



Sibley County Historical Society *Newsletter*

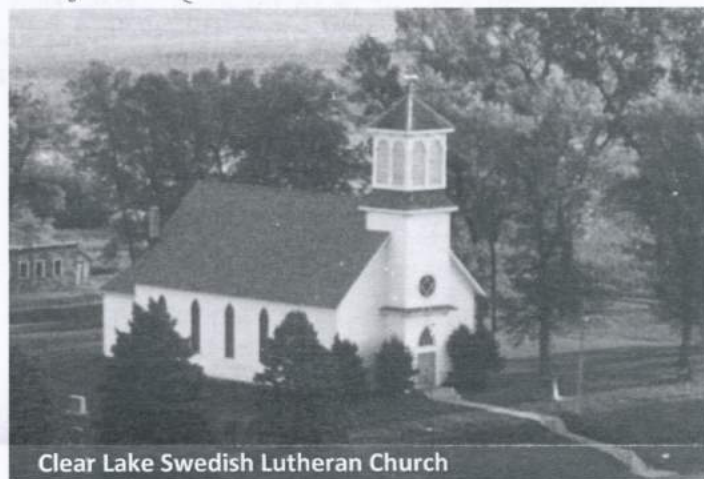
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The Churches of Clear Lake



Clear Lake Baptist Church



Clear Lake Swedish Lutheran Church



Clear Lake Norwegian Lutheran Church



Clear Lake Methodist Church

In this issue:

	Page
Churches of Clear Lake, Gibbon	1-5
Didra-Guilbert Family Visit	6
Replica of Tellier Plane WW I	7
Cats in World War I	8
Volunteer Gloria Sinell	8
Christmas Recipes	9
Christmas Around the county	10
New Board Member	10
New & Renewed Members	11
Donations	11
Country School Book Reprint	12

May the Christmas season
fill your home with joy,
your heart with love and
your life with laughter.

The Churches of Clear Lake

In the early years of Sibley County, an unorganized area of the Southwestern corner of the county was called Clear Lake. It included the townships of Alfsborg, organized in 1869, Severance, organized in 1870, and in the middle, Cornish, organized in 1871. In the 1880's and 1890's there was great interest in developing churches that met the needs of each individual heritage group. Along the South-west corridors of Cornish and Severance Townships, four churches were organized between 1871 and 1877, all of them with the name Clear Lake in their organizational names.

The Clear Lake Swedish Baptist Church was the first church organized in Severance Township. The early Swedish settlers came to Minnesota for the purpose of carving out for themselves a new home in the new world. It was an era of primitive living in houses built of logs, thatched over with clay; of the oxcart, the sickle and the spinning wheel. There were none of the present day improvements. The shelter for the farmers stock consisted of a rude stockade covered with hay. That was even before the horse and buggy age in Minnesota, when oxen instead of horses were used, and when wooden axle lumber wagons were used instead of buggies.

You were lucky if you ever saw a newspaper, they were among the very rare luxuries. The town of Gibbon had not yet been founded. New Ulm and St Peter were the nearest urban centers. The few groceries that were bought were largely in exchange for the butter, eggs and poultry that were produced on the farm. The housewife made the tallow candle, spun the wool and wove the clothes, while helping with the chores and outdoor work in addition to caring for her family.

It was under conditions such as these that the Clear Lake Baptist Church was founded. With the help of the Lincoln Baptist Church of Lake Crystal, ten members from four Gibbon area families, Holmquist, Carlson, Melander and Jacobson organized the Clear Lake Baptist Church on *October 21, 1871*. Swedish was the predominant language spoken in the church; however, the word "Swedish" was eventually dropped from the church name so other denominations would not be discouraged from attending.

For several years the congregation met in homes and in the Jacobson schoolhouse, but in 1883 a church building was erected, facing "Mud Lake"

with Sibley County Rd 8 (formerly called Old Ft Ridgely Rd) running along the shoreline between the church and the lake. The original church building served the congregation until 1934 when one of the overhead oil lamps ignited the surrounding timber, causing the church to burn to the ground. During the summer of 1934, the congregation purchased the German Methodist Church of West Newton for \$500 and contracted with Marvin Carlson to move the building to the present location. A basement had been dug and the church was moved onto it; the new church building now faced the north. An addition, consisting of 6 rooms and an enclosed entryway, was added in 1978 to complete the present structure.

The first parsonage was a four room farm house which was replaced in 1912. It served the family for many years until in the fall of 1999, feeling he had received a directive from above, Norbert Doerr of Stewart, approached the congregation with an offer to lead the building of a new home on the property. The congregation agreed and with the help of members of the congregation and many good neighbors and friends, the home was finished in about 8 months.

Near the northwest corner of the church grounds are several graves with Swedish inscriptions on the markers. These graves were the first burials made there, possibly before the congregation became fully established.

Although the church is no longer being used for regular worship services, the building and surrounding cemetery are well maintained.



Sources: Steve & Becky Lund Briggs, Maureen Jacobson Krumrey, Norman Doerr, Anna Lou Peterson Lagerwall.

Clear Lake Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church

Just a week after the Clear Lake Swedish Baptist church, was organized in neighboring Severance Township, the Clear Lake Swedish Lutheran was formally organized in the newly formed Cornish Township.

A very definite problem for this congregation was where to locate the church. Several locations were suggested, accepted and then dropped for lack of action. Rev C M Ryden, pastor of the New Sweden Lutheran church (now Bernadotte Lutheran) was the presiding pastor at the meeting held on October 30, 1871. There is no record as to when the present location in Section 30, was finally reached but it is assumed this took place in 1876 as in 1877 a small red church, described as closely resembling a barn, was erected on the site of the present structure.

During the first thirteen years of existence the Clear Lake congregation depended on neighboring pastors, traveling evangelists, theological students and laymen to serve spiritual needs. Magnus Carlson and Peter Sjogren were named lay leaders. Worship services were held in homes or in school houses.

Clear Lake did not have a resident pastor until 1884 when Pastor John Lundquist accepted a call to serve. He remained only one year, to be followed by Pastor Nels Ohslund who served from 1886 to 1893. During the tenure of Rev Ohslund, Clear Lake enjoyed it's most prosperous years. Upon his arrival he found the situation in a rather sad state of affairs. The physical property was in need of many improvements, the old church looked like a barn and had no organ. All instrumental music was taboo, as such music was considered irreligious. Only the song leaders voice (klockaren) might lead the congregation in singing spiritual hymns and psalms. Often this became quite dismal and funereal. Finally a small reed organ was allowed and the music became quite inspiring.

Under Pastor Oslunds dynamic leadership, the congregation grew to the largest in its history with 220 active members.

A decision needed to be made. Either the old church had to be added to or be torn down and a new church be built. After much discussion it was decided to build a new church and that the minister should solicit the necessary funds. He traveled far and wide, riding in his one-horse sulky, and his efforts were met with unexpected success. The large, and at that time, imposing present church structure was finally completed and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1890. A tornado in 1940 destroyed the bell tower resulting in a shorter tower as shown in the picture on page 1. A parsonage was built in 1894.



Many other improvements were also made during the tenure of Pastor Ohslund, among them, the addition of a second story to the parsonage, the enlarging

of the parsonage kitchen and the erection of a large barn to house the pastors horse and cattle. A well and cistern were dug and a strong fence was erected, surrounding the entire property, as shown in the picture above.

The next pastor, H O Hemming, came here from Akron, Ohio in June of 1895. During his early years he began preaching occasionally in Gibbon and LaFayette and was instrumental in organizing those churches. In 1901 Augustana church of Gibbon petitioned Clear Lake to have Pastor Hemming share in his pastorate with Gibbon. This was agreed on and except for several brief periods in 1904 -1906 and 1911-1919 this relationship existed until the Clear Lake church closed in 1988.

In preparation for the Church Centennial in 1971 it was decided to erect a commemorative stone on the church property. This stone was to have a bronze plaque with the name of the organizing pastor, and names of charter members inscribed on it. After a lengthy search, a suitable stone was located in the Bernadotte area on the Edgar Peterson farm. Mr. Peterson graciously donated the stone for this purpose, and Webster Brothers Contractors were engaged to move and set the stone at Clear Lake. They also donate their equipment and time to this project. The plaque was completed in July 1971.

The final worship service at Clear Lake was held October 30, 1988 exactly 117 years after it was first organized with Pastor Timothy Thoresen officiating. Another plaque was added to the large stone that had been erected during the church Centennial celebration. This plaque contains the names of the final members of the church. In looking at the names on these two plaques, we see that many of the names of the original members continued down through the generations.

—Dorothy Peterson





The altar today looks like it did one hundred years ago, well preserved and cared for.

Clear Lake Norwegian Lutheran

Although the Clear Lake Norwegian Lutheran Church, located in the NW corner of Section 28 of Severance Township was organized on November 14, 1871, they did not have a permanent House of Worship until 1879, when the first church was built. Prior to that time services were held in the homes of parishioners. Clergymen in those days had several congregations to serve and had to travel on horseback, buggy or by sleigh. One of the first that served them Rev P H Rognlie, also had a congregation in Bird Island, about 20 cross-country miles away where he lived.

The new church was dedicated in June of 1880, but sadly the church was destroyed by a tornado in July, 1881. In spite of the hardships of pioneer life, the church was rebuilt and on July 14, 1882 the cornerstone was laid for the second time.

The first cemetery of this congregation was located in the SW corner of Section 20; where about 20 graves were established. When the land was purchased by non-members of the congregation this cemetery was discontinued. It is believed that those burials were made alongside of the Ft Ridgely Trail, which wended its way westward in that area.

The present church and adjoining cemetery, located along Sibley County Highway 22 was built on land donated by Tollef Christofferson. In recent years the cemetery was enlarged with a land donation by Gordon Loftness and a grove to the north of the church was purchased and donated by Oliver Loftness. Both the interior and exterior of the church have been repainted with donations from members, former members and memorials. The cemetery and church grounds are beautifully and lovingly maintained by Greg and Beverly (Dahlen) Woods of Gibbon. The exterior of the church was repainted in 2018.

Sources: Dale & Patricia Ericson, Beverly Woods, Gibbon Gazette files

An interesting article in the 1982 August 26 edition of the Gibbon Gazette (below) tells the story of how one of the early Pastors, P H Rognlie and his son, Ingolf, who also became a pastor, traveled by horse and buggy from Gibbon to their home in Bird Island after an evening worship service, the third of the day.

Gibbon Gazette

August 26, 1982

During the evening service we could hear the wind intensifying and the snow was beating against the church windows. Following the service the church custodian and I went to the church stable to hitch up our horses, "Big Daisy and Little Daisy" to the cutter. In the cutter we had a soapstone foot warmer, encased in newspaper and a gunny sack which brought into the church to keep warm for our trip home. Father was dressed in a raccoon coat, seal skin fur cap and high buckle over shoes. I was dressed in a sheepskin, cap and four buckle high boots. We put the soapstone in the bottom of the cutter with the bear skin and horse hide robes. We detached the check rein from the harness saddle so that the horses could lower their heads and better search out the road home. Little Daisy had an uncanny, intuitive sense of direction.

We started out toward the north from the church; there was no visibility, even with a full moon, due to the intense snowstorm.

When we had traveled about two miles we had to turn on a road going west. We couldn't see the road but Little Daisy knew where it was and turned westward, heading directly into the fierce storm. The road had been packed down from the horse's hooves and the sleigh so that when the runners of the cutter missed the path it would cause the cutter to flip over, which happened several times. At the end of our harrowing 16 mile, 5 hour trip, the horses delivered us to our home in Bird Island, and stopped by the front porch on which mother had placed a kerosene lantern, burning on a low flame for us. We thanked God, and Little Daisy for the safe trip home.

Clear Lake Methodist Episcopal Church

by Becky Lund Briggs

The Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Clear Lake was formally organized March 10, 1877 in the Bengt Strom farmhouse. Thirty-two founding members were present. Two couples were unable to journey to the meeting, but should be included, bringing the number of founding members to thirty-six. Although the church was organized in 1877, the founding date was set as 1878, which is when the church became a charge in the Northwest Swedish Conference. Reverend A J Wicklund was the first pastor.

Prior to the organizational meeting, services were led by Reverend C. Christofferson from Scandian Grove in Nicollet County. In the absence of the pastor, A P Johnson, a layman, was often in charge of the services. Early services were held in country schools – the Olin schoolhouse in Lafayette Township, and the Holmquist schoolhouse and Jackson schoolhouse, both in Cornish Township.

Charter member A P Johnson donated six acres of land in Section 34 of Cornish Township on which to erect the church building pictured on page 1. That building was completed in 1879. A parsonage was built in 1882. The steeple, a bell, and a classroom were added to the church in 1897.

As older members retired from farming, they moved to the village of Lafayette. Because travel was by horse and buggy over dirt roads, the congregation decided to build a small church in town to serve these members. This building was erected in 1906. At first, services alternated every other Sunday between the country church and the town church. Later on, services were held in the country during the summer, and in town the rest of the time. Eventually only funerals, Confirmation services, and Christmas programs were held in the country church.

In 1937 the minister moved to town. A new, larger town church was built in 1952 on the same property as the first town church. While this was being built, worship was again held in the country church. On March 1, 1953, the final service was held in the country church. This church building

was sold and torn down. The parsonage still stands, and is a private residence. The cemetery and memorial plaque shown below are reminders of this country church.



Sources: 1878 - 1938 Sixty Year Jubilee booklet, 1878 - 1978 Centennial booklet, *The History of Lafayette*, Phone conversation with Roger Nelson.

Didra-Guilbert Family Visit

By Ruth Ann Buck

Photo courtesy of Lynelle Brant

If you could trace your ancestors back to the settling of Minnesota, have you ever wondered where and how they might have lived? Did they live in a sod house or a log cabin or even a burrow in the hillside?

The descendants of Christian and Louisa (Buck) Didra don't have to wonder. They came to Henderson on Saturday, October 13th to visit their ancestral home. They came from all over the country; California, Colorado, Louisiana and Maryland to visit the cabin and show the log cabin to family members who hadn't seen it before. They walked around the cabin, checking out the size, going inside the cozy little cabin and of course taking pictures inside and out, and sitting on the doorstep. Some were heard saying "it gets smaller every time I see it".

As close as we can trace the cabin, it was built around 1855 to fulfill the requirements to homestead the 160 acres Christian had settled on across the river. Christian was married to Louisa Buck and had two children when he entered the Civil War, (the Didra's had seven children that lived) he was discharged as a 1st Lieutenant in 1865. He had opened a butcher shop in Henderson sometime before being inducted into the Civil War; after his discharge he continued the butcher trade and moved into several other locations and also going into the grocery and restaurant business.

Christian was Henderson's Postmaster and served as Sibley County Auditor. When or how long the family lived in the cabin is unclear. They had seven children that lived.

The family members also toured the museum and got a history lesson from Arlene Busse, about their family and their beginnings in Henderson. Some of the family names are: Didra, Guilbert, Buck and Hermann.

They did not come to Henderson just to visit the cabin and the museum, but to lay to rest two matriarchs of the family, namely Ann Morgan Guilbert and Suzanne Marion Brown. They both passed away in 2016 and were brought back to Henderson to be buried in the family plot in Brown Cemetery.

Suzanne was a Women's Activist and was involved in many organizations. She had already made arrangements to attend the inauguration for Hilary Clinton, but passed away in October 2016, before Trump defeated Clinton. Both ladies birthdays were in October, Ann's on October 16th and Suzanne's on October 13th, so it was appropriate that they be laid to rest the weekend of October 13th.



You may remember Ann from *The Dick Van Dyke* show, where she played Millie Helper, the next-door neighbor and appeared on 61 episodes. She was also on *The Nanny*, playing Fran Fine's grandmother, Yetta Rosenberg and a favorite of most Minnesotans was the movie *Grumpier Old Men* where she played Sophia Loren's mother and received the CFA for Best Supporting Actress.

Now it is up to Lynelle and Nora to keep the family history going.



Front Row: Calvin Brown, Lynelle Guilbert Brant, Julia Brown Brodsky, Nora Eckstein Sekowski
Back Row: David Brown, Ivy Withrow, Hallie Eckstein Withrow, Ellen Brown Sandberg, Clara Sekowski

The Browns are all descended from Suzanne Guilbert Brown (Daughter of Oliver Guilbert, Granddaughter of Lionel Guilbert and Ann (Didra) Guilbert and Gr-Granddaughter of Christian and Louisa Didra)

The Ecksteins are the daughters of Ann Morgan Guilbert (Daughter of Gerald Guilbert, Granddaughter of Lionel Guilbert and Ann (Didra) Guilbert and Gr-Granddaughter of Christian and Louisa Didra)

Building a Tellier Biplane Replica

Arlene Busse Photos by Judy Loewe

Currently the display at the museum tells about World War 1. Featured is a list of those from Sibley County that served in the military and a list of casualties. There are photos, flags, a variety of memorabilia and uniforms. A rare aviator's fur lined flight suit, once worn by US Naval Air Service Pilot, Frederick H. Becker, is also included.

The Christian Becker family lived for a few years in Grafton Township of Sibley County; Fred was one of five children. He was working as a bank teller in Aitkin, MN in 1918 when the US entered the war. Following a few months of training, he sailed to the coast of France where he was part of a group of pilots flying Telliers, single-engine biplanes built in France. In a 1949 magazine article Becker described the planes as "flying boats with Hispano engines of 229 horsepower, geared to a big wooden propeller."

The article explained that the routine of the pilots was to fly over the shipping lanes, used by the allies. Each plane had a spotter watching for submarine activity. The air ships carried a mounted machine gun and bombs, 47mm air cannon, for use if a sub was sighted. The magazine story included a photo of a Tellier plane.



Tellier aircraft used in World War I

Local airplane model builder, Pastor Kent Meyer, is preparing a replica of this French float plane and will be presenting it to SCHS prior to the opening of the museum on Memorial Day 2019. He belongs to the "Zumbro Valley Scale Modelers", which meets in Rochester MN, joining when he and his wife served as pastors in that area. The Meyers' now live in Henderson; Pastor Kent is pastor at Zion UCC in Le Sueur and Pastor

Debra is pastor at St Paul's UCC, Henderson.

Kits to assemble are available for many types of airplanes. Long-time SCHS volunteer, Burt Karels, veteran of World War II, was very proud of the model built for him by Pastor Kent Meyer. Burt was the nose gunner in a B-24, surviving many bombing missions over Germany. The plane, once on display at the museum, was included with items his family displayed at the visitation before Burt's funeral.

When volunteers at the museum arranged the wartime display, they remembered Burt's plane and its builder. A model of the plane flown by Becker, shown with his flight suit, enhances the display! Pastor Meyer was asked if he would build a model. It was assumed a kit to assemble this plane would be available, and he graciously agreed to the request. He discovered that there was no kit! This presented a huge challenge. Research by Meyer found no design information, and limited photos or descriptions of the Tellier. Consultation with fellow "modelers", helped him plan his task and selection of materials and colors to be used. Hobby time is limited for this pastor with a busy church schedule but step by step the project is nearing completion!

When the Museum opens for the season on Memorial Day 2019, visitors will see the wood panel float plane as part of the World War I display, thanks to Kent Meyers' persistence in authenticity.

Most service personnel were returned from overseas in 1919.

In the 1920s, Becker gave the flight suit, with its Paris France label to his brother-in-law Art Sander, an Arlington farmer. Sander enjoyed its warmth for years so it shows signs of wear. After Art died in 1959, Esther donated the garment to the museum.



Kent Meyer, pastor of Zion UCC church of Le Sueur and model builder.



Flight suit worn by Becker, shown in inset.


Did you know? . . .

Throughout the "war to end all wars" cats were a common sight in the trenches and aboard ships, where they hunted mice and rats. Beyond their official duties, they were also embraced as mascots and pets by the soldiers and sailors with whom they served. An estimated 500,000 cats were dispatched to the trenches; some were even used as "gas detectors". One anecdote of the Great War tells of how Lt Lekeux, a Belgian soldier was saved by his cat, named Pitouchi. Pitouchi was found by Lekeux as a kitten when his mother was killed, leaving him all alone. The soldier adopted and took care of him; in return the cat gave him his loyalty by following him everywhere he went. One time Lekeux was on patrol near the enemy lines when he noticed a new trench was being dug. He hid in a nearby shell hole and sketched the new construction they were doing. However, he got so engrossed in his work he did not notice that there were German soldiers approaching. By the time he noticed them, it was too late for him to run.



Left with no other choice, Lekeux decided to lie as still as possible, hoping that they did not see him, but, when the soldiers got close he heard one of them say, "he's in the hole", which meant he had been spotted. Being captured or killed was imminent.

To his amazement Pitouchi, who was with him as usual, jumped out of the shell hole onto a timber piece lodging nearby. The Germans got startled and they fired twice at the cat. Fortunately he was not hit and jumped back into the hole where Lekeux was hiding. The Germans laughing and joking about how they had mistaken a cat for a man, left the area. Lekeux was able to finish his sketch before going back to the Belgian lines with his unharmed cat on his shoulder.



Remembering Gloria Sinell 1922-2018

By Marie Main

When I think of Gloria Sinell, I think of a sunny summer Sunday afternoon, driving up to her white house with the fairy garden by the door. And we would then go and pick up her sister, Liz Kuphal. We were off to the Sibley County Museum, to spend the afternoon, hopefully with many people stopping in to see and hear about Sibley County.

Gloria would bring a bag containing tea and the perfect accompaniment of homemade cookies. If we had a break in the days activities we would sample them. She was always eager to meet, greet and inform our visitors. When there was a lull there would be interesting conversation, about history, politics, and life in general. This was our routine for almost 20 years. She was also a Tuesday volunteer. She and a number of others spent many hours going through past Sibley County newspapers, saving obituaries for the study of genealogy.

Gloria was proud of her Sibley County pioneer ancestors. Proud enough to write an article about her Mueller family history in a 2009 Sibley County Historical Society Newsletter.

In Gaylord she was considered to be the community historian, writing a walking tour booklet about the older buildings and places on the streets of downtown Gaylord. In 2005 Gloria conducted a series of "Greatest Generation" interviews with local World War II veterans that were published in the Gaylord Hub and appear on the Minnesota Historical Society Greatest Generation website.

Gloria was also the historian of her church, United Church of Christ, Gaylord. She worked on the church history for the hundredth anniversary celebration of that church in 1999.

Gloria was a member of the Legion Auxiliary for 70 years, and served as president and historian for many years. She was also very interested in politics, and worked for the DFL party for many years. She was inducted into the DFL women's Hall of Fame. During one of the political campaigns she even inspired me and others to meet the candidates and go door to door.

Because of her work, the city park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The land for this park had been donated to the city by her pioneer great grandparents, John G and Dorothea Mueller.

Along with her love of gardening, Gloria loved crossword puzzles, enjoying the challenge of working them until the end.

So many will miss Gloria, and especially we at the Sibley County Historical Society.

BAKING FOR CHRISTMAS IN THE 1940'S

By Eldrene Ziegler Ebert

It's fun to look back to when you were a kid looking forward to Christmas. Late in fall the Sears and Montgomery Ward catalogs arrived. Mom, Lorna Ziegler, started shopping for baking supplies - ready to start right after Thanksgiving with fruit cake. We did not have a freezer so the baking was stored in air tight containers and stored in cool closets - one of them attached to my room and of course some disappeared.

Note: There were no electric mixers!!!

Grandma Ottiliea Ziegler's FRUIT CAKE

(Recipe was found in an old medical book.)

1 1/2 lbs butter	1 1/2 lbs sugar (3 cups)
12 eggs	1 1/2 lbs dates
nutmeg	mace
1 1/2 lb raisins	1/2 lb almonds
1/2 pt fruit juice	1/2 lb candied cherries
1/2 lb candied orange & lemon peel	
1 1/2 lbs flour (6 1/4 cups)	

Beat butter and eggs until creamy. Slowly add sugar, beating all the time. Whip whites stiff and mix with sugar and butter. Beat yolks for 10 minutes. Add to first mixture. Gradually sift in flour, beating all the time and add the rest of the fruit and nuts. Lastly add fruit juice. Bake in 3 pans for 3 hours. (My Mom lined four bread pans with several layers of paper and baked them in a slow oven. She took them out of the pans to cool and then wrapped them in a cloth soaked in wine.)



SEA FOAM (Divinity)

3 cups sugar, 3/4 cup water, 1 cup syrup

Cook these three ingredients until it brittles when dropped in cold water.

Beat the whites of three eggs until stiff. Pour the syrup into the beaten eggs, beat hard when pouring in. Add 1 tsp vanilla and 1 cup nuts.

This was our favorite candy. It was made a week before Christmas. Mom whipped it by hand. The recipe does not say how long, but believe me it was a long time.

(continued in next column)

SEA FOAM, DIVINITY (continued)



To speed up the cooling time she took the bowl outside and set it in a snow bank while whipping until it started to set and lost its gloss. We often used our home grown black walnuts. The candy was dropped by spoon on waxed paper or put in a buttered pan and cut into squares.

The recipe I use today has 4 cups sugar instead of 3 and I use a thermometer and electric mixer.

PFEFFERNUSSE

These cookies were baked in November and placed in air tight containers until Christmas.

1 lb white flour, sifted (4 cups)	
1 lb sugar (2 1/4 cups)	4 eggs
1 tbsp baking powder	1/2 tsp cloves
3 oz Citron *	1/2 tsp nutmeg

Mix eggs, sugar, baking powder and spices well. Put on floured board and work in all the flour. Roll into small balls about the size of a nickel. Place on cookie sheet. Bake until lightly brown.

*Hint: Grind citron through a food chopper, adding some of the flour with citron as you grind, then it won't stick together.

OTHER BAKING

In mid December we made sugar cookie cutouts, frosted and decorated; molasses cookies, gingersnaps, overnight date cookies, fudge, pop corn balls, and what they called Stollen.

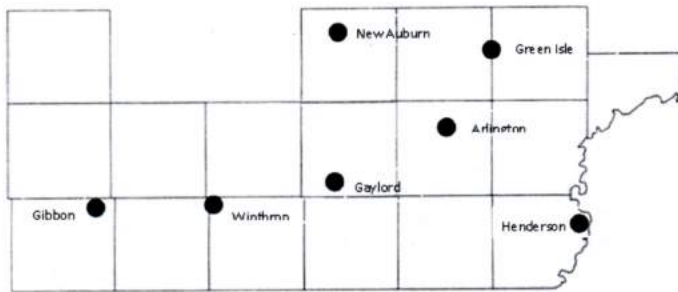
On Christmas Eve all the goodies were brought out for an early supper. My Dad had cows to milk before we left for church for the school Christmas program. Fresh baked bread and the sausages made from the December butchering were also a part of the meal.

I believe all the Ziegler families make



at least one of these recipes each year. In 1985 several of the cousins put together a recipe book entitled "Ziegler

Family Favorites" which we use every year.



Holiday Events around Sibley County

Arlington

Arli-Dazzle, Saturday, December 1

Arlington Historical Museum open 9 - 3
Serving hot cider and cookies. 9 - 3:00

The Museum's Sesquicentennial Exhibit will close after the Arli-Dazzle event and will be replaced by a new exhibit for 2019. The current school exhibit will also be changed for 2019. The Arlington Museum open again on the first Saturday in May 2019 with new displays of Arlington history.

Numerous other events will be held all day.
10th Annual Arli-Dazzle Parade begins at 5:30

Gaylord

December 8 - Put on your Christmas Best Gala, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 7 p m

December 9 - Meet Me Under the Mistletoe, Oak Terrace Retirement Center, 1:30 - 4:30 p m

Gibbon

January 18-20, 2019 Gibbon Winterfest

Winthrop

Friday, November 30, Christmas in the Country

The Winthrop General Federation of Women's Clubs will be having their annual Crafts, Cookies & Things on Friday, November 30th 4 - 8 p m at Hahn's Dining in Winthrop.

The Winthrop Community Historical Society Museum has been decorated for the Christmas Season, inside & outside, & will be open Friday, November 30, 4 - 7 p m

Henderson

River City Christmas
Sunday, December 2, 12-2 p m
Hosted by Henderson Community Association
Booths set up by various organizations and businesses.
Book Tree by *Friends of the Library*

Santa's Helpers of Sibley County is asking for donations to help those less fortunate.

**Donations are needed by Friday,
December 7th.**

Check where in your location your donated gifts, wrapping paper, stocking stuffers, etc., can be dropped off.

December 11th & 12th - Santa's Workshop, American Lutheran Church, Gaylord.

Volunteers are needed to staff Santa's Workshop. Please call Santa's Hotline 507-299-0073 or email santashelperssibley-county@gmail.com for more information.

Karen Klenk, Winthrop
New SCHS Board Member



Karen Klenk was recently appointed to the Sibley County Historical Society Board of Directors.

Karen is an active member of the Winthrop Historical Museum and we look forward to establishing a partnership that will benefit both organizations.

We will have a complete bio of Karen in the March Newsletter.

Christmas Quotes

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?" - Bob Hope

"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful." - Norman Vincent Peale

"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don't clean it up too quickly." - Andy Rooney

"Christmas is a day of meaning and traditions, a special day spent in the warm circle of family and friends." - Margaret Thatcher

Peace on earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day." - Helen Steiner Rice

NEW* AND RENEWED MEMBERS

- *Cathy Rettig
- *Nora Sekowski, WA
- *Connie Fox, FL
- *Lisa Isenberg, MN
- Eunice Lueck
- Al Egesdal
- Sam Fudenberg
- Wayne & Louise Quast
- Dale & Patricia Ericson
- Carol Reiter
- Marian Pfarr Saxon
- Annette Zimmermn
- Ray & Karen Klenk
- Howard & Fran Armstrong
- Jan Isakson
- Myra Bushard
- Bill & Charlotte Beseke
- Richard & Gail Estenson
- Arline Karels
- Elaine Thies
- Ellen Traxler
- Larry Sickmann
- Karol Erickson, WA
- Dick & Diane Isakson
- Dick & Joyce Gardner
- Lavonne Sandersfeld, IA
- Thomas Williamson
- Verne Schlueter
- Arlene Moore
- George Doheny

*Wishing all our members
a Happy Holiday season.*

Memorials and Donations



During this season of giving thanks, we are especially thankful for all of our members, visitors, our volunteer guides, weekly volunteers, and Board of

Directors. We are looking forward to a great 2019.

Memorials

Organizational sponsors \$100-299

Kenneth & Karen Baierl in memory of Gloria Sinell

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The museum is open to the public for tours beginning on Memorial Day and then Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00 pm, June thru October and by appointment. Volunteers available to do research or call the museum to set an appointment to do your own at \$5.00 per hour.

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

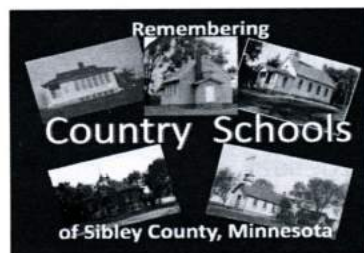
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Oh the memories . . . Remembering Country Schools of Sibley County

Share the Memories . . . Christmas programs, snow storms, World War II, bullies, best friends, wonderful teachers, tricks we played on teachers, forever friends, etc. All these things and lots more can be found in the **Remembering Country Schools of Sibley County Book** that has recently been reprinted. Hundreds of pictures and student memories.



If you missed getting a copy of this book when it was first released in 2014, or would like to share a copy with a friend or family member, we now have copies available. Check our website for details:

www.sibleycountyhistoricalsociety.com. You may also call the museum on a Tuesday or Thursday to get ordering information, or send a request by mail to: SCHS P O Box 407, Henderson, MN 56044. Price includes sales tax: SCHS members: \$27, non members: \$33. If shipping is needed there is an additional \$7 shipping and handling charge per book. Make your check payable to: Sibley County Historical Society or SCHS.

This book is a great research tool and includes an index of most of the teachers known to have taught in Sibley County. Please send book requests and payment to Rich Nagel, SCHS Treasurer, P O Box 206, Arlington, MN 55307.

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