to Betsy* - "Betsy was always making lists..."
\$2.75

Betsy's Trunk Post-its
25 sheets pink w/burgundy ink - 3" x 4". Illustration by Vera Neville featured in *Heaven to Betsy*
\$1.50

Betsy-Tacy Magnets - Choice of Betsy in the maple tree (magnet shaped like a book), The Bench or Betsy's House Museum
\$2.50 ea.

Betsy-Tacy Puzzle - 30- piece wood puzzle featuring "Betsy in the maple tree" illustration by Lois Lenski. 7" x 9 3/4"
\$15.00

Immortal Trio Puzzle - 252- piece puzzle featuring Betsy, Tacy & Tib, illustrated by Cheryl Harness. 10 3/4" x 13 3/4"
\$15.00

Pencils - two more new designs: choice of I ♥ Maud ♥ Lovelace or Ray's Shoe Store pencil.
\$1.00 for set of 2 pencils

Grandma Slade's Indian Stories

As a young girl, Maud was fascinated by Mary Pitcher's Indian stories, and she mentions them often in the Betsy-Tacy books. The character of Grandma Slade was based on Mary Warren Pitcher. Mary was the grandmother of Tom Fox, the character of Tom Slade. Mrs. Pitcher was one of Mankato's first pioneer settlers. Her pioneer accounts are recorded in the *Old Settlers* books and were transcribed for this booklet. 13 pp.
\$4.00



Forget-Me-Not T-shirt - Ladies-style relaxed fit 100% cotton t-shirt. A more tailored cut, slightly smaller than our regular t-shirts. Adult sizes - Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2XL, 3XL
\$12.00

Betsy, Tacy & Tib on the Bench -Toddler and Youth Size T-shirts - Heavyweight Cotton T-Shirt - Choose light pink/black ink or heather gray/black ink. Toddler sizes 2T, 3T or Youth sizes X-small, Small, Medium, Large
\$12.00

I ♥ Betsy-Tacy onesie - White with mint green trim and image of Betsy, Tacy & Tib on the bench in mint green ink
Infant sizes - 3-6 mo., 6-12 mo., 12-18 mo.
\$12.00

I ♥ Betsy-Tacy Bib - Mint green with image of Betsy, Tacy & Tib on the bench in white ink
\$10.00

Everything Pudding Apron - Red canvas bib apron black ink. One size fits all.
\$15.00

Don't forget - Betsy's House ornament or the Betsy-Tacy afghan make a wonderful gift!

2009 Betsy-Tacy Convention

The 2009 Betsy-Tacy Convention, which drew just over 200 attendees, took place July 17-20. Fans came from 31 states and Canada, and from as far away as France to spend the weekend in Deep Valley, enjoying a wide array of Betsy-Tacy activities.

The highlight of this year's convention was the keynote address on the convention's final morning by another prolific author, beloved by today's generation of girls: Meg Cabot (*The Princess Diaries*). Meg has been a huge fan of the Betsy-Tacy books since she first read them at age 30 and has written the foreword to the new reprint Harper Perennial Modern Classics edition of *Betsy Was a Junior/Betsy & Joe*. She donated her time for the convention, and we're very grateful for her enthusiastic support of the BTS.

Willard's Emporium silent auction raised \$4,300 for the Betsy-Tacy Restoration Fund, and convention souvenirs raised an additional \$650 in funds for the BTS!

Thanks to the Betsy-Tacy Convention committee, for their much needed fund-raising efforts on our behalf. Convention committee members are: Kathy Baxter, Michele Blake, Radhika Braeden (committee chair), Julie Chuba, Barb Fecteau, Shelby Kirchner, Colleen O'Neil, Kelly Reuter, Jan Sasser, Steffi Smith, and Kristin Woizeschke. Thanks to the many other Betsy-Tacy volunteers who helped plan and prepare for the event. Thanks also to event planner, Kaaren Keohane and to Mary Brown and her staff at the Alltel Center. We also appreciate the dedicated local volunteers who worked in preparation for and during the convention.

Thank you all for your donations, memberships, and gift shop purchases. This generous support of the BTS helps us restore, maintain and keep these historic houses open for the public to enjoy!

The Betsy-Tacy Society Board of Directors

To read more about the convention visit our website:
www.betsy-tacysociety.org and click on News & Events.

For pictures, visit:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/9372470@N04/collections/72157621766938360/>
or www.atcpublishations.com



For the 5th consecutive year, Dr. Kris Koebler's 5th grade from Collegiate School in Richmond, VA has raised funds for the BTS by holding a bake sale. This year they raised \$325.00 for the Restoration Fund! Thank you!

Back row: Claire, Megan, Payton, Carson, Millie, Clay, Emily, Eleanor, Anne-Bradford, Dr. Koebler.

Middle row: Tucker, Helen, Lauren, Tanner, Marlyn

Front row: Alex (behind), Catheine, Meg, Sarah, Elise, Kelsey, Christina (behind)

Barnes & Noble Bookfair Fundraiser for BTS

Shop at any Barnes & Noble store to help raise much-needed funds for the Betsy-Tacy Society

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The Betsy-Tacy Society

Saturday, October 3rd

Barnes & Noble
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Vouchers are good from open to close
at any B&N store on Saturday, 10/3/09

Please present this voucher prior
to making your purchase.
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*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, text books and magazine subscriptions are not included in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.





Message from Meg Cabot...

“ I had a fantastic time at the Betsy-Tacy Convention this year, and can't thank Kathleen Baxter enough for inviting me. It was such a joy to get to speak with so many enthusiastic readers who love the books as much as I do, but also to get to visit Betsy's and Tacy's homes, which have been so lovingly restored and exquisitely preserved by the Betsy-Tacy Society. It was awe-inspiring actually to walk in the same rooms that Maud Hart Lovelace lived and wrote in, to see some of the things she owned and touched, and of course sit on “the bench!” I'll carry fond memories of my trip to Mankato and my visit with the Betsy-Tacy Society and to Maud's home with me for many years to come.

”

Meg Cabot



Read Meg Cabot's foreword in the new issue of *Betsy Was a Junior/ Betsy & Joe!*

Photos provided by Scholastic Inc.



Leave a Legacy

LEAVE A LEGACY® MANKATO AREA We all leave our own unique mark on this world in our families, work and the organizations we believe in and support. We celebrate these legacies at BTS – after all, this is the heart of the history we are passionately working to preserve every day.

A legacy gift, also known as a planned or estate gift, can help ensure the Betsy-Tacy Society has the resources to preserve and promote the legacy of Maud Hart Lovelace and her works for future generations. If you are also thinking about the future, please consider a legacy gift to help ensure BTS has the resources to preserve these historic literary houses (childhood homes of Maud Hart Lovelace and Frances “Bick” Kenney) and the precious Lovelace artifacts and archives for many years to come.

The Betsy-Tacy Society is a member of LEAVE A LEGACY® Mankato Area, which is a collaborative effort to educate the public and promote the idea of giving through bequests and estate plans by increasing awareness of and interest in charitable-giving options.

To learn more about giving opportunities, contact Julie Schrader, executive director, at 507-345-9777. To learn more about LEAVE A LEGACY® Mankato Area, visit its website: www.leavealegacymankato.org.

Robert L. Crowell, former head of the Thomas Y. Crowell Company (now part of HarperCollins), died June 29, 2009, in Florida. He was 92. Crowell was the grandson of the company's founder, who began publishing books in 1876 and was the first American publisher of Tolstoy and Gogol. Robert Crowell joined the company as a salesman in 1931, and was elected president and treasurer in 1937. He established college, secondary school, reference

and children's book divisions; many of the children's books he published are still on the HarperCollins list, including “Chanticleer and the Fox” and the Betsy-Tacy series. He also developed the Columbia University reading course. In addition to his career in publishing, Crowell was director of the American Book Publishing Council and a director of his alma mater's Yale University Press.

(from Publisher's Weekly)

The
WISH ROOM
by
Maud Palmer Hart

BRING YOUR WISH TO THE WISH ROOM

Of course, you have a wish. Everybody has. Isn't it time you were making yours come true? Hunt it up. Shake the dust from it. Tell it in the Wish Room and get the expert advice of a person whose sole talent lies in sympathetic listening.

Applicants received only by appointment

Telephone—Main 1789—

Conference—\$5.00

WELL, of all things!" said John McCall. He folded his paper inside out, bringing uppermost the column which held the notice, and proceeded to reread it in deliberate fashion.

"Isn't it time you were making yours come true? Hunt it up. Shake—"

With a half smile on his lips, and a thoughtful look in his eyes, John McCall reached out for the telephone which stood at his elbow.

"Main 1789, please."

After a brief interval, a very faint feminine voice responded, "Hello?"

He pressed the receiver against his ear.

"Hello! Is this the Wish Room?"

"Y-Yes."

"I want to make an appointment. This is John McCall."

"When would you like to come, Mr. McCall."

"This evening?"

"This evening at 8.30?"

"If I may."

The voice became more firm.

"Yes, you may."

"But how shall I find you?"

"The Wish Room," replied the voice, human enough to rebuke his personal pronoun, "is located at Number 4000 Temple Square."

"Number 4000 Temple Square," repeated John McCall carefully. "All right. It does seem sort of queer to have a Wish Room located in such a very tangible place. I half expected to hear you say Dreamland or The End of the Rainbow."

"You must be glad," said the voice, confused but very sweet, "that it is tangible enough to reach. And you must hope that it will be material enough to help you."

"No! No! Immaterial enough to help me. Or do I mean immaterial? I don't know."

"Think it over," said the voice, laughing, "Good-bye!"

During the afternoon, John McCall had little time to reflect either upon the mysterious Wish Room or the charming voice. But when the labors of the day were over, and he was making himself ready for dinner in his comfortable but unpretentious rooms, his mind reverted to the appointment he had made.



"I am a newspaper man," he added, in an explanatory tone, "and there was to be a spiritualistic convention, and I wanted to know about a particular phase of the subject, before interviewing the leaders of the affair."

continued on page 12

His wish, annoying because of its very vagueness, was at last to be revealed. He anticipated an immense amount of satisfaction in revealing it. It might be tedious, but the girl in the Wish Room would be paid to be attentive. It was absurd, but she had promised to be sympathetic. It had possibilities, and she was bound to be unprejudiced. On the whole, the arrangement pleased him.

He dined at his favorite cafe and afterward made his way to Number 4000 Temple Square, in the best of spirits. The directions took him to a much frequented part of the city. The atmosphere was as far as possible from what one might imagine that of an orthodox Wish Room to be. Surrounding lights made the streets as bright as day. Crowded cars rattled past; automobiles shot by; newsboys bawled; venders shouted; nondescript throngs jammed the sidewalks, some hurrying and some loitering before shop windows, despite the snapping cold.

The original square, if one had ever existed, had evidently, long ago, been squeezed out in the press of things. But John McCall discovered an apartment house named for its deceased ancestor, and upon entering that, he was carried by elevator to Number 4000. He hesitated a moment before the door, then rang the bell. The possibility that the dismal hall could admit him to a satisfactory Wish Room was becoming more remote.

The maid who opened the door for him was elderly and appeared some what curious. When he had introduced himself, she said that Mr. McCall was expected, she would take his wraps, and would he come that way? John McCall assented, went that way, and as he went an amused little look came into his eyes; for the way led through just such an apartment as any but an imaginative person would have looked for. The walls were covered with oil paintings, which he fervently hoped had not been perpetrated by the hand belonging to the voice. The furniture went in "sets." The carpets were dingy, and the whole effect was most depressing. The curious maid led him down a small and poorly lighted hall, within the apartment, to a door; then pushed the door open and vanished.

John McCall's first impression of the Wish Room was that it was fragrant; and, his eyes becoming more accustomed to the sudden light, one sense corroborated the other. It blushed with flowers. His second impression was that it was bright; but upon closer survey, he saw that it was lighted only by a crackling fire and two tall cathedral candles. The brightness was the warmth of color. It was crowded, but its confusion represented comfort and luxury. As John McCall studied it, he found himself thinking—"Treasure Island." It seemed as if some one had tried to store all his treasures within these four walls. There was a variety of pictures. There were swinging shelves of books. There was a brick fireplace with a blazing log on the andirons. There was a grand piano with music on cushiony kind, and numberless warm rugs and downy pillows. And there was something else, an intangible something, which made him forget the commonplace apartment without and the hurrying crowds below.

"Mr. McCall?"

It was the voice. A slender girl, covered from head to ankles with a glistening, golden veil, had risen from one of the deep chairs by the fireplace. The man could catch the glow of eyes and the flash of color made by red lips, and from an opening at the side of her robe a hand emerged in greeting. It was a slim hand, ringless and very white. Her arm was slim too, and softly white like a white rose.

Without waiting for a response, she darted back to the fire and pulled out a cozy chair, opposite to the one from which she had just risen.

"Won't you sit down here? You must be cold." And as he acquiesced, she added somewhat timidly, "Do you smoke? Smoke then, if you like, and rest, and I will play for you."

John McCall slipped into the chair and she crossed to the piano. A moment later, he told himself that never, never before had he known what comfort was. His eye was gratified by the soft medley of color about him and the shining figure bending over the keys. The fire threw out a welcome heat. The chair in which he sat was luxurious. The perfume of flowers was in his nostrils. And his cigarette added the touch which yielded absolute perfection.

"Tell me," she said slowly, "when I get to your wish."

Then she drifted into melody. John McCall suspected that she was improvising. At any rate, he had never heard such music.

In the beginning, it was very exalted. It took him into a tall cathedral. Dusk rested on the empty pews and on the dim aisles, but in the chancel, white-robed boys were singing, and sunset light sifted through the windows upon the altar, brightening the cross. Soon, it became more martial. There were soldiers, rank on rank, file and file, tramping through the night. They were tired, hungry, thirsty, ill and homesick. But they were singing, and as they sang, they forgot all but the honor and glory of fighting for their flag. Gradually, it floated into dreams. The man was transported into fairyland. Fairies were sliding down the rainbow, shaking from flowers, slipping from the silky back of the snow-white birds that were their carriers—all come to dance in the deeps of the forest. And, perhaps because fairyland and childhood are so nearly akin, she told of childhood next. There was the music of the old mill stream, the song of wind in the tree-tops, the cry of birds, the joy of bursting forth into the glory of the morning, the joy of creeping back into the peace of evening and mother's arms, just childhood. She drew it from the keys. Then, suddenly, she found his wish. A love song was beneath her fingers, the quaintest little love song.

"You've come to it," said John McCall.

She rose swiftly, approached the fire, and sank into her chair. She crossed one glittering knee upon the other and smiled at him beneath the veil.

"Tell me about it."

He began: "I have only seen her once. I haven't the remotest idea who she is, where she lives, whether she is married or single. So far as I know, I shall never see her again. And I am in love with her. If I cannot find her, if I cannot marry her, I shall never marry anyone. I am absolutely convinced of that."

The Wish Girl leaned forward, locking her slim white hands about her knee.

"But the one time? Where was it? What did she look like? Why did you love her?"

"One day last summer," said John McCall, gazing into the fire, "One blistering hot day in August, I went down to the Public Library to look up something on spiritualism. I am a newspaper man," he added, in an explanatory tone, "and there was to be a spiritualistic convention, or something of the sort, and I wanted to know about a particular phase of the subject, before interviewing the leaders of the affair. I couldn't tell exactly what book I did want, so I got a permit to go in back, where the shelves are, and roam around at my own sweet will, looking for just what would help me. I am sort of foolish about books, anyhow." He looked up with his attractive smile, "I love to browse around. On this particular day the shelf rooms were cool and dark. I wandered along from shelf to shelf, from aisle to aisle, until I had gone so far away from all the heat and bustle that I felt in a different world.

"At last my attention was arrested by a very peculiar and pitiful sound. It came from a distant part of the immense room and I had quite a time locating it, but at last I succeeded. In one of the darkest aisles, her head in her arms on a little table, surrounded with shadows and musty, dusty books, was a girl—and she was crying. That was the sound I had heard. I—you can't think how it made me feel. I'm not very used to any kind of a woman—and there isn't another woman in the world like her."

"What did she look like?" asked the Wish Girl. She leaned back, clasping her hands behind her head, and a shimmer passed along her radiant draperies, like the shimmer that passes through a maple tree, splendid with autumn, when there is a faint breeze stirring.

"She was small," said the man dreaming, "She was small and dressed all in black. When I touched her, she raised her head and looked at me, and it was so unexpected—I shall never forget it. Her face was white, so white it broke my heart to look at it, and her eyes were like deep purple pansies with the dew on them.

"I sat down in the chair across from her and took hold of her two little hands—they were as cold as ice—and asked her what was the matter. And, because I was a stranger, she told me. Her father and mother were dead. She was living with her father's sister, and she was bitterly unhappy. She was grieving, you see, and lonesome and she said that nobody understood. She was so little and white—her eyes were so frightened—her hands were so clinging and helpless—she was such an exquisite flower of a woman—she was so different." After groping hopelessly, John McCall looked from the fire to the Wish Girl. There were tears in his eyes.

The girl bent forward.

"And your wish?"

"I—want—her."

"It will come true," breathed the Wish Girl, earnestly. "You love her, and your love will touch her, somewhere, find her, some day."

"Will it?"

"It will."

"And when I find her?"

"Take her in your arms and run off with her. It's the only way you'll ever get her. And she loves you, I know."

Angry voices broke out in the hall; swift foot steps fell; impatient fingers rattled the door. John McCall and the Wish Girl pushed back their chairs and rose. A quiver passed through the fragile form of the girl. She clasped her hands at her breast.

"Amoret!" A very stout lady, bulky with furs, panting with wrath, burst in upon them. The maid's agitated countenance appeared behind her.

"What folly is this? Where did these candles come from? Who is this young man? Take off that absurd garment!"

"Auntie! Don't! My aunt, Mrs. Jessmore, Mr. McCall. When Mr. McCall is gone, auntie, I will explain."

"You will explain now."

"Oh, I can't!"

continued on page 14

"Here and now." Mrs. Jessmore pronounced the words with heavy brows uplifted and fat nostrils dilated.

"I—I opened a Wish Room."

"So Anna said. What, pray, is a Wish Room? And how did you dare to open anything in my absence?"

The sweet voice of the Wish Girl trembled.

"A Wish Room is a place—where people come—and pay for the privilege of—confiding—in some one. I wanted," falteringly, "to earn some money. You are kind, in your way, but I wanted some money all my own. I had no talent except that—listening to people, comforting them, advising them—"

"No talent!" stormed the indignant aunt. She had a fierce expression and a strident, disagreeable voice, before which the poor little Wish Girl shrank. "Your father spent enough money on your music."

"But I can't play, except for a few people. You know that, auntie. And father never cared—"

"That's nonsense! How many—applicants—have you had for this absurd privilege?"

"Just one," hanging her head, "Mr. McCall."

"Well then! Take off that veil. Show him that you are a civilized person. Then he may go away and stay away. I'll tend to you later."

"Oh, auntie! I can't! I won't!"

"Believe me," broke in John McCall, "There is no need of it. I will go—"

"You will stay right here until Amoret does as I say."

Mrs. Jessmore blocked the door, angry, defiant. Anna peered over her shoulder, dismayed, curious. John McCall was forced to wait, furious, raging, while the little golden girl lifted off her veil. She stood before them, drooping like a flower in a tempest.

And then—

McCall clutched the back of a chair and leaned over it, staring in utter amazement. Slowly, as if in appeal, the girl raised her eyes to meet his gaze, and they shone in her pale, little face like deep purple pansies with the dew on them. McCall's mind whirled. The words of the Wish Girl echoed in his ear—"Take her in your arms and run off with her. It's the only way you'll ever get her. And she loves you, I know."

"Mrs. Jessmore," said John McCall, "I want to introduce myself further."

"Yes?" said Mrs. Jessmore.

"I am a newspaper man, connected with the 'Times.' Also, I am an old friend of Amoret's and this affair is nothing but a joke."

"Yes?" The older woman was uncompromising.

"We might as well tell her now, mightn't we, Amoret?" asked John McCall, turning to the Wish Girl, who, divested of her glory, swayed before them.

"Tell me what?" demanded Mrs. Jessmore, bridling.

"That we are going to be married."

"But I will have something to say about that," said Mrs. Jessmore, elevating her eyebrows and widening her nostrils.

"Nothing at all," John McCall was positive.

Again the girl lifted wide, wondering eyes. The man smiled down into them, and his smile was reassuring.

"I got my instructions from a source which cannot be questioned," he added, "And I shall obey them to the letter."

"Oh, do," said Amoret.

Maud was 21 years old when "The Wish Room" was printed in the National Magazine, August 1913. The magazine sold for 15¢.



New Members

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

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

- Receive our newsletters.
- Receive special "Members Only" gift shop discounts.
- Be informed of all upcoming events.
- Be part of an important effort to restore Betsy and Tacy's houses, historical literary landmarks in Mankato to educate future generations about the importance of the period.

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 below 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 versions 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 or 507-345-9777.



Thank You to all who continue to support the BTS! During these difficult economic times, your support is vital to us! We are still faced with a budget shortfall. As a non-profit organization, we operate solely on memberships, gift shop sales and special donations. We receive no federal or state funding. Our faithful members are the backbone of the BTS!

Betsy-Tacy Society Annual Membership Form
Membership runs from January 1st - December 31st

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

- New Renewal

- I would like: Mailed newsletters
 Electronic Newsletter

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 Choice (circle one): A or B)
- \$500 Lifetime (Gift 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 - hard cover
- Gift B: Immortal Trio note cards
- 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

- No acknowledgement for donation required
- Donation in Memory of:

Donation in Honor of: _____

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

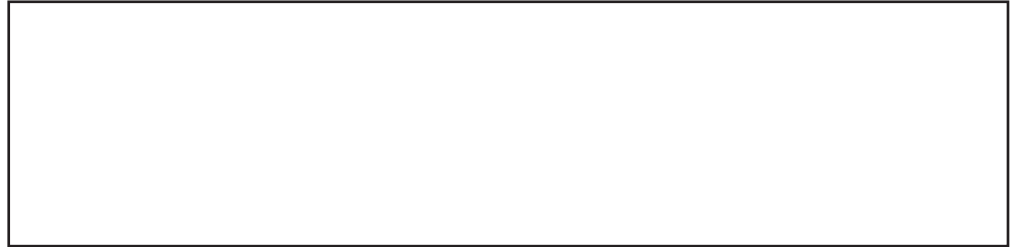
Please return this form to:
BTS Membership
P.O. Box 94, Mankato, MN 56002-0094



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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2009 Calendar of Events

Due to budget concerns we have canceled two fall programs:

The Betsy-Tacy Walk and the Betsy-Tacy Halloween Party.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>September 25</i> | Meet the Author - Edna Thayer - Feisty Lydia
(www.mnheritage.com) |
| <i>October 3</i> | Betsy-Tacy Party with the Crowd - book release |
| <i>October 8-10</i> | Betsy-Tacy @ History Fest (www.historyfest.com) |
| <i>October 17</i> | The Black Angels book release & mortgage
burning celebration |
| <i>December 5</i> | Betsy-Tacy Victorian Christmas |

*Event details are posted on our website - www.betsy-tacysociety.org
and www.greatermankatoevents.com*

Address Changes

Please remember to inform us if your mailing 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.

Important Membership Information

Check your renewal date on the address label of this newsletter. If your membership has expired, please renew today.

You will find your expiration date on the mailing label. If you mailed your membership dues after July 31, 2009, the new expiration date may not be reflected on this mailing label. If your membership has expired, please consider renewing today! You are very important to us and we don't want to lose you as a valued member.