Niemann Exhibit Opens at BCHS

The exhibit “Flying For Freedom: Robert F. Niemann MIA” opened at the BCHS on May 12 with members of the Niemann family in attendance. After a military memorial service at the City Cemetery and a family lunch at the annex, the Niemann family walked through an honor guard at the front door of the museum provided by local veterans. Ann Bakken, daughter of Robert Niemann, opened the exhibit by removing a drape from the entry exhibit panel. The exhibit follows stages of Niemann’s life, including his childhood in New Ulm, his high school days at NUHS and his studies at West Point. Another section covers his family life and his career in the military. It closes with his service in Korea, his final flight and MIA (missing in action) status. The Niemann family graciously visited with guests and answered questions about the exhibit.

At 2 pm, guests were invited to the annex for a speech by Ann Bakken. She carefully detailed how for years her family has been trying to find answers to Niemann’s fate after he was shot down over North Korea in 1953. Ann travelled to North Korea with a Defense Department Delegation in 1998 and visited an MIA recovery site. She has gathered information from archives in China and Russia. Perhaps one of the most unsettling documents uncovered was a list of the co

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BCHS Receives Awards

The Brown County Historical Society received two awards this year for the exhibit “Loyalty and Dissent – Brown County and WWI.” The exhibit, which is located on the second floor of the museum opened in May of 2017. The exhibit continues to attract the attention of tourists and educational groups.

The first award was presented in March by the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums. MALM is a statewide organization that seeks to nurture and encourage an appreciation of Minnesota’s local history by providing a structure to foster professionalism and excellent work among local and specialized historical organizations in Minnesota. MALM created the Minnesota History awards in 2009 to honor the excellent work performed in Minnesota’s public history community. President Lisa Besemer accepted the award in April at the MALM Conference in Marshall MN.

In June the BCHS received the Leadership in History award from the American Association of State and Local History for its exhibit “Loyalty and Dissent – Brown County and WWI.” This award will be presented at a special banquet on September 28 in Kansas City MO. The AASLH Leadership in History Award is the nation’s most prestigious competition for recognition of achievement in state and local history. The BCHS was congratulated for the hard work that brought this honor to the society and museum.

2018 BCHS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please support the BCHS and enjoy the benefits of membership!

I/We are:   New Member(s)   Renewal   Joint Membership

Membership:   Individual $30   Joint $50   Century $100   Golden $250   Business $250   Please accept my/our additional tax-deductible 501(c) (3) gift of $______________

Name(s): ___________________________________________ Telephone: ____________________________

Address: _________________________________________City: ____________________ St: _____ Zip: ________

If Joint Membership, include names of both members.

Email: _____________________________________________ *Please include your email address as we are increasing digital communication to better serve you. We do not sell or distribute our lists. Thank you!

Membership Benefits:   Free admission to the museum   Mileposts – BCHS Newsletter   Advance notice of special events   15% discount on most items in Museum Gift Shop   Access to Genealogical and Archival Records

 I/We am/are interested in volunteering for the BCHS. Interest area(s): ____________________________________________

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