

Volume I Issue 3

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Third Quarter - 2008

2008 Officers

- President—Nels Nord
- V.P. Don Duncan
- Sec.—Michele Kalsem
- Treasure—Scot Petersen
- Officer—Ron Krull

2008 Calendar:

October 27th— Meeting 6:30 pm

November 24th—Meeting 6:30 pm

December 22nd— Meeting 6:30 pm

January 4TH 2009 — Annual Meeting 6:30 pm

2008 Calendar:

Nords Notes

a word from our president

In 1881-1882 the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company built the railroad line through Huxley which went from the West coast to the East coast.

S. S. Merrill, a surveyor and President of the Milwaukee Land Company, plotted a town and called it "Huxley" after his uncle, Thomas Henry Huxley, a renown British biologist and writer of the 19th century.

By 1900 the town had grown to 199 and businesses were prospering, schools and churches were built. Huxley was incorporated on August 28, 1902. It ook 47 years from 1855-1902 to develop from prairie wilderness to the incorporated town.

The railroad built stockyards at nearly all towns the trains passed through and encouraged local stockmen to use the rail services to ship livestock to Chicago. The Huxley Stockyards were located just East of the present fire station next to the Elmer Dobbe house.

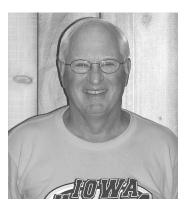
The yards consisted of an unloading chute and scales for weighing cattle, hogs and sheep that were shipped to Chicago.

Ole Kalsem was the first stockman to use the stock-yards. Owen John Kalsem has records of his grandfather shipping cattle to Chicago in the late 1890's. The cattle were driven to town by horses since there were no trucks at that time to transport the livestock.

Val Racek and S. P. Lee were lamb feeders in the area and shipped their sheep by rail.

Some of the area farmers I remember who shipped cattle to Chicago were Orville Kalsem, John Olson, John Oakland, T. T. Lee, and Martin Nelson. The cattle were shipped out on Sundays to the Chicago Stockyards.

Farmers would also receive



feeder cattle they bought out West that were shipped to the Huxley Stockyards.

Truckers who either brought cattle, hogs and sheep to the stockyard for farmers or hauled the receiving livestock to the farmers were Elmer Dobbe, Andrew Wenos, Ole Berhow, Tillie Steensland, and Punkin Fjelland.

I, like Owen John Kalsem who supplied me with the history of the Huxley Stockyards, have many great memories of this time period and am thankful for living during the time of the stockyard and trains. The stockyard was abandoned in 1951/52.

Nels A. Nord

President HHS

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.

July Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2008 - Call to order at 7 Pm in the Council Chambers by President Nord.

Attendees: Nels Nord, Scott Petersen, Don Duncan, Ikey Lee, Arlene Lande, John Hendricks, Yvonne (Daisy) Fjelland, Vivian and Arnold Larson, Ron Krull, Laverne Helland, Delila Roberts, Javerna Maland, Ruth Lee, Harriet Sheldahl, Naomi Thomlinson and John Kalsem

- Ron Krull read the past minutes.
- Treasurer Scott Petersen reported the Cemetery Fund balance at \$150 and the General Fund balance at \$7836.27
- No other reports were given.

All reports were approved as read.

<u>Old Business</u>

News letter is being distributed as per last meeting's directions however our next run should be about 30 fewer as we are having too much excess.

Prairie Fest plans. Don Duncan suggested we video not only the parade but the crowd along the route – as right now is our next history. No one seems to have the appropriate equipment to do so. Ron K will look into purchase of equipment that will work for this AND be useable for the post meeting story telling sessions that are so much fun and impossible to keep up with.

Daisy still has a sign regarding the "30's – 40's businesses we could use.

We just received a number of orange and black Huxley High School uniforms we might be about to use – thought they will be hot.

Ron Krull suggested we use a theme of Athletes – Past Present Future to tie into the Prairie Fest theme. See if the day care groups would send a couple athletically dressed kids and have the school nominate a couple of last year's stars, and have Ballard Creek community nominate a couple of vigorous residents who might fit the old uniforms. Mildred Brendeland was specifically mentioned. Delila Roberts will contact Whistle Stop, Ron Krull will contact other day cares. It is unclear who was contacting the School.

Other plans for Prairie Fest include running the 50/50 raffle selling tickets for \$1 each or 7 tickets for \$5. Other sales would include selling DVD's and memberships. Don D will work Saturday night and skip Friday completely as last year we had no sales on Friday night. Others volunteering to work 2 hour shifts were Delila Roberts, John Hendricks, Nesl Nord, Ron Krull and Harriett Sheldahl. Nels will put up a schedule so other can sign up too.

New Business

For the next meeting we will have Arlen Twedt, the Coordinator of the Central Iowa Norwegian Project speaking to us.

July Meeting Minutes cont

President Nels is applying for a \$20,000 grant form the Story Co. Foundation; perhaps we can parlay this into a down payment for the octagon house which is for sale in Huxley from the Dettbarn's. The lot size is 50 x 135. Nels will ask if the HHS members could look at the house some evening.

A motion was made and approved to pay our outstanding bills as they were presented.

Ideas were given for story-telling time to be taped after meetings – sports memories, talent assembly memories, blizzard/flood memories etc. It is noted any taping or recording might meet some resistance with the participants also we might need a remote microphone to pick up all the voices.

Elizabeth Maland and Palmer Saveraid are both 95 this year and they are likely our oldest citizens - is there a way that we can recognize them?

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Memories of pranks and talent assemblies were shared by all.

Ron Krull



Do you know someone that has Huxley Historical memorabilia? How about photo's or a great life story?

Let us know! Call Don Duncan 515-597-2563

Prefer to get your newsletter on line? Email and let us know! hhs@huxcomm.net



August Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2008 - Call to order at 7 Pm in the Council Chambers by President Nord.

Attendees: Michele Kalsem, Nels Nord, Scott Petersen, Don Duncan, Yvonne (Daisy) Fjelland, Sandy Halverson, Laverne Helland, John Hendricks, Darlene Kalsem, Arlene Lande, Ikey Lee, Ruth Lee, Javerna Maland, Delila Roberts, Harriet Sheldahl, Naomi Thomlinson and Mr. & Mrs. Arlen Twedt.

- Past minutes were read by Sec Kalsem.
- Treasurer Scott Petersen reported the Cemetery Fund balance at \$150 and the General Fund balance at \$7925.97
- No other reports were given.

All reports were approved as read.

Old Business

News letter – Secretary Kalsem did pay the outstanding bill.

Prairie Fest update. We didn't win. L But thanks to Don and Delila for all the work they did anyway. We sold 3 memberships, 1 DVD. Sandy Halverson was the winner of the 50/50 and received \$35.50. Thanks also to everyone who had a chance to man the booth and helped with those things.

On the topic of making a book for Huxley Nels said he would contact Cambridge book organizers Florence and see what he could learn.

Concerning the Octagon house the consensus was not to pursue that further because of the cost and repairs needed.

In regards to the Story Co Foundation information did not choose us to receive the \$20,000 however, they have a \$6000 grant we may still get.

Concerning the Cemetery Ron mowed Ballard 2 weeks ago and as a side note the city now has the Lincoln Cemetery as the City Cemetery.

New Business

Meeting time change NEXT meeting to 6:30 September 22, 2008

Motion to pay bills was made and passed

<u>Adjourn</u>

8:30 PM

Secretary Kalsem

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GET READY NOW Annual meeting January 4th, 6:30 PM City Council Chambers

This is the BEST time to renew your membership!

If you renew at the Annual meeting you will not miss a single issue of this newsletter.

B PB PB

2nd edition DVD is ready!

This DVD includes the 1st edition AND more it can be purchased for \$20 or \$22.50 w/S&H if we need to ship it to you.

This awesome DVD contains video stream of Huxley Iowa 1939-1955, Ladies at Ovid Louks Farm, 1955 City streets,125th Anniversary of Fjeldberg Lutheran Church, Huxley Horse Show, and a 1944 Baseball game in addition to some silliness. Get yours today!

The Historical Society would love to have copies of any film you may have or photo's from the past in our community. To purchase a video OR contact us about getting copies from you please contact us at 515-597-3142 or email to hhs@huxcomm.net

September 22, 2008 Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2008 - Call to order at 6:30Pm in the Council Chambers by President Nord.

Attendees: Michele Kalsem, Nels Nord, Yvonne (Daisy) Fjelland, John Hendricks, Darlene Kalsem, Arlene Lande, Ikey Lee, Ruth Lee, Javerna Maland, Harriet Sheldahl, and Janet Stoll.

- Past minutes were read by Sec Kalsem.
- Treasurer report was read by Sec Kalsem Cemetery Fund balance at \$150 and the General Fund balance at \$7742.04
- Web Report was given by Sec Kalsem. Huxley Communications will no longer host our web site so now we need to get our own server.

All reports were approved as read.

<u>Discussions and Actions on old Business</u> Old Business

News letter – President Nord plans to get the boxes for the newsletter community boxes.

Concerning the Cemetery Ron Krull mowed Ballard 2 weeks ago and as a side note the city now has the Lincoln Cemetery as the City Cemetery. Sec Kalsem will contact the Palestine Peppy Pushers to see about Cemetery care from them.

New Business

Web Site - Nels will talk to the City about the Historical Society Website.

Annual Meeting – Will be Monday Jan 4th 2009 at 6:30Pm. We might have Arlene Tweet speak again.

Next meeting 6:30Pm October 27, 2008

Motion to pay bills was made and passed.

<u>Adjourn</u>

6:50 PM - Sec Kalsem

Have time and energy?

The Historical Society always has projects we could use assistance with. Simple things like editing to physical things like cleaning of the cemetery.

ANY help is welcome call to volunteer.

Sec Kalsem 515-597-3142



We have a NEW host!

Our new web address is www.history.huxleyiowa.org

Watch for exciting changes in the history pages.

Web Master Kalsem



THANKS! THANKS! THANKS! THANKS! THANKS!

To all those who have purchased memberships.

The HHS also wants to thank members for all donations, project specific and general.

Membership Form—Clip	and Mail or Copy
Name —	
Address	
l ————————————————————————————————————	
Email	
Phone	
Circle those that apply p	lease.
Annual '08	\$20
Family '08	\$30
Lifetime Membership	\$500
Gift Amount	\$
2nd Ed DVD Purchase	\$20
S&H for DVD	\$2.50
Total	\$
Mail To:	
ı ı HHS-515 N. Main Ave-Hu	xley Iowa. 50124

For more information about us please contact us at one of the following:

President:

Nels Nord 515-231-9174

Vice:

Don Duncan 515-597-2563

Sec:

Michele Kalsem 515-597-3142

Email: hhs@huxcomm.net

WEB ADDRESS TO BE ANNOUCED

Were on the web!

Www.history.huxleyiowa.org/

HUXLEY

