



# THE POND DAKOTA QUARTERLY



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## **River Rendezvous**

Saturday & Sunday, September 25 & 26, 10 am - 5 pm

One of the finest living-history events in the Midwest returns to Pond Dakota Mission Park in Bloomington! Experience the lifestyles of people living in Minnesota between 1800 and 1870 through story-telling and interactive, hands-on demonstrations. Tours of the restored 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House will be given throughout the day.

Admission for Adults: \$10, children ages 4-17: \$5, under age 3: free.

Pond Dakota Mission Park is located at 401 East 104th Street. A food vendor will be on site and there is plenty of free parking.

For more info visit [www.BloomingtonMN.gov](http://www.BloomingtonMN.gov) or call Mark Morrison at 952-563-8693.



## **We're Switching to Saturdays!**

Starting in July most programs at the historic Pond House will be held on Saturday instead of Sunday. We hope this new schedule will be convenient for you and your family. See you on Saturday!

## Events at Pond Dakota Mission Park

The Pond House is open year round on Saturdays from 1 – 4 pm. Admission to programs and tours is free. Donations are welcome.

### JULY

#### Frontier Game Day

**Saturday, July 3, 1-4 pm**

Try your hand at outdoor games such as Walking on Stilts, Graces, Stick-and-Hoop, and Marbles. Experience frontier fun, and challenge your family to a friendly competition. Bragging rights will be awarded!

#### Whimmy Diddles

**Saturday, July 10, 1-4 pm**

This mysterious mechanical toy originated in southern Appalachia, then made its way west. It goes by many different names including Gee Haw Stick, Hooey Stick, and Whammy Diddle. Make one to take home using basic hand tools and see if your friends can guess how it works. Adult supervision needed for children.

#### Historic House Tours

**Saturday, July 17, 1-4 pm**

Take a tour of the historic Pond House and see how their home was furnished in 1878. Hear stories of the courageous Pond family and their mission work with the Dakota people.

#### Start Horsing Around!

**Saturday, July 24, 1-4 pm**

Try your hand at throwing horseshoes – maybe you'll get a ringer! Learn the rules and strategies of this ever popular, centuries-old game. Horseshoes will be provided.

#### Bread & Butter

**Saturday, July 31, 1-4 pm**

Watch cream transform into butter – we'll provide the jar and cream, you provide the elbow grease! Then fashion your own Bread on a Stick and roast it over a campfire. Enjoy this mouth-watering treat with your handmade butter and take home a recipe for your next camping trip!

### AUGUST

#### Log Cabin Building

**Saturday, August 7, 1-4 pm**

Bring your muscles to the historic Pond House and build a 4' log cabin! You'll assemble the pre-cut, notched timbers to create a mini frontier home. Can you figure out where each log goes? Learn about the compound angled dovetail joinery that was used to lock the log corners together.

#### Frontier Laundry Day

**Saturday, August 14, 1-4 pm**

Compete to scrub, rinse, wring, and hang out your laundry faster than your opponents. Frontier chores were never this fun. Discover why families were so pleased when washing machines were invented!

#### Joseph Coursolle's 1855-56 Dakota Mixed-blood Claimant Affidavit

**Sunday, August 15, 2 pm**

Jane Hayden-Hart, an independent researcher, will share her findings about her Coursolle family history and the 1855-56 Sioux Affidavits. These were taken by commissioners from persons attempting to establish mixed blood status in order to receive benefits from the treaty signed at Prairie du Chien in 1830.

#### Mystery House Tours

**Saturday, August 21, 1-4 pm**

Examine the historic Pond House from the outside-in! What are the mysterious markings on the bricks, why is the window glass wavy, and why is there a door on every side of the house? Correctly answer these and other curious questions to win a detective gadget.

#### Prairies and Pollinators

**Saturday, August 28, 1-4 pm**

Prairies and pollinators have both played incredibly important roles in Minnesota for thousands of years. Join a naturalist from Nature Enthusiations to look for pollinators and other insects, learn a little about how Minnesota's prairies have changed over time, and make a project to help the pollinators in our area

## SEPTEMBER

### Writing With a Quill Pen

**Saturday, September 4, 1-4 pm**

Before starting a new school year, step back in time and imagine what it was like for children long ago. Try your hand at writing on parchment paper with a quill pen dipped in ink and take home your hand-written missive!

### Whirring Wonders

**Saturday, September 11, 1-4 pm**

Tops and whirlygigs have amused children and fascinated adults for centuries. Now you can try spinning a variety of these fascinating toys and decorate one of each to take home. We'll provide the materials and instructions – you supply the creativity. Challenge a friend to a game of dueling tops!

### Design a Doll Day

**Saturday, September 18, 1-4 pm**

Bring your imagination and create a family of dolls to take home! Join historic seamstress Pauline Bold, who will demonstrate how to make corn husk dolls, cloth dolls, and yarn dolls - popular toys for Native and frontier children. All materials will be provided.

### River Rendezvous

**Saturday & Sunday, September 25 & 26**

**10 am – 5 pm**

One of the finest living-history events in the Midwest returns to Pond Dakota Mission Park! Costumed re-enactors will demonstrate 19<sup>th</sup> century frontier life. Tours of the restored 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House will be given throughout the day. Admission for Adults: \$10, children ages 4 - 17: \$5, under age 3: free. A food vendor will be on site.

## ∞ In Montevideo, MN ∞

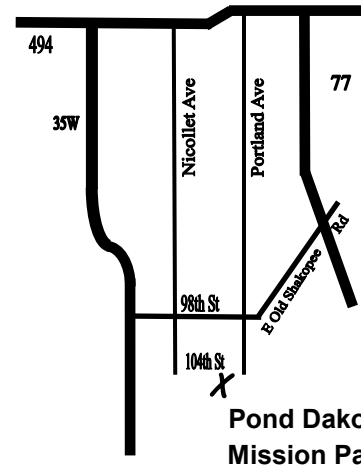
### Lac Qui Parle Mission Sunday

**Sunday, July 11**

This annual event is attended by descendants of early Christian Dakota, descendants of missionaries, and other interested people. Service at 10:30 a.m. led by Rev. Dr. Clifford Canku and a Dakota Choir. Potluck at noon, program at 1 pm: A Potpourri of Dakota Mission Topics with Jeff Williamson and David Craigmile. More info: lacquiparle@mnhs.org. or call 320-269-7636.

The Mission is located six miles north of Montevideo.

**Pond Dakota Mission Park**  
**401 East 104th Street**  
**Bloomington, MN 55420**



Interpretive signs describing the history of the Dakota in the Minnesota River Valley, and Gideon and Samuel Pond, missionaries who arrived in 1834, are located along the walking trails in the park. The 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The park is open daily until 10 pm.

For more information about Pond Dakota Mission Park or private tours of the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, contact Mark Morrison, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, 952-563-8693, or [mmorrison@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:mmorrison@BloomingtonMN.gov). More about the Pond House at [www.BloomingtonMN.gov](http://www.BloomingtonMN.gov). Follow us on facebook at [www.facebook.com/GideonAgnesPondHouse](http://www.facebook.com/GideonAgnesPondHouse)

**The Pond Dakota Heritage Society** hosts speakers at the Pond House. The Society's mission is to preserve the rich history of the Dakota and their relationship with early Minnesota settlers and Christian Missionaries, and to explore contrasting cultural and religious viewpoints. Lifetime Individual Membership is \$20. Join today! Go to [www.ponddakota.org](http://www.ponddakota.org). or learn more at [www.ponddakota.org](http://www.ponddakota.org). Email [ponddakota@gmail.com](mailto:ponddakota@gmail.com) or send mail to PDHS, P.O. Box 20511, Bloomington, MN 55420.



For more info or to register: [www.BloomingtonMN.gov](http://www.BloomingtonMN.gov), keywords Youth Summer Programs  
Scholarships available - contact Jay Ludwig: [jludwig@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:jludwig@BloomingtonMN.gov), 952-484-0477

**City of Bloomington  
Parks and Recreation  
1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd.  
Bloomington, MN 55431**

**Return Service Requested**