



November 1999

Volume XVI

Number 3

Old Fashioned Christmas

On Sunday, December 5th from 2-5 pm, the Plymouth Historical Society and the Plymouth Park & Recreation Department are co-sponsoring the 13th Annual "OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS IN PLYMOUTH". The purpose of the event is to provide some old fashioned Christmas spirit and activities for families in Plymouth. Children can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be right there to help the Elves hand out candy canes. A hay ride pulled by Belgian horses with bells jingling will be giving rides (50 cents per person), hot cider and cookies will be provided, carollers and making Christmas decorations are other activities for the children.

This year we have something new that is very exciting. Nationally acclaimed, Charlie Maguire – The Singing Ranger, from the National Park Service will be providing entertainment during the day. Something you don't want to miss!

On Saturday, December 4th, starting at 9 am, we will decorate the two old fashioned Christmas trees and building. We are looking for help in decorating and bringing items that could be borrowed for the day to add some more old fashioned Christmas spirit.

These can be items such as: old fashioned antique ornaments, old fashioned toys to put under the tree, poinsettias, etc.

If you can help to bring decorations, please call Myrtle Eckes, 545-6168, or Gary Schiebe, 473-4889.

Attached is a flyer describing the event so bring your friends, relatives, neighbors and kids ages 9 months to 90 years young. The annual event has attracted large crowds with some families having a perfect attendance record with their children since it started in 1987. We had a great time last year and it will be even better this year!

Activities include:

Visit with Santa

*Old Fashioned Hay
Ride*

Hot Cider and Cookies

*Old Fashioned Xmas
Decorations*

Old Toy Train Display



Wood Carver

Crafts

*The Singing Ranger
Charlie Maguire,
Nat'l. Park Service*

*Music Groups
Armstrong Chamber
Singers*

Messiah Recording

Come one, come all to get into the holiday spirit! www.plymouthhistoricalsociety.org



Officer

The following are the present officers:

President	Jim Garvey	559-3047
Vice President	Ben Broman	559-5721
Secretary	Mable Swanson	545-7705
Treasurer	Harvey Schiebe	545-6127



Meetings

The monthly meetings are normally held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth Historical Society Building, located at 3605 Fernbrook Lane North, Plymouth, MN.

Wanted!

The Plymouth Historical Society is look for:



- Old children's toys for Christmas display
- Old doll house furniture and furnishings
- Candle holders to fit an old pump organ
- Wardrobe
- Old pictures of the Plymouth area such as Churches, homes, farms, people and events.



Old Toy Trains

Do you have any old Lionel or other toy trains? If you do, please contact Gary Schiebe, 612-473-4889.



Mailing and Membership List

Start off the next millenium on the "right foot" by joining! If you are not a member and want to sign up or if you have any questions, please call Alberta Casey, 559-9366.

The annual dues are:

Individual	\$7.50
Family	\$12.00
Individual Lifetime	\$100.00
Family Lifetime	\$150.00



Board of Directors

The following is the present Board of Directors:

Kay Bertrand	559-5042	1997-2000
Ben G. Broman	559-5721	1997-2000
Alberta Casey	559-9366	1996-1999
Vern Dotseth	559-3777	1995-1998
Myrtle Eckes	545-6168	1996-1999
Jim Garvey	559-3047	1997-2000
Joe Morris	535-8756	1996-1999
Joyce McCaughey	557-6948	1996-1999
Cork Ornborg	475-0930	1997-2000
Vern Peterson	559-2317	1995-1998
Gary Schiebe	473-4889	1996-1999
Harvey Schiebe	545-6127	1996-1999
Margerite Schiebe	541-7187	1997-2000
Mable Swanson	545-7705	1997-2000

Donations

Donated by Lynn Campbell:

- Shards of Indian pottery found on Medicine Lake.
- Pictures of cabins on Lindsten's Island on Medicine Lake.

Donated by Carl Benwick

- Food grinder

Donated by Harriet Tenner (Parker):

- Photo of Parkers Lake Methodist Church
- Photo of George and Harriet Parker
- Photo of James and Anna Ridley Parker Family
- Newspaper article "Parker Bros. Hacked Woods to Settle in Plymouth"
- Newspaper photo of "Old James Parker Homestead"



FAMILY HISTORIES

The Plymouth historical Society has quite a few family histories on file. We welcome people to come and look at them, that may help you trace family roots. The following is a copy of one of the histories on file:



Very little is known of the Kreatz family before they came to America from Germany. Franc and Ferdinand (brothers) settled in Plymouth Township some time between 1855 and 1858. On October 1, 1860 they walked to Forest City, near Litchfield, Minnesota to purchase the land from the Government office. The land purchased was the west one-half, southwest quarter Section 29, consisting of 80 acres and the northwest quarter Section 29, consisting of 160 acres. They paid \$1.25 per acre on a warranty deed of 1855. They had small log cabins built on the property near the Kreatz Lake where they lived with their families. In 1868, Franc, Sr. sold his land and purchased 80 acres east of the Ferdinand Kreatz farm. In 1873, both Frank and Ferdinand built homes on their farms. These houses are now known as the Gustav Kreatz home and the Arthur Kreatz home. On June 20, 1863 an order for a meeting of the Town Board was called. An election for a militia was ordered. Twenty-four votes were cast. Charles Tolman received 24 votes for Captain, Amos Hoyt received 22 for First Lieutenant and Ferdinand Kreatz received 22 for Second Lieutenant. The Town Board ordered provisions for safety against the Indians. Another meeting was held on July 25, 1863 at 3 pm. It was then proposed by vote and agreed that the matter of safety against the Indians be that if anyone should see the Indians within Plymouth Township limits, they should report to Tolman. He was to authorize, on such a notice, detail for the militia as he deemed necessary. The militia was first to hunt such Indians and as individuals pledge themselves to obey the orders of Tolman. By vote they agreed that each resident of our town shall fire one gunshot every night between sunset and dark. Franc, later known as Frank Kreatz, Sr., was born in Germany in 1819. He was married to Anna Hughes Craite, who had a son, Jack, by a former marriage. Frank lived on the farm until his death in 1893 and Anna lived there until her death in 1906. They were both laid to rest in Parkers Lake Cemetery. They had four sons – Augustine (1856-1887), Fred (1866-1951), George (1864-1950) and Frank (1860-1938). Augustine was unmarried.

Frank lived and worked the farm with his father and later married Lillian Frick. They lived on the farm until about 1926 when they moved to Minneapolis. They had three sons and one daughter – Allen (1895), Arthur (1896), Walter (1898) and Grance (1902). Lillian Kreatz is still living in Minneapolis. Allen lived on the farm and he and Arthur ran it until 1941, when he bought another farm near the Kreatz farm. He is married to Zina Patnode and they have two sons George (1931) and Robert (1933). Arthur lives on the old Kreatz farm and is married to Ellen Soire. They have no family.

Walter lived in Minneapolis and is married to Gladys Schmidt. They have three sons – Clyde (1922), Vernon (1924) and Harlan (1934), and one daughter, Shirley (1927). Vernon now lives on a tract of the original Kreatz farm.

Grace was married to Delos Dreher and has always lived in Minneapolis. She has two sons, Merwin (1927) and Clark (1933).

George Kreatz was married to Cora Keesling and they had three sons and two daughters, Ruben, Clayton and Gladys who are deceased, and Raymond and Lorraine, now living in the west. George moved to California many years ago and after Cora's death, married Lucille Swanson of Robbinsdale. He died in 1950 and was buried in California and Lucille still resides in California.

Fred was married to Alice Quigley and lived in Oregon all his married life. They had no family and passed away within a month of each other in 1951.

Ferdinand Kreatz was born in Germany in 1820 and his parent's names are unknown. In 1860 he married Suanna Marguriette Bies Reum, who also came here from Germany. She had three children by a former marriage – Christ, Fred and Christiana Reum. Ferdinand

worked the farm all his life until his death in 1893, and his wife lived on the farm until her death in 1904. They had three children – William, Christine and Gustaur.

William was born in 1862 and lived on the farm until he took a job in Minneapolis. He was married to Elizabeth Monick for a very short time, when he died in 1896. Christine was born in 1862 and moved to Minneapolis in 1904. She was unmarried and died in 1946.

Gustav Kreatz was born in 1873 and lived his entire life on the farm. He was born in the log cabin near the lake and was nine months old when his family moved into the new house which is now the farm home. During his life he never traveled outside the State of Minnesota except once when he crossed the line into Wisconsin. Gus married Jennie Hatcher, the granddaughter of Frank Hatcher, Sr., one of the early Plymouth settlers. He passed away in 1941 and his wife, Jennie in 1952. They had four children – Pearl (1904), Lloyd (1907), Ronald (1909) and Dorothy (1914).

Pearl is married to Merrill Hasty and lives on a part of the Kreatz farm. They have four children – Marvel (1925), Douglas (1928), Mavis (1929) and Gayle (1936). Marvel and Gayle live at home. Douglas is married to Arlene Wagmer and has a daughter, Marie – and like his mother, lives on a part of the farm. Mavis is married to Merlin Reinking and they have two sons – Ronald and Richard. She lives in the house on her grandfather's farm.

Lloyd passed away at the age of ten months in 1908.

Ronald is married to Irene Webb and lives in Robbinsdale. They have three children – Kay (1943), Lloyd (1945) and Carol (1946).

Dorothy was married to Robert Allen and they have two sons, Stanley (1937) and Donald (1939). Her family lives on a part of the farm also, although Dorothy now resides in California.

It is very unusual, but the entire Ferdinand Kreatz family who have passed away are all buried in the Parkers Lake Cemetery.

Merry
Christmas

