

Fertile Reminder

July
1985



Ardie Lovick



Frances Kisner



Geraldine Humphrey



Beverly Bell



Phyllis Orcutt (Pres.)

FERTILE
CLASS of

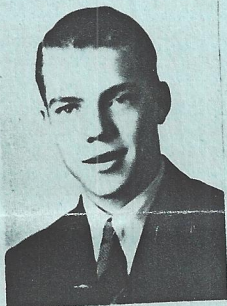


A.A. Grooters (Supt.)

HIGH SCHOOL
1945



Harold Nyhus



Glenn Hanson



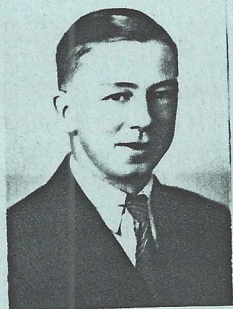
Westey Pederson



Donald Vanden Bosch
Secy - Treas.



Cecil Olson



Larry Swanson



Roger Felland



Arvid Holton



Carl Thompson



Gene Brosdal

RUSSELL
OF
Mason City

FERTILE TOWNSHIP

Fertile Township is located in the extreme southwestern corner of Worth County and comprises all of congressional township 98 north, range 22 west, Fertile Township was organized by an order from Judge Keeler, dated October 20, 1860, in which all of congressional township 98 north, range 22 west, with sections 29, 30, 31, and 32 from Bristol Township, was to be formed into a civil township called Fertile. In this order the county judge authorized John Morris to post notices calling a meeting of the legal voters of the township, which was to be held at the house of Warren Caswell on the first Tuesday of November, 1860. This election was held, but was not very pretentious, as only five ballots were cast, resulting in the election of the following officers: John Morris, supervisor; John Morris, Warren Caswell, William K. Fankell, trustees; William Rhodes, clerk; William J. Clark, assessor; William Rhodes and William J. Clark justices of the peace; and William K. Fankell, constable. The first election held in what is now Fertile Township was at the house of William Rhodes in October, 1861. Just six votes were cast.

The first settler in Fertile Township was William Rhodes. He came to Iowa in 1856 and after stopping for a short time at Charles City, came to Fertile Township. Mr. Rhodes' experience in locating in Worth County is typical of the hardships encountered by the pioneers. This experience of his is well described in the History of Worth and Mitchell Counties, published in 1884, as follows:

"While he was in Mason City, Mr. Rhodes became acquainted with a man who, in conversation, told him of the existence of a mill site in this locality, and he, therefore, started out on a voyage of discovery. When he arrived at the spot, which was at or near the present site of the village of Fertile, he admired the location, and determined to become the owner thereof. He returned to Charles City and making the necessary arrangements, purchased tools, supplies, etc., loaded up his wagon drawn by oxen and started for this then boundless prairie. He arrived here August 6, 1856. His first labor was to build a grindstone frame to grind his scythe that he might cut grass for his oxen. Here he erected an humble log cabin, going to Owens Grove, in Cerro Gordo County, for lumber to roof it in. This mansion was 14 by 18 feet in size, with a Dutch fireplace at one end. In this house he took up his residence, three weeks at a time often passing without a sight of his fellow creatures. The latch string was always hung out and when he had occasion to be absent from home it was his custom to chalk upon the door, 'Walk in and help yourselves.' This fall deer were plenty, wild fruits of all kinds were abundant and he 'lived in clover,' as the saying is, even if his nearest neighbor was eight miles away. Mr. Rhodes was at this time a single man. After completing his house and fixing up about it, he commenced to put in a dam across the creek, for his mill. This he completed satisfactorily and had the mill up, machinery all in, and a sawmill ready for operation, by the next July.

"He ran this mill until the spring of 1858, when the high water cut around the south end of the dam. Business was compelled to halt for a short time while this was repaired. Everything apparently in good condition when this break was repaired, the mill was again started, but the fates were unpropitious, for that same night rain began to fall in torrents and when morning dawned the creek had again swollen, cut around the dam and made a clean sweep of some forty feet of the embankment. Mr. Rhodes said that this was the only time in his life that he felt sick or discouraged over any loss.

"This year of 1858 was known to all the old settlers as the 'wet season', and Lime Creek was not fordable at any time during the summer and, of course, no work could be done upon the dam. In the month of February news came to Mr. Rhodes of the death of his father in Roscoe, Ill., and he now debated in his own mind as to whether it would be better to leave the country, and let his creditors fall heir to all his mill property, or to stick to it manfully.

and work it through. In the end he determined to adopt the latter course. sink or swim. Accordingly, in the latter part of February, 1859, he got some help, cut out the ice in the creek, and extended his mill dam fifty feet and again started the mill. He now met no further obstacles and continued to operate it with considerable success until August 22, 1862, when he enlisted Company B, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, which he served in until 1865, when he returned to Fertile Township. He now went to work again and ran the sawmill, which he had improved, until 1868, when he erected a grist-mill on its site. This building was 34 by 42 feet in dimensions, 2½ stories high, had three run of stone, and a capacity of turning out some fifty barrels of first class flour per diem."

The next settler in the township was William K. Fankell in 1857. He located on the southwest quarter of section 36. He was not a married man, but brought his mother and sister with him. E.S. Winan, a brother-in-law of the above, came at the same time and settled on the northeast quarter of section 36. He returned to Wisconsin with his family the same fall and did not return until 1865, after serving the Union in the Civil War. No other settlers came into the township until just after the war, in 1865, when Henry and Charles Platts came here from Bristol and located on the northeast quarter of section 26. Henry Platts brought his family with him, but Charles was not married.

The first birth in Fertile Township was that of John Fenton, son of William and Hannah Rhodes, on December 1, 1861.

The first death was that of a daughter of Luther Place, during the winter of 1856-57. It was necessary to carry a casket for the child's body from Mason City on a hand sled, so large were the snow drifts. Place was an employee of Rhodes.

The first marriage was that of Marcus O. Blackmore and Louise Fankell, July 2, 1868. Elder Mason a Congregational minister, performed the ceremony.

The first blacksmith was David W. Fisher, who came from Lyons, Iowa, in the spring of 1864. He later became a farmer, which vocation he followed until his death in the spring of 1880.

The first breaking in the township was done by Gabriel Pence, for William Rhodes, in 1856, for a garden. Here the first vegetables were raised. The first wheat was raised by William K. Fankell in 1859.

It is said that during the severe winter of 1856-57 supplies for the small settlement at Fertile had to be hauled from Mason City on small hand sleds. The crust of the deep snow was strong enough to bear the weight of a man, but not thick enough to support a team.

Other early settlers of Fertile Township were: John McEnelly, 1862, section 20; George A. Wescott, 1868, section 9; Robertson Johnson, 1868, section 8; Isaac White, 1869; section 33; Thomas R. Gaskill, 1869; H. Ouverson, 1875; G.K. Daley, J.C. Calhoun, Nils Oleson Fjeld, Ole Nilson Fjeld, T. Knudtson, Andrew Grove, A. Aasenhuis, Nels O. Brunsvold, Eric G. Trustem, W.L. Bilstad, Ole W. Wilstad, Lars W. Bilstad, Eric H. Loftsgarden, Andrew N. Hauge, K. Paulson, Silas L. Olmstead, Michael Kelley, John A. Ford, H.O. Horland, Ole A. Rye, Simon Larson, Henry L. Escherich, K.K. Sagen, William W. Kirk and C.H. Fryer.

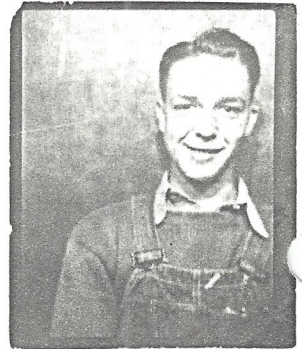




Roger Zelland and Arvid Holten on Guam



Roger



Roger Zelland



A pal.

Phyllis Orcutt and Phyllis L.



Love's Hat



1935



Phyllis Nissen

The Graduating Class of 1945 will hold it's 40th year reunion on July 20th, at the home of Pat and Phyllis Nissen.

There were fifteen members in the class -- four girls and eleven boys. .A. Grooters was the superintendent. Eight of the boys served in the armed forces in World War II and the Korean Conflict. Two of the class members, Donald VanDenBosch and Glenn Hanson, are deceased.

We hope to have a report from them next month as to who attended the reunion.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
 The Class of 1930 of Fertile High-school held their 55th class reunion, June 1, 1985, at the Fertile Community Center. The noon meal was prepared by Mrs. Sam Pederson and Mrs. Ellsworth Spencer.

The seven class members present were: Genevieve Bray, Marcella Lee, Gladys Almeliën, Marie Donavan, Marguerite Oswald, Arthur Halversen, and Mabel Merwin. Also present was Reuben Almeliën, Lucille Halversen and Arthur Merwin. After the meal a short program was held and then everyone went to the Chapel Hill Cemetery. Curtis and Norma Amundsen took them on a tour of their museum. They were entertained in the Amundsen home and served a lovely lunch.

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
 Auction every Wednesday

J & W UPHOLSTERY 797-2457
 Upholstery--Auto Body
 Jean & Wayne Roberts

FIRST STATE BANK 896-2265
 Serving North Iowa
 Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth
 Main Office--Manly

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD 797-2703
 Lannie Hanson, Dist. Mgr.
 Now Serving S. Minnesota
 & N. Iowa. "Have a Party
 With Us."

ORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

FLOWERS BY McCOY--Forest City 582-4517
 Flowers for all occasions

Buffalo meat for sale. Hanging quarters, corn fed. \$1.60 for hinds, \$1.40 for fronts.

Dale Hyde ----- 797-2210

* * * * *

Twelve families held rummage sales Sat. June 1st. We hope to have another one in September, so gather your things together and get ready. If you live in the country and want to join in, bring your things to town and set up on the Community Center yard or ask someone to use their yard. We will advertise for you. Call 797-2267 or 2496 and list your name. The money you make is your own and there is no charge for advertising.

We have no events planned for the Center until the turkey supper, so if anyone has an idea for fund raising, let me know. Our gym roof needs repair again. Craig Hansmeier is doing the needed repair.

Ruth B. Ouverson

* * * * *

STORK REPORT

June 5th, boy, 9lbs. 4oz. Parents are Don & Shawn Nedved of Mason City. He has been named Drew Donald. Grandparents are Mrs. Gwen Scott & Mitzie Nedved of Mason City. Great Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Johnson of Fertile, & Dorothy Nedved of Mason City & Mr. & Mrs. A.F. Schuze of Mason City. Grandfathers are Lavern W. Scott of Mason City & Lloyd Nedved of Nevis, Minnesota.

XXXXXXXXXX

ELECTROLUX PRODUCTS: bags, shampoo. Free delivery to Clear Lake Office on any model of vacuum for repair. In-home free demonstrations of all Electrolux models.

Phone 797-2480, Joan Sunde

XXXXXXXXXX

Music for receptions, parties, etc. Have portable Keyboard
 Call 797-2210 * * * Sheilah Hyde

XXXXXXXXXX

WANTED: Babysitting in my rural home Part-time or full-time, three years and older. Phone 797-2480, Joan Sunde

XXXXXXXXXX



Shirley nissen, Phyllis Lindquist
 norma oswald, Beveily Bell
 Dorthy Elthon, Romane Humphrey
 Teri Humphrey, neva Howland
 Ardelle Brosdahl, Jerry Stalike
 Helen Furness - David Ouberson



July 4th Grade



Elizabeth
 Humphrey
 Washburn

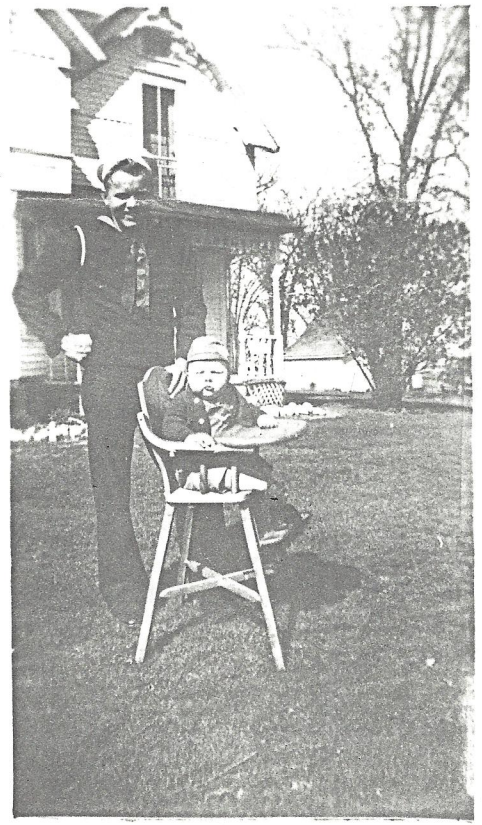


1939

3rd 4th grade

Phyllis
 Brewster
 Nissen

July, 1981
 Harold Nyhas, Teri Humphrey Washburn
 Arvid Helton Phyllis-Orruth-Nissen



Art Lovick

OUR REMINDER SPONSORS

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE Specializing in Good Food | 797-9685 |
| FERTILE FEED SERVICE Complete Livestock Needs Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food | 797-2242 |
| RAY JENNINGS Complete Auction Service | 454-2707 |
| BARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING | 797-2219 |
| HOSPITAL SHOPPE FREE Delivery to Hospitals 1714 7th Ave. N., Clear Lake | 357-5030 357-5026 |

The Fertile City Council met June 4 with Mayor Shropshire presiding and council members Hare, Hall, Petersen, and Bailey present. Also present were Henry Thompson and Ken Kimes.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Council received another complaint on junk cars.

Discussion on water tower repair, motion to have tower cleaned and inside checked. Carried.

Council discussed raising meeting compensation for firemen. Fire Dept. will discuss this.

Ken Kimes asked permission for his band to hold a concert in the park Saturday, June 8 from 8-9:30. Permission given providing the group involved, sign an insurance waiver.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Council accepted Mayor Shropshires resignation effective June 15. JoAnn Bailey will be mayor pro tem. New council person will be appointed at the July meeting.

Bids on repairing the roof at the Fire Dept. building will be accepted at the July 1985 council meeting. Specifications can be obtained from Leonard Bailey, Fire Chief.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

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|---|----------|
| JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE Complete Automotive Service | 797-2677 |
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MAY BALANCE SHEET
Expenditures

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Janice Hare | 216.88 |
| Randy Harms | 141.75 |
| Mark Tuttle | 92.25 |
| Evelyn Knudsen | 197.46 |
| David Low | 281.13 |
| Dick Sheimo | 368.50 |
| Peoples Natural Gas | 323.69 |
| Treas-State of Iowa | 85.09 |
| Dale Northrup | 215.00 |
| Waste Systems Corp. | 603.00 |
| Ipers | 112.12 |
| Winn. RTA | 40.60 |
| City Of Fertile | 51.00 |
| Interstate Power Co. | 606.10 |
| Jordan's | 13.30 |
| K & R Gas | 36.38 |
| Anchor Publishing | 98.00 |
| Co-op Services, Inc. | 24.50 |
| Little League-Girls' Softball | 250.00 |
| Fertile Block & Tile | 205.92 |
| B. Dalton | 141.87 |
| Baker & Taylor | 23.24 |
| Christian Bookstore | 18.00 |
| Family Bookshelf | 15.14 |
| Popular Science | 17.43 |
| Highlights | 17.95 |
| Dick Sheimo | 14.47 |
| Total | 4,211.77 |

TOTAL RECEIPTS 5,816.22



Left to Right:

Marcella Lee Oswald, Clear Lake; Art Halversen, Mason City; Marie Engen Donavon, Northwood; Mabel Van-Hoosen Merwin, Clear Lake; Genevieve Larsen Eray, Osage; Marguerite Purcell Oswald, Forest City; Gladys Field Almellen, Joice.



Glee Club

1942

FRONT ROW: Catherine Jorgenson, Katherine Bell, Lavone Brenden, Jean Ouverson, Arlene Halvorson, Beverly Bell, Geraldine Humphrey, Margaret Nissen.

SECOND ROW: Jean Boos, Niaome Humphrey, Vida Floy, Gladys Bergan, Dorothy Sturegon, Phyllis Orcutt, Evanelle Faulken, Miss Phyllis Vestledahl (Director).

TOP ROW: Ardis Suby, Beverly Haugen, Fern Seglem, Iona Mae Tweed, Vada Eikenberry, Cleo Humphrey.

FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor

BURTNES PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2680

HOFFMAN CRAFTS 797-2714
701 West Main

OLD MILL ANTIQUES 797-2490

PRONTO MARKET 797-2220
Gas and Groceries

PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON 797-2422
Styling for Men & Women

K & R SERVICE 797-2440

RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES 797-2681



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RIVERSIDE CAFE

Main Street

Fertile, IA

All Home Cooked Meals

Open daily 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT: Fish or Chicken Fry with Salad Bar

Bill and Carol Keough, Owners

GRAND OPENING-SATURDAY-JULY 6th

RY
JUHL
OWNER

PRONTO MARKET-FERTILE

GAS - GROCERIES - MEAT - ICE

OPEN 6:30AM.-10:00PM. MON.-SAT. 8:00AM.-9:00PM. SUN.

SIGN UP FOR THE MANY PRIZES!

THESE SPECIALS

Good Friday July 5th thru Sunday July 7th

HOT DOGS 15¢
CUP OF PEPSI 10¢
WHILE THEY LAST
SATURDAY ONLY

NISSEN
FUNTIME
FRANKS
69¢
12 oz PKG

FRITO LAY'S
89¢
8 oz pkgs
POTATO CHIPS

Polar treats
ICE CREAM
SANDWICHES
75¢
6 PK

Milwaukee's
Best-Beer
\$2.89
plus deposit
12 pk cans

PEPSI-MT. DEW
DIET PEPSI
\$1.49
plus deposit
8 pk. 16 oz Bottles

YES! We have Schwans
ICE CREAM

Everyday Milk Prices Whole \$1.99 gal.
2% \$1.79 gal.

Sunday Des Moines Register

Sold Here

"NOW AVAILABLE!" VCRS and MOVIES
to RENT

KIDS COME SEE THE CLOWN SATURDAY!
(12:00 - 4:00)

The Fertile Garden Club met at the Community Center on Tuesday June 11, at 2 p.m. Roll call was, "Share a picture of a beautiful flower", and was answered by 16 members. Thought for the day was read by Ethel Tuttle. Secretary's report was given. Edna Pederson read the new Constitution she had written up. Following the business meeting, Mildred McGrath presented a lesson on Roses. Violet Hall gave a lesson on Weeds, (identification & eradication). We ended the meeting by singing the Table Prayer. Lunch was served by the hostesses, Evelyn Knudtson and Alice Kingland.

Marcella Mitchell, Sec.

* * * * *

I want to express my appreciation to the following people who helped me with the Mental Health Ass'n of Iowa, Fund Drive, which was just completed the end of May: Sharon Ganz, Nancy Sheimo, Jan Grossnickle, Silence Johnson, Doris Oswald, Harriet Ouverson, Jane Ramon, Viola Roberts, June Strohman, Don Suby, and Dean Haugen.

The amount received from the town of Fertile was \$260.00. This is the most we have given in the five years I have been involved with the Fund Drive, and the Mental Health Ass'n is very pleased with the results.

Thank you to the volunteers and to each of you who gave so generously.

Jean VanDenBosch

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A Girl, to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jones, of Fertile, born June 5. She has been named Jessica Lynn and weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Robert Suby of Fertile and Mr. & Mrs. Donald Jones of Apache Junction, Arizona. Great-Grand-Mother is Mrs. Henry Suby of Mason City. She has a stepsister, Jennifer Jones.

June 11, a girl, 7lbs. 11oz. She has been named Tara Lynn. Parents are Craig & Dawn Hansmeir of Fertile. Grandparents are Marvin & Joann Hansmeir of Fertile.

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GOVERNMENT COMMODITIES, July 18, at the Fertile Community Center. 1-5 p.m. Same Guidelines as before.

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FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Family Worship-Sundays at 9 a.m.
Circles: Mary, July 25th, 9:30a.m.
Rebekah, July 25th, 2:00 p.m.
Ruth, July 22nd, 7:30 p.m.
Sarah, July 22nd, 7:30 p.m.
Ladies Aid, July 11th, 9:30 a.m. Cradle Roll Day.

PILOT KNOB LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Family Worship-Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
July 9th, Joint ALCW & Circles meet at the Church at 7:30 p.m.

* * * * *

Thank you to everyone for remembering me the past few months. I have appreciated every card, call and prayer.

Reva Nelson

* * * * *



Harvey Knudson
Fertile Iowa
50134