

HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Website: www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 1

Winter 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

Michele Kalsem

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.

Winter Hours:

October – April
Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 - 10:30 am
or call Nels to set up a visit
515-231-9174

Nords Notes

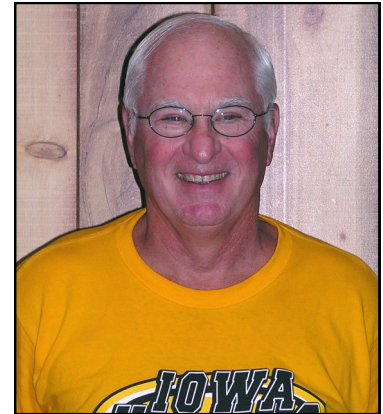
~ A word from our president ~

As a young boy I used to take my parents watches for repair to Hartwick Swenson. Hartwick's jewelry business was located in his home three houses south of the Fjeldberg Church on North 2nd Ave.

Hartwick Theodore Swenson was born near Randall, Iowa, and attended a country school. While he worked as a farm boy, his hobby was collecting, trading and tinkering with watches. While still on the farm, Hartwick learned the handling of carpenter's tools, for his father had been a carpenter in Norway.

At 17, the jewelry hobby took a strong hold on Swenson. He went to work in the Itsa watchmaking shop in Story City. He then went back to Randall where he operated a watch repair shop in a drugstore and also helped out in the drugstore as a clerk.

When Hartwick married Ruth Johnson, he went to farming in northern Iowa, then moved up to Minnesota in 1919. The Swensons came back to Iowa, settling on a farm near Huxley. For 20 years Swenson worked as a farmer, carpenter and jeweler in Huxley. He was a very skilled cabinet maker, which he made in the basement of his home.



Swenson's Jewelry Cabinet, located in "The Hub"

Cont'd page 2

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.*

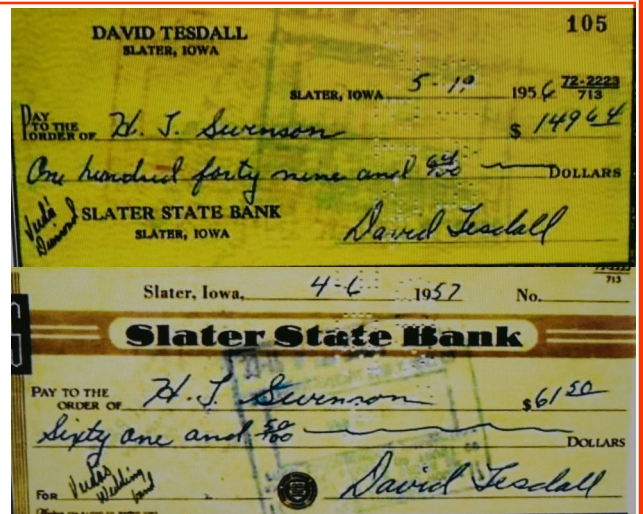
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David Tesdall told me that he bought an engagement ring in 1956 and wedding ring in 1957 for his fiancé Verda Alleman from Swenson Jewelry.

The information about Hartwick was given to me by Darlene Kalsem who was Hartwick's granddaughter.

Nels A. Nord, President

Huxley Historical Society



Happy 104th Birthday Elizabeth!!

Elizabeth will be celebrating her birthday on February 16th.

Let's help her celebrate with a card shower!

Elizabeth Maland
909 N Highway 69 #138
Huxley, IA 50124



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



Christmas at the Maland Home....

A blanket of snow added the perfect touch to our first annual Christmas open house on Sunday, December 11 at the Maland Home.

The open house was attended by close to 100 visitors from 3:00-7:00 pm. The open house was hosted by the Maland Home Committee.

Guests were treated to homemade Christmas goodies, cider and punch made by the committee members as they mingled and toured the beautiful home.

The Maland Home was decorated from top to bottom with a beautifully decorated tree in each room and antique toys and packages under the trees awaiting the excitement of Christmas morning.

Lighted candles were placed in each window just as Elizabeth and Javerna did for many years. The home was very cozy and welcoming with the lighted candles and Christmas lights.

Outside, colorful Christmas lights on the bushes and the front porch windows lit with candles looked beautiful as the darkness drew near.

The Maland Home Committee truly enjoyed decorating this beautiful home for the Christmas season. We certainly appreciate the gift of love and generosity given by Elizabeth and Javerna to the entire community.

Merry Christmas from the entire Maland Home Committee and we thank you for your support in helping preserve this piece of history for future generations.

Sincerely,
Susie Schaudt
The Maland Home Committee



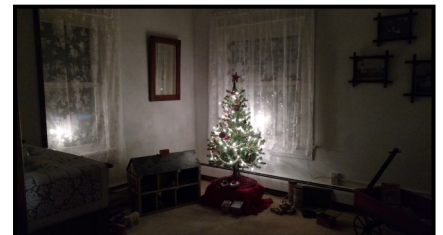
2nd floor Sewing Room
Candle Tree



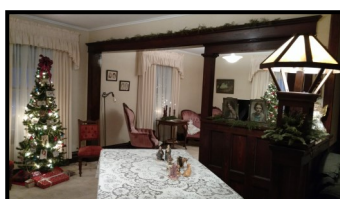
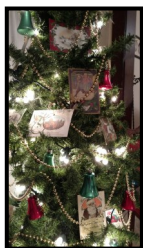
Maland Home Committee
Front Row l-r .. Diane Cronk, Nancy Fausch, Lori Hill, Darlene Kalsem,
Jeannie Williams
Back Row l-r .. Janet Stoll, Delila Roberts, Claudette Peterson, Jolene Lettow,
Susie Schaudt, Linda Sharpnack, Celeste Allen, Helen Kepler



2nd floor Children's playroom



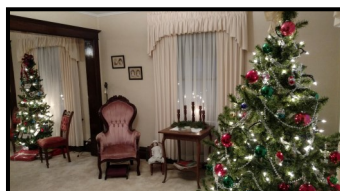
1st floor Dining Room
Vintage Postcard Tree



1st floor Dining Room



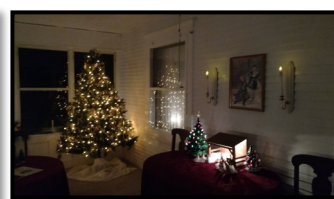
2nd floor Kitchen
Cookie Cutter Tree



1st floor Living Room



Maland Home at dusk



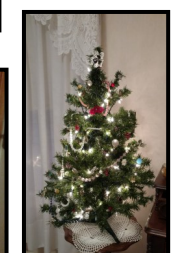
Front Porch



Back Porch



Front Porch
Norwegian Tree



1st Floor bedroom
Jewelry Tree

Huxley Volunteer Fire Department

This article is to remind us of the years of dedication and service provided to the community from my perspective. My dad Irvin Allen was involved with the department as an active member from 1961-2001. He remained involved in other ways until he passed in Dec. 2014. I remember as young boy Dad going to fire meetings, both in Huxley and regularly held County Fire Meeting. This was a time before pagers and electronic notification equipment was used to call the volunteers into action. The old siren that resided on the old water tower, which was behind the building on Main Street that was the City Hall, would sound and anyone that could would respond. In the mid to late 1970's technology allowed Huxley Telephone Co. to add a special phone number that would ring into the homes and some work places of the volunteers. The phone would ring continuously, until someone answered or the call was complete. By continuously, I mean continuously without any breaks. It was very exciting to see Dad rush to the phone and dart out of the house to go on another call. Emergency Medical Service was not provided so it was always another fire. With the railroad running through town and the rural response area there were many calls for grass fires along the tracks especially, in dry times. I remember eating at the Fjord Restaurant one time and I think Dad had to leave three times. He did not get much nourishment out of that meal. Emergency Medical Service became prevalent in the late '70s and the Huxley group embraced the new challenge and became trained to provide that service as well. Although I could recite numerous other examples of different responses that is not the point of this article, my wish is to honor the many many volunteers who have made this service available to the citizens of Huxley.

I have researched some history in my copy of the Huxonian that mom and dad gave to me during the centennial time. To be honest, I had not really looked at it much but, found it to be full of very interesting information. Which I am sure is something all the history buffs already knew! I found that in 1919 there was a fire that destroyed much of the east side of Main Street. It was then in 1920 when the first well was dug and a water tower built. Water mains and domestic water are a great convenience to all of us and key to aid Fire Departments ability to mitigate fires. When the water system was installed a hose cart pulled by hand or towed to the fire was used to connect to hydrants and deliver water to the fire. Shortly after Fjeldberg Lutheran Church was destroyed by fire in 1945 there was an effort to purchase a community fire truck. Farmers in the area purchased shares and the city agreed to house the truck and furnish a team to operate it. The new truck arrived in 1946. This initiated the organization of the Huxley Volunteer Fire Department. Original members included: Palmer Saveraid, Punkin Fjelland, Doc Fjelland, Ron Fjelland, Beverly Hill, Marion Hill, Irvin Elliot, Lawrence Ness, and Milo Veland. Sam Long the Fire Chief from Ames was utilized to train the members during the spring and summer of 1946. In 1960 Palestine Township initiated a tax levy for fire protection. In 1963 a new Palestine Township fire truck was purchased for the department to use. Side note, this truck is still serving today. A Story County cancer awareness group acquired the truck and had it painted pink and it is used to promote cancer awareness all over central Iowa. The next truck purchase was in 1979. This truck was in the funeral procession for Dad. What a tribute. It goes without saying this foundation formed early on has evolved into the department we see today. Apparatus are much more complicated and calls for service are increasing at a steady pace.

The role of civil service has been the backbone of the fire service in smaller rural communities for decades. The volunteers all have "Real Jobs", families, and commitments to other organizations and groups in the area. They all willingly drop whatever they are doing and respond to provide assistance to whoever has called for help. They could jump on the post office theme of "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these volunteers from their emergency responses." Although I would add a few more like during a meal, on Christmas Day or any other Holiday, and right when you get home from a long day at the, "Real Job". They willingly go and complete the mission assigned and get ready to do it all over again. What most do not realize is the true danger they are exposed to while performing these tasks. Products of combustion are toxic especially in today's world of plastic everything. It is a dangerous endeavor and they respond countless times. The other unique mission they carry out is to have fund raisers to provide funding for some of the equipment they need. This is also yet another opportunity to commit more time away from their families and not do things that it seems everyone else in the world gets to do. The awesome thing is they do this willingly and find great pride in the service they provide.

My memory reminds me of others who have served that were not in the Huxonian. Here are a few names of people that I remember serving during the time I was simply a youthful observer. I know I will miss someone please do not be offended. Bob Christiansen, Jack Schneider, Fritz Erickson, Ralph Kalsem, Henry Rumbaugh, Kenny Herman, Kenny Angell, and Irvin Allen. It is important to show appreciation for those who serve today and equally important to remember all those that served in the past. A solid foundation was put in place many years ago to make it possible to have a vibrant professional Emergency Service group today!

It is with a great amount of respect and adoration that I say, "Thank you!" to all that have served, are serving and will serve the citizens of Huxley!

Doug Allen

Biography of
Irvin H. Allen
Huxley Fire Department
3-30-1933 - 12-25-2014

Irvin relocated to central Iowa from southern Iowa in 1958. Once he had his family settled in Huxley he became involved with the Huxley Volunteer Fire Department. Due to his employment with the local school district he worked in town and was very available to fulfill fire department needs. He joined the department in 1961 estimate. He then became Chief and served in that role for over 25 years. He was an active member through 2001. He remained involved with the department for several more years he just was not responding to calls. Irvin had a passion for the fire service that never went away. Due to his dedication and others around him they prepared the department to be successful well into the future. Irvin provided 40 plus years of unselfish service to the citizens of Huxley with absolutely no desire for recognition.



Ralph Kalsem, Irvin Allen, Henry Rumbaugh



Don Duncan



1963 fire truck—Story County Responders Cares

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 or by mail to HHS, 515 N Main St, Huxley, IA 50124

2016 was an exciting year of growth!

Elizabeth Maland donated her beloved family home to The Huxley Historical Society and the deed was transferred over in March. And from that generous gift, membership blossomed with 13 new Lifetime memberships and annual membership went up 25%.

The Maland Home Committee was formed to plan and develop fundraisers to obtain operational funds for The Maland Home.

Events for the year 2016:

February—The Maland Home Committee threw Elizabeth Maland a birthday party at Ballard Creek Community to celebrate her 103rd Birthday. HHS members, as well as friends and family, were encouraged to donate \$103.00 in honor of Elizabeth's 103rd birthday and her generous gift of her home.

April— The Maland Home Committee served a Fjord Norwegian meatball dinner at the Nord-Kalsem Park Shelter.

June— The Huxley Historical Society presented at the Huxley High Alumni Reunion.

July— The Maland Home Committee hosted a "Pie on the Porch" event at the Maland Home.

August—The Huxley Historical Society prepared a float for the Annual Huxley Prairie Fest Parade. Four of the five HHS board members joined the parade route with the "Fjord" Viking Ship. The Viking Ship was decorated with vintage orange and black uniforms of Huxley High sports.

August—The Maland Home Committee held a good ole Pie Eating contest at the Annual Huxley Prairie Fest activities.

December—The Maland Home Committee hosted a Christmas Open House at the Maland Home.

The Huxley Historical Society is very grateful to all the contributions given this year. We received donations of furnishings for the Maland Home, legal services, pies, monetary contributions, and many volunteer hours. Thank You!!

Abstract & Title Services—Sara Cockerham

John & Cindy Ambrosen

Donald & Angela Anderson

Richard & Beverly Anderson

Casey's General Store

Robert & Beverly Cue

Deborah Doran

Mark & Sharon Erickson

Donald & Judy Fausch

Duane & Barbara Finch

Kermit & Flora Freeland Family

Tim & Lori Hill

Darlene Kalsem

Mark & Marsha Kenney

Leona Lacroix

Ed & Ruth Larson

Arlo & Joann Ledet

Mike & Becky Long

Marlene McLaurin

Gerald & Helen Myers

Louise O'Donnell

Scott & Kalen Petersen

Alan & Pamela Roberts

Paul & Florence Sandve

Katherine Saveraid

Sharon Shaeffer

Tracy & Marge Sheldahl

Subway—Huxley

Lee Tesdell

Larry & Kay Thompson

Ronald & Colleen Twedt

Celeste Allen

Anderson Family Trust

Margaret Anderson

Omar & Valerie Brendeland

Alan & Linda Cron

City of Huxley

Jim & Dolores Douglas

Fareway—Huxley

Nancy Fausch

Bill & Amy Finnegan

Orville & Dolores Hauge

Max Irving

John & Ann Kalsem

Richard & Helen Kepler

Mary Lande

Kenneth & Louise Larson

Ruth Lee

Tom & Julie McAuliff

Jim & Barb Mallon

Mark & Wanda Nord

Parmenter Law Office

Elizabeth 'Munn' Poletti

John Roberts

Sandy's Grill

Mark & Susan Schaudt

Tom & Linda Sharpnack

Dave & Joan Stensland

Story County Board of Supervisors

DeAnn Thompson

Norma Thompson

Susan Larson Allen

David & Margret Anderson

Ober & Iolene Anderson

Charles & Shirley Cairns

LeRoy & Diane Cronk

Gary & Sharon Davis

Arvid Eide

Chuck & Barb Fausch

Dee Ann Figley

Dr. Kent & Kay Freeland

Craig & Jenine Henry

Richard & Marjorie Johnson

Ralph & Sandra Kalsem

Gerald & Eileen Klonglan

Nero & Linda Lantz

Leona Larson

Virginia Lee

Judy McKinney

Lyle & Pat Martin

Rick Nord

Dennis Parmenter

Don & Cathy Rimathe

Quick's Hardware Hank

David & Jean Saveraid

Nancy Schreiber

Nancy Sheehy

Gerry & Janet Stoll

David & Verda Tesdall

Gary & Janet Thompson

Tri-County Times

Thank you to all HHS members of 2016!

~ Huxley Historical Society Lifetime members ~

*William & Susan Allen
Boyd Antill & Mary Tomlinson
Omar & Valerie Brendeland
Duane & Barbara Finch
*Charles Helland
David & Cheryl Kalsem
Dean & Diane Lande
*Larry Lein
Nels & Rowena Nord
*Steve & Anne Quick
Avis Steensland
*Arlene Wee

*Richard & Beverly Anderson
Marilyn Baldus
LeRoy & Diane Cronk
*Bruce & Sandy Halverson
Laverne & Elaine Helland
Homer & Kay Kalsem
*Paul & Deanna Larson
Elizabeth & Javerna Maland
Don & Donna Nord
Paul & Florence Sandve
David & Verda Tesdall
Marilyn Whetstone

*Donald & Angela Anderson
John Berhow
*LeRoy & Ruth Dobbe
Orville & Dolores Hauge
Robert & Darlene Herman
Owen "John" & Ann Kalsem
*Arlo & Joann Ledet
*Margaret Nelson
Dr. Kirk & Liz Peterson
Harriet Sheldahl
Gary & Janet Thompson

* New 2016 Lifetime Members

~ Huxley Historical Society Annual members ~

Celeste Allen
John & Cindy Ambroson
Ober & Iolene Anderson
Alan & Linda Cron
Arvid Eide
Nancy Fausch
Eugene Freese
Edna Hellekson
Darlene Kalsem
Mark & Marsha Kenney
Nero & Linda Lantz
Leona Larson
Jolene Lettow
Jim & Barb Mallon
Roger Moore
Mark & Wanda Nord
Louise O'Donnell
LeRoy & Gale Peterson
Joan Richardson
Steve Rye
Sharon Shaeffer
Dave & Joan Stensland
Larry & Karen Thompson
Ronald & Colleen Twedt
Ernie & Gloria Wilkening
Charles Woods

Doug & Valerie Allen
Larry & Karen Anderson
Kenny & Roberta Angell
Jim & Dolores Douglas
Mark & Sharyn Erickson
Dr. Kent Freeland
David & Mary Halverson
Max Irving
Ralph & Sandra Kalsem
Richard & Helen Kepler
Ed & Ruth Larson
Ruth Lee
Tom & Nancy Long
Lyle & Pat Martin
Richard & Chris Nelson
Rick Nord
Scott & Kalen Petersen
Elizabeth Munn Poletti
Don & Cathy Rimathe
David & Jean Saveraid
Tom & Linda Sharpnack
Gerry & Janet Stoll
Larry & Kay Thompson
Brian & Melynda VanZee
Carrie Witt

Susan Larson Allen
Margaret Anderson
Mike & Carolyn Carpenter
Karen Dunne
Donald & Judy Fausch
Mark & Diane Freeland
Doris Halverson
Richard & Esther Johnson
Roger Kalsem
Gerald & Eileen Klonglan
Kenneth & Louise Larson
Virginia Lee
Norm & Janet Luiken
Dennis & Donna Millang
Bob Nervig
Shari Nord-Houston
Claudette Peterson
Mark & Jen Pote
Delila Roberts
Katherine Saveraid
June Squire
Richard & Sandie Sydnes
Norma Thompson
Roger & Judie Weyer
Terry & Marlys Witt

~ HHS has lost two of our members this year—Eugene Freese and Laverne "Eddie" Helland ~

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&H for booklet \$ 2.00

2nd ed. DVD Purchase \$ 20.00

S&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 !

HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fjord Style—Norwegian “Hamball” Dinner

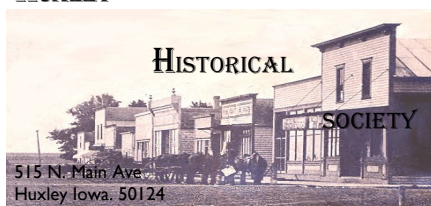
April 22nd 2017 4:00-7:00 pm

Goodwill donations accepted

RSVP:
Delila Roberts
515-597-2782
or email:
HHS@huxcomm.netNord-Kalsem Community Center
204 W. 5th St, Huxley
Maland Home Fundraiser
Fundraiser—Maland Home Expenses

Carry-outs available

HUXLEY

Name in Blue?
Take a Moment to Renew!Website: www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org