

# HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 2

Website: [www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org)

Spring 2017

## 2017 Officers

### President

Nels Nord

### Vice President

Delila Roberts

### Secretary

Janet Stoll

### Treasurer

Scott Petersen

### Member-at-Large

Judie Weyer

### Newsletter

Janet Stoll

### Webpage

Volunteer Needed!

### 2017 Calendar:

*Meetings are the 4th  
Monday of the month  
at 6:00 pm in the city  
Council Chambers*

**"The Hub"** museum is  
located at **515 N. Main** in  
the 3C's building.

### Summer Hours:

April – September

Tuesday & Thursday

8:30 - 10:30 am

or call Nels to set up a visit

515-231-9174

## Nords Notes

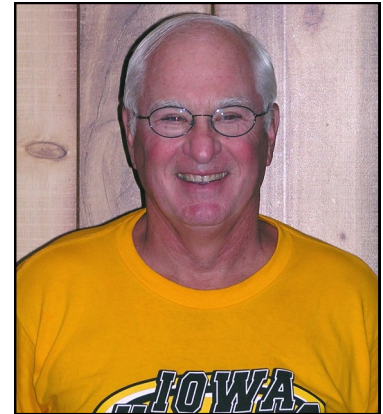
### ~ A word from our president ~

The building of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway in 1882-83 created quite the stir in Huxley, for men of all ages came to seek employment.

The company sub-let most of the work to be done for a two-mile stretch from one mile west to one mile east of the unincorporated town of Huxley that was platted.

Two brothers, L. S. Heggen & O. S. Heggen, along with Peter Myrah, got the sub-contract to build the grade through Huxley.

The contractors had a rule to use local men as much as possible. As a result of these rules, the men employed were local farmers and farm boys from the country side. Some of the persons hired were men that had recently come from Norway. Some of the men hired were Sam Larson, Erick Erickson, L. A. Larson, Ole Langland, Cornelius and John Raynes, Anton and Ed Reinertson, John Wagner, Anders Tesdahl, Ole and Pete Fatland, and many others. William Olson, then 12 years old, was the youngest one working and he was driving a team of horses.



The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Depot of Huxley, Iowa

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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.*

Cont'd from page 1

The equipment of the grading gangs was rather primitive with old style slip scrapers and a few wheel scrapers. When they had far to haul the dirt, they used wagons with dump boards powered by horses and mules.

B. O. Fatland ran a boarding house that was near the road and built a shanty, 60 feet long, in his father's pasture, east of the house, where the men were cared for and got their meals. Others stayed in homes in the vicinity.

All the men hired were of Norwegian heritage, except for Harry Gay who was an Englishman and Ike Coon who was Irish. Ike was well known all over Palestine and Union Township and was very popular. Both of the men learned to speak Norwegian in a short time.

The men spent the evenings singing or playing their accordions. Others played cards, danced, wrestled and boxed.

The railroad was completed in 1883. An original plat of Huxley was done as they started the rail project in 1882. Huxley was then incorporated in 1902.

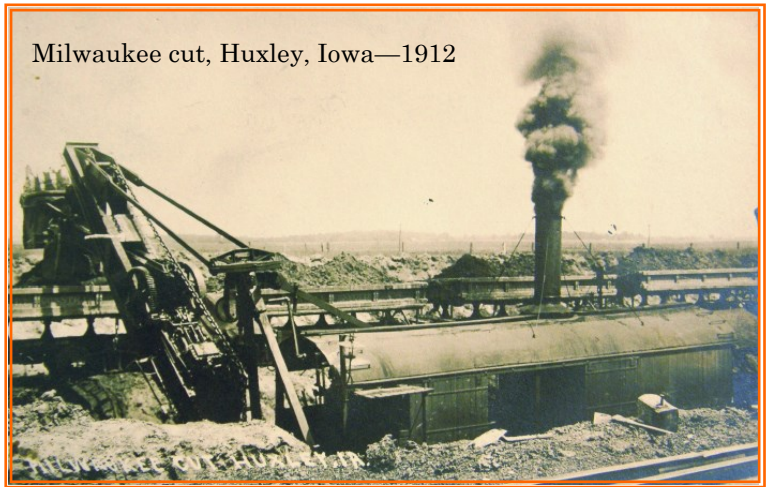
Nels A. Nord, President

Huxley Historical Society

In 1912 the grade of the railway from Cambridge to Huxley was lowered. The old grade had been level with the streets in Huxley and engines had problems. Even so, the grade from Cambridge thorough Huxley has always been a long, hard pull. Four hundred laborers were imported to work on the road with horses and mules, many not conditioned for the heavy labor.

Elmer Dobbe was a young boy at the time and he recalls that the labor camp was about a mile east of Huxley, and there were two railway cars used as the bakery and kitchen and, probably the quarters for the men.

Milwaukee cut, Huxley, Iowa—1912



~ excerpt from "The Huxonian - Huxley Centennial 1882 - 1982" ~



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !!!  
221 likes so far!





## "A Big Day!"

Submitted by Susie Schaudt

Elizabeth Maland celebrated her 104th birthday on Thursday, February 16, 2017.

Friends and family dropped by Ballard Creek throughout the day and enjoyed birthday cake and coffee with the sweetest 104-year old guest of honor!

Elizabeth thoroughly enjoyed visiting with all of her birthday visitors, who included out of town guests from West Des Moines; Omaha, NE; and Gordonsville, VA. A special little furry friend named Pooter also delivered birthday wishes! Elizabeth loves dogs!

Elizabeth decided after the party to wait until the next day to read all of her birthday cards and greetings! She received over 104 birthday cards! She said it was such a great day but she needed a little rest because it had been "A Big Day!"

## Happy birthday dear Elizabeth!



Happy 104th Birthday Elizabeth!!



Elizabeth, Pooter, Adessa



Front row l-r: Linda (Larson) Cron, Elizabeth Maland, Julie Huxford  
Back row l-r: Nancy Fausch, Cindy (Larson) Ambrosion, Nancy Sheehy, Donna Millang, Joyce Wirth, Darlene Kalsem

## Huxley Law Men

Huxley has had some sort of law enforcement since the early 1900's, maybe even earlier. Constables were Wier Sydnes, a house decorator for over 50 years; O.J. Severaid, the local druggist for over 50 years; Orland Berhow; and later Norris Sydnes, Bill Deming, Mark Nord, and Nels Nord. The present police officer is Tom Busby. In the 1920s, a vigilante committee of merchants was formed to thwart vandalism in town. The city has declined joining with the county security system, feeling that with the officers in town at least Huxley knows what its problems are. For more than fifteen years, the city has been served most efficiently on a part-time basis by the Nord brother as officers, working together or separately. Nels Nord is currently the police chief on a part-time basis.

~ excerpt from the Huxley Centennial 1882-1982 book called "The Huxonian" ~

Orland Berhow was a town Marshall in Huxley. He said that during the 1920's drinking was quite a problem in town. Huxley "wasn't really rough," Orland said, "but about that time there was a lot of stealing." What he and the town did was form a vigilante committee to stand watch on Main Street at night. "They called themselves a vigilante committee, but I would call it more of a night watch, to keep people from stealing and breaking into the stores," Orland said. A group of about 20 men made up the committee in 1923.

~excerpt from article written by the Tri-County Times April 1, 1976 ~

The town of Huxley has had only three police chiefs, Mark Nord, Nels Nord, and current chief, Mark Pote.



W.H. Davenport 12 gauge shotgun—belonged to Ivan Bauge—Huxley Town Marshall  
~ donated by the late Naomi Tomlinson—niece of Ivan Bauge ~  
~ on display in the office of Huxley Police Chief Mark Pote ~



Vigilante committee in 1923.

Front row l-r: Roy Tweedt, Roy Elliott, Hap Richardson, Leslie Tesdall, Burt Tesdall  
Back row l-r: H. Johnson, Guy Olson, O.J. Severied, H.J. Hermingson, L. Sheldahl, Alec Lyte, Seward Nass, Seward Berhow, Weir Sydnes, Fred Hullman, Alfred Savereid



## Huxley Police Chiefs



Mark Nord  
1970-1978

Mark Nord served as town Marshall from 1966 to 1970, when he was named Police Chief.

Mark and Nels Nord, brothers, were appointed as part-time officers out of necessity. Mark took the job in 1966 when Bill Deming retired as the city man and Town Marshall. Then, in 1968, a series of problems emerged in Huxley that prompted Nels to volunteer as a Deputy Marshall. The biggest problems came from the Royal Acres trailer court and the two taverns, Big Jim's and the Viking Villa. In fact, Huxley was the only town in the state of Iowa to close two taverns in one year because of city ordinance violations. In 1973 the Huxley city council banned nude dancing and the ban was upheld by the Iowa Supreme Court.



Nels Nord  
1978-2003

Nels Nord served as Deputy Marshall from 1968 to 1970, when he became a Police Officer. He was named Police Chief in 1978. Nels retired on December 31, 2003.



Mark Pote  
2004 - current

Mark Pote served as Police Officer from October 20, 1997, and then interim Chief until he was sworn in as Police Chief on January 14, 2004. Mark started his police career at the Coon Rapids Police Department in June of 1989. They sponsored him through the police academy and he graduated from the academy May 18, 1990 and then started full-time with the Corning Police Department May 20, 1990.

If you have stories and photos you would like to share, please send them to the Huxley Historical Society.

You can either send them by email to [hhs@huxcomm.net](mailto:hhs@huxcomm.net) or by mail to HHS, 515 N Main St, Huxley, IA 50124

SAVE THE DATE !!

# HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Fjord Style - Norwegian "Hamball" Dinner

Saturday, April 22nd 2017

4:00 - 7:00 pm

Cost - Goodwill Donation

Sponsor:

FAREWAY  
of  
Huxley

## Nord-Kalsem Community Center

204 W. 5th St, Huxley

Maland Home Fundraiser

Carry-out available

MALAND GENEALOGY



## HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Members Meeting

Monday April 24th 6pm

Please join us for a short HHS meeting followed by a tour of Meland Norway and the Maland family provided by tour guide Gerald Klönglan. Gerald is doubly related to the Maland Family!

Huxley City Council Chambers  
515 N. Main Ave

Refreshments will be served



# AWESOME GARAGE SALE

The Maland Home  
is joining the  
Huxley City Wide Garage Sale

Where: 306 N. 1st Ave, Huxley

When: Fri, May 19th 4p-7p & Sat, May 20 8a-noon

Why: Fundraiser for the Maland Home !!

THIS WAY!



## !! WANTED !!

Gently used Uff Da and Prairie Fest t-shirts!

We're working on a project and we need your help.

If you have t-shirts you would like to donate them,  
email us at [hhs@huxcomm.net](mailto:hhs@huxcomm.net).

## What is it the Flowers say?

By Mrs. Harry (Mabel) Wee

~~~~~

Though February days are cold,  
The year is drawing near the Spring,  
When tiny seeds beneath the mold,  
Will wake and grow, and Birds will sing;  
And brooks will chatter merrily,  
So happy that the time is past,  
When they were held by icy bands,  
Through the Winter's snows and stormy blasts!

In reminiscent mood we turn  
Times pages back, and thought bestow  
On that, which seems but yesteryear,  
Although 'twas forty years ago.  
"Oh what is it the Flowers say?"  
We heard a little maiden sing  
A child whose years scarce numbered five  
To every family much alive,  
Loved Everyone and Everything

We watched the Child through passing years,  
Through girlhood days till womanhood,  
We saw her when a Lover knew  
To he alone, it is not good  
For Man, \_ And, when he came take  
This gentle Maid to be his bride:  
They twain, did then, a Garden make  
This Love was strong, 'twas not opaque  
To those who saw them, side by side!

What was it Martin Luther said  
About the children on his knee?  
"Ah, they are like the Fruit and Flowers,  
They bring us joy through weary hours.  
We plant and cultivate, but they  
Bring happiness along the way:  
Our Children, like a Garden bright  
Do give us Comfort, Day and Night!"



As, with the Sage of Wittenburg,  
So was it with this happy Pair:  
At first, there came the Violet,  
And then the Lily tall and fair!  
'Tis of this Lily, now, we speak  
For she is grown, and here, today  
We come with Gladness and with Joy  
And unto her, our Tribute pay.

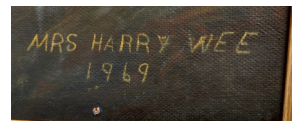
Her Bridal Day is past and gone  
Though but a few short days ago.  
And here we come, our Gifts to bring,  
And gaily chat and laugh and sing,  
That she our Friendship true, may know.  
And, as they move a down the years,  
As other Brides and Bride grooms do,  
May Smiles be many \_ few, the Tears,  
These happy one will come to know.

Among the Gifts we offer here,  
Are some not seen by human eyes,  
We hope these never fade nor die.  
Ah, may the Love of Home be yours  
In these grim days of great unrest  
And just as long as Home endures  
Be by the Gentle Savior bliss!

When Beauty fades through passing years  
May greater beauty from within  
Replace it \_ till our Lord appears  
To take each Stain of Sin,  
"Oh what is it the Flowers say?"  
That lovely Cadence echoes still!  
Let answers come, as from the Flowers,  
From sheltered nook or sun kissed Bowers  
Let come what will, each passing Day

Far from our Home may we not stray  
Ours, but to live and to obey.  
The Father's gracious Will!

~~~~~



Mabel Wee was also the artist for this portrait of a Norway fjord. In 1969 she was commissioned by Bonnie and Fritz Erickson to paint the portrait. They proudly displayed it in their Huxley restaurant "The Fjord Restaurant" until its closing in 1988. Paul Sandve purchased the portrait when The Fjord closed and later donated it to the Huxley Historical in August 2006. The portrait is 4'x7' and is currently displayed within the Huxley City Hall.



## 2017 Membership Form—Clip or Copy and Mail

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2017 Annual Membership \$ 20.00

Lifetime Membership \$ 500.00

HHS donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Maland Home donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Fjord recipe booklet \$ 5.00

S&amp;H for booklet \$ 2.00

2nd ed. DVD Purchase \$ 20.00

S&amp;H for DVD \$ 2.50

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: **HHS-515 N. Main Ave-Huxley Iowa. 50124**Office use only: check # \_\_\_\_\_ date of check \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_ label \_\_\_\_\_ member list \_\_\_\_\_FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US AT ONE  
OF THE FOLLOWING:

PHONE: NELS NORD 515-231-9174

EMAIL: HHS@HUXCOMM.NET

\*\*\*\*\* **SAVE THE DATE** \*\*\*\*\***April 22nd - Hamball meal fundraiser**

4pm– 7pm / Nord-Kalsem Shelter

**April 24th 6pm - Annual meeting**

Presentation and refreshments

**May 1st - 10am - Maland Home Yard clean up**

rain date May 8th - 10am

**May 19th & 20th - Maland Home Yard Sale**

Maland Home - 306 N. 1st Ave

**June 10th - Huxley High Alumni dinner**

Huxley Safe Room

**August 26th - Pie Eating Contest**

following the Prairie Fest Parade

Huxley Amphitheater

**September 24th - Pie on the Porch**

Maland Home - 306 N. 1st Ave

## HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

515 N. Main Ave  
Huxley, IA 50124Name in Blue?  
Take a Moment to Renew!Website: [www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org)