



HERITAGE

Swedish Heritage & Cultural Center (SHCC)

Issue number: Seventy Nine

May 2021



The Beautiful May (Sköna Maj) Santa Lucia is Tara Peterson! Since the Dec. 2020 Santa Lucia celebration was postponed because of COVID-2019, a springtime celebration was combined with the Sköna Maj group on the evening of April 30 at the SHCC. Back row (left): Abby Burke, Jenna Stephens, Marleigh Johnson, Elly McDonald, Ashley Henneman, Allie Sandin, Queen Tara Peterson, Faith Ogletree, Nicole Vorhies, Lexi Chambers, Leah Sandin, Carli Smith, Darcey Henneman. Front row: Gabriel Valdez, Kemper Doty, Aubrey Silva-Bautista, Jaiden Guffey. It was a wonderful evening! *Leaning was caused by camera lens distortion. Sorry.*

Swedish School - This year's school will be 1 day only, Wednesday, June 16, 9-12 noon. Next year we hope to have the full 5-day school. To register, please call Yvonne Johnson, (712) 586-4504.

Midsummer Festivities - Saturday, June 19, 5 pm. Pancakes, sausage and drink will be served outdoors, \$3 & \$5. Swedish School students will dance and May Pole activities will happen. Please bring your lawn chairs and your dancing shoes!

Stanton's Homecoming and 151 Years Celebration

- July 8-11, 2021 (see pages 6-7)

** Schedules are subject to change because of COVID-19 precautions. If needed, changes will be posted on Facebook with Stanton Friends.*





Unknown or Forgotten History...

In 1940, Mamrelund Lutheran Church celebrated its 70th anniversary. This was after the wooden church burned and the stone church was built. Former pastors were asked by Claus Anderson to write of their memories of living in Stanton. One of those replies follows.

"The Randolph Pastorate", 1903-1910, by Rev. C. A. Randolph

My seven years in Stanton were the most interesting years in my life. It was with trepidation that I accepted the invitation to be pastor at Mamrelund. Would they be able to hear me? Did I have the talents to minister to an eight hundred membership? The fear of not being heard when in the pulpit soon vanished.

One of my recollections was a pleasant one. One New Year's day I awoke to find that I was not in condition to preach because of a sore throat. A deacon lived next door. I asked him to conduct the service. To my amazement he preached his own sermon instead of reading one. It was the best New Year's sermon I have ever heard.

Another memory was that after the organist resigned, my "better half" was asked to play although she had never played a pipe organ. After the service I thought now is a good time to find out about my preaching. As she came in I said, "you played just as well as I preached." She responded quickly, "Nej, gick det så daligt? ("Did it go as poorly as that?")"

Money was raised for repairs for the churches' metal ceiling, redecorating a new altar and pulpit. A few members thought the altar made the church look too much like a Catholic church. There was a story of a man in town who happened to be Italian who came regularly to the morning service which was conducted in Swedish. A store salesman met him in a store and asked him how he liked Stanton. "Fine," answered Joe. "Well," said the salesman, "how can you like it here when there is no church for you?" "Yes," answered Joe. "Catholic church on the hill." "No, that is a Lutheran church." Joe, "No, no, Catholic church, me no understand priest."

In town there was one speakeasy and 2 drug stores that sold liquor. A man who lived alone accidentally froze his feet while getting over the effects of liquor bought in the speakeasy. So I tried to get them closed. The County

Attorney advised me to buy liquor three different times. When two men refused to help me, I went in myself. When I came the 2nd time the owner refused to sell it to me unless I drank it there. After a little persuasion he let me have it. He was fined \$200. With the support of the local anti-saloon league which I organized for this purpose, the drug stores were forced to go out of the liquor business. The slot machines also were taken out.

One of the drug store men said to the mayor "I'll take out the machines but tell the preacher that I am not afraid of him." Those were exciting times in Stanton. One Sunday evening on my way home from church a clod of dirt was thrown at me. One young man told a church deacon, "I'll send the preacher to a place where the sun and moon don't shine." I called on him. He became one of my best friends. When the fight was over the young people gave me a surprise in which all the young people in the church took part. This included the boys who had appeared before a grand jury.

The big white church in the little white town impressed me on our first Christmas Eve there. The site of candles flickering in the windows of practically every home will never be forgotten. No wonder the passenger trains stopped an extra 5 minutes so passengers could get out and see the beautiful sight.

The new church will, I am sure, be a credit to the Mamrelund congregation and the community. Greetings and congratulations from the Randolph family. May God's blessings rest over Mamrelund.

C. A. Randolph, Rock Island, Illinois

Carl Albert Randolph was born June 28, 1865, in Eskilstuna Parish, Södermann, Sweden. His parents were Chas Victor Olson and Beata Christina Carlsdotter. He came to America with his parents in 1869. He spoke both Swedish and English.





A recent SHCC visitor asked, "Why does such a small town have such a large church?" Perhaps a Red Oak Express article from June 16, 1905 gives a clue. The Swedish Lutheran Synod national church meeting happened at Mamrelund while Rev. Randolph was the pastor.

The Swedish Lutheran Synod—Stanton's Sunday crowd (June 11, 1905) numbered at least 4,000. Stanton may justly boast of having entertained probably the largest religious body ever assembled in Montgomery County. The Synod of the Swedish Lutheran Churches of North America meets once each year. Last year this body held its deliberations at Lindsburg, Kansas. This time, by reason of its wide reputation as a Swedish Lutheran town, and by reason of its having the largest Swedish Lutheran church in the state and the largest body of worshipers of any congregation in the state of Iowa, Stanton was the place chosen for the convention.

There were 175 ministers and an equal number of lay delegates in attendance. They came from all parts in the United States and Canada representing over 600 ministers and 1200 congregations. Besides these, Stanton was filled with visitors from a distance so that every home in the city was called into service to entertain its quota of the visitors. Right here is where Stanton and vicinity did itself proud. At one home there were 17 quests quartered. We understand no house had less than four. Indeed, the good farmers for four-or-five miles out in the country opened their homes and helped to care for the crowd. Some of the distinguished guests gave evidence of not relishing such long trips to-and-from lodgings, but it wasn't the fault of the hosts if the visitors didn't enjoy themselves.

Sunday was the big day of the Synod meetings. Special rates were offered on the railroad and a special train was run from Shenandoah and Essex to Stanton. Fully

350 people came in this way from Red Oak and the above towns while hundreds drove long distances. Three meetings occurred each day. On Sunday afternoon the largest meeting in the history of the church occurred. The building was packed as 2,000 people crowded within its walls to hear the ordination services. The address was given in Swedish. The service lasted 2 hours and concluded with an ordination ceremony of 31 young ministers. Music was furnished for all meetings by the Lutheran choir. Special music on Sunday afternoon was a quartette composed of the following young ladies: Misses Ina Swanson, Amy Wallin, Esther Hawkins and Violet Johnson. Miss Hilda Wallin presided at the pipe organ and did splendid execution.

The Stanton Lutheran church is the largest in the state having 775 communicants and a total membership of 1,400.

Most of Mamrelund's early pastors were from Sweden.

1. Rev. Bengt Magnus Johansson/Halland, 1870-1883, born at Drängsered, Halland, Sweden, buried at Mamrelund Cemetery, Stanton, Iowa.
2. Rev. Anders Johan Östlin, 1883-1893, born at Gävleberg, Sweden, buried at Mamrelund Cemetery.
3. Rev. John Edward Rydback, 1894-1903, born at Notteback med Branhult, Kronberg, Sweden. Buried in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
4. Rev. Carl Albert Randolph, 1904-1910, born Eskilstuna, Södermanland, SWDN, buried in Swedesberg, Iowa.
5. Rev. Peter Peterson, 1911-1916, born at Granberg, Fryksände, Värmland, Sweden. Buried in Minnesota.
6. Rev. Gustaf Oscar Walford Gustafson, interim pastor, Kristdala, Kalmar, Sweden. Mamrelund Cemetery.
7. Rev. Oscar A. Elmquist, 1916-1922, born and buried in Minneapolis, MN.
8. Rev. J. T. Kraft, 1922-1933, born at Månstad, Västergötland, Sweden. Buried in Galesburg, Illinois.
9. Rev. Leonard Smith, 1934-1949, born at Holdrege, Nebraska. Buried at Mamre Cemetery, Stanton.



Välkommen!

If you come to Stanton's Homecoming, please tour the SHCC building. There is much to discover!.

Halland room—this is where tours begin. Finding your Swedish Roots is in this room as is a binder that includes the family names of early settlers. Main floor, southwest room.



Finding your Swedish Roots—Halland room

Our webpage is in the process of being updated. There are three options for getting a form if you'd like to participate. The first option is to stop by the History Center (Wed.-Sat, 1-4 pm) for a form. Second, call Chris Nelson (712) 621-2785, and he will send it to you. Third, wait for the web page to be updated, then download the form. Thank you for your understanding.



Kirkeburg room— main floor, northwest room,

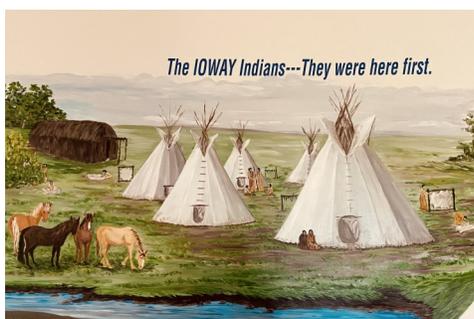
Gift Shop—main floor, northeast room.

Baseball exhibit—upstairs, north room.

1936 Iowa Amateur Champs!



Native American exhibit—upstairs, north room.



Robert Rossander, SHCC Advisor and former SHCC President, places a flag on the map to locate where his Grandfather Swan Rossander immigrated from, Krislinge Village, Hjäsäslilla, Sweden.





“Beautiful May” (Sköna Maj) singers, April 30th, 2021!

If you're interested in singing with us twice a year (April and Dec.), please call or text Mike Lundgren, (712) 370-1975. Thanks!

Memberships: I would like to support the Swedish Heritage and Cultural Center with the gift named below. Memberships and donations pay for maintenance, utility and project expenses.

- Individual membership \$10
- Individual and spouse membership \$20
- Bronze contributing membership \$50
- Silver contributing membership \$100
- Gold contributing membership \$200
- Platinum contributing membership \$500
- Benefactor contributing membership \$1000
- Corporate contributing membership \$5000

Amount: _____

Names to be listed as members: _____

Another option: Donation, Memorial or Endowment in memory of: _____

Amount: _____

We need your info: We can reduce some of our mailing expenses by sending newsletters to you by email. An added benefit is that it would be in color! May we have your email? If you're willing, please include your email address when you send in your yearly membership contribution or send a separate email to shcc@myfmtc.com with your name and information.

2021 Memberships, Donations & Memorial

Individual: Richard Sundberg.

Individual and Spouse: Ellen Waltz Boydston, Kent and Sharon Goldsmith, Glenn Gustafson, Dave & Cathy Hart, Helen Jansson, Tim & Donna Johnson, Tom & Donna Johnson, Terry & Bonnie Miller, Millie Newman.

Bronze: Romona Boatman, Monte Peterson & Donna Epstein, Howard Honett, Dave & Kris McAninch, Richard & Pat Olenius, John R. Olson, Monte Peterson & Donna Epstein Jim & Helen Petto, Jana Sandholm, Bob & Tasha Schenck, John Selligren, Linda Snyder, Dale & Margaret Vanderholm.

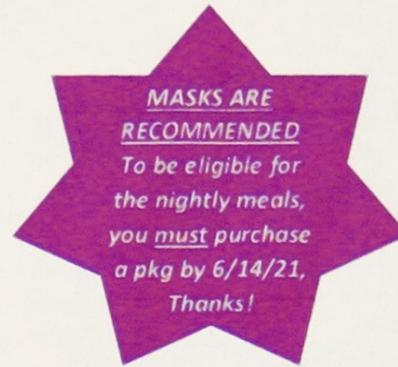
Silver: Anonymous, Bob & Maurine Allen, Bruce & Krie Anderson, Brian & Jacque Bates, Dennis & Jennifer Burke, Wayne & Mary Donahue, Royce & Jan Duncan, Donna Falk, Daryl & Anne Hallquist, Sarah C. Hite, Michael & Julie Kennon, Leland Lindberg, John & Greta McCarthy, Chris & Barb Nelson, Fred & Sandie Nelson, Paul & Harriet Olson, Bev Palmquist, Eric & Barb Paulson, Jerry & Elizabeth Powell, Robert & Sandy Rossander, Alan & MaryAnn Skoog, Sara Worm.

Gold: Kathleen Donohue, Rod & Patricia Goodemote, Darlene Isaacson & family, Donald & Carolyn Lantz, Mike & Gaye Lundgren, Daryl Peterson.

Platinum: Max Isaacson, Dean & Jean Olander,

Benefactor: Eugene & Paula Anderson, Bob & Kathy Means.

Memorials: Bruce & Krie Anderson in memory of John & Doris Carlson, Ellen Waltz Boydston in memory of Max Isaacson, Family & Friends in memory of Relda Hultquist, Rod & Patricia Goodemote in memory of Beverly A. Goodemote, Helen Jansson in memory of (1) Roberta Nord Summers and (2) Paul Johnson, Bob & Kathy Means in memory of (1) teachers for class of 1956, (2) deceased classmates of 1956, (3) Jeanne & Keith Peterson, (4) Jim Wigstone and (5) Katheryn Wigstone, Mike & Gaye Lundgren in memory of Pat Eklof, Bob & Jean Olander in memory of Paul Johnson, Monte Peterson & Donna Epstein in memory of Alvin & Marveline Peterson, Jana Sandholm in memory of Leonard Sandholm, Darlene Isaacson & family in memory of Max Henry Isaacson.



MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED
 To be eligible for the nightly meals, you must purchase a pkg by 6/14/21, Thanks!

July 8-11, 2021

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
-Registration @ History Center (also Friday & Saturday) -Farmers Market at the OLY -Main St History Walk	-Viking Center & School Open Houses -Cattlemen's Meal -Stage Show @ Don Hick's Valley View Field -Stanton Sip & Stroll	-Pancake Breakfast -Fun Run -STEM Demonstration -Softball Tourney -Sandpit VB Tourney -Historical Society Dedication -Fun Day for Kids -Musical Memories -Alumni Choir -Cast Iron Meal -Main St History Walk -Chautauqua Road Band @ the OLY	-Swedish Pancake breakfast-Cast Iron Cafe -Church Services -Mamrelund Lutheran Church's 151 st Anniversary Celebration Worship Service at 9:30am. Anniversary Banquet-2 Seatings: First Seating 11 AM, Second Seating 12 PM \$17/person, 5 y/o & younger free Call 712- 829-2422 to make reservations

\$50 Package includes: Friday & Saturday Night Meals, Main St History Walk, Friday Night Stage Show, DJ, Fun Day @ Anderson Park, Saturday Dance @ the OLY, one mask & Alumni Book (Adult Pkg)

To be eligible for the nightly meals @ the Viking Center, you must purchase a package in advance, Thanks!

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE is 6/14/21

Just What Has Stanton Been Up To Since You Were Home? We have a new Casey's...City of Stanton purchased ground to expand the Trail...SAIF purchased the Mason building & has built an upstairs apt/remodeled 2 downstairs business spaces & replaced front facade of building as well as 2 homes for rehab...Wistrom Oil was purchased & repurposed...Stanton Friends/Viking Center installed 2 new sandpit VB courts at Anderson Park...Stanton School installed new baseball lighting @ Anderson Park & made the school ADA compliant...The Old Lumber Yard has been transformed into an event center...Baseball Day added: car show, live band, volleyball, corn hole tourney & a water slide...Stanton 150 fund has been created to help fund & write grants to expand the Stanton Child Resource Center, the Trail & help with Stanton Downtown Renovations...FMTC has completed FTTH for all 5 exchanges...Stanton received "Iowa Great Places" & "AARP Age-Friendly Network" Designations...Stanton has hired a local community development person,

Jenna Hart-Ramsey

See you in Stanton for Homecoming 2021!!

Homecoming 2021 Registration Form

Name (include maiden name): _____ Class Year _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Class Year _____

Children's Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Alt Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Facebook Name and/or Twitter Handle _____

I would like _____ (#) adult package deals @ \$50 each = \$ _____

I would like _____ (#) child (ages 5-12) package deals @ \$25 each = \$ _____ (Preschool Age-Free)

I would like _____ (#) T-shirts _____ (sizes) @ \$15 each = \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Homecoming 2021** Total \$ _____

T-shirts for Sale @ \$15 each!
Sizes range from YS-XXXL

Become a fan on FACEBOOK & Twitter!!

We will update you with event details!

Mail form to:

Homecoming 2021

PO Box 181

Stanton, IA 51573-0181

Questions? Call Jenna Hart-Ramsey 712-829-2540

Remember to go to www.stantoniowa.com to register your name to the database & watch for updates to our 151st celebration.

How would you like to help and what do you want to do?

Check items and return to let us know!

___ I want to help with a clean-up committee! (Names will be posted at registration)

___ I want to be a vendor at the Farmers Market. Product _____

___ I want to play in the Alumni Band. Instrument: _____

___ I want to sing in the Alumni Choir.

___ I want to participate in the Old Car Display.

___ I will play or sing at the Musical Memories (questions, contact Sheila Mainquist, 712-370-6806).

___ I want to play softball in the slow pitch tourney. ___ I have a team.

___ I want to play sandpit volleyball. ___ I have a team.

___ I have someone's address the Committee might need:

Name: _____ Address: _____

E-mail: _____

The Class of _____ will have a reunion @ (location/date/time) _____



HERITAGE

THE JOURNAL OF THE STANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Directors: Carroll Peterson (President), Paul Olson (VP), Garnet Requist (Treasurer), Chris Nelson (Secretary), Sheila Mainquist, Bev Palmquist, John Sellergren, Mike Lundgren

Stanton Historical Society

Box 231

Stanton, Iowa 51573

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