

funding from St. Louis County, monitoring of affiliate recordkeeping, including yearly audits, and serving as a resource on governance and program issues. The Society's bi-annual newsletter, *Rootprints*, regularly features news and sometimes lengthy articles from its affiliates.

## **Education through Promoting and Enriching Higher Education**

### **Mike Colalillo Medal of Honor Scholarship**

In 2012 more money was raised for the Mike Colalillo Medal of Honor Scholarship fund, enough to create an endowment fund managed by the Duluth Superior Community Foundation, which will generate enough earned interest to support the award of at least \$750 annually to a college student majoring or minoring in history. The applicants write three-page research papers about an aspect of military history relating to St. Louis County. This year's recipient was UMD student Steven Hendrickson, who wrote about his grandfather, PFC R. W. Hendrickson, a Marine in WWII, who was stationed on Wake Island at the time of the Japanese attack.

### **Internship Program**

The Society's internship program provides college students (and occasionally students between high school and college, such as St. Scholastica's Upward Bound students) primarily from UMD, the College of St. Scholastica and Lake Superior College with an opportunity to gain college credit through "hands-on" work experience in the museum world. Interns create exhibits, catalogue artifacts, market events, and work on other projects that both augment their own education and contribute to the work of the Society and often its Veterans' Memorial Hall program.

## **Education through Special Events**

### **Veterans' Remembrance Dinner**

The Society's Veterans' Memorial Hall program held its eighth annual Veterans' Remembrance Dinner, with the theme of the Global War on Terror, on December 6, very successfully, in terms of attendance and of money raised for the program. Featured speaker Retired Command Sergeant Major John Werner presented his experiences in Afghanistan as the commander of the Army Corps of Engineers' building and rebuilding projects in that country.

### **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Membership**

The 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Membership was held on March 27, 2012 and featured special guest speaker former U.S. Representative James Oberstar, longest serving member of Congress in Minnesota history and former Chair of the U.S. House

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Jim centered his presentation on the history of iron mining.



Former Congressman Oberstar with Veterans' Memorial Hall Program Curator and current Duluth City Councilor Dan Hartman and former Duluth City Councilor Jeff Anderson at the Veterans' Remembrance Dinner December 6, 2012

## **Education Embedded in the Composition of the Board of Governors**

At the Annual Meetings of the Board of Governors and of the Membership, two current governors were re-elected (Jill Dupont and Neill Atkins) for further terms. Dupont, who was also elected Vice President in 2012, is Chair of the History Department at the College of St. Scholastica. Three new governors were also elected, all of whom are or have been employed as educators at the secondary or post-secondary level: Jim Schwarzbauer, Hermantown High School, University of Minnesota Duluth and Lake Superior College; Diane Vertin, Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College and Robert Evans, University of Minnesota, Duluth. Atkins is a financial advisor with Cetera Advisor Networks.

## **Education through Tenancy in a National Historic Register Building**

### **Change in Building Management Structure and Other Building Issues Impacting the Present and Future Operations of the Society**

As a result of a lengthy process of re-evaluation by St. Louis County administration, the management structure was changed in 2012, leaving Oneida Realty in charge of operating the Depot building (St. Louis County Heritage & Arts Center), with a contract in place between Oneida and the county. Historic Union Depot Corporation remains in place, contracting with Oneida to perform most of its past functions, Oneida, once simply the entity in charge of the physical maintenance of the building, now is the building's final management authority under the county, the building's owner. Oneida organized a citizens' advisory group to provide guidance in matters related to Depot operation. The most significant change has been the transfer of the "gate fee" revenue to Oneida Realty, as well as the employment of Visitors' Service Desk staff.