Since 1983 the Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum has been providing support for independent scholars through collaboration, editing, advice on publishing, fiscal agency for grants, special interest groups, opportunities for public presentation, and other means. Membership is open to anyone who supports our goals. Our members include people who are doing serious research leading to publication to those who just are interested in active intellectual participation.

See Mission Statement on page 2
Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum
Mission Statement

The Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum (MISF) exists to foster scholars, whatever their formal credentials or academic involvement. MISF strives to be encouraging and critical, always aware of what distinguishes good scholarship. We encourage all projects of disciplined intellectual inquiry.

Our membership is open to anyone who supports these goals.

To achieve its mission, MISF provides scholars with 1) opportunities to collaborate with other scholars of similar interests; 2) regular opportunities to exchange ideas on designated topics in small groups; 3) opportunities to present, to the critical eye of other scholars and to the public, the fruits of study, both in oral and written form; 4) fiscal agency for scholarly grant submissions.

In an age of ever more sophisticated means of communication, MISF promotes face-to-face interaction among scholars as an irreplaceable means to scholarly excellence.

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For more information, the inspiration and history of the Minnesota Independent Scholar Forum, you may want to consult Scholars Without Wall: A History of the Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum 1983-2018.

Carefully selected from a wealth of source material, Scholars Without Walls is a thought-provoking account of the evolution of an intrepid group of PhDs “fighting for a place at the institutional table” in the early years to today’s self-defined, inclusive group of scholars, artists, and writers with its own ethos, expectations, and pleasures.

~Laura Weber, Editor, Minnesota History,
The Quarterly of the Minnesota Historical Society
The fascinating thing about language is the potential for people to communicate with each other with ease, express thoughts quickly or slowly, in passing or in precise and specific terms, according to our intent and purpose. And even if thoughts come to us in images first, they can be transcribed into words that can be recorded, written down and referred to at a later time. In the act of writing, thoughts can expand in unexpected ways to previously unimagined places. Ask any serious writer. And it can be done in languages the world over. Novelist Virginia Woolf, in the Waves, states: “When I cannot see words curling like rings of smoke around me, I am in darkness – I am nothing.” Clearly, besides the obvious essence of communication, language can give our existence meaning, purpose, direction, creativity, exploration, connection, and more.

The basic definition of language as a system of sounds, symbols, and gestures does not nearly convey the magnitude of its impact that reveals who we are collectively and individually. Furthermore, the language we speak is literally the universe in which we live. And, according to philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein: “The limits of my language means the limits of my world.” The more we add to our language capabilities, the more our horizon expands. In addition to our existing language, as the world increasingly connects, words and expressions of other languages borrowed by the English language also expand our ability to communicate, just as learning another language, in addition to our first language, will open even more new vistas and connections to other people, places, ideas, etc. For each language embodies culture and traditions, values and aesthetics, history and philosophy, knowledge, and discoveries, and so on, that are part of the given language identity.

Moreover, in our everyday speech, we may not think of the fact that language is a vehicle of time, traveling the eons, the centuries with the people that speak it. Of course, that is because life changes with its periods of history, customs and living conditions, agricultural practices and technological progress, scientific discoveries and medical advances, and on and on, all represented in the use of language of that time period.

For example, if we imagine a time, people could not read or write, books were written by hand in monasteries. Then, in the late Middle Ages, along came a monk named Martin Luther, who took it upon himself to translate the Bible into the language of the people. The Bible was subsequently printed, thanks to the invention of movable type by Johannes Gutenberg at approximately that same time period. The implications were threefold. The translation of the Bible gave the German speaking population a common language to bring them together from the Babel of their dialects. The printing press made it possible for producing larger numbers of books well beyond Germany’s borders. And the interest in reading the Bible laid the groundwork for greater literacy among the masses in the western world and beyond in times to come.

Historically speaking, influences and major components of the English language came, basically, from Anglo-Saxon (German) and French, yet its grammatical structure was derived from the German. That was only the beginning, because as time progressed and the world, most prominently the western world, shared their progress
into modern times and on. Languages keep borrowing, sharing, whatever you call it, useful new words by absorbing them into their given languages, including English. And, of course, each language contributes to its own new words.

As longtime teacher of English and German, along with the rest of the observant world, I am continually captivated by the changes in language. For instance, during the time of French prominence in history, German absorbed many French words that may or may not have existed alongside German words. But beginning with the second half of the 20th century, German has been borrowing an increasing number of words from English, with capitalization of nouns and addition of German grammatical endings to verbs so much so that the language, at times, has the sound of America’s recognized regional Milwaukee version of English which existed in the second half of the 20th century. And this to the amusement of the younger generation, offspring of these immigrants, who adhered to a standard version of English. Yet, in a turn-around, the popular inclusion of English words in the German language today gives it that contemporary, 21st century characteristic.

English, in less distant and more current times, has absorbed many additional words from other languages as well, adding to its word stock. To give just some examples: From German, we added such words as angst, kindergarten, and gesundheit; from the French we have hors d’oeuvre, perfume, and soufflé; from Spanish we have Sierra Madre, from American Spanish we have taco and tortilla; from Native American we have moccasin, chipmunk, and squash. Sometimes words enter by passing through another language first, before reaching English, such as the word coffee which comes from the Turkish, or the word pizza which came from German to Italian and then to English.

In addition to borrowings from other languages, the English language adds many newly coined words to the dictionary each year. For example, in the year 2020, Merriam Webster added 520 words to the dictionary, many of which related to the pandemic, such as self-isolate, contactless, and intensivist. In 2021, 455 new words made it into the dictionary. Pandemic related, they included super-spreader; digital technology contributed zero-day and bit rod; and politics gave us vote-a-rama. As of September 2022, 370 new words have been added to the dictionary. They include Galentine’s Day, February 13, celebrating friendship; greenwashing, politically related; and shrinkflation, business related. (It is interesting to see the new words underlined in red by a computer spell-check that is behind in its listings and often is not helpful or accurate in its attempts at “direction” or “corrections.”

In the course of time, words, or particular meanings of words, can become archaic, obsolete, politically incorrect, or add or change meaning. For example, haply, meaning by accident, is archaic and no longer in use. The word brabble, to bicker loudly, is obsolete. These are words we are more likely to encounter in our readings of time-honored books. When it comes to changing or adding meaning, the word gay once simply meant cheerfulness. Today it frequently refers to sexual orientation in added meaning. The word usage used to refer to the use of the English language. Now it is used increasingly with usage of water, electricity, etc. As far as politically correct is concerned, many changes have entered the English language. The Civil Rights Movement of the second half of the twentieth century created new awareness and consequently a new drive in creating new words, expressions, and language in regard to racial, ethnic, and religious terms. That is where it can become tricky or even problematic when we are not aware of or do not keep up with language changes. Not only won’t we be able to navigate the modern social and technological systems smoothly, but we may offend, and as writers, our word choice may be offensive at
times and run into resistance when trying to publish our work. Often these situations may arise out of generational differences which can easily carry on into the next generation with frequent exposure to such speech.

Many of these changes are sometimes difficult to instill, both to younger or older generations in the classroom. Often the rationale is “My dad always says that,” a younger student might say. Or “This sounds strange,” an adult might comment. But those who are in tune with the ongoing changes, now go from old to senior, waitress to server, poetess to poet, to mention a few. Since English does not have consistent feminine versions of nouns, it is now preferred to drop all feminine forms of nouns in the interest of gender equality.

Most significantly, ethnic and racial terms have undergone various changes over the last several decades in an effort for individual groups to rename themselves according to their own established identities rather than to be labeled by another cultural or political group. Also, ethnic jokes once so popular, have mostly disappeared. In the words of T.S. Eliot, “For last year’s words belong to last year’s language. And next year’s words await another voice.”

Thus, these language changes carry us forward in most profound and dynamic ways in the present reality and into future attitudes. They present the progress in understanding not only each other in the daily circle but also in how we relate to each other socially, culturally, ethnically, and racially. There is an old saying that goes: “Sticks and stones will break my bones, but words…” yes words, the wrong words can leave marks, even scars. And as daily activities and social media prove daily what and how we say something, aurally as well as written, does carry weight. George Orwell in 1984 warned us “But if thought corrupts language, language can also corrupt thought.”

Obviously, language matters in many ways from the past to the contemporary, from word choices that are abstract or concrete, words that denote or connote to a whole host of contemporary expressions and usages which also include politically correct usage. Its accuracy, descriptiveness, creativeness, authenticity, among its possibilities imbue it with the dynamic nature that reaches into every area of our lives.

~Evelyn D. Klein is editor of “The Minnesota Scholar.” She has a B.S. in Secondary Education and a Master of Science degree in the Teaching of English. She has published four books of poetry and essays and has just completed her linguistics manuscript entitled “Power Behind Your Writing: Essentials of the English Language” which she plans to publish in 2023.

Another Perspective

From Walden
by Henry David Thoreau

My residence was more favorable, not only to thought, but to serious reading, than a university; and I was beyond the range of the ordinary library, I had more than ever come within the influence of those books which circulate round the world, whose sentences were first written on bark, and are now merely copied from time to time on to linen paper…. I kept Homer’s Iliad on my table through the summer, though I looked at his page only now and then. Incessant labor with my hands, at first, for I had my house to finish and my beans to hoe at the same time, made more study possible. Yet I sustained myself by the prospect of such reading in the future. I read only one or two shallow books of travel in the intervals of my work, till the employment made me ashamed of myself, and I asked where it was then that I lived.
I was listening to a show on KFAI, a Minneapolis community radio station, on November 13, 2017. The program, “Truth to Tell,” was hosted by Tom O’Connell of Metro State University in St. Paul. He was interviewing Anthony and Joseph Amato about an upcoming book event that would launch Anthony’s new book, *Conservation on the Northern Plains*, at a monthly meeting of the Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum.

Independent Scholars? What could that mean?

“Go to this meeting,” I told myself. It will be close by, at the North Regional Library on Lowry Avenue. Had it been farther off at the group’s usual meeting location, the Washburn Library in south Minneapolis, I likely wouldn’t have gone. Lucky for me, I did go, for that book event opened a door for me.

The presentation was entirely enjoyable, and I got a copy of Tony’s book. I also came away with a plan to do an oral history project that I had been thinking about for several years. With MISF president Steve Miller’s encouragement, the project seemed to be within my reach.

From 1967 through 1971, I had been involved in the growing national resistance to our government’s increasingly ruthless and cynical persecution of the small and poor country of Vietnam, then only recently freed from French colonial rule. A part of this resistance — The Movement, as we called it — would be the subject of my project. The part I was concerned with was the resistance to military conscription — the draft — that made continuation and intensification of our warfare possible.

In 1970 I took part in an attempt to take and destroy Selective Service induction order files kept in a rural Minnesota draft board office. Many others did the same thing about that time. Some failed, but most didn’t. These draft board raiders — the ones from Minnesota — would be the subjects of my oral history project’s interviews.

With MISF’s invaluable aid, I was able to complete that project in late 2019, an effort I’ve written about in the June 2020. Issue of The Minnesota Scholar. I was to have presented that project, which I titled “We Won’t Go, and We Don’t Want You to Go, Either,” at the April 2020 MISF monthly meeting at Washburn Library. COVID’s heavy hand cancelled that plan, and it would be two-and-a-half more years before I’d have another chance to talk to our membership in October 2022.

The “We Won’t Go…” project was tougher than I thought it would be, but it was also an eye and heart opener. I already knew each of the people I interviewed but knew each of them much better afterward. That new knowledge brought me a new idea for another local history project.

For several years, from about 1966 through 1974, there was an organization in Minneapolis, the Twin Cities Draft Information Center (TCDIC). It provided counseling for thousands of draft-age young men from Minnesota, and around the region, about their rights and choices as they navigated the complexities of the Selective Service System (SSS) during the period of America’s war against Vietnam. We all knew then — or soon learned —
that the local SSS offices to which we had to report were not reliable or honest sources of information about how we could or should conduct ourselves upon our required registration for the draft at age eighteen. TCDIC, and some similar counseling groups in other parts of the country, provided accurate information about conscientious objection, student and other deferments, and the arcane SSS rules and procedures. Those procedures were often inconsistently followed from one local draft board to another, adding to confusion for the newly registered.

TCDIC was a local institution that provided an information lifeline to many. It was also an organizational hub for those committed to draft resistance of one sort or another. It was supported by individual donations and volunteer help, including the expert counsellors who advised the young and fearful how best to help themselves as they tried to live through their dealings with Selective Service. TCDIC faded away as a full-time service organization, not long after the Vietnam War (in Vietnam it’s called “The American War”) finally ground to a halt after the Paris peace accords of 1973. Its aid to those it counseled was often lifesaving. TCDIC, though now long gone and largely forgotten, came to life because young Americans desperately needed reliable information and advice available to them nowhere else, when their young lives hung in the balance.

That’s a story I would like to research, and then write.

~Peter Simmons, during 2018 and 2019 conducted interviews with eight Minnesotans involved in the resistance to the United States’ war against Vietnam in which he took part. Simmons has a B.A. in American History and a B.S. in Agricultural Business Administration. He is now retired from Health Partners and Hennepin County Medical Center.

From the Editor

Change Is Coming

For the past seven years, it has been my privilege and pleasure to edit The Minnesota Scholar. You might say, this was my passion as a writer, editor, and author, something I always wanted to do.

Now the time has come to pass on this important position and for a number of reasons. This year, I celebrated publication of my latest book, Fear and Promise, Remembering the Year 2020, a chronicle of that year’s events. The publication activities proved to be quite time-consuming. Next year, I anticipate publishing my linguistics manuscript, “Power Behind Your Writing, Essentials of the English Language,” which promises to require even more time.

Add to this the unfortunate fall I had in November, where I broke a finger and fractured part of my right hand, and the challenge ahead is obvious. As I recovered from surgery, I also became very ill which delayed completion of the December TMS even more. A second surgery should put me back on track but with a lot of physical therapy ahead.

All considered, it is best to turn over editorship of The Minnesota Scholar to another interested individual at this time. This will be a good opportunity for someone among our many talented scholars. Of course, I will still be around and can still be available to contribute articles when needed in the future.

In Appreciation,

Evelyn D. Klein, Editor
The Minnesota Scholar
MISF Annual Meeting

The MISF Annual Meeting was held at the Ridgedale Library in the Robert Rohlf Room. Masks were recommended but not required. This was the first in-person meeting since Covid. About nineteen people were in attendance.

After a brief description of MISF activities by President Steven Miller. This was followed by elections:

- Steven Miller was re-elected president;
- Barb Sommer was re-elected to the board;
- Curt Hillstrom was newly elected to the board;
- Peter Simmons was newly elected to the board.

The program with Don Patton followed.

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Minnesota in World War II

Presented by Don Patton

Don Patton began his presentation by noting that he has an MBA in business from the University of Minnesota and is not actually a historian. Yet Colonel Don Patton is Executive Director of the Harold Deutsch World War II Roundtable which hosts presentations by leading writers about World War II at the Minnesota Historical Society. He began his talk by pointing out that Minnesota was important in relationship to World War II with its various involvements in the war effort.

Interestingly, he pointed out, when we look at the larger picture of the past, we note that some challenging events apart from the war took place. For example, Werner von Braun came from Germany to the U.S. after the German defeat to start the American space program. In World War II, it was the Germans that liberated Ukraine from the oppressions of Russia. Japan was starving people in China in 1937. And in the Spanish American War, we got Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.

Minnesota played a big role in World War II. For example, the American destroyer, the U.S.S. Arizona was patrolling Pearl Harbor, commanded by a Minnesotan, when it was sunk. Captain Richard Fleming, born in St. Paul and having attended St. Thomas Military Academy, received the Medal of Honor for the Battle of Midway.

As the British had established commandoes, the American General William Darby trained Minnesotans to serve as the first Rangers. His battalions expanded into the Philippines and combined with other American and Canadian forces.

Besides military service men, various businesses and organizations contributed to the war effort. To begin with, civilian railroads were champions of military battalions. Corporate contributions came from Northwest Aeronautic that produced gliders, with Ford Motors the largest producers of gliders in World War II.

A Japanese language school was established in Minnesota to help with language in the war effort. It was then moved to California at
Harold Stassen’s request but brought back in 1945, after the war.

Companies helping out in the war effort included, Northern Orbits, Munsingwear, Snead, Hudson Sprayer, the iron industry, Cornell, the Mayo Clinic, and Engineering Research Associates.

Furthermore, Minnesota housed prisoners of war, who were made to work in the fields.

Don Patton’s Roundtable at the Minnesota Historical Society has an active outreach program. It meets the second Tuesday, September to May. He suggested to attendees to visit military cemeteries to commemorate World War II soldiers. Colonel Patton is an army veteran who served thirty years, including 13 years in command positions with two battalion commands. He was recognized in 2016 as one of the 25 outstanding Minnesota veterans by the Minnesota Humanities Center for Leadership and Community contributions.

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August 27, 2022

MISF Annual Picnic

The annual picnic was held at Cherokee Park in Saint Paul again this year. A group of about ten Scholars gathered at the small shelter in this beautiful setting, despite the drizzly weather.

It was great to be able to greet and visit with other Scholars in-person once again.

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September 24, 2022

The Role of Fresh Energy
Presented by J. Drake Hamilton

J. Drake Hamilton delivered an inspiring talk to address climate change. She began by saying that “Never has it been more possible to address climate change.”

Fresh Energy has been around for 30 years. Its staff has been increasing during that time to get things done. It started in Minnesota and increasingly caught on in Washington, D.C. Everyone is intended to benefit. A recent law on the subject will reduce greenhouse emissions by one billion tons a year. President Biden’s big changes make it possible for international leadership to take action on climate change. On Earth Day 2021 in Glasgow, the United Nations Summit, President Biden announced the U.S. will reduce emissions by half by the year 2030.

Federal Action includes the AIM Act, 2020 bipartisan legislation, which reduces HFCs in the U.S. HFCs are used in refrigeration and are to be phased out 85% by 2035. It was signed into law and signed by then President Trump. Interestingly, substitutes for HF's exist and are
cheaper. This week the senate agreed to ratify the Kigali Amendment. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also called the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law was signed into law by President Biden.

Congressional Action involves the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment Act which was signed into law. Minnesota will get eight billion dollars to rebuild the infrastructure.

Federal Action includes Congress passing climate and clean energy legislation and Infrastructure Investment.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) stipulates that carbon emission of 40%, below 2005 levels, are called for by 2030. Many tax credits are available in this respect. Credits and rebates are available for solar panels, for instance.

Many people were involved in the Inflation Reduction Act. They were involved in negotiations and compromises. Some were involved in secret meetings to get things accomplished, including Chuck Schumer, Joe Mansion, Tina Smith, Amy Klobuchar. The IRA was signed into law August 16, 2022.

In this respect, the High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program offers savings on such items as heat pumps, pump water heater, pump clothes dryer, electric induction stoves, and so on. Further, tax credits are offered on residential energy efficiency, clean vehicle credit and new previously owned clean vehicle credit. It is planned to have 50% reduction of emissions at the end of this decade.

J. Drake Hamilton pointed out that it matters what happens in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, for instance. Therefore, by 2035 it is expected that there will be 0% electricity derived from coal burning. Global emitters from the most to the least are: China, U.S., India, Russia, Japan, Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, South Korea, Saudi-Arabia. In the U.S., the Midwest has the least emissions of all the states.

This year, the U.S. will carry its renewed leadership to the Fresh Energy Summit in Egypt. John Kerry serves as Special Presidential Envoy for Climate in the U.S. Department of State. J. Drake Hamilton will again lead a panel of five Minnesotans in November of 2022.

J. Drake Hamilton earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees in physical geography from Dartmouth College and the University of Minnesota, with emphasis on climatology and water resources. Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine named her “one of Minnesota’s 100 influential people who make things happen.”

About 19 people attended the in-person meeting.

October 2, 2022

Minnesota and the Ultra-Resistance
Presented by Peter Simmons

Peter Simmons gave a report on his oral history project about the history about draft board raids during the Vietnam War era. He was interested in having people tell their stories, not as a quasi-academic but from the point of view of their experience. Many of the people who were part of the resistance movement are still alive today, and he wanted to add their experience to his own. He thanked MISF for the support he received in this effort. His report is part of his agreement. He has fifteen hours of interviews recorded and about
520 pages of information, some of which can now be found at the University of Minnesota.

Simmons indicated not much was publicly known about the resistance movement, because these happenings were excluded from media reports. However, many Minnesotans raided draft boards, because no one else wanted to do it.

The speaker wanted to relate what happened 55 years ago and how it came about. People began to refuse to participate in the Vietnam War. Young men turned to resistance, because they refused to be inducted into the Service. Many burned their draft cards. Between 1966 and 1971 attacks were launched against draft boards by those who refused to comply with the call. Registrants’ records were destroyed, thus erasing men from the system. Christian Witness took part in the sabotage. The Catholics burned the records, stood in prayer, and waited to be arrested. These first people were Catholic workers who operated much like the Civil Rights Movement.

In 1968, a group of clergy and laymen broke into the Selective Service office in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee Fourteen were arrested. But after that the movement took off.

By 1971 raids decreased and so were the length of convictions, until eventually the last raiders were acquitted. Some say that was so because the Vietnam War was not a declared war. Those convicted were not allowed to vote. Most of those convicted were in prison for 20 months which would have been the same length of conscription. Sentences went down until eventually they did not have trials.

Many of the attendees had been part of the resistance movement, as a show of hands asked for by the speaker revealed. The speaker encouraged participants to contribute their own experiences with and reactions to the resistance movement, because he felt that they were part of the story. Four of the Minnesota Eight were present as was one of the Milwaukee Fourteen. A lively discussion with the audience ensued. There were about 35 people present.

November 19, 2022

The Civilian Conservation Corps
Presented by Barbara W. Sommer

Barbara Sommer presented this highly anticipated program at the Washburn Library in Minneapolis. She explained that the Great Depression New Deal-Era program, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), has been recognized as the largest conservation program in U.S. history. Its Minnesota story is a fascinating one, involving young men from the state and from nearby states, young Black Minnesota citizens, and enrolled men from Minnesota’s Indian Reservations.

Sommer reviewed the impact of the CCC on the people who were part of it, the work they did in Minnesota’s state and national forests, its state parks, on soil conservation in various locations, and its ongoing impact on the state today.

With over thirty-five years of experience as an oral historian, Barbara Sommer is uniquely qualified to report on this program. She has directed major oral community history projects and has taught oral history. She is the author and co-author of several key publications in the field and of the award-winning book Hard Work and a Good Deal: The Civilian Corps in Minnesota (2008). She holds degrees from Carlton College and the University of Minnesota.
Study and Discussion Groups

Groups meet once a month over Zoom until otherwise determined. Books and topics are chosen by participating, attending members. See meetup.com

**History Group** meets first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Facilitated by Curt Hillstrom.

**Philosophy Group** meets second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Facilitated by Curt Hillstrom.

**Futures Group** does not currently meet until further notice.

Everything that is really great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labor in freedom.

Albert Einstein

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The Minnesota Scholar

A subscription to TMS is a benefit of membership in MISF. Subscriptions can be obtained for a $15 annual fee. Single issues are $7.50. Send subscriptions and address changes to MISF at the return address below.

The Minnesota Scholar welcomes submissions. We are especially interested in topical issues, current events, and memoir in the form of essays, articles, and book reviews. Articles should be no longer than between 1,500 and 1,800 words. Use as little formatting as possible. Please submit your work electronically and in a word document attachment with an explanation in the body of the e-mail. All submissions will be acknowledged. The editor reserves the right to decline to publish an article deemed unsuitable. No second party submissions. For guidelines and queries contact the editor.

The editor has the right to edit manuscripts. TMS assumes no responsibility for contributor errors. Opinions expressed by the contributor may not reflect the opinions of the editor or MISF. Copyright reverts to the individual author after publication.

Submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, May 5 or as to be determined.

Editor: Evelyn D. Klein
Editorial Board: Lucy Brusic, Evelyn D. Klein
Contributors this issue:
  Evelyn D. Klein
  Peter Simmons
Drawings by Evelyn D. Klein

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Upcoming Programs and Meetings

This year The Minnesota Independent Scholar Forum will go back to hold its meetings at the Washburn Library, 5244 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419, unless otherwise noted in notices or on the website.

Regular meetings are held the fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (except in November when it will be the third Saturday of the month because of Thanksgiving). July, August, and December no regular meetings are scheduled, but look for a picnic in the summer.

January 28, 2023
Presenter: Tom Abeles

February 25, 2023
Traveling Without Aggravation – Green Book and Black Travelers in Minnesota
Presenter: Nieeta Presley

March 25, 2023
Restorative Justice
Presenter: Jean Greenwood

April 22, 2023
A Natural Curiosity: A History of the Bell Museum
Presenter: Don Luce

May 27, 2023
Ginny Hanson Poetry Day
Fear and Promise, Remembering the Year 2020
Presenter: Evelyn D. Klein

June 24, 2023
Annual Meeting
Modern Medical Developments
Presenter: David Juncker