

Kasson Alliance Email News, Vol. 2, No. 9, 21 August 2008: Lion's Club Meeting, Historic Preservation

KARE Supporters,

The Kasson Alliance for REstoration (KARE) cordially invites you to attend an informational meeting on Monday **August 25, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at Digger's Bar & Grill** in Kasson to hear Bonnie McDonald, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance (PAM) of Minnesota. Bonnie will be the *guest speaker* at the Kasson **Lion's Club Dinner Meeting**.

Bonnie's will present information on historic preservation and its role in the fabric of a community. She will discuss Kasson's historic 1918 Kasson School and the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Program. This program is a community-driven, comprehensive methodology used to revitalize older, traditional business districts throughout the United States. The Main Street program can, for example, help to fill empty storefronts and promote heritage tourism. It is currently being utilized in Afton, MN.

If you wish to participate in the Pork Dinner meal, (which is (\$9.00 per person) please arrive **promptly** no later than 6:30 p.m. If you would like to hear Bonnie speak but do not want to participate in the dinner, please arrive at 7:00 p.m.

To reserve a spot, please call Diane O'Brien Berge at 507-365-8324, evenings; or Virginia Giese at 507-635-3250 as soon as possible.

Bonnie discovered her passion for community-building through historic preservation while a college junior. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History. Internships and employment opportunities with the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Minnesota Historical Society, and Preservation Action in Washington, DC, guided Bonnie toward a career in historic preservation advocacy. In 2000, Bonnie began her graduate studies at Cornell University and graduated with a Master of Arts degree in City and Regional Planning, focusing in historic preservation planning, in January, 2008. She became the Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota in November, 2005.

KARE is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places in Kasson that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from the cities' history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, **KARE** helps revitalize the community, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. The **Kasson Alliance** provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to

citizens and organizations committed to saving historic places, connecting them to Kasson's history and collectively shaping the future of the communities' stories.

Mission: KARE is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization formed in January 2007. KARE's mission is to preserve historic buildings, structures and properties to serve as landmarks of Kasson's' heritage, along with being a source of education in the importance of historic preservation.

Kasson Alliance for Restoration

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