

# FRIEND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

511 2nd St, | Friend, NE 68359



The Historic Warren Building

**President** Mary Ann Losh  
**Vice President** Mark Stutzman  
**Secretary** Deb Polacek  
**Treasurer** Pam Hromadka

**San Carlo Rentals** Sarah 402-499-9343  
**Historian** Mary Ann 402-560-1126

*friendnehistoricalsociety.org*

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024 UPDATE

## Who We Are

The **FRIEND HISTORICAL SOCIETY** (FHS), formed in 2007, is a 501(c)(3). The FHS owns the Warren Building - Opera House which in 1988 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As it did in 1885, the first floor provides space for businesses and the second floor, the Opera House.

**FHS Mission:** 1) **PROVIDE** a community gathering place in the Historic Warren Building, 2) **PURSUE** diverse educational, and cultural experiences, 3) **PRODUCE** economic benefit by making Friend an inviting place.

**The Board of Directors:** Mark Stutzman, Mary Ann Losh, Deb Polacek, Pam Hromadka, Ginny Farrar, Harold Janda, Preston Meints, Terry O'Neel, Trish Ricenbaw, Carolyn Taylor, Chere Tuttle, Will and Sarah Yokel, Ruth Schrunck.

The FHS hosted a minimum of one event per month for a total of 14. Over 6500 visited the Building.

The FHS had 74 members. A member messenger group provided communication about events/activities. The dues continued to upgrade the lighting in the San Carlo/Welcome Center.

Space was rented to the Pour House and the Edward Jones Office. The San Carlo/Welcome Center rentals provided space for 15 private events. With reasonable pricing, rentals included birthday parties, anniversaries, graduation parties, meetings, celebrations of life, and other gatherings.

This year the Friend Historical Society collaborated with Theatre Arts For Kids to hold a week long youth theater camp in the San Carlo Room. Over thirty students from ten different school districts attended the camp which featured a Friday production of Fairy Tale Forest enjoyed by over 200 parents and friends. See reverse for more info.

## Revenue Sources

Our major source of revenue continues to be grants, followed by donations, fundraising activities and rentals. Grants were from the NE Dept. of Ec. Development (\$400,000 with a \$100,000 match) to start the new addition for ADA accommodations and mechanical needs. Other grants were from the Saline Co Visitors Bureau, Norris Public Power of over \$4,000 and the Community Reinvestment Act \$120,000.

## 2024-2025 Next Steps

Plans include beginning the new addition and installing structural supports in the Opera House. We will work to create memories for guests who visit the Warren Building. Grant writing will continue.

## How Can You Help?

Please continue to spread the word about events, rental options, Opera House renovation, and our newly designed website (see above for website address). We are always excited to see lots of cars on Second Street where friends meet! If you have suggestions, please let us know. Thank you for your support!



# ∞ Fairy Tale Forest 2024 ∞

*"A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words"*



Join us June 2–6, 2025 in Friend at the Warren Building for  
"Broadway Out West," a total theater experience!

Contact [TAFK.org](http://TAFK.org) for more information.