

All children  
and former children  
are invited  
to make history.

GROWING UP  
IN  
EDINA

**A Show and Tell Exhibit**

Edina History Museum

Opening Fall 2011

# GROWING UP IN EDINA

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Neighborhood puppet shows • biking through gravel pits • fishing in Minnehaha Creek • July 4<sup>th</sup> parade • ice skating on the mill pond... at Braemar Arena...at Centennial Lakes • tube socks and short shorts • Santa House by the Edina Federated Women • watching Star Wars at the France Avenue drive in • getting my first haircut at Burr's... Marty's... Dick's...Kids Hair • Saturday matinees at the Edina Theater...Westgate Theater...AMC • Clancy's Toyland • elephant ride at the park • setting the peat bog on fire • helping Mother make butter • Grandma Gleason's homemade hot lunch at Cahill School • paper dolls • the toy area at Carlson's Odd Shop • putting pennies on the streetcar tracks • building a tree house • taking archery lessons • the smell of mimeograph paper • clapping the erasers for the teacher

# GROWING UP IN EDINA

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## YOUR story is History

### **If you grew up in Edina, you belong in this exhibit.**

You don't have to be famous to make Edina history. Just being a kid (or a former kid) with a story to tell is enough.

Help us show today's children what life was like when you were a child. Tell us YOUR story. **Write about one topic or several.** We've given you a few ideas in the next few pages to get you started.

**Don't put it off... DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2011.** We will definitely include one photo and story of every participant. We will select objects based on space available.

## Show and Tell

### **Help us SHOW as well as TELL.**

Donate or loan us things from your childhood: photos, uniforms, toys, bikes, games, lunch boxes, art work, report cards, home movies, school work, or other special treasures you have saved.

Loans: The loan period will be through fall 2012.. Donations: We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. We provide a gift acknowledgment form for tax purposes. The donor assigns value. For items valued at more than \$500, the IRS requires a professional appraisal.

We prefer ORIGINAL photos, but can accept high quality copies. We request a .tif or .jpg of 300 dpi or greater with a file size of 1 or 2 MB. (This may require scanning at a larger size than the original.). We can do the scanning, if necessary.

## Talk with us

For more information, please contact Marci Matson, Executive Director, Edina Historical Society. 612-928-4577. [edinahistory@yahoo.com](mailto:edinahistory@yahoo.com). Office hours: Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon, or by appointment. Updates on the exhibit will be posted on our web site, [www.edinahistoricalociety.org](http://www.edinahistoricalociety.org). Follow us on Facebook and Twitter too!

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*Please submit the following form with your stories or objects/photos:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) \_\_\_\_\_ best time to call \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Childhood address(es)

\_\_\_\_\_

Elementary school(s) attended \_\_\_\_\_

Years in elementary school \_\_\_\_\_ or graduating year \_\_\_\_\_

I am providing the following items for the exhibit: Indicate if the item is a loan or donation.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

2. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

3. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

4. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

5. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

6. \_\_\_\_\_  Loan  Donation

I grant the Edina Historical Society permission to use my images, words and objects for education purposes, including but not limited to publication in print or on the internet, display, and other publicity.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

# GROWING UP IN EDINA

Just a few ideas to get you started...

## School Days

The focus of this exhibit is on the elementary school aged child.

How was your school life different (or similar) to school life today?



Describe your **lunch time**. Did you bring a lunch, have hot lunch or go home? What was your favorite lunch? How much did lunch cost? Did you eat in the classroom or in the cafeteria? Provide details about what your lunch looked like and how it was served (milk in a bottle or a carton? In a metal lunch box or a brown bag, etc.)

Describe **recess**. What games did you play? Describe your **playground**.

Describe your “**school supplies**.” What did you use every day? Did you have to buy your own supplies?

Describe your **back-to-school traditions or rituals**. (Did you go shopping for clothes and supplies? Did your parents take a photo of you on the first day every year?) How did you feel on the first day of school? How did you mark the **end of school**? (picnics, field trips, graduations)

Where did you buy **clothes**? Did you care about what you wore? What were the fashion trends during elementary school? Do you remember any favorite outfits? Did your mother sew any of your clothes?

Did your school have a **dress code**? Did you dress differently for school than at home?

Describe your school **transportation**: How did you get to and from school? (Bus, walk, get a ride)



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Who were your favorite **teachers** and why? What were your favorite **subjects** and why? What subjects did you like the least and why? Describe any other **memorable school staff** (janitors, principals, librarians, etc.)

Describe your typical **homework** assignments. What were some **memorable school projects**? What did you learn from them?

Did you or others ever get in **trouble at school**? What did you do? What were the consequences?

What **smells and sounds** remind you of school?



*Bus stop for Concord School, 1970s*



## Home and Family

Where did you live in Edina? Please provide street addresses and years you lived there.

Who was in your family? How was your family like other families? How was it different?

Describe your **home and neighborhood**. Do you know why your parents chose to live/stay in Edina?

Tell us about your parents and where they worked. How did they get to **work**? Did you go to **day care** or have babysitters?

*Photo at left: Julie Haben and her mother lived in one of the first houses on Thielen Avenue.*

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Describe **housework and chores** around the home. Did you help? What were your responsibilities?

Did you have **pets**? Or farm animals? Did your family have a **garden**?

Describe a **typical evening meal**. Describe a **favorite meal or food**. Did you get **treats**? What were some favorites?

Describe a **typical day**.

What rules and expectations did your parents have? **What happened if you misbehaved**? Describe a time that you got in trouble.

## Birthdays, Holidays, Seasons

How did you celebrate the big holidays? Were there any **community-wide celebrations**?

What was the most **highly anticipated holidays** or special days? Why?

Did you visit with Santa in Edina?

How did you celebrate your **birthday**? Did you have any memorable parties? Where there any area businesses where kids liked to go for birthday parties?

How did you spend your **summers**? Did you learn to swim? Where did you go swimming? Did you go on vacations?

Did you welcome **cold and snow**? Did you spend time outside in the winter?



*Larry Nickander's birthday party, Morningside, 1940s*

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*Morningside Troop 4 Scouts dressed up for Halloween. Photo courtesy Bill Larson.*

*Queen Anne Kiddieland, with its miniature train driven by TV host “Casey Jones” was a popular birthday party spot in the 1950s. Photo courtesy Boyd and Gwen Thomas.*



# GROWING UP IN EDINA



*Martha Johnson, right, posed with her surgeon father, who served in World War II.*

## Historical Events

Were you aware of **current events and issues**? (Depression, World War II, protests, women's lib, civil rights, etc.) How did national events affect your life?

Were you aware of any Edina news-making events and issues during your childhood? (new freeways, Southdale opening, new school construction, etc.) Describe them and any impact they had on you.

## Edina Life

What **Edina businesses** were important to children? If you had spending money, where did you go and what did you buy? Describe the owners or people you met, and the businesses themselves.

Did you run **errands** for your mother or father? Where did you go?

Were you allowed to roam the neighborhood or anywhere you wanted or did you have limits? **Where did you go on your own?**

Did your family go out to **restaurants**? How often? Where did you go? What did you order?

Where did you go in Edina to have **fun**? (Swimming, skating, library, bowling, movies, etc.) What were some of your favorite recreational activities?

Did you participate in **park and playground activities**? **Sports? Lessons?**



*Clancy Drug, with its Toyland and lunch counter, was a mecca for youngsters.*

## Friends and Neighbors

Who did you play with? Did you have **friends** in the **neighborhood**? Did you have friends outside your neighborhood? How did you get to their house to play? Did you play with both boys and girls?

**What did you play?** What were some favorite **games**? Did you play make-believe or dress up?

What were some favorite **toys**? Were there some toys you really wanted but didn't own?

Describe **your bike**, if you had one. Where did you ride?

Describe your **neighbors**. Were there any neighborhood parties or get togethers?

## Health

Were there any **community health concerns** (polio, quarantines, tuberculosis, scoliosis, etc) when you were a child? How did it affect you and others you knew?

What were your **childhood illnesses**? What did your parents do when you were sick?

Who was your **doctor and dentist**? How often did you go? Did you ever go to the hospital? Were you born at the hospital, at home or somewhere else?

## And finally...

How did your childhood affect your choice of career? How did Edina childhood affect your grown up life? What was the best thing about growing up in Edina?



*If life gives you BIG snow..... build a BIG snowman! Morningside youngsters (left to right) Bob Bayers, Ginny Herzog, Sue Sempel, Jim Bayers, LeRoy (Butch) Bayers with their Paul Bunyan snow man.*