

SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Henderson, Minnesota 56044 Ph: (507)248-3434

March 2009

Volume 14, Issue 1

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HEAR YE! HEAR YE! ITS TIME FOR SCHS ANNUAL MEETING AND YOU ARE INVITED

WHAT; SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

WHEN; SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2009 AT 12:30

WHERE; THE GREEN ISLE SCHOOL ON HWY 25

MENU; A TWO MEAT BUFFET BY Country Convenience Store

COST; PER PERSON—\$50 AT THE DOOR OR \$10 BY MAIL

PROGRAM; HARRIET TRAXLER SIBLEY COUNTY BARN
PRESENTATION AND SLIDE SHOW

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A BUSINESS MEETING TO DISCUSS AND GET INPUT ON OUR
BUILDING PROJECT AND OTHER ONGOING ENDEAVORS

Please use the two nearby church lots for overflow parking

See additional reservation information page 8

Calendar of Events

by Judy Loewe

- April 19TH Annual Meeting.
- June 7 BIG **see page 8**
- June 23—Genealogy Takes You Many Places by Joyce Rohloff Gardener
- July 28—Measuring Up to Be Minnesota, Richard Gardner

Unless otherwise noted All meetings are held at the museum in Henderson.

If you have suggestions or comments on upcoming events Contact Judy Loewe 507-248-3345 **Calendar Subject to Change.**

The Lagerstedts in Severance Township, Sibley County

By Lila Lagerstedt Sillerud

Toward the end of his life, in 1920 and 1921, 87 year old Johann August Lagerstedt related events from his life to his youngest son, Albert, who recorded them in Swedish. Eighty five years later my father Merlon Lagerstedt gave me Albert's loving journal tribute to his father, Johann. Several years ago I was able to locate a Swedish woman near Ghent, Minnesota, who translated parts of this journal for current and future generations of Lagerstedt's.

Johann's life experiences were similar to many who left Northern European countries to immigrate to "Amerika" in the middle and late 1800's and yet each story of how and why

they left, their future in the new land, is unique.

Johann August Lagerstedt was born February 24, 1833 in Snoggarp, Skiro Socken, Sweden and died at his home in Severance on February 21 1921. At the time of his death he was 87 years, 11 months and 7 days old and according to Albert, the oldest and probably the best known resident of Severance township at that time.

Johann August Sakresen was the oldest of three children born to Anna Lisa and Peter Sakresen. He had two younger sisters, Maria born in 1834 and Johanna in 1837. His mother, Anna Lisa died when Johann was 9 years old and his father, Peter, died in 1852. Prior to his death, Peter Sakresen sold his land to a man named Lagerstedt. It is unknown when Johann assumed the surname Lagerstedt but perhaps the land sale had something to do with the name change. The parental estate had been sold on the condition that the money be divided among the children on reaching their majority.

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Johann worked for several years at a place called Tolja and later in 1855 went to Stockholm, where he secured, through the recommendation of a former employer, a position with the Swedish government as an overseer of the handling of the cities supplies. While employed in Stockholm he became familiar with members of the Swedish Royal family including Oscar II, Charles XV and Oscar III. This period in time was one of the most interesting chapters in Johann's life. He met and worked with people from all walks of life, saw the railroad come to Stockholm and was a member of Stockholm's volunteer fire department. If there was a fire and the church bells rang and you did not go out to help, you were fined five riksdaler. He was granted a leave of absence to go back to his old home and receive his portion of the parental estate but never went back to his former position in Stockholm.

Soon afterwards he married Carolina Jonason of Byestad, Skiro Socken who was raised on a neighboring estate and attended the same school as Johann. With his savings and inheritance he bought his mother-in-law's place and farmed for about seven years before he went to America. He decided to immigrate in 1868 after a few young recruiters from Illinois came and visited. They had brought along some American grown corn and had relatives who lived in Minnesota. Johann's sisters were unhappy with his decision and his mother-in-law said "you are a dangerous person to make this happen"! His wife, Carolina said

\$1.50 a day on the railroad. When he had enough money, he bought a few steers from a German man in West Newton. In 1869, he bought 5 acres of timberland along the Minnesota river near New Ulm and through the advice of Mr. Frederick Peterson of Gibbon, he filed a homestead in Severance township, 4 ½ miles southwest of Gibbon. The land was low but he took it anyway. Later he claimed that he could have homesteaded better land near what is now Winthrop.

His first crops were wheat and flax. He broke the land with the oxen he had purchased. The Lagerstedt's dug an earth home on the homestead with a sod roof and a wood floor and lived in it for 11 years.



John and Emma Nelson Lagerstedt's wedding picture



Johann and Carolina Lagerstedt with younger sons John and Albert (about 1889)

nothing. By the time Johann and Carolina boarded the boat in Gothenburg, Sweden to seek their fortune in America, their little daughter Emma was five years old. On the ship coming over they became good friends with Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Lind and their oldest son John, 14, who would one day become the governor of Minnesota.

The Lagerstedt's destination was St. Peter, which was then a small immigrant village. Johann worked for some months on the new railroad construction between New Ulm and St. Peter. Carolina washed clothes and cleaned in exchange for food for herself and little Emma while Johann was away. Johann earned

Their three sons were born in that sod house. Gust in 1871 (the first baby born in Severance township), John in 1875 and Albert in 1879. Throughout his recounting, Johann often refers to Carolina as "flink", which means quick, nimble, prompt and active. In 1875 Johann got his citizenship papers.

It was a long haul to get to New Ulm to sell their products. At the time the only way to cross the river was by ferry. The railroad was not yet ready at the time he homesteaded. Johann, Carolina and

their children lived here until 1900 when he moved to the farm ½ mile south of Gibbon which he purchased from Mr. S. S. Moline.

When the Clear Lake Baptist church was organized in 1871 Johann became one of it's first members and helped with the roof. He was baptized by a missionary who served the church and Carolina was baptized there a short time later. Johann, Carolina, Gust, John, Emma (John's wife) and Albert are all buried in the Clear Lake Baptist church cemetery.

Their oldest and only daughter, Emma, married Ole Jacob Johnson, later leaving the Gibbon community and settling in Drake,

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North Dakota. Emma and Ole had eight children and Emma lived to be 95 years old.

Gust never married. He lived on the farm just south of Gibbon from 1920 until he died in 1927 at the age of 55.

Albert, the youngest son, chose to teach and work in government serving three terms in the Minnesota legislature from 1923-1930. He attended Pillsbury Academy, Sanford University, the University of Minnesota and received his M.A. from the University of California. He made an unsuccessful primary bid for governor. Albert never married and died in 1962 at the age of 83.

John, the middle son and our grandfather, married Emma

with John, Raymond and Avery on the southwest farm until 1941 when they moved to the farm just south of town. Merlon and Jennie were parents to six children. They worked together on a diverse farming operation. Over the years they milked cows, raised beef, chickens, sheep, pigs, small grains, soy beans, corn and sweet corn.

Merlon was always a conservation minded farmer. In 1969 he was awarded the "conservation farmer" of the year for planting 1,024 trees and shrubs for a complete farmstead windbreak and constructing a system of grassed back slope field terraces.

He also, early on, employed the use of the chisel plow to reduce runoff and erosion in times of heavy rain... In 2003 he was given a Century Farm award at the Sibley County Fair.

As the six Lagerstedt children were growing up, Jennie and Merlon made sure they were active in the Gibbon Go-phers 4-H club as well as school activities. Advanced education was encouraged. Jennie served on the Gibbon school board for three terms. All six children attended post secondary schools. Four of the six children became public school teachers.

Jennie Lagerstedt passed away in 1995 at the age of 78. Merlon continues to be active and farm at the age of 91 with the help of son Jon who lives on the farm south of town with him. The farm buildings on the southwest farm are gone, but Jon and Merlon also farm that original homestead.

The Lagerstedt children all live in Minnesota. Lila (Cliff) Sillerud lives in Canby and they are parents to four children. Lynn (Carol) live in Adams and have two children, Eileen (Fred) Knud-



Raymond Lagerstedt going for the mail 1951



Avery Lagerstedt served in WWII

Nelson in 1901 and they farmed the first homesteaded farm 4 ½ miles southwest of Gibbon. They had three sons. Raymond, the oldest, born in 1901, who farmed with his dad and brothers. He enjoyed playing saxophone in the community band and indulging his nieces and nephews. Raymond died in 1968 and never married.

Avery was born in 1907. He served in Europe in WW II and was known around the Gibbon area as an expert mechanic. Avery also never married and died in 1963. He is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in St. Paul.

The youngest son, Merlon, was born in 1917. He was only 6 when his mother Emma died at age 47. Merlon is our Dad and the only one of the three boys to marry. At age 21, in 1938, he married the dist # 78 school teacher, Jennie Maxwell from Amboy Minnesota. They lived the first couple of years of their marriage

sen live in Owatonna and have two sons. Gary (Carla) live in Spicer and have two daughters, Jon lives with Merlon south of

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Grandpa John Lagerstedt with L to R; Lynn, Lila, Baby Gary, and Eileen in 1947



The background is a page from the journal Albert had written in Swedish

(Continued from page 3)

town and is the Severance township clerk, and Mark is a computer programmer and lives in Woodbury. Merlon is grandfather to ten grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. In 2007 Merlon's children hosted a 90th birthday party for him at the Gibbon Community Center. About 200 people attended the event; a remarkable tribute to a remarkable man.

Submitted by Lila Lagerstedt Sillerud



Merlon Lagerstedt receiving Century Farm Award at the Sibley Co. Fair in 2003



Merlon Lagerstedt
is "Conservation
Farmer for 1969"

From the Gibbon Gazette

Albert Lagersterdt's Campaign ad for the State Legislature



BIG POLITICAL MEETING!



ALBERT LAGERSTEDT

Of Gibbon, Minn.,

Candidate for Representative of Sibley County

Will Speak At

Green Valley School House, Dist. No. 38, New Auburn Township,

SATURDAY EVE., OCT. 7TH,

commencing at 8:30 p. m.

A. C. Welch and Jos. L. Baldus, are also expected to be present.

Bring in the Whole Family. - Everybody Cordially Invited!

Prepared and circulated by and for Albert Lagerstedt, Gibbon, Minnesota.



The Prez Sez

by Jerome Petersen

Mueller Family History

By Gloria Sinell

Our annual meeting will be April 19th at Green Isle. We have had a dinner meeting for the last few years, held in a different town each year. Many of our members attended, and last year as broke all records when **Paula Nelson** was the speaker. We always hope many are able to attend.

In addition to our program presentation by **Harriet Traxler** on Sibley County Barns, we will tell of our plans for an addition to the museum. **Charles and Donna Meyer** donated \$25,000 to the Society with a suggestion it be used for a building fund. That was the catalyst to set in motion the preliminary plans for an addition to meet some of our needs. As our office and research take more and more room from the artifact displays, the place gets more congested. The music room is no longer used for showing items. And the artifacts that are there interfere with files and computers. We are also limited on what we can accept because of the lack of storage. In the off season, there are many tables set up in the dining room and parlor for accessioning and documenting. When we are open, that project is on hold until the following winter. Our bathroom needs some serious upgrading. An addition would include; a storage room, bathroom, office (for files, computers, research room (for microfilm reader, copier family, microfilm storage and church files) and a room for workers (sink, refrigerator, table, chairs and maybe even a coat hook) The group of people who work on Tuesdays discuss our ideas and what is appropriate to meet our needs. We are excited about the prospect of having a new home for our workspace. The building would be on the north side of the museum with access through a door cut into the museum's north wall. Fifteen years ago when we discussed an addition, **Bert Karels** suggested we put a new building on the north side against the hill, just what we are talking about now. It would not show from the highway or interrupt the view of the grand old mansion. There would be a handicap entry on the west next to our parking place and walkout basement on the east to access and install the furnace and other utilities. There will be more details in the coming months. I put my proposed floor plan on the back page, which is where my fellow workers say it belongs! Their first choice was page 11. The project will cost a lot of money. I will add the old joke here; we have good news and bad news. The good news is we have the money for the building. The bad news is it is still in your checking account. We will be looking for various grants to help us fund this as well as help from the county.

Becky Briggs has taken over scanning the Ostrom negatives. **Millie Doering** who started the project has been working on her family book and passed the work to Becky. The ladies have about 2,000 negatives scanned. Becky is doing this at her home to speed up the process. She brings the computer to the museum periodically to back up the information to our external hard drive, where we also back up the other computers. **Gloria Pudiwell** took the confirmation pictures around to the area churches for identification and she was successful with most of them. Hats off to these

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My name is Gloria Huffman Sinell, and my great-grandparents were John G. and Maria Dortehea Mueller. My grandparents were John O. and Ida Mueller, and my parents were Ruby Mueller Huffman and Thomas Huffman. I have gathered material for this Mueller History from *The Gaylord History Book* and from family stories and interviews. The Muellers played an important role in the settlement and development of Sibley County.

John G. Mueller was born August 8, 1837 in Noedenich, Herzogthum Saschen, Germany. He came to America at age nineteen and settled in Perry County, Missouri; five years later he moved to Jordan, Minnesota, where he had an interest in a saw mill for about two years. He went back to Missouri and after living there about two more years returned north with his brothers and settled in Arlington Township. He operated a small store in what is now Arlington. Records also document his work as a stone mason until he joined the Construction Corp. during the Civil War; he served from 1863 until his discharge in 1865. At the close of the War he and his brother Michael took ownership of a store in Arlington, along with Zacharias Paezler. John married Maria Dortehea Gruenhagen on December 26, 1865. She was 18 years old and had been keeping house for her father on his farm in Arlington. They were married in St. John's Lutheran church near her father's farm, attended by John's brother Michael and Charlotte Boehning, a neighbor.

Maria Dortehea Gruenhagen emigrated to America from the province of Hanover, Germany with her father Friederich and his parents in 1855, when she was about eight years old. Her mother had died when she was five. They crossed the Atlantic on a sailing vessel named the *Elise*, a trip that took seven weeks. They landed in New York harbor on July 4, 1855 and went west to the farm of Maria's uncle in Thorton Station, Illinois. The Gruenhagens moved to Arlington Township after about a year and settled on a farm there. In 1859, Friederich was joined by his twelve-year-old daughter Maria. She grew to womanhood on the family farm, keeping house for her father amid the privations and dangers of the time. She reported in a 1930 interview that "The Indians didn't harm us, but to me who had never seen Indians before, they seemed terrible creatures. When father was away I would watch for them and hide behind something in the cabin. Then when they looked in the window, which they usually did, they couldn't see me. I locked the door, but they didn't try to break in. Sometimes, though, they came up before I noticed them and then I had to give them something to eat, generally milk and bread." At this time, their home was a crude shelter of logs from which the bark had not been removed.

Maria also told about her experiences during the 1862 Conflict, "A neighbor, Mrs. Chris Benning, came running to the cabin all out of breath and shouted to us that the Indians were killing people and were headed our way. We hurried to get away and Father packed our most valuable belongings from Germany in a trunk and dug a hole to bury it in back of the cabin. He had the trunk in the hole and was starting to bury it when a man who lived nearby came up and said, 'Fritz you haven't time to do that, the Indians are liable to be here any time.' So we left without even locking the door."

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They made their way to Henderson, where they found the residents in a panic. Some of the more cool-headed pioneers calmed them and proceeded to station guards armed with guns, pitchforks, and clubs around town. They stayed in Henderson one night and then took a ferry to Belle Plaine where they stayed for two weeks. Maria continued her story, "Finally, a body of soldiers marched through and soon we followed them. While the danger was not yet over, so many soldiers had gone through, many of the settlers in our neighborhood returned to their homes. When we got back to our farm we found our oxen, three cows, and hogs running loose, but nothing had been disturbed. The trunk lay in the hold uncovered just as Father had left it."



John and Maria Dortha Mueller operated the Gruenhagen farm after their marriage – now the Mueller Elginview Farm. They raised their twelve children there and also an infant daughter of a cousin of Dortha's whose wife had died. Dortha was sixty years old when she took in this child and cared for her throughout her early childhood. The child – Marie Gruenhagen –

married Otto Schiebel of Arlington.

The Mueller children were as follows: Erhard, 1866-1919, married Ida Goldschmidt; Henry G., 1868-1948, married Amanda Abraham; John O., 1870-1927, married Ida Fischer; Elizabeth M., 1872-?, married Frederick J. Hecht; Anna, 1874-?, married Henry Prah, Herman, 1866-1899; William, 1877-1915; Paul G., 1879-?; Emma, 1880-1973, married George Weihe; Ernest E., 1891-1991. I present an account of the Mueller children who stayed in the area, as I am most familiar with them.

Erhard Mueller and his wife Ida lived in a home on the corner of Fourth and Court Streets. The house was razed, and the property is now a parking lot. They had two children, Stanley and Virginia.

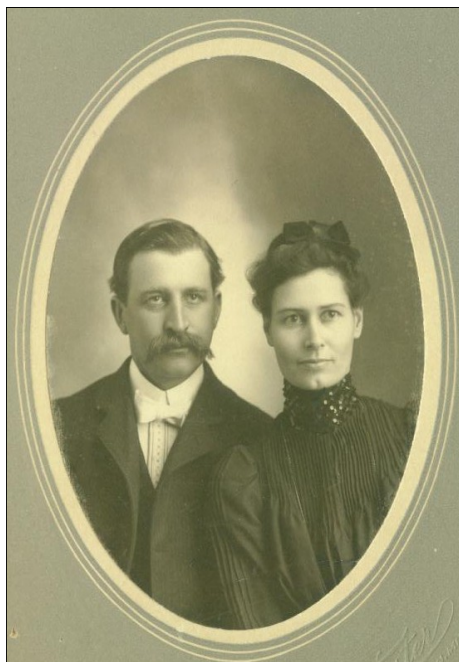
Henry G. Mueller and his wife Amanda raised their ten children in their home at 311 Court Street; that house remains and is owned by Mike Messner. The children were Selma, Alvin, Viola, Alice, Herbert, Helen, Adeline, Henry G., Edward, and Margaret, who survives.

Edward and Henry G. Mueller went into the well-drilling business together in the 1890s. They continued drilling wells and erecting windmills until 1912 when they expanded to plumbing and heating and selling farm implements and Max-

well Autos in their new building at the corner of Fourth and High Streets. They built a new building on the site in 1916, after the first one burned. This building still stands and is the home of Kirsch Interiors.

Henry's son Alvin "Zack" Mueller associated with the firm for a time and in 1928 started his own business, A. E. Mueller Well Company. Alvin and Everil Reimer drilled wells under the name of Mueller and Reimer from 1933 until World War II. After the War, Alvin and his sons Donald, Jim, and Joe worked together for several years. Donald and Joe eventually formed and operated their own well-drilling companies. When Erhard Mueller died in 1919, Henry G. bought out his share of the business from the estate; this business was discontinued in 1928. He then became active in plumbing and heating and used the two-story barn behind his home to store his equipment. He retired partially in 1942 and worked with his youngest son Edward until he left to serve in the U.S. Navy in World War II. Edward conducted his own plumbing and heating business after he returned from the service. Henry G. Mueller died in 1948.

John O. Mueller married Ida Fisher and they were the parents of Royal, Ruby, and Verna. John went into the livery business with Henry Tetzloff in Gaylord in 1900. They called their business the Star Livery Line. In 1901 John brought Michael Deis's horses, wagons, and dray line and merged it with his own. He also owned a coal yard and



Wedding Picture of John O. Mueller and Ida Fischer January 9, 1895

The wedding took place at the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Immanuel) in Gaylord. "The Brides parents held a brilliant reception for them in their newly built home on their farm 3 miles east of Gaylord. August and Willhemina Fisher were Ida's parents.



Ruby, Royal and Verna Mueller Children of John O. and Ida Mueller

in 1909 was awarded a contract to furnish 200 tons of coal to Gaylord Village for the municipal light plant.

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He purchased a home, according to an article in the *Hub*, which read as follows, "John O. Mueller purchased Fred Paul's house and two lots in the N. W. end of town and will occupy the same



MUELLER BROS. BUILDING—In 1912, Erhard J. and Henry G. Mueller erected a two story building on this site. It burned in 1914 and the building in the photo was rebuilt of brick in 1916. It is the present location of Kirsch Interiors. The Mueller Brothers sold Maxwell Autos, but it was basically a farm implement company

on or about the first. Consideration \$750." This house was located where the Lakeview Nursing Home now stands and was moved to the corner of High and First Streets.

John's son Royal recollected the dray line in an interview. He said, "They hauled all the stone block for the construction of the Sibley County Courthouse in 1916 and for that project they had to hire extra teams. Groceries and other goods for the local stores were hauled from the M. & St. L. Depot by their dray." Royal tells about his father's beautiful team of black horses named Dan and Frank, "This team was used to pull the hearse when needed." He said when their special funeral harnesses were put on, Dan and Frank would know it and then would trot along in a stately fashion.

John O. Mueller also operated an ice cutting and storage business, cutting blocks of ice two-feet square from Lake Titloe and storing it in their icehouse. The ice supplied their customers throughout the summer. John O. Mueller died in 1927.

Elizabeth M. Mueller was born in 1874. She married F. J. Hecht, who served as Gaylord's Town Marshal for 38 years beginning in 1896. His nickname was "Pickle." The Hechts had two children, Henry Jr. and Elmira Hecht Pioske.

George W. Mueller was the youngest son of John G. and Maria Dortehea. He married Ruth Johnson, and they had two daughters, Geraldine and Josephine. He graduated from the Minneapolis School of Pharmacy and bought the Gaylord Drug Company from A. C. Lestico and Robert Mathwich in 1917. He called it the Mueller Drug Store. George had musical talent and was the leader of the Jazzola Orchestra in 1921. He played the violin, banjo, and saxophone. He was a well-known Gay-

lord sportsman and hunter and sometimes invited the famous boxers, Tom and Mike Gibbons, to hunt with him on Lake Titloe. His wife Ruth was the Gaylord Postmistress from 1947 to 1963. Their home was at 509 Third Street and is now occupied by his grandson Greg DeVries and family. George died in 1969.

Martha, the Mueller's youngest child, lived with her parents and never married. She at one time worked as a clerk for the Busch Brothers in their store. Martha remained at home to care for her mother after she fractured her hip and became an invalid. After her parents died, Martha kept the home at Lincoln and First Street and rented out rooms to single people who needed housing. Martha died in 1991 at the age of 100.

Maria Dortehea and John G. Mueller remained on their farm in Arlington Township, which is now the Mueller Elginview Farm, for thirty-four years. The 1870 Sibley County Census listed their real estate at \$2,000 and personal property at \$800. They owned 60 acres of improved land and 100 acres of unimproved land, farm machinery and equipment was valued at \$250, and livestock included seven horses three milk cows, eight other cattle and swine. In 1901 the Muellers purchased land east of the Gaylord village limits. It was a beautiful



These are the posts in the developing vineyard

wooded area bordering Lake Titloe, and they planned on

building a large home there. John wanted it to be built from the oak trees on his property, but that proved too difficult because the wood was too hard. He wished Gaylord to have a city park, so he deeded a tract of his land to the village for a nominal sum. After his death in 1904, Maria and the children completed the house. She continued to take pride in the park and maintained her beautiful Lake Titloe shoreline. Maria died in 1943 at age 93. She and John are buried in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery in Arlington Township.

John O. Mueller operated the Arlington Township farm for a time, and then his son Royal took over. He and his wife Frieda, along with their sons John and Karl, were noted dairy farmers. They first raised Red Poll cattle and later switched to Holsteins. They won numerous trophies and were recognized worldwide for their championship herd. Karl died in 2005, and John resides in the Good Samaritan Home in Arlington. These brothers spent many years carefully breeding and showing their outstanding dairy herd. Today, Karl's wife Carol and their son Kenneth Karl reside on the homestead. "Kenny" takes pride in restoring the old barn and keeping up the other outbuildings. His project these days is a vineyard. He has planted 750 grapevines and intends to plant more. He will soon start wine production, giving this 150-year-old farm a new purpose and opening another chapter in its history. ghs






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dedicated workers. We have made many prints for people who want copies of the pictures and it is a source of income for us. The prints are excellent. Sometimes people see the unidentified photos in the local papers and want copies. We charge \$10 for the first 8 x 10 and \$5 after that. Do we have your family scanned yet? Ask and we can look it up in our files. You will be delighted with the pictures.

Millie Johnson is in charge of the crew that is clipping obits from past issues of the Gaylord Hub since the 1960s. **Mary Petersen, Marie Main** and **Gloria Sinell** are helping with this project. The obits are clipped, scanned and filed alphabetically. **Sharon Haggemiller** is accessioning. **Sharon Shimota** and **Dorothy** are entering items in PastPerfect. **Eldrene Elbert** has started working on PastPerfect from her home with Dorothy's tutelage. And I was working on the newsletter. While all this is going on we are each dreaming of doing our work in our new building

Gloria Sinell wrote about the Mueller family for our newsletter. Some interesting information concerns their dairy herd dispersal auction in 1979. Because of their reputation, people came from not only all over the US, but several foreign countries; Japan, Mexico, Canada and Ecuador. The prize dairy animals brought an average of \$4,500 each, and that was 30 years ago! More photos below. 



A.E. Mueller and Everl Reimer

These men formed a partnership in 1933 that continued until the WWII years. During that time they built two well drilling rigs
See photos above and right

SCHS ANNUAL MEETING INFO

As it states on the front of the newsletter, our meeting will be held at the Green Isle Community School. Dinner will be at 12:30. Your check will be your reservation, \$10 per person. That includes the meal, entertainment, meeting, and program on Sibley County Barns by Harriet Traxler. Parking is included in the \$10.

Send your check made out to **SCHS** to;

Jerome Petersen

PO Box 25

Gibbon, MN 55335-0025

R.S.V.P. By April 13, 2009

Weapons will not be allowed at the meeting. You must check your guns, clubs and swords at the door. REMEMBER... Green Isle School policy states late arrivals must bring a tardy slip from their mother. There will be valet parking, shoe shining and glasses cleaning for large donations to our building fund.

Sunday June 7 OPEN HOUSE

We will be celebrating Sibley County Historical Society's 60 anniversary of the museum's opening. It will start with a potluck at 12:30 at the Joe Brown Center in Henderson. In conjunction with our anniversary the Snowbelt Chapter of the Musical Box Society International will have a display at the museum of their music boxes and several ever popular band organs. There will be more information later on the radio and in the county papers.

Thanks You - Thank You— Thank You

We are very grateful for the generosity of everyone who donates to our society. With these funds we are able to fund the various programs that our society conduct. Thanks to the following;

Tom Williamson, Jo Mullen, General Mills matching grant, Thrivent for Lutherans, Judith Monkkonen, Charles and Donna Meyer, Henderson United Fund and Anonymous





Ray & Gisela Meyer	Winthrop MN
Jo Ann & Alvin Heinz	Henderson MN
Lynelle G Brant	Cumberland MD
Dean Caldwell-Tautges	St Louis Park MN
Amy Schimmelpennig *	Gibbon MN
Carolyn Norman	Henderson MN
Gerald Berger	White Bear Lake MN
Orville & Joyce Doering	Maple Lake MN
Eunice Beneke-Rucks *	Henderson MN
Herbert Poncin	Nicollet MN
Mildred Doering	Minneapolis MN
Neva Paulson	Lafayette MN
Arlene Moore	Gaylord MN
Jon & Roxanne Butler	Hamden CT
Darrell Amberson	Henderson MN
Thomas G Williamson	Arlington VA
George Doheny	Prior Lake MN
Mary & Lynn Salisbury	New Auburn MN
Karol Erickson	Olympia WA
Beverly Woods	Gibbon MN
Marie Kramer	Gibbon MN
Jane Delger	Ulm Germany
William H Grimes	Round Rock TX
James Berger	Minnetonka MN



NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS



John Gerald Berger	Lafayette MN
Roger & Lorraine Just	Henderson MN
Terry & Janet Dempsey	New Ulm MN
Bill & Char Beseke	Arlington MN
Judith A Monkkonen	Culver City CA
A.R. Mueller	New Ulm MN
Steve & Becky Briggs	Eagan MN
Barbra & Dale Gustafson	Savage MN
D.B. Allen	Tucson AZ
Lowell & Bonnie Nagel	Arlington MN
Therese A Diebel	Mendota Heights MN
Dave & Dee Czech	Arlington MN
Jerome & Mary Petersen	Gibbon MN
Zylpha Mueller	Winthrop MN
Charles Lundgren	Gibbon MN
Eric Hanson *	Chesapeake VA
Karrie Hanson *	Westfield NJ
Lowell Hanson *	White Bear Lake MN
Jackie Hyde *	Monona WI
Jennifer Weinlaeder *	Sitka AK
Robert Fisher	Gibbon MN
Le Anna M Sutherland	Grand Rapids MN
Ruth Ann Buck	Arlington MN
Robert Fisher	Gibbon MN

NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL By Ray Meyer

To receive the Newsletter in a PDF format, you must have the Adobe reader, a free download from <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/>

If you would consider receiving the Newsletter by email INSTEAD of the print version, send an email with newsletter in the subject line to, membership chair letting him know that you are interested. If you want to receive a sample copy of the newsletter, let us know.

Send an e-mail to the treasurer/membership; Ray Meyer grmeyer@myclearwave.net. With any questions or comments.

Membership Form

I would like to become a member of the Sibley County Historical Society.

NAME _____ SCHS TREASURER

ADDRESS _____ 49858 316 ST

_____ Winthrop MN 55396-2038

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Individual--\$10, Family-- \$15, Business-- \$25 Send to:



Regular meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, March thru November at the museum in Henderson. The public is invited. The museum is open to the public for tours on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. June thru October and by appointment.

Send articles, announcements, photos and comments to the SCHS Newsletter, P.O. Box 407, Henderson, MN 56044 or Email: schs1@frontiernet.net

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SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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This picture is from Victor Gess of Lafayette CA. It is his grandpa's (Gust Applegren) jewelry store in Winthrop. Gust sold the store and bought a farm in Alfsborg Twmsp. He sold it and moved to Wolf Point Montana, where Victor grew up. "My mother, Alma Amanda Applegren, after confirmation (at Bernadotte) on June 18, 1915 took the train to Mpls and got on the No. 4 Great Northern headed for Wolf Point, Montana to join the rest of the family that moved out in March. A few months before she died at 101 she told me again about it and emphasized the fact that it was the No. 4!" Victor has some great pictures that he shared with us, like the one above.

This is a floor a plan that I drew. Several others also had ideas, but mine is in the newsletter because I put the newsletter together. The proposal is to have the visible exterior walls to match the brick of the existing building. The north wall, which is against the hill would be other material. There would be no windows on the north side. The storage room would be dark light except when accessioning

