

# Johnston (Station) Historical Society

Volume 21, Issue 3

Newsletter

Fall 2013

## Opportunities:

**Fall Cleaning** date scheduled for Saturday, October 19 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help organize the basement area and do some general cleaning inside the museum. Perhaps Carla might need some assistance in the flower beds for a fall cleaning.

**Chili Supper** scheduled for Thursday, November 7, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Simpson Barn. This is a change from the traditional Thanksgiving dinner we have prepared in the past for members. Mark your calendars for the chili cook-off, in which the Board Members will treat you to some good tasting chili with the trimmings. We'll probably throw in some fall dessert to finish the evening. A free will offering will take place.

*Continued on page 2*



## First Annual Garage Sale

We held a Garage Sale Fund Raiser August 9 & 10, 2013. Most of the Board members along with a couple members worked for three days to make it a success. We began on Thursday setting up tables and hauling donated items to the barn. Once that was done, we began organizing the items so there was some order to the tables. We had donations arriving until 3:00 p.m. from people that had read the ad in the Johnston Register.

Those individuals that worked all day Thursday were Jan Jensen, Carla Kinsey, Deb Krambeck, Lois Waggoner, Penny DeJoode, and Nancy Budrevich. It was a good team of workers as set-up day is a big day. The sale began at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, with people waiting for us to open. Saturday Al Lathrum and Dick Hyde joined our team of workers.

We closed the sale on Saturday at noon, hauling all unsold items out of the barn. We took in over \$1100.00 making it worth our time. This is the first time we have done this, but look forward to holding one again next year.

Thanks to all of you that donated items for the sale, and for those workers that gave unselfishly of their time to make it a success. We feel next year will be even better as we improve with the scheduling and organizing. So during this year as you clean areas of your house, perhaps save items for the second annual garage sale. We will advertise in the spring.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Opportunities/Garage Sale
- 2 Farmers Mkt/Vol/Iowa Marine
- 3 School Sports, 1934 & 2013
- 4 Obituaries
- 5 Old Varner House Burns
- 6 Mark Your Calendars

## **Looking into 2014:**

### **Second Annual Garage Sale**

The Simpson Barn has been reserved for July 11 & 12, 2014 for next years sale. More information in the spring, but keep us in mind before discarding unwanted items in your house. As you know, we are non-profit so we will provide a receipt for items donated for your tax purposes. Encourage your friends and family to donate also.

### **Johnston Farmers Market**

This year we began setting up a tent and table at the Johnston Farmers Market to advertise the Museum and become more visible. Volunteers from the Board take turns working the Market from 3:30 to 6:30 on Tuesdays. We have information on the museum, pamphlets for interested people to join and information in general. It's fun to visit with people and answer questions.

We intend to do the same next year, perhaps with more handouts and information. Any members that want to volunteer can do so. Stop by and see us. We have a nice big sign that hangs on the front of the table.

### **Museum Winter Hours**

Just a reminder that the Museum will be closed for the winter beginning December 1 until April 1.

## **Volunteers Welcome**

We have been fortunate to have two members begin actively volunteering with activities at the museum. Those two are Lois Irving Waggoner and Al Lathrum. We thank both of you for getting involved. Lois has worked the Farmers Market almost every week since we began setting up in July. Al is coming to meetings and has also worked the Farmers Market. Both of them assisted at the Garage Sale in August. We welcome others to consider helping at the museum. There is so much history in the museum and those that work here, receive gratification in helping to preserve it. If you are interested, please call Deb Krambeck 515 537-6450.

### **Iowa Marine Receives Silver Star**

Sgt. Ryan Steinkamp led a squad of about a dozen Marines last year on a death-defying mission against Taliban fighters in Afghanistan's treacherous Helmand province.

The Marines trudged through a half-mile of terrain strewn with land mines to clear insurgents from the hostile village of Payawak, fighting off enemy ambushes. Steinkamp, a 2005 Johnston High School graduate, kept his men barging ahead during the 12 hour ordeal, despite a shrapnel wound to his leg.

Steinkamp received the Silver Star medal in a ceremony Aug. 28 at Camp Legeune, N.C.

## **Johnston Girls Basketball 1934**

We found an interesting article in the museum that told the story of Johnston High School girls basketball team of 1934 winning the consolation prize at the state tournament. Many of us remember when girls basketball changed from a 6-girl half court game to a 5-girl full-court game. In 1934, however, these women played a three-court game. It was also the first time a Polk County team placed among the winners - third.

Finally, it was the first time a Girls State Tournament beauty queen was named, and the winner was Johnston's Geneva Horner.

About the three-court press: Each team had two guards, two centers and two forwards, and the basketball floor was divided into three sections. Only forwards could shoot, and a center jump followed each basket. Guards and centers couldn't stray from their sections.

It was recalled by some that teams tried to have a short, quick "side center" to grab the ball, tipped to her by a tall "jumping center." Guards and centers threw the ball to the forwards, and after each score it went back for a center jump, which slowed the game and held down the score. Johnston won third, the consolation game, by beating Bondurant 19 to 11. Tournament games were played at the Drake Field House.

Evelyn Temple Carlson and Geneva Horner Mazza were coached in eighth grade at Herrold, an old mining community northwest of Camp Dodge.

Evelyn later taught second grade at Johnston Consolidated School, which included elementary, junior high and high school. Although Geneva Horner won the beauty contest, that tradition was soon dropped. Not sure what the beauty of the women had to do with basketball, probably why it got dropped.

Some of you may recognize the names of those players who participated in the 1934 tournament: Eva Rastovac Frazier, Mary Lathrum Warner, Lavaun Carlson Gilbert, Geneva Horner Mazza, Evelyn Temple Carlson, Margaret Kinsey Goodrich, and Margaret Schlenker Ford.

## **Johnston High School Teams 2013**

Congratulations to the Johnston High School Boys who won their third state baseball crown in school history when they toppled Sioux City East at Principal Park in Des Moines on Saturday, August 3, 2013. The school had previously won state baseball titles in 1977 and 2008.

The baseball team's finish followed a state runner-up placing by the softball team.

Both soccer squads qualified for the state, including a fourth-place trophy for the Dragon boys.

## A Life Remembered....

Romona Elnora Masters, 90, passed from this life on Tuesday, September 17, 2013. Elnora worked for over 31 years for the Johnston Community School District retiring in 1988. Her first job was working in the kitchen, but soon an opening for secretary for the new Elementary School opened and she changed to that position. She held that job for the remainder of her employment, making many friends over the years. After retiring, she enjoyed getting together with her school friends to have lunch.

Elnora and husband Jim lived in Camp Dodge where Jim was in the Iowa National Guard. They raised their two children, Ron and Susan there, not far from the Camp Dodge swimming pool. Elnora always stayed in contact with her Camp Dodge friends even after moving from there upon Jim's death in 1978. In later years, after the Star Museum in Camp Dodge was opened, she would volunteer there.

She was loved by many and will be remembered for her caring ways, love of dancing, lunch with friends, shopping, and having a good laugh. Those of us that knew her will miss her.

## Obituaries

Obituaries are compiled by Nancy Budrevich. This is a known list of deaths that Nancy could obtain. If anyone knows of others please let Nancy know. Our address is 6161 Northglenn Dr. Johnston, IA 50131 or by email: [JSHS@Q.COM](mailto:JSHS@Q.COM) or phone 515-331-0687. Over 1000 Johnston School related obituaries are now on file at the museum, please let us know if you would like any information on them.

Name	Class	Date of Death
Evelyn Temple Carlson	1934	9-7-13
Glady Sellner Grothe	1936	6-7-13
Bertha Clark Olmsteud	1939	6-20-13
Georgia Sjeklocha Wisdom	1940	7-18-13
Wayne Sellner	1945	6-21-13
Don Gross	1955	6-7-13
Sarah Janey Baker McCammon	1957	5-16-13
Donna Lou Running	1964	7-30-13
David P. Johns	1964	9-7-13
Susan Masters Spagnuola	1967	7-24-13
Nicholas Otto	1974	8-28-13

## Johnston Firefighters Burn Varner House

Many of us remember the house once occupied by Johnston's Superintendent, Charles Varner and later by Carroll Broadie and family on Fruitland Drive. On Saturday, August 31, 2013 the Johnston Firefighters used the house as practice for their firefighting techniques. Below is a picture of the house burning.



## Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, October 19, 2013, 9:00 a.m.      Fall Cleaning Day at the Museum

Thursday, November 7, 2013, 5:00 p.m.      Chili Supper, Lower Level, Simpson Barn

### Johnston Historical Board Members

Richard Hyde, president

Carla John, treasurer

Deb Krambeck, secretary

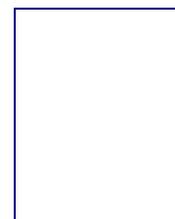
Jan Jensen, archivist

Chris Kinsey

Sharon Hyde

Nancy Budrevich

Johnston (Station) Historical Society  
6161 Northglenn Dr  
Johnston, IA 50131



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED