Amana Society Bulletin

Vol. XCIII | Amana, Iowa, Thursday 05 December, 2024 | No. 39

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, December 08, 2024 starting 8:30 A.M. with Br. Tony Berger presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Wunderbarer Konig" No. 1147 vs 1-4 Seite 1134

Testimony: Gleim, September 15, 1715

Scripture: John 1:1-14
Psalm 85:4-13

Closing Hymn: "Wunderbarer Konig" No. 1147 vs 5-8 Seite 1134

The Late Service will start at 10:00 A.M. with the following hymns:

Opening Hymn: "Wondrous King,..." No. 157

Closing Hymn: "Abide, Oh Dearest Jesus" No. 114

The Wednesday Evening Prayer (Nachtgebet) meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. in Middle.

AMANA CHURCH HOLIDAY EVENTS

Prelude to Christmas Church Bazaar Fri.-Sat. Dec. 6 & 7 Drop off donations for the bazaar Thurs. 9 - 4, Friday AM or call for pick up. Thank you.

Friday Noon - 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. At the Amana Church in Amana.

Prelude to Christmas Cookie Walk Saturday, Dec. 7. Drop off donations Friday or Saturday morning before 9 or call for pick-up. Thank you!

At 9 a.m. pick up cookie walk tickets. Cookie walk starts at 10 a.m. at the Church in Amana.

Sunday School Christmas Program Sunday,

AMANA SANITARY DISTRICT MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Amana Sanitary District will be held at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 11, 2024 in the Amana lift station.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Amana Library will host an ImpactLife Blood Drive on Thursday, December 19 from 1:30 to 6:30. The Drive will be held in the Donor Bus, Amana Library/Elementary Parking Lot, 3023 220th Trail, Middle Amana. Please start in the Library FIRST before going to the bus. Registration and questions will be done in the library. To sign up, please call the Amana Library 319-622-3192 or email amanalibrary@ccaschools.org to schedule a time.

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

Once upon a time, fifty years ago, there was a very lonely woman who figured that she would never meet her Prince Charming since she had reached the age of 25 which, in those days, meant she was an "old maid." Besides that, she was a librarian, so the prospects of meeting someone special in the school where she taught were zero.

So, she prayed every day for someone who would love her, knowing full well that she was not all that pretty, witty or rich. Her Tante Mae had told her that "for every pot there is a lid," but it sounded too silly to be true.

Over the years, she always seemed to be asked to be a bridesmaid at yet another wedding. Her closet became a closet of rainbow colored formals that could be worn once and never again.

Life was passing her by and the "blind dates" she was often sent on often led to thoughts of taking self defense lessons or perhaps carrying a weapon.

Finally, one summer day, she returned home to her parents' house with the grand idea of painting her grandfather's garage and perhaps getting a tan on her very pale skin that always burned. As luck would have it, she was offered a temporary job typing orders at the woolen mill. Little did she know that she had been set up by a group of office workers who were trying to line this woman up with a certain bachelor who worked there.

It took a while – about a month – for the man to ask the woman out on a date, but in less than two weeks after that they were engaged.

So "Prince Charming" had finally arrived and the librarian's prayers had not only been answered, but even more so.

All this time, this man had been living only three miles away, gone to the same school and church, and even had some of the same relatives. The reason they had not met was an age difference of eight years and interests that they did not share, such as his love for sports, and her love of books and music.

That soon changed, and from July to November they saw each other constantly until they married. It was then that the prince learned one of his beloved's faults – she was a terrible map reader. Every single day of their honeymoon she got them lost. One would think

***Feathers** continues on Page 2*

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Arts Guild Haus Walk is Happening!

One of our favorite Prelude to Christmas events is a "go" this year. It's the Holiday Haus Walk hosted by the Amana Arts Guild.

The house walk will be Saturday Dec. 7 and Sunday Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Buy your tickets at the Amana Arts Guild Gallery on Main on Main Street in Amana. The house walk visits:

- Simpkin home at 1603 4th Ave. South Amana. This former South Amana brick granary built when the village was founded has been fully renovated into a charming home – a one-of-a kind dwelling in the colonies.
- Conquest home at 4535 220th Trail, Amana. See what the Conquests have been working on since last featured on the walk. Inspired interior design and truly outstanding attention to detail in this Main Amana home.
- Brost-Ward home at 705 E. St. West Amana is where West Amana village history and artistic flair intertwine. The 1858 sandstone village bakery and home – among the oldest homes in the seven villages – has been lovingly restored and furnished to express the owners' point of view and interests.
- The West Amana blacksmith shop just next door to the Brost – Ward home will be open with live demonstrations. Bring the kids to see blacksmithing/ tinsmithing work (they'll be making cookie cutters) in this hearth-warmed shop. A step back into time to see what Amana life was like during the communal era.
- Shop the unique treasure trove of fine art, folk art, locally made crafts for sale at the Amana Arts Guild Gallery on Main. So many of your friends and neighbors have their work for sale here. Do your Christmas shopping the old Amana way.

Festival Highlights – Prelude to Christmas Traditions in the Villages

Prelude to Christmas is in full swing this weekend in the seven villages. Go to the Amanacolonies.com Prelude to Christmas page to download the brochure with all the details but read below for some of the highlights.

This Saturday don't miss seeing the new Folk Art Museum in Homestead – opening for the first time to the public Saturday at 10 a.m. in the former Homestead General Store. Amana Heritage Society staff and volunteers have worked all year to create this new space to focus entirely upon Amana fine art, craft and industrial crafts created during and after Amana's communal era.

Also this Saturday is the Communal Kitchen Christmas Supper at the Ruedy Kitchen House. As of Tuesday there were just a hand full of seats left, but do call the Amana Heritage Museum today for tickets.

Yes, our Tannenbaum Forest is open this weekend. If you haven't yet seen it, take time to visit this weekend. This year there are nearly 70 themed trees plus an all-new stable built by Dennis Hahn. Santa Claus _ will be in the forest on Saturday. Some of our favorite trees this year: The dinosaur are running amuck in one of the Amana General Store's imaginative trees while Amana Family Practice celebrated the gift of vaccines, and TKM gave us Ebenezer Scrooge!

Weekend Highlights:

- Amana Church Christmas Bazaar open Friday, noon – 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 – 3 p.m. Baked goods, jams, jellies and more for your pantry, Christmas wares, folk arts and more! Amana Church in Amana. Please use southwest entrance.
- Tannenbaum Forest opens at Friday noon – 7 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. an and Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Carol sing – along at the Amana Heritage Museum 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. German and English carols. Caroling will begin at the Museum then proceed through the village of Amana ending at the Tannenbaum Forest.
- Homestead Folk Art Museum open 10 – 4 p.m Saturday the former Homestead Store in Homestead

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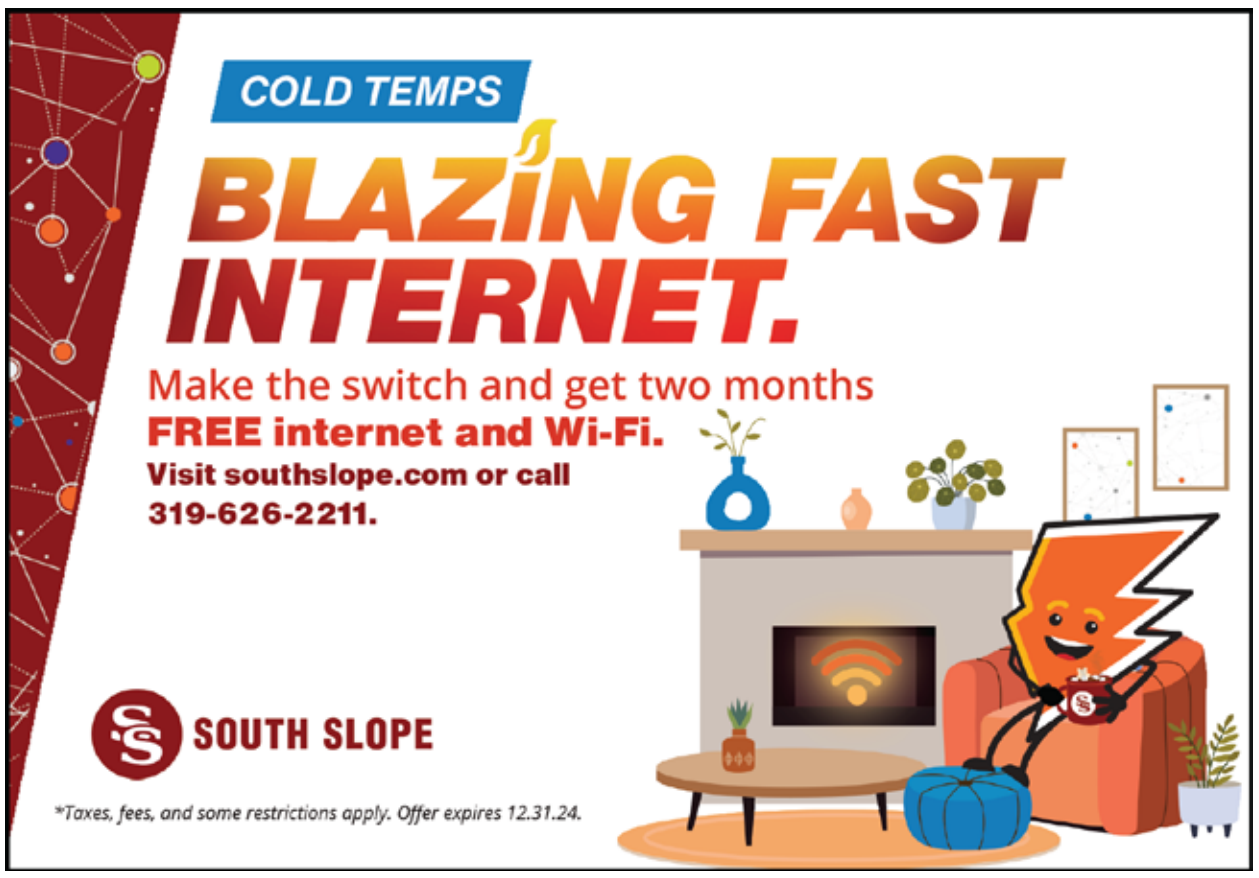

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that the prince would learn, but he was king and love had blinded him.

Now, over fifty years later and after the development of GPS he walked past her chair and found her furiously sorting through maps and an atlas. The poor prince innocently asked what she was doing only to get growled at with, "I'm trying to find Urbana." The prince at least was smart enough not to ask why, but gently asked why she was searching near Des Moines?

After a calm explanation on his part, he reminded her that Amana had played Urbana in basketball and that she used a short cut, via Urbana, to reach her sister when she was a student at Luther College.

That being straightened out, the two "love birds" got into the car and the prince began the drive to Urbana, but she insisted she knew a shortcut though Norway and Vinton – no need for a map. After two stops for directions, the town was found, the yarn bought and the prince got into the car and got unto I-380 and drove home, never asking for directions.

The marriage goes on and she is still thrilled and gets goose bumps when he comes into the room. He, on the other hand, has learned her quirks and still loves her.

B.S.H.

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now a new attraction for the Amana Heritage Society focusing upon Amana's arts and industrial arts, communal er and post communal era.

- Amana Church Cookie Walk. Saturday, Dec. 7. Pick up your reservation time at the Christmas Bazaar, Amana Church, southwest entrance at 9 a.m. Walk starts at 10 a.m. The walk continues until all the cookies/ treats are sold.
- German pickle hunt! Find the pickle ornament in participating shops this weekend. (Pick up a pickle hunt brochure at the Visitor Center or other participating shops) Find pickles and enter to win prizes.
- Santa will be at the Tannenbaum Forest Sat. Dec. 7 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Next weekend he'll be there all weekend, Dec. 13 – 15.
- Ox Yoke Inn Bierstube Cellar will feature appetizers, charcuterie, pizza and your favorite beverages – the best place for a cozy warm-up. All weekend. Opens at 11 a.m. Check out the Happiest Hour specials. 4 – 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
- Nutcracker Scavenger Hunt all weekend at Ackerman Winery. Find 18 of the 38 nutcrackers in the winery to enter to win special prizes. For all ages.
- Ackerman Winery Cookie and Wine pairing flights on offer all weekend.
- Millstream Brau Haus Friday at 6 p.m. Bit Maniac offering live music to warm you up.
- Saturday Dec. 7 cookie cutter making demonstration 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the West Amana blacksmith/ tin smith shop.
- Saturday night, Dec. 7 stay for PfatBack Boys performing at Millstream Brewing Co. an acoustic cover band playing everything from Neil Diamond to the Grateful Dead. 6 – 9 p.m.
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday "A Murder For Christmas" by Karen and Alex Schaeffer at the Amana Performing Arts Center by TKM Theatrical Productions. A murder-mystery comedy for the holiday season! Friday – Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 3 p.m. Call 319-899-3799 for tickets. Sponsored by the Amana Family Practice Clinic and Tidbits.
- Communal Kitchen Christmas Dinner at the Communal Kitchen in Amana. Call today for tickets. 319-622-3567. Amana Heritage Museum. $35 per person.
- Catiri's Art Oasis offers over 60 Iowa artists. New holiday wares/ Christmas gift ideas for everyone.

HELP WANTED

Ackerman Winery is seeking an enthusiastic and experienced Tasting Room Manager to oversee our tasting room operations. The ideal candidate will have a passion for hospitality and a strong background in customer service. This full-time position requires weekends. To find out more, visit Ackermanwinery.com/careers or email resume to info@ackermanwinery.com

FOR RENT

West Amana. 1 Bedroom apartment, Stove/Refridge furnished. References, lease required. 319-573-5265

1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment for rent in Middle Amana. Located on 1st floor. $650 (includes utilities). Minimum 1 year lease. Available around December 1st 2024. Background check required. $40 app fee per applicant. Proof of income required. Credit check required. No pets. No Smoking. Please contact Gunther Sandersfeld at 319-826-4122 or Gunther@Skogman.com

OBITUARY

James H. "Jim" Reihmann, age 89, of High Amana, passed away Friday, November 29, 2024, at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids. Visitation was Tuesday with the funeral service starting 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 4, 2024, in the Middle Amana Church, with Elder Betsy Momany officiating. Burial with military honors conducted by the Navy Honor Guard and the Marengo American Legion at the Middle Amana Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Iowa County Safe Haven or the charity of the donor's choice. Kloster Funeral Home, Marengo is caring for Jim and his family.

Jim is survived by his wife Annie Kephart of High Amana, his son, Eric (Marsha) Reihmann of High Amana, and their children Caleb Reihmann, Adam Reihmann, and Miranda (Justice Lewis); his daughter Lisa Pazour of Wickenburg, Arizona, and her children Michael (Joslyn) Pazour and Derek Pazour; and three great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Judy Reihmann in 2010, and one brother Vernon Reihmann.

James Harvey Reihmann was born January 29, 1935, in Middle Amana, the son of Herman Ernst and Anna Marie Seifert Reihmann. He graduated from Amana High School in 1953. Jim enlisted and served in the U.S. Navy. He worked as a maintenance engineer for the Holiday Inn in Amana for 26 years until he retired. He was united in marriage to Annie Kephart on March 4, 2023, in Live Oak, Florida. Jim took pride in keeping busy and enjoyed woodworking, salvaging old barn boards, re-purposing them and making bird houses. He loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing and gardening; his watermelon was his specialty.

Online condolences: www.klosterfuneralhome.com

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SAT, DEC. 7: 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
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(Across from the Middle Amana Church.)
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Customer Support Associate

The **Amana Colonies Visitors Center** is seeking a reliable part-time Customer Support Associate. This position includes assisting visitors in person and via phone, tour and retail sales, and some cleaning. Must be able to count money, learn to use Square POS Register, and do some light lifting. Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday availability preferred. For more information or if interested, please contact us at 319-622-7622, stop in, or email director@amanacolonies.com.

OBITUARY

Elsie M. Meeker, Age 97, of Des Moines, Iowa died October 20, 2024. A memorial service was held Saturday, November 2, 2024, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Beaver and Allison. A private family inurnment will be held at the Iowa Veteran's Cemetery in Van Meter, Iowa.

Elsie was born in Amana, Iowa on March 31, 1927, the daughter of Carl and Elsie (Ruedy) Ackermann. While attending AIB College of Business in Des Moines, she met her soulmate, William Kenneth Meeker. She and Ken were married June 15, 1947, and enjoyed more than 70 years of happiness together.

For eight years, Elsie worked as a secretary. She became a stay-at-home mom when their son, Don, was born and later, daughter Jeanne. Elsie was very involved in family, volunteering at church, school and in the community. She and Ken belonged to a dance club, a card club and several church groups. They enjoyed many trips within the United States and around the world.

Elsie is survived by her son, Don Meeker; daughter, Jeanne (Tom) Meeker; granddaughter, Keela (Brad) De Geest; great grandson, Tieren; sister-in-law, Dorothy Ackermann; and Nieces Sandra (Jerry) Fetzer and Debra (Phil) Weisskopf.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ken; her parents; parents-in-law; a brother, William "Bill" Ackermann; and a nephew, Lorence Ackermann.

The family wished to thank the good folks at Wesley Life Hospice and the Urbandale Health Care Center for all of Elsie's great care.

The family requests memorials to Westminster Presbyterian Church.

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP
Sunday Church Services
@ 9:00 a.m.
Next Services: *December 15th*
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE DEC 22ND
at the Amana
Performing Arts Center
www.amanaareafellowship.org

LOVE NETWORK THANK YOU

A sincere thank you to everyone who picked a gift tag off the tree this year. Your kindness and generosity helped make this Christmas brighter for over 70 residents of Iowa County. .

Merry Christmas!

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD)
Notice of Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting and Tentative Agenda, Dec. 9th, 2024 – 7 p.m. ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail Amana And via ZOOM link

I. Call Meeting to Order
II. Set Agenda
III. Review/Approve November 11, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes
IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items that are not on the agenda.
V. Discussion/Action on the following permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District:

a. 2024-093 Lothar and Lynn Beyer /4529 220th Trail. Amana/ HP-R/ Renovation of 2 attic windows and replacement of aluminum storm windows with wooden storms. Replacement of all aluminum storm windows on the first floor of the west side with wooden storm windows. Install Amana cedar wooden fence along front of home. Remove the Landscaping in front and replace it with a rectangular rabatte boarded bed.

A motion to approve the application passed unanimously.

b. 2020-083 Amana Colonies Historical Sites Foundation – Kayleigh Myers Executive Director / 17 220th Trail Upper South / HP-R / Install half-round gutters (per grant award), paint soffit and fascia boards white. THIS IS FOR A GRANT APPLICATION. Kayleigh Myers has inspected the jobsite and taken pictures. Also have the contractor receipt. Need BOT approval to issue the check.

c. 2024-052 Daniel Yunek /2504 K St Middle Amana/ HP-R/ All existing gutters and downspouts on the house and garage will be replaced with Amana compliant half round gutters and round downspouts. All fascia will also be repaired or replaced as required. If white aluminum is not approved galvanized steel has also been quoted. THIS IS FOR A GRANT APPLICATION. Kayleigh Myers has inspected the jobsite and taken pictures. Also have the contractor receipt. Need BOT approval to issue the check.

VI. Other Business.

a. Discussion/action: Update on Paul Bruhn revitalization grant.

VII. Review/Approve December Disbursements Report.
VIII. Review/Approve the November Treasurer's Report.
IX. President's Report (if applicable).
X. Administrator's Report.

The ***Amana Society Bulletin*** is published by the Amana Print Shop for the **Amana Society Inc.** and distributed free as a public service to the Amana Community.
On-line at: ***amanacoloniestoday.com***