

# ORGANIZATIONS

## ALMONT COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Almont Commercial Club was organized in January 1908, with its purpose to promote and improve the town and community. This has been and still is the main objective of the club.

The first order of business after organization was to drill a city well. That well was drilled between the present Seim home and the creek. Another need was a jail, the building of which was sponsored by the Commercial Club. Other projects of interest that have been promoted are: New school in 1917; petitioned the Sims township board for a marshal in 1908; rural mail routes; encouraged and helped with rural telephone lines; support of local Cub and Boy Scouts and gave financial help with camp fees, tents, etc.; sponsored independent basketball teams and tournaments; sponsored benefit fund drives when tragedies occurred; support 4-H work; sponsored Santa Claus Day every year with gifts and rides; Christmas lights and decorations; tree plantings for shelter and beautification; yard beautification and cleanup campaigns; road and street improvements; road and street signs; back-sloping of

county roads and weed spraying; Labor Day reunions; Old Settlers picnics and anniversaries; supported city water, sewer, fire department and ambulance services; Red Cross first aid classes and ambulance drivers' education; sponsored three annual Morton County Soil Conservation Achievement dinners and also one Morton Historical Society Dinner meeting. Help has been given the school when needed.

Recently the club sponsored a Chautauqua under the big tent, with seven performances during a five day period. The North Dakota Community Betterment Contest, which Almont entered three different years, got support and encouragement.

The club meets the first Tuesday of each month with a dinner meeting at the Tavis Cafe. Once or sometimes twice a year the wives are invited and special entertainment is arranged. The majority of the members are farmers.

Making Almont and the community a place of which we can be proud ... this is our purpose.



L to R, Top row: Clarence Nilles, Wm. Bethke, Harvey Thorson, Eugene Peterson, Eugene Thorson, Joel Johnson. Middle row: Edward Thiel, Val Kary, Roman Peterson, Lawrence Renner, Lester Feland, Sam Thiel. Seated: Ben Ramsland, Sig Peterson, Norman Hansen, Joel Olson and Claude Ritz.



# The Security State Bank of New Salem and employees

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Brenda Doll  
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Wanda Lennick

## “CONGRATULATE” ALMONT ON YOUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Serving the community for 56 years and to provide Almont with better service, the Security State Bank of New Salem, in the fall of 1977, started building an office in Almont which opened for business on February 17, 1978.

**Office Hours: 10:00 - 1:00 P.M.**



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## AMERICAN LEGION POST #261



L to R-Front: Ben Ramsland, Levi (Bud) Dawson, Johan Kilen, Lawrence Renner. Middle: Harvey Thorson, Toby Ramsland, Ed Jacobson, Don Schermerhorn, Conrad Christianson. Back: Gordon Templeton, Wm. Bethke, Rudy Feland, Eugene Thorson, Wm. Kalvoda.

The need for a Legion Post in Almont was realized after the end of World War II. Prior to December 1945, World War I veterans were active members in the New Salem Legion Post.

The first meeting of Post 261 was called on Dec. 7, 1945, by Joe Hoovestol. Seventeen veterans signed up at that first meeting and 53 veterans became charter members of Almont Legion Post 261. The first officers were: Commander, Joe Hoovestol; Adjutant, Ben Ramsland; Vice Commander, Henry Nyquist; Historian, Rudolph Feland; Finance Officer, Joe Olson; Chaplain, Carl Fallgren, and Sgt. at Arms, Clarence Christianson. Ben Ramsland has continuously held the post of adjutant since that first meeting.

The first meetings were held in the school and the old bank building. A need for a building of their own, as well as a place to hold community and public gatherings, prompted the Legion Post to raise money for a building. The building was started in April 1946. Even before the main structure was started, a dance was held in the basement on Oct. 1, 1946. A veteran who remembers the dance well is the present Commander, Levi Dawson. It was his wedding dance.

Much of the labor and materials for the Legion Hall were donated by members of the Legion. The building was finished on Jan. 28, 1948, and remodeled extensively in 1978 and 1979.

The Legion Auxiliary Unit 261 was organized about a month after the Legion Post had been organized.

In January 1946, Commander Joe Hoovestol, Adjutant Ben Ramsland and 7th District President, Mrs. M.J. Tschida, installed the first officers of the Legion Auxiliary. Those officers were: President, Mrs. Joe Hoovestol; Vice President, Mrs. B.T. Olson; Secretary, Mrs. Joe Olson; Treasurer, Mrs. Rudolph Feland; Chaplain, Mrs. Norman Hanson; Sgt. at Arms, Mrs. Ralph Dawson, and Historian, Mrs. Ervin Olson.

Almont Legion Post 261 has awarded four lifetime memberships to World War I veterans Joe Hoovestol, Fritz Hager, Peter Thorson and Carl Fallgren.

The Legion Post and the Auxiliary have continued to be active in civic and community affairs in Almont. They annually give leadership awards to outstanding seniors, have sent a number of high school boys to Boys State, have sponsored homecomings for veterans, Old Settlers picnics and poppy sales. In 1949 they hosted a district convention attended by over 200 district members. The post has conducted the yearly Memorial Day service since 1946, have had post members appointed to district offices, and were instrumental in getting the Memorial Hall constructed. The Almont Legion Post and the Auxiliary have consistently been active organizations.

Past Commanders of the Post have been: Joe Hoovestol, Harvey Thorson, Conrad Christianson, Marvin Timpe, Levi Dawson, Johan Kilen, Herbert Thorson, Alden Olson, Margido Willman, Cleon Striegel, Rudy Feland, Lawrence Renner, Robert Timpe and Albert Hasse.



MEMORIAL DAY



# U.S. SERVICE VETERANS

## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Otis Malone  
Fred Griswold  
Joseph Homer

## WORLD WAR I

Henry R. Anderson  
George Arch  
Harold Borden  
Arthur Christensen  
Harry Compton  
Olai Elvik  
Carl Fallgren  
Oscar Feland  
Herman Gabrielson  
Neil Gillis  
Robert Gray  
Fred Hauff  
Fritz Hoeger  
Joseph Hoovestol  
Lawrence Ims  
Arthur Jacobson  
Theodor R. Johnson  
Willie Johnson  
Christ Kaelberer, Jr.  
Arthur Kelsven  
John A. Larson  
Christ Lein★  
Christ Kilen  
Gunnar Lidstrom  
Aubrey Martin  
Adolph Nelson★  
James Nelson  
Lawrence Nelson  
Myron Nelson  
Arthur Olin  
Hjalmer Olson  
Joseph Olson  
Joseph N. Olson  
Martin Olson  
Glen Peck  
Eddie Schwartz  
Wilbur C. Scharff  
Ross Sherwood★  
Magnus Svensrud  
Peter Thorson  
Joe Tischler  
John Trovik  
Martin Wohlman★  
Herbert Schwartz★

## WORLD WAR II

Selmer Aanstad  
Clifford Anderson  
Gordon Anderson  
Edward Atkinson  
Leonard Bachmann  
Peter Bahm  
Arnold Barstad  
Norman Barstad  
Warren Becklund

William Bethke  
Rev. C.O. Brecto  
Stanley Brinkman  
Clarence Christianson  
Conrad Christianson  
Levi Dawson  
Henry Elvik  
Curtis Fallgren  
Richard Feland  
Robert Feland  
Rudolph Feland  
Clarence Giese  
Sam Gillas  
Eugene Hanson★  
Albert Hasse  
Christ Hegel  
Jack Hegel  
John Hegel  
Ludwig Hegel  
Harold Held  
Carl Hoeger  
Fred Hoeger  
Harold Hoeger  
John Hoerner  
Martin Hoerner  
Robert Hogan  
Duane Hyde  
Edward Jacobson  
Leslie Jacobson  
Nickolas Jacobson  
Milton Johnson  
Nathan Johnson  
Palmer Johnson  
Gudrun Kilen  
Johan Kilen  
Raymond Kilen  
Howard Knutson  
John Kokkeler  
Theo. Kokkeler  
Wm. Kokkeler  
George Mortenson  
J. Burton Nelson  
Henry Nyquist  
Alton Olin  
Warren Olin  
Christ Olsen  
Alden Olson  
Arnold Olson  
Donald Olson  
Everett Olson  
Gordon B. Olson  
Gordon K. Olson  
Leon B. Olson  
Omar Olson  
Reuben Olson  
Alvin Peterson  
Donald Peterson★  
Ben Ramsland  
Tobias Ramsland  
Lawrence Renner  
Donald Shannon  
Cleo Smith  
Elmer Smith  
Howard Smith

Kenneth Smith  
Myron Stiler  
Gordon Templeton  
Clarence Thor  
Helen Thor  
Harvey Thorson  
Marvin Timpe  
Arnold Torgerson  
Walter Torgerson  
Wilbur Wanstrom  
James Weekes  
E. Margido Willman  
Oscar Willman

## KOREAN CONFLICT

Ernest Bachler  
Frank Bahm  
Harry Borth, Jr.★  
Duane Conitz  
Martin Doll, Jr.  
William Doll  
Warren Hoovestol  
Virgil Kilen  
Keith Olin  
Delbert Olson  
Merril Olson  
Eugene Thorson  
Herbert Thorson  
Roger Thorson  
Robert Timpe

## VIET NAM

Leslie Bethke  
Robert Dietz  
Vernon Dittus  
Gray Doll  
William Doll  
Arnold Erhardt  
Ernest Erhardt  
Lawrence Erhardt  
Randy Lee Erhardt  
Deane Feland  
Paul Genz  
Larry Hoovestol  
Kelly Hutchinson  
Darvin Johnson  
William Kalvoda  
Tharen Kilen  
Robert Kronberger  
Robert Miller  
Clarence Nilles, Jr.  
Richard Olson  
Bruce Peterson  
Danny Renner  
Ross Roberts  
Don Schermerhorn  
Larry Smith  
Gary Tavis  
Dale Thorson  
Leo Timpe, Jr.  
Kerry Wanstrom

★ died in service.

We hope we have included all of the names — but we know there's a possibility of an omission and for that we apologize.



## LEGION AUXILIARY

Early in January 1946, Post Commander Joseph Hoovestol and Adjutant Ben Ramsland met with the group of lady candidates and with the assistance of the 7th District President, Mrs. M.J. Tschida of Glen Ullin, organized the Almont Unit 261, American Legion Auxiliary. Officers elected at that first meeting were: President, Mrs. Joe Hoovestol; Vice President, Mrs. B.T. Olson; Secretary, Mrs. Joe Olson; Treasurer, Mrs. Rudy Feland; Chaplain, Mrs. Norman Hanson; Sgt. at Arms, Mrs. Ralph Dawson. Others on the membership roll that first year were: Mrs. Pete Thorson, Mrs. Carl Fallgren, Mrs. Martin Wohlman, Mrs. Clarence Thor, Miss Elaine Timpe, Mrs. Thorval Barstad, Mrs. Andrew Torgerson, Mrs. Richard Feland, Miss Ida Christianson, Mrs. W.J. Timpe, Mrs. Ervin Olin, Mrs. Robert Feland, Mrs. Tinius Ramsland, Mrs. Casper Hegel and Miss Lois Olson. We now have 44 members and four junior members.

May 30, 1946, we assisted the Legion in sponsoring the first Memorial Day program for the public in Almont. This continues to be an annual event along with the Poppy sale, for the benefit of disabled veterans.

March 15, 1946, we sponsored homecoming for the veterans of World War II. We served supper to the community; the entertainment featured an address by Supt. Thompson of the Training School in Mandan. He also brought a group of boys who sang several numbers. This was held in the school

auditorium.

Our earliest meetings were held at the schoolhouse but we soon began meeting in the homes as it was more convenient. Regular meetings are held the first Thursday in the month and are now being held at the Memorial Hall.

Those first years were rather lean ... we didn't have much financially to work with, but we always managed some way to meet our obligations, membership dues didn't quite do it.

A first financial venture ... we served lunch after a play at the school, put on by a group from Lark, ND. Later we put on a basket social; served lunches for some auction sales, dances, rodeos, and on Nov. 22, 1947, we served our first lutefisk and lefse supper. This has been an annual event ever since, with the exception of a couple of years. We also serve barbecued chicken for the Labor Day celebration.

With our improved financial status, we were able to help the Legion pay off the loan on the Hall which they had built. Then we began to improve the basement; fixing up a kitchen, stoves, cupboards, dishes, a dining area, and things too numerous to mention. This, too, has gone on over a continuous number of years. Finally, the main hall interior has been improved. As an Auxiliary of the Legion, we have always cooperated with them in their projects. We have assisted with the Memorial Day programs.

In 1956 a fire in the hall caused a lot of damage that had to be cleaned up and some things replaced.



ALMONT LEGION AUXILIARY

L to R - Front: Lydia Schwemmer, Frances Kilen, Mrs. Johan Kilen, Beatrice Wanstrom. Middle: Edith Skjolsvik, Mrs. Norman Hansen, Mrs. Sam Thiel, Mrs. Elmer Smith, Mrs. Rudy Feland. Back: Mrs. Wm. Bethke, Mrs. Don Schermerhorn, Mrs. Gordon Templeton, Mrs. Eugene Thorson.



The 1966 flood destroyed everything in the basement kitchen. This was cause for a new start after a huge cleanup job, done mostly by the men of the Legion.

List of activities we support through our organization: Child Welfare, Education & Loan Fund, Rehabilitation, Memorial Fund, National Defense, Leonard Wood Fund, All Faiths Chapel, Hospital Gift Shop, North Dakota Legion Band, Girls State, Crusade for Freedom Fund, War Orphans, Hospital Assignment, Christmas Gift Shop for Veterans Hospital, Community Service, March of Dimes, Red Cross, Heart Research, CARE, local Legion baseball, donated candy for "Santa Claus Day," a few times we gave a Halloween party for the young folks and, as part of our Child Welfare Project in 1949-52, we subscribed to magazines for the school - some for each room - including: Childrens Playmate, Wee Wisdom, American Girl, Seventeen, Boys Life and Popular Science. These were ordered through Mr. H.K. Jensen, a disabled, bedridden veteran. We have been assigned children to whom we send clothing and other needs, also some disabled veterans; sent cards (Christmas greetings, etc.) to area men in the service. We gave \$35.00 toward the Memorial Plaque at the Court House in Mandan.

In 1962 we conducted a campaign to get every home in town to own and display an American flag on all legal holidays.

At various times we made articles for the Veterans Hospital, such as "scuffies," pillow slips, lap robes, draw sheets, and wheel chair bags.

We contributed to the Jackie Tavis benefit dance

by serving lunch; gave a cash donation to the Joyce Olson benefit party; and also gave to the Bethke fund because of their loss by fire; sent gifts to Donald Olson, a veteran who was hospitalized for many years; gifts to Sheldon Kilen and Darrel Hogan; bought a hospital bed which was put to immediate use for Tommy Renner; gave a "Gold Star Mother" pin to Mrs. Axel Peterson.

In 1965 we purchased a new flag for the school and presented it, made cash donations to the school library, purchased chairs and tables for the Legion Hall and also for the Memorial Hall.

In May 1978 we gave pins and Life Memberships to three of our members: Ragna Barstad, Ora Dawson and Olga Timpe.

Our unit also has a four generation family that belongs to our Auxiliary. They are: Mrs. Ora Dawson, Mrs. Levi "Eva" Dawson, Mrs. William "Janet" Bahm, and Jessica Bahm.

In 1980 we sold 100 buttons and donated the proceeds to the Crippled Children Special Olympics.



Back: Mrs. Bill Bahm, Mrs. Ora Dawson; Mrs. Levi Dawson with Jessica.



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## ALMONT HOMEMAKERS CLUB



ALMONT HOMEMAKERS CLUB - 1956

L to R - Back: Mrs. Harvey Thorson, Mrs. Ed Reeff, Mrs. Norbert Jolivette, Mrs. Don McDowall, Mrs. Sig Peterson, Mrs. Gil Holle. Middle: Mrs. Everett Olson, Mrs. Lars Handegard, Mrs. Morris Christianson, Mrs. Art Feland, Mrs. Vernon Knutson, Mrs. Bob Feland, Mrs. Roman Peterson, Mrs. Chester Harper. Seated: Mrs. Leo Timpe, Mrs. Grace Nelson, Mrs. T.A. Barstad, Mrs. Joe Hoovestol, Mrs. Ed Bond, Mrs. Ole Feland.

The Almont Homemakers Club was organized Nov. 9, 1928, at the B.E. Higbee home with 12 ladies joining at the first meeting. The first officers were: Mrs. Higbee, president; Mrs. Jonathan Pederson, vice president; Mrs. Trygve Olson, secretary; Mrs. Ben Kunkel, treasurer, and Mrs. T.A. Barstad, program chairman. County Agent R.C. Newcomer was instrumental in organizing the club and worked in that capacity for 26 years.

Getting to club meetings in the early days often posed a problem as most cars were old, but in spite of poor cars and bad roads, club day was seldom missed. The lessons received included canning, use of the pressure cooker, gardening, first aid in the home, thrifty Christmas gifts, culling poultry, making over old clothes and garment fitting. During the depression years they learned how to make soap, cereal and cheese, and garden tours were planned to encourage planting a "Victory" garden.

In 1932 the Almont club took first place in the county in a vegetable exhibit at Achievement Day in Mandan, held at Riverside Park. There were nine clubs and 200 members in the county at that time. During World War II, the club adopted a family in Austria to whom they sent boxes of food and



Almont Homemakers Club Float in Almont's 50th Anniversary parade - 1956 - Three charter members, Grace Nelson, Myrtle Hoovestol and Ragna Barstad.



Almont Homemakers Club Banner in memory of Nathalie Thorson; designed and made by Clara Christianson.



Grandma Grace Nelson on Homemaker Club float in Labor Day parade - 1980.

clothing and wrote and received many interesting letters from the Bietak family. In 1934 the club presented a 3-act comedy "The Virginian Heroine," directed by Mrs. C. Halvorson. The admission price was 25¢ and 15¢.

The club has observed three anniversaries. A Silver Tea was held in 1953 at the school to celebrate the 25th anniversary. Mrs. Morris Christianson, club president, emceed the program; Ragna Barstad poured and Mrs. Joe Hoovestol and Mrs. Grace Nelson cut and served the anniversary cake, which had been made by Grace. On the club's 45th anniversary, the three charter members were honored: Ragna Barstad, Myrtle Hoovestol and Grace Nelson. A tea and program was held at the Legion Hall on Nov. 6, 1973. The program was emceed by Margie Peterson and included a history of the club written by Lillian Peterson and a vocal solo by Mary Brandt. Tributes were paid to the charter members by Nathalie Thorson and Pat Aune, Home Extension Agent, and gifts were presented to the honorees by the Live and Learn and Almont clubs.





Mrs. Grace Nelson, Mrs. T.A. Barstad and Mrs. Joe Hoovestol, charter members of Almont Homemakers Club - 45th Anniversary Tea - 1973.

On Oct. 1, 1978, the club celebrated their 50th anniversary with a tea at the Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. The three charter members were again honored. The program presented, with Mrs. Marshall Feland as emcee, including musical numbers by the Homemaker's Chorus, a ladies quartet and a vocal solo by Mrs. Phil Harmeson. Lillian Peterson reflected on the past 50 years and read the minutes of the first meeting. Marge Peterson read a poem she and her mother, Grace Nelson, had written about the club 20 years ago. Greetings were extended from both local and county officials. Scrap books, pictures, awards and other memorabilia were on display all afternoon.

The Almont club joined the Live and Learn and Busy Beavers clubs in hosting County Achievement Day in 1963, 1969 and 1975. In 1969 the three clubs presented the tableau "Homemaking of Yesteryear," which depicted the early ways of keeping house. Narration in rhyme, costuming, authentic props and music were used in the presentation. In 1975 the clubs presented a pageant "Our Heritage," in keeping with the bicentennial theme. A cast of 30 took part in the show which depicted the heritage of the Almont community, using costumes, pantomime, songs, dances and narration. The presentation was so well received it was given three more times - at the Labor Day Reunion two years and at a special bicentennial program at the Mandan Community Center in April 1976.

The club also observed the Bicentennial by using a patriotic theme for their annual Christmas party and on July 4, 1976, hosted a community picnic at the park and also celebrated Almont's 70th birthday.

April 22, 1979, was a busy day for the club. They staged "Country Day," a revival of country living in pioneer days. There were 21 demonstrations of skills of the past which brought nostalgic memories of the past to the older set and an education to the younger generation. The event was covered by Mandan News, Bismarck Tribune, New Salem Journal and TV channels 5 and 12. Country music by "the fiddlers" kept the more than 300 people entertained



Mrs. Myrtle Hoovestol and Mrs. Grace Nelson, charter members of Almont Homemakers Club - 1981.

and lunch was served all day.

Three members of the club have served on the County Council; Marge Peterson as president and vice president, Laura Gustafson as treasurer and Nathalie Thorson as Family Life Chairman. Laura was also secretary of the State Homemakers Council for a term; she was the first Morton County homemaker to serve on the State Council.

In 1971 Lynell Willman was sponsored by our club and awarded a scholarship in Home Economics at NDSU. We have helped sponsor community efforts, such as the Cancer party and dance, 4-H club, Labor Day Reunions, to name a few. We also prepared and served the meal for the Morton County Soil Conservation Awards banquet two different years. The club has a float in the Labor Day parade every year and the last years has been responsible for the Art Show on Labor Day.

Membership has fluctuated from six to 24 ... but in later years has been between 18-22. We still have two charter members with us: Myrtle Hoovestol and Grace Nelson. The 1981 officers are: Mrs. Clara Christianson, president; Mrs. Art Feland, vice president; Mrs. LeRoy Reinhardt, secretary; Mrs. Margido Willman, treasurer, and Mrs. Lester Feland, program chairman. There are 19 members in the club.



ALMONT HOMEMAKERS CLUB - 1981

L to R - Front: Mrs. Margido Willman, Mrs. Leo Timpe, Mrs. Don Shannon, Mrs. Lester Feland, Mrs. Sig Peterson. Middle: Mrs. Leroy Reinhart, Mrs. Roman Peterson, Mrs. Art Feland, Mrs. Clyde Graham, Hazel Hoovestol. Back: Clara Christianson, Mrs. Alvin Peterson, Vicki Overland, Mrs. Dick Bond.





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Our pen of steers placed second in the West River Carcass Show. One of our steers sired by 14J was reserve champion in a show in Cuming County, Nebraska. We also had the reserve champion Simmental bull at the 1980 North Dakota State Fair in Minot.

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## LIVE AND LEARN HOMEMAKERS

Live and Learn Homemakers club was organized Sept. 23, 1953, at the home of Mrs. Charles (Dorothy) Anderson. Stanley Bale, county agent, assisted by two members of the Almont Homemakers club organized the club and explained the duties relating to it. Mr. Bale presided over the meeting and election of the following officers: Mrs. Charles Anderson, president; Mrs. Thorvald Larson, vice president; Mrs. Marvin Olson, secretary and treasurer, and Mrs. Sam Thiel, program chairman. These ladies were the four charter members.

Besides the major project lessons, there are also social activities such as Christmas parties for homemaker members and husbands and family picnics for many years. The regular meetings are held in the homes.

A project that has been carried out since the club was organized is to give a box of goodies to a shut-in or someone that lives alone every month.

The Live and Learn and Almont Homemakers clubs sponsored the road signs in the Almont community.

The homemakers have given to Project Hope many years. The homemakers have won state awards through the years. Elvira has become a lay leader for the county. Sam and Elvira Thiel were host family for Yolanda Duron from Costa Rica in 1971.

There are still two charter members: Mrs. Thorvald (Lucille) Larson and Mrs. Sam (Elvira) Thiel. There are 17 members with three of these members as honorary members in the club.

Elvira was State Homemaker President for two years and served on the state board for seven years.

Live and Learn sponsored the Calico Boys and Girls 4-H club in 1955.

In 1978 Elvira won the National IFYE award, presented to her at West Lafayette, Indiana. The State IFYE association had a recognition banquet in her honor in January 1979 at New Salem; many friends and relatives attended from far and near. This was a very special evening for the Thiel family.



Almont's 50th Anniversary - 1956



**LIVE AND LEARN HOMEMAKERS CLUB**  
L to R - Back: Mrs. Wm. Bethke, Mrs. Floyd Christianson, Mrs. Eugene Thorson, Mrs. Sam Thiel, Mrs. Edward Thiel. Front: Mrs. Lydia Schwemmer, Mrs. Frances Kilen, Mrs. Cleon Mourer.



Elvira and Sam Thiel with "Friend of IFYE" award.





## 4-H EXTENSION CLUBS

Extension clubs have been a part of Almont since 1919 when records show that a Pig Club was organized at that time and Olaf Feland won a first prize of \$2.50 on a letter he wrote about raising his pig. It was featured in the Duroc Bulletin, published in Chicago. Another letter featured was by Carl Knudson, whose pig won first prize of \$15.00 at the State Fair in Grand Forks. Other club members whose letters were published were Myrtle Anderson and Aalga Knudson. Mr. Morgan was the County Agent. A Corn Club was organized in January 1925 at the Bond school; members included Hallidays, Thurmans, Elsie Compton and Alvin Peterson. In 1927 the Almont Clothing Club was organized with 17 members and Mrs. Joe Hoovestol as their leader. The officers were: Inga Clausen, president; Marjorie Nelson, vice president and Dagmar Pederson, secretary. The Happy Workers Clothing Club was organized that year also and had a membership of eight with Mrs. B.E. Higbee as leader; Gladys Hansen, president; Vivian Peterson, vice president, and Alice Barstad, secretary. Ralph Newcomer was the county extension agent. In 1931 there was a Junior 4-H Sewing Club organized under the leadership of Mrs. Joe Hoovestol with 10 members and in May a Sheep Club was organized with 10 members under the leadership of Tenius Ramsland. In 1943 the Ramsland Hills 4-H Club was organized with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Anderson as leaders.

The Almont Peppy Peppers 4-H Club was active 1947 to 1951 under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knudson, Carl Feland and Mrs. Clarence Jacobson.

The Calico Boys and Girls 4-H Club was organized in 1955 with seven members. The leaders were Joyce and Marvin Olson, Sam and Elvira Thiel. Jim Noonan

was county agent and helped organize the club at the Almont school. There were not too many projects offered at that time; the main projects were Foods, Sewing and Home Management.

It was not long until we had 62 members and five leaders. Today we have 150 projects for the members to select from. The club has had many winners in demonstration, speech and judging who went on to the state competition. A number of the members have attended the National 4-H Forum in Washington, D.C. Renee Bachler was an exchange to Japan.

There have been many leaders who served with Elvira in the 25 years, including Lucille Reeff and Sig Peterson who served 17 years. The enrollment today is 13 members with leaders, Jim and Diane Sailer and Elvira Thiel.

In 1973 Elvira was honored to be the "Outstanding Leader in North Dakota." She received her 25-year leader's pin in November 1980. In 1967 Sam and Elvira attended the National 4-H Forum.



Joel Olson and Bruce Peterson showing steers at Morton County Fair - 1965.



CALICO 4-H CLUB

L to R - Front: Alan Hoovestol, Mark Jacobson, David Stolberg, Kim Sailer, Kay Hoovestol, Teresa Greff, Michelle Sailer, Robyn Peterson. Back: Sherry Ritz, Vera Stolberg, Corby Schollmeyer, Jared Jacobson, Michael Jacobson, Mrs. Sam (Elvira) Thiel, leader.



## *Congratulations Almont on 75 Years of Progress*



The Kist Livestock Auction was started in 1942 by Fred and Laura Kist in what is now the Rodeo Grounds area in Mandan. The late Joe Schaaf was associated for many years in the old ring and the later new one. In 1956 complete new facilities were built on what is known as "The Strip." The new facility was the most modern in the United States when it was built and many other markets that were later built were patterned after this facility. The founder, Fred Kist, passed away in 1968. The Kist Livestock Auction is still operated by the Kist family with Laura Kist as president. Kist's have served this area with complete marketing facilities for almost 40 years.



## CUB SCOUTS

The Cub Scouts were organized in April 1952 under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Knutson. Marjorie was den mother and Vernon, den father. The new members were: Jerald Joersz, Gary McDowall, Roger Hoovestol, Lee Harper, Duane Thiel, Ernest Feland, Condon and Rodney Knutson. One of the projects that year was the study of Indian lore.

New members in 1953 were Carlyle Reef, Danny Olin and Eugene Peterson. In 1954 Rodney Peterson, Harvey Hogan, Jerry Willman and Sidney Harper joined the group. Other den mothers during this time were: Mrs. D. McDowall, Mrs. C. Harper and Mrs. A. Hoovestol.



CUB SCOUTS - 1956

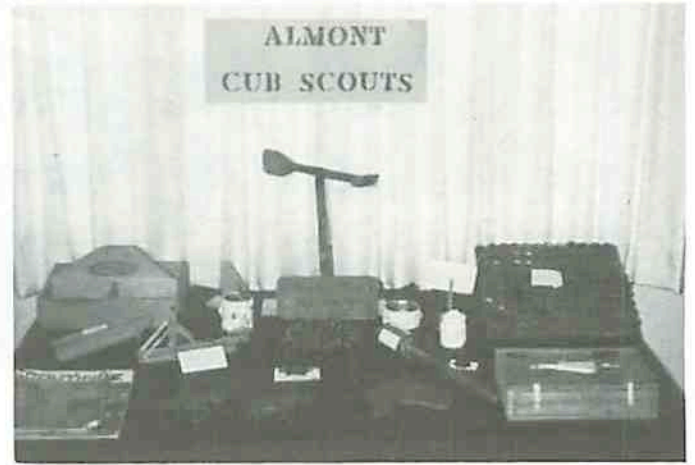
Front: Eugene Peterson, Carlyle Reef, Stuart Olson, Rodney Peterson. Middle: Rex McDowall, Harvey Hogan, Jerome Willman, Sidney Harper, Gary Knutson, Bobby Kronberger. Back: Don McDowall, Harvey Thorson, Sig Peterson, Mrs. Chester Harper and Mrs. Everett Olson, Den Mothers, Rev. Jolivette, Everett Olson, Den Father, Roman Peterson.

In 1956 the new den mothers and dads were Mr. and Mrs. Everett Olson and Mr. and Mrs. C. Harper. They met each Monday night after school in the den room of the schoolhouse and in nice weather meetings were held outdoors.



CUB SCOUTS - 1968

Top: Gary Willman, Timothy Feland, Blaine Olson, David Willman, Dennis Hogan. Middle: Sandy Stenehjelm, Dusty Jacobson, Kirk Bond, Jimmy Anderson, Dale Jacobson. Bottom: Kevin Christianson, Billy Willman, Charles Willman, Peter Olson, Monte Ritz. Not pictured, Jimmy Dawson.



Cub Scout Projects

In the late 50's the Cub Scouts became inactive, but was reorganized in the 60's with den mothers, Mrs. Alden Olson and Mrs. Joel Johnson. Later on Mrs. Art Feland was named den mother with a group of 16 Scouts. In 1968 the pack was divided into two groups. Randy assisted by his mother, Mrs. Morris Christianson, took the Webelos (10-year-olds) and Mrs. Art Feland and Mrs. LeRoy Ritz were in charge of the younger Cub Scouts. Outdoor activities during these years were camping at Heart Butte Dam and Heart River and trips to various historic attractions. Many projects were also completed by the pack.



1968 Cub Scouts



Cub Scouts in the Labor Day Parade - 1969 - Dennis Hogan, Kevin Christianson, Charles Willman, Gary Willman, Sandy Stenehjelm, Billy Willman and Monte Ritz.



## BOY SCOUTS



Boy Scouts Front row - l to r - Roger Hoovestol, Rodney Knutson, Gary McDowall, Condon Knutson, Lee Harper. Center row - Scouts, Ernest Feland, Tharen Kilen. Back row - Committee men, Harvey Thorson, Sig Peterson, Scout Master Don McDowall, Everett Olson, Rev. Jolivette, Roman Peterson, Committee men.

The first record of Boy Scout activities was Dec. 1, 1933 - The following boys received awards: Maurice Jacobson, Eagle; Warren Becklund, Stephen Weibke, 2nd class; Gordon Templeton, 1st class; Vernon Knutson, Star; F.L. Atchinson was Scoutmaster.

Oct. 16, 1936 - Wayne Becklund, Duane Hyde and Fred Hoeger attended Court of Honor at Taylor receiving 2nd class honors.

Feb. 19, 1937 - H.W. Carlson and Scouts participated in Radio Court of Honor over KFYP. Local awards were: Life: Leroy Olson, Gordon Templeton and Warren Becklund; Star: Everett Olson; 2nd Class: Curtis Fallgren and Arnold Barstad.

Sept. 21, 1938 - The Totem Pole made by the Boy Scout Troop 146 has been set up at the end of the footbridge on the park site.

Feb. 15, 1939 - Almont troop took part in another Radio Court of Honor on KFYP. Scoutmaster Challgren, Ass't Vernon Knutson. Awards were: Star: Burton Nelson; 2nd Class: Clifford Torgerson.

Nov. 29, 1939 - Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts sponsored a carnival. A very interesting program was presented and a number of concessions provided entertainment.

March 13, 1940 - Boy Scouts sponsored a performance by Rosenberg, a noted magician.

During the 1940's Ervin Olin was Scoutmaster and had a good active troop. The troop became inactive for awhile but was reorganized in 1951 at the request of Allen Fallgren and Marshall Feland. In 1952 the Almont Commercial Club sponsored the troop with Vernon Knutson as Scoutmaster of 23 Scouts.



COURT OF HONOR - 1957

Cub Scouts Kerry Wanstrom, Douglas Thorson, Bruce Peterson, Charles Olson and Larry Smith. Grace Smith, den mother.

Membership for 1953 was ten; 1954, nine; 1955, eight Scouts.

Troop 146 of Almont, under the leadership of Vernon Knutson, went to Heart Butte March 11, 1955, to help plant trees at the campsite. A total of 5,000 trees were planted that day. Each year Vernon took the Scouts to the District Scout Camp at Taylor and at Heart Butte Camp after 1953.

D.J. McDowall was named Scoutmaster in 1956 and Rev. Lester Myers in 1958. 1960 was Donald Hoffman assisted by Roman Peterson and Duane Bauer in 1962.

May 8, 1962, ten Boy Scouts received Tenderfoot badges. They were: Larry Hoovestol, Jerry Olson, Bruce Olson, Arnold Erhart, Bruce Peterson, Aaron Zemple, Charles Olson, Larry Smith, Kerry Wanstrom and Douglas Thorson.

# mor-gian-sou

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**SCOUT CAMP - 1963**

Back row: Harvey Thorson, Scoutmaster; Doug Thorson, Bruce Peterson, Stuart Olson, Rodney Peterson, Charles Olson, Joel Olson, Duane Bauer, Ass't Scoutmaster. Front row: Dale Olson, Randy Christianson, Terry Smith and Larry Smith.

Oct. 6, 1962 - Almont wins honors at the Boy Scout Fitness Camporee at Elks cabin site near Mandan. Contest included blindfold compass course, flag pole raising, knot tying, string burning and obstacle course. The "no name patrol" from Almont with Bruce Peterson as patrol leader won top honors.

Sept. 1963 - Harvey Thorson took over as Scoutmaster. This year a Silver Beaver Service Award was presented by the Christianson District to Sig Peterson for his work in adult leadership for Scouts.



**A CAMPOUT - 1963**



Scout float and canoe they built. Scouts Douglas Hobbie and Grant Johnson.

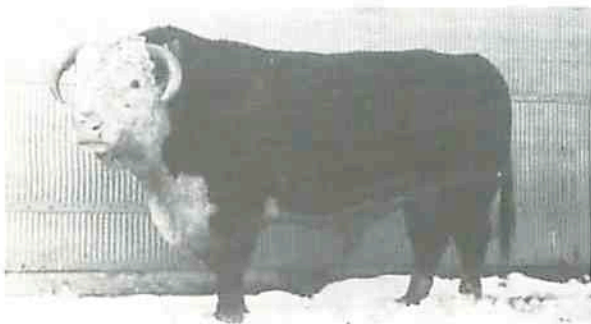
The Pro Deo Et Patria (for God and country) award is presented to a Scout who performs 150 hours of work for his church. Scouts receiving this award were Stuart Olson and Rodney Peterson in 1964, Larry Smith in 1966 and Dale Olson in 1967, from the Almont Lutheran Church. Randy Christianson received this award in 1967 from the Sims Lutheran Church.

Each summer the Scouts and leaders along with some parents spent a week at the Teddy Roosevelt District Campsite at Heart Butte. Many awards and merit badges were earned by boys during this time. In 1964 13 Scouts attended this camp. They were: Lester Feland, Larry Dawson, Lyle Peterson, Terry Miller, Paul Myers, Stuart Olson, Eugene Peterson, Jerome Willman, Ernest Feland and Delbert Hegel. Ass't Scoutmaster Clifford Knudson was their leader. This same year Bruce Peterson of troop 146 spent a week attending the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge, PA.

Rev. Ernest Hobbie was selected Scoutmaster in 1968 and Joel Johnson in 1971. During this time the troop meetings were held in the high school shop where they also worked on their projects. One project was building a canvas canoe which was first launched on the Heart River at the Jenson Grove. A float was constructed each year by the troop for the Labor Day parade. Members of the troop through these years were Gregory Olson, Tim Feland, Paul Johnson, Kelly Hutchinson, Grant and Bryan Johnson, Kirk Bond, Monte Ritz, Charles Willman, Dennis Hogan, Dennis Doll, Blaine Olson, Jim Dawson, Jim Anderson, David Willman, Douglas Hobbie and Billy Willman. The troop became inactive in 1973.

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## GIRL SCOUTS



FIRST GIRL SCOUT TROOP CAMPING IN BISMARCK, ND - 1935

L to R - Front: Ermine Bond, nurse; Mathilda Erhardt, Georgia Stoeckel, Phyllis Hyde, Marian Kelsven. Middle: Kathleen Kelsven, Anna Weibke, Virginia Zink, Lillian Pederson, Theresa Erhart. Back: Elda Reetz, Carol Knutson, Mildred Pederson, Beverly Kelsven, Henry Fehring, 'body guard'.

For a number of years some of the young girls in Almont had wished for a Girl Scout troop, so were happy and excited when Georgia Stoeckel organized the Almont Lone Troop in 1933. The first Girl Scout joiners were: Lillian, Eleanor and Mildred Peterson, Carol Knutson, Eileen Becklund, Berethe Bersstrom, Dorothy Lotspiech, Virginia Zink, Dorothy Filebeck, Theresa Erhardt, Laura and Elda Reetz, Kathleen and Marion Kelsven, Olive and Evelyn Timpe, Phyllis Hyde, Genevieve Stoeckel and Ann Weibke. Arlo-ween Cameron assisted Georgia Stoeckel as Lieutenant; both were teachers in the Almont school at that time. The first committee women were: Mmes. G.H. Anderson, N.E. Becklund, E.W. Hyde, C. Halvorson, C.E. Kelsven and L.P. Timpe.

Other Captains have been Marjorie Nelson, Betty Kibee, Dagmar (Mrs. James) Stoeckel and Evelyn Erlandson, Lieutenant.

Several Court of Honor programs were held, as well as Scout carnivals. Money was earned to go on camping trips by having different forms of entertainment for the public. These trips included going to the Heart River in 1934; Missouri River in 1935; Black Hills in 1937 and Yellowstone National Park in 1939.

The organization grew and at times there were 20 girls in the troop. Others joining were Arlene and Noreen Olson, June Pederson, Dorothy Knutson, Mavis and Arlene Weeks, LaVerne Bahr, LaVerne Purfeest, Helen Hoeger, Wanda Olin, Ardella Reetz and Beverly Kelsven.

In 1938 Mildred Peterson and Carol Knutson re-

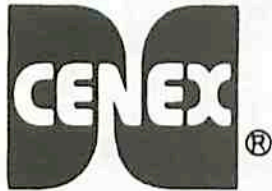
ceived the Golden Eaglet award, which is the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive.

There was no active troop for several years until 1949, when one was organized by Mrs. Robert Atkinson. Those joining were Audrey and LaVonne Ritz, Virginia Bond, Gloria Hanson, Ann Marie Stegmeier, Adeline and Caroline Larson, Joan Knudson, Carol Skjolsvik, Ramona Knudson, Corma Feland, Iona Hoovestol, Ramona and Ardys Zemple, Shirley Timpe and Charleen Reef. A camping trip was held at the Heart River the summer of 1950.

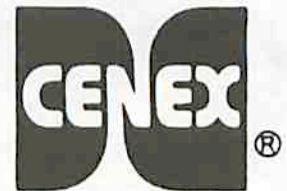


In June 1939 the Girl Scout troop, with Mrs. Jim Stoeckel as captain, had a 10-day camping trip to Yellowstone Park. The girls had sponsored many fundraising activities for two years to pay for the trip. Transportation was provided by Vernon Knutson, Everett Olson and Sig Peterson.





# New Salem Farmers Union Elevator Company



The idea of cooperation and organizing cooperatives by the people of the NEW SALEM COMMUNITY is very much in evidence not only of recent years, but many years ago and as early as 1891.

A portion of the minutes of a meeting read "The first meeting of the Farmers Union of New Salem took place in the house of Carl Oellerman on February 2, 1891. The meeting was called to order by Wm. Engelter who was chosen temporary chairman and Herman Kroeger, temporary secretary." The purpose of this organization was to buy and sell the farmers products.

In 1917 farmers of the New Salem Community thought they should have their own cooperative marketing association. The New Salem Farmers Union Elevator Company was organized. They purchased the elevator and annex of 40,000 bushels capacity of A.F. Dietz and Sons which at present is the main house.

The articles of incorporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of North Dakota on March 31, 1917 and was authorized to issue \$15,000 of stock. The first directors were Otto A. Meier, Karl Kiesel, Wm. Lehde, August Kreidt and A.E. Pool. The twenty five persons signing the Articles of Incorporation were:

Fred C. Graf  
Richard A. Kunkel  
Henry Albrecht  
Frank Gaebe  
A.F. Vauserer  
H.B. Norton  
Jacob C. Jacobson  
Edw. C. Kruger  
Otto A. Meier

W.J. Neas  
Max Kligenstein  
August Kreidt  
Wm. Lehde  
Paul Kunkel  
Wm. Westmeyer  
Henry Lesch  
H.F. Purfeerst  
J.J. Seeger

Ludwig Kitzmann Jr.  
Christ Gaebe  
R.W. Leach  
Pete P. Bumann  
Karl Kiesel  
Earl Mohling  
F.E. Krieger

To add to our new services to patrons and to keep up with the changing times, many new additions were made over the years as follows: 1948 the office, driveway and the 20,000 bushel annex; 1954 the 70,000 bushel west annex; 1955 the original Farmers Union warehouse used in 1891 was remodeled and added to; 1957 hammermill and mixer; 1958 40,000 bushel Armco building and 14 steel bins 32,300 bushel; 1962 steam roller plant and 60 foot, 50 ton truck scale and the feed delivery truck was purchased in 1964. In the year 1965 the Judson Farmers Union Mercantile Company was merged into the New Salem Farmers Union Elevator Company; In 1970 the old main house was torn down and a new main house was built; Fire alarm system and sprinkler system installed; 1971 Rum Liq a liquid feed installed; 1973 new feed truck and feed body purchased; 1974 office remodeled; 1974 a new Butler steel building was built for feed; 1975 purchased two Daffin Feed Grinders from Hartman Feed Service; became a Land O'Lakes feed dealer; addition built on feed building for shop and garage for grinder trucks; 1976 Protein tester was purchased; 1978 the Peavey Elevator was purchased; and a new truck and grinder was purchased.

The individuals of the community that served as directors acted wisely and with a deep sense of responsibility. The proof of their integrity was shown in that they were re-elected term after term. The individuals that served are:

Joseph Schollart  
Chas. Klusman Sr.  
C.F. Gaebe  
Wm. Westmeyer  
Fred Grube  
Alfred Egli

John Tellman  
Lester Mumby  
Geo. Holle  
Philip Maier  
Paul Rusch  
Hans Eggers  
Bert Norton

Board Members as of to date:

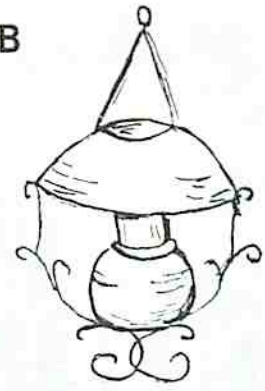
Delbert Kaelberer, President  
Forrest Schmidt, Vice President  
Condon Hartmann, Sec'y-Treas.  
Laurence Hoesel  
Wayne Holle

The following names are the managers who served: Hector DeClerk, J. Hahn, G.R. Woehrle, Clarence A. Giest, Louie Fandrich. Manager as of to date: Merlin H. Rogers.

Without the patronage of "Loyal Customers" your cooperative could not operate and grow. Your wisdom, sound judgment and foresight have built the New Salem Farmers Union Elevator Company of New Salem, North Dakota.



## "PRAIRIE ROSE" SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB



**PRAIRIE ROSE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB**  
L to R - Front: Leo Timpe, Mrs. Leo Timpe, Ragna Knutson, Lydia Schwemmer, Frances Kilen, Mrs. Rudy Feland, Ruby Feland. Middle: Mrs. Alvin Peterson, Mrs. Claude Ritz, Mrs. Val Kary, Edith Skjolsvik, Mrs. Norman Hanson, Beatrice Wanstrom, Hazel Hoovestol. Back: Claude Ritz, Val Kary, Norman Hansen, Alec Staab, Toby Ramsland.

Senior citizens who were interested in organizing an Almont club met in the Memorial Hall on Monday afternoon, April 29, 1968. Mrs. William Schott of Mandan, who is with the Lutheran Welfare Society and in charge of the Senior Citizens Clubs, was there to explain and discuss the procedure. Mrs. T.A. Barstad was elected president; Mrs. Thorvald Larson, vice president, and Mrs. Joe Hoovestol, secretary and treasurer. The three councilmen elected were Thorvald Barstad, Rhine Schwemmer and Peter Thorson. Pete was also appointed membership chairman and Mrs. Ed Reeff appointed program chairman. Mrs. Schott showed a film on "America the Beautiful." Refreshments were served by Mrs. Pete Thorson and Ora Dawson.

The next meeting was held May 20th at the Memorial Hall. Monday was chosen as the day to hold meetings and in May the seniors chose the name "Prairie Rose" Senior Citizens Club. From the very beginning, the club has been very active. Each year trips to Medora, Ice Follies in Bismarck, exchange visits with other clubs - Glen Ullin, New Salem, Flasher and Carson, have been enjoyed.

The members headed by a very capable president, Mrs. Barstad, working on a new park which provides nice picnic and recreational area in the town was

begun. Members worked diligently to get the park ready for the dedication. They grubbed out brush and trees, leveled the property and made a fence of discarded tires, painted white. They equipped the park with two fireplaces and six picnic tables, all made by the club members.

The club also painted the interior of the Memorial Hall where meetings are held. Other plans for improvement are planned.

The park was dedicated Aug. 15, 1968. Clubs from Flasher, Glen Ullin and Mandan attended the affair, which was planned to be held in the park. Incumbent weather prevented this so it was held in the Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

A program was held and talks of visiting club presidents complimenting Almont club on their achievements. Following the program, the Almont club served lunch to all.

At Christmas we have gone to Sunset Inn, Tavis Cafe or cooked our own meal in our kitchen. The remainder of the evening is spent visiting, card playing or any other entertainment.

The mini-bus is another convenience servicing the seniors and others who need rides to Mandan and Bismarck. The bus, to begin with, came from Mandan Agency Services. The West Morton River Transportation bus now comes from New Salem to Almont every Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock to pick up passengers.

In 1977, a government grant was applied for and approved; the grant was used to build a 14 x 26 addition to the Memorial Hall. Work started as soon as possible and we now have a kitchen with all the facilities, carpeting and baseboard heating. A restroom was also added to this new addition.

With mill levy money and matching funds, bake sales and cookbook sales, we have also improved the Memorial Hall with paneling, lowered the ceilings, insulated, baseboard heating and carpeted the floor.

We are also proud of the Hot Meals Program that



Prairie Rose Park





*Prairie Rose Senior Citizens ready for an outing - 1978*

Lydia Schwemmer, Ragna Barstad, Edith Skjolsvik, Clara Krummel, Pearl Tavis, Pauline Anderson, Hattie Nagel, Ida Feland, Rudy Feland, Frances Kilen and Clifford Smith.

started and seems successful. Vivian Rask, who was in charge of the Morton County Golden Age Services, came to assist with the first meal and explain the mechanics and procedures of the program.

The meals are prepared by Pearl Tavis at the cafe and brought to the center by Hazel Hoovestol, who is in charge of the Almont program and also assists in serving the meals. Volunteer diners also assist with the meals and cleanup.

If someone is unable to come to the center to eat, the meal will be delivered by a volunteer. The menus are made up by the Golden Age Services which are drawn up a month ahead of time. The first meal was served July 2, with 21 individuals taking part. Since then an average of about 15 people have been served each day.

More improvements are being planned for our center and as money comes in we will use it to better the center.

Congratulations Almont

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## ALMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

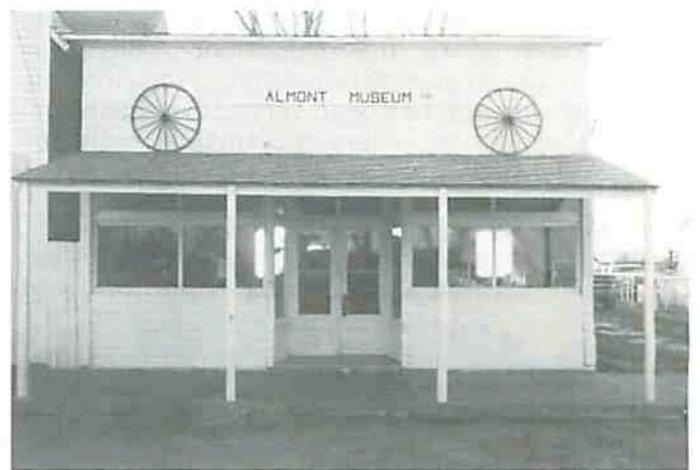


**ALMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

L to R: Sig Peterson, Mrs. Hazel Hoovestol, Mrs. Leroy Ritz, Mrs. Roman Peterson and Ben Ramsland.

The Almont Historical Society was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on August 23, 1977. At that time there were 55 members. Five directors were chosen: Sig Peterson, Hazel Hoovestol, Cassie Ritz, Lillian Peterson and Ben Ramsland. From this group Sig was selected president; Hazel, vice president; Cassie, secretary-treasurer. Cassie Ritz resigned in 1978 and Bonnie Ritz was chosen to fill the vacancy for director and Lillian Peterson then became secretary-treasurer. Membership fees were set at \$5.00 and \$2.00 for yearly renewal.

The society is affiliated with the Morton County Historical Society; a small portion of the county historical tax levy is received annually. The board of directors meet when it is deemed necessary. The annual meeting is held at the end of September. The museum building (the old Knutson store) was donated to the association by Ben Ramsland. Most of the antiques in the museum are on loan from Ben and others.



The old Almont Arena building was restored as a local bicentennial project. Old printing equipment for the office was donated by Bud and Minnie Rapsavage of the New Salem Journal. Some of the equipment may have originally been used to print the Almont Arena.

The present officers of the society are the same as mentioned above.



## THE HERITAGE PARK



The Heritage Park is located across from the Almont Lumber Company; originally the site of the Mandan Mercantile Lumber Company. The lots are now the property of the City of Almont.

Included in the park are the following buildings: The native stone jail which was built in 1908 by Charles Arch and George Lane. The jail is still in very good repair, the two cells inside are like new. An interesting sidelight regarding the jail is ... the naming of it. It was decided to name it after the first occupant. It seems that no one misbehaved for so long that someone put Mr. Sherwood's cow in one night. So the jail got the cow's name but no one seems to know the name of the cow! In 1915 a John Van Allen somehow broke through the 2-foot stone wall and escaped. He had been jailed for stealing a watch from G.G. Chamberlain. He was later apprehended in Fort Yates and brought to the Morton County jail.

The railroad depot, which was moved to North Almont in 1946, was moved back and into the park after the North Almont station was closed in 1968. Almont bought it from N.P.R.R. for \$1.00.

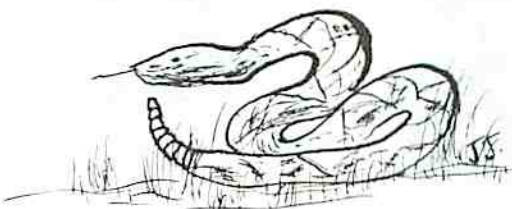
The one-room country schoolhouse was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hansen. It was located close to the Hansen farm and known in the early days as the Peck School. It had originally been built close to the John Hansen farm and in about 1908 moved over to the Axel Hansen farm. Seats and equipment which now furnish the building came mostly from the Almont school attic.

In 1977 the Jaycees put up a 12 x 14 sod home-stead shack. It is furnished and has a sandstone slab floor.

The country blacksmith shop was donated by Leslie Jacobson and several people have helped to equip the shop.

There are quite a number of antique and historic implements in the park also. These have been donated by several individuals.

A 4' x 7' panel has been erected with approximately 100 local livestock brands burned in. The Heritage Park is maintained by the local historical society.



## ALMONT JAYCEETTES



ALMONT JAYCEETTES

Vicki Overland, Mary Ann Doll, Mrs. Bill (Linda) Kalvoda, Mrs. Gene (Ginger) Peterson.

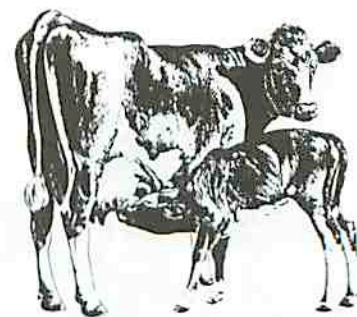
The Almont Jayceettes were extended by the Glen Ullin Jayceettes. They received their charter in May of 1977 with nine charter members.

Since that time the Jayceettes have set up many annual projects. They sponsor a Halloween and Easter party for the younger children, an appreciation party for the girls' basketball team, a foot clinic, the March of Dimes Reading Olympics, and a national project Toys and Joys.

The main goal of the Jayceettes is to assist the Jaycees in their many worthwhile projects. Where there is a Jaycee project going on, you'll see the Jayceettes with the lunch and lending a hand if possible.

The present officers are: Marianne Doll, president; Kathy Bachler, vice president; Vicki Overland, secretary; Ginger Peterson, treasurer; Linda Kalvoda and Ginger Peterson, historians, and Vicki Overland, Speak Up chairman.

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## ALMONT JAYCEES



### ALMONT JAYCEES

L to R - Front: Will Jackson, David Willman, Monty Ritz, Doug Doll. Middle: Ed Boger, Eugene Peterson, Peter Olson, Dale Jacobson. Back: Wm. Kalvoda, Clarence Schollmeyer, Joel Olson, Lester Feland and David Jacobson.

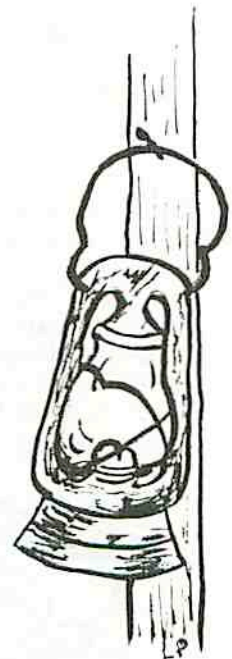
The Almont Jaycees were chartered on Dec. 26, 1976, with 29 members. The Glen Ullin Jaycees sponsored the chapter. Former Almont resident, Stuart Olson, now of Albany, OR, assisted with organizing.

Since then the Jaycees have sponsored many community projects. A goal of the Jaycees is to develop leadership qualities among young members of the community.

Almont Jaycees projects sponsored to date: Community tennis and basketball courts, skating rink, sod house in Heritage Park, C.P.R. course for high

school students, Community Blood Donor Drive, Jaycees district basketball tournament, Grades basketball tournament, Independent basketball team, New Year's Party, Farm-City mixed social, Children's carnival for Labor Day Reunion, Floats in Labor Day parade, assisting with the Lutefisk and Lefse supper, participating in "Honey Sunday" which is a statewide project to raise money for handicapped citizens of North Dakota.

Present officers of the Jaycees are: Doug Doll, president; Dean Bachler, vice president; Monty Ritz, secretary; David Willman, treasurer.



Jaycees building the sod shack - 1977



# CHRISTIAN YOUTH CRUSADERS



## CHRISTIAN YOUTH CLUB

Front: Marlo Hoovestol, Kim Hoovestol, Susan Feland, Janelle Kilen, Angie Sailer, John Stolberg, Mabel Stolberg, Cathy Feland.  
Middle: Leader, Glenda Graham, David Stolberg, Michael Jacobson, Kim Sailer, Kay Hoovestol, Jr., leader, Vera Stolberg.  
Back: Mark Jacobson, Anthony Bachler, Teresa Greff, Michaelle Sailer.

Christian Youth Crusaders is a community youth organization which is open to kids, grades 1-6. CYC is much like scouting with a year-round program which includes camping in summer. The goal of CYC is to help children grow mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. The organization is divided into two groups: grades 1-3 are Heralds and grades 4-6 are Cadets. Each group is divided into ranks by grade level.

The activity of the group includes community service, family cooperation, crafts, discussion of moral issues, learning from the Bible, development of physical skills and endurance, and many practical skills, such as gardening and many crafts.

The Almont CYC held its first training sessions for adults in the spring of 1978. These sessions were conducted by Ron Groninger. The first meetings and activities were during the summer (1978) and included successful gardens and a campout on the Heart River. Ron Groninger was the director and leader of the Cadet group during most of the time of organization. The meetings were first held in the Groninger home at the four-plex and have met at various places



Ron Groninger and kids with canoe during 1979 camp at the river.

in Almont since. There have been award councils in the bank and at the Memorial Hall. Delores Stolberg has been the Herald leader and the organization has been helped by many people of the community serving as resource people. Vera and Julia Stolberg have been assistant leaders and Laurie and Shelly Schwemmer have assisted at various times. Mrs. Glenda Graham has become the Cadet leader since Ron Groninger has gone to school.

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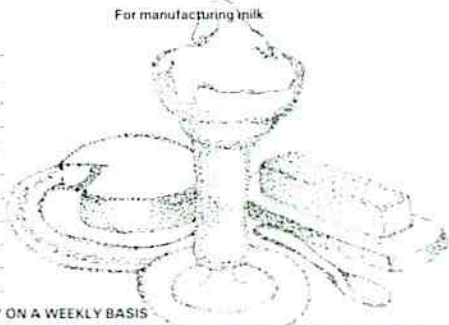
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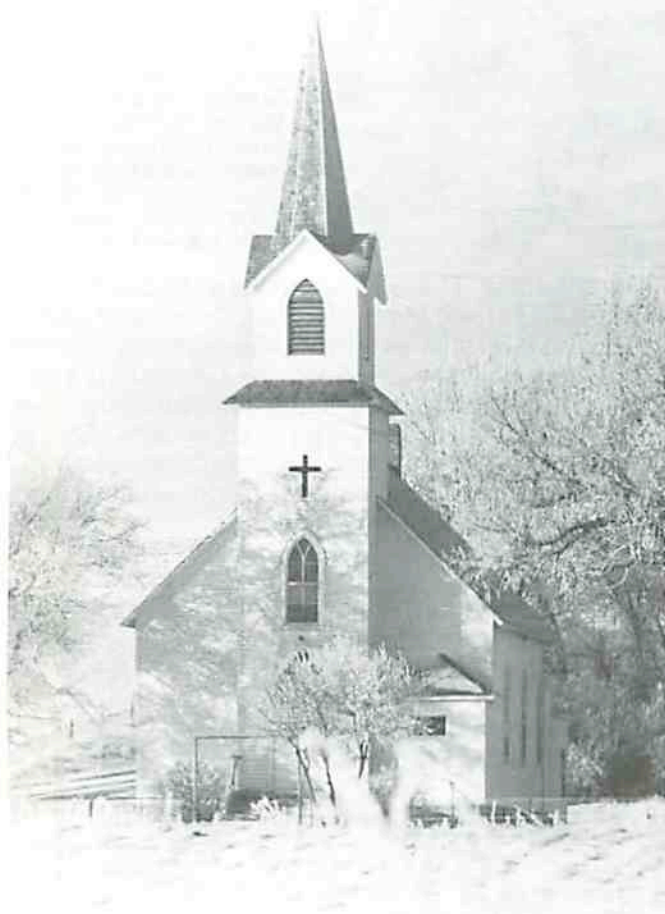
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Dan Bauer 663-9226  
Capital City Foods 223 6340



# CHURCHES & ORGANIZATIONS

## SIMS LUTHERAN CHURCH



*"It was an era of prosperity in America. Business and industry had recovered from the financial collapse of 1873 during which the Northern Pacific Railroad had been obliged to suspend construction work on its tracks at Bismarck. But by October 21, 1882 the railroad bridge joining Mandan and Bismarck had been completed and was opened on that date. In 1883 the first train traveled over this northern route to the Pacific seaboard. In Sims H.T. Bly's mine was supplying the locomotives of the road with coal."*

(Mandan Daily Pioneer—Dec. 11, 1959)

At that time the mines at Sims employed upwards of 175 men, and the brick factory workers numbered about 200. The miners and brick factory laborers had established homes in the area, but the developing community had no resident minister. The Swedish Lutheran Church of Bismarck helped by sending two of its ministers out to conduct services two or three times a year, namely a Rev. Carlson and Rev. Cavalein.

In 1879 the Northern Pacific surveyed and laid out the townsite of Sims. That same year a young Nor-

wegian was ordained in the Trinity Lutheran Church at Rushford, MN, a Rev. Ole J. Norby. Rev. Norby then went to Yankton and Turner counties in southern Dakota Territory to begin his ministry. It was in 1884, at 29 years of age, that Rev. Norby visited the Sims community for the first time. This visit convinced him that a church would be successful. He returned to the East, however, after meeting (on Sept. 30) with those interested in organizing a congregation. These pioneers laid the foundation for the congregation at that time.

### CHARTER MEMBERS

Ole Reinersten Feland	Jacob Bernetsen	Theodor Ramsland
Reinert Gabrielson	Theodor Samuelson	Aanen Johnson
Carl Knudsen Midboi	Olaus Hanson	Berthe Treeland
Marie Treeland	Adrienne Johnson	Bolette Ostreng
Nicolai Ostreng	Sakarias Egen	Tobias Larson
B.T. Ramsland	Mathias Hanson	Sine Ramsland
Christian Thomsen	Jacob Olsen	Surine Thomsen
Carl P. Andersen	Lars Wang	Caroline Andersen
Ingeborg Wang	Elias Larson	Amund Pedersen
Staaale Sakarisen	Maria Larsen	Christin Pedersen
Tobias Samuelson Aas	Gabriel Petersen	Tomine Johnson
Ole Wettestad	Staaale Johnson	Hans Pedersen
Elizabeth Johnson	Hans Paulsen	Arijan J. Johnson
Ole Narvig	Jacob Bernetsen	Daniel Danielsen
Ricard Olson	Berndt Selius Olson	Anders P. Neilsen
Theodor Feland	A. Amdal	John Olin
Abraham Elias Olson	Svend Johnson	

While Rev. Norby was back East, the newly organized group began building the two-story parsonage which served as a home for the minister and a place of worship for the community. The first worship services were conducted on the second floor of the brick structure, located on land donated by B.T. Ramsland in the Terre Cotte addition and paid for by donations from the residents. Rev. O.J. Norby accepted the call of the community and moved to Sims in 1885, at which time he finalized the organization of the congregation. The Augustana Synod's Constitution had been the guideline for the congregation which chose the name, Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Sims. The Hauge's Psalm Book was chosen for use by the church members. The minister's territory extended over the northern half of the state, close to the Canadian border and west to Montana. In 1893 Rev. Norby accepted a call to Wisconsin and shortly thereafter Rev. T.K. Gaustad became the minister. He immediately began planning for a new church structure. Rev. Gaustad was credited with the successful financing of the building. Mrs. Gaustad and the ladies of the church held little parties, food sales, and programs to help raise funds for the new church building. The congregation purchased an abandoned building in downtown Sims and with the salvaged material from this torn-down building they built the frame for the now-standing