

The Brunsville Blitz

Brunsville, Iowa

Edition 120

December 2020

Remembering Santa's past visits to Brunsville



The Four Seasons Garden Club welcomed Santa, decorated his Palace and provided treats at Brunsville last weekend. Joining Santa, seated, are Katherine Dickman and Lucille K. Plueger, and standing, elves Bethany Schlotfeldt and Kelli Schlichte and another Brunsville woman, lone Reese. (Sentinel photo by Joanne Glamm)

Santa greets young and old

Freshly-baked homemade cookies, coffee and juice filled a table for those waiting to see Santa Claus in Brunsville on Dec. 12.

The Four Seasons Garden Club annually hosts Santa and decorates his temporary headquarters at the former bank building in downtown Brunsville.

This year, a train display by Virgil Borchers is in the window of Santa's Palace, along with animated dolls. The display extends through the holiday season.

Christmas carols were being played as Santa sat near a fire place scene and a Christmas tree listening to the wishes of approximately 50 Brunsville area children.

Each child left with a candy cane given out by one of the two elves dressed in bright green outfits and pointy-toed green crocheted slippers. The pointy-toe ended with a shiny, silver bell.

Parents and grandparents brought cameras to capture the children's visit with Santa on film.

The article above was originally published in the Le Mars Daily Sentinel on Dec. 18, 1998.

Christmas Acres is open

Christmas Acres is open for its 24th season. View the beautiful scene at 1841 Impala Avenue (southwest of Brunsville). For more information call 541-0577 or 533-6176.

For the love of Brunsville

To learn more about Brunsville history and read previous editions of The Blitz, go to brunsvilleiowa.com.

To learn more about St. Peter Lutheran Church and view old church booklets, go to stpeterbrunsville.com.

Be sure to like **The Brunsville Blitz**, **Brunsville Centennial and Beyond** and **St. Peter Lutheran Church, Brunsville, Iowa** on Facebook.



Above: The Four Seasons Garden Club members transformed the old bank building into Santa's Palace for Santa's 1994 visit.



Above: The late Katherine Dickman enjoys visiting with Santa in Santa's Palace on December 17, 1994.



Above: Russell and Ryan Schlotfeldt aren't sure what to think about the guy in the red suit. Their sister Bethany finds it safe to stand beside him. Photo taken in Santa's Palace on December 17, 1994.

In Memory of...

Delbert Dittman, who passed away on November 21. He is the brother of Gisella Dittman and Doris Taylor.
Clifford Peters, who passed away on October 18. See more info in the Life at the Legion section.

In Our Prayers

Denise Anthony
Judy Bowman
Greg Breitbarth
The family & friends of Delbert Dittman
Jeanette Jensen
Vivian Johnson
Bonnie (Hawkins) Klein, sister of Tammy Popken
Tom Langel
John Lambert (Lonesome Jack)
Sheryl Oetken
The family & friends of Clifford Peters

Janice Renken
Rod & Sarah Renken
Clark Schmitz
Mary Singer

Birthdays

Kevin White Dec. 5
Reed Henrich Dec. 6
Mary Singer Dec. 7
Scott Linstrand Dec. 8
Breanna Martin Dec. 8
Rhett Schlessler Dec. 8
Mark Brown Dec. 9
Peggy Linstrand Dec. 12
Jordan Bogenrief Dec. 14
Jessica Wendt Dec. 16
Joe Herzberg Dec. 16
Barry Poe Dec. 17
Jay Wiese Dec. 18
Katelyn Geil Dec. 18
Joe Rollinger Dec. 19
Jade Goodmanson Dec. 19
Mckinley Johnson Dec. 20
Lucas Schlichte Dec. 23
Gabe Roetman Dec. 21
Emily Von Hagel Dec. 26
Clark Schmitz Dec. 27
Max Utesch Jr. Dec. 27
Zachary Jongma Dec. 27
Deb Herzberg Dec. 27
Kenny Krienerf Dec. 28
Doris Taylor Dec. 29
Jay Toel Dec. 29
Gene Beitelspacher Dec. 29
Dean Beitelspacher Dec. 29
Loren Weiler Dec. 29
Mary Vandermolen Dec. 29
Tami Dittman Dec. 31
Wanda Oltmanns Dec. 31
Jeffrey Cords Dec. 31

Anniversaries

Rob & Angela Von Hagel Dec. 15
Jim & Verda Marienau Dec. 20
Kelly & Denise Beitelspacher Dec. 31
Kristen & Luke Faber Dec. 31

Celebrating birthdays at the Corner Cafe



Above: **Patty Hill** celebrated her birthday on November 3. Her actual birthday is November 5.



Above: **Terry Ludwigs** celebrated his birthday on November 12. His actual birthday is November 8. Photo courtesy of Blaine Foreman.



Left: **Hank Farmer** celebrated her birthday on November 13. Her actual birthday is November 12. L-R: Joan Renken, Hank Farmer, Kathy Renken.

Right: **Steve Sherlock** celebrated his birthday on November 17. To the right of him is Kim Sherlock.



Left: **Jim Martin** celebrated his birthday on November 24. His actual birthday is November 29. Photo courtesy of Blaine Foreman.

CITIZENS OF THE MONTH: Amanda Jastram & Laura Willer

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Life at the Legion



Clifford S. Peters

On October 18, **Clifford S. Peters**, the last of the founding Charter Members of the Heeren, McHale, Wilken Post 724, passed away. Cliff was 97 and spent 63 years as a member of the Brunsville Legion. In 2016 Cliff received his certificate for 70 Year Continuous Member of the American Legion. Cliff was extremely proud of being a veteran of World War II. He loved sharing stories with his fellow post members of how the post originated and his days in service. He enjoyed the many events sponsored by the Legion and attended most of them.

The Charter Members included:

WW2 Veterans (year of death)

Norman Barker is currently the most senior member and the last WW2 veteran of Post 724. Norman celebrated his 100th birthday November 18, 2020.

Arnold Klemme (1963)	John (Jack) McHale (2002)
Herman Eggbrecht (1964)	Leonard Brooks (2003)
Philip Vernon (1970)	Melvin Marienau (2013)
Thomas Vernon (1971)	Alvin Willer (2015)
Elmer Ludwigs (1988)	Harold Harms (2017)
Alvin Jelken (1995)	Clifford Peters (2020)
Herman Wilken (2001)	

Korean War Veterans (year of death)

Duane Ludwigs (1995)	Kenneth Ludwigs (2005)
Gordan Lindstrand (1984)	Elmer Wilkens (2008)
Myron (Red)Hutton (1991)	Orval Siebens (2019)
Norman Haage (2004)	

Upcoming events:

The events at the Legion are pending under the COVID-19 restrictions of the State. Please follow the Legion Facebook page for changes and updates to scheduled events.

Dec. 7 Legion meeting 7:30; S.A.L. meeting 7:00
Dec. 12 Euchre 7:00 (if current mandate is lifted)
Dec. 13 Pancake breakfast with Santa (if allowed) 8:30-1
Jan. 4 Legion meeting 7:30; S.A.L. meeting 7:00
Jan. 9 Euchre 7:00
Jan. 10 Pancake breakfast 8:30-1

As with all events we are taking every measure to social distance and sanitize our facility to keep everyone as safe as we can.

Photo and information courtesy of Nancy Schlichte

Delicious treats for sale

The Scheitler Bakers (Rob & Joyce) are done with the farmers market for the season and now have all their breads, pies, cookies, brownies and rhubarb jellies available from their home. To purchase, call 533-6176, 541-0577 or 540-8755.

Recipe of the Month is award winner

As you may remember, Rosanne Osterbuhr entered a New Holland cookie contest late in 2019. Contestants sent their favorite Christmas cookie recipe to a group of judges for tasting and then sent the recipe on to another series of judges for a final decision. Rosanne's entry was a runner-up. As promised, her recipe is printed below so that anyone may try them. Needless to say, the cookies are very good and her family enjoys them immensely. Enjoy!

Candied Fruit Slices

1 c. butter—cream well
1 c. powdered sugar—cream well
1 unbeaten egg—blend in
1 tsp. vanilla—blend in
2-1/4 c. flour added
1 c. pecan halves
2 c. soft candied cherries (green and red) cut into halves—don't use maraschino cherries

Chill one hour. Divide dough into thirds. Shape in 12" long rolls. Wrap in waxed paper. Chill at least 3 hours or overnight. Cut in 1/4" slices. Bake at 300° for 15-20 minutes or until lightly browned on top. Check cookies occasionally as all ovens bake differently.

Submitted by Rosanne Osterbuhr

Tractors on display



Above: Bill Renken's 1938 Allis-Chalmers tractor display. Bill used the tractors to create a float for the fair and Halloween. He will use them to create a different display for Christmas. Photo by Bowen Rieken.

Thank you for your support of The Brunsville Blitz.

Deadline to submit information to be published is the 25th the month before.

The Merrill Public Library is open to the public and continuing curbside pickups

We've added a craft corner with take-home crafts

Please wash your hands before entering the library and practice social distancing

Mon., 2-6 p.m., Tues., 4-7 p.m., Wed., 2-6 p.m.,
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<https://www.merrill.lib.ia.us>
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Remembering Santa at the Legion

By Susan Willer

When I was a kid, Christmas season always began with a question.

"How many days until Christmas?" I'd ask, day after day. After day. Then I learned that my repeated question wasn't appreciated by grownups. So I changed my tactic.

"How many days until Jesus' birthday?" I'd ask instead.

Days leading up to Christmas Day may as well have been years. All I wanted was everything on my wish list. Writing a letter to Santa was the most important letter I wrote all year. Forget celebrities. Santa is the child's celebrity.

Every year Santa arrived for his annual appearance on the Brunsville Legion stage. The only thing standing between me and him was a line that never moved fast enough. It seemed to stretch forever—you know, halfway across the dance floor. In kid time I waited 15 hours. In real time it was probably 15 minutes. Finally reaching the stairs to the stage was more exciting than finding candy in the house. Finally standing on stage was even more exciting than the last day of school.

Getting everything on my list would not be a problem; as soon as the Christmas tree went up in our house I really started behaving, which was no sweat because I was such a good little girl. Yes, I'm kidding. I figured I'd only behaved well enough to get some of the items on my list. Because year after year, that's the way it worked out. If I'd listed eight items, for example, I'd end up with two. So, while in line I'd arrange then rearrange the items in my head, in order of how much I couldn't live without them. I had 15 hours to burn after all.

But by the time I sat on Santa's lap, my rearrangements went out the window. I'd blurt out everything I wanted in no particular order. In a flash my time with Santa was over. I'd hop off his lap and receive my brown paper sack full of peanuts, convinced this was going to be the year I received everything on my list.

One year some of the older kids decided to follow Santa to his sleigh when he left.

Upon returning to the Legion, one of the boys gave a startling report: "He drove away in a car!"

What? No sleigh?

I was one confused little kid.



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Quote 'Ems

I'm no model lady. A model's just an imitation of the real thing.—Mae West

I came from a real tough neighborhood. Once a guy pulled a knife on me. I knew he wasn't a professional, the knife had butter on it.—Rodney Dangerfield

It's hard to lead a cavalry charge if you think you look funny on a horse.—Adlai E. Stevenson II

Above quotes courtesy of Ruth Zembsch

Lonesome Jack says...

Your hometown is the place where people wonder how you ever got as far as you did.

Teacher: Johnny, can you tell me what a hypocrite is?

Johnny: Yes, ma'am. It's a boy who comes to school with a smile on his face.

In the end we only regret the chance we didn't take. Very, very true; this from experience.

Hi, Donna.

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