

# COME CELEBRATE THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP

This year Franconia Township is celebrating 150 years of community in the heart of the St. Croix River Valley. Events commemorating this significant year in its history will take place throughout the Township and we invite you to join in the celebration. Be sure to save the dates for these upcoming events.



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

<b>Walking Tour of the Village of Franconia</b>	Saturday, June 21, 2008 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. Village of Franconia	Who really lived in the Village of Franconia at the time Minnesota became a state? Is it true there were hotels, a sawmill, post office, flour mill, saloon and school? What happened to this old logging village that once was home to 500 residents? John Jackson, local historian, will host a one-hour walking tour that will bring this old village to life once again. For reservations call (612) 810-8581, or email <a href="mailto:franconiatwpmn150years@yahoo.com">franconiatwpmn150years@yahoo.com</a> . The event fee will be collected during the tour. <i>Adults: \$5 Children: Free</i>
<b>The Bloom Family Settler Singers</b>	Sunday, June 29, 2008 2 p.m. Tomtegarden (Gustafson's Barn)	Enjoy an afternoon of music with Franconia's Bloom family as they sing Swedish and American folk songs and hymns. Directed by Dick and Alice Bloom. Dessert and beverages to be served. <i>Free event, donations welcome.</i> The Tomtegarden is located South of Hwy. 8 on Redwing Avenue in Shafer, MN.
<b>Through The Garden Gate: 2008 Franconia Garden Tour</b>	Sunday, July 27, 2008 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	Spend the day touring beautiful Franconia Township gardens. Tickets, maps and directions indicating garden stops will be available beginning at 10:00 a.m. the day of the garden tour at the following locations: Landscape Alternatives      Meehan Brother's Nursery      Panola Valley Gardens 25316 St. Croix Trail      18941 Lake Blvd.      26026 Olinda Trail Shafer, MN 55074      Shafer, MN 55074      Lindstrom, MN 55045 For further information and pre-sales call (651) 257-2958. <i>Adults: \$10 Children: Free</i>
<b>Franconia Heritage Day Community Picnic</b>	Saturday, August 2, 2008 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Osceola Landing	Pack your picnic basket and celebrate with friends and neighbors on the banks of the St. Croix River at the Osceola Landing. Enjoy music by the Shortbreads, watch a lapstrake canoe building demonstration by the Urban Boat Builders, and join in old-fashioned games and activities that date back to the days of the early settlers. The National Park Service will provide historical interpreters throughout the day and local organizations will be represented. <i>Free event.</i>
<b>2008 Franconia Arts and Music Festival</b>	Saturday, September 20, 2008 Noon -10 p.m. Franconia Sculpture Park	Daylong arts festival celebrating the artists and new sculpture installations. The festival includes live music, dance, puppetry and food. For directions or more information visit the Franconia Sculpture Park website: <a href="http://franconia.org">franconia.org</a> , or call (651) 257-6668. <i>Free event, donations welcome.</i>
<b>Old-Fashioned Pie Social and Brat Feed</b>	Sunday, October 12, 2008 11a.m.- 4 p.m. Pleasant Valley Orchard	Join us at Pleasant Valley Orchard for apple brats and homemade apple pie! Bring the whole family and enjoy the orchard at the peak of its apple harvest. You won't want to miss the spectacular views of the St. Croix Valley. Taste your favorite Minnesota-grown apples, visit the orchard boutique, go on a hayride, pet the farm animals . . . There's something for everyone! <i>Free event (food will be available for purchase).</i>

All events are open to the public and will be held rain or shine. Look for more information about the Franconia Sesquicentennial events in your local newspaper and posted on the Chisago County Historical Society website: [chisagocountyhistory.org](http://chisagocountyhistory.org). You can also reach us by email at: [franconiatwpmn150years@yahoo.com](mailto:franconiatwpmn150years@yahoo.com).

*Thanks to the Chisago County Historical Society and the Taylors Falls Historical Society for their support of the sesquicentennial celebration.*