



HERITAGE GROUP NORTH

HGN is an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to preserving community history and identity through various projects, programs, and displays. Among HGN's most visible works are the restored railroad depot, the caboose, the historic fire-engine display, and HGN's walking tours. If you enjoy history and are supportive of community development, please consider donating or joining HGN. The modest dues are \$10 a year for general membership. HGN also seeks volunteers.

JULY 2018

In This Issue

- LOCAL SPOTLIGHT
THE SPURRIER HOTEL

CURRENT BOARD

President: Dennis Houg

Vice President: Bev Kramp

Secretary/Treasurer: Agnes Farnam

Alan Johnson

Alison Stephens

Jerry Peterson

Pat Johnson

Lynda Weiss

Joan Helms

Kasey Helms

Annette Houg

Betty McAllister

Henry Kramp

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT – SPURRIER HOTEL

(Later known as the Lake Region Hotel)

- submitted by Annette Houg



Call for your tickets now! This is shaping up to be an awesome event, with speakers who have ties to the hotel and/or are current community leaders. A few fun surprises planned too!

NEWSLETTER

Annette Houg
Editor

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/heritagegroupnorth>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.HERITAGEGROUP
NORTH.ORG](http://WWW.HERITAGEGROUPNORTH.ORG)

Contact Us

Dennis Houg 320-492-
1357

Heritage Group North
P.O. Box 266
Pine River, MN 56474

HGN Annual
Membership:
\$10 for individual
\$20 for family

Mail to:
Heritage Group North
PO Box 266
Pine River, MN 56474

FROM THE CASS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1918-1928? W.A. Spurrier, Jr. built the Spurrier Hotel which opened on 4-27-1918

1928? G.A. Thiel purchased the Spurrier Hotel. T.E. McAllister was the operator with a five year lease.

March 1930 fire started in the basement and followed a clothes chute to the attic. Roof badly damaged. Smoke and water damage on upper floors.

August 29, 1930 In conflicting statements from a newspaper article reported a dispute between Mr. McAllister and Mr. Thiel. McAllister and Thiel had differences for several months because operator, McAllister said the owner Thiel would not make necessary repairs. Thiel contended he had done more than required under the lease terms.

McAllister refused to continue as operator under the present owner.

Mr. Thiel issued an eviction notice to McAllister.

November 1930. G.A. Thiel owner of the Spurrier Hotel hires Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Raskop to manager the hotel. The Raskops, summer residents on Big Trout Lake, thoroughly clean the hotel, paint the lobby and kitchen and purchase new furniture.

The Raskops open the hotel and serve a chicken dinner. The Pine River Sentinel Blaze article on November 7, 1930 stated: "While the men folks attend to the after dinner business in their own places the ladies will visit. Then all will join together and a real evening of sociability enjoyed. Whist and 500 are planned, with a reward for the lucky and unlucky players."

1939-1944 John Pattinson 11-13-1908/1-30-1956 owned the Lake Region Hotel (formerly known as the Spurrier Hotel). He had five children: Robert, James, Thomas, Virginia and Nancy (Mrs. Fred Pertier). He was born in Rochester, MN and died in Little Falls, MN at the age of 47.

1944-1964 Gert and Charlie Hughes own the Lake Region Hotel. Maudi Gardiner worked there from 1945-1946.

In 1957 they hire a new resident manager for the hotel, Mr. Albert Luke from Sauk Centre.

FOUNDING BOARD

Douglas A Birk,
Historian; Alan
Johnson, *President*;
Alison Stephens,
Vice President; Pat
Johnson, *Secretary*
Treasurer; Amanda E.
Amy,
Greg Tollefsrud, John
Wetrosky

[Watch future newsletters for more articles on local residents, depot history and memorabilia, photos and history of donated articles and much more!](#)

STORIES GALORE!!!

As we prepare for the upcoming dinner, many people are sharing their own stories of remembrances and family connections to the hotel. If you have something to share, please join us on 26th, or email heritagegroupnorth@yahoo.com

We are also thankful for all the positive feedback and donated or loaned "hotel" items that will be on display on July 26th and then at the depot.



Sadly the hotel was torn down in 1964 to make way for a four lane highway. We are searching for the cornerstone and hoping that someone may have saved it!

NEXT ISSUE – PINE RIVER CREAMERY

- **Send in your stories now!**



FUTURE GOALS AND NEEDS

The mission of Heritage Group North is to preserve and share Pine River area history. To accomplish this, we are asking for your help. We welcome donations of items from individuals that represent the area history. This could be an old postcard, menu or other items from local businesses. It could be a snapshot of a town event. It could be an old tool used by a blacksmith or many other things you may happen to have and would like the history to be preserved. Please contact us!