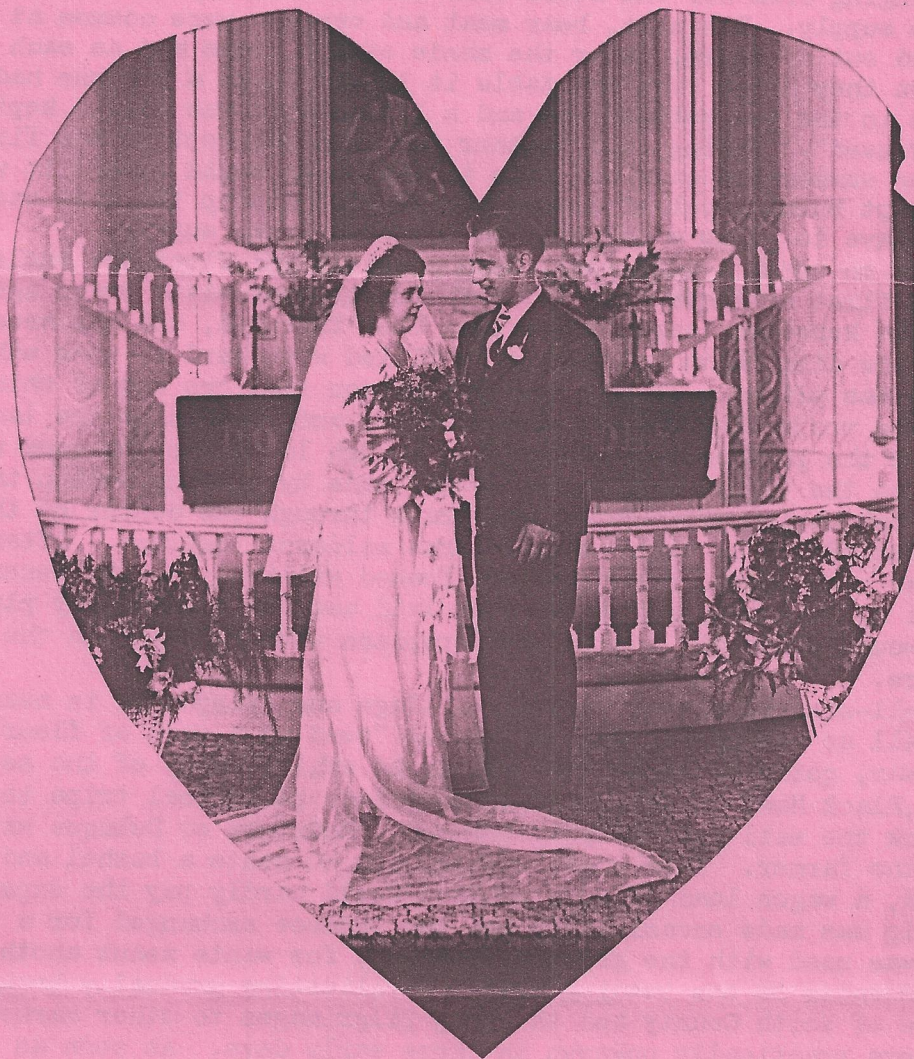


Feb.
1985

Fertile Reminder



RAY and LORRAINE BAKKE

OUR

FEB. SWEETHEART COUPLE

SWAPPING WORK

In these days, with plenty of money in circulation, and a bank in almost every village, when one needs assistance he can hire someone to come and help him. When the first settlers came to Worth County money was exceedingly scarce and they overcame the difficulty by swapping work. They assisted each other to build cabins in which to live; frequently ten or a dozen men would gather in a wheat field and while some would swing the cradle the others would bind the sheaves and place them in shocks. When one field was finished the whole party would move on to another, where the wheat was ripest and so on until the wheat crop of the entire neighborhood was made ready for threshing.

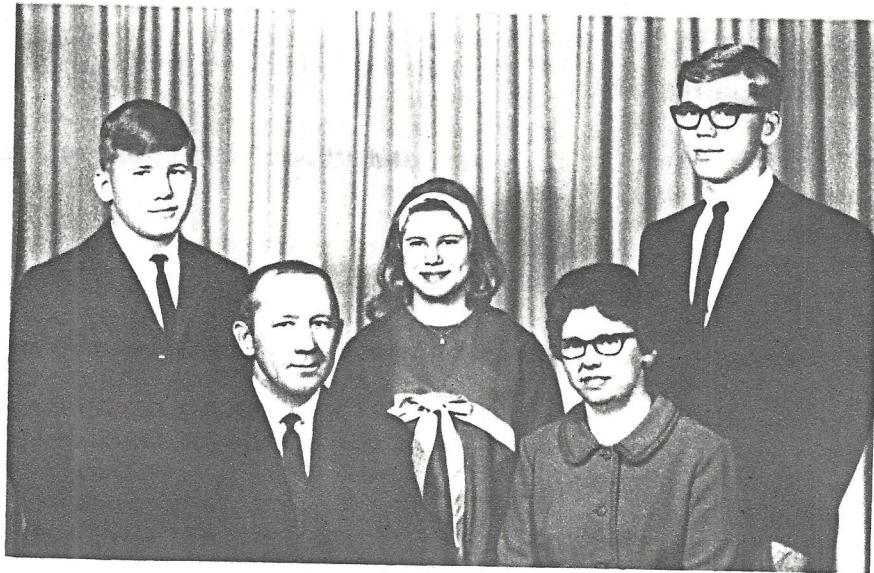
While the men were at work in the harvest field the women folk would gather and prepare dinner, each one bringing from her own store some little delicacy which she thought the others might not be able to supply. Elk meat, bear meat and venison were common at such dinners. The meal was often served out of doors, under the shade of the trees and as each man brought with him a good appetite, when they arose from the table it looked "like a cyclone had struck it".

Matches were rare in the new settlements and a little fire was always kept burning somewhere on the premises "for seed". During cold weather the fire was kept in the fireplace without trouble, but when the summertime came and fire in the house would render it uncomfortable, a shall log heap was kept burning out of doors. If by some mishap the fire was extinguished, one of the family would have to go to a neighbor to borrow a fresh supply.

How easy it is now to enter a dark room, turn a switch and flood the whole place with electric light. But when the first settlers came to Worth County over sixty years ago the electric light was unknown. Even the kerosene lamp had not then been invented, and the housewife improvised a lamp by using a shallow dish which was partially filled with lard or some other kind of grease or oil. Into this dish was placed a loosely-twisted cotton rag, one end of which projected over the side of the dish. The projecting end was then lighted and, although the lamp emitted both smoke and odor, it answered the purpose then, affording enough light for the good woman to attend to her duties. Next came the tallow candle, which was made by pouring molten tallow into molds of tin, a soft cotton wick having previously been drawn through the center of the mold. A set of candle molds consisted of six or eight candle forms soldered together. Often there was but one set of molds in a new settlement, but they were loaned willingly by the owner and passed from house to house until all had a supply of candles laid away in a cool, dry place. In the winter seasons the family would often sit around the fireplace with no light in the cabin except that from the roaring fire.

Nowadays, with well-stocked stores in every village and telephones in nearly every home it is an easy matter to call up the grocer and ask him to "send up a sack of flour". But in the days prior to the Civil War, going to market was no slight affair. Many of the settlers received their mail at Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, whither they made periodical trips to mill, the one going to mill bringing back the mail for the neighborhood. McGregor or Dubuque was the nearest market for the produce of the farmer. With wheat selling for 40 cents a bushel and dressed pork from 2 to 3 cents a pound, a wagon load of such produce would hardly pay the expense of taking it to market. Yet the trip was made occasionally and the produce exchanged for a supply of the barest necessities, which was used with the greatest economy, for waste meant another long, dreary journey through the wilderness to the trading post. Civilization gradually brought mills and markets closer to the people of Worth County and the long pilgrimages to other markets were abandoned.

"Store clothes" were practically unknown in those early days. As soon as the wolves were driven out so that it was safe for the farmer to keep sheep, every pioneer had a small flock of those animals. The housewife would card her wool by hand with a pair of broad-backed brushes, the wire teeth of which were all slightly bent in the same direction. The rolls were then spun into yarn on the old-fashioned spinning-wheel and woven into cloth upon the hand-loom. Garments were then cut and made with the needle, the sewing machine not then having been brought into use. A girl of sixteen years of age who could not manage a spinning-wheel and turn out her "six cuts" a day or who could not make her own dresses, was a rarity in a new settlement. How many of the girls who graduated from the various high schools of Worth County in 1917 know what the term "six cut" means? Or how many of them can cut or make their own gowns unassisted?



*Best wishes
from our family
to yours*



Isn't he cute here?"
DRESSED FOR ONE OF
OUR YEARLY VARIETY SHOWS



WEDDING DAY



GOOD
TIMES

This month the Reminder is honoring Ray & Lorraine Bakke. Ray & Lorraine hve been in charge of the Annual Sweet-heart Dance for 3 years. This years affair will be Feb 22 at the Surf. The band will be Malecks Fisherman.

Ray & Lorraine spend many hours along with their helpers, getting ready for the dance. Take the time to thank them as they raise over a thousand dollars each year to help the Community Center. We also thank each one of you for sending in your money for the tickets that are mailed to you.

Lorraine Gilbertson & Ray Bakke were married on August 3, 1947, at Concordia Church of rural Joice. They have lived in the Fertile vicinity since then. Ray & Lorraine have worked at Winnebago Industries for 15 years. Ray works in obsolete inventory and Lorraine is paymaster.

The couple have three children, Steven, Craig & Carolyn. Steve is a lawyer in Forest City. He and his wife Anne have two children, Aaron, age 7 and Laura age 2½. Craig lives in Gering, Nebraska. He and his wife Judy have two children, Ryan, age 11 and Rachel, age 10. Craig works for Central Soya. Carolyn is married to Dr. Dennis Colby and is a housewife. They make their home in Lake Mills and have two children, Timothy age 7 and Katherine, age 4.

COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS

Feb 22 - Sweetheart Dance at the Surf Ballroom. Music by Malecks Fishermen.

Mar 30 - Variety Show. Get your act together and be a part of our yearly variety show. Call Ruth B. Ouverson at 797-2267 or 2440 or Carolyn Nedved at 797-2696 if you will take part or help in any way.

If you enjoy receiving the Reminder be sure to send in your \$3.00 if you have not already done so. We will no longer be able to hand deliver to anyone having a mail box - only to those having the shoppers delivered by hand, so we will have to address and pay post on them.

Age is a quality of the mind:
If you have left your dreams behind,
If hope is cold;
If you no longer look ahead,
If your ambition's fires are dead--
Then you are old.

But if from life you take the best,
And if in life you keep the jest,
If love you hold;
No matter how the years go by,
No matter how the birthdays fly--
You are not old.

FOR SALE:

1956 Fertile Centennial Book. Best offer. Gen Oswald Joice, Iowa
Phone: 588-3496

CHEESE Feb 14th. 1 - 5
Fertile Community Center

Will do Baby Sitting in my home =
Marilyn Bang, 797-2757.

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

CIRCLE MEETINGS

(PK) Ruth	2/19	7:30	Barb Seglem
(PK) Esther	2/20	1:30	Pauline Hanson
(F) Ruth	2/25	7:30	Laura Shropshire
(F) Sarah	2/25	7:30	Myrtle Gudmonson
(F) Mary	2/28	9:30	Ruth Sunne (church)
(F) Reb	2/28	2:00	Betty Waddington (church)

FAMILY WORSHIP

(F) 9:00 (PK) 10:30

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(PK) 9:15 (F) 10:15

7:30 Hi-League Bible Study

COMING EVENT: Mini Bible Conference
March 17 thru March 20. Pastor Oliver Olson of the Omaha Bible School will be speaker. Please pray for this conference.

FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN - Plan

to help with Quilting Days on Feb 19 & 20, Feb 26 & 27 starting at 9:00 a.m. Bring your scissors, thimbles, etc. Plenty of good food and fellowship as you help those who are less fortunate than we.

FEBRUARY 17th - CONFIRMATION & COMMUNION SERVICE will be held in Fertile. Remember our Confirmands in prayer.

LIBRARY NEWS

Library hours are: Wednesday - 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday - 1p.m. - 5 p.m.; and Saturday - 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

SAKOTA SEED CORN
Merle Tuttle 797-2654

LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2211

PETAL SHOPPE 357-5030
FREE delivery to Hosp. 357-5026
1714 7th Ave. N. Clear Lake

FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor

WRIGHTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2680

HOFFMAN CRAFTS 797-2714
701 West Main

OLD MILL ANTIQUES 797-2490

PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON 797-2422
Styling for Men & Women

FERTILE MEATS & GROCERIES 797-2647
Specializing in Meats for the freezer

K & R SERVICE 797-2440

RAY SANDIFER--TOM'S SALES 797-2681

FLOWERS BY McCOY--Forest City 582-4517
Flowers for every Occasion

JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE 797-2677
Complete Automotive Service

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
Auction Every Wednesday

WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 797-9685
Specializing in good food

J & W UPHOLSTERY 797-2457

Upholstery--Auto Body
Jean and Wayne Roberts

FIRST STATE BANK 896-2265

Serving North Iowa
Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth
Main Office--Manly

FERTILE FEED SERVICE 797-2242

Complete Livestock Needs
Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food

RAY JENNINGS 454-2707

Complete Auction Service

The Fertile City Council met Jan. 8, 1985 with Mayor Shropshire presiding. Council members present were Hall Petersen, Schultze & Hare. Also present was Attorney Richard Petersen representing Winnebago RTA.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Petersen submitted a resolution regarding the telephone franchise election. Resolution to accept the results of the franchise election and grant Winnebago RTA a new 25 yr. franchise election. Carried.

Council discussed increase in city's insurance and will ask the agent to come to a council meeting to explain.

Federal Revenue Sharing hearing for fiscal year 1985-86 will be held Feb. 5, 1985. The city will receive \$1650 revenue sharing money this year.

Council tabled discussion on old fire engine.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

City will see if Washington St. can be classified a farm to market road by the county.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

The next regular council meeting will be held Feb. 5 at the library at 7 p.m.

DECEMBER BALANCE SHEET
Expenditures

Evelyn Knudson	211.68
Evelyn Knudson	20.00
Vesta Kuns	10.00

STEVE
 CRAIG
 CAROLYN



KINDERGARTEN
 1957

Row 1: Mrs. Davis, Bruce Hansmier, Bonnie Sheimo, Bruce Ouverson, Jane Field, Bill Pederson, Janet Severson, Row 2: Bobbie Nissen, Lois Eldridge, Linda Hall, Danny Knutson, Row 3: Julie Rye, Wayne Purcell, Rickey McNelly, Bruce Van Den Bosch, Lowell Ouverson, Mike Ouverson, Colleen Purcell, Row 4: Paul Zobel, Paul Plunkett, Tommy Sheimo, Dan Hyde, Ray Elthon, Craig Bakke.



Ray and LORRAINE

Super Sale Super
20% off

All GROC. ITEMS
EXCLUDING - MEAT - BEER - CIGARETTES
*10.00 MIN. ORDER
FERTILE MEATS & GROCERY

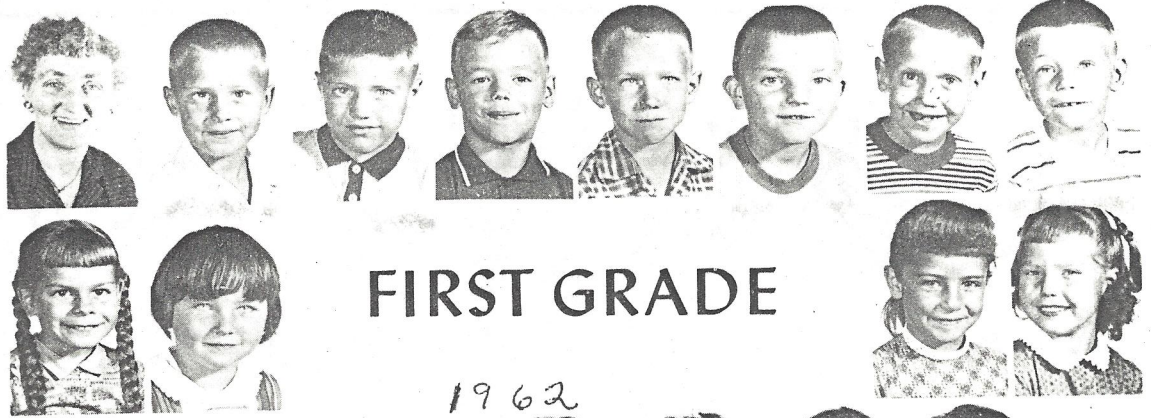
Balance Sheet - Jan

Janice Hare	217.73
David Low	282.23
Dick Sheimo	483.42
Winnebago RTA	91.79
Interstate Power Co.	584.74
City of Fertile	51.00
Areas.-State of Iowa	85.67
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Peoples Natural Gas	245.00
IPERS - FOAB	188.34
Richard Alton	80.34
Leonard Bailey	80.00
Lonnie Bailey	65.00
Allen Berg	75.00
Les Burtness	90.00
Brian Hall	40.00
Jon Morse	85.00
Larry Shropshire	55.00
Henry Thompson	25.00
Eugene Hall	160.00
Fred Hare	165.00
Clifford Petersen	130.00
Mark Schultze	110.00
JoAnn Bailey	60.00
Eymann Impl. Co.	7.85
K & R Gas	55.20
Bob Ouverson	40.00
Norman Rye	20.00
Jordan's	40.35

Fertile Block & Tile	372.00
G & H Motor Parts	74.64
Larsen Plumbing & Heating	18.00
Worsley Electric	20.64
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe.	22.17
Gibbs Cook	169.20
Oxmoor House	17.24
BMC	214.83
Family Bookshelf	14.94
T. Bouregy & Co.	28.50
Better Homes & Gardens	22.92
B. Dalton	95.58
True Story	15.97
Newsweek	35.88
Outdoor Life	15.46
McCall's	17.95
Woman's Day	13.35
Vesta Kuns	15.00
Fred Hare	22.58
De Long Sub. Agency	32.50

Total 5,697.69

TOTAL RECEIPTS 9,470.79



FIRST GRADE

1962



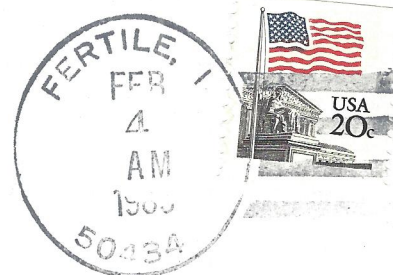
Row 1: Mrs. Tuttle, Randy Whitehurst, Bobby Nelson, Michael VanDen-Bosch, David Rye, Jack Rutter, Jerry Nye, Mark Billings. Row 2: Julie Graham, Mary June Myhre, Diane Haspany, Barbie Elthon. Row 3: Cindy Nelson, Becky Gaumnitz, Linda Severson, Linda Ouverson, Melody Bailey, Carolyn Bakke, Sheila Suby.



GRADE THREE

1957

Row 1: Miss Ball, Dennis Ouverson, Lois Felland, Dennis Levang, Patty Ann Zobel, Steven Morse, Rebecca Almellen, Row 2: James Schuler, Patty Ann Zobel, Rachel Benson, Arlyn Midtgaard, Row 3: Penny McVicker, Steven Bakke, Judy Evenson, Gary Myhre, Mary Lovick, Darwin Lee, Donald Nissen, Row 4: James Rye, Charles Hunter, Robert Van Den Bosch.



Harvey Knudson
Fertile, Iowa 50434