



Senior Citizens Services, Inc.

427 - 6TH AVE. S.W.
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA
55901

SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES

INCORPORATED



427 6th Avenue Southwest

Rochester, Minnesota 55901

Telephone 282-7735

Roger E. Stasek, Executive Director



HISTORIC BALFOUR HOUSE

“. . .to promote the fulfillment of the creative and social needs of our senior citizens on a daily basis; to provide a county-wide nonsectarian Day Center; to provide for and carry on such other activities in connection therewith as may be necessary and convenient to properly establish, maintain, and operate such a Day Center; to stimulate, initiate, and coordinate such program and services as are desirable for the aging, that may further their social, psychological, physical and economic, well-being; and to provide for and carry on such other charitable and educational programs as may be consistent with the purposes of the corporation.”

Article II, Section (a) Articles of Incorporation for Senior Citizens Services, Inc. Sept. 6, 1961.

The picture on the cover of this brochure is that of the Balfour house located at 427 6th Avenue Southwest.

The former home of Dr. Donald C. Balfour and his family was built in 1847 by a Rochester jeweler, Eleazer Damon. His daughter was married there in 1884 to Dr. William J. Mayo. In 1910 the house became the residence of Dr. Balfour and his bride, Carrie Mayo. Over the years they remodeled and expanded it several times. They made the home a hospitable place for distinguished visitors, a classroom for the Aldrich Memorial Nursery School and a center for musical gatherings.

In 1960 the house was given to the Mayo Foundation and since that time it has been used as temporary quarters for the Y.M.C.A. and is presently the “home” of Senior Citizens Services Incorporated.

The Balfour house, truly a place of beauty, is presently open five days a week and all residents of Olmsted County sixty years of age and over are welcome and urged to attend.

PROGRAMS

EDUCATIONAL

Art Classes: Two art classes are now in operation and both are filled to capacity. Anyone wishing to join a class who has not as yet done so is urged to call the center. If enough interest is shown, another class will be started. Instructors are Mr. Stan Beatty and Mrs. Dorothy Serposs. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 1:30 p. m.

Bird Study: A number of persons gather on the last Wednesday of each month for an educational discussion on bird study. Anyone interested in this hobby is urged to drop in at the center and participate in the program. Field trips are taken in the summer months.

Cracker Barrel Session: Each Tuesday at 10:00 a. m. a group of men meet to discuss current issues such as urban renewal, watershed problems, Vietnam, etc. The group meets in an informal manner and all are welcome to attend.

Geneology Class: A small, but energetic group of interested persons gather the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 p. m. to discuss and do research on family history projects. It is hoped that more persons will soon take part in this very interesting activity. Research can at times prove quite shocking, however, it is always very rewarding.

Knitting Class: The newly formed class is held on each Thursday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. The class, formerly taught by Mrs. Marjorie Skow, a Dayton's representative, is now under the auspices of the Day Center staff.

Lectures: Each month a speaker is invited to present a talk to the group. Topics vary from diets to medicare to slides taken on distant trips. A very worthwhile program and we urge you not to miss any of them.

PROGRAMS

EDUCATIONAL

Movies: At least one Wednesday afternoon each month movies are shown to anyone wishing to attend. Nature films, travelogues and biographical films are shown and thoroughly enjoyed by the viewers.

Senior Citizens Club: This organization, composed of the members actively participating in at least one phase of the program meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p. m. to discuss ways of improving the program. They have committees who visit hospitalized or ill members of the club, help with the planning of parties, and welcome new members. Officers are elected each year.

RECREATIONAL

Birthday Parties: All persons having a birthday during a given month are honored on the last Friday of that month. They bring a birthday cake to the center and share it with all their friends. The highly successful event is highlighted by the group's "Happy Birthday Song".

Card Playing: Each Monday and Friday afternoon during the month is devoted to playing cards. Favorite games are five hundred and whist. As with all programs, coffee is served during the mid-afternoon break.

Games: A wide variety of games are available at the center and can be used at the center at any time. Cribbage and Scrabble are among the most popular of the games played.

Parties: Holiday parties are held along with special parties and often consist of card playing, bingo, catered lunches and a special attraction. A large turnout is always on hand for these functions.

PROGRAMS

RECREATIONAL

Pool: A league for men and women is being scheduled. Anyone wishing to join may still do so by calling the Center. The table is available for free play any time during the day and all are welcome.

Pot Luck Lunches: A very successful and enjoyable event held on the first Monday of each month. Each participant brings a dish of food which is shared by all; the food is delicious and a good time is always assured.

Trips: Trips are scheduled each month during the summer and often times during the winter as well. They are both educational and recreational in nature and the buses are always packed.

SERVICE GROUPS

Volunteer Visitors: This organization composed of service-minded women visit the aged and chronically ill in the nursing homes. This self rewarding effort expresses a sincere concern these ladies have for others in the community. Monthly meetings are held and daily visits are made.

Project Volunteers: These meet on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The men use their skill to make or mend items while the women make tray favors, bazaar items, doll clothes, etc. Organizations helped are: Christmas Anonymous, Health Center, State Hospital, the Day Nursery and the Pink Ladies. Activities vary as specific needs are indicated. The donation of time and talent by the members of S.C.S. is most gratifying and appreciated.

Insurance Consultant Service: Anyone wishing advice concerning their present health insurance policies may obtain free aid by calling the Center for an appointment. Mr. Milton Scholar of the C. O. Brown Insurance Agency will confer with you in private and give you the needed advice. There is no charge for this service.

COUNTY SATELLITES

PROGRAM

A recreational program for Senior Citizens in the nearby communities in Olmsted County is now in operation on a weekly basis. The programs consist of card playing, quiet games, pot luck dinners and birthday parties. All programs begin at 1:00 p. m. and end at 4:30 p. m. Coffee is served during each session. There is no charge to the participants and all residents of Olmsted County are urged to attend.

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

Byron: A program is held each Thursday afternoon in the meeting room at the Byron State Bank.

Chatfield: Program is conducted in the meeting room at the Interstate Power Company on Monday afternoons.

Eyota: The basement of the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church is used to conduct the program on Friday afternoons.

Oronoco: The second, fourth and fifth Wednesday afternoon each month will find this program in the basement of the Presbyterian Church beginning April 12.

Stewartville: Tuesday afternoons are set aside for the program at St. Bernards Catholic School.

To those agencies listed above who have donated the use of their facilities to this program. THANK YOU



A UNITED FUND AGENCY