



# HERITAGE

Swedish Heritage & Cultural Center (SHCC)

Issue number: Seventy Seven

Sept. 2020



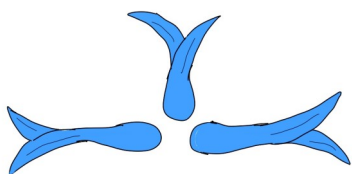
The above masked cutout of **Virginia Christine** is standing in front of a quilt made by Janet Nimrod and Dorothy Ossian. It honors the Swedish immigrants who settled in the Halland Settlement in 1870 and thereafter. The churches pictured on the quilt were begun by Rev. Halland. Mrs. Ossian did the embroidery work and Mrs. Nimrod the quilting. The quilt is in the Halland Room at the History Center.

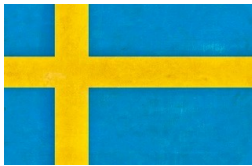
**Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID19) social distancing and precautions continue**

The Swedish Holiday Meal usually held in mid-November is cancelled for 2020. Sorry!

Santa Lucia — this might be cancelled or could happen in another form. Please look for an update on the Stanton Page (Facebook) or at [www.stantoniowa.com](http://www.stantoniowa.com).

Homecoming 150 is still scheduled for July 8-11, 2021.





## Childhood Memories of the Pioneer Days of 1869 by Mrs. C. A. Dahlquist

The first settlers, the pioneers of this community, came not by train but in the old covered wagon in the month of June, 1869, locating on a slope south of the present John Fogelquist farm residence. (Wesley Erickson lived on the farm in 1970).

The party included my father Samuel Anderson, his wife and six children: John S. Anderson, Mrs. John P. Larson and Mrs. Chas. Quist of Stanton and Mrs. C A Dahlquist of Chicago. The deceased are Mrs. Ida C. Anderson of Colorado Springs, CO, my two uncles Frederick Anderson and wife and Johannes Larson and wife. These families emigrated from Neoga, IL to Stanton.

My Father with his family and Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Larson went overland in covered wagons taking three weeks to make the trip. At that time we had to ford rivers and creeks, camping and cooking by the roadside, baking our bread at farm homes. This being the month of June there were plenty of cherries along the way which we children received permission to pick.

My two uncles boarded the train from Neoga, taking it to the end of the line at Afton, Iowa. They continued their journey in a hack to Villisca where they joined us. We then set out together, forging the Nodaway River as there were no bridges.

We followed a trail across the prairie to a location about three-and-one-half miles south of Stanton where we camped through the summer.

Those who did not have wagons for living purposes built dug outs in the side of the hill with a window and door attached.

Others who made up our little settlement were Peter Lantz and wife, Gustaf Anderson and wife, Charles Vilgren, Nils Sandberg and Johannes Sellergren.

Being a girl of 13, I shall never forget the impression I got from the first religious meeting we held in our own little settlement—out in the open, surrounded by nature's beauty; wild flowers in full bloom. The blue heavens seemed to envelope the small gathering. In the midst of us standing so stately was Dr. Rev. B. M. Halland delivering his message from Our Father and Savior above. The hymns were sung with a spirit that gave an

echo to the hillside and a ring through the valleys. A more solemn worship was never witnessed in the Stanton community.

In the fall of 1869, our camp moved to Stanton locating in the vicinity of the present home of Miss Julia Johnson and lived in the dug outs through the winter. Julia's house, now torn down, was just across the road west of Anderson Park and north of the railroad track. A good natural spring here supplied all with water.

In the spring of 1870, all moved to their respective farms that they had purchased during the winter and built for themselves houses of one, two or three rooms each.

I was working at Villisca when the first train went over the newly laid track. I had the honor of being the first woman to ride between Villisca and Stanton. I was accompanied by my brother. We were seated on a flat car. I held tightly to him fearing I would be blown away.

To my confirmation classmates of the year 1872, I extend my love and heartiest greetings. I do well remember the days we met with Rev. Halland for class study, the hours being from 9 am to 6 pm. Rev. Halland had the utmost kindness and patience with us. Mrs. Halland served dinner at every meeting of the class always giving us cheer and a pleasant greeting.

To the congregation as a whole and to the pastors, Dr. Rydback, Dr. Peterson, Rev. Elmquist and Rev. Kraft, I send my best regards and heartiest greetings. To all the old settlers who are still with you, a kind remembrance.

As my health will not permit, I regret very much that I am unable to be present, yet in heart and soul I am with you. May God bless you all.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. C. A. Dahlquist

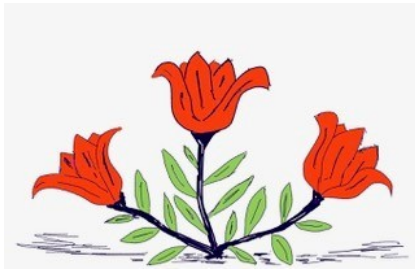




*Mrs. Dahlquist sent these greetings to her confirmation class reunion being held during Mamrelund's 60th anniversary celebration in 1930. Her letter comes from Lest We Forget: A Stanton History, p. 94. The photo of Carl and Emma Dahlquist is from the "Samuel Anderson & Family History" binder in the SHCC office.*

*Emma Anderson Dahlquist was born June 19, 1855, in Narunga, Alvsborgs lan, Sweden to Samuel and Anna Maria (Johansdotter) Anderson. With her parents and siblings she left Sweden in 1864 and traveled to Neoga, Illinois, then to Stanton. They were charter members of Mamrelund Lutheran Church.*

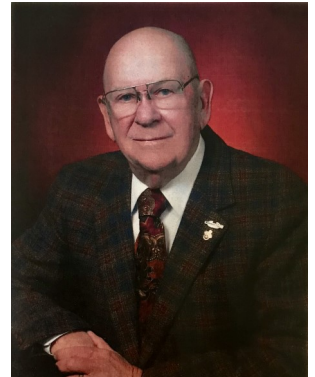
*Emma married Carl August Dahlquist on Jan. 27, 1877. They farmed one mile east of Stanton until 1917 when they moved to Chicago. Emma died Aug. 23, 1938, and Carl died Nov. 14, 1838, both in Chicago. They are buried in the Mamrelund Cemetery, Stanton.*



## A Passing of History

James E. Wigstone, June 2, 1914 - July 3, 2020. He was the son of Ernest and Mabel (Eliason) Wigstone.

Jimmie was the longest living WW II veteran of the Stanton area. James entered the service in 27 May 1943 at Ft. Crook, Nebraska and was discharged on 9 April 1946 at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.



Jimmie's military awards included the Bronze Star, American Theatre Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Service Medal with 2 Bronze Campaign Stars for Rhineland and Central Europe, Occupation of Germany Medal, WW II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Expert and Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Rifle and Machine Gun Badge and Certificates of Appreciation from the Holocaust Memorial Council and from the Republic of France. *A History of Military Service in Montgomery County, Iowa*, p. 184. (available at the History Center)

## A Stanton business

Ernest Wigstone owned Wigstone's Standard Service Station in the 1940's. As most businesses did, he let people charge their expenses and pay at the end of the month. On the back of the sale bill was this poem:

### **To Our Customers**

You need your money  
and I need mine,  
If we both get ours  
it will sure be fine,  
But if you get yours  
And hold mine too  
What in the world  
Am I going to do?  
Think it over.

## 1908 Postcard "The way we do it here"



## Work accomplished in 2020

The Cramer Country Schoolhouse, red storage shed and south hand rails were painted.

Trees were trimmed.

Hand rails for the landscape approach were installed. (*see below photos*)

The gift shop was inventoried and updated.

Flower boxes and plants were pampered.

The Emigrants wood stature was cleaned and repaired. (*see before and after photos*)

The west side of the red shed was landscaped with river rock and timbers.

And, untold hours of in-the-building cleaning!

Thanks to the many volunteers who keep SHCC functioning.



**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](mailto:shcc@myfmtc.com) with your name and info.

## Memberships

I would like to support the Swedish Heritage and Cultural Center with the gift named below. Memberships and donations pay for the 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: \_\_\_\_\_





## New Project — Documenting Halland Settlement Roots in Sweden

Where in Sweden were your people from? Did your great or great-great grandparents make the journey to the Stanton area? If you know and would like to share that information with us, please complete the form on the SHCC web page and send it to us. The information will be added to a data base and the locations will be marked on a large map of Sweden. The map and notebook will be displayed in the Halland Room where tours of the facility begin.

## City of Stanton Receives 'Great Places' Title

"The Stanton Community is honored to receive the Iowa Great Places Designation, and we look forward to working with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. Stanton has always had amenities and people that make the community a great place to live, work and play. We look forward to the opportunities that come with this designation," said Jenna Ramsey, Stanton Community Development Director.

"In recent years, Stanton residents have seen new and creative businesses spring up downtown, alongside iconic symbols of the community's Swedish heritage. A new events center opened and plans for adding public art are in the works" read the press release.

Stanton and seven other Iowa communities will receive support through two creative place making programs that help regions attract investment, tourism and quality-of-life enhancements.

Indianola and Stanton were chosen as new Iowa Great Places. The Sixth Avenue Corridor in Des Moines and cultural and entertainment districts in Ames, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Elkader and Spencer were re-designated.

"It's my pleasure to welcome these communities into the Iowa Great Places and Cultural and Entertainment District programs," Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs Director Chris Kramer said, "Now more than ever, these state Investments will generate economic growth in rural and urban areas where Iowans have developed hold visions for the future and formed the plans and partnerships to make those visions a reality."

## Stanton Homecoming 2021 Update

The 2020 Stanton Homecoming 150th Anniversary Celebration was postponed due to the coronavirus. The celebration originally scheduled for July 9-12, 2020, will now take place July 8-11, 2021. The celebration is scheduled to begin with a car show on Thursday, a stage show and DJ on Friday, live entertainment on Saturday and church services on Sunday plus much more throughout the weekend. For those who have registered, those registrations will roll over to 2021. For questions, contact Jenna Ramsey at (712)829-7340 or jramsey@fmtcnet.com. Jenna Ramsey, Stanton Community Development Director, Office: (712) 829-7340.

## Stanton Community Updates

For up-to-date information look at [www.stantoniowa.com](http://www.stantoniowa.com), City of Stanton, Iowa Facebook page or Stanton Friends Facebook page.

## ***Memberships, Donations & Memorials (Jan.-Sept. 2020)***

**Individual:** Rosemary Anderson, Robert Bergstrom, Venita Edie, Relda Hultquist, Helen Jansson, Kenneth Lindell, Millie Newman, Barbara Tornholm, Mary Ann Vanderholm, Mary Watson, Wendell Westenburg.

**Individual and Spouse:** Marvin Adolphson, Stephen Anderson, Jack & Pauline Bisbee, Rick & Esther Carlson, Terry & Peggy Christie, Doug & Leanna Darnold, Sean & Jody Druivenga, Jean Fritscher, Sharon & Kent Goldsmith, Dennis & Denise Hammer, Brian & Kari Hartstack Gary & Rhoda Hartstack, Max & Darlene Isaacson, William James, John Jansson, Steve & Arlene Johnson, Tom & Donna Johnson, Tim & Donna Johnson, Bob & Julie Kixmiller, James Landerdahl, Jeff & Tammy Magneson, Neil & Marilyn Matthewson, Vance Nimrod, Lucille Ranniger, Jud & Gloria Requist, Harold & LaDonna Rossander, Judy & Delbert Schroeder, David & Julie Selligren, Stephen Selligren, Carlyle & Sharon Smith, Brian & Andrea Swank, Vicky Swanson Walters, Joanne Wegler.

**Bronze:** Carol & Robert Ammerman, Martha Beveridge, Jacque Bates, Mary Coulman, Connie Delinger, Dan & Katie Elwood, Robert & Martha Estes, Howard Honett, Darlien Johnson, Kit & Carolyn Johnson, Yvonne Johnson, Paul & Kathryn Lass, Dirk Lindner, Dan & Gerry Lundgren, Peter & Pamela Lundholm, Lynn & Nancy Mulherin, Wade & Helen Newman, Richard Olenius, John R. Olson, Klint Requist, Don & Diana Sabo, Robert & Tasha Schenck, John Selligren, Donna Smith,

**Silver:** Robert & Maurine Allen, Eugene Anderson, Robert & Wanda Anderson, Jonas & Sandy Borg, Sheryl & Jim Bowen, Dennis & Jennifer Burke, Royce & Jan Duncan, Charles & Pat Eklof, Donna Falk, John Gabrielson, Daryl & Anne Hallquist, Bob & Karen Henderson, Mayard & Anne Hoberg, Greg & Carolyn Johnson, Michael & Julie Kennon, Mary Lee & Dennis Killion, David & Sandy Lantz, Rogene LeNeveu, E. Leland & Mary Lou Lindberg, Karen Lundgren, Sheila Mainquist, John & Greta McCarthy, Chris & Barb Nelson, Paul & Harriet Olson, Bev Palmquist, Don & Kay Peterson, L. C. Peterson Farm, Harry & Victoria Rossander, Robert & Sandra Rossander, Steve & Stephanie Schaben, Penny Smith, Jan & Chris Stanley, Sara & Chet Worm.

**Gold:** Martha Jansson, Kurt Grotenhuis, Dave & Cathy Hart, Jim Hicks, Mimi & Tim Ilg, Donald & Carolyn Lantz, Mike & Gaye Lundgren, Scott & Jane Peterson.

**Platinum:** Mickey & Marla Anderson, Jason Lantz, David Mollenhoff, Dean Olander.

**Benefactor:** Bonnie Erickson Hanson, John Schultz.

**Memorials:** Carol & Robert Ammerman in memory of Dave and Dorothy Sholeen, Stephen Anderson in memory of Elsie Johnson, Venita Edie in memory of Lester & Laura Anderson and Barbara England Swift, Bonnie Erickson Hanson in memory of Daryl Erickson and Wesley & Gladys Erickson, John Gabrielson in memory of Mabel Burke Gabrielson, Sharon & Kent Goldsmith in memory of Dennis Benskin, Willie & Jefferie James in memory of Iva & Cleo James, Greg & Carolyn Johnson in memory of Dwane Peterson, Rogene LeNeveu in memory of Lyman and Florence Anderson, Lynn & Nancy Mulherin in memory of Harlan Quist, Millie Newman in memory of Don Lindell, Scott & Jane Peterson in memory of Don & Janis Peterson, Gaylen Ranniger in memory of Lucille Veseen Ranniger, Penny Smith in memory of Elva (Ossian) Smith, Mary Watson in memory of Mike, Isabelle & Michael Lindgren, Delbert & Judy Ossian Schroeder in memory of Henry & Hilma Ossian, Sara Worm in memory of Barbara (England) Swift and Susan Ossian.

**Endowment:** John Schultz in memory of Grace Schultz.

## **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 Selligren, Mike Lundgren (Editor)

### **Stanton Historical Society**

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Stanton, Iowa 51573

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