

HUXLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Website: www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3

FALL 2022

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In person

“The Hub” museum is located at 515 N. Main in the 3C’s building or make an appointment to visit the Nord-Kalsem Shelter House.

Hours; M-F 8:30-10:30 AM

or call to make an appointment.

Memorial Rock



In conjunction with the City of Huxley’s Parks and Recreation Department, the Huxley Historical Society hired Bubba Sorenson, the famous artist that has painted Freedom Rocks in almost every county in Iowa, to paint a large rock. The rock was purchased from Outdoor Envision and placed in the flower garden on East 1st Street in Memorial Park.

See Page 5 for more information...

Mission Statement: To engage and support 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.

Huxley High School and Ballard Community High School Teachers and Administrators- Steve Hornung-PRINCIPAL

Part 7 of a series by Nels Nord—Treasurer and Historian



Steve Hornung was born February 4, 1949, in Iowa Falls, Iowa, to Paul Hornung and Opal Lyman Hornung. Steve had an older brother, John and a sister, Linda.

Steve graduated from Iowa Falls High School in 1967 where he was an outstanding student and football player. He was co-captain of the Iowa Falls High School football team in 1966 and All-State Honorable mention. Steve then attended Ellsworth Junior College in Iowa Falls where he was an outstanding linebacker for the football team in 1967 and 1968. He was co-captain all-conference linebacker and was elected the team's outstanding defensive player his sophomore year.

After graduating from Ellsworth Jr. College, he was recruited by Drake University where he played linebacker in 1969 and 1970. Steve was elected captain of the Drake football team and

was Drake's most valuable player as well as honorable mention All-American at linebacker. He then signed a professional contract with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League.

After graduating from Drake with a degree in education and a master's degree in school administration, Steve coached football and was junior-senior high school principal at Adair-Casey for six years.

In April of 1979, Mr. Hornung was hired as high school principal at Ballard Community School. He held that position until 1995. He was then named principal of Ballard Elementary where he remained until retirement in 2005. In August 2006 he agreed to return as Ballard East Elementary principal and retired in 2008.



Steve Hornung was one of the most dedicated, caring and trusted school administrators in the 63-year history of Ballard Community Schools. One could find Mr. Hornung at all school activities including athletics, band, chorus, speech, musicals and one-act plays.

Steve and Gayle Hornung have three children who are all active in education. Stacey is an elementary principal at Atlantic, Iowa; Stephanie is an elementary principal in Omaha, Nebraska; and Bill is a 6th grade teacher in Walker, Minnesota.

In retirement years, Steve and Gayle spend most of their time at their cabin on Womans Lake in Minnesota. ~end~



The Huxley Historical Society and the community of Huxley, Iowa, extend a heartfelt thank you to the Keith and Arlene Wee family and those involved with the extraordinary donation made as a part of their estate. The community will continue enjoying the results through the updates in the Nord/Kalsem Community Center. The restroom(s) addition/updates are a directive from their estate. The Wees also shared their stunning Nordic costumes located in the Hub of 3Cs as well as the purchase of new holiday lights for the city. The Wee family continues their investment in our community in a quiet, yet powerful way, as the Huxley Historical Society memorial rock located in Memorial Park has been completed.

THANK YOU.

Blessed...My Road to Afghanistan

Continued from volume 15 Issue 2

There was nothing the USAF could do for me; I was told I needed to look at "Safe Houses" again. I prayed that GOD would give me something to show NATO that they needed us and that we had a lot to offer once the Afghanistan airspace was proceduralized.

Week 4. My prayers were answered. NATO was having a troop rotation. Some 1,000 troops in Kabul were at the airport and scheduled to rotate out, with another 1,000 troops coming in from Spain to relieve them. The weather was so bad that no one was allowed to fly in or out of Kabul and the forecast was that this weather was to remain this way for the next week... BINGO my prayers were answered.

I scheduled a meeting with the NATO General who was in charge of Kabul operations. It took a lot of explaining but the General's Aid finally scheduled me to meet with him the next day.

First words out of the General's mouth were "why am I meeting with you.... Who are you!?" I explained why the USAF had hired me, a DOD contractor to establish an ATC facility at the airport and to proceduralize the Afghan airspace. To do that, I needed land at the airport to accommodate my folks that would provide this ATC service. I advised the General that his Colonial at the Airfield refused and would not consider my request.

The General then said why should he approve the request if his Colonial had disapproved it. Here is where my pray was answered. I asked the General if he was aware of the 1,000 troops stuck at the airport, sleeping on the floor with very little accommodation, and the troops in Spain would not be scheduled to come to Kabul and replace them until the weather improved later in the week. He said he had been briefed on the situation but there was nothing they could do... BINGO AGAIN.

I told the General that if he signed my request, approving that I be given land at the airport to build the camp for my folks, and that once we were operational, his troops would be flying out of and into Kabul during weather conditions like those at the airport.

The General response was "where do I sign". After that meeting the General and I became friends and he helped me in several other areas. I got the land next to the aircraft parking ramp, we built our camp, the housing units were called B-Huts. The Afghan Airport manager gave me space in the terminal building to locate the AT Control room. In July 2005 I had 95% of the parts put together and we went operational. I came home the end of March 2006.

To establish aircraft border crossing procedures between the effected countries, I had to make many trips to Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan. Every trip was an unbelievable challenge and had to be coordinated with the U.S. State department. Every day was filled with tasks that seemed impossible.... Unless you are BLESSED as I was.

Every day I pray for all the Afghans and for all the folks who served over there. Especially for the families who lost loved ones and for those who lost parts of their body but survived. After 20 years and all the lost lives, we left it worse than when we came. We gave them HOPE...then took it away.

End ~ Arthur Gumtau—Ballard Class of 1962.

Memorial Rock



Historical pictures of Huxley were painted on the rock by Bubba Sorenson beginning October 3rd and completed October 8, 2022.



*By Nels Nord
Treasurer & Historian*

Dolores Primmer Williams

Dolores Primmer Williams retired last year after 53 years in business as a daycare provider of children in Huxley on North 3rd Avenue.

Dolores Primmer was born July 24, 1936, to Everett Chancie Primmer and Lois Irene Primmer in Tingley, Iowa, which is in Ringgold County. Lois Primmer passed away when Dolores was 5 and her brother, Darold Primmer (who lives in Huxley) was 1 ½ years old. In the early 1940s the family moved to Story County where Everett Primmer was a farmhand around Shipley. Dolores attended Nevada schools. Dolores became a nanny in Colo, Iowa in 10th grade. The family moved to Kelley and she attended Huxley Consolidated Schools her junior and senior years. She graduated from Huxley High School in 1954.

After she graduated from high school, she married Hershel Williams of Huxley in August of 1954. They had four sons: Dale, Darwin, Brian and Donnie. They lived in Kelley, Iowa. Following Brian's birth, she began babysitting for a Kelley family.

In 1969 their family moved to Huxley and in 1969 she decided to start a daycare business allowing her to stay home with her own children. One of the children she babysat became her fourth son, Donnie. Donnie's birth mother gave her son to Hershel and Dolores and they adopted him.

Hershel passed away in 2004 and their son, Darwin, died in 2014.

Dolores is a grandmother to 9 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Dolores' favorite part of babysitting was watching children change from generation to generation. She babysat with children of parents that she had cared for.

In her retirement her hobbies are reading, Bible study, and crocheting. Dolores is truly a remarkable woman in all aspects of life and is cherished by all.



HUXLEY HIGH ALUMNI THAT HAVE GONE BEFORE US.

Marilyn Cronk Whetstone: Class of 1951 Died, August 2022

Florence Severtson Sandve: Class of 1955, Died, May 2022

Vernon Peterson: Class of 1953, Died, September 2022

Dorothy Oakland Burger: Class of 1952, Died, August 2022

Huxley**Membership Form—Clip or copy and mail**

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Annual Membership \$ 20.00

Lifetime Membership \$500.00

Donation \$ _____

Fjord Recipe Booklet \$ 5.00

2nd Ed. DVD / 1939-1955 \$ 20.00

Shipping and Handling for Book/DVD \$ 5.00

Total \$ _____

Ck # _____ Date _____

Mail to: HHS
515 N. Main Ave
Huxley, Ia. 50124

*******NOTICE*******

Effective immediately membership fees will be due in January of each year.

Please share stories and photos with Huxley Historical Society by emailing them to **4huxleyhistory@gmail.com** or mail to HHS, 515 N. Main, St. Huxley, Ia. 50124

Website: www.huxleyhistoricalsociety.org