

Our museum is committed to preserving the history of the Owatonna High School for future generations

Welcome to the Owatonna High School Museum. We are a non-profit educational organization founded in 1992 for collecting and preserving information and memorabilia relating to the history of OHS.

The collection began with a couple of chairs (by Darryl Hill, museum founder)

In the 1980s, the OHS auditorium was remodeled to meet safety standards. Two doors were being added and the aisles were being widened. The original seating was removed to accommodate the wider aisles.

At the time, I was the assistant principal at OHS and was a collector. I asked for a couple of the chairs for my office because I thought they were cool with the letters OHS on the end pieces. One of the seats were mounted on my office wall.

As people came into my office the chair created conversation and sharing of memories. Some alumni indicated they had memorabilia and asked if I would be interesting in having their items. Soon I had boxes full of OHS items. And that is how the OHS Museum began. With one man and a chair ... and several interested alumni.

Our collection includes items dating back to 1877. We have vintage clothing, scrapbooks, photographs, yearbooks, and much more. We are constantly inspired by our amazing volunteers and committed faculty. Our volunteers have generously helped the museum preserve history by recording and updating our records. Our faculty have graciously remembered to donate items from the current school year so future generations can enjoy seeing and learning about our history.

The current advisory board would like to thank the original advisory board who had the dedication to make the museum a reality:

Ev Berg (teacher)

Bob Doyle (Class of 1942)

Patty Davis Wilson (Class of 1981)

Nicolas Elsner (Class of 2004)

Steve Erdman (Class of 1970)

Carol Hacmac Elsner (Class of 1976)

Harland Strohschein (Class of 1946)

Ginny Steele Thompson (Class of 1955)

Bonnie Thompson (Nels' wife)

Nels Thompson (teacher)

Dale Torgerson (Class of 1946)

**We encourage you to explore our website and visit our museum. Please contact us if
you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour.**