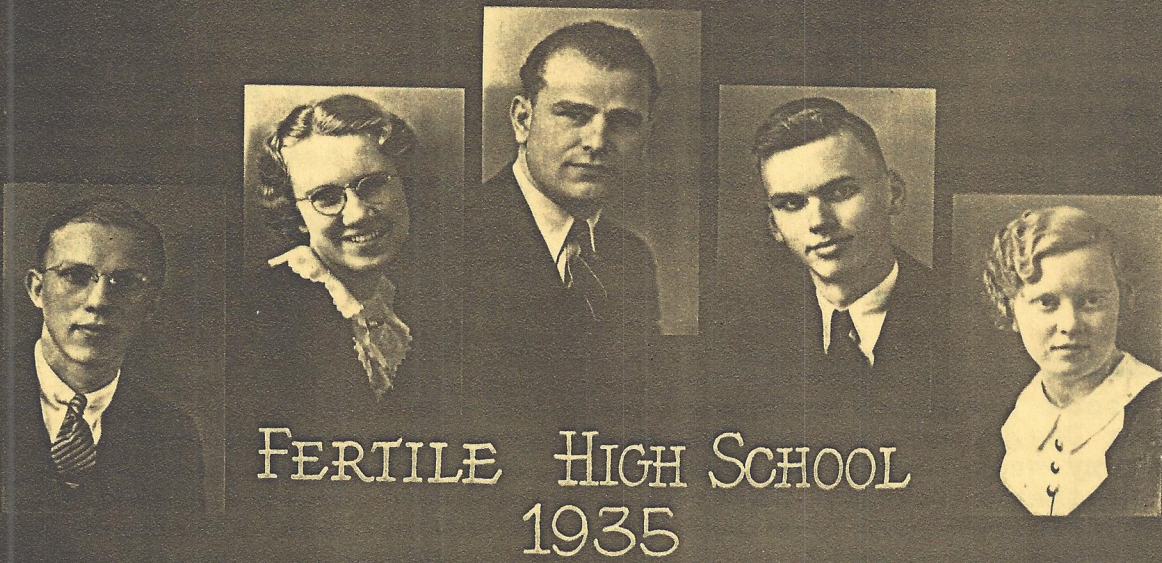


Fertile Reminder

DEC.
1985



FERTILE HIGH SCHOOL 1935



RUSSELL STUDIO

The Class of 1935 had their 50th class reunion together with the Class of '36 at the Pheasant Run.

Those present from the Class of '35 were: Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hoffman, Fertile; Mr. & Mrs. James Gustafson, Lake Mills; Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Pederson, Omaha, Neb.; Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Zirble, Clear Lake; Mr. & Mrs. Milton Phillips & Agnes McCauley, Mason City; and Delton Davis, Spring Mills, Penn. 4 of the class members are deceased.

Those present from the Class of '36 were: Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Purcell; Mr. & Mrs. Norman Rye, Fertile; Delilah Olson, Forest City; Mr. & Mrs. Donald Petersburg, Lake Mills; Mr. & Mrs. Leo Zobel, Albert Lea; Mr. & Mrs. George Frahm, Mason City; and Etta Mae Conroy Garner.

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Thanksgiving For The Birds

One day about two weeks before Thanksgiving Day, I sat by the table in front of my west window watching my little feathered friends come and go. Our big window looks out onto a bird feeder that had been given to me as a Christmas gift the year before.

I began to think of where our family would have Thanksgiving dinner and what the menu would consist of. I noticed the feeder was low of bird seed as one after another came for their breakfast. I had always used grapefruit halves for extra feeders but I thot how colorful a pumpkin half would be and so appropriate for their Thanksgiving feast. I had a small one on hand so I cut it in two and cleaned out each half saving the seeds for feed later on.

I took a large piece of suet and diced it up and rendered most of the lard out of it. While it was soft, I mixed bird seed, sun flower seed and a little cracked corn with it and filled the halves of the pumpkin with it and set them in the refrigerator to cool. When the suet was set I sprinkled a treat on top - a little loose bird seed, a few sun flower seeds, a few bread and cracker crumbs and the one half was ready to set outside.

At first they were very skepticle of the orange color but a sunflower seed was too tempting to both the white breasted nuthatch and the chick-a-dee to have them stay away too long. The nuthatch came again & aga hiding the seeds behind the back of oak tree for future use when food was'nt so plentiful. The chick-a-dee took hers out on a limb of the tree and holding it with one foot took off the outside skin and ate it, always hoping she'd find more tomorrow.

The red-bellied woodpecker whose belly is very slightly tinged with a reddish pink came in next with his tomatoe red head and zebra patterned black & white back making you think a red fire engine had just gone by. He sat far back and gave the punkin pie a very good looking over before deciding it might be a very good piece of desert. The titmouse came with his little crest standing straight up calling "Peter, Peter". The little hairy wood pecker came and in his "show off" way, slid in to eat thus inviting the red headed hairy woodpecker to come and taste also.

We had been feeding the male, female and two young cardinals all summer but now with a new kind of feed and a pumpkin pie for the Holidays they sc left the old feed and joined the others. The bluejays which I rather resent and scold at occasionally flew in very often. One day I even noticed the yellow-bellied sapsucker, who had forgotten to fly south feeding there also. He even enjoyed eating the container. Our family of five squirrels were uninvited guests but being curious like they are they had to examine the pie, eat a few seeds and then return to their corn.

When one starts to feed the birds, don't let them down & forget them. They depend on you. There is nothing more educational & interesting than watching these feathered friends at a feeding station. Fix one and try it and see.

Submitted by Mrs. George Hall

NORTHRUP KING SEEDS Larry Tibbits	797-2710	CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE Specializing in Good Food	797-9685
JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE Complete Automotive Service	797-2677	FERTILE FEED SERVICE Complete Livestock Needs Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food	797-2242
● TILE LUMBER & HARDWARE Rent the Rug Doctor	797-2437	LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2219
BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2680		
HOFFMAN CRAFTS 701 West Main	797-2714		
OLD MILL ANTIQUES	797-2490		
PRONTO MARKET Gas and Groceries	797-2220		
PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON Styling for Men & Women	797-2422		
K & R SERVICE	797-2440		
RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES	797-2681		
RIVERSIDE CAFE Daily 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday Night Fish or Chicken & Salad Bar - 5:30 to 9:30	797-2645		
WORSLEY ELECTRIC	797-2494		
FLOWERS BY McCOY--Forest City Flowers for all occasions	582-4517		
FOREST CITY COW PALACE Auction every Wednesday	582-4646		
J & W UPHOLSTERY Upholstery--Auto Body Jean & Wayne Roberts	797-2457		
FIRST STATE BANK Serving North Iowa Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth. Main Office--Manly	896-2265		
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD Lannie Hanson, Dist. Mgr. Now serving S. Minnesota & N. Iowa. "Have a Party With Us."	797-2703		
PETAL SHOPPE FREE Delivery to Hospitals 1714 7th Ave.N, Clear Lake	357-5030 357-5026		

A Christmas Meditation

So Christmas takes its place as part of the unchanging pattern. The old ways change, but the spirit does not change. It does not matter what the gift is, because the giving and not the gift is the verity — the giving and the receiving. And the giving and receiving signify and prove that the spirit is not dead. In the humdrum of daily life it might easily be believed by the despondent, harried soul, which sometimes anyone is, that all is selfishness and coldness of heart, that love is lost. Then Christmas comes and in the symbolism of its giving and receiving among those we know and love and the unknown, the poor and lonely in every community, we find our faith renewed because our own hearts are warmed again to life and love.

Yes, we need Christmas. Christians have made Christmas, but in every religion everywhere in the world there are days which mean Christmas, days of renewal of peace and goodwill among men. The ways in which we express the day's meaning differ in time and place but the meaning never changes. The blessed Christmas spirit descends upon us even in this year... And so, God bless us all.

*And when they were come into the house,
they saw the young child
with Mary his mother,
and fell down, and worshipped him:
and when they had opened their treasures,
they presented unto him gifts;
gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.*

St. Matthew 2:11

They brought Him gifts of myrrh and gold
And frankincense so sweet,
And there, in loving reverence,
They knelt at Jesus' feet.

This is an old, old story
Of Christ the Savior's birth,
The story of glad tidings—
Peace and good will on earth.

But ever new to us each day
On this glad Christmas morn,
We lift our hearts in gratitude
That Christ the Lord was born.

And in our hearts make room,
That He may ever dwell;
For while He is our guest,
We know that all is well.

Our hearts and lives we give to Him,
The gift is very small,
But ever in our hearts we'll
Own and crown Him Lord of all.

Christmas in Another Land

For 21 yrs. we spent Christmas in a very warm climate with no white snow around. We didn't think we would like it. But it isn't snow that makes for an enjoyable Christmas--it is our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

In Madagascar everything was quite different from here. There were no colored lights decorating the homes nor the streets and stores. The poinsettias didn't bloom until June. There were no radios playing Christmas Carols.

About the middle of December we would travel a days journey to the City where our children attended school for their Christmas program. It was always during the very hottest, rainy season. Because most of the roads were unpaved--traveling was always a rare experience. Often we'd drive through flooding rivers--sometimes we would sit beside a river for hours and even over night waiting for the water to go down so that we could cross. Not all rivers have bridges over them there. Once we had to take a canoe across the river and walk the last mile home. Another time an axle broke on our pick-up because we were hauling so many natives and baggage. Again we walked a couple miles to our home.

The Malagasy always had their Christmas program on Christmas Eve. It would begin at 7:30 p.m. and never end until 11:30 or midnight. Our children would still want to open their gifts that night--no matter how late it was nor how tired we were. Early Christmas morning we would have a Church service which would last 3 or 4 hours.

The natives would bring us gifts such as a live chicken, a goose or a few eggs. They were very poor and we wished they wouldn't bring us gifts but they loved to do it--so we graciously received them and asked the Lord to bless them for their generosity to us.

After New Years we would take our children back to school. We always took a lot of food along for our picnics along the way. We never knew if it would take 10 or 15 hours to go the 200 miles. It depended upon the roads.

In spite of such a difficult place to live, we all loved it there and would love to go back again to visit. Our son, Mark and his family are there now as missionaries. —Naomi Walters

The Fertile City Council met Nov. 5 with Mayor Bailey presiding and council members Hall, VanDenBosch, Petersen & Schultze present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Report on progress of annexation of property south of Hwy 9. Nearly all property owners in favor. Petition to be drawn up for their signatures.

Tuttle Asphalt will be contacted about repair of potholes in city streets.

Copy of dog ordinance to be sent to one offender.

Motion to have Comm. Center pay \$400 for their insurance this year. Carried.

Council received several complaints regarding things on or near private property that need to be removed. Letters will be sent to notify the property owners.

Discussion on mobile home ordinance & set aside ordinance.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.
Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

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October Balance Sheet Expenditures

Evelyn Knudson	247.76
Janice Hare	251.32
Dick Sheimo	643.73
David Low	303.45
Peoples Natural Gas	37.33
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Interstate Power Co.	530.51
City of Fertile	51.00
Winn. Co-op Telephone	169.68
Treas - State of Iowa	72.17
Ipers	163.13
Ipers - FOAB	243.40
Jordans	74.25
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe.	10.55
Fertile Reminder	128.00
Doubleday Book Club	19.72
N. Library Service	60.50
B. Dalton	74.04
Family Bookshelf	15.14
Family Circle	14.45
Christian Bookstore	30.20
Ertz & Assoc.	5,503.00
Treas - State of Iowa	96.13
IRS	196.00
Total	9,538.46
TOTAL RECEIPTS	8,075.14

"SANTA CLAUS IS COMING"

Dec. 14th

Annual Christmas Program at Community Center on Saturday Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. After a short program, Santa Claus will be there with gifts for all children, ages 0 to 10.

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Thank you to the Fertile Fire Dept. for coming to our farm to check the smoke in our home after our recent break in.

James & Alvera Lovick

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Wanted

Baby sitting Evenings

Jeff Kleveland -- 797-2769

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Thank you for your thoughtfulness, Prayers, cards & gifts in welcoming Anthony into the world.

The Schultzes

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Fertile Little League will be having a soup supper prior to the Fertile Community Center Christmas Program, on Sat. Dec. 14th. Serving time - 5 to 7 Community Center Lunch Room. \$2.50 for Adults and \$1.25 for Children 10 and under. Meal includes:

Choice of soups

Relish tray

Bars, ice cream & Drink

Door prizes every half hour.

Little League is holding this event to raise money for the purchase of a popcorn machine and additional uniforms.

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STORK NEWS

Oct. 22, a Boy, 7 lbs. 6 oz. Anthony Wayne. Parents are Mark & Edie Schultze. He has a sister Shannon, 2 years old. Grandparents are: Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Schultze and Mr. & Mrs. Harold Bass from Lakefield, Minn. Great Grandmothers are Melinda Schultze, Cylon, Minn. & Amelia Bass, Jackson, Minn. Great-Grandfather, Paul Rients, Lakefield, Minn.

Nov. 10, a Girl, 7 lbs. 8 oz. Melissa Elyse. Parents are Dan & Karen Kuns, Camarillo, California. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Neal Kuns, Camarillo, Calif. Great-Grandmother, Vesta Kuns, Fertile.

Nov. 16, a Girl, 9 lbs. 5 oz. Ashley Ranea. Parents are Jim & Lori Hare, Clear Lake. Grandparents are Mary Wilwert, Clear Lake, and Fred and Jan Hare, Fertile. Great-Grandparents are Stan & Kit Zirble, Clear Lake, and Mrs. L.W. Hare, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Great-Grandmother Petrea Zirble.

Nov. 22, a Girl, 6 lbs. 4 oz. Amanda Marie. Parents are Henry & Chris Thompson, Fertile. Grandparents are Hilliard & Ruth Thompson, Emmons, Minn. and Jack & Beverly Smithe, Lake Mills. Great-Grandparents are Henry Thompson, Emmons, Minn. and Inez Tweed, Joice.

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CHURCH NEWS

Fertile Lutheran

S.S.-9:15 a.m.

Worship-10:30 a.m.

Circles

Mary-Dec. 19, 9:30.-Rosemary Tannahil

Reb-Dec. 19, 2:00-Christmas Goodies

Ruth- ? -7:30-Lila Midtgaard

Sarah- ? -7:30-Marian Jennings

ALCW Christmas luncheon-Dec. 12-6:30 p.m.

S.S. Program-Dec. 15-7:00 p.m.

Candle Light Service-Dec. 24-5:30 p.m.

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Pilot Knob

Worship-9:30 a.m.

S.S.-10:30 a.m.

ALCW & Circles Xmas Tea-Dec. 10-7:30 p.m.

S.S. Program-Dec. 22-7:00 p.m.

Candle Light Service-Dec. 24-4:00 p.m.

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FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST Christmas

Program - Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m.

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NO COMMODITIES for the month of December Cheese, Butter & Powdered Milk will be given in January. Watch for date!

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The next Fertile Reminder will be printed the end of January!

"MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR"
From the Staff

Christmas in the 60s - Years Ago

Listen, ye young and old! The old will remember and the young will doubt.

I can picture the scene the entire preceding the Christmas Eve's gala event. Mom and we girls had all the goodies ready for the Christmas dinner so today would be spent in preparing for Christmas Eve.

After the noon dinner, the copper wash boiler was filled with cold water pumped from the well some fifty feet from the house. The old round galvanized wash tub was placed in one corner of the kitchen opposite the cob and wood box. The cook stove's lids were cherry red with heat and the tea kettles lid was dancing a jig from the steam.

It was bathing time. We four girls were to take our turn in the warm bath tub, in the same warm water, (reheated a bit by the hot water in the tea kettle), using the same bath towel - redried by hanging near the stove. But we were clean!

Then came the time for the smaller kids to take their dunk in clean but much less water. By this time the older boys and Dad were doing chores before time so we'd get an early start for the Christmas program.

A hurried supper, all so excited there was little food eaten. Dishes were quickly washed and put away. By this time the refill was warm so the boys could take a quick plunge one after the other in the same water, using a common towel. They too were clean.

While this was going on, my two older sisters were up in our four occupancy room, primping and rattling (teasing) their hair to make glamorous buns covering their ears. My youngest sister Thora, with jet black hair and eyes wore her hair in bangs. Mine was wound in rags all day. They hung like icicles around my head until being unwound they revealed doll like curls.

We always had at least one new dress a year, usually for Christmas. Mine was a light blue-green in a soft wool with a satin sleeveless over jacket of the same color, tied at the side by satin cord.

Hurry! The sun is down now but the moon has never been prettier with stars aglow accenting their reflection.

A jinkle - outside was dad pulling on the lines of a spirited team of horses whom were prancing, eager to go, as the white spirals like smoke floated from their fluted nostrils.

The load up. First was mom. She sat on that old red box where she tenderly protected the baby. (Every couple of years, a different one). Then the kids got in one at a time and sat down on the heavy straw laden floor of the two box high sled. One child would face one direction with his back against the side of the sled for support and the next would face the opposite direction. This was to prevent anyone getting stepped on by one buckle overshoes that protected the new shoes. Those white stockings had to stay white in spite of knobby lumps from the fleece lined, ankle length underwear underneath.

All loaded, off to our two mile journey we go. "Whoa" an abrupt stop. We were there! The Church was inviting & warm.

The Christmas program was most eloquent with many sing song recitations and vibrant singing. Then the distribution of the Sunday school teacher's gift - tiny but precious, and the brown paper sacks containing hard candies, nuts, an apple and an orange. Boy!

Dad had gone out to get the rig. There he stood in horsehide coat and mittens beating his hands to get them warm. The homeward trek was colder, the snow squeaked and crunched all the way. Ah! the welcome sight of the old hard coal stove as it threw red flame's upward in its izen (mic) glassed cage. Then off to our beds. A short night awaited. Before dawn, came softly and quietly down the stair, a bunch of anxious kids to see what Santa brought. Just one small gift for each but prized as though there were dozens. Mine was a miniature glass washboard and a tiny blue wash tub with clothespins. Estatic! You, young modern people, could you be as happy and excited with an experience like this?

The gist of it all - then and now is ever the same. "Christmas, the Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the World!"

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Harriet Ouverson

A meeting of the Fertile Little League was held on October 7th. It was felt that there were not enough present for the election of officers. This was tabled until spring. Plans were made for several fund raising events to raise money for a popcorn popper and for some additional uniforms. The first fund raiser was held on Nov. 23 where we had a booth at the Craft Bazaar. Each child was asked to bring either one baked good or craft item to sell. In December we will be holding a soup supper before the Community Christmas Show. A pancake breakfast will be held the first Saturday in February. At this time tickets will go on sale for the raffle of a moped. The winner of this raffle will be announced at a fund-raising carnival to be held the last Saturday in April. During the carnival, sign-up for teams will be held. Parents will be receiving calls for help with these various fund-raisers. Thanks to the community for their continued support of the Little League Program.

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COMMUNITY CENTER

Our Annual Turkey Dinner was held as scheduled in spite of the snow & ice. We were pleased that over 200 people were able to attend. We made a profit of about \$550.00 compared to last years \$1,100.00. We thank all who furnished pies and all the ones that worked before and during the supper to prepare & serve the food and those who came to eat.

The Community Center is short on towels, also good scrub rags (old towels, etc.) We would appreciate having some donated.

Our Craft Fair was held Nov. 23. We had 34 craft tables with a wide variety of crafts. We feel it was very successful. We are sorry we ran out of food but we served 40 pies, 110 cinnamon rolls, a large kettle of Chili and 40 gallons of turkey noodle soup.

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and to all those who helped in anyway. Special thanks to the Sr. Citizen women who served the

food for us, and to Kay Olson for doing all the advertising. A great job was done by all.

Prizes were won by the following:
 Madge Nelson - Home Interior Picture
 from Kathy Brierly
 Mrs. Virgil Ouverson - Rib Eye Supper -
 from Butcher's Steak House
 Sandy Peterson, Thompson - Hairspray -
 from Gail's Beauty Salon
 Golda Kirk, Clear Lake - Sled Ornament -
 from Winnie's Hilltop
 Barb Seglem, Fertile - Avon Spray -
 from Jan Grossnickle
 JoAnn Freking, Forest City - Rib Supper -
 from Creamery

Fern Midtgaard won the picture of the Old Mill.

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Special Thanks to the Fertile Fire Dept. for their quick response to the call for oxygen for our dear mother. Your prompt action was a major factor in her recovery. Sincerely,

Family of Arlene Lee

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We would like to thank each of you for the gifts, cards, and money we recieved for our anniversary, also to those who came and shared the special day with us. It was greatly appreciated

Gene and Lois Low

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"Woodworks" show and sale. Sat. Dec. 7.
 10 am to 5 pm.--James Petersburg --
 1½ miles North of Fertile on A45.

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Thank you to all for remembrances extended to me following my surgery.

Leverne Nelson

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WANTED -- Snow Shoveling and odd jobs.
 Randy Ouverson
 Call Harriet Ouverson ---- 797-2439

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F E E R T I L E

LITTLE TOWN

with
BIG HEART

I cannot put into words
the wonderful feeling I got
when I received all the well
wishes, thoughts, cards, prayers
and help during my recent stay
in the hospital.

You'll never know how much
they were appreciated, helped
and used.

All I can say is

THANK YOU!

Mary Lee Keifer

