

HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Volume 5 Issue 1

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1st half - 2012

2012 Officers

- **President**—Nels Nord
- **V.P.** — Don Duncan
- **Sec.**—Janet Stoll
- **Treasure**-Scott Petersen
- **Publishing**- Michele Kalsem

2012 Calendar:

Annual Meeting April 28, 2012— New Safe Room Huxley Iowa.

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

2012 Calendar:

Annual Meeting Theme *“HUXLEY HORSE SHOW”*



The 2012 Annual Huxley Historical Society meeting will be held April 28, 2012 from 11:30 am – 2:00 pm in the new Safe Room Building which is located at 515 North Main Ave. and is attached to the City Hall and 3C’s Building.

This years’ theme will be the “Huxley Horse Show” which was started in 1942 and ended in 1956. The Huxley Horse Show started after the Huxley Creamery Day was discontinued in 1941. It was considered to be the best horse show in the State of Iowa and was attended by two to three thousand people.

A horse show committee was formed with Orville Kalsem as chairman and Sophes Berhow as secretary. Other committee members were: Dr. D.H. Nord, M.D., Orland Berhow, R.B. Helland, Grant Rullestad, Lester Cook, Henry Thompson, Searly Helland, George Huser, Clint Wallingford and Bob Torgerson.

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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.*

The first show was held Sept. 3, 1942 as part of the Huxley Jubilee Celebration. The horse show was held in the outfield of the Huxley High School baseball field just east of the shelter house at Nord-Kalsem Park. It started with a parade of horses led by the Huxley High School Band. The parade started on Railway Street at the far South end of Huxley and proceeded up through Main Street to the Huxley High School ball diamond on the school grounds.

The horse show was an afternoon event with a total of 127 horses entered in various classes. Along with the horse show were other activities such as a flower show, hog calling, races, ladies nail driving contest and an evening program which began at 7:00 pm with the Huxley Band. Entertainment that evening included musical groups, acrobatic stunts, dancing, musical numbers by cowboys, ventriloquists and recorded music over the loud speaker system by Elman Sheldahl.



Each year the Huxley Horse Show grew and on August 30, 1943, 150 horses participated in fourteen different classes. There were five ribbons and three money winners in each class.

A permanent horse show ring was built in 1945 where the Ballard Bus Barn now stands. It was 150 ft. long and 74 ft. wide with a nice white board fence and a judges' stand built in the center of the ring. Lights and permanent bleachers were erected. Once finished, a 50 cents admission was charged to see the horse show. The afternoon show was western style horses and the evening show was a society show which included fine harness horses, five gaited horses, Tennessee Walking horses and parade horses. The show horses were housed at Dr. D.H. Nord's barns which were located on a ten acre site just west of the horse show ring.

Food stands were located on the baseball field and the Fjeldberg and Palestine Lutheran Church women served sandwiches, coffee, pop, cookies and pie. An organist was located within the judges' stand in the center of the ring. They played between classes and during some of the society show classes. The ribbon girls were local girls – Joan Dueland, Margianne Hall, Jane Beck and Karen Nord.

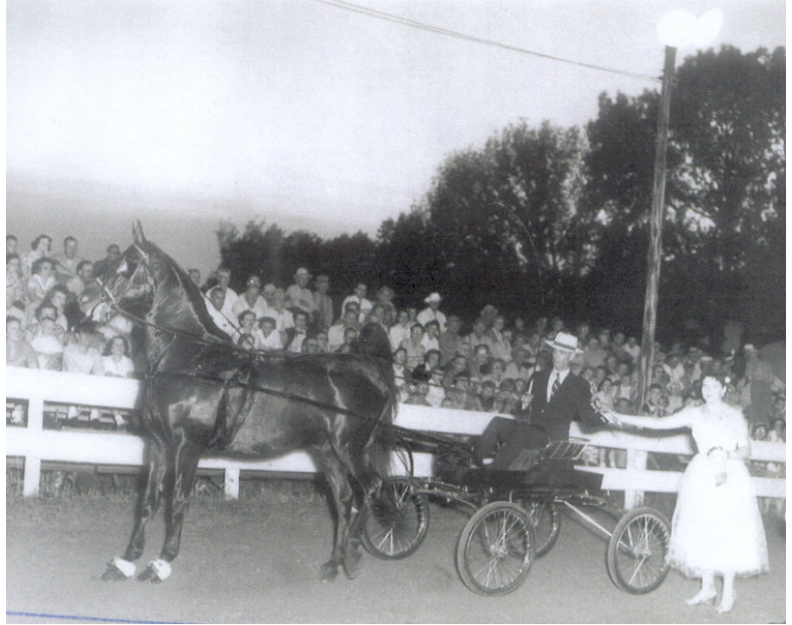
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WANT TO JOIN US? Call **515-231-9174**

RSVP information on the back page—**Clip and Mail**

Orville Kalsem served as the Huxley Horse Show chairman for all the years except 1948 when Orland Berhow was chairman. The directors the last several years of the horse show were O.B. Berhow, Searly Helland, Hap Antil., R.B. Helland, Dr. D.H. Nord, Johnnie Kalsem, Clark Helland and Homer Kalsem.

The money that was made from the horse show was used to build the shelter house at Nord-Kalsem Park. On Sept. 15, 1987, the City of Huxley honored Dr. D.H. Nord and Orville Kalsem with a resolution naming Nord-Kalsem Park for their efforts in establishing the Huxley Horse Show.



The Huxley Horse Show put Huxley on the map and was known as “the Biggest Little Horse Show” in the State of Iowa.

Nels A. Nord, President, Huxley Historical Society

**MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE ACCEPTED AT ANNUAL MEETING OR
CLIPPED AND MAILED FROM BACK PAGE**

Do you know someone who would enjoy our newsletter? Let us know we will send them a complementary copy!

We also accept gift subscriptions—let us know who to send it to.

Call Michele at 515-450-0764 with the information.



**Do you know someone that has Huxley
Historical memorabilia?**

How about photo's or a great life story?

Let us know! Call Nels 515-231-9174



HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING

- Saturday, April 28 -

**Meeting/luncheon will be held in
Huxley's New Safe Room
(adjacent to City Hall).**

**This year's theme remembers the
"Biggest Little Horse Show in Iowa"**

Doors open to
New Safe Room at 11:30 am.

**Old-Fashioned Maid Rites
will be served at 12 noon**

(Free Will Offering Accepted)



Annual meeting will begin
at 1:00 pm

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Owen John Kalsem

David Kalsem

Please RSVP so we can plan for you!

RSVP by Friday, April 20

- Call Nels Nord at 597-2201 or 231-9174

or

- Email Nels Nord at nn4hawks@hotmail.com.

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 items. Did you know we have a fire truck? And a 4' x 5' painting? Those are just two of the fabulous treasures we store but we have A LOT more 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.

John Berhow

Homer & Kay Kalsem

Laverne & Elaine Helland

Elizabeth & Javerna Maland

Darlene & Robert Hermann

Nels & Rowena Nord

Dave & Cheryl Kalsem

Harriett Sheldahl

John & Ann Kalsem

Janet & Gary Thompson

Dean & Diane Lande

David & Verda Tesdall

Omar & Valerie Brendeland

Membership Form—Clip or Copy and Mail

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Circle those that apply please.

Annual 2012	\$20
Family 2012	\$30
Lifetime Membership	\$500
Gift Amount	\$_____
2nd ed. DVD Purchase	\$20
S&H for DVD	\$2.50
Total	\$_____

RSVP TO ANNUAL MEETING # ATTENDING _____

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:
WWW.HISTORY.HUXLEYIOWA.ORG

HUXLEY

