

# HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 9 Issue 1

WWW.HISTORY.HUXLEYIOWA.ORG/

1st half - 2015

## 2015 Officers

### President

Nels Nord

### Vice President

Chris Jennelle

### Secretary

Janet Stoll

### Treasure

Scott Petersen

## 2015 Calendar:

Meetings are generally the  
4th Monday of the month  
at 6:30 Pm in Council  
Chambers.

Our home is located at  
**515 N. Main** in the  
3C's building call  
515-231-9174 to visit

### Summer Hours:

## Fairway \*\*\*\*\*Fareway

With the new Fareway Grocery coming to Huxley on Highway 69 this summer, I thought I would write about another Fairway, not Fareway Grocery Store, that existed in Huxley in the 1930's.

I received this picture from Ann Marie (Harestad) Langmanan, a 1948 graduate of Huxley High who now lives in Durant, Iowa. Ann Marie's mother's dad was Ole Weeks. The Fairway Grocery & Market, Harestad & Wee, was located on the East side of Highway 69 where "Big Jims" was located. The store was operated by Alfred Harestad and Miller Wee and this picture was from August 26, 1933. Alfred Harestad died of a heart attack in 1938. In the 1939 – mid 1940's, the store was Kvale Hi-Way Market.



Aug. 26, 1933 - Huxley, IA. ↑ Alfred Harestad

The store was located in Huxley, IA. along highway 69

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**MISSION STATEMENT** :To engage the Community of Huxley, Iowa in the preservation, education, and celebration of our heritage and ancestry. To preserve for research and education, the artifacts, information, and verbal histories about the lives of the people of Huxley from its pioneer origins to the present day and into our future.

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Fairway \*\*\* Fareway Cont.

Also, in the 1930's, Ben Hokel ran a grocery store on Main Street during the depression of 1934. Beverly Hill worked for Ben for \$5.00 a week. Beverly had a cousin, Omar Hill, who couldn't find work so he offered to split the \$5.00 with Omar so he would also have a job. According to the article written by Harriet Hokel, Ben's wife, Saturday night was a big night! The farmers all came to town and there were band concerts and ball games in the summer. One Saturday they put a telephone line-call out to the farmers that there was going to be a girl's "kitten ball game". The business men had bought some flood lights so they could play that night on a vacant lot on the East side of Main Street which is now Memorial Park. These business men, who called themselves the "Tennessee Hussies", had boarded a school bus and drove South of town to the Roland Hildreth farm. They dressed in "Mother Hubbard" dresses and sun bonnets and came back into town. There was a really big crowd and everyone had a lot of fun. The farmers brought their eggs and traded them out for groceries. Ben Hokel had grown up in Huxley so he knew everyone. He was a good hearted person and helped families who were struggling and didn't want to see any children go hungry.

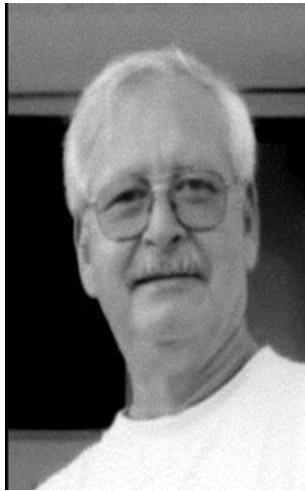
Ira Hendricks bought the grocery store from Ben in 1935 and ran it until he sold the store to Henry Dobbe in 1945. Henry ran the store until the 1950's when Beverly and Lillian Hill, who worked for Henry, ran the business until the early 1960's. There also was another grocery store on the West side of South Main Street and First Street called Tolefson Grocery. Both of the stores went out of business on Main Street in the 1960's.

There wasn't a grocery store in Huxley for several years until Arnold Ihle built the Ballard Plaza on Highway 69. The grocery store in the plaza was operated by several different owners until it closed in the 1990's.

So from the 1930's when Huxley was 362 people and supported two grocery stores for three decades to now with a population of around 3700 people, I hope the residents support the new Fareway on Highway 69.

Nels Nord

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## Goodbye Friend.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the city of Huxley and the Huxley Historical Society lost a valued member. Don (known as Donnie most of us) was a founding member of the Huxley Historical Society in 2005. He served as president, vice-president, caretaker of the Ballard Grove pioneer cemetery, maintained the 1963 Ford fire truck until 2013 when it sold, and actively promoted the history and heritage of Huxley. He will be greatly missed.

The obituary and photo are courtesy of the Ames Tribune.

Donald Duncan, 63, of Huxley, passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2015, at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 30, 2015, at Soderstrum Funeral Home, 312 Main St., Slater. Burial will be in Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter.

Donald Darwin Duncan was born on Sept. 20, 1951, to Jerry and Neola (Genzler) Duncan in Des Moines. Donald served in the U.S. Air Force from Jan. 14, 1971 to Oct. 15, 1976. He married Dew Nguyen. Donald worked as a mechanical engineer for Altratec Plastics and was a member of the Huxley Volunteer Fire Department, the Huxley Historical Society and the Slater American Legion Post No. 260.

Donald is survived by his wife, Dew Duncan, of Huxley; six siblings, Jerry Duncan, of California, Judy (Robert) Nicholson, of Mingo, James (Betty) Duncan, of Texas, Ed (Tracy) Duncan, of California, Sindy Twedt, of Oklahoma and Sandy Duncan, of California; and one step-son, Hau Truong.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

# Huxonian Tidbits

## SPORTS

### HIGH SCHOL GIRLS DEFEAT ALUMNAE

The Huxley High school girls played their first basketball game of this season on Tuesday night, Nov. 26. This game was played against the Alumnae girls, and proved to be very interesting.

Both teams played hard during the entire game and took the hard knocks with a smile.

Lucille Larson was high point girl on the high school side, making a total of 13 points, 5 of them on free throws. June Apland was a close second, with 9 points.

Melba Ashbaugh did a splendid bit of defense work and with the team work of Opal Tesdall and others, the girls did a very nice job of keeping the Alumnae score down to 12 points.

Those of us who witnessed the game wouldn't think of missing the next High School Alumnae game. Some of the humorous accidents will live in our memory for a long time. Some of those Alumnae girls are not bad at all, considering the fact that they are out of practice. It was observed they had not forgotten some of their old shigh school tricks. Javerna Maland can still fall hard and get up and smile. Neoma Bjelland still yells, Hay Hay! Yvonne was very light on feet, because after all isn't she the waitress who juggles the dishes?

The students thank the Alumnae for the game and hope they were thrilled over the first game of the season.

These girls are not only high point girls in basketball, but let it be known, that all the girls who started the game on the floor last Tuesday night are also found on the High School Honor Roll.

The improvement in the team work of the girls looks good, but don't stop. There is much to learn. Go crashing ahead girls! Winning or losing, we're all for you.

## SCHOOL

### HIGH SPELLING GRADES

The following have received A in Spelling for this six weeks: -- Seventh grade – Darlene Dobbe, Lois Ann Fjelland, Anita Hauge, Francis Rullestad, Paul Severseike, LaVonne Sydnes and Wilma Tweet. -- Eight grade – Lorraine Apland, Lois Dobbe, Patricia Douglas, Avernol Fjelland, David Freed and Florence Lande.

### FRESHMAN SPELLDOWN

Flash! Maxine Rullestad was declared to be the winner of a spelldown, which the Freshies enjoyed recently.

However, only after quite an ordeal of spelling did she succeed in spelling down Lucille Larson.

### BAND EQUIPPED

### WITH UNIFORMS

The band is finally equipped with all the black and orange uniforms they need! Now it really will be a thrill to see the Huxley Band happily piling into the buses next semester, headed for the contest. Every-one's for you, band, so let's see the first place again!



## **This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> year for the Fjeldberg Lutheran Church!**

Let's start with a brief history of the Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, as taken from the Huxley Centennial 1882-1982 "The Huxonian" and the April 30, 2015 Tri-County Times.

In 1865 six men gathered together to organize what is now the Fjeldberg congregation. Those six men were Ole M. Helland, Knudt A. Toft, Anders Toft, Jacob Stenson, Jacob A. Jacobson, and Torres Skarveland. They held their meeting in the home of Skarveland, which was located one and a half a mile southeast of Huxley. The name of the church at that time was "Norsk Lutherske Menigheter" (Norwegian Lutheran Congregation).

In 1867 the church was reorganized and renamed "Fjeldberg Norsk Evangelisk Menighet" (Fjeldberg Norwegian Lutheran Church). The church adopted this name of Fjeldberg because most of its members came from a parish of Fjeldberg Norway.

The first church was built one mile south of Huxley on the northeast corner of highway 69 and highway 210, where the cemetery is now located. It was dedicated on November 10, 1867. In 1871 the congregation purchased the land to the east of the church to build the church parsonage.



## Fjeldberg 150th Cont.

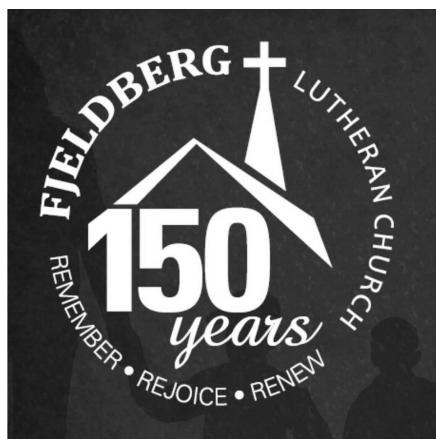
In 1906, the whole church was moved into town to its current location. This was done by crossing fields and placing planks down in the swampy areas. The new parsonage for the church was built in 1910.

In 1913 the church was remodeled and enlarged making a sloping floor so that nowhere in the church was the alter obstructed from view. The windows were large, made of beautiful stained glass. The cost of the project was \$13,000.00.

On February 22, 1945, the church building and its contents were totally destroyed by fire. A new brick building was erected after three years of construction and was dedicated on February 22, 1948 at a cost of \$65,000.00. In 1953, an educational wing was added at the west end of the building.

On Sunday May 3, 2015 the Fjeldberg congregation enjoyed a service led by interim pastor David Cline and numerous members of the congregation. The day's celebration included an Norwegian American Worship Service from the 1860's; numerous historical displays which included past and present photos of the church, Norwegian rosemaling, historical displays and remembrance, several church members wore traditional Norwegian clothing, a beard growing contest, a baking contest, and corn polling of ethnic heritage and spiritual background. The day was finished with a potluck which included kumla, ham balls, and polse (hot dogs).

Historically yours, Janet Stoll, HHS Secretary



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**DR. NORD M. D.**  
Residence      Huxley – 82  
Office          Cambridge -- 120



# Thank you for paying your dues. We appreciate it very much.

Please consider joining as a LIFETIME member and never have to worry about renewing again.

A LIFETIME membership is easy (\$500 one time) and it means so much to HHS as we need a safe space to store the heritage we have already acquired AND your input about how best to preserve it. The HHS needs a building and archival quality storage to protect our fabulous treasures much of which are delicate photo's, fabrics, and papers.

Feel free to use the membership form on the back of this newsletter.

Be sure and come to a meeting when you can because even as we need financial assistance we also need help making good plans for our future. NOT to mention the great stories we share!

The following are Lifetime members who agree with our mission.

Dick & Beverly Anderson

John Berhow

Omar & Valerie Brendeland

Duane & Barbara Finch

Orville & Dolores Hauge

Laverne & Elaine Helland

Darlene & Robert Hermann

Dave & Cheryl Kalsem

Homer & Kay Kalsem

John & Ann Kalsem

Dean & Diane Lande

Elizabeth & Javerna Maland

Don & Donna Nord

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Mail To:

***HHS-515 N. Main Ave-Huxley Iowa. 50124***

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE  
CONTACT US AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

PHONE: NELS NORD 515-231-9174

EMAIL: HHS@HUXCOMM.NET

WEB SITE:  
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