Amana Society Bulletin

Vol. XCIII | Amana, Iowa, Thursday, 13 February, 2025 | No. 50

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Combined Family Dedication Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, February 16, 2025 starting 10:00 A.M. with Sw. Kristie Yoder presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Seek Ye First", (from the Sunday school blue hymnal)

Followed by: Conversation with the children, Family dedication, and Prayers

Testimony: Christian Metz, Mittle Ebenezer, Sept 16, 1843

Scripture: Colossians 3: 12-17, John 3:16
Elder will read all

Closing Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story, (also from Sunday school blue hymnal)

Song Sheets will be provided.

The Wednesday Evening Prayer Service (Nachtgebet) begins at 7:00 P.M. in Middle.

Visitors are welcome to join us in worship at all Amana Church Services. Childcare is available during Sunday's 10:00 A.M. Service.

Links to services online may be found at:
https://amanachurch.com/category/podcast/

AMANA SOCIETY INC. 2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Amana Society, Inc. Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the Amana Society will be awarding two (2) $2000.00 scholarships to graduating high school seniors attending an accredited college, university, or trade school in 2025.

Applicants must be either currently employed by the Amana Society, a child or grandchild of a current full-time Amana Society employee, or a child or grandchild of an Amana Society stockholder.

Application forms are available at the Amana Society Main Office front desk or by contacting Bruce Trumpold directly at 319-622-7526/btrumpold@amanas.net. Forms may also be downloaded at www.amanasociety.com.

Thank you.
Amana Society, Inc

AMANA FIRE DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE

The monthly public meeting of the Amana Fire District will be held Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Middle Amana fire station.

2025 AMANA SOCIETY, INC. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Amana Society, Inc. Board of Directors has appointed Mike Shoup (319-551-1820, mshoup@amanas.net), Rebecca Selzer (608-772-6174, rselzer@amanas.net), Jason Fels (630-244-3349, goclones92@gmail.com), and Julie Otte (319-231-9318, julieotte77@gmail.com) to serve on the 2025 Nominating Committee.

The committee is responsible for nominating individuals to be placed on the ballot as director candidates for the 2025 Amana Society, Inc. Board of Directors general election.

Any interested Class "A" stockholder who has owned Class "A" shares for a minimum of 3 years, is at least 25 years of age, and has a business background or business experience, is encouraged to submit their name for consideration prior to Wednesday February 19th, 2025, either by contacting a committee member directly (contact information is listed above for each committee member) or by sending a summary of relevant experience to: Nominating Committee, c/o Amana Society, Inc., PO Box 189 Amana, IA 52203.

Thank you for your consideration and interest in this matter.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN US AT PINE RIDGE!

The Amana Church will be making a return trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota August 2-8th. The cost is $800 per adult, and this covers your houseing, meals and travel. We will be taking a total of eight persons, and this invitation is open to anyone in the church and community. Youth 13 and over, are invited to participate, and their trip will be paid for through the youth group fund.

As in years past, we will be spending some time learning history and traditions from Indian elders, experiencing a Lakota pow wow, building or installing outhouses, bunk beds, handicapped ramps and volunteering to care for the community gardens. Thoughout all these activities you will be working alongside people from all over the United States and getting to know the Lakota people, their stories and their appreciation for the work ReMember has done.

If you are interested in joining us on our mission trip to Pine Ridge, please contact Kristie Yoder at kristieyoder3495@gmail.com, or Penni Berger at ptberger@southslope.net.

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

Please help Ellen Miller celebrate her

80th Birthday on Feb. 17th, by joining a card shower! Cards may be sent to:

Ellen Miller
412 F St , Amana, IA 52203

Happy 80th Birthday, Ellen!

BRAU HAUS AMANA, IA

Serving Breakfast
Thurs.- Sun. 8-10:30
Monday Night
is Trivia!
Friday Night
Live Music!
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for Music Bingo!
319-622-7332

Congratulations to Ben Macumber on recording the first ever "8-Ball Break" at the Millstream Brau Haus's pool table.

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AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Hearts, Flowers, Cheerful Things to Do this Weekend

There are plenty of entertaining things to do this weekend in the Amanas. Here's a rundown of the things we've heard about:

• "Murdered by the Mob" at Fireside Winery Friday, Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 16 at 1:30 p.m. A roaring 20s gangster murder mystery comedy with a multi-course, plated, supper served Friday and Saturday evening. Sunday there's a sweet dessert and coffee bar. This is a comic rough and ready, bit of chi-town 20s hijinks written by James Daab and served up the TKM Theatrical and their friends. We have seen the showbill and can't wait! Call right now to see if there are seats available. 319-622-4222.

• East Amana Kitchen Band at the Brau Haus, Friday, Feb. 14 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. The local talent is pretty darn talented.

• Valentine's Wine and Dine on Friday, Feb. 14, 5:30 – 9 p.m. at the Ox Yoke Inn, featuring the best rave-reviewed dishes from the highly popular Vintner's Dinners. Each course accompanied by a glass of White Cross Cellars wine. Celebrate your special someone. Call 319-622-3409 right now for tickets

• Trivia at the Bierstube Ox Yoke Inn starts at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14 Their happiest hour starts earlier.

• Ackerman Winery 10 – 5 on Friday Feb. 14; 10 – 5, Saturday; and Sunday 11 – 5 p.m. Offering a couple's charcuterie tray with sweet and bubbly sparkling mimosas or the classic pick-five from the Ackerman lineup of wines. Chocolate and wine pairing flights plus romantic movies playing on their back room, big screen all weekend.

• Also at Ackerman Winery a couple's cookie decorating class – call them to sign up 319-622-3379. Or bring your sweetheart in for a portrait by Jonesy. Call ahead to reserve your time for a portait of you, your honey or even your best furry, pet friend.

• Bryce Janey plays at the Millstream Brewery Sat. Feb. 15 starting at 6 p.m. Best of retro-70s, blues, pop, rock, country.

• Valentines Chef's Dinner at the Indigo Room at Hotel Millwright Friday, Feb. 14 and Saturday Feb. 15 from 5 – 8:30 p.m. Five-course dinner created especially for Valentines Day featuring delicious appetizer, salad, seafood skewers and spiced duck breast with lentils. Lemon ricotta cake with rose and clementine compote for dessert. Call 319-838-5015 for reservations. See their Facebook page for the full menu.

• Crokinole Sundays at the Ronneburg (which is celebrating a huge anniversary this year) at 2 p.m. What the heck is Crokinole? It's a cool game you can learn to play at the Ronneburg. But if you want to play your own game bring your friends and your Monopoly or LIFE games, your Settlers of Catan or a deck of cards. Double bubble beer or wine. $5 appetizer specials.

Sweethearts and Valentines - Courting in Communal Amana

In Amana being single was highly valued, while marriage was encouraged only if the single life did not suit.

During Amana's communal history starting when the Inspirationists arrived in the United States in 1843 and lasting until 1932, marriages were ap

***News & Notes** continues on page 2*

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

Remember those cold days that we had a few weeks ago? Such cold weather always happens around our son's birthday, and I am reminded that, on the day of his birth, it was 20 degrees below zero. Luckily, the car started and we got to the hospital in plenty of time. Before we left, Charlemagne had to call my parents to say that I (in his words) "thought" I might be in labor, then he had to check his plants, looks for his billfold and etc. before we were finally off. Now you understand why there is eight years between our sons.

As I have mentioned before, the ice storm this winter did a number on our big maple tree. This tree has been around since before we were married. Charlemagne and his sons made a rather elaborate tree house in its branches. During an Easter egg hunt, several of the children had to climb up and explore the tree house. Once there curiosity was satisfied, a few had problems getting down, so Diane Baumgartel went part way up and handed them down to me, one by one. The children then checked to make sure that no one had removed anything from their Easter baskets while they had been up.

About ten years ago there was a lightning strike to the tree which, somehow, managed to put both of our stoves, upstairs and down, out of order. During the big windstorm of June 29, 1998 (I remember the date) about 30 truckloads of branches came out of the tree and littered out back yard. Twenty years ago, I wind storm took a large branch out of the tree. This time, ice formed on a large, but rotten, branch, and about a third of three broke off. So the saga of the big maple has entered yet another chapter, possibly the last one.

B.S.H.

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP
Church Services
SUNDAYS 9:00 AM
All Are Welcome
Amana Performing Arts Center
www.amanaareafellowship.org

BLOOD DRIVE AT LIBRARY

The Amana Library will host an ImpactLife Blood Drive on Thursday, February 20 from 1:30 to 6:30. The Drive will be held in the Amana Elementary School Cafeteria, 3023 220th Trail, Middle Amana.

As a special THANK YOU, all donors will receive a gift card! Potential donors must be at least 17, weigh more than 110 pounds, and possess a photo ID to donate. Please eat and hydrate before donating. Walk-ins are accepted. Appointments are preferred. Whole Blood and Double Red Cell will be available to donate. To sign up, please call the Amana Library 319-622-3192 or email amanalibrary@ccaschools.org to schedule a time.

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FOR RENT

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

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted at Margie Jane's sales associate Weekdays starting in April. Please call 319-721-8748

News & Notes *from page 1*

proposed seemed unsuitable it could be put off. Though it was very rare, a couple couple be denied permission to marry. When this happened the couple could chose to stay and not marry or leave and marry outside of the community. Should they choose the second course of action, they could ask permission to be readmitted (as more than one couple did) and most often such permission was granted.The Amish practice of "shunning" was unheard of in Amana.

Even after a marriage was approved it was common practice for the Elders to say the couple must wait one year and then the young man was sent to another village (or from Eben-ezer to Amana) while the year passed.

While these rules sound restrictive to us, keep in mind in the wider world of 19th century America the barriers to a wedding were substantial. A family could deny the bride or groom a chance to marry for any reason at all or on economic grounds. Here there was no class structure and everyone was "good enough" for one another. No one in the colonies worried about affording to set up house, buying a farm or setting out on their own. There was no "out on your own," as you had your community job, housing and the support of the village which supplied everything from cord wood to furniture.

In communal Amana a young woman who wanted to marry had a closed pool of young men to choose from, but she did not have to rule out anyone based upon their ability to provide, nor did a groom have to think about a bride's dowry. Indeed if a young man or young woman was not inclined to marry, that was fine too. That general policy meant life was a great deal easier for unmarried women in Amana as they had housing, food, a respected role in family and community life, regardless of whether they married or not.

Courting in Amana had its foibles. First there were no pubs or restaurants to go to; there were no dances or parties to speak of, though occasionally young people met in some public space like the depot yard or the Middle Park to do what Helen Rind told me they called, round dancing (like square dancing). Occasionally friends met in a kitchen dining room to play zither and sing. Card games were thought to be worldly, though parcheesi, dominoes and checkers were fine.

Boys asked girls, never ever the reverse and parents didn't seem to have much to say about it one way or another, a point that differs completely from typical American courting rituals of the day. Dating meant taking a walk or hanging out on the porch or on a garden swing. Perhaps that's why Amana porch swings and Gartelaube (little trellised seating areas sometimes with a swing set in the yard) were so popular. Refreshments could be served though were not expected. Procuring refreshments meant involving ones Mom or the kitchen ladies so that was another hurdle to leap.

It was not quite proper to invite a young man inside one's home until after a suitable period of courting had been completed. My grandmother told me her beloved did not come into her Mother's Gutezimmer (good room) until after they had been seeing each other for nearly six months. Before that he rode his bike to Middle Amana and they visited on her porch or went for a walk. Love grew out of doors like honeysuckle or apple trees in old Amana.

Walking in the woods in nice weather or on very rare occasion asking the farm boss to borrow a horse and buggy or horse and sleigh from the village livery were the only other options.

Baseball games (illicit or licit) meant that teens and young adults from other villages could mingle, perhaps that was one big incentive for the games which raised so much ire among the stricter Elders until baseball was allowed in the late 1920s. (Read Monys Hagen's entertaining book, "The Worldly Game – The Story of Baseball in the Amana Colonies" for more on baseball in Amana.)

Valentines were exchanged with heartfelt vigor between courting couples and between friends. Valentine postcards could be purchaserd for pennies at the General Store and addressed to one's sweetheart and sent to him or her via the village "Post" which was an informal mail system between the villages which depended upon the "Rumpost" (Goes around post) delivery system that operated carrying intra-village letters, ledgers, prescriptions and medicines between the general stores, farm offices, pharmacies and doctors offices.

Deliveries were made daily or twice daily during mid-summer, but on a slow winter day, say February 14 an anxious young lady might have to wait until late afternoon before calling at the General Store to see if she had received a Valentine from her sweetheart. And so love ran its course in the villages of Amana.

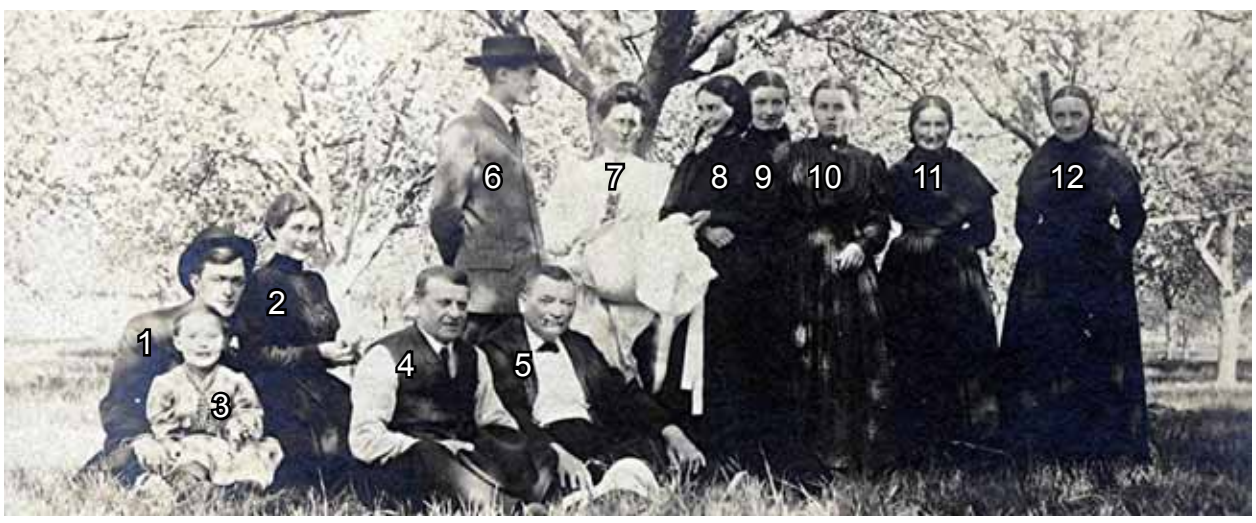
NOTICE

Due to persistent robo-calls for Medicare, Burial insurance, & grocery money, most calls will be sent to voice mail. Please leave a message, I will call you back and mark your number simply as "known".

The Amana Print Shop
319-622-3912
amanaprintshop@southslope.net
PO Box 06 Middle IA 52307

CORRECTED PHOTO

Several changes have been made to the Herrmann wedding photo, not the least of which is the German version of the name, Herrmann (Herman).



The photo is from the 10 July 1919 wedding of Dr Herrmann to Johanne Jeck. 1) F.D. Miller, 2) Helene Miller, 3) Louisa, (4&5 still unknown), 6) Dr Herman, 7) Marie Hueble Miller (of Chicago), 8) Johanne Jeck, 9) Lisbeth Hoppe, 10) Louise Hoppe, 11) Marie Herrmann Koch, 12) Marie Hoppe Herrmann.