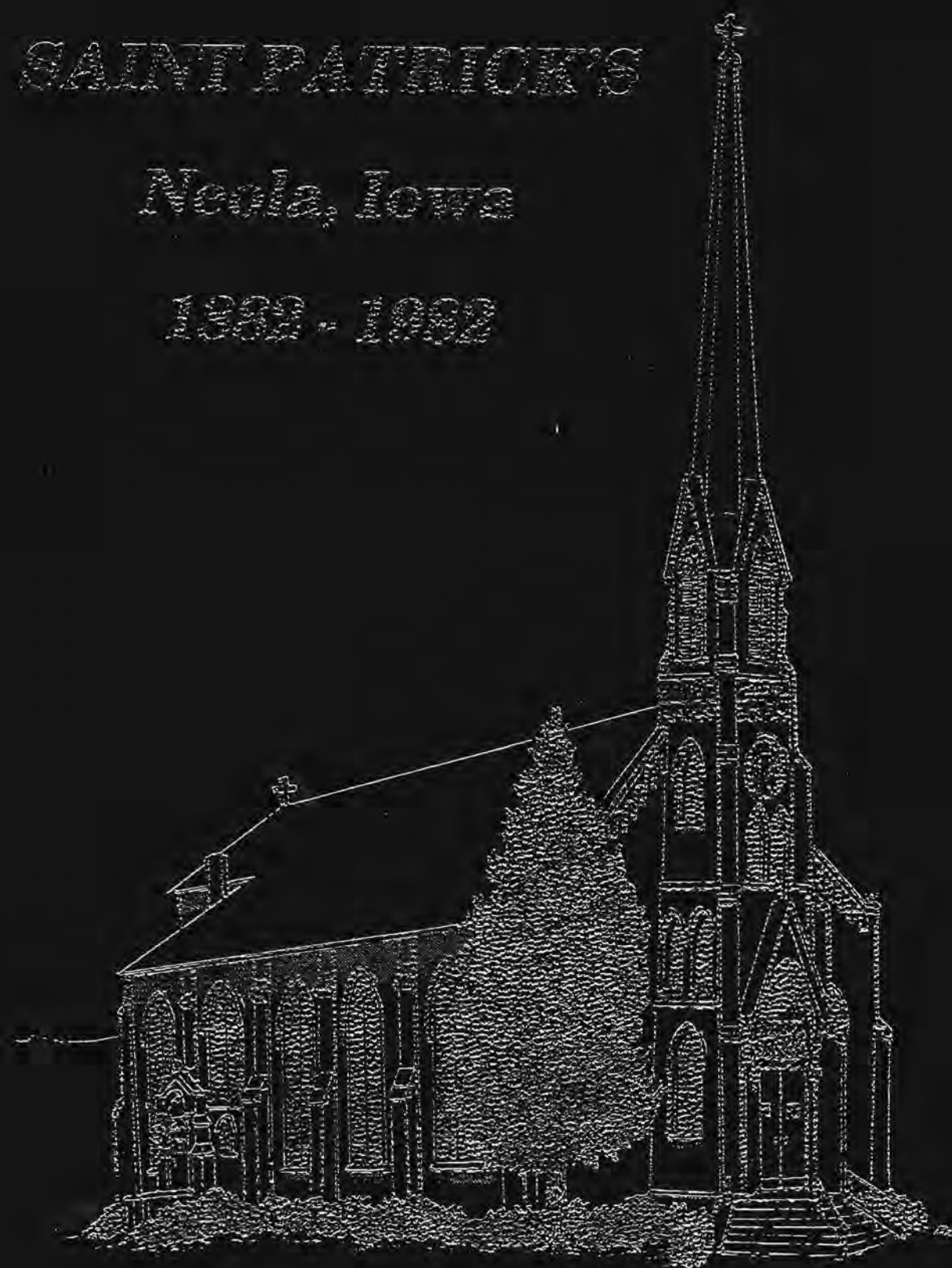


SAINT PATRICK'S

Neola, Iowa

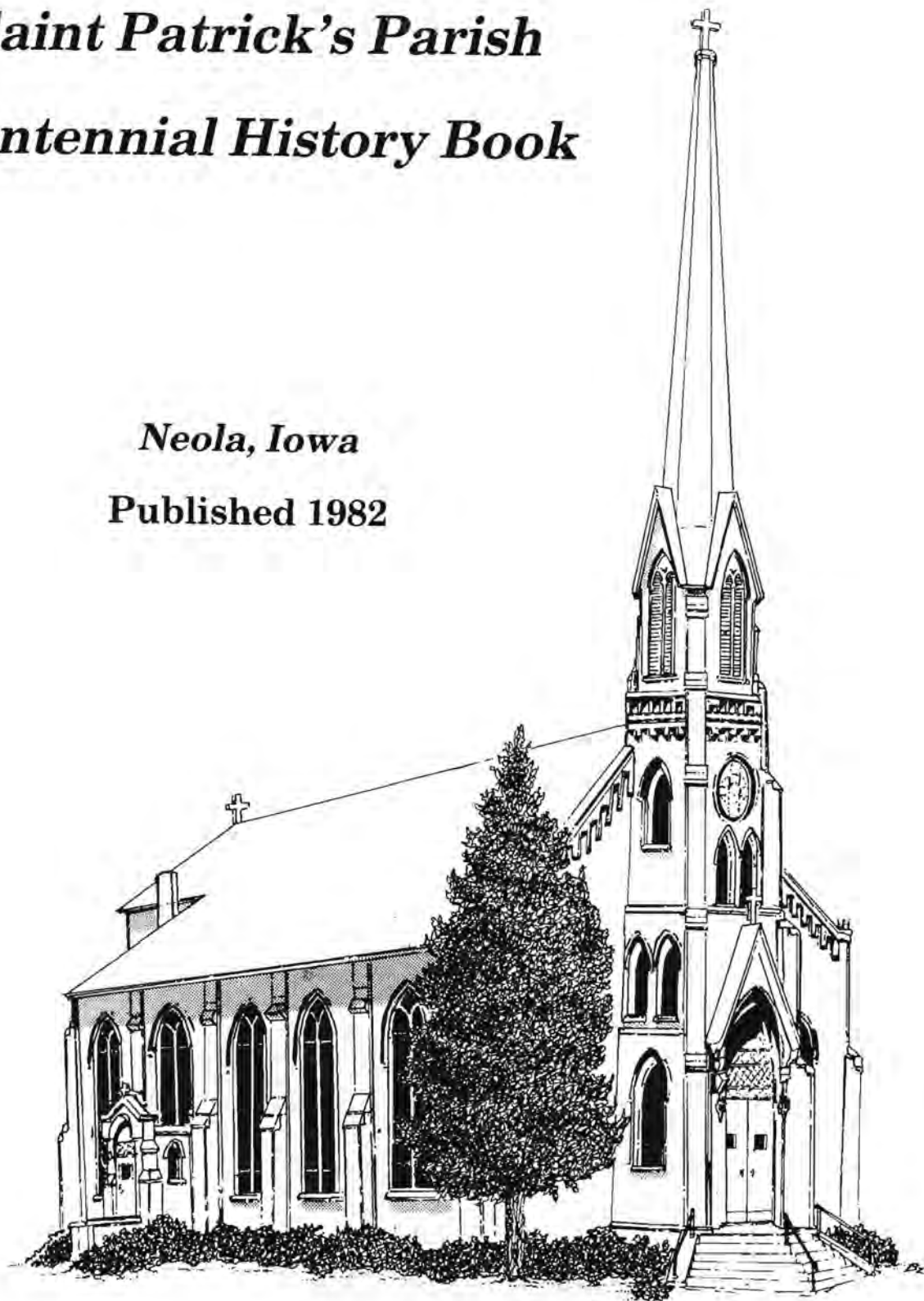
1882 - 1982



***Saint Patrick's Parish
Centennial History Book***

Neola, Iowa

Published 1982



1882-1982

Ann E

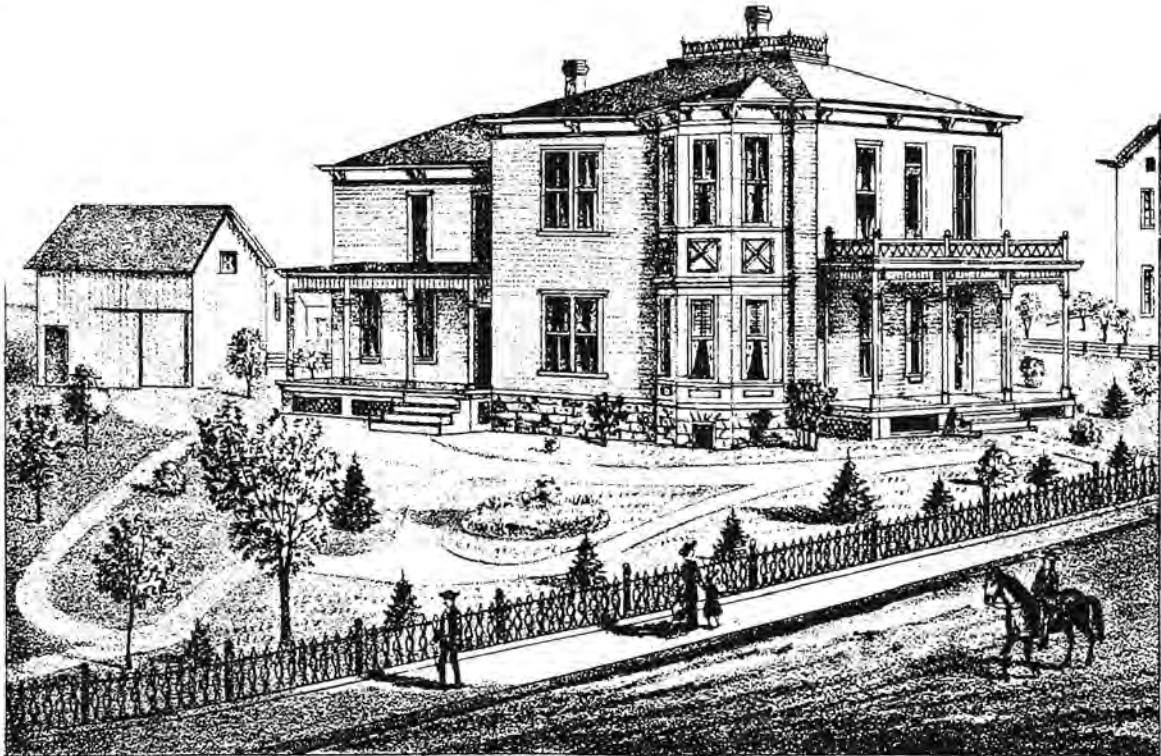
Memorandum

June 7th 1992

10 y years of age on 10/11/91



Saint Patrick's Parish



CATHOLIC PARSONAGE, REV. J.J. MORAN, PASTOR.
NEOLA, IOWA.

Centennial Year

1882-1982

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THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Irene Konz*
 Charlotte Stephens
 Ambrose Ausdemore
 Joan Crowley*
 Leo Fischer
 Mickey and Rosie McDonald*
 Cindy Nelson
 Father Lawrence Beeson*
 Gladys Brich*
 Paul Ring*
 Betty Masker*
 Mike Minahan*
 Fritz Wellman
 Sister Barbara Ring
 Martha Denning
 Marilyn Masker*

*Signifies that these people were also on the Centennial Book Guidance Committee.

Marilyn Masker - Researcher, organizer, writer, and editor of the Centennial Book

Joan Crowley - Organizer and major supporter of the Family History Section of this book

This book owes many thanks to Mrs. Bonnie Bronder, who has given much support and encouragement, constructive criticism and lots of understanding for the many problems of writing this centennial book. Her help began at the beginning of this book and continued until the end. Without her knowledge and foresight, this project could never have been completed!

My thanks again!

Marilyn Masker

DEDICATION

This book was written in memory of the deceased of this parish, especially those pioneers who struggled and sacrificed for their beliefs and built both a Catholic church and Catholic school.

IN THE CHURCHES OF THE NATION IS ORIENTATION FOR OUR CULTURE

By Neal R. Pierce

Roger Kennedy, director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, has a love affair with America's churches. Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox churches, Jewish temples and the places of Indian worship - he has mined them to find a rich loadstone of the history, the divergent cultures, the human community of the North American continent. Looking at churches is a unique way to look at our culture and communal life, especially in an age of rampant secularism and seeming cultural amnesia. Churches, Kennedy suggests, can help to rescue us from "the epidemic disease of our epoch - disorientation," the feeling of being baffled, tired, spiritually wobbly and not sure of where we stand, who we are. How? Kennedy replies: Churches and synagogues are the known, the constant, beyond practically any other physical structure about us. In them we can "find our 'orient,' our real location in time and space." Consider, he says, the wondrously stabilizing effect of a church in one's neighborhood. "We can hear its bells at predictable times, we can see its steeple or tower, like a compass needle, at a regular point on the horizon. In the day we watch the sun pushing the shadow of the spire about the grass below. The bells, the spire, the place itself inform us that there is a there, there." Taken from THE HERALD-DISPATCH--Huntington, W. VA. Sunday, April 21, 1982.



1883 - Church built or Parish started



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

1170 W. 6000 200th & N. ALEX. L. DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

April 28, 1982

Parishioners
St. Patrick's Parish
% Rev. Lawrence A. Beeson
P.O. Box 127
Neola, Iowa 51559

Dear Members of St. Patrick's Parish:

It is with a great deal of joy that I learn of your plans to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the appointment of your first resident Pastor, Rev. John Kempker. You may, or you may not, be aware that Father John Kempker came from St. Paul, Iowa, the parish where I was born and grew up.

The Kempker and the Dingman families are still very much in evidence at St. Paul. I will be in touch with the Kempker Family in St. Paul and tell them of the 100th Anniversary.

One of the first decisions that I made when I became Bishop of Southwest Iowa was to repair the steeple of your Church. I remember as if it were yesterday when Father Joe Ryan and I stood beside the Church and looked at the damages incurred by the lightning and the storm. I remember telling him that the steeple would have to be repaired since it is a landmark in the community.

You are well aware that buildings do not make a Church. Church is primarily people. When that people gathers together, listens to the teachings of the Apostles, forms relationships of care and concern with one another, worships through the Eucharist, prays together and addresses the social problems of our times, then we have the kind of Church that our Holy Father spoke about at St. Patrick's in Irish Settlement on October 4th, 1979. That vision of the Holy Father is more than a dream in your parish; it is a reality lived out in your individual lives and in the life of the parish.

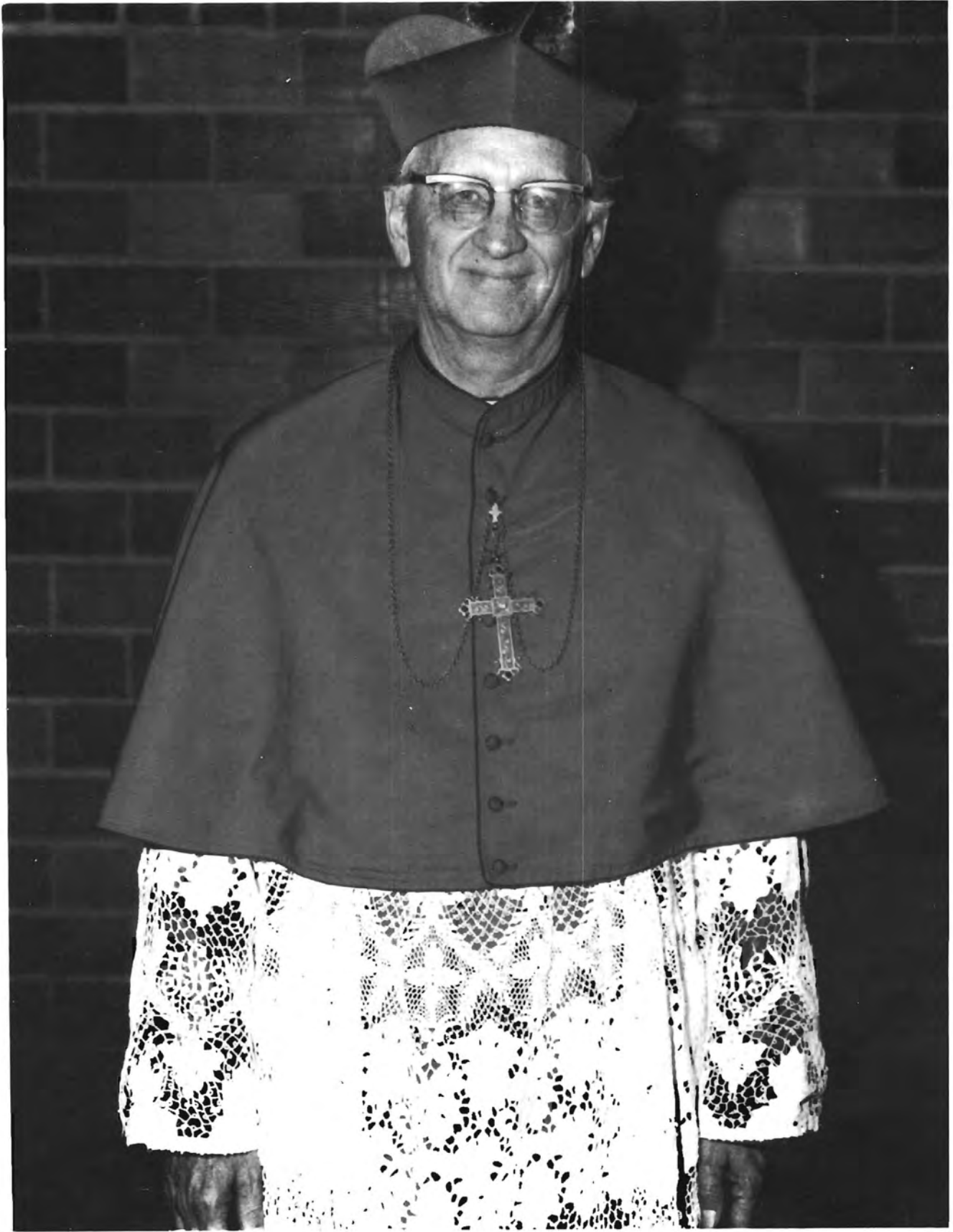
May I express my thanks for all of the good things that have happened in your parish. In particular I appreciate your many gifts and courtesies to me personally through the years. Several beautiful vestments, which I use constantly were a gift from you.

Congratulating you on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the appointment of your first resident Pastor, Father John Kempker, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Maurice J. Dingman*

Most Rev. Maurice J. Dingman
Bishop of Des Moines



Bishop Maurice J. Dingman, Bishop of Des Moines

THE BLESSING OF ST. PATRICK

"The blessing of God upon all,
Men of Erin, sons, women,
And daughters; prince blessing,
Meal-blessing, blessing of long life,
Health-blessing, blessing of excellence,
Eternal-blessing, heaven-blessing,
Cloud-blessing, sea-blessing,
Fruit-blessing, land-blessing,
Crop-blessing, dew-blessing,
Blessing of elements, blessing of valour,
Blessing of dexterity, blessing of glory,
Blessing of deeds, blessing of honour,
Blessing of happiness be upon you all,
Laics, clerics, while I command
The blessing of the man of heaven;
It is my bequest, as it is a Perpetual Blessing."

ST. PATRICK (389-461)

Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and a saint of the Roman Catholic Church. He was born at Bannavem which may have been in England near the Severn estuary or in Scotland near the modern city of Dumbarton.

The saint's British name is said to have been Sucat. Patrick is the English form of his Latin name, "Patricius".

Saint Patrick had a romantic life, full of adventures. He was captured by pirates from Ireland at the age of 16. They carried him back there and set him to tending the flock of Chieftain in Ulster. Six years of slavery made him a devoted Christian. He escaped to France, where he became a monk. In 432, a vision led him to return to Ireland as a missionary bishop. He worked zealously in various parts of the island for the rest of his life. His labors were so successful that he came to be known as one who "found Ireland all heathen and left it all Christian". Saint Patrick founded over 300 churches and baptized more than 120,000 persons.

Legends grew up about this popular saint. One of the best known is that he charmed the snakes of Ireland down to the seashore so that they were driven into the water and drowned. The snakes were a symbol of evil.

The shamrock is the national flower of Ireland (Eire). According to legend, Saint Patrick planted it in Ireland. He used the three-leaved plant to illustrate the Holy Trinity.

Saint Patrick's death on March 17 in about the year 461, has been observed in America since colonial days. His feast day, St. Patrick's Day, is observed on that date.

**Exerpts from, Die Iowa, a weekly German Catholic newspaper, translated by the Reverend J. K. Downing, of Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa.
January 1880 Iowa Travel Sketches.**

Next morning we visited countrymen living round about. There are 13 families, all Catholic and all newly arrived. Neola is the church they attend and it is cared for out of Council Bluffs. Their efforts are put on getting a German priest. That will be hard, considering their small number. But land is cheap and the market for grain and cattle is good (Council Bluffs takes all cattle for its packing plants)...about 20 families are to come from Germany in the spring to settle near Neola...a two-day stay in Neola and we moved on.

27 January 1881

J. H. Lubbers has been good enough to take the place of C. Vollmer who has moved and assumes the Agency of the Iowa in Neola, Iowa.

19 May 1881

In Neola a brick church is being built, says Father McMenomy. Last week the first list of pledges brought in \$1600.

10 August 1882

Rev. J. Kempker has been moved from Ft. Madison to Neola, Iowa, and Fr. Schumacher leaves Oscaloosa for St. Joseph's Church, Ft. Madison.

28 September 1882

Among the flourishing Catholic settlements of Western Iowa is Neola...for the past 4 weeks it is a parish with resident priest and services every Sunday...The church is to be blessed the 1st Sunday in October...More Catholics should come here...20 miles to the northeast of Council Bluffs on Mosquito Creek...If he sits on the steps of the new church a person would see about him the neatly painted homes of 600 inhabitants. Before him the beautiful valley of the Mosquito...houses, well fed cattle...Cars of 2 railroads in the distance...Never a poor harvest in the past 12 years since the settlement...anyone wanting to go west, come and look.

BELLS BUCKEYE BELL FOUNDRY VAN DUZEN & TIFT CINCINNATI

Smallest

26½" in diameter
350 Pounds
Date 1888

Dedication Heiliger Bonifatius
Gift of Mrs. C. Nuschy & Mrs. M. Schwenk

Middle

31½" in diameter
600 Pounds
Date 1888

Dedication St. Patrick
Gift of Mrs. M. Cronican Sr. & Mr. Patrick Cronican Jr.

Largest

39½" in diameter
1200 Pounds
Date 1886

Dedication Jesus Maria Joseph

We the undersigned agree and bind our
 selves to pay the sum attached to our
 names for the purpose of building
 Catholic Church in the Town of St.
 (Pottawatomie) County - Iowa.

Payment, to be made as herein stated
 viz. One half to be paid at the present
 time and one half to be paid when the
 building is inclosed. Payment, to be
 made to the Rev B. P. McManamy.

This 9th day of September 1871

Names	Amount
James Sullivan	\$25.00
Mrs. Barry	5.00
Wm. Flynn	20.00
Bernard J. Toller	25.00
Michael Monahan	30.00
James Flynn	30.00
Mathew Leman	10.00
Patrick Leonard	40.00
John O'Connell	25.00
Pat Buckley	10.00
John & Brinn	20.00
Thos. Langan	10.00
J. H. O.	10.00

CONTRACT FOR THE 1874 CHURCH

This agreement between James Flynn, Michael Minahane, Barney Toller and P. Leonard of the neighborhood of Neola of the first part and P. D. Mooman of Council Bluffs builder of the second part.

Wherefore, that the said party of the second part for the consideration of six hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$685.00) agrees with the said party of the first part to build a Catholic Church at Neola on the site intended for said Church and according to a sketch drawn by Mr. Wm. Ward in a good substantial and workmanlike manner to the full satisfaction of the said party of the first part, the work to be ready for plastering on or before the first day of July next. In consideration of the due performance of the above work and the finding of all manner of material to be used in the construction of said building at the expense of the said party of the first part, the said party of the second part agree to pay to the said party of the first part the sum of six hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$685.00) as follows viz the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) when all lumber, shingles, hardware, door and windows, etc., will be delivered upon said site at Neola, two hundred dollars (200.00) when the work is completed in the manner above stated and according to said sketch and one hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$185.00) more which is the remainder in full on or before the first day of November next. It is further agreed that this contract shall not be sublet, transferred or assigned without the consent of both parties, and that the key and lawful possession of said building be handed over by the party of the first part to the party of the second part on or before the first day of July next free from all manner of lien or incommbrance whatever. For the faithful performance of the above contract witness our hands this twenty fifth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, (1874).

P. J. Mooman
James Flynn
B. Toller
T. Leonard
Michael Minahane

We the undersigned agree and bind ourselves to pay the sum attached to our names for the purpose of building a Catholic Church in the town of Neola, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. The payments to be made, as herein stated viz. One half to be paid at the present time, and one half when the building is enclosed. Payments to be made to the Rev. B. P. McMenomy. This 9th day of September 1873.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE NEOLA CATHOLIC CHURCH

1873 - 1874

James O'Sullivan	Thomas McCabe
Thos. Barry	Patrick Gorman
Dan Flynn	Patrick Radigan
Bernard Toller	Patrick Burke
Michael Monahan	Michael Walsh
Michael Minahane	Patrick Feely
James Flynn	Michael Stapleton
Matthew Lannan	William Farrell
Patrick Leonard	Jose McEllis
John Barry	J. E. Klinefetter
Patk. Buckley	H. Mendel
John O'Brien	John McGrew
Thos. Lannan	Dr. E. Barton
T. Foley	Hans Cool
Michael Keleher	Morrissey
John Foley	Geo. N. Remington
Owen Marten	Patrick Riely
Pat Foley	Harmon Belter
Thos. Boucher	John Beno
W. H. Butler	George Babbington
Martin Hughes	Mrs. Remy
Wm. Foley for old church	Joseph Farrell
James Sullivan	T. Foley
Matt Laning	J. M. Phelps
Thomas Laning	Patrick Monaghan
F. Foley	Mr. Kenny
M. J. Moran	E. Burns
Patrick Monahan	G. W. Nason
C. W. Remington	Henry Toller
From Railroad - Chicago R. I.	Michael Gorman
David Jones	W. Duncan
Rudolph Tholan	Connors & Sullivan
J. and O. Wickham	Mr. MacManus
Miller & Co.	Wm. O'Neil
Metcalf Bros.	Wm. McDermott
J. and P. Casidy	Wm. M. Toller
D. B. Daily	Galagher and Lee
Colonel Dayly	Father McManomy
J. M. Phillip	Mr. Quinn (Pedler)
J. Jackuman	Dr. Barton
Austin Darrough	Tom Lewis
Jeremiah Sullivan	Frank McManus
Janes Fenlon	Colonel Cochman
John Doheney	John Murphy
Ptk. Murphy	Mr. Wolfe
E. Dowling	Michael Feely
E. Cochran	Christmas 1876
James Freney	



I H S
LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS
FOR THE NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN NEOLA, IOWA

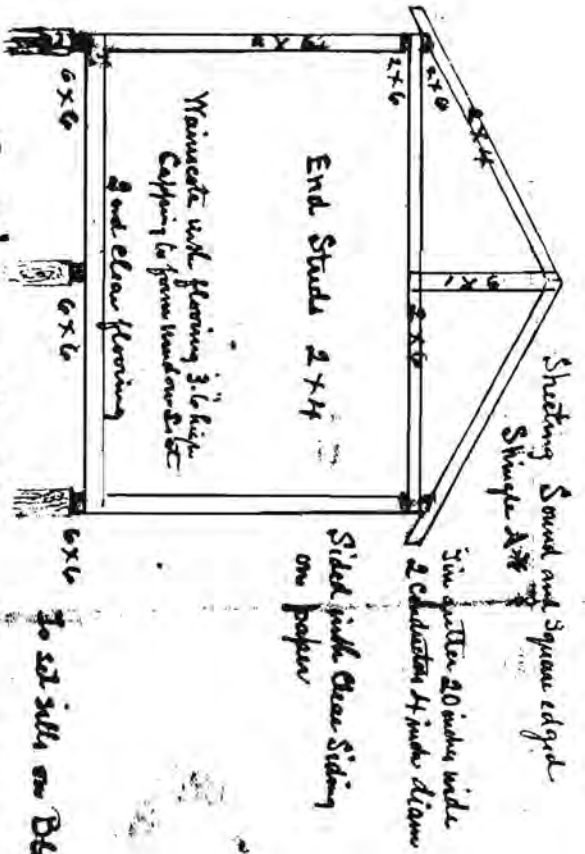
Albrecht, W.	Gannon, Ellen	McDermot, Th.	Remmes, B. U.
Anglum, W.	Gannon, Eliza.	Minahan, Mich.	Remmes, Min.
Barry, Mrs. Jr.	Goodwater, A.	Minahan, Dennis	Remmes, Jno.
Barry, Mrs. Sr.	Gorman, Mich.	Menke, Georg.	Rogers, Mr.
Baglay, M.	Gorman, Den.	McCabe, Bros.	Rattigan, Mr.
Becker, H.	Green, Th.	McSweeney, Jas.	Saunders, Mr.
Benedikt, B.	Gayman, J.	McManus, Fk.	Rev. Schiffmacher
Bentlage, H.	Groever, H.	McManus, Johny	Stapelton, M.
Bowen, Jas. Sr.	Graever, J.	McManus, Joe.	Sweeney, Dan.
Bowen, Mich.	Grote, Mr.	McDonald, Paul	Seahill, Mol.
Bowen, Patrick	Guinar, Th.	McDonald, Jno.	Stuart, Eva
Brich, Casp.	Hagerty, Js.	Martin, Owen	Stuart, Mrs.
Brown, Mrs.	Hagerty, Sr.	Morrissey, Jno.	Schnitker, F.
Brown, George	Hagerty, Mich.	Morgan, Jas.	Seidler, A.
Brennan, J.	Hemman, Her.	Murphy, George	Schierbrock, W.
Brennan, P.	Healey, Ed	Neville, Henry	Schierbrock, H.
Butte, H.	Healey, Ellen	Nuschy, Mrs.	Schwenk, S.
Brummer, H.	Healey, Mary	Nuschy, Joe	Steffens, J. H.
Brummer, F.	Hayes, Mrs.	Nuschy, Katie	Steffen, H.
Brükenhemke, B.	Hannifin, Corn.	Nuschy, Annie	Stroot, Bd.
Brunner, S. A.	Hempshon, St.	Newcomb, Pk.	Soppe, H.
Buckley, Pk.	Hoffman, Joe	Nesurini, C.	Schwartz, H.
Burns, Jas.	Holtzförster, Bd.	O'Connell, Dan	Tracy, Jas. Sr.
Cotter, Mrs.	Holtzförster, H.	O'Halloran	Tracy, John
Cotter, Jose	Holtzförster, J.	Oliver, Rachel	Trost, Otto
Cotter, Mary	Hartman, Jas.	Ostdiek, Ger.	Vengohan, Mrs.
Collins, J.	Hartman, Pauly	Ostdiek, Jno.	Van Hebel, H.
Collins, R.	Jacoby, Joe	Organ, J. P.	Vanausdeln, Js.
Cavanaugh, W.	Johnson, L. B.	Otto, Henry	Vanausdeln, Mr.
Conboy, J.	Kenealy, Jerm.	Plage, Lamb.	Walsh, Laurence
Carroll, Rodger	Kenealy, Th.	Powers, Mrs.	Walsh, Francis
Connor, J. Sr.	Kennedy, Pk.	Pogge, Henry	Walsh, Katie
Cronican, Mrs.	Kenny, Luke	Pogge, Herm.	Walsh, Jr. near O'Halloran's
Cronican, Pk.	Kupper, P.	Riordan, Dan	Winneka, Theon.
Donovan, Tim	Kupper, H.	Riordan, H.	Wellman, H.
Dewey, Pk.	Kupper, Theresa	Ryan, Pk. Sr.	Witt, Mr. Fred.
Dixon, John	Linn, M. E.	Ryan, Math.	Wolf, Mrs.
Doyle, Dan		Ryan, Thom. E.	Wolf, Mary
Doyle, Minnie	Langin, Jas.	Ryan, Pk. Jr.	Yungferman, B.
Doyle, Mick.	Langin, John		
Doyle, Pk.	Lustgroef, Jno.		
Dunn, Edw.	Lewis, Thom.		
Daley, Ed	Lynch, Mrs. Pk.		
Dermody, Mr.	Lynch, Mick		
Dermody, Mick	Lafferty, Jno. & Sons		
Driscoll, Mary	Lafferty, W.		
Driscoll, W.	Lafferty, Eunie		
Driscoll, Tim	Leonard, Jas.		
Eckerich, Georg.	Leonard, Mary		
Eckerich, Fk.	Leonard, Mag.		
Evers, Henry	Lowery, Doctor		
Finnerty, Jas.	Loobey, Jas. Sr.		
Farrell, Peter	Loobey, Jas. Jr.		
Fitzpatrick, C.	Loobey, Jno.		
Fenlon, Jas.	Lynch, Corn.		
Fischer, A & F	Lorentz		
Flynn, Jas.	Mathews, Mich.		
Flynn, Julia	Mathews, Mary		
Flynn, Kate	Misle, Mrs.		
Flynn, D. Sr & Joe	Minturn, Ben.		
Finney, Jas.	McCarthy, Jno.		
Floeschinger F.	McCarthy, Mich.		

Cornerstone laid on the 25th of July, 1888
Rev. M. T. Schiffmacher, Pastor

NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE
GIVEN
THE 14 LARGE WINDOWS

1. Mrs. Cronican Sr.
2. **Mr. & Mrs. James Flynn**
3. **The children of Mr. Jas. Flynn**
4. Mr. S. Schwenk
5. Mr. W. O'Halloran
6. Mr. Jas. Tracy
7. Mr. Fitzpatrick
8. Messers McCabe
9. Mr. Jas. Morgan
10. Mr. B. Stroot
11. Mr. H. Becker
12. The Minahan Children
13. Mr. Jas. Fenlon
14. **Mr. Dan Doyle**

Neola Catholic Church.



Scale $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to a foot

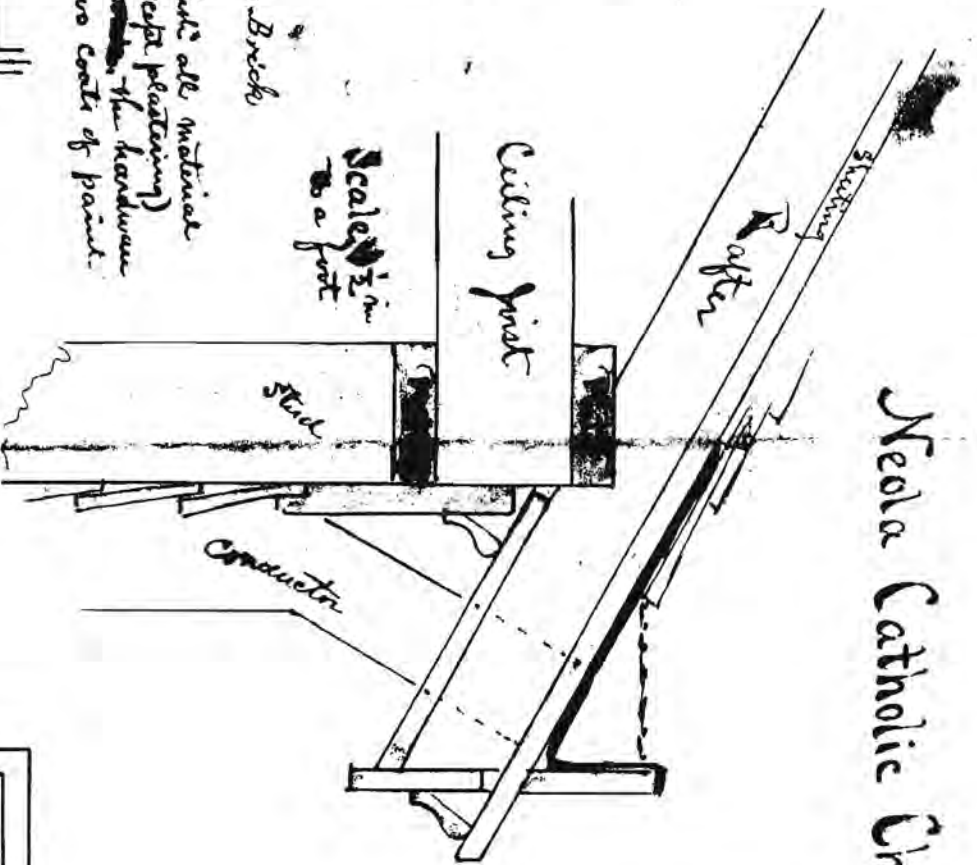
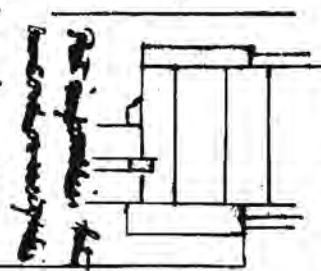


Side with clear siding on paper
2 in. gutter 20 inches wide
2 channels 4 inch diam

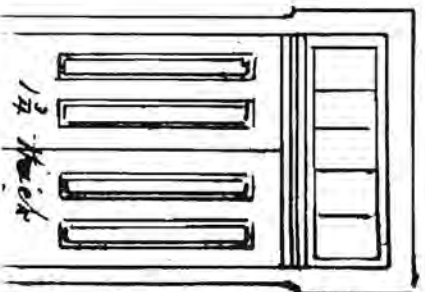
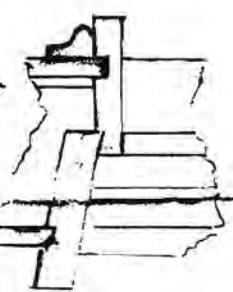
To set sills on Dressed Brick
The contractor to provide all material and do all the work (except plastering) he must include the cost of the hardware and give the work two coats of paint.

8 Cypres 14x20

To let in eight braces at corners 1x6 inches plank with four studs



Scale $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to a foot



5 in gutter 20 in high wide
2 conductors 4 in dia

End Studs 2x4

Mainwate with flooring 3 1/2 in
Capping 1/2 in from window 2 in

2 in clear flooring

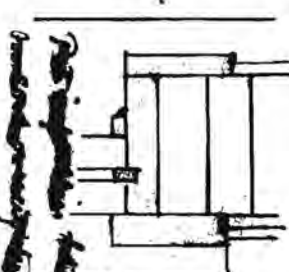
Scale 1/8 of an inch to a foot

Sides with Clear Siding
on paper

To set sills on ~~Block~~ Bricks

The contractor to furnish all material
and do all the work (except plastering)
he must include the ~~cost~~ the hardware
and give the work two coats of paint

2 in x 2 in



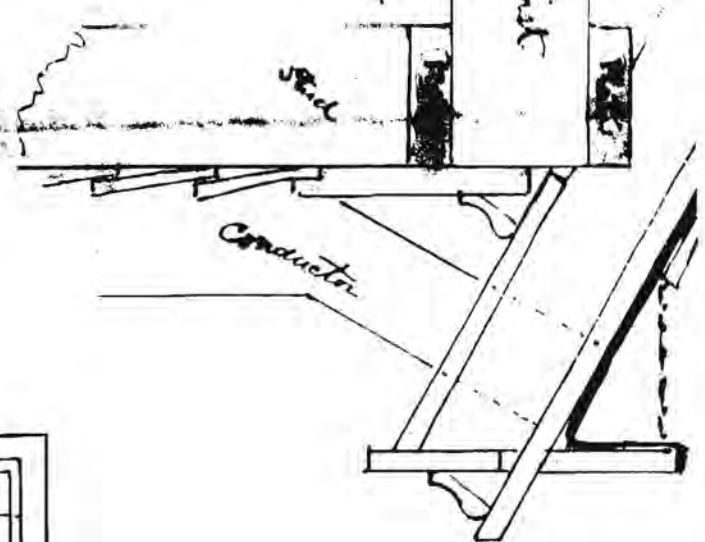
Set in by the braces at corner
1 1/2 in clear flange with four studs

Heavy nails to be used

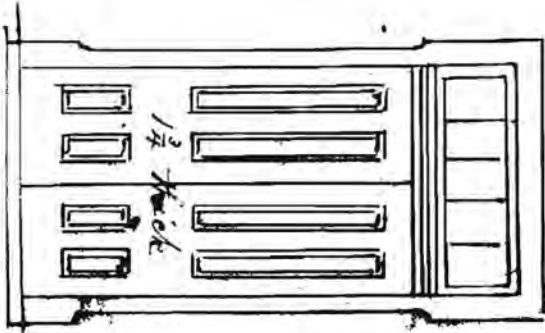
Joint

Ceiling joint

Scale 1/2 in
to a foot

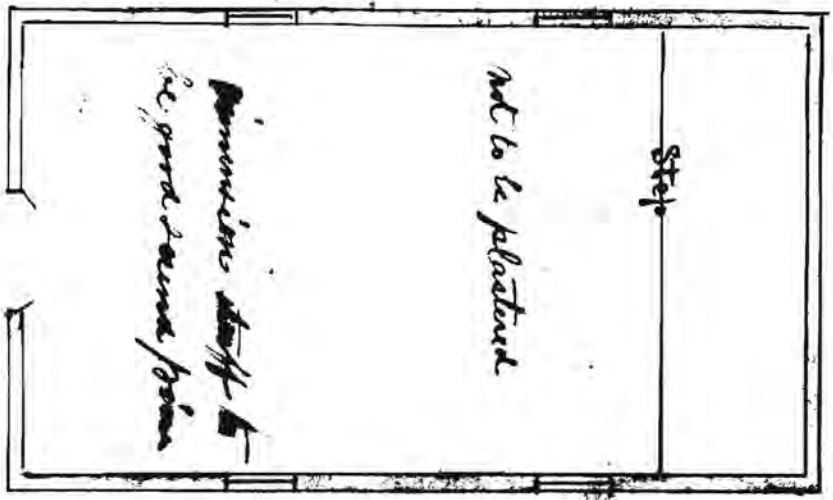


Conductor



Front Door

Scale 1/4 to a foot



Step

not to be plastered

Dimensions shown to
be good & same from

THE TOWER WINDOWS

1. Mrs. C. Nuschy
2. The Lafferty Children

THE VESTRY WINDOWS

1. Mr. H. Buter
2. Mr. Ed Dunn
3. Mr. Ed Daley
4. Mr. Pk. Kennedy

GOD REWARD THE GIVERS
IN THIS WORLD AND IN THE NEXT
GIVE THEM LIFE EVERLASTING.
AMEN

ACTUAL NAMES ON CHURCH WINDOWS

Sacristy

1. Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Kennedy
2. Mr. & Mrs. H. Buter
3. MR. & Mrs. Ed Dunn
4. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Daley

SANCTUARY

1. Rosary Society
2. In memory of Patk. and Mary Doyle and Jeremiah and Catherine Mahegin

CHURCH

1. Mr. and Mrs. James Morgan
2. Mr. and Mrs. H. Becker
3. Mr. and Mrs. C. Fitzpatrick
4. Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Tracy
5. In memory of Ann McCabe
6. In memory of Pk. and Catherine Buckley
7. Mr. and Mrs. B. Stroot
8. Mr. and Mrs. S. Schwenk
9. Mr. and Mrs. Pk. Cronican Sr.
10. In memory of Jas. McSweeney

VESTRY

1. In memory of Julia Nuschy
2. In memory of Ann Lafferty

WINDOWS OVER DOORS

In memory of Jeremiah and Mary Ellen Minahan by Michael and Dennis Minahan (information supplied by Ann Minahan)
Mr. and Mrs. James Flynn (information supplied by Margaret O'Connor and Cecelia Doyle)

The original records of Father Schiffmacher are kept in the vault at the Neola bank. Reviewing the records we made the following breakdown of expenses:

1886-1899

Building material	\$ 5,690.19
Labor	10,707.04
School	1,340.56
Miscellaneous	26,470.74
Household	<u>1,087.56</u>
Total	\$45,296.09

Included in miscellaneous was \$14,511.49 paid to "Schnell". We came to the conclusion that this must have been borrowed by Father Schiffmacher from a missionary society in Germany. Small payments were paid to Schnell beginning July 7, 1888 through January 1889 and then a payment ever year for interest and capital until the last payment dated December 6, 1898 for \$1,150.00 marked "Schnell in full".

Other items of interest were:

July 21, 1886 bell, freight and rope \$242.26
December 24, 1886 Chalice \$33.00
May 7, 1888 five lots for church \$1,900.00
July 31, 1888 Rogan Bros. Tabernacle \$134.30
January, 1889 bells \$249.86
January, 1889 stations \$57.00
March 25, 1891 pulpit \$25.00
November 27, 1897 new organ and freight \$66.65
1886 - 1890 paid for statues \$829.00 (one of these is our recently restored St. Isadore. The original cost being \$94.18).
September 8, 1888 teams for hauling 99,000 bricks \$77.75

The first school expense listed was 8-22-1891 for "School dispatch to Otumwa, Iowa". The cost was \$.46.
The copy is a page from Father Shiffmacher's records. Note the expenses allotted to laying the cornerstone, August 1888.

EXPENSES OF LAYING THE CORNERSTONE

July 25, 1888

Muslin for tent	\$5.00
Fruit	1.75
Meat and ice	6.20
Cigars--Morgans	3.75
Cigars--Ryans	2.75
Pies and cakes--Ryans	1.50
Breads	1.00
Lemons and sundries	2.40
Silk ribbons and express	27.75
Medals of J. of H. and B. V.	5.00
Laborers	3.75
Music band and dinner	<u>42.50</u>

Total \$103.35

Father Schiffmacher's Payment Book

		\$	¢
Aug 1888	Carried	99	5675
	oil can for bed ticking	5	90
	Youngman hauling meat box	3	3
	muslin for tent	5	
	fruit	1	75
	meat & ice	6	20
	cigars Morgans	3	75
	cigars Pygans	2	75
	pier cake Pygans	1	50
	bread	1	
	lessons & sundries	2	40
	pink ribbon & express	2	775
	models of g. of H. & B. V.	5	
	laborers	3	75
	music band & dinner	4	250
	freight on rock & h'ware	2	133
Aug 31	Meisner & Dillan bill	1	2593
Sept 2	Freight bills Rock & h'	4	4413
	Freight hearts	2	15
	iron linings for house stove		
	& express for same	6	15
	Harvey & Beard bill	1	495
	Team for 99 Thomas birds	7	775
	Rose holy day & eggs	2	8
	arklens, water tables, ch. don	1	5177
Sept	dragage Hegerly for	6	
	G. Reichert	5	698
26	Rose mason	1	7977
Oct 4	C. R. I. R. R. freight	2	0250
13	Jas Hartman haw brick	7	20
	trimming & repairs roof	3	85
	freight & Express plates	3	366
	bought sand	2	5
	brick work on cellar windows	2	
	screens & box	1	25
	Laborer	1	65
	Total	51	146759

		\$	¢
1888	Carried	11	46759
	W. Schierbrock	7	
13	Insurance of new church	1	8012
	B. Youngman hawl	1	0
	oil stove & oven	2	4
	John Gayman team	8	70
	cigars for Kaustler & sons	1	70
	freight C. R. I.	1	712
	freight C. P. S. P.	1	395
	freight Capt. Jack	1	06
	Kuper work	1	5
	Kuper work	9	15
	Schnell	3	000
	repairs to roof	1	35
14	freight C. M. I. P. express	1	02
	freight C. R. I. express	6	344
	carpet & matting	1	0909
	carpet	1	422
	Schnell (angel)	2	5
	stove ventilators	4	90
	Youngman team	2	
	Kuper labor	3	1
	Petman's bill	7	220
	1889		
	H. Schierbrock	2	205
	Bixby	7	155
	D. W. Harvey paint	1	0530
	Morgans bill	2	395
	Nashbaum bill	2	25
	W. Schierbrock's bill	3	6
	Express Omaha Carpet	6	90
	R.obbins. Bros	2	800
	P. H. Winder turner	7	22
	Bishop's Cathedral	7	5
	3 other stones	1	0
	St. Luke's church	7	1
	Total	\$ 71	46759

Church Expense for
1903.

To		
Jan 2	Pitman's repair of furnace	80
" 9	R. B. Henderson wages for Jan	35.00
" 27	John Chapman & beds & coats	10.00
Feb 2	Bees & Schell Co. ton coal	6.10
" 28	R. B. Henderson wages for Feb	35.00
" 28	Tom Ruttler & dry beans	1.50
March 2	E. L. Cooper coal (Basalle)	6.75
" 21	R. B. Henderson wages for March	35.00
Apr 2	J. F. Phillips & 1 Pascal candle stick	
	Triple candle stick set for 12 ¹² or 11 ¹¹ lbs. ¹¹ lbs. ¹¹ lbs. ¹¹ lbs.	36.20
" 2	Freight & dry on above & goods	70
" 22	R. B. Henderson wages for Apr	35.00
" 27	Repairs for sacristies	1.25
May 30	R. B. Henderson wages for May	35.00
June 10	R. B. Henderson wages for June	35.00
" 11	H. H. Rogge water & light for 6 months	37.80
" 13	R. B. Henderson wages for July	35.00
Aug 31	R. B. Henderson wages for August	35.00
Sept 1	State insurance Co. Note ¹⁰⁰ ¹⁰⁰	52.00
" 3	Philips & Co. aspersarium	3.50
" 29	R. B. Henderson wages for Sept	35.00
" 30	E. L. Cooper & bed sheets	3.00
" 30	Wm. McInnis & Plow case & stoves	2.40
Oct 7	E. L. Cooper 1 wool blanket	6.50
" 15	Burns Bros. repairing furnace & pipe	17.00
" 20	M. Corbett for ch. table & L. 1 & Oct 1	12.65
" 31	R. B. Henderson wages for Oct	35.00
Nov. 18	E. G. Elder, partition in sacristies	4.50
" 28	F. W. Bixler cleaning ch. chimneys	3.00
" 30	R. B. Henderson wages for Nov.	35.00
Dec 5	Burns Bros. repairing furnace	22.75
" 28	R. B. Henderson wages for Dec	35.00
		<u>648.20</u>
		648.20

Church Expense of
1904.

[illegible]

FOREWORD

This booklet is intended as a little souvenir of the Golden Jubilee of St. Patrick's Parish of Neola, Iowa. In it we have tried to give an authentic account of the history of the Parish from very early years.

We were forced to rely on outside sources of information for our material. Consequently errors may have crept in, for which we ask your indulgence.

That this booklet may recall the church achievements and may inspire us with Faith, Hope and Courage is the wish of:

THE COMMITTEE

P. A. Flavin, *Assistant Pastor*
Herman Hansen

James Doyle

Mrs. Herman Von Hebel
Mrs. Donald Burns
Frances Minahan



Rev. B. P. McMenemy

Rev. B. P. McMenemy came to Council Bluffs in the fall of 1869 as Pastor of St. Francis Xavier's Church. At that time this Parish took in a large territory. It included Glenwood, Pacific Junction, Plumer Settlement, in Mills County, and Neola and Honey Creek in Pottawattamie County, and Shelby in Shelby County. He attended to the spiritual needs of the scattered Catholics in these territories for many years, going through many hardships to do so. The Catholics of Neola are indebted to him not only for the wonderful service which he rendered to them, but for their first church, built under his supervision. He was a very zealous priest and a very capable, hard-working man, hence he was well-fitted for the Pastorate of such a large Parish.

Resume of the Early Events of St. Patrick's Church and Parish

In the early years of the Nineteenth Century, long before the white man saw the rich lands of the "Great American Desert," these gentle slopes, green hills and groves of timber were peopled by another race. Here the Indians roamed in all their savage glory for years and decades, aye, for centuries, perhaps, undisturbed save by the rival tribes of his own race. Here he hunted the buffalo and chased the

deer and howled behind his fleeing enemy. But the time came when all this was changed. The white man learning about this rich and fertile country began to settle here. As a consequence, the Indians followed after the retreating herds of buffalo. Then were the foundations laid for the future greatness of a prosperous country by the hardy pioneers amid exposure and privation. The farmer, the mechanic, the merchant and the professional man were soon represented by the most enterprising and energetic of their calling.

In those days, as in every age and every clime, religion marched along with civilization. Without Christianizing influence it is doubtful if the progress of civilization would have been so rapid, or could have been maintained. Thus you have Catholic Missionaries, Fathers DeSmith and Ver-ight establishing a Catholic Mission in Council Bluffs as early as the year 1839. They labored among the Indians. Then, toward the middle of the 19th Century, when Council Bluffs was no longer owned by the Indians, the white men came here in large numbers. Many of these were Catholics, so much so that a parish was organized by Father B. P. McMenemy to look after their spiritual needs, so that in the month of November, 1869, St. Francis Xavier's Catholic Church of Council Bluffs, Iowa, came into existence. Prior to the year 1869 people of the Catholic faith began to settle and establish themselves about twenty miles east of Council Bluffs, at and around the vicinity now known as Neola, Iowa. As early as 1856 the John O'Brien family located three miles west of what is now known as the town of Neola, Iowa. They were soon followed by people leaving the rich and fertile soil of their homeland in Germany and Ireland, and from other foreign countries, who located and established their homes in and around the vicinity of what was later to become known as the town of Neola, Iowa.

In the year 1869 or 1870, James and Edward Burns and Thomas Lanning moved westward from LaSalle, Illinois, and settled in the vicinity of Neola. In the year 1869 the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad was built, and in the building of the railroad a number of Catholic people came to Neola and established homes in that vicinity and remained there permanently thereafter.

It seems almost inconceivable to the present generation the tremendous hardship and suffering the early settlers endured in and around what later became the town of Neola, particularly those who belonged to the Catholic faith and practiced their religion. Prior to the year 1876 vast prairie lands still existed in this vicinity, having never been tilled and it was to this land the early settlers came, purchased, built their homes and reared their families. Climatic conditions in those days were much more unsettled and severe than at the present time. Many families lived throughout severe winters in unplastered houses until sufficient money was accumulated to complete their homes. The winters were so severe and the snow so deep and crusted over that journeys were made to attend Mass, by families, in lumber wagons for miles straight across the country, the fences being buried under top-crusted snow. Those early settlers rarely missed Mass, in spite of long distances, cold, storms and other handicaps, and they not only made those journeys and endured those hardships themselves, but they brought their children with them. It might be said, and it is truly so, that those early settlers, through their privations, sufferings, hardships, abiding faith and love for their religion laid the solid foundation for the Catholic spirit that still exists and will exist in and around the vicinity of Neola.

Since the day of the early settlers, times, scenes, climatic conditions, living conditions and means of transportation have vastly changed. It is no longer a difficult task to practice one's religion. There are no sufferings to undergo comparable to those of the early people. Journeys that in the early days took hours now take minutes. Where formerly such journeys were made in stormy and bitter cold weather, and through sufferings from cold and privations now are made in comfort and with luxury. Such a change in affairs and conditions seems almost unbelievable. Some of the early settlers still remain, and their proof of such cannot be denied.

From information received from one of the early Catholics the first Mass was said in Mrs. Barry's home. The other Catholic families would come to that home to attend Mass.

In the early 70's there was a gradual increase of Catholics into Neola. There were about 20 Catholic families. They saw the need of a church of their own, so a small frame Catholic church was erected in the year 1874, under the supervision of Father McMenomy, pastor at Council Bluffs. This church was erected on the property now owned and occupied by the Henry Schierbock family. The church was used as a Mission and the pastor from Council Bluffs served as pastor of the church at Neola for a period of three or four years, but owing to the continuous influx of Catholics in and around the vicinity of Neola, a larger frame church was built under the supervision of Father Kempker about the year 1878. Shortly thereafter a two-room addition was built to the latter church for residence purposes for Father Kempker, which church was erected on the site of the block where the Catholic church property is at this time located. Father Kempker continued to serve the Catholic parishioners at Neola zealously until the month of May, 1883, doing much for the welfare of this pioneer parish. The parish was served from the month of May, 1883, to the month of October, 1883, by Father McMenomy of Council Bluffs and his assistants, Fathers Twomey and Tierney.



FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN NEOLA, IOWA

In October, 1883, Father J. J. Moran came to Neola and continued the work of Father Kempker, and during his charge from the year 1883 to the year 1885 a rectory was built, which is now occupied by the Sisters. Father J. J. Moran labored among the pioneers of Neola for two years. On November 20, 1885, he became pastor of the Catholic church at Portsmouth, Iowa. He was succeeded by Father Hunt, who remained as pastor in charge of the Neola parish from November, 1885, to May 30th, 1886, he being succeeded at that time by Father M. F. Schiffmacher on June 1st, 1886. He was an untiring zealous worker, in all things looking to the advancement of the community.



Rev. J. J. Moran

Rev. J. J. Moran was Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish from October, 1883, to November, 1885. During these two years he accomplished much. He enlarged the church by giving up his living quarters, which were part of the church. He also bought the property and raised the money to build himself a home, which is now occupied by the Sisters. He went from here to Portsmouth, Iowa, and thence to Granger, Iowa. He died a few years ago in Des Moines, Iowa.

At this time the parish of Neola had grown into large numbers. The church was entirely too small for the congregation, so consequently on February 23, 1888, Father Schiffmacher acquired the property to build a new and larger church--the church which today is the pride of the parish. It is a brick church with a seating capacity of about 600. Towering over it is a high steeple which can be seen for miles. It is one of the largest country churches in the Diocese of Des Moines. It is a monument to the memory of Father Schiffmacher.

Two things were necessary in a parish as large as Neola at this time, namely, a large church and a parochial school. The future of a parish depends upon the proper training of its children under religious teachers. Father Schiffmacher, knowing this fact, converted the old church into a Parochial school, consisting of three classrooms, and engaged the Sisters of Humility of Ottumwa, Iowa, to direct it.

It was necessary for Father Schiffmacher to procure a home for the Sisters. He, therefore, decided to give his house to the Sisters and purchase another house for himself. It happened that a small house owned by Dr. Todd stood on the corner north of the church and was for sale. He bought this house and used it as a rectory for himself. The buying of this house and lot was the completion of the property now owned by St. Patrick's parish. This property, one of the most beautiful and spacious in the Diocese, covers a

whole square block. Three Sisters, Mary Teresa, Anthony and Bernadine, came and the school was opened on September 8th, 1891. The first enrollment was 70 pupils. These pupils came a distance of four or five miles, so eager were they to attend a Catholic school, and not in automobiles, as they do today, and with no primary roads or dragged roads. Their parents, anxious to have their children under the guidance of the religious, watched with pride the children enter the church and from there to the school for the first time. There were only three Sisters in charge this first year, but as each year passed and the number of children increased so rapidly, the addition of another Sister was necessary. In spite of the trying conditions under which the school labored, it continued to increase--hence we see recorded in the Catholic Directory of 1898 an enrollment of 150 pupils, and this was only for eight grades. As time went on and pupils graduated year by year from the Grade School, the necessity of a High School became apparent. These pupils wanted a Parochial High School where they could finish their studies with the Sisters. It was in 1900 that it was decided to divide one of the larger school rooms, and for the present offer the first two grades of High School. In 1903 the eleventh and twelfth grades were added. Thus a four-year High School was established. It was a great day among the people of Neola parish when St. Joseph's School graduated its first High School class on June 14th, 1904--two boys and six girls.

Rev. M. T. Schiffmacher

Rev. M. T. Schiffmacher was born, educated and ordained to the Priesthood in Alsace-Lorraine, France. He came to America soon after his ordination and became affiliated with the Dubuque Diocese. He worked in various fields for short periods of time. On June 6, 1886, he became the beloved Pastor of Neola. He was an exemplary priest who directed the parish with wonderful skill and untiring zeal, in spiritual, as well as temporal concerns, in all things looking to the advancement of the church. The present church is a monument to his memory, for it was built due to his labors and under his supervision. He also established the first Parochial school in Neola, which opened September 8, 1891, and purchased the balance of the lots which St. Patrick's Parish now own. He also drew up the plans for the new school, but before they were complete he was called to his eternal reward on January 24, 1901.



REV. A. J. DREXLER

Rev. A. J. Drexler

Rev. A. J. Drexler was born in Dyersville, Iowa, in 1860. After his ordination to the Priesthood he served as Pastor at Riverside, Iowa, Portsmouth, Iowa, and in 1901 he came to Neola. He continued the good work begun by his predecessors, laboring zealously and faithfully for a quarter of a century. It was due to his efforts that the present Rectory and school were built. He resigned as Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish on March 19th, 1926.



St. Joseph's School, Neola, Iowa

As the High School continued to grow, it was decided that a new building must be erected. Father Schiffmacher presented the matter to his people and they responded very generously and willingly. However, before the plans of the new school were complete, Father Schiffmacher, who led the parish through many hardships for fifteen years, was called to his eternal home on January 24, 1901. He was succeeded by Father Drexler who served the people of Neola parish faithfully and zealously for twenty-five years. The coming of a new and strange priest delayed the building of the new school for a few years. In 1905 he built the present



St. Patrick's Rectory

Rectory. The Father Drexler, too, saw the inadequacy of the little frame building, so he completed the plans of his predecessor and supervised the building of the present St. Joseph's School in 1906. It is a two-story brick building with four rooms downstairs for the grades, two

classrooms and a large assembly room upstairs for the High School, and on the top floor is an auditorium, which at present is used as a basketball auditorium for High School girls. The school was dedicated on November 24th, 1906. Fifty-two graduates of St. Joseph's School served in the World's War. The school was added to the list of affiliated schools (or accredited) due to the generosity of C. D. of A., who contributed the required expense of about \$2,000.00. December 18, 1921. Father Drexler resigned as Pastor of St. Patrick's Church on March 19th, 1926. He was succeeded by Father Kleffman who has been and is very active in carrying out his duties as Pastor of Neola Parish.

In keeping with the times and progress of the present day it became necessary to make certain alterations and repairs on the property of the church and school site. The church was re-decorated throughout, a new heating system installed, and the frescoing and beautification of the church has made it one of the most beautiful churches of the Des Moines Diocese. The grounds have been landscaped and beautified around the church proper, the Sisters' home, the school site, and the parish residence. A new garage has taken the place of the old building formerly used as a barn. A new sewer system was installed in the school, parish and Sisters' house, all of which repairs, decorations and beautifications have taken place since the regime of Father Kleffman.



Rev. P. A. Flavin

Rev. P. A. Flavin was born in Clashmore County, Waterford, Ireland, on June 25, 1900. He received his early education in the national school there, and in Mt. Melleray in County Waterford, Ireland. In 1919 he entered St. John's Seminary, Waterford, Ireland, and was ordained to the Priesthood June 20, 1926. Four months later he came to Des Moines, Iowa. He served at St. Francis Xavier's Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa, St. Anthony's Church in Des Moines, Iowa, St. Joseph's Academy in Ottumwa, Iowa, and the Visitation Church in Des Moines. At present he is Assistant at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa.

Rev. W. J. Kleffman

Rev. W. J. Kleffman was born in Omaha, January 28, 1893. He received his early education in St. Joseph's School, there, and Westphalia, Iowa. His high school and college work was done in Campian Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin, and St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. In 1915 he entered St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland, and was ordained to the Priesthood December 21, 1920. His first five years were spent teaching at Des Moines Catholic College. He was then appointed Pastor at Westphalia for nine months. In June, 1926, he was appointed Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish at Neola, Iowa, and is still the Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish at Neola.

The following are the names of many of the early settlers:

1856-1888

John O'Brien, James Flynn and family, Dan Flynn and family, Mike Killiher, Pat Reilly, Tom Lanning, James and Edward Burns, Pat Buckley, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neville, M. Feeley, Dennis and Mike Minahan, Mrs. Nusche and Mike Corbett, Pat Monaghan, Pat Ratigan, D. J. Farrell, Mrs. Barry and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kaspar Brick and family, Mr. Bittner, Barney Toller, Hesling family, Volmer family, Mrs. Luebers, Swartz family, Holfaster family, Mohats family, Tamasies, Zahnoors, Nasons, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fischer and family, Henry Schierbrock, Will Schierbrock, Barney Jungferman, John Tracy, Mike Gorman, William Cavanaugh, Pat Newcomb, Martin Dermody, Con Lynch, Hugh McCabe, Owen Martin, Frank McManus, Mry delanty, Pat Leonard, John Killion, Samuel Gayman and family, John Casey, Patrick McEvoy, Ryan family, Thomas Leonard and family, O'Connor family, Whalens, O'Sullivan, Messicks, McGuinness family, Wolffs, Michael and James Finerty and families, Pat Kildare and family, Mr. and Mrs. I. V. Van Ausdlin, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wellman, Mr. and Mrs. H. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Strout, John Keuter, John Freschoff, Mrs. Mary Fenerbach, Mr. Henry Klene, Mrs. Henry Grote, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Soppe, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hermesen, Doyle families, Con Fitzpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. H. Buter and family, Mr. J. B. Jacoby, Mr. and Mrs. John Ostdeick, Paul McDonald, John P. Organ, McWilliams family, Joe Masker, Bruggenhempkes, Brueggemans, Goodwater family, Hickey family, Remises family, Brommers, Stapletons, Fenlons, Finneys, Driscolls, Oltmans, Matthew Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sweeney and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Lafferty and family, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Shea, J. J. Shea, Thomas Green, Tim Donovan, Luke Kenny, John O'Connor, Frank Eckrich, M. A. Hegarty, James McSweeney, Henry and Theodore Winneke, Mary, Tim and Pat Foley, Floyd Floeschinger, J. L. Langin, John Collins, Pat Conican, Pat Kennedy and family, J. McCarthy, James Morgan, Mr. Riordan, Mrs. Stewart, Ed Cotter, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kupper, Herman and Henry Kupper, H. Steffens, Herman Von Hebel, Bernard Von Hebel, Mr. and Mrs. B. Holtzfaster, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Klein, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bentlage, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Benedict.

St. Patrick's Parish has been blessed not only materially, but spiritually. During the fifty years of its institution the official books record 1,920 Baptisms and 382 marriages. Of those Baptised in St. Patrick's Church there are four Priests, one Brother, and seventeen Sisters. All of these have devoted their lives to the service of God, and some are now working in various fields throughout the country.

The following is a list of the Priests and Sisters whose vocations were developed here in St. Patrick's Parish:

Priests:

Rev. Francis Ostdeick, now Pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Des Moines, Iowa; Rev. James Hannan, S. J., now teaching in Campian College, Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin; Rev. Cletus Portel, now Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Dunlap, Iowa; Rev. Thomas Costin, now Professor at Des Moines Catholic College, Des Moines, Iowa; Brother Philip Lafferty, who joined the Holy Ghost Order, and is now deceased.

Sisters:

Bridget Doyle, Sister Mary Loretta; Julia Flynn, Sister Mary Ursula; Mary Lafferty, Sister Mary Xavier; Eunice Lafferty, Sister Mary Agatha; Ellen McLaughlin, Sister Mary Leo; Amelia Holtzfaster, Sister Mary Barbara; Sarah Hannan, Sister Mary Agnes; Ellen Minahan, Sister Mary Marcelline; Hazel Miller, Sister Mary Daniel; Teresa Hannan, Sister Mary Aloysins; Margaret Tracy, Sister Mary Monica; Ursula Finney, Sister Mary Humilita; Elizabeth Wilmes, Sister Mary Magdaline; Anna Brich, Sister Mary Thecla; and Mary Brummer, Sister Mary Anthony. Three Sisters belong to the Order of Humility.

Evelyn Cavanaugh, Sister Mary Rita. This Sister belongs to the Servants of Mary.

Marie Meyerring, Sister Mary Thecla. This Sister belongs to the Servants of Mary.

Catherine Soppe, Sister Mary Marcella. This Sister belongs to the Sisters of Mercy.

The people of St. Patrick's Parish owe a debt of gratitude to the Sisters who have labored and who are laboring unselfishly in behalf of the religious training and education of their children.

The following are the Sisters who have taught and are teaching in St. Joseph's School since it was established:

Sisters:

Sister Mary Teresa, Sister Mary Benedict, Sister Mary Bernadine, Sister Mary Anthony, Sister Mary Peter, Sister Mary DeChantal, Sister Mary Aloysins, Sister Mary Mary Immaculate, Sister Mary Gonzaga, Sister Mary Geraldine, Sister Mary Anna Mary, Sister Mary Ambrosia, Sister Mary Gertrude, Sister Mary Stanislaus, Sister Mary Clotilda, Sister Mary Frances, Sister Mary Curil, Sister Mary Innocentia, Sister Mary Annunciation, Sister Mary Mercedes, Sister Mary Josephine, Sister Mary Berchmans, Sister Mary Dolora, Sister Margaret Mary, Sister Mary Wilhelmenia, Sister Mary Baptist, Sister Mary Regina, Sister Mary Dominica, Sister Mary Catherine, Sister Mary

Eulalia, Sister Mary Stephen, Sister Mary Nicholas, Sister Mary Lawrence, Sister Mary Helena, Sister Mary Raphael, Sister Mary Adelaide, Sister Francis Xavier, Sister Mary Cecilia, Sister Mary Agatha, Sister Mary Jerome, Sister Mary Victorine, Sister Mary Concepta, Sister Mary Leo, Sister Mary Igatius, Sister Mary Zita, Sister Mary Euphrasia, Sister Mary Michael, Sister Mary Sacred Heart, Sister Mary Loretta, Sister Mary Gabriel, Sister Mary Bernadette, Sister Mary Perpetua, Sister Mary James, Sister Mary Clementine, Sister Mary Pius, Sister Mary Alberta, Sister Mary Angela, Sister Mary Borromeo, Sister Mary William, Sister Mary Louis, and Sister Mary Amelia.

Pastors in charge of St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa, since the date of its existence:

Rev. J. F. Kempker	Sept. 1882 to May 1883
Rev. J. J. Moran	Oct. 1883 to Nov. 1885
Rev. C. F. Hunt	Nov. 1885 to May 1886
Rev. M. T. Schiffmacher	June 1886 to Jan. 1901
Rev. A. J. Drexler	Feb. 1901 to Mar. 1926
Rev. W. J. Kleffman	June 1926 - Present Pastor

Due to the growth of the Parish and Parochial School of Neola, Iowa, Assistant Pastors were sent to Neola to assist the Pastor in charge, the Assistant Pastors being:

Rev. P. J. Owens	1925-1926
Rev. M. J. Brown	1926-1927
Rev. T. Moriarty	1927-1928
Rev. W. Ryan	November 1928
Rev. P. A. Flavin (Came Oct. 14, 1932)	Present Assistant

The Golden Jubilee Bells

I

The bells of St. Patrick's at sweet Christmastide
Ring out joyous summons to friends far and wide,
They call as of old during past golden years
For meetings and greetings in smiles and in tears.

CHORUS

The bells of St. Patrick's, ah, yes, they are calling,
The old loves, the true loves, to come from afar,
And in this glad season, when white snows are falling,
The wise ones have come back led by the Christmas star.

II

The bells of St. Patrick's have called men to prayer
Divided life's sorrows and lightened dull care
For each soul departed, the far-reaching knell
Breaks forth in a sob from the heart of a bell.

CHORUS

The bells of St. Patrick's in clear tones recalling
The absent, long-parted, who dwell now afar,
And in this glad season when white snows are falling
The living remember, under the yuletide star.

III

In the church of St. Patrick's how many a pair
Stand before God and their true love declare
While joy rides the waves of sound, glad voices sing,
Yet louder and clearer the wedding bells ring.

CHORUS

The bells of St. Patrick's, ah, still they are calling
The young loves, the true loves in one-nine-three-three
(1933)
And joy bells are telling, in silver tones swelling,
The silver is golden, golden in Jubilee.

*To the honor of the golden Jubilee of
St. Patrick's Parish, 1933, the above
verses are dedicated by the writer.*

Golden Jubilee Program

Tuesday, December 26, 1933

5:00 P.M. Supper at Knights of Columbus Hall
8:00 P.M. Program by The Public School Students
8:30 P.M. Dance and Concessions at the Armory

Wednesday, December 27, 1933

10:00 A.M. Solemn High Mass. Sermon by Right
Rev. Monsignor V. Stoll--Administrator
of the Diocese of Des Moines
12:00 Noon Dinner at The Knights of Columbus Hall
2:30 P.M. Program and Band Concert at the Armory
3:30 P.M. Concessions at the Armory
5:00 P.M. Supper at The Knights of Columbus Hall
8:00 P.M. Program by St. Joseph's School Students
8:30 P.M. Grand March led by ten couples repre-
senting periods of time from 1833 to 1933,
followed by Dance and Concessions.

Thursday, December 28, 1933

5:00 P.M. Supper at Knights of Columbus Hall
8:00 P.M. Dance and Concessions at the Armory
11:00 P.M. Raffle

A celebration of this nature always entails considerable work and also considerable expense. The members of the Parish have contributed generously of their time and money to complete the necessary preparations. A word of appreciation and thanks is due to them and especially to the members of the various committees.



New 1888 Church



Father M. T. Schiffmacher, Neola 1880



Gothic Gem - St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa. Built by Rev. M. T. Schiffmacher. Altar, pews, heating system, etc., have been brought up to date, but the Gothic beauty remains in tact.

For this we thank and bless the pastors who succeeded Father Schiffmacher.



Father Schiffmacher & Bishop Cosgrove at the dedication of the 1888 Church.

FATHER M. T. SCHIFFMACHER DEAD

Neola's Venerable Priest Died from Pneumonia Early Thursday Morning.

Rev. Father M. T. Schiffmacher is dead. That was the word that passed from mouth to mouth yesterday (Thursday) morning. This sad intelligence came like a bolt of lightning out of a clear sky. For although he had been ailing for a couple of weeks, yet only last Monday after the funeral of his housekeeper, Miss Gannon (whose death had occurred on Saturday), he, in company of Fathers Smith and Sueppel, had walked over to the Sisters' home and took of dinner. He made no particular complaint till the following day when he took severe chill and pneumonia developing rapidly together with his old heart affliction, soon brought the end near. Death came peacefully at 3:15 Thursday morning, he being conscious till near the end. He was fully aware his hours were numbered, and his only thoughts were to speed the coming. At the time of his death he was 66 years of age.

M. T. Schiffmacher was born in Alasce-Lorraine, now a part of the German empire, but at the time belonging to France, in August, 1834. He came from a noted family, one well known in French history, his father, being a prominent French General. He was educated in Paris, and after finishing his education, he was sent by the Catholic Church to Dublin, Ireland, where he founded Black Rock College. From there, he came to this country and was assigned to what was then the Diocese of Dubuque. His first station was at Washington, Iowa, where he remained until 1868. He was then sent to Bellevue, where he remained fourteen years. From there he went to Red Oak and then to Fairfield. From the latter place he came to Neola in 1886 where he since remained.

The funeral will take place from St. Patrick's Church on Monday morning at 9:30. The complete arrangements had not been made for the same at the time of our going to press. Bishop Cosgrove and a large number of priests are expected to be present. The Very Rev. Peter Smith of Council Bluffs, will have charge of the funeral. The remains of Father Schiffmacher will lay in state at the church all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

In the death of Father Schiffmacher, Neola has lost what was probably her most enterprising and foremost citizen, and aside from his church work, he was always doing and planning for the betterment of the town and community. In his church work, he rose to absolute greatness. Coming to Iowa years ago when it was almost a struggling wilderness, he entered with zeal into the upbuilding of numerous parishes under his control. How well he succeeded is attested by the church properties, the betterment of the conditions of his parishioners wherever he has been.

He met and conquered conditions that many a stouter heart would have faltered at and but for a stout constitution and a will that never failed, he would have been compelled to succumb long ago. In Neola, his work shines especially bright at the property possessed by his congregation due entirely to his efforts, which were never stilled for the advancement of the church and truths of Him. His death has created the most widespread sorrow on the community and every place where he and his good deeds are known. To Father Schiffmacher, we bid a long farewell. He was a noble gentleman, a sincere Christian, a man to whom it was but to know and one whom Neola can never replace.

There was a meeting of the business men of the city at the State Bank of Neola last night for the purpose of drafting suitable resolutions on the death of Father Schiffmacher. It was decided that all business houses would close Monday during the funeral.

REV. DREXLER HAS RESIGNED PASTORATE

Well Known Pastor, Located Here For Many Years, Has Relinquished Charge of St. Patrick's Parish

REV. P. J. OWENS IN CHARGE

Temporary Appointment of Latter Is Announced Last Sunday. May Or May Not Be Permanent

Rev. A. J. Drexler, pastor of St. Patrick's parish in this city for twenty-five or more years, has resigned the charge and Rev. P. J. Owens, sent here at the beginning of the school year to assist in the conduct and direction of St. Joseph School, has been appointed as administrator of the parish. The appointment of Rev. Owens, announced last Sunday; came in the form of a written instrument, issued by the Rt. Rev. T. W. Drumm, bishop of the Des Moines Diocese. Rev. Owens, under Bishop Drumm's authority, will act as administrator with a pastor's prerogatives, until further notice.

Rev. Drexler's health has not been of the best for some years while the cares and responsibilities of his charge have increased. He left last week for points in the eastern part of the state.

Taken from the Neola Gazette March 25, 1926



Father Owens

REV. WILLIAM KLEFFMAN PASTOR ST. PATRICK'S

Clergyman, Formerly at Westphalia,
Recently Appointed To The
Neola Parish.

FATHER BROWNE IS ASSISTANT

Latter Comes Here From Dunlap.
Father Owen Is Chaplain In
Bluffs Hospital.

Receiving his appointment through Bishop Drumm of Des Moines, Rev. Father William J. Kleffman has been placed in charge of St. Patrick's parish and, with his assistant, arrived in Neola the first of the week to assume the responsibilities of his new position. He has recently been located at Westphalia. Previous to that he was a teacher in the Des Moines Catholic College.

His assistant who arrived the first of the week also, is Rev. Father Micheal Browne, a young clergyman who arrived in this country the last of March, coming to Iowa direct from Ireland where he completed his studies for the priesthood. He was temporarily stationed at Dunlap from which place he came to Neola.

Both clergymen are engaged in the activities incident to becoming settled in their new home, becoming acquainted with the people of their parish and taking up their duties connected with their charge.

Rev. Father P. J. Owen who is succeeded as pastor has received an appointment as chaplain of St. Bernard's Hospital, Council Bluffs. He was to have taken over his new responsibilities the first of the week but remained until after the services for Mr. Weber this morning.

Taken from the Neola Gazette June 3, 1926



Letter From Father Drexler

Dubuque, Iowa Aug. 19/37

Donald Burns, Neola, Ia.

My dear Boy:

Your favor of Aug. 17, received and was pleased to hear from the old hunting ground.

First I want to express my sympathy for the loss of your dear mother, may the Good Lord rest her soul.

as for Gregorian or any other masses I can say their right along until all are said, as I seldom have any. If any one else want some said, let them send them on, I'll be glad to get them. Thanking you for your kind words, I am with best wishes your old pastor,

A. J. Drexler
add. 1689 Washington St. Dubuque, Iowa. Thank you for remembering me.

FATHER WILLIAM J. KLEFFMAN

Father William Kleffman was born January 28, 1893, in Omaha, Nebraska. He attended college at St. Ambrose in Davenport, Iowa, and Theology at St. Mary's in Baltimore, Maryland. Father Kleffman was ordained into the priesthood at St. Ambrose in Des Moines, Iowa, by Bishop Drumm on December 21, 1920, and assigned to Dowling College as instructor on January 1, 1921. He became pastor of St. Boniface Parish in Westphalia, Iowa, August 15, 1926.

In 1926, Father W. J. Kleffman became pastor of the Neola parish and began further renovation of the church and modernization of the St. Joseph's School. He was one of the best known and respected priests in the history of this parish. He came as a young priest and was well known for his vigor. When it was necessary to cut wood for the church, he took his turn at the end of the saw. It's said that at one time he kicked a football over the church. Father had a dog named "Captain" who would lunge at the door when the doorbell rang. Father's housekeeper, Hedwig Schmidt, kept ferns in the southwest corner of the rectory. She played the organ for every Mass and choir practice.

Father Kleffman was a stern disciplinarian. If the children were late for Mass, they had to kneel up front until after Mass. Father Kleffman took the parish through the depression and saw it through many hard times. Father had many accomplishments while he was in Neola, some of the more vivid memories were the basement was excavated in the church, and a furnace replaced the old stove heaters. New roofing was added to the convent and the rectory. Other accomplishments included landscaping of the church properties and installation of a new sewer system. A garage was also built. Father Kleffman borrowed \$5000.00 for the building of the church hall, which was completed in 1938.

Father Kleffman was pastor in Neola for eighteen years. He developed ill health in 1931, and resigned as pastor November 17, 1944. His successor was Father Joseph Shaw. When Father Kleffman's health improved somewhat, he became pastor of St. Edward's in Afton, Iowa, July 7, 1948, but had to resign December 12, 1949, to enter a Council Bluffs hospital. He died November 17, 1965, in Council Bluffs, and the funeral was held in Neola with the burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Father Kleffman's Announcement Book

10th Sunday After Pentecost

I Holy Name Society will go to Com. next Sunday

II Next Friday is first Friday.
Confessions Thursday Afternoon and evening

III Yours prayers are requested for the peaceful solution of the religious struggle in Mexico.

Trinity Sunday

- 1 Masses next Sunday at 7³⁰ 10.
- 2 Benediction after last Mass.
- 3 No Mass this week. Sick calls will be attended by Fr. Signatus of Council Bluffs.
- 4 The Immaculate Club will receive Holy Comm. next Sunday.
- 5 The servers for first Mass next Sunday Francis Grote & Joseph Hobbin. For the last Mass Philip Dermody, Arthur Ring & Patrick Doyle.
- 6 There is a promise of marriage between A. W. Schmaedick and Miss Marceline Willmott. Second proclamation.

13th Sunday After Pent.

- 1 Our next Sunday Masses will be said at 7 and 9 so as to give plenty of time for Crosters trip. All are invited to make this trip. Benediction.
- 2 Next Sunday is Holy Name Com. Sunday.
- 3 School will open tomorrow morning with Mass at 8³⁰. Kindly send children for the Mass. Communion will be given out each morning during the school year, at 7 o'clock, except on Saturdays.
- 4 All picnic committees are requested to meet at the school house Monday evening Sept 5 at 7³⁰ sharp.
- 5 Servers for the week are as follows: Joseph Weber and Daniel Cavanaugh.
- 6 There is a promise of marriage between Henry Morrell and Margaret Steffen. This is the second proclamation. Also between Louis G. Echrich and Fern Stoker 1st Proclamation.

15th Sunday after Pent.

- I Sunday Masses at 7³⁰ and 10. The last Mass a High Mass with Benediction following.
- II Next Sunday the Holy Name Society will go to Com.
- III School opens tomorrow with a High Mass at ^{8³⁰}. Kindly have your children here in time for the Mass.
- IV Masses for the week days during the year will be as follows. The first Mass at 6⁴⁵ at High Communion will be held Sunday; the second at 8 o'clock. The last Mass will be the Children's Mass. Kindly urge your children to assist at daily Mass. Classes will begin immediately after Mass.
The parents too are urged to attend the daily Masses in large numbers thereby giving a child a good example.
- V Read the Collection list.

Sextagesima Sunday.

- 1 Masses next Sunday at 8 and 10.
- 2 Benediction after last Mass.
- 3 The Children will receive Communion next Sunday.
- 4 There will be a nuptial Mass on Monday at 9, 2 o'clock.
- 5 Tuesday a nuptial Mass at 8³⁰
- 6 Wednesday a nuptial Mass at 9⁰⁰
- 7 Friday a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Sister Teresa. This Mass was given by the school children.
- 8 Saturday a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Mr Joseph Weber. This Mass given by the Holy Name Society.
10. The Rosary Society is sponsoring a food sale at Weber's store next Saturday beginning at 2 o'clock. The heads of the various circles will be in charge.
- 11 There is a promise of marriage between Martin J. Patton of Panama and Miss Marie H. Roseliman also between Clifton Sully and Miss Clara Fischer also Joseph H. Grote and Miss Rosalia Sully also between Edwin Kildare and Anna Ring last announcement.



Father Joseph Shaw

REV. JOSEPH P. SHAW, PASTOR 1944-1960

Father Shaw was born October 21, 1899, Slane County Meath, Ireland. He received his seminary training and was ordained in Dublin in 1925. Assigned to the Des Moines Diocese that same year, Father served St. Ambrose and Dowling College in Des Moines and St. Joseph, Winterset, as pastor, prior to being appointed to Neola. During the next sixteen years, Father and his dog, Slane, were familiar figures in Neola. Father was also known for smoking "Chesterfield" cigarettes.

Bridget O'Sullivan, also a native of Ireland, was housekeeper at the rectory. "Bridie" is remembered for her unique mannerisms, culinary art and congenial personality.

Another colorful figure who began service to the parish and school during this time was Bernard McCabe. "Barney" was janitor, tender of the boiler, and the basketball team's greatest fan.

Father Shaw in his role as pastor, superintendent and coach was a strong disciplinarian and captain of a tight ship. A very knowledgeable, well-informed individual with a keen business mind, he put his life into our parish. In addition to performing his pastoral duties in unassuming manner, Father also managed to improve the property and keep the revenue flowing.

During this time, Monaghan's farm was bequeathed to St. Patrick's and the farm committee was formed. It was determined the land would be farmed by the parish. This proved to be a successful, financial, as well as community building, venture. Among Father's many other accomplishments: the new altar and pews, and renovation of the rectory. He also encouraged the continuation of the Saturday night dances, especially the St. Patrick's Dance, published the first weekly bulletin and brought new programs and innovations into the school. Of personal gratification to him was the Class of 1957 which fostered several religious vocations.

In 1960, Father Shaw was appointed pastor at Holy Family in Council Bluffs. He died January 12, 1964, following a long illness. He is buried in St. Joseph Cemetery, Council Bluffs.



Bernard McCabe, 1957



**First Mass at cemetery altar, Memorial Day, 1941.
Bill O'Connor and Bill Doyle serving.**



Cemetery Altar



Father Joseph Ryan, 1979

FATHER JOSEPH RYAN

Father Joseph Ryan was born November 4, 1913, in Chicago, Illinois. He attended Quigley Seminary from 1927-1932; Mundeleine Seminary 1932-1936; St. Paul Seminary 1936-1938. Bishop Gerald T. Bergan ordained him on June 11, 1938. His first assignment was at Dowling High School in 1938, and he remained there until 1959. He was reassigned to St. Patrick's in Elkhart, Iowa, from 1959 to 1960. In June of 1960, he was reassigned to St. Patrick's in Neola where he remained until June 30, 1974. He was then sent to Hamburg, Iowa, where he remained until April, 1975, and then he was reassigned to Stuart, Iowa, where he is now assigned.

Father Ryan had two brothers, who were also priests. John, the older of the three, was a member of the Rockford Diocese in Illinois. Thomas, the younger brother, was a member of the Santa Fe Diocese in New Mexico.

Father Ryan's stay in Neola was marked by many physical changes:

SCHOOL: third floor partitioned off into two classrooms; school rewired:

In 1964, new furnace costing \$6000; steel window, \$17,000.00; floor coverings, \$5000; toilets, desks.

Fire doors and fire alarm system installed.

New fire escape on east side of building.

New roof and overhang, 1973.

CHURCH: Completely redecorated, finished December 24, 1960, cost \$5000.00 by Ratigan and Sons. Waterline installed, cry room installed, restroom installed, furnace rewired, new burner installed, steeple rebuilt, tuckpointed and waterproofed; in 1968, the steeple was hit by a twister and the repairs cost \$8500.00. New cement in front of the church and sidewalks; new stainless steel crosses on the church; sanctuary and sacristy remodeled; new portable altar; parking lot paved with five inches of cement reinforced with wire mesh, cost \$5600.

CONVENT: balance of debt on convent \$24,000 paid, new waterline interior completely repainted in 1970.

RECTORY: new waterline, exterior of building repainted in 1973.

CEMETERY: summer 1963, new altar built by Father Hannon and donated by Beem-Belford at a cost of \$3000. Five additional acres purchased, developed and plotted (they were purchased at a cost of \$1000 per acre, and was bought from the Van Ausdelins. The cost of the grading, seeding, surveying, plotting lots and purchasing markers was \$2000). Asphalt paving was placed on the roads.

HALL: four new blowers, new water line, wiring, kitchen remodeled, new floor covering, new coolers, refrigerators, new fixtures, electrical outlets, sink, tables, chairs for hall.

ST. ALBERTS: paid off original assessment--\$85,000
paid off second assessment ---\$35,000
bought new school bus-----\$ 6,000

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: The hall that was used for a school was sold.

BAPTISMS: 481

FUNERALS: 214

WEDDINGS: 168



Father James Holden

FATHER JAMES HOLDEN

Father James Holden was born in Carroll, Iowa. He attended La Salette Seminary in Bloomfield, Connecticut; St. Paul's Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Mt. St. Bernard's Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. After being ordained by Bishop Daly in 1958, he did post-graduate work at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and received a Master of Arts degree.

Father Holden was appointed pastor of St. Patrick's in Neola, Iowa, in February of 1974. Previous assignments included Dowling High School in Des Moines; Diocesan Superintendent of Schools; and co-pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Des Moines, Iowa. Father Holden is currently the pastor of Saint Joseph's Church in Des Moines.

Father Holden's efforts resulted in an increased school enrollment. Sister Zoe Dieter, O.P., was hired coordinator of St. Patrick's Parish. He concluded negotiations with Beem-Belford Funeral Home of Council Bluffs for use of the convent as Hillside Mortuary and restored the St. Patrick's Dance and "Home" Masses. He also opened the church for use by the Neola Community Choir. Under his direction, the church was carpeted. An auction of church attic items produced money for a tractor for mowing the school and rectory lawns.

When Father Holden came to Neola, he brought his mother and she lived in the housekeeper's quarters until her death. Mrs. Holden was a lovely person who contributed much to the parish in her short time here. Her gifts included a baptismal fountain and a dishwasher for the rectory.

Father Keith Engel, assistant to Father Holden, was administrator to the parish until the appointment of the Reverend Lawrence A. Beeson. Father Engel took a leave of absence and has since resigned the priesthood. He now lives in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

FATHER LAWRENCE A. BEESON

Father Lawrence A. Beeson was born on January 9, 1934, in Des Moines, Iowa. He was graduated from Dowling High School in Des Moines and then attended Loras College and Mt. St. Bernard's Seminary located in Dubuque, Iowa. He ordained on June 5, 1960, by Bishop Daly.

Father's assignments previous to St. Patrick's Parish included St. Augustine's in Des Moines, 1960 to 1962; Doctorate in Canon Law in Rome 1962-1965; also worked in the Second Vatican Council; the Des Moines Chancery, 1965 to 1971; Irish Settlement, 1971; and coordinator of the Catholic schools in Council Bluffs. He came to Neola in September of 1975.

Father Beeson continued the work begun by his predecessors. He made greater efforts to use the boards and committees mandated by the Second Vatican Council. Under the Parish Council, there have been extensive renovation and repair of the buildings. The entire church was repainted and improvements in the parish hall were made. Fans were installed in the ceiling of the church through the donation of Jim (Kaiser) Dermody. The board of education voted to institute the program of education directed by Sister Roberta Brich, who is a native of Neola.

During Father Beeson's pastorate, the upper level of the rectory was established as a residence for two Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, Sister Zoe Dieter and Sister Mary Dorine. Sister Dorine left in 1977, but Sister Zoe still resides there.

Father Beeson has tried to become a part of the community by participating in activities like the Neola-Minden Lions Club, singing in the Community Choir and an informal ministerial association. Father and Pastor Bob Offerdahl, minister of the Presbyterian Church, have jointly conducted several movie series.

Father Beeson is an amateur photographer and has taught a course in photography at the school. At Christmas time, when the church has been decorated due to the efforts of Tom and Marge Bibeau, Father has sent photographs of the inside of the church to each parishioner.

Father has a garden by the house and one at the farm of Bob Masker. He has been instrumental in continuing the custom that fresh flowers grace the Altar every weekend in the summer. "Neola" on his license plates demonstrates his enthusiasm for this community.

Father Beeson enjoys escaping Iowa's cold January weather and therefore has traveled to such places as Rome, Bolivia and Florida for his vacations. He was made a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre on June 8, 1981.

His sister, Sister Rachel, entered the religious life as a Sister of Humility before Father Beeson entered his religious vocation in 1952.

ASSISTANT PRIESTS

Rev. P.J. Owens	March 1925 - July 1926
Rev. M.J. Browne	1926 - 1927
Rev. T. Moriarity	Sept. 1927 - June 1928
Rev. Walter Ryan	September 1928 - December 1928
Rev. P.A. Flavin	October 1932 - October 1935
Rev. Ray Conley	September 1936 - June 1940
Rev. J.A. Devlin	June 1940 - June 1941
Rev. Francis Sampson	June 1941 - May 1942
Rev. Carl Meier	July 1942 - February 1944
Rev. John Higgins	1947
Rev. P.J. O'Connell	1949
Rev. John Lorenz	June to August 1954
Rev. Gene Koch	June to September 1959
Rev. James Kiernan	
Rev. Robert Schoemann	1967
Rev. Nicholas Tormey	1968
Rev. Frank Palmer	
Rev. Keith Engel	



Father Lawrence Beeson

An early redecoration

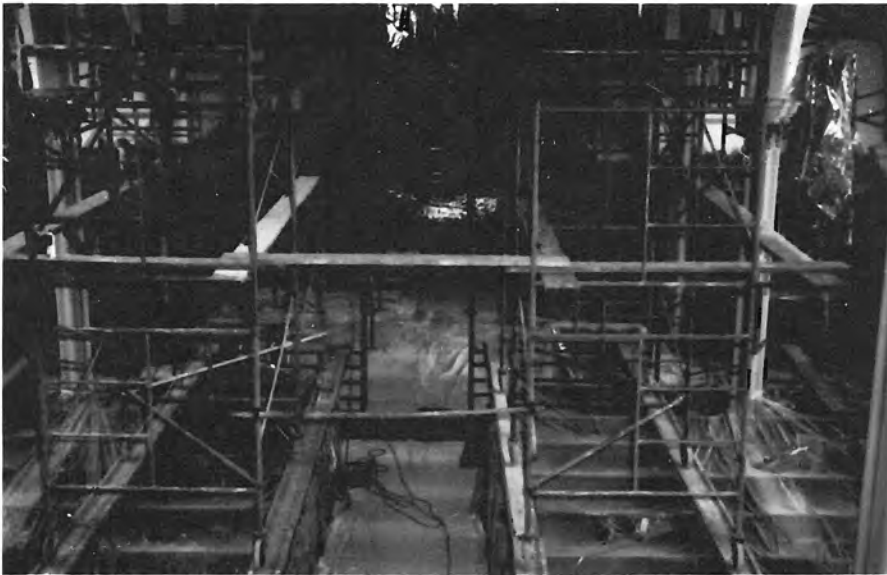




Father Joseph Shaw's newly redecorated church



Church redecoration November 1960, Bill and Rosemary Brich Wedding



Father Beeson's redecorating, 1981



Ken Adams redecoration



1981 redecorating of the church

CONVENTS

The first convent for the Sisters of Humility in Neola, Iowa, was donated by Father Mary Theodore Schiffmacher, who also gave them a monthly living allowance. The Sisters lived in the convent from 1891 to the mid 1970's.

In the 1950's, Father Joseph Shaw hired the architect C. B. Larson to design living quarters for the nuns. Adolph Halm was hired as the contractor, and the convent was built for \$56,000. The building's dimensions were 60' x 36' and was designed for a least eleven nuns. The main floor consisted of one bedroom, a kitchen, music room, parlor, chapel, community room and a full bathroom. The upper level contained ten bedrooms and a bathroom with two lavatories, two bathtubs, and metal stalls. The basement was mostly storage space but had one room for the boiler and recreation room.

The windows in the Chapel were designed by Sister Mary Loyola, a handicapped nun, who served St. Joseph School in 1959. The windows cost \$220 each and were described in the contract as "pastel colors in the rectangular pane background, with several borders of different colors. All four windows, 32 1/4 x 54 1/4 (two sections each)". Each window depicted a figure medallion with subjects such as Assumption, Nativity, Annunciation, and Immaculate Conception.

When the convent was nearly finished, the women of the parish collected furniture to help the Sisters furnish their new home. The women also helped reduce the operating costs of the convent by having food showers several times a year.

Open house at the Convent from the Neola Gazette, January 14, 1954.



Old Convent

Neola Convent To Hold Open House Here Sunday P.M.

Sunday, January 17, marks the observance of open house at the new Our Lady's Annunciation Convent at Neola. The general public is cordially invited to inspect the new structure between the hours of 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

The 32 by 60 red brick structure will provide quarters for nuns of the Sisters of Humility order who comprise the teaching staff of the St. Joseph's School.

The two-story building provides individual rooms for a maximum of 11. Ten of these rooms are on the upper floor, with one at the downstairs level. In addition the main floor contains: a tile-floored vestibule; a music room-parlor combination, which can be divided off by means of a set of folding doors; chapel; a dining room; a community room; kitchen and bath.

The full basement under the building has been finished into a truck room, a laundry, a fruit room containing a deep freeze and a large recreation room. A half-bath has also been installed in the basement.

Each of the upstairs rooms has been equipped with an individual lavatory. The upper floor will be served by a large central bath with both tub and shower. The large closet in each room is completed with ample shelf space and a built-in drawer space. A single bed, a desk and a rocker completes equipment of each room.

The building proper is being constructed with parish funds. The community, however, is supporting the venture completely. And all furnishings for both the individual rooms and the rest of the home have been underwritten by groups or individuals, some of them who are not members of the parish.

Dedication of the Convent from the Neola Gazette, February 4, 1954.

Formal Dedication Held Sunday Of Our Lady's Annunciation Convent

Bishop Edward C. Daly of Des Moines, accompanied by Rev. Daniel Clark and John Nemmers, Deacons, participated in the formal dedication of Our Lady's Annunciation Convent in Neola, Sunday, January 31.

The Bishop said the 8:00 o'clock and the 10:00 o'clock Mass assisted by the deacons. After the 10:00 o'clock mass the Bishop erected the stations of the cross and blessed the convent. Afterwards they came to St. Patrick's Hall to meet the members of the church.



Convent

**OUR LADY'S ANNUNCIATION CONVENT, 1953,
Neola, Iowa**

Adolph Halm - Builder and Contrator	
Gate City Steel, beams, columns, windows and angles	\$2115.00
Keenan Glass Co., glass, and installation	515.00
Petersen Sheet Metal, copper, gutters, downspouts and installation	790.00
Vern Beebe, all painting and interior varnishing	3200.00
Finished hardware	400.00
Elmer Mankow, electric wiring (less fixtures)	1200.00
Porter-Trust Co., modernfold door, complete, and installed	392.00
Starr and Moore, floor sanding	210.00
Porter-Trustin Co., metal partition in bathroom	324.00
Bud Garrison, labor, block, brick and plastering	5183.50
Briggs Pump Co., plumbing fixtures, soil pipe and water pipe	2598.00
Adams and Kelley, mill work	4059.00
Stokely Yards, lumber material	15,983.81
Midwest Carpet Co., floor covering and cabinet top	147.05
Sunderland Brothers Co., stone sills	184.00
Gate City Steel, termite shields	45.76
Hanusa Heating, heating plant and installation	4585.00
Adolph Halm, labor	13,500.00
Total	\$55,432.43

Shower room floor and base 390.00

Fire at the Convent taken from the Neola Gazette, June 7, 1928.

**FIRE AT CONVENT
DOES \$500 DAMAGE**

**Blaze in Chapel Destroys Vestments
And Fine Linen Composing
The Altar.**

Fire that broke out in the chapel in the convent of the Sister of Humility, about nine o'clock Tuesday morning, caused a loss to altar, vestments and linen, estimated at \$500. The room used as the chapel was damaged to some extent but this was slight as compared to that of the contents. The cause of the blaze is unknown and it is probable that its origin cannot be determined.

There were none of the Sisters in or near the chapel at the time. Sister M. Amelia, coming down the stairs, first discovered smoke issuing from the room. She gave the alarm to others and their combined efforts were successful in having the fire well under control when the department arrived. Father W. J. Kleffman, immediately notified, called the department which, in turn, was quickly on the ground. But little time was needed in extinguishing the blaze.

Much of the material, especially the linen, was of a nature that could not be measured in money although its intrinsic value was great.

Small fire at the convent taken from the Neola Gazette, January 28, 1932.

SMALL FIRE AT THE CONVENT

The fire department was called out at four o'clock Saturday morning on an alarm sent in from the convent of the Sisters of Humility, where sparks from a furnace flue had set fire to shingles on the roof. The fire at no time gained much headway and it was a small matter after the department arrived to put out the slight blaze and to leave the place safe for occupancy.

The damage by the fire was not heavy and a few new shingles will make the building as good as it was before. The convent is heated by a furnace and, during the afternoon previous, had caused some little apprehension by reason of the soot, accumulated in the flue, having caught fire and burned out. This was watched and it was then believed that no further danger from fire existed. This perhaps was fortunate because a more than ordinary watch was kept on the building at night to prevent the very thing that happened.

Although the alarm was sent in during the early morning hours when everyone was asleep, the department responded with usual promptness, which prevented a possible serious conflagration.

January 24, 1953, letter from Mother Mary Magdalen to Adeline Doyle.

January 24, 1953

Dear Adeline,

I am going to take your letter and answer your questions before I write anything more.

1. Crucifixes. It is nice to have uniform crucifixes. The Sisters could order these as we can get a good discount from most places.

2. The stand with three drawers and table seems good if that is a study desk. Each room should have a study table in order that each Sister may work in her private room. Maybe Mrs. Brich could tell me Monday just what is planned.

3. The dining room table. If you are buying a new dining table, you could get one which when extended would seat ten or twelve. I think perhaps 96". The largest size I believe is 102". That would be good if it is not too much more expensive than the 96" table. The table does not need drawers. There will probably be a dish cupboard in the buffet in the dining room also. However, if you were having the table made, a stationary table, you could have single drawers put in. Personally, I think a regular dining room table is good.

4. The community room table should be one long table sufficiently long to seat ten or twelve people. I hope some provisions will be made in this room for book shelves, etc. The Sisters could probably direct this when they return.

5. The serving window would not need to be large. If the dining room and kitchen join directly, perhaps none would be needed. I really do not know the plans well enough to determine if it would be necessary to have a serving window.

6. The color in the plaster of the rooms can be anything not extreme. Variety is all right, too, but I presume whatever color is used will be the same in all the rooms. Any kind of color of washable rugs will do.

7. The Sisters, no doubt, have pillows, but as you say, some new might be needed since they will have more bedrooms. We do prefer white spreads. They are not always so easy to find, but Sisters in Des Moines got some for their new house last year; they are quite long - long enough to fold over the pillow. Sister Baptist says they have about four or five white spreads in Neola besides some colored striped spreads.

8. I would not want to make any statement regarding the chapel windows. I think Father Shaw should be the one to say what to do in that case. If you had any designs on the windows I believe they should be liturgical designs instead of our initials or emblems. Father would know how much money he can put into stained glass windows. I personally like blues and red predominating if you are getting stained glass. Sometimes they use just colored glass and then there isn't always too much choice of design.

We are so happy to have better living quarters for the Sisters that we are not going to be demanding about extras.

It will be a great comfort to the Sisters to have private rooms and space enough to move around in the other rooms.

Also, hot water without having to heat it on the stove and carry it up stairs. None of us want luxurious furnishings - just simple and substantial.

To the Sister, the chapel is the most important room in the house. We like to see that nicely furnished. I presume there will be regular chapel pews in the chapel. It would be good to discard the old benches and chairs. Pews just large enough for making a row on each side of the chapel. Three on each side would even up the appearance and make room for twelve. Of course if they expect to use the chapel for daily Mass in the winter, they might want more.

Yes, Sister Mary Dolores is looking forward to her visit. She is thrilled because she will get to stay at home. That probably won't ever happen again, now that you are going to have such a lovely convent.

It is almost time to send the mail, so I must close.

Lovingly in Mary,

Mother Mary Magdalen

St. Joseph's School 1891-1982

St. Joseph's School had its beginnings when Father M.T. Schiffmacher converted the old church into a parochial school and engaged the Sisters of Humility of Ottumwa, Iowa, to direct it. The old church building was remodeled into three classrooms and opened September, 8, 1891, with 70 pupils directed by Sisters Mary Teresa, Anthony and Bernardine. There was a primary, intermediate and a grammar room. The school was supported by tuition

until 1903, when it became a free school. Children came from different schools to St. Joseph's bringing with them their own set of books which had been handed down from father to son, thus, making the problem of grading and adjusting textbooks a most difficult task. The books used at this time were Butler's Catechism, Ray's Arithmetic, Steele's Physiology, McGuffey's Reader and Speller, Harvey's Grammar, Barnes History, Electric Geography, Spencerian Copy Books, Drawing and Sewing. Much time was spent in "teaching the children the fundamentals of their religion, prayers, singing of hymns and in training the boys to serve at the altar."

1891 - FATHER SCHIFFMACHER WITH HIS ALTAR BOYS

Front row: Jim Minahan, Clarence Johnson, Gene Riordan, Jim Morgan, Jim Mathews, George Jungferman, Maurice Gorman

Second row: John Oliver, Mike Mathews, Henry Riordan, John McManus, O'Brien, John Dewey

At right behind: **Daniel Flynn**. Father Schiffmacher's Vestments were made by the Sisters of Humility.



For the first ten years, the equipment was very meager. The teachers had only a ten by three foot painted wall for a blackboard. A large wood stove in the center of each room had to be started early in the morning; a water pail with a long handled dipper quenched the thirst of the hardy students.

A music teacher was added to the staff in 1898. Enrollment for the eight grades had also reached 150. After finishing the eighth grade, a few students went on to high school at the public school. Some students refused to leave St. Joseph's so they were given extra lessons in stenography and bookkeeping by the Sisters.

In 1900, Sister M. Gertrude was appointed to direct the school. She divided one of the large school rooms so that the first two grades of high school could be offered. The Sisters taught religion, algebra, English, Latin, ancient history, physical geography, botany and bookkeeping. By 1903, the 11th and 12th grades were added, thus, establishing a four-year high school. A complete commercial course was offered and included bookkeeping, typing, shorthand, commercial law, business arithmetic, spelling and grammar.

Father A.J. Drexler supervised the building of a new Saint Joseph's School in 1906. It was a "beautiful three-story brick building with stone trimming". The main floor held four classrooms and a large corridor. The second floor contained a study hall, science laboratory, one classroom and a library. The top floor was a large auditorium with a stage and complete stage settings. It seated about 300 people. Later this floor would be used as a gymnasium. The basement held a furnace and coal room and a domestic science kitchen. The west part of the third story was rented by the Knights of Columbus.

One year, Sister Berchman had scarlet fever and the convent was under quarantine. The Sisters of the convent moved to the third floor of the school and cooked their meals in the domestic science room.

The high school curriculum was adjusted in 1906 to include the Normal School Course for those students planning to take up the teaching profession. However, in 1917, this course was put aside and third and fourth-year high school subjects were substituted. These subjects were Latin, English, physics, economics, algebra, religion, modern and American history, sociology and physiology.

Sister M. Dominica took charge of St. Joseph's in 1920. She instituted such changes as adding public speaking to the curriculum and such activities as a Senior Class Play, Junior-Senior Banquet, physical education training and girls' athletics. In 1921, application was made to the State of Iowa for accreditation of the school. The Catholic Daughters of America responded to this need by donating \$2000 to obtain this status for St. Joseph's.

Eventually, a P.T.A. (Parent Teacher Association) was organized. This group purchased books and maps for the library and books for children unable to buy them. The P.T.A. also served breakfasts on First Friday mornings and assisted the teachers whenever possible.

When W.J. Kleffman was appointed to St. Patrick's in 1926, he organized school athletics. Baseball aroused considerable interest. Father Kleffman also coached basketball teams for the school. In addition, he organized a student council and taught religion daily in the school.

In spite of the economic devastation suffered by everyone in the area due to the "Great Depression" and the drought during this decade, St. Joseph's School remained open and was a viable part of the community. The dedicated services of the Sisters of Humility, led by Father Wm. Kleffman, kept the school operating. The sacrifice of the

nuns, whose subsistence relied mainly on the people of the parish for food, transportation and upkeep of the convent, was a living example of their vows to the religious life. The Sisters taught without salary, relying on the parish families' generosity. Although many of these families were plagued by the same lack of food and clothing, canned food showers were given early each year. The nuns frequently exchanged music lessons and other services for meat, eggs, butter and milk.

A school uniform for the girls and a dress code for the boys was in effect for some years. A black gabardine jumper with a tan pongee blouse and large black bow at the neck was worn by the entire group of girls. Included in these memories are the long cotton stockings worn over long "scratchy" underwear in the winter. Confessions of rolling up the "long johns" after arriving at school to get rid of the bulky look, later was admitted. Uniforms worn by the first girls basketball team consisted of long black satin bloomers worn with a sailor blouse. This was later modernized to long red, knee-length bloomers worn with a white knit top. The school colors along with the first "unencumbered" basketball uniforms changed to green and white in 1939. A new look for a new gymnasium.

In 1938, after many years of using the small third floor gymnasium in the school, and the cold armory building downtown for basketball, drama, and dances, the students looked forward to their own hall with a gymnasium. During the construction of the building, so close to the school, the smooth curriculum of classes was often interrupted by the excitement and noise outside their windows. The placement of huge beams and the laying of blocks is probably better remembered that year than Latin derivatives and science experiments.

In 1939 and 1940, the threat of World War II hung over the young men of St. Joseph's, and many joined the National Guard when they became of age. They were subsequently called up in the first group of military men to leave from Neola. For those left behind remained the task of helping on the homefront. Scrap iron and old rubber were collected by the students led by Father Kleffman. Students were dismissed during harvesting to help the short-handed farmers. All school activities were adjusted to aid in war-time efforts. Letters from the students to their former schoolmates and the offerings of daily prayers for their safety were continuing projects throughout the war years.

Patriotism was still at a high level in the late 1940's. This was evident in the 1945 class motto, "For God and Country". This class also broke the tradition of wearing suits and dresses for graduation and started wearing grey caps and gowns.

The "50's" brought no major structural changes to St. Joseph. The day began at 8:00 a.m. with a High Mass, with doughnuts and hot chocolate served after Mass on First Fridays.

The principal during the early "50's" was Sister Mary Baptist; during the middle part of the decade, it was Sister Marie Joseph; and during the later part, it was Sister Mary Victorine. While Father Shaw was pastor at St. Patrick's, he took it upon himself to pass out the report cards to the anxious students, who were anticipating their grades.

Transportation to and from school was the responsibility of the parents of the students; school buses weren't provided.

The school years of 1952-53 were remembered for the threatened outbreak of polio.



St. Joseph School





1891 - FATHER SCHIFFMACHER WITH THE FIRST STUDENTS OF ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Sister Stanislaus, Sister Teresa, Sister Immaculate and Sister Anthony of the Sisters of Humility were the first nuns to serve in the remodeled church building.

Pictured are: Front row: Eveline Cavanaughyhy, Edith Organ, Emma Hegarty, Julia Hegarty, Ann Minahan, Gert Shea, **Mayme Ryan**, Nell Minahan, Agnes Cavanaugh

Second row: Kate Minahan, Tom Hegarty, Frank Jungferman, Ray Johnson, Charlie Minahan, Ed Swenk, George Hunter, Lena Soppe, Ann Lafferty, Clare Holzfaster

Third row: Ellen Organ, Lizzie McDonald, Nora Riordan, Nellie Corbett, Marie Handymartin, Louise Ostdiek, Ann Schierbrock, Nellie Finerty, Grace Daily, Hannah Minahan, Mae Jungferman

Fourth row: Ella Schierbrock, Mary Donovan, Kate Daily, Barbara Ostdiek

Fifth row: Emily Killion, Kate Donovan, Mary Becker, Mary Firebach, Kate Costello, Rose Brughenpampe, Mayme Riordan

Small servers: Arthur Lynch, Bill Schierbrock, **Tom Ryan**, Phil Organ, Tom McManus, Jim Brougham

Servers: Phil McManus, Jim Brennan, Gene Riordan, Johnny Dewey, Jim Minahan, Clarence Johnson, George Jungferman, Dick Organ, Barney Bach, Jim Morgan

Back row: Sister Stanislaus, Sister Teresa, Father Schiffmacher, Sister Immaculate, Sister Anthony

The extra-curricular activities consisted of speech contest, music contest, basketball and every spring a class play. The speech contests that the students entered were the Rural Youth Speaking Contest, and the Annual High School Radio Speaking Contest. The music contests were the Po Ha She (Pott., Harrison, Shelby) Music Festival and the Diocesan Music Festival. Probably the most popular activity was basketball. The games were always well attended and the 1950's had some very good teams. The real highlight of the season was when Neola St. Joe's played their rival, Neola Public School.

Most of the classes during this decade were divided pretty evenly between the boys and girls with a few exceptions. The class of 1955 had five girls and only one boy. The Class of 1958 had six boys and only one girl. Probably the pride of the parish and St. Joseph's was the Class of 1957; in this class, there were four boys and four girls who went into religious life. Out of the eight who went, four remain in religious life today.

During the 1950's and the early 1960's, a dress code remained in force for both boys and girls. The mode of dress that was not allowed included the wearing of levis, engineer boots, T-shirts and sweatshirts. The girls weren't allowed to wear slacks, unless the weather was cold, and then only under their dresses or skirts. There was also no driving of their cars during the noon hour, and reckless driving by any of the students was not tolerated any time.

Many of the alumni remember a time when great efforts were made to involve the laity in the missionary activity of the church. One such activity was the "Holy Childhood" Program when money was collected in each class to help ransom "pagan babies". The procedure for this was: Prayers were said for the "pagan children" each day; then for a certain amount of money raised, a pagan child was sponsored. Sponsors could choose the country, pick whether they wanted a boy or a girl, then name that child. One rather funny incident occurred when students found out the birth-given name of one of the St. Joe nuns (this was always a thriller, but rather unusual when a student would learn this name of a nun). The students secretly passed this information around the class and rigged the vote so everyone voted on a girl and used the nun's name. The Sister's reaction was silence and big grin from ear to ear, even though the students couldn't see her ears!

C.Y.O. (Catholic Youth Organization) was the leading activity for getting acquainted with other students in the diocese. The meetings consisted of a wide variety of topics. One was a demonstration of the Mass and talk on the Mystical Body of Christ. Students would listen to speeches on various subjects given by Catholic Youth. At one meeting the "Triple Trio" from St. Joe won first prize, \$25.00, in a group division. The afternoon of events would close with Benediction followed by a delicious supper. Then the biggest thrill of all, the evening dance, followed.

Initiation day was a tradition that can be remembered by all involved. This was a day set aside, shortly after school stated each year, when seniors had the privilege of initiating the "freshies." The class of greenies were dressed in weird outfits all day and were the slaves to the seniors assigned to them. The slavery act would be completed in the evening at a party in the gym, which was usually very humiliating for the freshmen. The event, unfortunately, started getting out of hand. In 1962, the faculty suggested that some other way be found to welcome the freshmen. Henceforth, a "Welcome Party" was sponsored by the seniors and opened in the evening with a pot luck supper. Entertainment in the form of short skits was provided by each class, followed by games and concluded with a dance. This new event was successful and much more appreciated by the freshmen.

Basketball remained the number one competitive sport in school, and the reputation of St. Joe's teams were highly regarded. There were times when St. Joe's would escape defeat by a hair; other times the games were "ho-hum" affairs. Once in a while the team couldn't carry the heavy burden but never gave up the Rockets' spirit. At the end of the basketball season, an athletic banquet was held. This was a fun-filled evening and closed with the presentation of awards, letters and certificates handed out by the coaches.

In 1962, the declining enrollment of St. Joseph's High School and St. Francis High School in Council Bluffs, along with schools in Missouri Valley and surrounding towns, led to a study by the Diocese as to the feasibility of continuing separate school operations. The decision was made to build a central Catholic high school in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and funds were raised through all of the Southwestern Iowa parishes for St. Albert's Central Catholic High School.

St. Albert's Central Catholic opened its doors in the fall of 1964, and the gradual phaseout of St. Joseph's High School in Neola began. In 1964, the first freshman class from St. Joseph's entered St. Albert's leaving only the sophomores, juniors and seniors at St. Joseph's. The last graduating class from St. Joseph's High School was 1965, when a small but spirited class of nine students graduated. It was a sad, nostalgic day for the parish but was tempered by the future opportunity for the continuation of a Catholic high school education at St. Albert's.

In 1969, following the illness of Sister Joan, principal of St. Joseph's, the services of Mrs. Donald Burns was a prime factor in keeping the school open. "Bonnie" had previously taught at Bergan Catholic in Fremont, Nebraska, and had served as principal at Fort Calhoun for six years, thus, bringing a highly qualified record of experience to St. Joseph's. For four years, the eight grades remaining at St. Joe's were given every opportunity in all courses. Science Fairs were held each year. The parents cooperated in money raising events and the enrollment remained steady. Even extra-curricular activities were offered as Mrs. Burns held gym classes in wrestling, volleyball and basketball. It should be especially noted that Mrs. Burns taught without a salary the first two years, received \$30 a month the third year, and finally accepted \$100 a month the fourth year.

Also helping the nuns during those years were many other lay teachers working at low salaries. Mrs. Helen Stamp taught third and fourth grades for many years, drilling the children in multiplication and spelling along with teaching knitting, crocheting and other crafts in her free time. Mrs. Alice Masker, Mrs. Grau and Mrs. Linda Clausen taught at great personal effort in order to keep the school's quality of education high.

The late '60's and early '70's were a low period in the life of St. Joseph School and society in general. Sister Janice McCann was the last remaining Sister of Humility in Neola, and in June, 1972, she left. St. Joseph School found itself without any nuns for the first time in nearly ninety years.

Yet, the local Parish Board of Education under the able leadership of such persons as Louis Eckrich, Don Zimmerman, Ruth Brich, Ruth Konz and Harold Brich, along with the dedicated lay persons mentioned above, met the challenge of providing for the future of St. Joseph School. One of the decisions the Board had to deal with was the closing of the junior high in 1973. The seventh and eighth graders now had to make a choice of St. Albert's or Tri-Center. Enrollment in the school dropped to a new low, and it seemed an evident reality that nearly a hundred years of a Catholic school tradition was soon to end.

During 1974-1976, enrollment continued to drop and administrators were hard to find. During this period a parent with several children in St. Joseph School, Jeanette Masker, was invited to join the Diocesan Board of Education where our needs were made known. The local Board received moral and professional help as they were forced to accept many administrative duties. Sister Elizabeth Clare, the Diocesan Superintendent, made many trips to Neola to direct and advise the Board.

The beginning of a "turn-around" began in 1975 as Sister Zoe Dieter, a Dominican Sister, came to Neola. She served as Religious Education Coordinator for both St. Joseph's School and the parish and continues today in her seventh year of service in Neola. She was joined the next year by Sister Dorine Washburn who served as head teacher in the school. The convent was not available as living quarters for the nuns (it had been empty for some time and then converted into a mortuary) so the Sisters lived on



St. Joseph School Picnic around 1909



8th Grade, 1912



the top floor of the parish house. Sister Dorine remained in Neola for three years and will be long remembered for her wit, her handiwork and her guitar lessons.

Perhaps the most dramatic change for St. Joe's School came in 1977 when Sister Roberta Brich, a Sister of Humility and a former graduate of St. Joe High School, applied to the Board of Education for the position of principal. After a series of summer meetings with the pastor, the Board of Education, and the people of the parish explaining the system of education she would implement, Sister Roberta came to Neola bringing a totally unique system of education and a new life to St. Joseph School. Both Sister Roberta and Sister Rosalind Restelli, a year later, came from Hawaii to establish the alternative system of education known as "Individual Education". This is how Sister Roberta would explain the system, *"This system views children and adults as unique individuals, capable of making good decisions for themselves in matters concerning their own lives. Children are held responsible for their own learning. Agreements and consequences are established to reach this goal."* Because this system of education relies heavily on parent cooperation, a series of five sessions of parenting classes are conducted by Sister Roberta twice a year and furnish some background for the philosophy of education employed at St. Joseph's. It was hoped alternative methods of discipline, other than punishment, could be offered to parents for use in their homes. Over 500 adults from 21 towns around Neola attended these "study groups" over a five-year period. For the system to be effective, the parents must understand the theory and put it to practical use in the home. Thus, parents soon discovered that if they chose St. Joe's for their children, they were also buying into a system of education which permeates their family lives as well. Parents now had to make decisions concerning the type of system of education they wanted for their children. Some chose the security of the traditional and the known, while others sensed the challenge Individual Education could and did offer them and their children. St. Joe's now offers the people of Neola and surrounding areas the unique opportunity of having a "choice" in school systems.

Between 1977 and 1982, new life surged throughout the old school building and in the hearts and spirit of parents, students and faculty. A kindergarten was established in 1978 followed by a pre-kindergarten in 1980. Enrollment increased by 55% during this time, reaching 96 students in 1982. The word, passed by enthusiastic persons, brought students from Council Bluffs, Weston, Underwood, Shelby and Avoca as well as from the Neola area. There were also many changes in the old school building itself. Walls were knocked out, carpets installed and paint and a variety of plants brought warmth and character to St. Joseph's old three-story building.

Many changes in curriculum and textbooks have come about at St. Joe's due to needs in society. Such studies as environmental protection, chemical dependency, computer technology and nuclear energy are required. Materials must be multi-cultural and non-sexist. Besides a strong academic program, St. Joe's offers students creative courses such as photography, drama and music, woodworking, cooking, sewing, foreign languages, mime and make-up and activities such as over-night stays at Camp Hitchcock and frequent visits to DeSoto Bend. Extra-curricular activities include: Christmas programs, plays, entertaining Senior Citizens, guitar playing, local and regional mathematics and spelling bees, local olympics and educational field trips. To help make these "extras" possible, two sources of income have been noteworthy: St. Joseph Parent Club and St. Joseph School Memorial Fund.

The St. Joe Parent Club has been a continuing source of financial support for the school. One of the club's particularly creative ideas was establishment of the St. Joseph Saddle Club Horse Show. Approved by the Southwest Iowa Saddle Club Organization, this horse show held at West Fair has drawn as many as 400 entries. The Parent Club also serves a hot lunch each month for the students. Under the present leadership of Mrs. Don Christensen, the Parent Club is also sponsoring the Mini Lichtenstein Circus May 7, 1982.

The second source of income for St. Joseph's School over and above tithing has been the St. Joseph School Memorial Fund. Established in 1978, the fund has helped provide much needed library and reference materials, as well as audio-visual and physical education equipment for the school. It has been a source of funds for teacher-in-service training also. The St. Joseph School Memorial Fund has provided a meaningful way for people to express their sorrow and appreciation to those deceased members of our parish who, while living, had been committed to the tradition of Catholic education.

Special highlights of the total school system are the Liturgical Celebrations--planned by and for the students on holidays and holy days. These liturgies take on special meaning as the children pray in a manner familiar to them, using visuals, the simplified vernacular and rhythmic songs to address their needs. These liturgies are held in various locations suitable for the occasion.

Present faculty members are: Principal Sister Roberta Brich, Sister Rosalind Restelli, Sister Zoe Dieter, Linda Templeton, Rose Klein, Kay Oberdin and Jane Russmann. Mary Jo Ring has served as Title I teacher for the past two years.

St. Joseph School is at present known as the 4 R's school--so called because the expressed goal is to provide an environment where children do indeed become more responsible, more respectful, more resourceful and more responsive. In other words, all of these goals help children to live as Jesus lived.

Classes for pre-school through grade 6 are held in St. Joseph's School and in the basement room of the hall. First penance and First Communion classes have been held on Sunday. Some parents have prepared a party for each of these occasions to help the students understand that these sacraments are special occasions in one's life which must be celebrated with friends.

At one time Confirmation was administered only every other year. However, since 1977 Bishop Dingman has come to the parish each year to administer Confirmation and for the last three years, Father Beeson, pastor, has had the privilege of administering the Sacrament of Confirmation with the Bishop. In preparation for this sacrament, there has been a Sunday retreat for all C.C.D. and St. Albert's eighth graders to be confirmed. These retreats have been conducted by a representative from the Omaha or Des Moines Religious Education Office. Confirmands have also gone to Des Moines to join other Confirmands of the diocese for the Chrism Mass offered by Bishop Dingman and other priests of the diocese. At the time the Chrism oil used was consecrated by the Bishop for use of the sacraments in all the parishes.

The 1981-82 C.C.D. faculty is as follows: Pre-school, Mary Ellen Dargin and Roberta Morse with helpers Kim Zimmerman, Tom Colpitts and Joan Wellman; Grade 1, Leona Konz and Kris Schnitker; Grade 2, Sue Stonerook with helper Diane Meyerring; Grade 3, Marian Wellman and Mary Meyerring; Grade 4, Rose Klein and Connie Lehan; Grade 5, Marian Lumpkin with helper Christine Ring; Grade 6, Agnes Meyerring and Janet Cattoni; Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, Father Beeson; Coordinator, Sister Zoe Dieter.

Since 1978 a Fall and Spring Scripture Class of a ten class series has been taught by a professor from the Theology Department of Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Bruce Malina has taught these classes except for one taught by Dr. Mike Lawler while Bruce was studying, traveling and working in the Holy Land.

The women of the parish have held an annual style show on Palm Sunday since 1976 for the financial support of religious education in St. Patrick's Parish which includes St. Joseph School, C.C.D. and adult education.

PARISH RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

St. Patrick's Parish has a long history of religious instruction for children in addition to the parochial school system. Special religious instruction for parish children who attended public schools and lived "in the country" was conducted every summer for many years by the Sisters of Humility. Parents had the responsibility of making sure their children attended Catechism every Sunday morning at the allotted time, as well as attending religious classes for two weeks in the summer. Usually these classes were begun as soon as the parochial and public schools had recessed for the summer. The nuns who taught the religious classes had a difficult task because they had to teach in two short weeks that which the St. Joseph Parochial School students had been taught a full year. Children also had to attend these classes before they made their First Communion and First Confession. Each summer at the end of the two weeks of instruction, Confirmation was administered for students prepared for same.

Parents transported their children into Neola early each morning in time for Mass and picked them up at the end of each day when religious instruction was completed. Many parents made arrangements for their children to stay with relatives or friends during the "summer school". Many times, these arrangements created hardships because parents had to find a relative or friend who would accept responsibility for the children and make sure they attended classes everyday.

Each day began with a Mass at St. Patrick's Church, then the students adjourned to their assigned classrooms at St. Joseph's School. Religion was the only subject taught. The little blue (or green) book, *The Baltimore Catechism*, was used for most of the classes taught in the summertime.

The fear of not being able to make their First Communion caused many a worried student and encouraged serious study. Parents warned their children of the importance of answering all the Catechism questions correctly. Many members of our parish have fond memories of the breakfasts after the Masses, the tiny Blessed Virgin figures at each place setting and the confusion accompanying the meals. They recall walking to the church from school and having Father ask questions of their First Communion Class and wearing a white dress or suit for First Communion and trying not to soil it before Mass. And they remember their pride and sense of accomplishment when they made that First Communion.

When the Sisters of Humility left Neola after 90 years of dedicated service, the parish faced great difficulties in educating its young people. Patricia Shea helped to fill that gap by serving as Coordinator for the Sunday C.C.D. classes for two or three years.

Parish religious instruction took on a new meaningful dimension in August of 1975 when Sister Zoe Dieter, Sinsinawa Dominican, began work in the parish as Coordinator of the total Religious Education Parish Program. In addition to teaching grade 2 and all religious classes at St. Joseph's School (grades 1-6), she coordinated the C.C.D. (Catholic Christian Doctrine) Sunday Program.

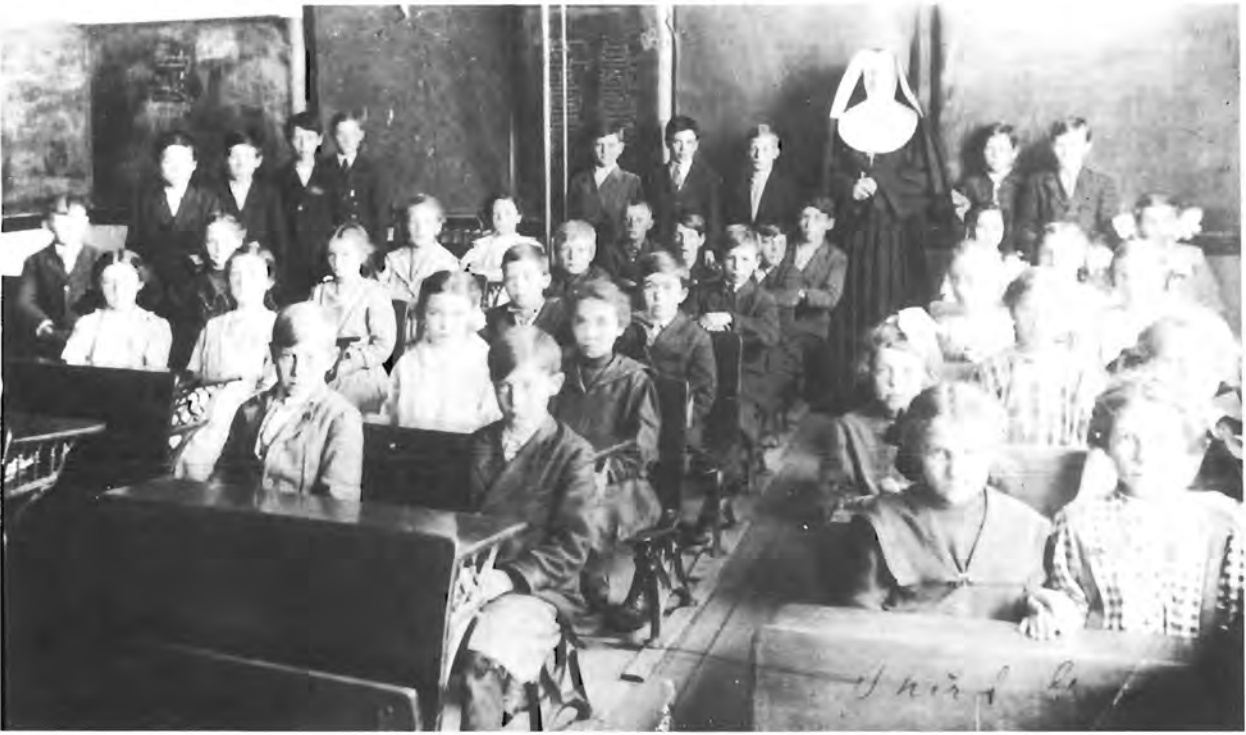
The teachers in the C.C.D. Program were all volunteer parents and taught students through the junior and senior classes. In the 1976-77 and 1977-78 school sessions excellent speakers and special films provided instruction for the junior and senior high school classes. However, the students did not respond well so starting in 1977, Father Beeson decided to teach these classes in a series of eight to ten lessons. Sister Roberta Brich assisted Father Beeson by teaching the seventh grade during 1978-79. Father Beeson has successfully continued teaching junior and senior classes in a series of lessons on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings between the Masses. Thursday classes are held in the parish house; the Sunday class is taught in the church.

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS ST. JOSEPH ALUMNA HONOR ROLL IN THE SERVICE OF GOD

FAMILY NAME	AFFILIATION
Francis Ostdiek	Diocese of Des Moines
James J. Hannan	Campion College
	Jesuit, LaCrosse
Thomas J. Costin	Des Moines Diocese
Cletus Portel	Des Moines Diocese
James Lafferty	Holy Ghost
	Congregation
Arthur Ring	Des Moines Diocese
Donald O'Connor OMI	San Antonio, Texas
Jerome Schnitker	Des Moines Diocese
Robert Alferts (L)	Des Moines Diocese
James Freeman	Des Moines Diocese
Harold Fischer (L)	Des Moines Diocese
Gene Fischer	San Diego, California
Charles O'Rourke	

RELIGIOUS NAMES

Anna Brich	Sister Mary Thecla	Sisters of Humility
Mary Brummer	Sister Mary Anthony	" " "
Bridget Doyle	Sister Mary Loretta	" " "
Julia Flynn	Sister Mary Ursula	" " "
Ursula Finney	Sister Mary Humilita	" " "
Teresa Hannan	Sister Mary Aloysius	" " "
Sarah Hannan	Sister Mary Agnes	" " "
Amelia Holzfaster	Sister Mary Barbara	" " "
Ellen McLaughlin	Sister Mary Leo	" " "
Eunice Lafferty	Sister Mary Agatha	" " "
Mary Lafferty	Sister Mary Xavier	" " "
Hazel Miller	Sister Mary Daniel	" " "
Ellen Minahan	S. Mary Marcelline	" " "
Margaret Tracy	Sister Mary Monica	" " "
Elizabeth Wilmes	Mother Mary Magdalen	" " "
Angela Doyle (L)	Sister Mary Jeanne	" " "
Elizabeth Doyle (L)	Sister Mary St. Michael	" " "
Dolors Doyle (L)	Sister Mary Dolors	" " "
Cecilia Brich	Sister Mary Roberta	" " "
Jeanne Minahan	Sister Mary Ernestine	" " "
Barbara Ring	Sister Mary Barbara	" " "
Marilyn Schierbroek	Sister Mary Marilyn	" " "
Evelyn Cavanaugh	Sister Mary Rita	Sisters of St. Benedict
Catherine Soppe	Sister Mary Marcella	Sisters of Mary
		of the Union
Mary Meyerring	Sister Mary Thecla	Servants of Mary
Helen Turner	Sister Mary Patricia	sisters of Loretta
Carlene Patten (L)	Sister Judene Marie	Sisters of Humility
Karen Burns (L)	Sister Mary Donald	" " "



3rd Grade

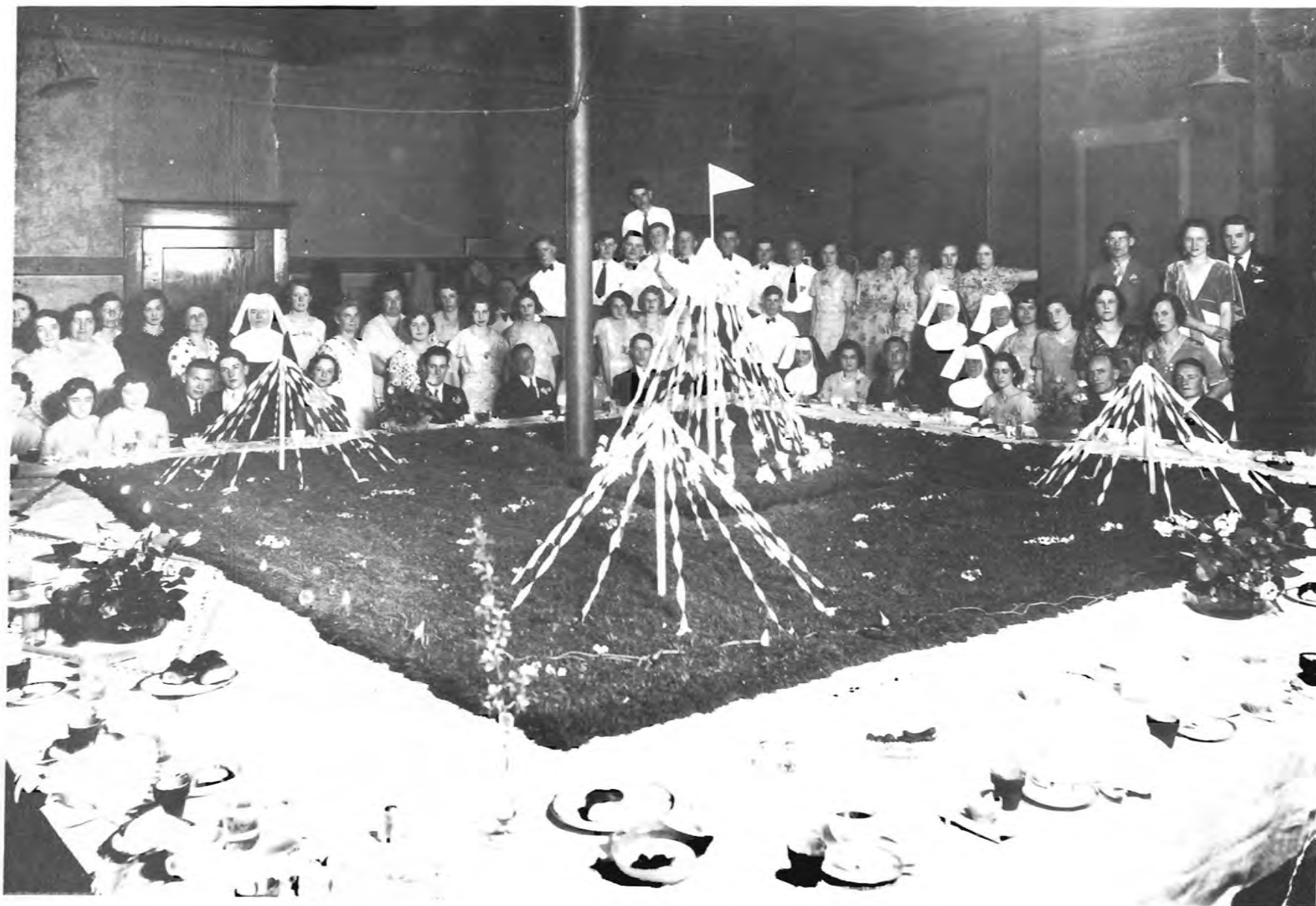


1924



All of the high school 1929-30

Spring 1932 Junior-Senior Banquet at the K. C. Hall



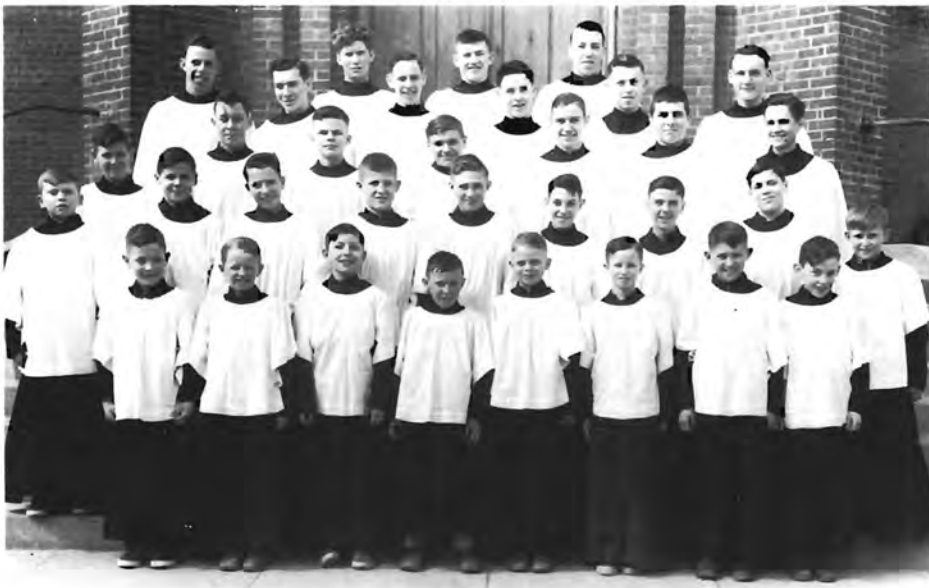


1935 - Junior-Senior Banquet at K. C. Hall



First Communion, 1944





Knights of the Altar, 1958



Class of 62 prom servers

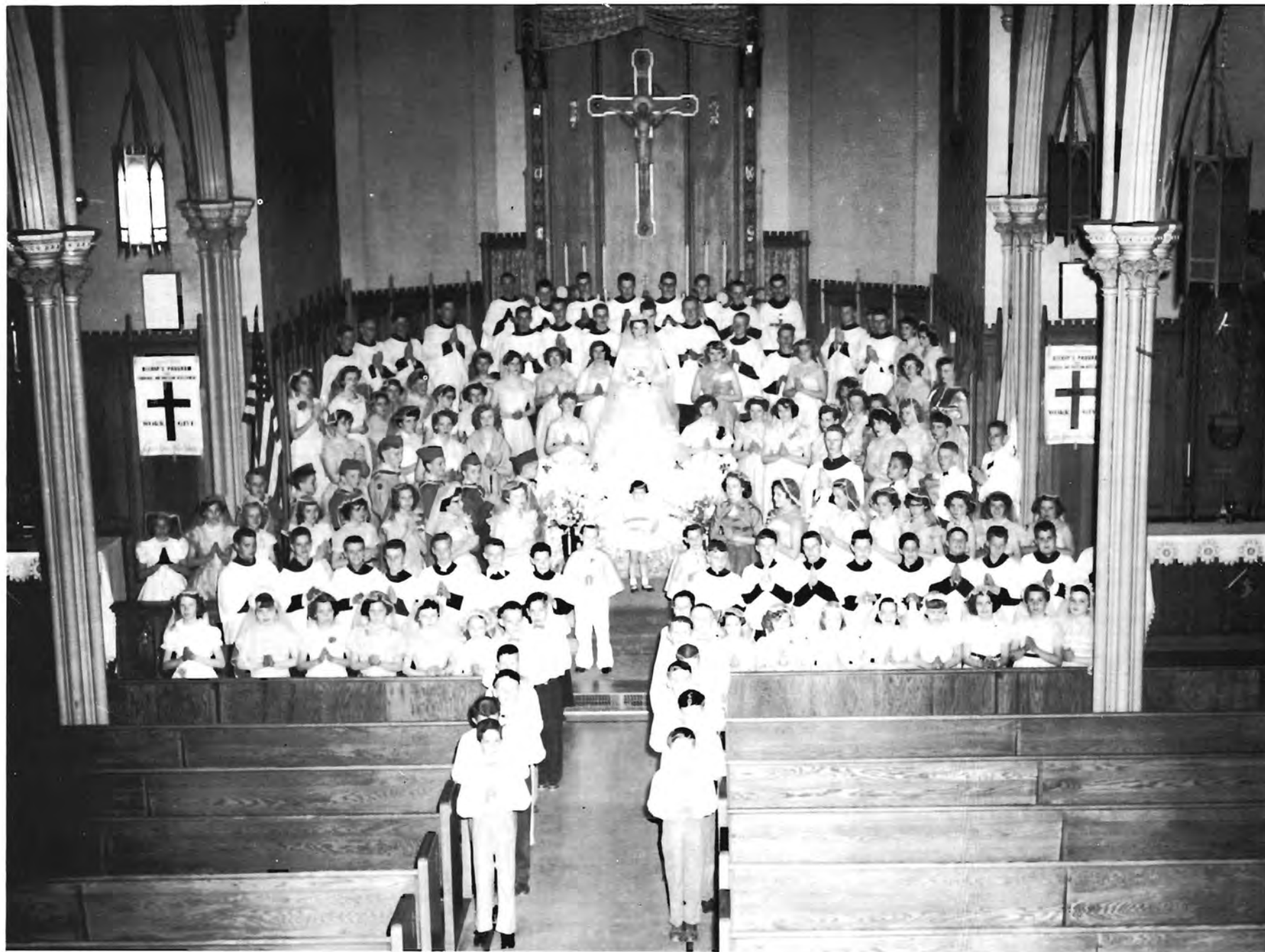


**1960 - Ron Christiansen, Molly Hobbins,
Father Ryan, Tom Schnitker, Jerry Green**



Waiting for Passengers...
Mrs. Louis B. Ring sits in
the driver's seat of her 60
passenger school bus.





Ceremony at close of the Marian Year in Neola, Iowa. Procession, Coronation of Mary's Statue, Sermon and Benediction.

CURRENT ST. JOE PICTURES

Opening of Pre-Kindergarten



1981-1982 CCD Teachers



"Music Machine" by St. Joe School





St. Joe Saddle Club



Outdoor Mass at Bill Masker's Farm



1904

Motto: "Conquer and Still to Conquer"

Flower: Rose

Colors: Blue, White and Gold

back row l to r: Jerome Shea, Fr. Drexler, Will Ryan middle row: Anna Finnerty, Ella Pawelski, Catherine Schierbrock, Margie Gorman front row: Katherine Finnerty and Julia Hegarty

1908

Motto: "In All Things God is Glorified"

Flower: Pink Rose

Colors: Pink and Blue

l to r: Frances Minahan and Elsie Brey



1909

Motto, Flower, Colors not available.

Agnes Hannan, Theresa Hannan, Cecilia Dargin, Myrtle Burbridge



1910

Motto: "In God We Trust"

back row l to r: Adeline Wilmes, Daniel Nuschey, Maria Ryan front row: Sadie Beam, Theresa Dillon, Gertrude Pogge, Marcelline Reynolds

1912

Motto: "Before Honor is Humility"

Flower: Pink Carnation

Colors: Blue, White and Gold



Angela Flynn
Catherine Doyle
Grace Weber
Julia Doyle
Grace Shierbrock

Mary Loohey
Hubert Pogge
Bernard Kenealy
James Kennedy
Caroline Fischer



Mary Wilmes
Anna McCarthy
Cecilia Jacoby
Honora Costin
Vera Green



Music: Jennie Bowen

1913

Motto: "Onward Bound"
Colors: Lavender and White
Flower: Tea Rose
Music: Iva Parrish

Leo Flynn
Helen Echrick
James Tracy
Cecilia Green
James Flynn
Margaret Grace



1914

Motto: "Excelsior"
Flower: American Beauty Rose
Colors: Blue and Gold

Paul Nuschy
Anna Brich
Mary Flynn
Irene Hegarty





Ella Nuschy
 Josie McDonald
 Helen Doyle
 Genevieve Finney
 Francis Dargin

1915

Motto: "Gradation"
 Flower: White Rose
 Colors: Pink and Green

John Kenealy
 Joseph O'Connor
 Edward Burns
 John Flynn



Rose Menke
 Eileen Talty
 Mary Van Ausdln
 Joseph Van Ausdln



Alfred Pogge
 Agnes Masker
 Gertrude Flynn
 John Von Hebel

Music: Mabel Bardsley

1916

Motto: "Forward"
 Flower: White Rose
 Colors: Turquoise and White



Rosalie McGuire
 Ignatius McCarthy
 Mary Burns
 Francis Bentiage
 Josephine Flynn

1917

Motto: "Climb Through the Rocks, be Rugged"

Flower: Lily of the Valley

Colors: Purple and Gold

No picture available

Dave Dargin

Francis Van Ausdln

John Doyle

Joseph Kenealy

John Green

Luke Kenney

James O'Connor

George Bentlage

Anastasia Ryan

Mary Lafferty

Veronica Gaffney

Hazel Zimmerman

Florence Flynn

Margaret Doyle

Genevieve Talty

Music: Hazel Zimmerman

1918

Motto: "Animo et Fide"

Flower: Rose

Colors: Old Rose and Silver Gray

Ursula Lafferty

Barbara Menke

Frances Jacoby

Catherine Burns



Florence McCarthy

Florence Muschy

Cecilia Doyle

1919

Motto: "Pro Dei et Pro Patria"

Flower: Bon Siline

Colors: Gold and Victory Blue

Music: Ida Grace and Marie Porter

Loretto O'Connor

Ida Grace

Vivian Talty

Floyd Zimmerman

Genevieve Green

Marie Porter





1920

Motto: "Vital via Virtus"
Flower: Alpine Rose
Colors: Old Rose and Nile Green

Katherine Cavanaugh
Thomas Costin
Helen Maguire
Angela Lustgraaf



1921

Motto: "Not Evening but Dawn"
Flower: Rose
Colors: Old Gold and Brown

Marie Kern
Florence Hegarty
Catherine Nuschy
Regina Lafferty



Jerome Eckrich
Mary Walker
Edward Fischer
Beatrice Jacoby



Paul Brich
Bernice Talty
Monica McGuire
Helen Weber

Music: Bernice Talty



1922

Motto: "Out of the Harbor into the Deep"
Flower: Red Rose
Colors: Maroon and Gold

Walter Holzfaster
Mary Cavanaugh
Fred Doyle
Edna Henderson

Gertrude Doyle
 Mae Kenney
 Richard O'Connor
 Emmet Doyle
 Cecilia Wilmes
 Edward Kenney



1923

Motto: "Sunrise, Sunset"

Flower: Des Alps Rose

Colors: Celestial Blue and Salmon

Rowena Talty
 Marie Cavanaugh
 Lucille Van Ausdln
 Velma Henley



Herman Myerring
 Eunice Lafferty
 Ellen Cavanaugh
 Francis Pogge



Donald Burns
 Clara Fischer
 Francis McGuire
 Francis Lustgraaf



Mary Herberger
 Geraldine Grote
 Barbara Grote
 Mary Powers



Music: Clara Fischer, Barbara Grote, Geraldine Grote



1924
 Harry Walker
 John Herberger
 Clem Brich
 Cletus Nuschy
 John McGuire
 Rosalie Talty
 Estella Musselman
 Blanche Ring
 Justin O'Connor



Joseph Pogge
 Joseph Burns
 Joseph Doyle
 Cornelius Musselman



1925

Lawrence Brich
 Anna Myerring
 Alice Weber
 Gertrude Van Ausdln



Mary Talty
 Cyril Walker
 Frank Menke
 Julia Weldon

Basil Doyle
 Arthur Doyle
 Maria Mussleman
 Linus Fitzsimmons



1926

Motto: "The Higher We Rise, the Grander the View"

Flower: Ophelia Rose Bud

Colors: Blue and Gold

Margrerite O'Connor

Frances Thomas
 Elizabeth Herberger
 Marcella Brich
 Florence Kessler
 Pauline Walker
 Marion Murphy
 Lawrence Walker
 James Lafferty
 Joe Corbett



1927

Motto: "Tonight We Launch but Where Shall We Anchor?"

Flower: Ophelia Rose Buds

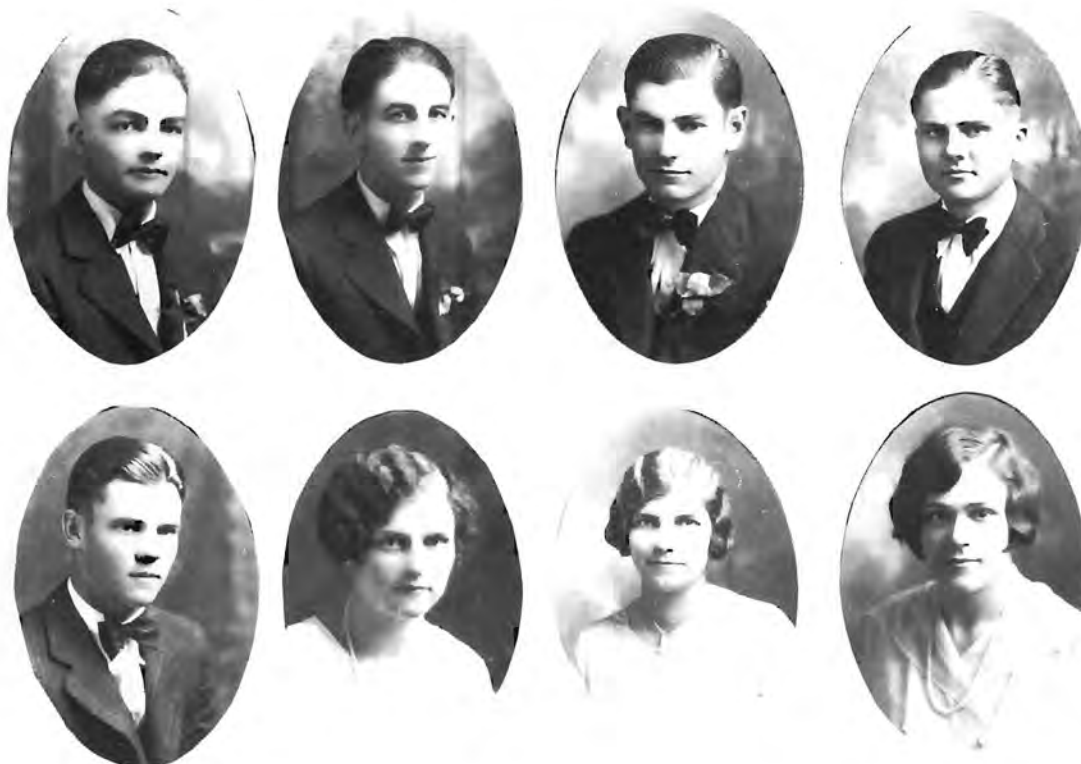
Colors: Purple and Gold

Leon Walker
 Margaret Grote
 Lucille Leuck
 Bernice Rushenberg





Paul Von Hebel
Margaret Sweeney
Thelma Talty
Cathrine Ring
Edward Elias



1928

Motto: "Excelsior"
Flower: Sweet Pea
Colors: Blue, White, and Gold

Joseph Schnitker
Arthur Ring
Phillip Dermody
Phillip Brich

Leo Hobbins
Angela Cavanaugh
Helen Ausdemore
Florence Bishop



1929

Motto: "Vincent qui se Vincent"
Flower: Ophelia Rose
Colors: Orchid and Silver

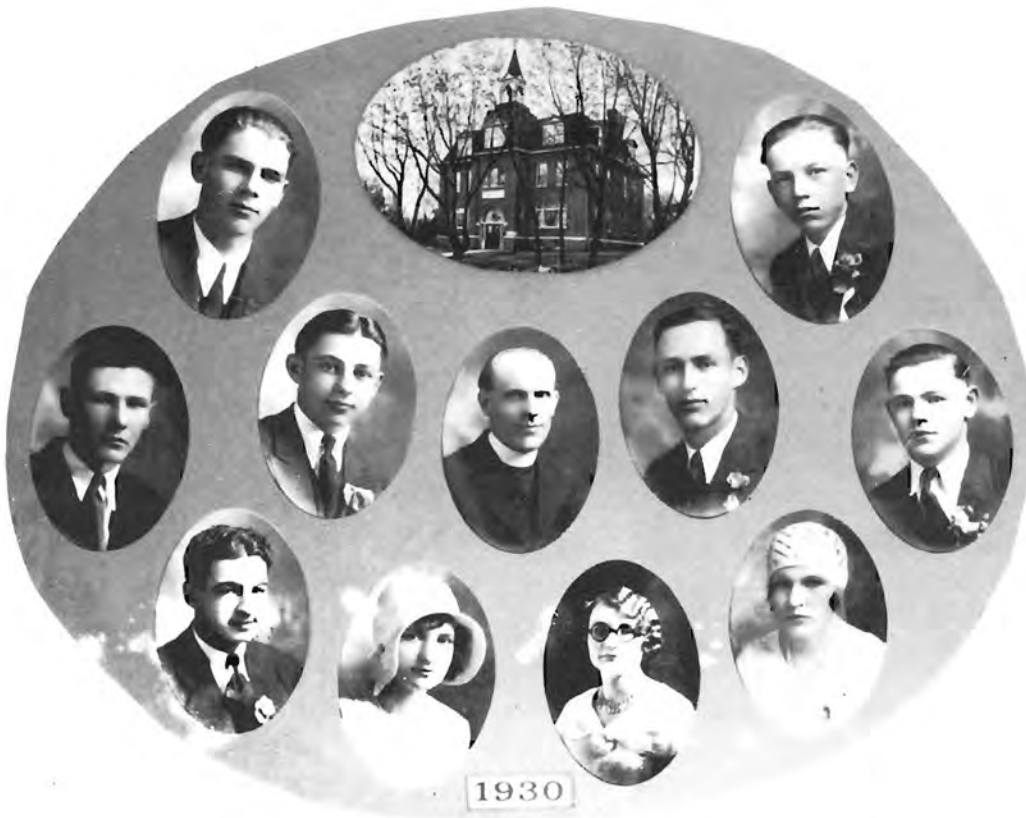
Helen Donovan
Jerome Thompson
Phillip Duschaneck
Iola Loeltz



Helen Minahan
Margaret Brougham
Eulalia Grote



Rita Musselman
Richard Sweeney
Bernadine Kessler



1930
Flower: Ophelia Rose
Colors: Coral and Silver
Theresa O'Connor
Angela Talty
Ethel Good
Harry Christiansen
Bernard Minahan
Clement Masker
Norbert Talty
George Elias
Leo Dermody
Joseph Sweeney



1931

Motto: "Out of the harbor
into deep channels"
Flower: Joanhill Rose
Colors: Orchid and Yellow

Frank Grote
Delores Weber
Helen Clare McGinty
Francis Steffins



Leo Turner
Mary Murphy
Mary Hobbins
Timothy Donovan

Patricia Sweeney
Josephine Schnitker
Patrick Doyle
Angela Von Hebel
Cecilia Schnitker



1932

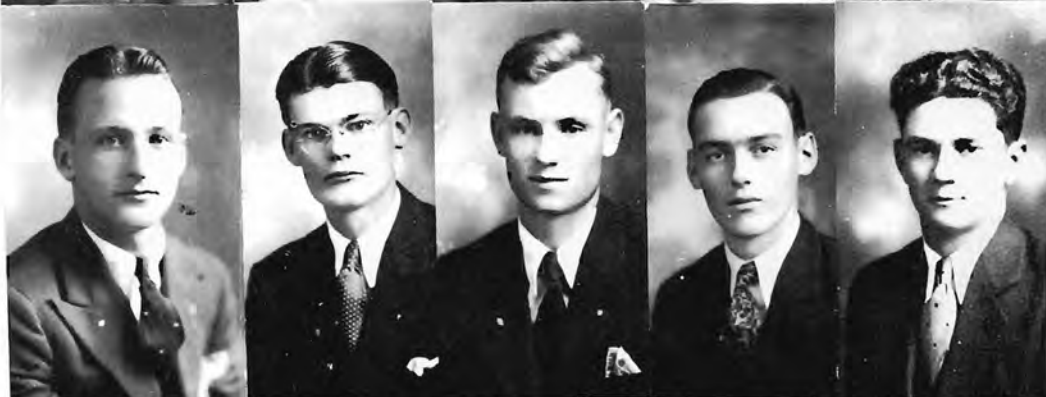
Flower: Sweet Pea
Colors: Pink and Green

Helen Grote
Louise Elias
Margaaret Hansen
Mary C. Maguire

Mary Jo Good
Colette Hannifan
Francis O'Connor
Leona Soppe
Leila Langin



Daniel Cavanaugh
Daniel Cavanaugh (city)
Arthur Christiansen
Joseph Brougham
Joseph Hobbins



Joseph Weber
Gwendolyn Floerchinger
Helen Turner
Robert Doyle
Genevieve Rushenberg (not pictured)



1933

Colors : Coral and silver
Leo Clancy
John Sweeney
Urban Goesser
James Cavanaugh



Marie McDonald
Theonita Wellman
Cathrine Sweeney
Loretta Hobbins



Loretta Ring
Cecilia Sweeney
Anna Henderson
Frances Donovan
Gertrude Dixon



1934

Margaret Neville
Bernice Schnitker
Harry Grote
Cathrine Grote



Marie Goeser
Helen Fischer
Joseph Hansen
Daniel Doyle





Paul Hines
Vincent Brummer
Joseph McDonald
Phylis McDonald

Victor Shea
Eileen Shea
Cathrine Hobbins
Robewrt Pickernell

1935

Colors: Old Rose and Blue

Philip Doyle
Thomas Brougham
Robert Sweeney
Helen Ring
Sadie Cole
Celeste Hannifan
Alice Langin
Thelma Wellman
Eileen Weir
Rose Mary Hansen
Gertrude McDonald
Cecilia Dixon
Mildred Dixon

1936

Philip Brougham
Ambrose Ausdemore
Gerald McGinty
Richard Schnitker
Bernard McDonald
Bernard Schnitker
Harold Delanty
Magdalene Wolf
Josephine McDonald
Josephine Dixon
Helen Dixon
Evelyn Elias
Helen Cavanaugh
Ione Christiansen

1937

Joseph Goeser
Gerald Goeser
Thomas Rhyan
Ethelreda McGinty
Cathrine Doyle
Mildred Grote
Elaine Kenealy
Lyla Burke
Maurice Friedman
Rose Mary Doyle
Patricia Doyle
Agnes Hansen



1938

Motto: "Excelsior"

Flower: Sweetheart Rose

Colors: Nile Green and Orchid

from l to r: Rose McDonald, Francis Green,
Catherine Cavanaugh, Cornelius Fischer,
Dolores Berens, Ray Stinn, **Quinton Dixon**,
Mary Grote, **Rita Rushenberg**, **Helen**
Langer, Margaret Pickernell
Donald Scott (not pictured)

1939
Motto: "Sail On"
Flower: Rosebud
Colors: Coral and Azure Blue

Raymond Jungferman
Virginia Fischer
Bernice Goesser
Beatrice Goesser
George Ring



Agnes Gayman
Aloysius Kenealy
Patricia Rushenberg
Jack Kenealy
Marietta Stangl



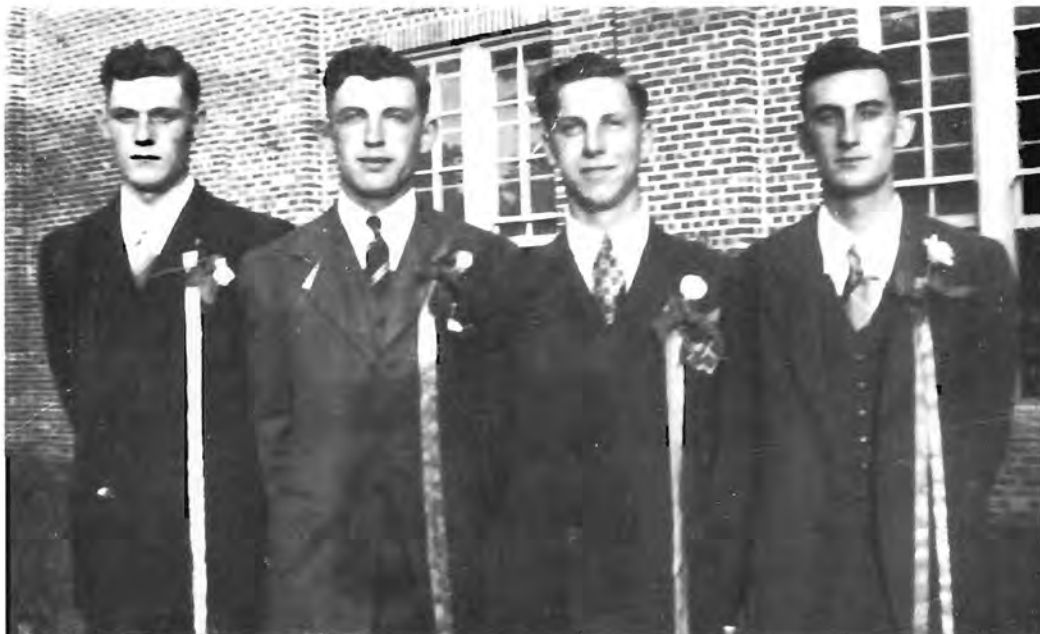
Margaret Doyle
Alyce Schwerzick
Betty Ryan
Paul Cavanaugh
Paul Ring (not pictured)



1940

from l to r: Loretto
Schnitker, Jerome
Schnitker, Philip Schnitker,
Joseph Fischer, John Elias,
Leonard Wellman, Eugene
Masker, Robert Berens,
Lucille Driver.





1941

from l to r: Eugene Langer, Vincent Kenealy, Francis McDonald, Raymond McDonald
Kathleen Kenny, Lucille Wear (not pictured)

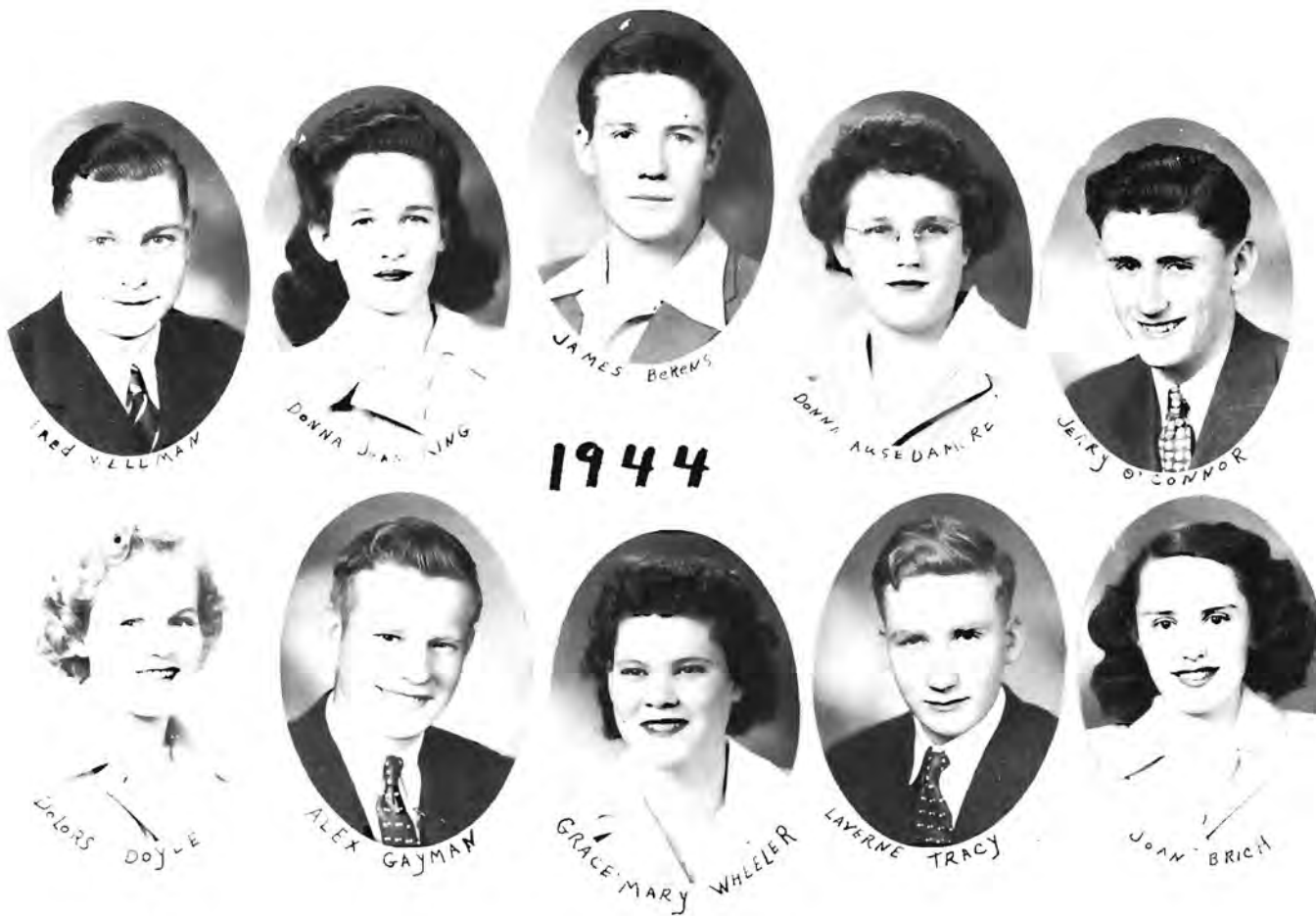
1942

front row l to r: Patricia Kenny, Rose Mary Stinn, Eyelene Masker
backrow l to r: Betty O'Connor, Leo Schnitker, Jean Dixon, Ruth Ann Stinn, William Ryan, Joan Doyle.



1943

l to r: Pauline Wellman, Francis Fischer, May Clare Ring, Richard Kenealy, Catherine McDonald, Louis Pogge.
The right two people unidentified.



1944

Motto: "Through Trials to Glory"
 Flower: American Beauty Rose
 Colors: Blue and White

Frederick Wellman, Donna Jean Ring, James Berens, Donna Ausdemore, **Jerry O'Connor**

Dolores Doyle, Alex Gayman, Grace Mary Wheeler, Laverne Tracy, Joan Brich.



FRANCIS R. RICH



HELEN C. McDONALD



MAX J. FISCHER



CECILIA A. WELLMAN



IRENE M. KUPFER



JOYCE LARSON



FRANCIS R. POGGE

IRENE M. AUSDEMORE



DOROTHY C. BRICH



BETTY J. MASKER



AGNES MUELLER



LUCILLE C. SCHMIDT



ROBERT C. FISCHER

1945

Motto: "For God and Country"
Flower: Pink Rose
Colors: Pink and Blue

1946

Arthur Langer
Joseph Grote
John Talty
John Schnitker
Ralph Patten

John Pogge
Roberta Kenealy
Mary Fischer
Harold Fischer



CLASS
ST. JOSEPH'S
HIGH SCHOOL
1946



GENELL
STUDIOS



Motto: "Out of the Darkness into the Dawn"

Flower: Wild Rose

Colors: Baby Blue and Old Rose

Loretto McDonald
Richard Masker
Beverly Masker
Robert Masker

Jerome Christiansen
Paul Wellman
Mary Ellen Staley



CLASS
ST. JOSEPH'S
HIGH SCHOOL
1947



GENELLI
STUDIOS



CLASS
ST. JOSEPH'S
HIGH SCHOOL
 1948



1948

Motto: "Honors Wait at Labor's Gate"
 Flower: American Beauty Rose
 Colors: Blue and Gold

Motto: "Ropes of the Past Ring Bells of the Future"
 Flower: Red Carnation
 Colors: Silver and Blue





RICHARD J. ALPERS



MARY JANE GREEN



ROBERT J. BRICH



HAROLD BRICH



MARY ELLEN DOYLE



LOUIS G. ECHARICH



THOMAS J. STOK



MARY JO MASKE



LEO B. KEFFALY



JOANN I. BERENS



THA JANE ING



PATRICK J. McDONALD



1950

Motto: "Knowledge Comes but Wisdom Lingers"
Flower: Red Rose
Colors: Baby Blue and Shell Pink

Motto: "Through Christ Our Lord"
Flower: Carnation
Colors: Pink and White



Rosemary Collette Brich



Mary Alice Talty



Jeanette Ann Loughran



Ruth Mary Ausdemore



Urban Leo Langer

St. Joseph High School

Neola, Iowa

*Class of
1951*



Mary Joanne Schierbrock



Sara Jean Zimmerman



Donald Edward Fischer



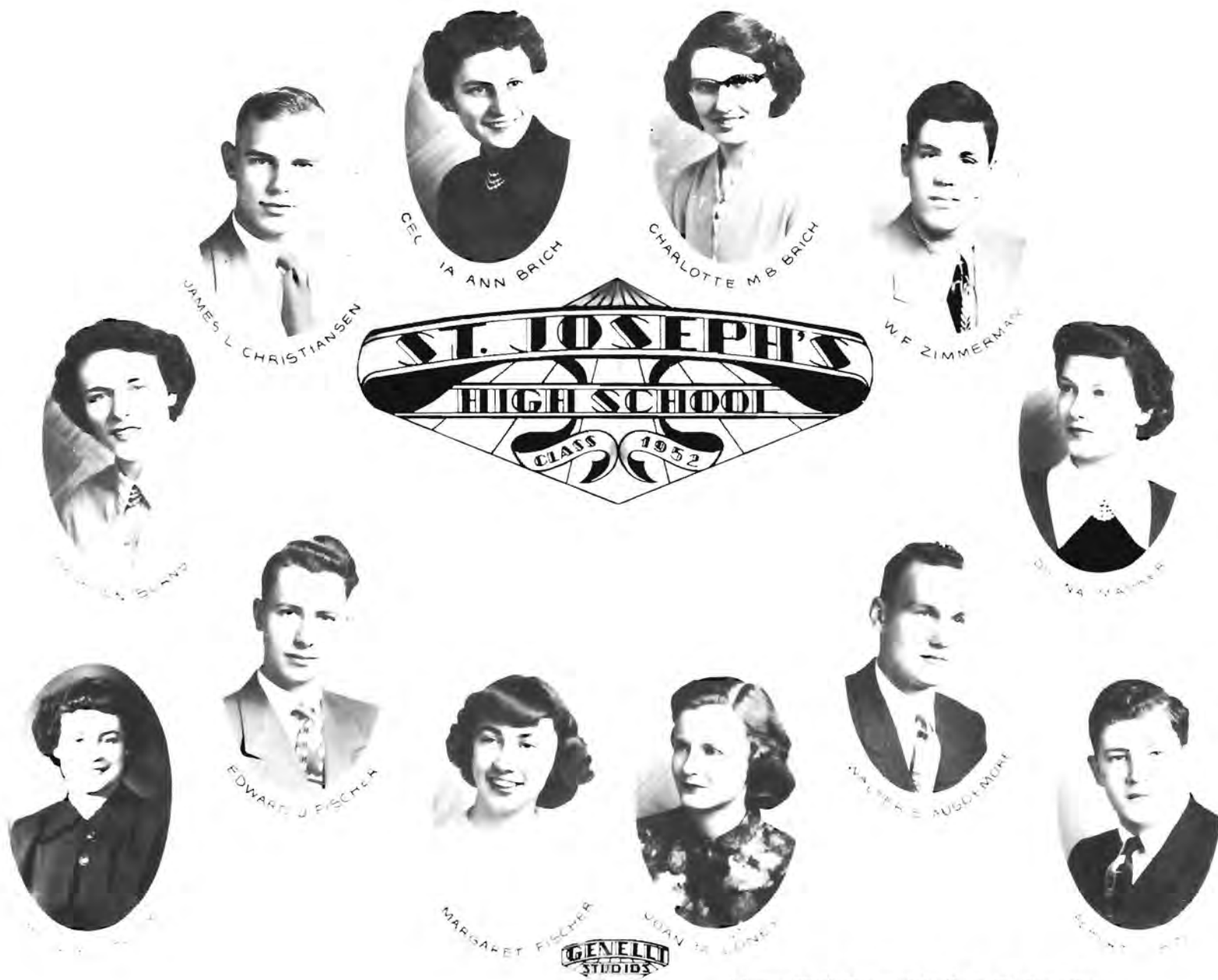
Rita Marie O'Rourke



Robert Francis Schwieso



Lois Anne Masker



Motto: "With Ropes of the Past, We Ring the Bells of the Future"
 Flower: Pink Carnation
 Colors: Blue and gold



JOHN ECKRICH

CATHERINE BRICH

JEAN PATTEN

MARGARET AUERS



JOHN W. RACE

DANIEL C. SIMS



ER

ROSEMARY RING

JOYCE HOLZFASTER

EVELYN LOUGHRAN

CATHERINE GREEN

Motto: "Forward Ever - Backward Never"
Flower: American Beauty Rose
Colors: Blue and Silver



SALLY BRADY



FRANCIS J. TURNER



JEANETTE RING



SHIRLEY ANN RING



LEO J. SCHIERBROCK



LENORE FISCHER

ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS 1934



MARY MARGARET BRICH



FREDERICK J. SCHNITZER



KENNETH G. STANGL



DONALD J. ZIMMERMAN



MARYJEAN LONEY



THOMAS ADAMS



JOSEPHINE BRICH



SHEILA RHETA PATTEN



LEO E. MASCHER

Motto: "Don't Try Dying but Die Trying"
Flower: Ophelia Rose
Colors: Blue and Yellow



MARY BERNICE GREEN



DELORES MAE VOSS



HARRY WILLIAM AUDEMORE



MARY ELLEN MCGUIRE



ALBERTA MAE LUSTGRAAF



JANICE RAE MORENSEN

Motto: "Out of the Harbor into the Deep"
Colors: Blue and Gold





ST. JOSEPH
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS 1958



MAX A. NELSON



WILLIAM C. MASKER



LARRY R. DARGIN



MICHAEL J. WELLMAN



MARGARET M. ADAMS



WILLIAM C. BRICE



LYLE T. McDERMOTT

Motto: "Forward Ever - Backward Never"
 Flower: Carnation
 Colors: Blue and White



BETTY J. CHRISTIANSEN



DENNIS JOSEPH GREEN



LOIS MARY RING



RONALD W. TEMMIE



KLARETTA PATRYCYA KONZ



JOSEPH R. WELLMAN



CONNIE JO MORTENSEN



JEANETTE M. BRICH



RAYMOND J. ALFERTS



DORAMAE DERMODY



MICHAEL W. MCGUIRE



JOLENE F. STANGL



RONALD J. RING





JEAN MINAHAN



BILL CHRISTIANSEN



CINDY GREEN



HELEN GREEN



JERRY WELLMAN



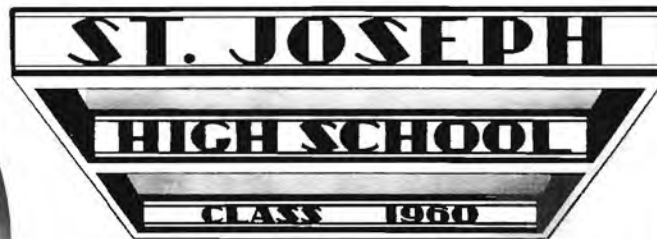
MARY AUSDEMORE



SHARON MARTIN



JANE SCHIERBROCK



IDA DARGIN



JANET MEYERRING



SHARON MCCONNELL



PAT TURNER



MARY TURNER



TOM BRICH



MARGARET RING

Motto: "Not at the Top but Climbing"
 Flower: Yellow Rose
 Colors: Red and White



THOMAS J. SCHNITKER



TIMOTHY J. SHEA



JUDITH WELLMAN



JOSEPH DERMODY



FRANCIS J. BRICH



PATRICIA McDERMOTT

ST. JOSEPH
CLASS OF 1961
HIGH SCHOOL



MARY LORETTA DERMODY



GERALD L. McDERMOTT



DONALD RING, JR.



MARY LEE RING



BERNARD RING



CARILYN BRICH



DEAN R. FISCHER



CAROLINE MARTIN



Flower: Red Rose



MARILYN BRICH



HERBERT BRICH



THOMAS P. MARTIN, Jr.



THOMAS D. DERMODY



MARY JO HOBBS



JANE WEAR



TERRY J. WEAR



KENNETH G. ALFERS



PETER M. TURNER



DONNA MAE PORTER

ST. JOSEPH
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS
of
1962

Skyline Studio - Harlan



RENEE KAY



JAMES L. TURNER



ROY CHRISTIANSEN



THOMAS V. SHEA



JEAN MORTENSEN



JANICE MINAHAN



GERALD J. GREEN



WESLEY STAMP



MICHAEL J. GREEN



JOAN T. TURNER



PATRICIA A. MASKER



GLORIA A. OSBORN



JANE M. WELLMAN

ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS of 1963

Skyline Studio - HARLAN



LINDA C. FISCHER



GENE MEYERRING



KARL DREHER



DAN STAMP



M. BONITA McDERMOTT



DEAN SCHNITKER



DAVID BRICH



LARRY ROANE



RAYMOND MARTIN



JOHN WELLMAN



PATRICK MINAHAN



KAY MORTENSEN



BARBARA STAMP

ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS of 1964

Skyline Studio - HARLAN



ROBERTA DOYLE



SHERRY RING



MARY ELLEN COLPITTS



FRANCES DREHER



DORIS ROBINSON



JANET KENEALY



JANET LUSTGRAAF



FRANKIE RING



MARTHA COLPITTS



SHARON J. RING



MARY ELLEN McCONNELL

ST. JOSEPH
HIGH SCHOOL
1965



STEPHEN M. BRICH



TIMOTHY J. HOBBS



JAMES L. GREEN



MARY LOU ROBINSON



EILEEN SCHIERBROCK



KATHLEEN SCHIERBROCK



JEANINE M. SHEA



1939 - Back row left to right: George Ring, Paul Cavanaugh, Rev. Raymond Conley, **Bill Ryan**, John Elias and Bob Berens. Front row: Ray Jungferman, Phil Schnitker, **Jack Kenealy** and **Vince Kenealy**

1940 Girls BB Champs

Front row: Bernice Zitzlesperger, **Joan Doyle**

2nd row: **Alice Dixon**, Rosie McDonald, Lucille Driver, Ruthann Stinn, Kathleen Kinney

3rd row: Letty Schnitker, Eylene Masker, Lucille Wear, Pauline Wellman, Delores Driver, Mae Clare Ring, Jack Farrell



1954 - Coach Wayne Gruble, Jerry Ring, Fritz Schnitker, Ken Stangl, Don Zimmerman, Don Simms, Leo Schierbrock, Joe Burns, **Jerry Kenealy**, Tom Adams, Jack Alferts, Jim Dargin, Leo Masker



1962 - 1st row: Keith Christiansen, Jim Green, Steve Brich, Kevin Christiansen
 2nd row: Mike Green, Mike Christiansen, Pete Turner, Ken Alferts, Tom Martin, Tom Dermody
 3rd row: Con Rasmussen, Tim Hobbins, Larry Roane, Lonnie Ring, Pat Minahan, John Holtzfaster, Ray Martin, Dean Schnitker

1948



1948 - 1st row: Jim Burns, Dick Scott, Buck Mauer, Marlowe Lustgraaf
2nd row: Emmett Talty, Dick Fischer, Stangl, Jerry Schierbrock



1962 - 1st row: Gloria Osborne, Mollie Hobbs, Rene Kay, Linda Fischer, Joan Turner, Jan Minahan, Stamp, Jean Mortensen
2nd row: Doris Robinson, Kay Mortensen, Frankie Ring, Jan Lustgraaf, Donna Porter, **Roberta Doyle**, Con Rasmussen, Joyce Mortensen, Kathleen Schierbrock, Sharon Ring, Eileen Schierbrock, Mary Lou Robinson

1958 - Ben Ring, Herb Brich, Tom Schnitker, Dave Nelson, Bill Christensen, Larry Dargin, Max Nelson, Bill Masker, Ray Alfars, Dennis Green, Bill Brich, Jed McDermott, Joe Dermody, Dennis Nelson, Mick McGuire, Pat Turner





1954 - 1st row: Andy Ring, Tom Adams, Leo Masker, Don Zimmerman, Ken Stangl, Leo J. Schierbrock, Fritz Schnitker, Gene Fisher
 2nd row: Jack Alferts, Bob Alferts, **Tim Kenealy**, Jerry Ring, **Jerry Kenealy**, Mike Dermody, Terry Green, Jim Dargin, Jim Freeman, Wayne Graybill

1948 - 1st row: Phyllis Loughran, Lorraine Schnitker, Rita Wellman, Liz Burns, Bea Langer, Donna Brich, Betty Alferts, Rosemary Green
 2nd row: Martha Ring, Mary Jo Masker, Theresa Ring, Joanne Berens, **Mary Ellen Doyle**, Grace, Rita O'Rourke
 3rd row: Mary Alice Talty, Jeanette Loughran, Mary Jane Green, Joanne Schierbrock, Ruth Ausdemore, Rosie Brich, Jeanne Zimmerman, Lois Masker





1954 - Back row: Bernice Green, Kay Stangl, Mary Ellen McGuire, Delores Voss, Marilyn Schierbrock, Jeanne Holzfast, Marge Lustgraaf
Front row: Jeanette Ring, Lenore Fischer, Shirley Ring, Josie Brich, Jan Mortensen, Alberta Lustgraaf



1959 - Front row l to r: Connie Mortensen, Helen Green, Jeanette Brich, Jane Schierbrock, Betty Christiansen, Jean Minahan
2nd row: Mollie Dermody, Callie Martin, Sharon McConnell, Caroline Brich, Pat McDermott, Jolene Stangl, Sharon Martin, Marilyn Brich, Mary Lu Ring



1951 - 1st row: Maureen Burns, Willie Echrich, Donna Masker, Margaret Fischer, Mary Alice Talty, Cecilia Brich
2nd row: Lois Dau, Rosie Brich, Jean Zimmerman, Joanne Schierbrock, Jean Echrich, Margaret Fischer

1935

Eileen Wear,
Rosemary Hansen,
Magdalen Wolfe, M. Goeser,
Patti Cole, Evelyn Robinson,
Sadie Cole, C. Hanifan,
Bernice Schnitker, Helen Connoles



1935 - Bottom Row left to right: Jerry McGiney, Don Scott and Tom Ryan

Middle Row left to right: Phil Doyle and Morris Freeman. Top Row: Ambrose Ausdmore, Coach Joe Sweeney and Robert Sweeney



**SISTERS OF HUMILITY
WHO HAVE SERVED ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
1891 - 1982**

**SISTERS OF HUMILITY
NEOLA MISSION**

1891-92 S. Teresa Erbacher S. Anthony Hanson S. Bernadine Kurtz	1915-16 S. Dominica S. Victorine S. Eugene	1923-24 S. Dominica S. Baptist S. Raphael Gaffey S. F. Xavier S. Bernadette S. Jerome S. Stephen Hanson S. Amelia	S. Amelia S. Louis Holtkamp
1892-93 S. Teresa Erbacher	1915-16 S. Dominica S. Victorine S. Eugene	1924-25 S. Dominica S. Bernard Ackerman S. Wilhelmina Ford S. Raphael S. Stephen S. F. Xavier S. Amelia	1934-35 S. Eulalia S. Borromeo S. Amelia
1893-94 S. Teresa Erbacher	1915-17 S. Teresa S. Eugene S. Dominica S. Victorine	1925-26 S. Dominica S. Gertrude McGowan S. Innocaentia Halpin S. Alberta Braun S. Raphael S. Nicholas S. F. Xavier S. Amelia	1935-36 S. Zita S. Borromeo S. Amelia
1894-1909 (information not available)	1917-18 M.M. Joseph Galvin S. Teresa S. Eugene S. Dominica S. Victorine	1926-27 S. Dominica S. Gertrude S. Alberta S. Ignatius McCabe S. Clementine McGuire S. Raphael S. F. Xavier S. Amelia S. Catherine	1936-37 S. Eileen Rosebery S. Zita
1909-10 S. Aloysius Griffin S. Dominica Devlin S. Cecilia Darling S. Eulalia Warin S. Regina Herbert S. Berthmans Hazard	1918-19 S. Teresa S. Agatha Fitzpatrick S. Baptist Kutcher S. Adelaide Wietzstein S. Dominica S. Victorine	1927-28 S. Dolores Norman S. Amelia	1937-38 S. Zita S. Roberta Johnson S. St. Therese S. Eileen
1910-11 S. Dominica S. Cecilia S. Eulalia S. Margaret Mary Norman S. Catherine O'Brien S. Eugene Schwartz S. Victorine Hogan	1919-20 S. Teresa S. Baptist S. Agatha S. Adelaide S. Dominica	1929-30 S. Clementine S. Stephen S. Borromeo Barry S. Zita Spichel	1938-40 S. Zita S. St. Therese
1911-12 S. Dominica S. Cecilia S. Eulalia S. Geraldine Upham S. Angela Morrin S. Catherine S. Jerome Gordon	1920-21 S. Teresa S. Euphrasia Donohoe S. Agatha S. Baptist S. Adelaide S. Dominica	1930-31 S. Clementine S. Stephen S. Borromeo S. Amelia	1940-41 S. Zita S. Celeste Funaro S. Louis
1912-13 S. Dominica S. Eulalia S. Catherine S. Jerome S. De Sales Wilkie S. Michael Mullen S. Eugene	1921-22 S. Teresa S. Loretto Doyle S. Bernard Ackerman S. Adelaide S. Euphrasia S. Agatha S. Margaret Mary	1931-32 S. Clementine S. Adelaide S. Borromeo S. Amelia	1941-42 S. Francesca Foley S. Evangeline Kane S. Mercedes Stoy S. Celeste
1913-14 S. Dominica S. Eulalia S. Margaret Mary S. Catherine S. Eugene S. Victorine	1922-23 S. Dominica S. Baptist S. F. Xavier Diericks S. Bernadette McNalley S. M. Nicholas Scheeta S. Amelia Craig	1932-33 S. Clementine S. Adelaide S. Borromeo S. Amelia	1942-43 S. M. Francesca S. Evangeline S. Celeste S. Margaret Mary Fitch
1914-15 S. Dominica S. Eulalia S. Margaret Mary S. Catherine S. Eugene S. Victorine		1933-34 S. Eulalia S. Borromeo	1943-44 S. Francesca S. Baptist S. Celeste S. Margaret M. F.
			1944-45 S. Francesca
			1945-46 S. Francesca S. Humilita Finney S. Baptist S. Concepta McCune S. St. Agnes Farrell
			1946-47 S. Francesca S. Baptist
			1947-48 S. Baptist S. St. Agnes

1948-49	S. Martha	S. Ann Therese Collins	S. Cyril
S. Baptist	S. Amelia	S. Maria Caritas	S. Frances Comito
S. Marcelline Minahan	S. Aquin Driscoll	S. Delphine	
S. Wilhelmina	S. St. Agnes		1971-72
S. Aloysius Hannon	S. Frances Comito		S. Cyril
S. Anne Flattery	S. Marie Cecile		S. Frances C
S. St. Agnes		1962-63	S. Janice McCann
S. Eileen	1956-57	S. Beatrice	
S. Dorothy Couch	S. Marie Joseph	S. Baptist	
S. Marie Cecile Pillsbury	S. Zita	S. Loyola	
	S. Loyola	S. Aloysius	1972-73
1949-1950	S. St. Agnes	S. Dorothy O	S. Frances C
	S. Cleopha Wirth	S. Paulita Shepherd	S. Janice
1950-51	S. Dorothy Couch	S. Ann Therese	
S. Baptist	S. Frances Comito	S. Maria Caritas	1973-74
S. Marcelline	S. Pierre Aldrich	S. Patricius Brock	S. Janice McCann
S. Wilhelmina	S. Eleanor Marie		
S. Jerome		1963-64	1974-78
S. Callista Ruppenkamp	1957-58	S. Beatrice Dawson	No Humility Sisters here
S. St. Agnes	S. Marie Joseph	S. Baptist	1975-Present at the time
S. Miriam Therese Foley	S. Zita	S. Aloysius	S. Zoe Dieter
S. Margaret Mary Nalevanko	S. Loyola	S. Dorothy O	Sinsinawa Dominican
S. Rita Anne Lenaghan	S. St. Agnes	S. Paulita	
	S. Cleopha	S. Ann Therese	1978-79
1951-52	S. Dorothy	S. Madelyn Linnehan	S. Roberta Brich
S. Baptist	S. Frances C.	S. Maria Caritas	S. Rosalind Restelli
S. Wilhelmina	S. Pierre		
S. Mercedes	S. John Bosco	1964-65	1979-80
S. Jerome	1958-59	S. Beatrice	S. Roberta Brich
S. St. Agnes	S. Marie Joseph	S. Aloysius	S. Rosalind
S. S. M. Therese	S. Loyola	S. Margaret Miriam	
S. Rita Anne	S. St. Agnes	S. Paulita	
S. Noreen	S. Dorothy	S. Eugenia Wooldridge	
	S. Frances C.	S. Kevin Bissell	
1952-53	S. Stephanie	S. Maria Angelica	
S. Baptist	S. John Bosco		
S. Wilhelmina	S. Consella Chumbly	1965-66	
S. Jerome		S. Joan Bailey	
S. Humilita	1959-60	S. Concepta	
S. Borromeo	S. Victorine	S. Joan Gabel	
S. St. Agnes	S. Mercedes	S. Jude Fitzpatrick	
S. Clare Marie Patik	S. St. Agnes	S. Mark Gregory	
S. Rita Anne	S. Anita Rose Grimes		
	S. Dorothy C	1966-67	
1953-54	S. Frances C	S. Joan Bailey	
S. Marie Joseph Romano	S. Stephanie	S. Concepta	
S. Humilita	S. Consella	S. Eugenia Wooldridge	
S. St. Agnes	S. Ramona Kaalberg	S. James Marie	
S. Sheila Murphy		S. Margaretha Fitzgerald	
S. Eleanor Marie Anstey	1960-61	S. Humilita	
S. Rita Anne	S. Victorine		
S. Felicia Leon	S. Baptist	1967-68	
	S. Loyola	S. Joan Bailey	
1954-55	S. Mercedes	S. Humilita	
S. Marie Joseph	S. Anastasia	S. Frances C	
S. Jerome	S. St. Agnes	S. Kathryn Pollock	
S. Humilita	S. Frances C		
S. Loyola Stoy	S. Corrine Foley	1968-69	
S. Martha O'Brien	S. Michala Marie Hanrahan	S. Joan Bailey	
S. St. Agnes	S. Stephanie	S. Kathryn Pollock	
S. Sheila	S. Delphine Vasquez	S. Frances C	
S. Eleanor M			
S. Rita Anne	1961-62	1969-70	
S. Felicia	S. Beatrice Dawson	S. Adrienne Marie Savage	
	S. Baptist	S. Kathryn P	
1955-56	S. Loyola	S. Frances C	
S. Marie Joseph	S. Aloysius	S. Cyril Navin	
S. Jerome	S. Anastasia		
S. Humilita	S. Frances Comito	1970-71	
S. Loyola	S. Corrine	S. Adrienne Marie	
		S. Kathryn P	



1928 - Srs. Alberta and Sgnatius



Sister Dominica, 1926



Sister Alberta, 1957



Sister Stephine,
Science Teacher, 1960

Sister John Bosco



Sister Mary Beatrice opening her gift from the Senior Class of '63'. It was a travel alarm.



Sister Dorothy



Sister Micala Marie



Class Sponsor
Junior year, 1962
Sister Mary Ann Therese



Sister Cleopha



Sister Frances Louise



Sr. Roberta Brich and Sr. Rosie Restelli

PARISH FARM

The parish farm was donated by Thomas Monaghan in 1944. For the first ten years of ownership, the farm was rented out by Charlie Minahan and was used mostly for pasture. Mr. Minahan had a ten-year lease on the property of Mr. Monaghan when he died, so the parish honored the contract drawn up between the two men.

When the ten-year contract expired, the parish broke the ground up for crop production, this was the week of December 20, 1953. During this week when they fall plowed the fields, it was so warm that the men ate a picnic lunch in the bluegrass at the head of the ditch without a jacket on.

All of the work on the parish farm was done by volunteer labor. The three men who were in charge were John Schnitker, Louis Eckrich and Chris Fischer. In the late 50's, Joe Masker went to work on the committee and later Dick Scott did, too. There was always three men on the farm committee.

The parish farmed all of the land except for 80 acres which Hank Winneke farmed. Dutch Ring first rented it out in 1973, at a cost of \$50 an acre.

When the parish farmed it, the work was done in groups. One group would disk and plant the corn, and one group would cultivate in the fall of the year and then the biggest share of the parish would turn out at harvest time. The first year that the parish harvested a crop from the farm there were 31 tractors in the fields at the same time.

The first year the farm brought in about \$13,000 profit, with all volunteer labor. The parish bought the fertilizer, but the seed corn was donated by the farmers along with the equipment to farm it.

The parish farm had 52 acres of land that joined Dutch Rings's property, which he purchased in recent years.

In 1974, about a mile and a half of terraces were added to the farm; by the fall of 1980, almost five miles of terraces were added (24,485 feet) to aid in the soil conservation.



Thomas Monaghan



Harvesting at the Parish Farm
with **Father Ryan**



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HALL

St. Patrick's Parish Hall was designed by architects Lahr and Stangle of Omaha, Nebraska. The Harlan, Iowa Construction company was given the construction contract to begin work in mid September, 1937. Most of the labor was donated by the men of the parish with work days assigned to each of them. When the building was completed in 1939, it was considered one of the finest singular structures in the State of Iowa for that time. The cost of the building was kept down to \$40,000 by the donated labor of the parish men.

Bishop Gerald T. Bergan, of the Des Moines Diocese, and co-celebrant Father William Kleffman, Msgr. Francis P. McManas and the Rev. James P. Danahey began the dedication ceremonies by conducting a High Mass. After Mass, the bishop and the priests walked over to the new building for the blessing. Crossbearers were Cornelius Fischer, Phillip Schnitker, George Ring and Ray Stinn.

Over 1600 people were served meals throughout the day of the dedication by women of the church. **Mrs. Dan Doyle, Sr. was in charge of the dining room** and Mrs. Anton Goeser was in charge of the kitchen. Others helping in the kitchen included: Mrs. Fred Wellman, Mrs. Jake Ring, Sr., Mrs. Grace Koeper and Mrs. Patrick Turner.

Among the guests for the dedication day were Robert E. O'Brien, Iowa Secretary of State representing the governor; Leo F. Wegman, State Treasurer, and John Brady, Iowa Superintendent of Securities. Clergy attending the ceremonies included the Reverends P. McStory, E. Donahue, J. Renolds, Arthur Ring, J. Kelleher, L. Rosmann, M. Schultz, P. Albers, N. Gaul, H. Schumann, **P. Doyle**, P. O'Donnell, Gerald Walker, B. Mahedy, D. Durten, L. Stein and R.J. Conley. Representing the U.S. Armed Forces were Lt. Ralph A. Lancaster, Assistant Adjutant General; Colonels A.E. Sawkins, J.V. Caughlin, G.G. Everest and B.F. Ristine; Captains M.R. Finney, Car; Nevins, Fred Beaumont, H.E. Stedman, R.C. Kehm and Guy T. Davis; Lieutenants J.J. Redmans, Joe Simonson and Edwin Wallace; Sergeants Paul Davis and A. Semler.

Father Kleffman summarized the feelings of the Catholic community when he said, "*The hall---will be to the service of all mankind. It will be a meeting place and home of many groups. Basketball drills, calisthenics, dramatic clubs, musical organizations, civic and social groups, all may meet in a setting adapted to their various needs. It is truly a community building.*" The unique building in shades of warm brown glazed brick, pressed wood ceiling, and 92 x 60 foot beechwood floor was indeed cause for justifiable pride by the St. Patrick's Parish community. It had been built by hours of hard work, gifts of money and time and even risk of injury by the parish people.

The parish hall did indeed become a community building for Neola and surrounding communities. St. Pat's Hall became noted for the name band dances held there. These dances brought a welcome relief from the many problems of World War II. Some of the bands performing at the hall were: The Baufman Orchestra, Sammy Haven, Leo Pieper, Skippy Henderson, Cliff Kyes, Larry Herman, Ralph Slade, Lee Williams, Hank Winder, Guy DeLeo, Don Strickland, Verne Wilson, Lloyd Wells, Sternie Sternburg, Wit Thorma and Lee Barron. The parish hall was also used for National Guard drills and storage lockers. When the U.S. 168th Infantry was mobilized in February, 1941, the men were kept at the hall for two weeks until they were "shipped out".

The hall was renovated in 1981. Ceilings were lowered, insulation added in the ceilings, fans hung for circulation and new lighting fixtures were installed.



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HALL



From left to right: Father Kleffman, Bishop Bergan and Msgr. Danahey

Taken at the dedication of the parish hall.

ORGANIZATIONS



Knights of Columbus Hall.
This was taken shortly after it was built.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus was organized in 1882, by Father Michael McGivney, as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut. Father McGivney explained to a small group of men at the first meeting that his purpose was manifold: first, to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith through mutual encouragement; second, to promote closer ties of fraternity among them; third, to set up an insurance system so that widows and their children would not find themselves on financial straits. This was a very important innovation since insurance at that time was almost unheard of and unavailable to the general public. The Knights educated its Catholic members on the necessity of protecting their families through insurance and building substantial estates for retirement.

The Knights participate in various beneficial programs. They participate in the annual Tootsie Roll Drive, a program that raised over \$1 million in 1980 for mentally retarded citizens. Ninety percent of this money stays in the local community; money raised in Neola, Iowa, went to Leadway in Shelby, Iowa. They helped create the Special Olympics and fund part of the activities. The Knights sponsor a National Free Throw Contest for boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 14. Terryl (Ring) Griener was state champion in 1975, and Jodi Ratigan was state champion in 1981. Both of these winners are from our parish. The Knights are concerned about educating young Catholic adults and since 1907 have made scholarships and student loans available.

The Knights of Columbus have made renewed commitments to the Pro-Life activities through grants to the Bishop's programs. They furnished money to fight the Oregon School Case in the Supreme Court. (The law would have required every child to attend public school, but it was declared unconstitutional and Catholic schools were free to remain open.)

In 1979, the Knights budgeted \$167,000 to fight for a tax credit for parents who send their children to parochial schools.

THE ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Patrick's Church in Neola, was formed in 1888, sponsored by Father Schiffmacher. Under his guidance, there were four branches in the church, each receiving communion on a different Sunday of the month.

The women received Communion the first Sunday; the men of the parish on the second Sunday; the third Sunday was reserved for the young women; and the fourth Sunday was for the young men of the parish.

EXCERPTS FROM THE WRITE-UP CONTAINED IN THE GAZETTE REPORTER DATED JANUARY 27, 1938

"A group of girls from the St. Joseph's School then presented a vocal number and two one-act plays were given, one by **Quinton Dixon** and Ray Stinn, and the other by George Ring and Robert Behrens. After the plays, the Girls Glee Club from the public school offered two vocal selections after which Bonnie Stoker, Wm. Pogge, LeRoy Floerschinger, Dan Welbourne and Phillip Floerschinger presented a one-act play. The program was concluded by several vocal numbers by the Boys Glee Club of the public school."

"Included on the main floor are the dressing rooms, the cloak room, the well-equipped kitchen and the gymnasium with a seating capacity of 1200. Under the stage is the National Guard Headquarters arranged for that purpose and convenient in every detail.

The building long will stand as a monument of usefulness conceived in amity and brought to completion and dedication in a spirit of community interest seldom observed in these trying days.

A prime motive actuating the finished structure was an earnest desire to conserve for Neola the National Guard Unit, housed here for near two decades. Military authorities of the state insisted that an adequate armory must be provided here, else the Company most surely would be moved to another locality where armory facilities would be provided. After futile attempts to meet requirements in other ways, the repeated offer of Father Kleffman to build with military design in mind, was accepted by a mass meeting of citizens gathered to discuss the problem and provide means."

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Catholic Daughters of Isabella was a national organization, with their headquarters in New York. In the early 1920's, the organization's name was changed to Catholic Daughters of America. In the 1980's, it was changed to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Four women from Neola joined the Catholic Daughters of Isabella at Earling, Iowa, in 1917. They were **Julia Doyle Minahan**, **Nell Ryan Geise**, **Rose Brugenhemke** and **Bernadette Cavanaugh**. In 1918, these ladies started Court Carmelita #327 at Neola, Iowa. There were approximately 50 members in the first class, four of them presently living. **Margaret Doyle O'Conner**, **Rosalie McGuire Kenealy** and **Ann Minahan** all living in Neola and **Grace Schierbrock**, who resides in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The first Grand Regent was **Bernadette Cavanaugh** and our present one is **Mrs. Bonnie Burns**.

The Catholic Daughters have done many charitable works for the parish through the years; among them helping St. Joseph School receive state accreditation; donation of the main tabernacle and installment of the vestments chests in the St. Patrick's Church. In recent years, they help contribute to the support of the St. Joseph's School.

The Catholic Daughters were the major contributors toward the construction of the entry ramp on the east side of St. Patrick's Church. This was constructed in May of 1979.

In 1908, under Father Drexler, the women's society was divided into two parts. The Altar Society was named St. Elizabeth Altar Society to care for the altar supplies and St. Ann Rosary Society was for the social activities of the parish. Later the organizations became known as the Altar and Rosary Society. Today, approximately 250 women of the parish belong, working for the spiritual, financial and social concerns of the parish.

THE PAPAL VISIT

PAPAL MASS

Kris Alfors
 Father Beeson
 Harold, Mary, Chris and Jeff Brich
 Bonnie Burns
 Frieda, Kevin, Laura and Eric Calhoon
 Thelma Christiansen
 Kathy Colpitts
 Mary Colpitts
 Mrs. Wallace Corrin
 Joan, Mary, Pat, Tom, Tim and Jim Crowley
 Bernard and Martha Denning
 Bernice Dermody
 Sister Zoe Dieter
 Catherine Dorsey
 Fred and Grace Dreher
 Maureen, Joseph Jr. and Elizabeth Dreher
 Wilhelmina Eckrich
 Dean, Pat and Mike Fischer
 Pauline, Leo, Roberta, Greg, and Andy Fischer
 Cincy Green
 Joe, Lorraine and Norma Grote
 Rita Honz
 Linda Dermody Knauss
 Don Konz & Ken Konz

Jerry Konz
 Harry, Dan and Pat Langin
 Bob and Betty Masker
 Jeanette and Julie Masker
 Angela McDonald
 Mickey and Rosie McDonald
 Don, Kay, Shelly and Tom Oberdin
 Lucille O'Connor and Marian
 Greg Ring
 Jerry Ring
 Cathy and Kate Roane
 Mike, Jackie, Sheila and Shirley Roane
 Matt Roane
 Alice Schnitker
 Rosemary, Carrie and Gail Sorenson
 Donna Stageman
 Wes and Gustie Stamp
 Charlotte Stephens
 Don, Mary Ellen and Dawn Zimmerman
 Mrs. Joe Zimmerman and Janelle
 Theresa Fischer Lane
 Sister Roberta Brich
 Rose Rodenburg
 Theresa Wellman
 Pat Shea



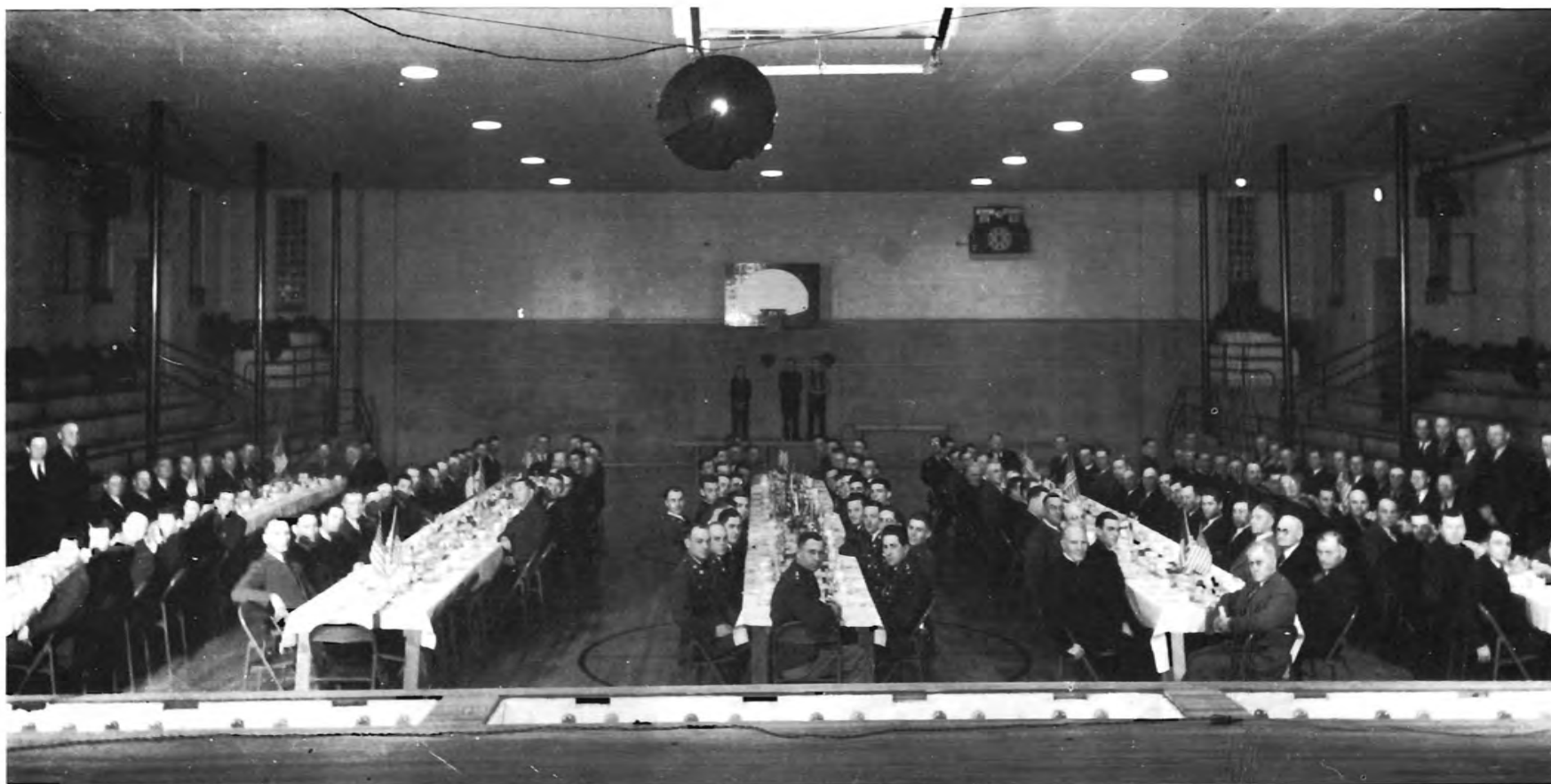
Pope John Paul II

Father Frank Ostdiek, who grew up in Neola and the oldest priest in the Diocese, is greeted by Pope John Paul II.



Pope John Paul II





Taken at the Neola Public School Gym,
the 168th Infantry.

WORLD WAR I

Charles Good
Thomas Grace
Joe Gaffney
Francis Potter
Joe O'Connor
Jerome Hegarty
Joe Hegarty
Mike Hegarty
Joe Bentlage
John C. Stinn
Leo Hermsen
Henry Ostdiek
Ed Burns
W.B. Corey
John Doyle
Louis Eckrich, Sr.
James Langin
Fred Lustgraff
Gerald Lustgraff
William Bentlage
Joe Brich

Tom Corbett
Bernard Dixon
Micheal Gaffney
Herman Plagge
A.B. Schierbrock
Leo Schierbrock
Asa Staley
James Tracy
John Von Hebel
Asa Schmaedecke
Frank Floerchinger
Dave Dargin
Joe Dargin
Frank Dargin
Timothy Shea
Israel Van Ausdeln
Ben Winneke
George Weldon

FACTUAL HISTORY

168th INFANTRY

Headquarters Company, Third Battalion, 168th Infantry, was Federally recognized June 6, 1921, with about 40 members. The first drill was held June 12, 1921. Neola was chosen for the Company because of its location, materials for recruits and other particulars essential to formation, maintenance and efficiency. First Lieut. Ray Schierbrock was the first commissioned officer, receiving his commission April 28, 1921.

Lieutenant Schierbrock, on June 4, 1921, reported in Des Moines to Lieut. Colonel Brewer, with request for uniforms for the newly organized Company. Dr. Seward gave the physical examination to the original members.

When the Company was organized, Major Lainson commanded the Third Battalion and Colonel Brewer was in charge of the 168th Infantry. The Company's first Federal Inspection was held March 16, 1922, by Major Alfred Brandt, and the first encampment was attended at Camp Dodge, Iowa, from August 10-24, 1921. While at Camp Dodge on 1924, the Company, with all the other Companies in camp, was honored with a review by General Pershing. The Company was called out in 1931 for duty during the cattle war at Tipton and was called out again on April 28, 1933, for duty at Denison.

The Company moved into a new armory January 1, 1938, and now enjoys the most modern facilities. The new armory includes a target range, large kitchen, showers and special quarters in the basement used only by the Company.

168th INFANTRY

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

First Lieutenant Bernard V. Bolton

Second Lieutenant Urban B. Goeser

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Staff-Sergeant Phillip E. Duschaneck

SERGEANTS

Paul J. Brich
Jerome V. Hegarty
Julious H. Jokumsen
Donald P. Vogt

CORPORALS

Paul M. Flynn
Russell G. Madsen
Gail D. Sutton
Vernon G. Rollins
Leo. M. Hobbins

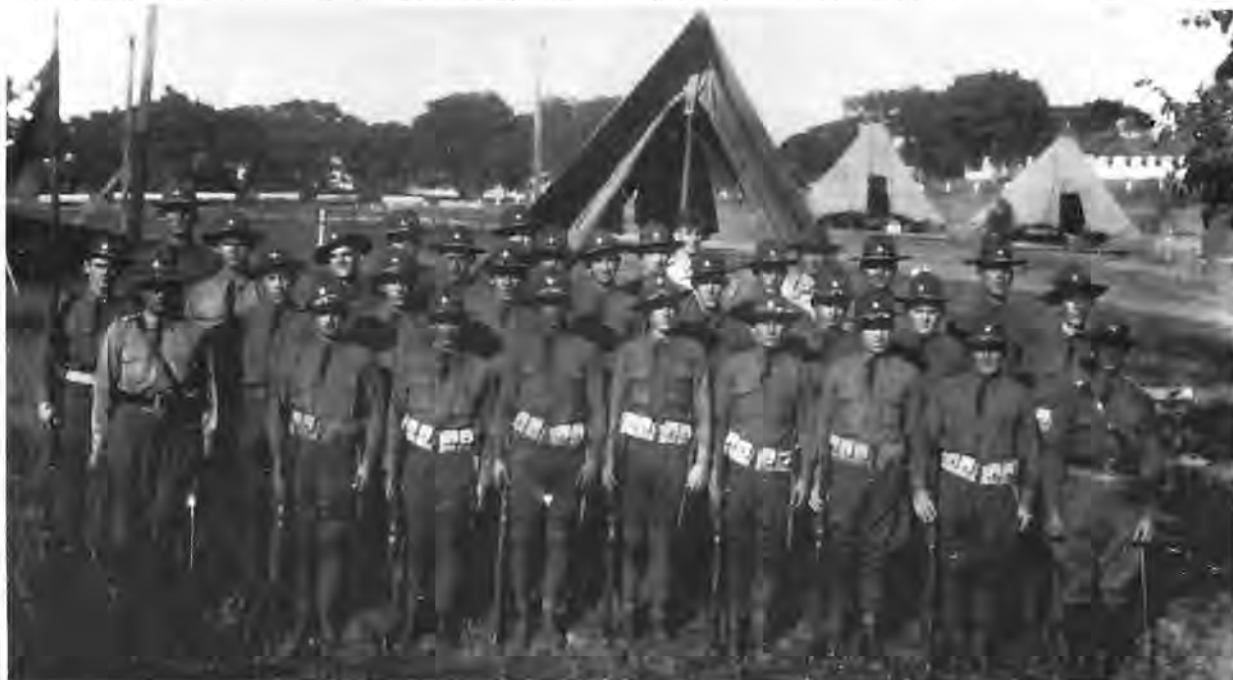
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Daniel N. Cavanaugh
Robert H. Caster
James M. Tracy
Charles F. Vogt

PRIVATES

Leon W. Arfman
Quentin J. Dixon
Leroy F. Floerchinger
Harold Floerchinger
Gerald Goeser
Joseph Goeser
Paul Hermsen
Owen Jessen
Clinton Kelts
James Langin
Wade Nyquist
Thomas Ryan
Mack Steele
Howard Rollins
Hubert Zack
Robert Pickernell

168th Infantry. Clem Brich, George Elias, Russell Madsen, Robert Hough, **Phil Doyle**, Ivan Barrier, **Paul Flynn**, Gail (Speck) Sutton, Joe McClelland, Thomas Brougham, **Daniel Doyle**, Jim Tracy, **Robert Doyle**, Calvin Stewart, Dexter Meadows, Lester Suiter, Robert Sweeney, Urban Goeser, Charles Caster, Joe Hobbins, Julius Jokumsen, Tim Donovan, Charles Vogt, Don Vogt, Paul Brich, Jerome Hegarty, Tom Tyan, Joe Goeser and 3 unidentified men.



DECEMBER 11, 1941

Several days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Governor of the State of Iowa, George A. Wilson, sent out the following proclamation:

The United States of America is at War. Hostilities have been commenced in the Pacific Ocean and this fact dwarfs all that has previously happened.

Our sovereignty has been challenged and our national integrity violated by armed assault upon our ships and harbors at the command of aggressors, who would enslave those who would uphold liberty and preserve peace. It is with deep sorrow and righteous indignation that we recognize the plot to dethrone law and reason by turning civilization back many centuries and destroying the fruits of toil and suffering of man which the spiritual growth of mankind has been accomplished.

The impact of actual war, secretly planned and cowardly directed, imposes upon every one who believes in government by the people the duty, regardless of any and all differences, to join in all out defense of our State and Nation, and all that they mean to us and to freedom loving people everywhere.

It is highly gratifying that the vote of our Iowa members of Congress in both branches, was unanimous for pledging all our strength and devoting all our resources to meet the challenge and to carry on to complete victory.

The most favorable position of Iowa near the heart of the continent and endowed with geographic, physical, social, economic and spiritual advantages, enables us to face the crises with calm and deliberate judgment and because of this fact we are in duty bound to dedicate ourselves and all that we possess to that which is today the common cause of every loyal American.

We offer without reservation the vast resources of our soil and climate and the output of our industrial equipment, the genius and capacity of our men of business and the professions, the skill and tireless zeal of our manpower, the kindly, sympathy and willing hands of our women and our ability to produce abundantly the food and fuel and fiber to maintain leadership in all things and the willingness to make whatever sacrifices that may be necessary. On this occasion, as on every other of national danger, Iowa is ready.

To the end that the people generally shall have an opportunity to personally manifest their loyalty and to renew their pledge to uphold the right of self-government, I, Geo. A. Wilson, Governor, do hereby designate and proclaim Sunday, December 14, 1941, IOWA DEFENSE DAY.

I feel free to ask and to urge that on that day, or as soon thereafter as may be convenient, the people meet in arranged programs, in churches, public halls, school, or elsewhere, to freely consider what is the duty of each and every one, to refresh patriotism and fit it to the needs of the present world crisis and to make plans in whatever way may seem best for doing our part under the leadership of the Commander-in-Chief or our army and navy in resistance to the evil forces that are seeking to destroy our great republic.

In testimony whereof, I have here unto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Iowa. Done at Des Moines, this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-One, of the State of Iowa the Ninety-Fifth and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Sixty-Sixth.

G. W. Wilson



Paul Von Hebel going to service at Neola depot, 1942.

Ladies from St. Patrick's and surrounding areas met at the Avoca State Bank every Monday and Tuesday at the same time, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the duration of the war. Each worker had to wear a white or near white wash dress, which she had to take with her and put on after she got to the bank; she had to wear a headcovering such as cheesecloth or a washed handkerchief, which completely covered her hair; there could be no nail polish on her fingernails and each one had to take her own scissors.

JULY 23, 1942

To keep patriotism high and to keep the churches and the town active in the war effort, the Neola Gazette-Reporter ran articles like this:

DIG YOUR SCRAP: HASTEN SOUNDING TAPS FOR JAPS

Our government is calling for scrap material, particularly iron and steel. All kinds of scrap is being sought, or which old rubber runs a pretty close second with the two first named. Brass, copper and in fact all metals are desired. Demand for scrap now has placed a premium on it, insofar, as the call for a drive is concerned.

There is urgency in the call; hence, there must be a ready urgent response from those who are to fill and who will fill the demand - the people. Not your neighbor; not the people over in the next county or state - you and I must see that the call is heard. Iowa must not be found wanting, which will surely happen unless we do our part in this drive.

Patriotism won't amount to a hoot if this drive for scrap fails!

St. Patrick's Hall got into the patriotic spirit with dances for the sale of WAR BONDS:

HOP TO AID WAR SALE OF WAR BONDS

The purchase of a \$100 War Bond Will Admit One. Anyone May Dance Buying Ticket.

The Fourth War Bond sale here is to be accentuated by a dance at St. Patrick's Hall this coming Saturday night and one may gain admission to the dance floor by purchase of a \$100 War Bond. Others may also be admitted by the payment of the regular admission fee.

This is the first of several affairs planned to put over the 4th loan drive here. Other activities are planned by the committee in charge of it.

Lee Williams and his orchestra will furnish music for the occasion. It has been stated above that one would be admitted on the sale of \$100 in War Bonds. This naturally means each couple.

NOVEMBER 12, 1942

EIGHT NEOLANS TO ANSWER DRAFT CALL

Men from the County will report Friday, November 20th, for Induction in Army.

The Avoca Draft Board has released the names of one hundred and twenty-five men that will report for induction into the United States Army, Friday, November 20. Those passing will receive a week's furlough beginning at once. They were formerly given a two-week's furlough, but it has been changed to one week, taking effect around the middle of the month.

Those leaving from Neola are: Albert S. Mikkelsen; Otto F. Milfs; Roscoe M. Casson; George W. Messersmidt; James F. Waters; Earl J. Fitzsimmons; and Dan L. Welbourn.

The men were missed at Christmas time but the ones who could come home for the holiday were greatly appreciated by the whole community.

GLAD THERE WERE ANY HOME. Some tears were shed by mothers, and others had to hold them back.

Many former residents of Neola, now employed at the other points; and those who used to live here; now at other places, were in Neola at Christmas time. Many came for supper and returned the same day, spending only a short while with home folks.

However, no complaints have been heard, though we can imagine a lot of tears have been shed by their parents - most of them, tears of gladness that some of their boys were home.

Neola Gazette-Reporter
December 28, 1944

Norbert Talty died in action on May 19, 1945, at Negros Island. The following was in the Neola Gazette-Reporter on June 14, 1945.

REQUIEM MASS FOR SGT. NORBERT TALTY AT ST. PATRICK'S.

A Requiem High Mass was sung Monday at St. Patrick's Church by Rev. J.P. Shaw, in memory of Sgt. Norbert Talty. A host of relatives and friends attended the Mass.

Norbert Talty, son of Mr. & Mrs. John Talty, was born at Neola, April 12, 1912. He attended St. Joseph School until his graduation in 1930. From high school, he went on to St. Ambrose College in Des Moines for one year. He then made his residence in Neola for some years with his mother, before leaving for California.

He enlisted in the Army in 1940. Prior to his enlistment, he worked in a west coast plane factory. He served in the Army for one year and was released. After Pearl Harbor, he went back into the Army and had been overseas 34 months. He was fatally wounded on Negros Island, May 19, 1945.

He is survived by his mother and four sisters, Mrs. John Masker, Mrs. Frank Ring, Mrs. Joseph Grote and Thelma Talty, and one brother, Clifton, all of Neola.

Out of town relatives at the Mass were: Mrs. Mary Curry and Eldred Curry of Corning; Katie Wickam and Mary McAmyre, Orient, Iowa.

AUGUST 16, 1945

GAS RATIONING THING OF THE PAST

"Fill 'er up" became a familiar phrase at all Neola gasoline filling stations with the end of the war. In addition to gasoline, all blue points on food, fuel oil and oil stoves went off the rationing last Wednesday.

Price Administrator Chester Bowles said that meats, fats and oils, butter, sugar, shoes and tires will stay on the ration list "until military cutbacks and increased production brings civilian supplies more nearly in balance with civilian demand."

Gas rationing began in the East May 15, 1942, and was extended throughout the nation December 1, 1942.

300 BED HOSPITAL IN NEOLA?

The possibility of establishing a 300 bed Veterans' Hospital in Neola will depend in a large measure on what we do in offering a suitable site for the consideration of the committee scheduled to arrive here to look over locations about August 1. A suggestion has been made, which is food for thought, that all the towns in this area combine efforts in securing the hospital for this vicinity. Several locations are being considered but so far no definite steps have been taken which would indicate that Neolans are interested in this post-war project. We may be able to report more favorable progress next week.

Tom's Topics
Neola Gazette and Reporter
July 5, 1945

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR DECEMBER 7!

The first anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor will be observed by Iowans on Monday, December 7, with two minutes of silent prayer at 11:25 a.m. Henry Frankel, Chairman of the Iowa Retailers for Victory Committee, announced that an effort would be made to halt all automobile, bus and streetcar traffic in the state during the two minutes of prayer.

Taken from the Neola
Gazette-Reporter
December 3, 1942

AUGUST 9, 1945

RUSSIA DECLARES WAR ON JAPAN! ATOMS AND RUSSIANS HIT JAPS!

Shortly after 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, President Truman called reporters to the White House to announce that Russia had officially declared war on Japan. Immediately following this announcement, Commissar Molotov of Russia confirmed the President's message and reported that hostilities between the two countries were under way.

This is the moment that all the world and every member of the United Nations had been waiting for. A moment that should have a most demoralizing effect on the once proud Japs. Just how long the war with Japan will continue is anyone's guess, but with Russians and Atoms to plague them, plus the full might of the Western Allies, the Japs may be willing to call it a day before many more weeks go by.

DIED IN SERVICE

Andrew Anderson
Pvt. Ralph Ray Brown
Ben C. Campbell
James B. Cavanaugh
Lt. Thomas Downs
Ottis Fausett
S. Sgt. Geo. Chester Hadfield
Lieut. Leon McCauley
Lynn Herrigg McClurg
Lloyd Samson
Mack Steele
Cpl. Raymond Soppe
Marvin L. Thomas

WOUNDED

Pvt. Neil C. Bardsley
Pvt. Calvin C. Campbell
Lieut. Phillip Doyle
Richard Ellithorpe PH. M. 1c
S. Sgt. Wilbur Gallup
Pvt. Raymond O. Hough
Pfc. Ivan L. Eimes
Cpl. Robert Hough
T.-Sgt. Max M. Jessen
S.-Sgt. Vincent Kenealy
Cpl. Eugene C. Knott
James Joseph Langin
Sgt. Donald Moffatt
Pfc. Paul McMullen
Cpl. Robert O'Connor

Sgt. Robert Pickernell
Pfc. Ivan W. Redinbaugh
Pvt. Mark Stageman
Pvt. Fred M. Steele

MISSING IN ACTION

Metalsm'h 1-c Lemar Hartje
Fireman 2-c William George Messerschmidt
Sgt. Eldred O. Welbourne

PRISONERS OF WAR

T. 5g. Leon Arfmann
Capt. B. U. Bolton
T. Sgt. Charles Caster
Pvt. Virgil Cook
Pvt. Joseph Delanty
Cpl. Harold Floerchinger
Sgt. Gerald J. Goesser
Sgt. Paul Hermesen
Sgt. Owen Jessen
1st Sgt. Julius Jokumsen
Cpl. Aloysius Kenealy
Sgt. Wade Nyquist
Lt. Earl Rodenburg
S. Sgt. Thomas L. Ryan
Pfc. Layman Saltsman
Sgt. Bernard Schnitker
Cpl. Richard Throckmorton
1st Lt. Stephen H. Wurtz
S. Sgt. Donald Vogt
Pfc. William Young
Pfc. Marvin Young

AUGUST 16, 1945

PEACE REIGNS ONCE MORE - HOSTILITIES CEASE WITH AC- CEPTANCE OF SURRENDER TERMS BY THE JAPANESE

World War II finally came to an end at 6 p.m. Tuesday (Iowa time) when President Harry S. Truman made an announcement that the Japanese government had accepted the terms of unconditional surrender as laid down by the Allies. Thus, after six years of war, the world was at peace once more.

NEOLA QUIET

Neolans received the news in a somber manner. Business houses closed up almost immediately following the ringing of church bells and sounding of the siren. Local churches held services Tuesday evening and a special Mass was observed at St. Patrick's Wednesday morning.

Stores remained closed most of the day Wednesday and only a few were opened Thursday. Rural mail deliveries were suspended for the two-day legal holiday declared by President Truman in observance of the Armistice occasion. Few people were seen on the downtown streets as families throughout this vicinity were not forgetting that many of their loved ones were still many miles away from home and they were content to observe the occasion in quietness and thanksgiving.

From the Special V-J Edition
Neola Gazette Reporter

MEMORIAL SERVICES WELL ATTENDED DESPITE THREATENING SKIES AND RAIN; PLACE WREATH ON UNKNOWN SOLDIER GRAVE

COLONEL FOLSOM EVEREST URGED NEED FOR STRONG PEACE TIME DEFENSE FORCE

Neola Cemetery was the scene of fitting Memorial Day services held here Thursday, dedicated to the memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice in all wars in which this country of ours has participated.

Following the presentation of the colors and innovation by Rev. Roy E. Jones, Colonel Folsom Everest featured speaker for the day, reviewed some of the highlights of World War II, in which he took an active part. He pointed out how our lack of adequate preparedness brought us very close to defeat and unnecessary loss in life and material. In view of our unpreparedness of the past, the Colonel urged the need for constant development and maintenance of a strong Army, Navy and Air Force as the best guarantee for a lasting peace.

In his closing remarks he read an inscription that appears at the entrance of one of our memorial plots in Europe where many of our soldier dead now lie beneath the sod. It reads as follows:

"Let them in, Peter, they are very tired. Give them the couches where the Angels sleep: Let them wake whole again to new dawns fired with Sun, not war. And may their Peace be deep. Remember where the broken bodies lie. And keep the things they like, let them make noise, God knows how young they were to have to die! Give them swing bands, not Gold Harps, to these our boys. Let them love, Peter - they have had no time. Girls sweet as meadow wind with flowing hair. They should have trees and bird songs, Hills to climb, The taste of summer in a ripened pear - tell them how they are missed. Say not to fear: It's going to be all right with us down here.

Elma Dean

SALUTE TO WAR DEAD

At the conclusion of the main address and benediction, Sgt. at Arms, James Tracy of the Neola Legion Post, placed a wreath on the Unknown Soldier's grave. Following a moment of silent tribute, the Legion Firing Squad commanded by Comrade Clem Brich, fired a salute of three volleys in memory of the war dead. Taps were sounded by Comrade W.J.B. Clark and the Neola band closed the program with a march selection.

The firing squad was composed of Army men; Wade Nyquist, Francis Potter, Ray Stinn, Don Vogt, Gordon Benway and Jerry Goesser. Marines; Ivan Redenbaugh and Leo Waters. Two navy men; Paul F. Ring and Thomas Gardner were color bearers and Ruel Orme and Leroy Eimes comprised the honor guard.

The Neola band was under the direction of Charles Thies of Minden.

THE NEOLA GAZETTE-REPORTER,
Thursday, July 5, 1945

Many service men and women arrived home for the Independence Day holiday to spend a few days' leave with their families in Minden, Neola, Underwood, McClelland and Bentley. Some are expected to remain here for several days and to those an invitation is being extended through this column to attend the Homecoming Party July 12, at Neola Park, and sponsored by the local Volunteer Firemen. Every ex-service man of World War II and all men in uniform are invited to attend this get-together event.

THEY'LL SOON COME MARCHING HOME



Speed the Day of Victory

With Your Purchases of

WAR BONDS

On This Independence Day

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Monday, May 30 --11:00 A.M.

Neola Cemetery

Sponsored By The Neola

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 330

Call To order George T. Ring, Jr.
Commander Neola National Guard

"America" Band
Invocation Rev. Joseph P. Shaw
Presentation of Colors Neola Legion
Salute To Colors Neola Guard
Gettysburg Address W. J. B. Clark
Music Neola Band

MEMORIAL DAY ADDRESS

Benediction Rev. Joseph P. Shaw
Placing Of Wreath On Unknown Soldier's Grave
By Neola Boy Scouts
Minute of Silent Tribute To War Dead
Salute To The Dead Neola Guard Firing Squad
Taps Mr. Leland Elwell
National Anthem Neola Band
(In the event of rain, Memorial Services
will be held at St. Patrick's Hall)



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Taps Mr. Leland Elwell

National Anthem Neola Band

(In the event of rain, Memorial Services
will be held at St. Patrick's Hall)

One of the tragedies of any war is the taking of prisoners. St. Patrick's and the town of Neola was no exception to this reality. One of the articles published told of how the POW's celebrated their Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FOR WAR PRISONERS

American Prisoners, Camp Woosung, Near Shanghai, Treated by the Red Cross

For most of us, Christmas 1942, has been forgotten, but word has just come indicating that American prisoners of war in Camp Woosung, at Shanghai, China, will long remember a treat given them by the American Red Cross in the form of Christmas dinner, complete with turkey and pies. Fifteen hundred American military prisoners and civilian internees are held in this camp, according to Edward Egle, International Red Cross committee delegate in Shanghai.

Mr. Egle reports that prisoners are supplied with warm sweatshirts, socks, winter caps and gloves, from American Red Cross funds. Stoves were sent to the camp for heating the barracks. Food stuffs such as bread, smoked sausages, noodles, fresh fruit and beef extract, as well as medicines, toothbrushes, dental powder, soap and towels are delivered there regularly.

Since last spring, the American Red Cross has made every effort to send aid to the Philippines where the largest number of American prisoners of the war are held but thus far the Japanese have not agreed to the appointment of a neutral delegate of the International Red Cross in the Islands and have refused to guarantee safe passage for a relief-supply ship.

A week before Christmas - 1942, 13,646 cases containing 500 tons of Red Cross food, clothing and medical supplies left Hong Kong and Yokohama for the Philippines for distribution to American military and civilian prisoners. These supplies were shipped from the United States on the diplomatic exchange vessel S. S. Gripsholm, last June.

The war really came home to St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's School with the death of Master Sergeant James B. Cavanaugh.

ANOTHER NAME ADDED TO LIST

Died in a Jap Prison Camp, in Formosa, according to wire received here yesterday.

Mrs. Angie Celia Cavanaugh,
Neola, Iowa:

Report received from the Japanese Government, through the International Red Cross, states your son, Master Sergeant James B. Cavanaugh, who was previously reported a prisoner of war, died in Taiwan Camp, Formosa. The Secretary of War extends his deep sympathy. Letter follows.

The Adjutant General Ulio

Another name has been added to Neola's list of soldier dead when the telegram was received during the night of Tuesday, this week. It was addressed to Mrs. Hugh Cavanaugh who, with Mr. Cavanaugh, resides two or three miles north of Neola. The father, H. B. Cavanaugh, has been in poor, poor health for some time.

The above telegram was received during the night by the Father Meier, pastor of St. Patrick's Church who is acting during the illness of Kather Kleffman. The parents of the dead boy were not notified until yesterday morning, since it was nearly morning when it came to the bereaved parents.

Memorial services are to be held for the soldier, at the church of which he was a member, with the celebration of Solemn Requiem Mass, at 8:30 o'clock next Monday morning, September 20th. This is the first loss of a member of St. Patrick's congregation, as a result of the service.

This brings the war mighty near to Neola, making the seventh to appear on the honored list of Neola soldier dead. Were it not that so many is in the service from this section, the list might not be too long nor so locally sorrowful.

That the stricken parents have the united sympathy of everyone here, and in the vicinity, is most certain. Ours go with it; not that our won adds more weight but because we are privileged beyond most others, but that we have the medium to express it publicly.

The death of Jimmie Cavanaugh not only brought the war home it also brought out the feeling of the whole community.

WHILE A PRISONER OF WAR

The death of James B. Cavanaugh, as reported in another column of this issue, and while he was being held as a Japanese prisoner of war, is more and more hard to take the more time we have to ponder the ways of mice and men, especially in war time. It's not for Jimmie Cavanaugh that we are so wrought up. If the report is the truth-as it doubtless is-his troubles and sufferings are beyond such mistreatment; he has found that peace that passeth all understanding.

The more we think of it, the more we have become holding to that opinion that to wage a war upon an enemy we must first hate that enemy. We are beginning to understand why our soldiers are trained to the point of hatred; so deep a hatred their only desire is to destroy him. And the method used is the usual one that is debatable in polite society.

That is, of course the human enemy. But the Japanese are not human; at least as we understand the word. Americans have another definition for the Jap; and it is becoming more harsh everyday. It will not be long until we even think of the jap in lower case. The nazi enemy is not far below the japs in savagery. Italy is the only enemy country that shows human intelligence; and the enemy there had first to be shown the errors of their ways. What we are getting at is that the death of Cavanaugh happens to be one of our own. No need for us to see this thing from a long distance; it has been put up to us that we do not look at it other than at close range; we all knew him, some of us all his life.

It is for some of these reasons we are beginning to hate our enemies sufficient to the point of cruelty. They have not shown us the courtesy of being humanly intelligent. We know how - and do practice that knowledge in our treatment of prisoners of war. We may have to-and will if need be-play rough, too!

APRIL 15, 1943

ARE HELD AS ITALY PRISONERS OF WAR

Bishop Bergan, Des Moines has had Wireless from Vatican Papal Secretary of State.

News coming from Des Moines, early this week, contains names of 38 or 40 Iowa service men who are held captive by the Italian army. Information was received by Bishop Gerald T. Bergan of Des Moines who had been notified by wireless from the Papal Secretary of State at the Vatican in Rome. Most of the names are those from Southwest Iowa.

A week or ten days ago report was right here that Sergeant Jessen had been killed in action. Inquiry revealed the rumor could not be verified. Positive knowledge from Bishop Bergan sets at rest this false rumor.

This information also sets in abeyance first reports that a number of our men were missing in action, raising the hopes of many parents, relatives and friends that most, if not all those so reported, later may be found alive and held as prisoners of war.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1943

The following is a government warning that came out about the broadcasts coming out of enemy territories about the P.O.W.'s.

"Relatives and friends of American personnel missing in action should place no faith whatever in the reliability of reports from foreign broadcasts purporting to give information about captured American Prisoners of war it has been announced by the National Red Cross in Washington.

False casualty reports have been received by hundreds of service men's families in various parts of the country. It is the official opinion of authorities that this would indicate a substantial force of enemy representatives strategically placed throughout the country and working under the orders to undermine American morale.

Any casualty notification received by a serviceman's family over the telephone is open to question since it is not the policy of war or Navy department's to transmit such messages by telephone."

A LETTER FROM THOMAS RYAN, A POW

Dec. 19

Dear Grace:

Another Sunday, they are passing swiftly. No Mass this A.M. nor last week either. One thing I miss. There are somethings that I want you to do, Grace, if you will please? Write 1st Sgt. Walter R. Sigg, at my old address and tell him that outside a piece of shrapnel in my hand, I was O.K. That Peter's was shot through the right shoulder, but is now with us and O.K. Kirley had the bone in his left thigh shattered and that Wallace was shot through the hip. Also that Fredericks was unwounded and outside of Kirby and Wallace, we are all together and well. Tell him to say Hello to Upton and the boys. That's all, Thanks. A girl in Kentucky, whose boyfriend lost his leg, a pal of mine, has been keeping me posted on him. Tell her to write no more. I am O.K., Mom, and well. Tell the kids all "Hello". Wrote a card to Katie last week. Give her all my love as a sweetheart, as you have my love as a mother. So long for now, Mom. Wish I could help you with the Christmas rush.

Thomas (Ryan)

Dec. 25, 1943

Dear Grace:

Christmas Day and a rather dreary one at best. Have been treated quite well by both host (?) and the Red Cross. So we have plenty of chow and a few luxuries. Hope with all my heart you and the kids are enjoying yourselves. Trust Bill got home for the holidays. I am well and O.K. Regards to all there. For now, so long.

All my love,

Thomas L. Ryan

Washington

Dec. 25, 1944

Mrs. Grace Ryan
Neola, Iowa

Report just received through the International Red Cross states that your son, Staff Sgt. Thomas L. Ryan, is a prisoner of war of the German Government. Letter of information follows from Provost Marshall General.

Ulio,

The Adjutant General

Mrs. Ryan received the above message Tuesday, her son having been reported missing in action for several weeks. The mother was greatly relieved to learn her son was safe.

The following note was sent her from the grandfather of a boy who had been with her son, Thomas, and they have kept in touch with each other since it was learned six weeks ago that both boys were reported missing.

Clarinda, Iowa

Jan. 25, 1944

Dear Mrs. Ryan:

Wire this A.M. Sgt. Thomas A. Earhart, Co. D. 4th Ranger Bn. U.S. Army, is located in German Prison. This message came to me from his mother, Gladys Earhart, Statistical Clerk, Census Department, Washington, D.C.

His father is patrolman at Headquarters Depot, Cameron, Va., and they have worked through different channels to get this information. Captain, Lieutenant and Chaplain are ones who should give this information. What have you heard?

T. H. Earhart

Thas. Caster who lives near Underwood brought these three cards, written by his son, who is a prisoner of the Japanese. The cards are as follows:

Jan. 18, 1945

I am interned at Philippine Military Prison Camp No. 1. My health is good. Received four letters and a personal box. Last letter told of Charles Huhtala was visiting you. Glad to hear that you are well. Give best wishes to everyone. Will see new nephews before they are much bigger. Expect congratulations in order for Bob. Suppose he is still in Omaha.

Charles F. Caster

May 6, 1944
American Technical
Sergeant Army

Philippine Military
Prison Camp No. 1

My health is excellent. Days are warm here, but we call the night cold.

Charles F. Caster - signature

I am interned at Philippine Military Prison, Camp No. 1. My health is good. Happy Birthday, Helen. Letters received indicate new sister? Looking forward to pleasant new future - start fattening calf. Hello everyone.

Best regards,
Charles F. Caster signature
July 15, 1944

Needless to say the folks were happy to receive word from their son and brother; and according to the trend of his letters, he seems to be of good cheer. They are allowed to write a fifty-word message in typewriter, part of the card printed and the questions are answered. The boy's signature, however, is in his own handwriting.

May 24, 1945

Being Processed and are Waiting transportation

All May Be Discharged

T. Sgt. Leon Arfmann
Sgt. Gerald Goeser
1st Sgt. Julius Jokumsen
Cpl. Aloysius Kenealy
Sgt. Wade Nyquist
Lt. Earl Rodenburg
S. Sgt. Thomas L. Ryan
Sgt. Bernard Schnitker
S. Sgt. Donald Vogt
Pfc. Marvin Young
Pfc. William Young

Great rejoicing was felt in Neola this week as cablegrams and letters filtered in from the Neola men who had been prisoners of war in Germany for two years or more. Parents who had been anxious about their sons for so long finally knew a sense of relief at the news. However, we still have several yet to hear from, but it is expected that these will communicate with home folks during the coming week.

Ryan and Goeser sent cablegrams to their mother. Wade Nyquist wrote; Bernard Schnitker sent a letter; Julius Jokumsen sent word by cable and the rest of those liberated were heard of by round-about methods; Chaplains, writing and friends telling of seeing other of the boys.

It is apparent, however, from the information at hand, that all of them are in good condition, considering what they have been through, and as yet there has been no report of mistreatment of the boys from here. All they need now is good food and some care. Nearly everyone of them say they are going to eat at every chance they have.

It will be a great day here when the boys get back again.

FEBRUARY 21, 1946

Mrs. Angeline Cavanaugh Receives Letter of Condolence from MacArthur

(Editor's Note) The following letter was received by Mrs. Angeline Cavanaugh, formerly of Neola, from General Douglas MacArthur, expressing his sympathy concerning the death of her son, M/Sgt. James B. Cavanaugh, who died in a Japanese prison camp.

MacArthur's message reads as follows:

General Headquarters
United States Army
Jan. 1, 1946, APO 500

To Angeline Cavanaugh
Neola, Iowa

My deepest sympathy goes to you in the death of your son, M/Sgt. James B. Cavanaugh, while a prisoner of war of his enemy.

You may have some consolation in the memory that he, along with his comrades in arms, died in Bataan and Corregidor and in prison camps, gave his life for his country. It was largely their magnificent courage and sacrifice which stopped the enemy in the Philippines and gave us the time to arm ourselves for our return to the Philippines and the final defeat of Japan. Their names will be enshrined in our country's glory forever.

In your son's death, I have lost a gallant comrade and mourn with you.

Very faithfully,
Douglas MacArthur

John Caster was killed in Ii Shima in April of 1945. Ii Shima is located 300 miles south of Japan off the coast of Okinawa. Paul Ring's ship was in the same invasion, but he didn't know about John's death until he heard from his mother, Mrs. Jake Ring, Sr.

LETTERS FROM SOLDIERS

August 15, 1943

Dear Mom:

Another week has rolled by and another opportunity for me to go to Mass. Ate breakfast before I found out it was Sunday, so no communion.

This will be a day of rest for you, after the morning rush, of course.

This is later in afternoon. I started it this morning. Don't have much to say, have a few idle moments on my hands and want you to know I'm O.K.

Suppose you know all about the action here from the radio and papers. Probably more than I do.

All for now, Grace, take it easy and let things fall as they may.

Love,
Thomas L. Ryan

Cpl. Hobbins

Somewhere in England

Nov. 7, 1943

Dear Pa, Letty and Dick:

Just a few lines to let you know I am fine, went to church today in a theatre, went to Communion, too. So I am doing alright. Have only received two letters from you since Dickie left me, one from Leo and six from Dickie so I'm not doing so very good. Pa, there isn't a thing I need. If ever I do you can be sure I'll write, so thanks a lot. Wrote to U.B. and Stiner today. Would sure like to find them. I am close to a small town and go in twice a day for mail.

I like my work very much and the days go fast. We have very good food and lots of it, so you can see that we are getting what the people back home are sacrificing. Have been looking for a letter from Mary. Was surprised to hear they remained in Falls City.

Will close as it is nearly bedtime 8:30 o'clock here and 3:30 there. Once more! I'm in the best of health. Have Pa take good care of himself, write when you can.

Sincerely,
Jimmy

BROTHERS MEET IN PASTURE IN FRANCE

In a field somewhere in France

Dear Pa:

How is this for a surprise? I have just found Joe and we are both together in a pasture.

Dear Pa:

Yes, Pa, I sure surprised myself. I was doing my washing and heard a jeep drive up. I looked around and here it was Jimmie. We are both O.K.

Cpl. Joseph Hobbins
Cpt. James Hobbins

A letter written to James Hobbins, Sr.

S. Sgt. Paul Cavanaugh
February 17, 1944

Dear Mother and Dan:

There isn't much news around here, now that we are in a rest area again. Tonight I should write letters, but I don't feel as if I can stay awake that long. Haven't slept but one night in four, so believe I'll catch up on my rest first.

Imagine you have read in the papers about the bombing of the Benedictine Monastery near Cassino. I was looking at it during this time, and it was really a terrible sight. There were certainly many American lives lost in trying to take it and the Italian people took it rather hard, but after all they started this, but I do hope there were none of the Benedictines there at the time.

Tonight I-cated the package with gloves and sweater. It seems as if every time I ask for anything from home, the Army takes a notion to issue it, so there are plenty of scarfs and sweaters now.

From what I hear there must be plenty of meat in the stockyards, only they might do with a little organizing, only it isn't so easy.

Tell all those who might be interested "Hello". Will write again in a few days.

Love,
Paul

Damian Floerchinger
Dear Mom:

Sure hope you are feeling better, and don't try and work too hard, so you will get well. I am feeling fine and have a new address. Would like you to give it to Mr. and Mrs. Merrill and tell them I appreciate getting the Reporter and thanks a lot.

The chow is really good here, so I think I will soon be back up to 200 pounds. My work is somewhat different than it was on Denebola. There are only four of us moved here, one was a pal who was at Great Lakes. We have been together 19 months now and are hoping we get to stay together.

Well, Mom, I will close for now and take care of yourself. Give Thelma and Gwen my address and keep those letters coming.

Love from
Damian

From Pvt. Mark Stageman

February 12, 1944

Dear Mr. Merrill:

I'd like to express my appreciation of your generosity in sending me every issue of the Neola Gazette-Reporter. I look forward to receiving it every week and I haven't been disappointed yet. It is always there. I wanted to write and thank you before this but they have been rushing us through such intensive training that I just didn't have the time.

I really like the Marine Corps and I am proud to be one of them. I hope you don't think I'm bragging when I say that we are the toughest, hardest-hitting outfit in the world.

My time is running short and I'm afraid I must quit now. Once again I want to thank you for the paper, I really appreciate it.

Yours truly,
Pvt. Mark Stageman

GOLD STAR BOYS FROM NEOLA W.W. II

Ralph Ray Brown	May 11, 1942
John Joseph Caster	April 20, 1945
James B. Cavanaugh	February 10, 1943
Thomas Downs	August 28, 1944
Lemar Hartje	June 11
Roy Lathrop	January 5, 1947
LeRoy William Schneckloth	December 18, 1944
Lloyd Sampson	May 30, 1942
James Waters	
Eldred A. Welbourn	December 25, 1944
Max Steel	
Otis Faucett	
Norbert Talty	

June 1, 1944

Dear Mr. Merrill:

Just a line to let you know of my change of address. Came almost all the way across the United States. We came the southern route. Came through New Orleans. Had a stop there. Would like to have spent a night there. But you can't do that when you ride on a troup train.

Been here a day and a half, but there is a lot of difference between the East and the West.

Thanks again for the paper. I really enjoy it. The main thing is the news from the boys over there.

Yours truly,
Ambrose Ausdemore

HONORABLE DISCHARGE WW II

James Berens	Timothy Donovan
Robert Berens	James L. Hobbins
Lynn Burke	Leo Hobbins
Harold Casson	Herman Bernitz
Charles Caster	Philip Brich
Paul Cavanaugh	Urban Goeser
Harold Delanty	Helen Grote
John Elias	Celeste Hannifan
Paul Fischer	Joseph Hansen
Robert Fischer	Clarence Henderson
Phil Floerchinger	Emmett McDonald
Damian Floerchinger	Dr. H. W. Mathiesen
Eugene C. Floerchinger	Reverend Francis Sampson
Jerome W. Floerchinger	Leona Soppe
Thelma Floerchinger	Paul Steffens
Gerald Goeser	Norbert Talty
Joseph Goeser	Leon Walker
Marie C. Goeser	Paul Cletus McDonald
James Thomas Grace	Mark Stageman
Paul Hines	Louis Pogge
Francis Hough	Clarence (Dutch) Ring
Raymond Jungferman	George Ring
Aloysius Kenealy	James Ring
James Langin	Marion Ring
Ruth Alice Langin	Paul Ring
Charles Loney	Raymond Ryan
Francis Potter	William Ryan
Francis Pogge	Thomas Ryan
James McGinty	Bernard Schnitker
Clem Brich	Leo Schnitker
Cyril Walker	John Raymond Stinn
J. M. Farrell	Robert Sweeney
Alec Gayman	Paul Von Hebel
Philip Burke	Leonard Wellman
James Broughman	Jean Francis Langin (Wunder)
Bernard Broughman	Leo Zarestky
Philip Kenealy	Maurice Friedman
Francis Ausdemore	Raymond Kenealy
Joe Christiansen	Richard Kenealy
Jermiah Donovan	Eldon Langer
Paul Hermesen	Max Fischer
Philip Doyle	Philip Brougham
Rudolph Brummer	Edward Schnitker
Lloyd Ring	George Berens
Raymond Kenealy	Ambrose Ausdemore
Daniel Cavanaugh	Jerome Schnitker
William Schnitker	Dan Doyle
Vincent Kenealy	Robert Pickernell
	Joseph Hobbins
	John Kenealy



In Memory of Those Who Served in the

KOREAN WAR



Dedicated to Those Who Served our Country in the

VIETNAM WAR

ORPHAN TRAINS

1854 - 1929

The famous "Orphan Trains" which once brought children to St. Patrick's Parish were a project of the Children's Aid Society, founded in New York by Charles Brace in 1853. He saw little boys sleeping under the Harlem Bridge, in burned-out safes in Wall Street, in old boilers and barges, on steps and in steam gratings. He decided the best thing for these orphan, outcast children of the New York slums would be to send them to midwest farm families.

The "Orphan Trains" ran from 1854 to before the Great Depression in 1929. The first train brought 47 boys for placement in Michigan. At least 100,000 children were eventually placed. Some were placed in abusive situations where parents wanted workers rather than loving children. However, 90% of the children were successfully placed in good homes. Many of the orphans became journalists, judges, lawyers, attorneys, physicians and leading business and professional men and women.

Before the boxcars of children entered a town, the children were bathed and given clean clothes to wear. They were given instructions on how to act on arrival at the train station, town hall, church or wherever people gathered to pick out a child. Sometimes the children sang, danced or just stood and smiled to get the people's attention. At first, people thought the children were of the "criminal class" because they heard the children were "slum dwellers". Their attitude soon changed when they saw how very normal the children were.

The farm families were always given adequate notice so that many people would be waiting for the trains to come in. In Neola's St. Patrick's Parish, the children were taken to the convent from the train depot. The following Sunday they were taken to Mass by the Sisters. After Mass, Father M.T. Schiffmacher would line up the children in front of the Communion rail. He would select a child for a family, and the parents were responsible for making the child a welcomed and loved member of the family.

Among the orphans who became part of the St. Patrick's Parish in Neola, Iowa were: Evelyn Cavanaugh (later Sister Mary Rita of Sisters of St. Benedict), Ida Sweeney (Parks), Theodore Dunn, Teddy McGinty, Velma Henley (reared by Young family), Charlie Stephany, Ethel King, and Eugene Raymond. Their lives were a testament to the generosity and good will of St. Patrick's Parish families.

FLU EPIDEMIC

A flu epidemic hit Neola and the surrounding areas in or around 1918. They symptoms of this flu were like those of the Asian Flu strain, high fever, stomach cramps and vomiting. Many people, after getting over this flu, had to be careful of taking cold because of the weakness left them by the flu. Pneumonia could set in easily.

To care for the young ones in the family, those who could afford to do so, hired nurses to come and help care for them. The rest did with home remedies and with the orders given them by the doctors.

In Neola, Father Drexler closed the school and didn't hold Mass for several weeks because of the seriousness of the situation. It seems the epidemic started to taper off sometime around the end of World War I.

CHANGES IN THE CHURCH AFTER VATICAN II

Under the leadership of Pope John XXIII, there were tremendous changes instituted in the Roman Catholic Church as the result of Vatican II. Many of these changes were welcomed with great anticipation by many Catholics. Others did not always agree with these changes. The pros and cons will probably continue to be weighed for generations to come.

A treatise called "Correct Things for Catholics: Instructions for members of St. Patrick's Parish" by the Rev. A. J. Drexler, Pastor from 1901 to 1926, gives insight to the nature of our church before Vatican II.

Father Drexler listed these Chief Laws of the Church:

1. To hear Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation. Remember that obliges your children also if they have attained the age of reason.
2. To fast and abstain on days appointed.
3. To confess your sins at least once a year. Parents, send your children to confession at the appointed times, if they have not yet received their first Communion.
4. To receive the Holy Eucharist within Easter time, i.e., from the first Sunday in Lent to Trinity Sunday.
5. To contribute according to your means to support of the church. Do not let a few and the same ones bear all the expenses.
6. Not to marry outside of the Church, nor relatives, nor at forbidden times.

In order to support the church, Father Drexler asked each of the parishoners to pay rent on the pews. Each family was assigned a pew, and rent was paid on it four times a year. Parishioners were to "be conscious that either you support yourself in church matters or you are supported by others; and this is true whatever church you use and every time you use it, whether it be for Mass on Sunday or a Feast Day, for a baptism, marriage, or funeral. Then, if you have not a pew, you wear a part of your dress, Sunday dress, a card which reads to others and should read to you: 'I rely on others for my church support'."

The treatise states that Extreme Unction was to be given prior to death or in extreme cases of illness. The priest would anoint the five senses which had been instrumental to the person's sins (eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands, feet) with consecrated oil. Burial practices were also specific. First of all the funeral should take place from the church. Father Drexler then listed these rules:

1. Whenever it is possible the services of a Catholic undertaker should be employed.
2. Make proper arrangements with the pastor for the funeral Mass before announcing the time of the funeral.
3. When a member of the parish is to be buried, these things should be remembered:
 - (A) The party must have a right to a Christian burial.
 - (B) Funerals must be at the church at the time appointed.
 - (C) Funerals are not allowed on Sundays or Holy Days, except the burial is a necessity.

4. The casket is not to be opened in the church.
5. No flowers are allowed on the coffin in the church. Instead of spending money uselessly for flowers and carriages, it is better to say prayers, offer Masses and give alms to the poor for the deceased.
6. No regalia of any society, except a strictly Catholic one can be worn at a funeral. The only exception to this rule is the flag of our country or a purely secular emblem.

He further advised that "Catholics who neglected their religious duties for a long time, but who on their death bed gave signs of repentance, can be buried on Blessed Ground, but should not expect a solemn burial, likewise those who fail to support their church or their pastors." No interment was to be allowed in the Catholic cemetery without a burial permit issued by the pastor.

Vatican II resulted in visible changes in St. Patrick's Parish. The first change that took place was placement of the altar in the center of the sanctuary so that the priest could face the people. The Confessional was also changed. Instead of entering the Confessional, kneeling, and talking to the priest anonymously through a thin wall of paper, a person was to sit down facing the priest and then give his or her confession.

The use of lectors and extra-ordinary ministers were added. For the first time, a lay person was given the opportunity to give the Body of Christ to fellow parishioners. Women were also allowed at the altar during Mass.

In order for people to understand the Mass better, the language was changed from Latin to the native language of the country. At first, it was changed from Latin to part Latin and English, and then to all English. Prayers of the Mass were changed and more music was added.

Other changes included: communal penance, more Bible studies, prayer groups, Cursillos, Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), and revisions of the rites of sacraments.

Burial practices changed. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was no longer given after Mass. Burial regulation in the Catholic cemetery was relaxed so that, for example, a non-Catholic spouse could be buried with his or her partner.

Rosary and May Crowning were omitted. Mixed faith marriages were allowed in the church, and some of the divorce laws were changed.

Nuns could discontinue wearing their habits and could wear civilian clothes. They did not have to teach only in parochial schools; they could teach in public schools. Nuns were no longer required to live in a convent; they could obtain an apartment or house of their own.

(Excerpts from a 1981 taped conversation with Sister Barbara Ring, a member of St. Joseph's 1957 High School class, indicates the changes wrought by Vatican II.)

She said that, "Before Vatican II, the Superiors provided a well structured and group-oriented program in the early training of the Novices. The Novices usually had three choices as to what they wanted to do with their religious life--teach, nurse or cook. Most Novices chose teaching so most of the classes were geared to the teaching profession. If the Novices chose nursing, they usually worked in the Catholic hospitals. If they chose to be a cook, they usually cooked for the Sisters who worked in the hospital or at a convent. After Second Vatican Council, Sisters everywhere found themselves experiencing the freshness of 'New Spirit' within their own religious life as well as that found in the total church. Changes in religious dress, types of work, community living; this and much more is involved in the life of religious women as we see it in the church today."

After Vatican II, some of the nuns and priests from St. Patrick's Parish, who attended St. Joseph's School, chose to leave their vocations and to serve God outside their religious vocations.

RECOLLECTIONS OF SENIOR PARISHONERS

JURIAH (BURKE) RING and ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

**Excerpts from the taped interview with Juriah Ring
conducted by her granddaughter, Marilyn Masker,
November 1, 1981.)**

The first priest I remember was Father Schiffmacher. I made my first confession to him. He was a little fellow, not very tall, but nice. I was confirmed at St. Patrick's by Father Drexler right after I and others made our First Communion when we were thirteen years old. Then right after that we were confirmed; I think we were sixteen. There were a lot of married folks in that class. I think I wore a white blouse and a little red skirt, too. And we had to have a sponsor.

I know I didn't have a middle name and I got a chance to take a middle name. I took Agnes for a middle name when I was confirmed. Grandma Burke (mother) didn't give me a middle name because she wanted me to be named after my sister, Julia, who died before I was born. Father Maloy said, "Why don't you name her Juriah?" And that's the only name I ever heard.

Grandpa Ring (husband) went to this church all of his life. We were married (1911) by Father Drexler. The wedding was real nice. My sister, Mag, and Andy Ring stood up for us. My sister was bridesmaid. My wedding dress was blue; the bridesmaid wore a darker blue. Then we went down to Lyman's Hotel in Neola for breakfast after we got married.

We got to the church on Sundays when my kids were little by team and buggy. It was 65 years ago when we got our first car in 1915. Your mother was a baby. It was a Ford Model T, and I think we gave something like \$139 for it new.

Father Drexler was the priest when Bernard died (1922). Bernard was born in 1921. He took sick on a Monday night, took him to the hospital that night and he died the next day. He was brought out home on that place across from Witts. The undertaker from Minden came down and just brought everything out there (to the house). The casket and everything. He never went to a mortuary or anything. Doene (Ring) and George (Ring) took Bernard to the cemetery in the back seat of the car. He was buried in a little white casket. **John Flynn and Helen Echrich were married the day Bernard was buried.**

I worked at the dedication of the parish hall (1939). I remember being there. Whenever anything was going on, we were up there; whenever anything was going on, we were up there helping. Everybody helped, especially the older people. The younger people didn't help like those older people did. The dedication was a pretty big deal; everyone was working all the time. Grandpa Ring (husband) had worked at building the hall. He took, I suppose, tractors, which they always did. He did carpenter work.

ANN MINAHAN

(Excerpts from 1977 interview of Ann Minahan by Sister Roberta Brich, St. Joseph's School. Ann Minahan has been a member of the parish all of her life. She still come to daily Mass when weather permits.)

"One of the priests I remember was Father Schiffmacher. He was a grand priest and born in Alsace-Lorraine. He was the one who built this beautiful brick church and the one who started the Catholic school. He sent back to Ottumwa to get the Humility Sisters. In later years, my sister, Sister Mary Marcelline, joined the nuns (Humility Sisters) and was a nun for fifty-seven years. There were seven in her class; she is the only one still living.

Parish activities always included a bazaar that would last a week. Dinners were served and there were nice things for sale. We children always had to perform. One time we sang 'Backward, turn backward, oh turn of my life. Just for tonight make me a child again.' We all had on white cashmere dresses with short sleeves, and it was wintertime. We had the old stoves; I don't know why we girls didn't freeze to death. It was so cold. Mother was always to keep some of the ladies (during the bazaar), some of the older ladies and young girls who waitressed at the bazaar dinner and had a long way to go out in the country. So they stayed at our house. We lived in town where the legion hall is now. Then in 1900, we moved back to the farm.

The Mass was different from what it is now. Oh, my yes. We had little black books. We used to go in one room where all the grades would all be together and we'd have to practice. One time, some of us didn't know where the parts were to the Mass, and we all got a scolding for it. The Requiem, that's the funeral Mass, my mother sang it. Sang it in Latin.

For entertainment, Father Schiffmacher used to dismiss school and we'd walk to the cemetery. We'd pull weeds there, and then he'd send a tray up with sandwiches and a drink. We'd all sit in the grass and have our drink. But we all had to pull weeds!

Things we did for entertainment outside of school time were having little birthday parties. We did have choir night, and we used to always practice. One time Father Schiffmacher sent to California and got English walnuts for the choir. Sister Marcelline and I were little girls then. We thought that was a great treat to think he sent to California for the walnuts. It was something we didn't have very often. We had black walnuts here but no English walnuts.

One time Father Schiffmacher had the blessed sacrament taken out of the sanctuary and a screen was put up there. We saw silent movies. We had to sing whenever they flashed on a picture. There was no movie theater here for years in Neola.

We never went to Omaha to see plays or concerts or anything like that. The first treat I remember was to go to the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition held in Omaha in the lagoon. There were all kinds of animals, and I got to go real close to a camel. That thrilled me to death.

There was an opera house in that little brick house where Mrs. Doebernick lives. We had our social affairs there. Years ago, they would have a priest come out and give us a lecture there. My father and mother used to go; I can remember that. Most of our activities, however, revolved around the church.

I went to school where St. Joseph's School is now to the eighth grade. Then we moved to the country so I didn't finish. But Frances, my younger sister, finished St. Joe's and graduated. There were only two in her class.

I have a picture of Corpus Christi. We always had it in June. We had our little baskets full of flowers; and as we went up the aisle, we sprinkled our flowers.

One of nuns at St. Joe's, Sister Rita Cavanaugh, was my classmate. She belonged to the Benedictine Order. She passed away last week. My sister became a nun, too, Sister Marcelline. She's not very well now. Some of the teachers who taught when I was at St. Joe's were Sister Teresa, Sister MacLynn, Sister Anthony. Sister Teresa was the Mother Superior. I went to school when I was five and finished when I was thirteen--eight years. Our books included a catechism, our geography, our grammar, our arithmetic and our writing book. In later years, we studied the Palmer method."

CHRIS FISCHER

(Excerpts from September 3, 1977, taped interview of Chris Fischer by Father Lawrence Beeson and St. Joseph students: Walt Ring, Pat Masker, Dean Alfors, Norman Wellman and Adelia McCarty.)

"I went to school over here. Started to school in the old schoolhouse. That was the one that was once the church (building). Later it was turned into the school. There were just two rooms in the whole school. Sister Baptist had the ninth to the twelfth grades all in one room. The others (students) were all in the other part. All in one great big room. Yes, I was in St. Joe all of my school days. I don't remember that the classrooms were cold; I don't think they were. There was a stove at that time in the schoolhouse; there was no furnace.

Yes, there were country schools around (when I was young). Every two miles there was a country school then. But I never went to a country school. You know where this old brick house is out here---where Ray Cheney used to live---up here on the hill, right by the park? Arrowhead---right about a mile east of there. There was a country school there.

I don't remember Father Schiffmacher. Folks used to talk about Father Schiffmacher, but I don't remember him. Father Drexler is the only priest that I can remember (from younger days). I was thirteen when I made my First Communion---you had to be thirteen. We fasted from midnight on. Judd Lustgraaf, Angela's brother, and I were partners at that time. We had to go for instruction before we made our First Communion. We had to go for catechism. We sat in the two back seats, and Father Drexler would sit right in the aisle, and he would give instructions. He would ask us questions and call on someone to recite this or that. There's a story about when I made my First Communion. There were two girls dressed up like angels with wings. I don't know what the wings were made of---some kind of cloth. The ones making their First Communion would all be sitting in the front seats; the boys on one side, and the girls on the other. And they had candles. The two girls dressed as angels (my sister Clara and another girl) would come down from the altar and make a bow to two boys, and then they would go up. Then the girls would come back and get another two boys and bring the other two back. The wings on Clara's dress (suddenly) caught on fire---just flamed up---blazed up. Louis Eckrich was sitting right up close to the front, and he threw a coat over her and put the fire out. It is a wonder she didn't get burned! But they got the fire out right away!

When I was growing up, I lived on a farm---right south of town. We most generally had to walk to town. If the roads were bad, they (family) would take us in wagons---team and wagon. If the roads were bad or the weather was bad and if the men were not working in the fields, they'd take us to school or come and get us.

There weren't corn picking vacations (as such) when I was growing up here. That was sort of a Shelby County thing. But we had to stay out (of school) when we were big enough to shuck corn. Once when I got my report card after I had gone back to school, it said 'Absent two months' on it. I didn't graduate from St. Joes's High. I just couldn't keep up because I had to stay out in the spring of the year when spring work started and in the fall of the year to shuck corn. I used to have to stay out of school a lot ever since I was fifteen years old to help the farmers. I'd have to stay out of school a couple of days (at a time). I think I was in the eleventh grade when I just quit school.

I handled horses when I was young. We used to have ten head of work horses, and my job was to get the horses ready in the spring of the year. Joe and Dad did the milking and the other chores, and I took care of the horses. We used to have to feed them, curry them, and harness them.

We used to have 75 or 80 acres of corn. There would be five of us that had cultivators. It took five of us to cultivate, and you'd have to rest your horses half the time. The yield was 40 bushels to the acre---that would be a good crop. The cultivator was pulled by a team, and we most generally had to walk the cultivators until the riding ones came in. We always walked. I never got a riding cultivator until after I was married.

I have lived in (the town of) Neola for eight years. Before moving to Neola, I lived one and one-half miles south of town on the farm. Dick lives on the farm now.

When I lived on the farm, I farmed 160 acres. We had a John Deere tractor, discs, but not any of the high-priced machinery like they have now. We didn't have any cabs or anything like that on the tractors. But we had a full line of machinery. We farmed land across from the railroad tracks for nine years. We lived on the Kelley place. That land was sold, and we moved on the farm. We raised livestock like hogs, a few milk cows, and a few cattle every year. We waited until we got the corn shucked out in the fall of the year. We bought some cattle then and ran them through (the field) and then put them in the yard around the first of the year and fed them until March or April. And then when the pasture got good, we'd buy a few cattle and fed them on the grass. We got the livestock to the market by calling for a truck and loading up the cattle. We knew what the markets were (in those days) by reading the papers. Things were a little slower then.

My dad had a farm about three miles south of Neola. He bought that when Tony, my brother, got married. When I started farming, Tony, moved up; he bought a farm from McDonalds---where Leo lives now. And I moved on the farm where Tony was. **I lived there for eight years and then a farm owned by Rome Kenealy came up for sale.** We bought it from Rome in 1929. It was a bad time to buy a farm. I'll say it was. But I had a farm on credit for eight years. We made a little money. We had a little money to pay down on the farm. Somebody else was going to buy that farm if we didn't, so my dad thought that we should buy it. I said that 80 acres wouldn't do us any good unless we got the other 80 that adjoined it, which was up for sale, too. Then the State Bank went broke. My dad and Ed had sent a load of cattle to Omaha and when the check came to the bank (for cashing) the bank was closed. The bank was broke and Dad and Ed could not get the money unless they bought this 80 acres and turned it over to me. Got the money out of the bank that way.

I went through the 1934 to 1936 period of the farm. Corn got down to about 10¢ a bushel. I sold 20 head of hogs one time; a truck came out and hauled them to Omaha. Twenty head of hogs brought \$98! One hog would bring that now. In 1934, we never got any crop; in 1935, we got about half a crop; and in 1936, we didn't get any at all. And we couldn't pay our taxes. Couldn't pay the interest. They (the bank) wouldn't take the farm back because they had more against it than what it was worth. So we just kept hanging on until times got better. Paid off the debts."

LOUIS ECKRICH

(Excerpts from interview of Louis Eckrich by Father Lawrence Beeson, April 5, 1978.)

"I remember Father Schiffmacher, he was sort of a nervous type of man. I didn't condemn him for that because he supervised this building of the church. You know when you depend on a group of people for the money, things get pretty slow once in awhile. You bet that was a slim time he went through! I tell you there were very few families then who were what you call kind of established---financially, I mean. I made my First Communion when Father Drexler was pastor. Had to be thirteen years old by the first of April to take First Communion. My birthday is the third of October, and, of course, that would kind of put me back a year. There were quite a number of others who I thought were my age, but I found out they were several years younger. They attended parochial school here you know; that was a considerable advantage. I just attended the rural district school in the country. I came to the Sisters' school twice. The ninth and tenth grades is the extent of my education---that, and the little experience I've had in life. My teachers in school included Sister Eulalia, who is dead now. She was a highly educated person; Sister Regina, too. I believe those are the only two teachers I had---ninth and tenth grades. When I went to country school, my teachers were Betty Baldwin's mother and father---the W. S. Newlands. She came from Fremont, Nebraska. Betty's down here at the bank.

My birthday is the third of October, born 1892 on the place down here they called Max Brandenburger's. Frank Floerchinger owns it now. The Brandenburgers knew we lived about five miles from town with travel quite a problem. So they asked my mother to come in and stay and room a few weeks until I was born. It was a common thing for people to be baptized the day they were born. It was awfully hard to bring a baby to be baptized. My mother couldn't come herself at all. Women were bedfast for a week or two after birth took place.

When my father came to this country, he worked for a man, R. T. Lovell, for three years. He lived there where young Joe Fischer lives, out beyond Bob Masker's---the next one up the road from Bob's. He worked to get money enough to buy a few old horses and old second-hand machinery to start farming a little. Well, you couldn't do that nowadays on that small amount of money under any condition! I don't know what the outcome of these (present) farm families is going to be because it is impossible to get started without some backing. I've seen the day myself when I had to depend on borrowed money to operate. Borrowing money isn't as easy as it might be (today).

When I went to country school, I walked about a mile across the field and a mile and one-half around the road. We never minded that. We called walking exercise as well as fun! It was walk or not get there at all!! It was quite an improvement when the roads began to get hard surfacing for the cars because when it got muddy, it was impossible to navigate. I still have a buggy myself. Keep it in the garage with the car. It's a single seater. There's a carriage (too) that was two seated with a top on it. That was our passenger buggy.

I don't think Fathers Schiffmacher and Drexler had a buggy of their own. If they had a buggy, they had to have a team of horses to draw or pull it. Father Drexler never did go to that trouble. I don't know how he ever got around. I presume the neighbors sort of helped each other. All they had to do was ask a neighbor to go in and get the priest if they needed him. Oh, it was a hard, very inconvenient way to get along. I don't know how in the world they ever did it. It sure is a lot different now.

We harvested the crops with binders which were horse drawn. The corn was gathered by hand. You had a team and wagon with bang boards on the side. You'd go right along and pick the ears and throw them in. Sometimes, the horses got a little way ahead of you. The small grain was bound and you stood the bundles up. Then you'd collect the bundles and stack them eight to ten shocks in a stack--had to stack it right or it would start settling to one side and fall over. If it fell over, and you had a rain, it would be forever drying out. I remember the days when they'd hook horses on a 'snither' power circle. There would be about five teams, and somebody got the horses to 'get up' or 'stop'. It was hard handling the horse-drawn machinery. Horses are like people--some can stand more than others. A man had to use a little judgment of his own or he could ruin a horse. Some days were unreasonably hot, and you had to handle horses accordingly, or you'd kill them. It took four or five days to harvest 40 acres. A man with an extra good team of horses on an extra good day could plant a limit of 20 acres. My dad's first planter cost \$15. It was horse drawn and planted two rows. Compare that to a price of \$6500 today for an eight-row, second-hand planter. No wonder the farm debt is estimated to be \$100 billion--that's not including the cost of the land. I do not know, Father, how some people are going to make it.

The way I made my first money was catching gophers for a nickel. I got a dime for grey squirrels, a penny for barn rats, and a penny for ground squirrels. Those animals were all more or less destructive of our crops. Later on, I went into the bee business. I sold honey in four states. If you're going to work with bees, you better know something about them. There are conditions when a bee will fight, and there's different conditions when they won't. You have to know all those things if you're going to get along with bees. June is the swarming month in the northern states and Canada. We used to wear an everyday straw hat, and then we used mosquito bar--a fine net on the order of a screen, but it's flexible. Would tie it around my neck.

I can remember the day when there were five grocery stores right here in this town--J. L. Kuper's, J. A. Weber's, M. O'Connor's, N. Palmer's, and a man named Smith. We used to have two blacksmiths and two banks. Yes, there were doctors in Neola at that time. It was especially rough in the '30's. I farmed through the '30's a little bit. In February of 1933, I sold 156 or 157 hogs. They brought \$856 in less than three weeks. Forty percent of that was frozen down here at the bank. And you know they knew blamed well what condition they were in. The president of the bank then was Ed Cotter. Then they had a man come in by the name of Ralph Hall; his sons were Roland and Traverse (grandson). In March of 33, Roosevelt declared all the

banks closed; the banks had to report their financial condition. A big meeting was held here in the opera house in town on March 23, spring of 1933. The state banking superintendent presided. He said the bank had \$133,000 in actual cash on hand, which he said was very commendable on the part of the operators of our bank compared to others. It was impossible to get anything (money) those days. Gold was the standard. A lot of old pioneers would sell something, take it out in gold, and then bury the gold. I think there's still a lot of it in the country some place. Some of the old men buried it, and then they died off and didn't tell anybody (about it).

Yes, I remember Daniel Joe Nuschy (born and baptized same day as Louis Echrich). He was in my First Communion class. He used to run one of the blacksmith shops here in town. He was the father of Daniel Nuschy. **He married a Flynn girl.** I remember those people. I know Rowena Ring; she used to teach second grade. I know Ann Minahan, Fred Wellman (he is older than I am, too). He should be able to give you a pointer now and then. He will be 90 this fall. A lot of the people are gone now--a lot of them gone for a long time--the Floerchinger family. We had a lot of good people in the parish in the old days. A lot of them hard to beat. You bet they were.

I have a brother, a doctor, Aberdeen, South Dakota--my youngest brother. He's nine years younger than I am. He finished over here at Creighton. Dr. Cogley, head of Cogley Clinic, taught my brother when he was a Creighton. My children were born at Mercy, all three delivered by Dr. Mary Tinley. Her brother, Dr. Matt Tinley, used to be a doctor in Council Bluffs. He kind of got into politics for awhile and gave up his profession. Turned it over to his sister, Dr. Mary. They also had a brother, John Tinley, an attorney.

I'm helping some with farming now. I'm not the main operator. Louis George is the main operator. There's a lot of little things I can do, and it means a whole lot to the regular operator. I can go and get something that he needs; otherwise, he'd have to take off the job and do it himself."

Mary Burns

(Following are excerpts from a taped conversation of Mary Burns by Sister Roberta Brich and sixth grade girls from St. Joseph's School. Mary Burns has been a member of St. Patrick's Parish all of her life.)

"I have lived in Neola, Iowa, all of my life. We lived on a farm at one time, but when I was four years old, we came into town.

I was a teacher in rural schools and Neola Public School. I taught at Porter School, and I taught at one school out here by the park. I don't think it had a name; it isn't there now. I taught in three different rural schools, and I taught about 20 years at Neola Public School.

The rural schools were one-room schools with one door and a coal burning stove out in the middle of the back room. I had to be the janitor and keep the fire going. Sometimes the kids helped wash the boards. I had to get there early in the morning because sometimes the fire would go out at night. There was no running water or indoor plumbing. The kids carried water in little buckets from home; we put the buckets on a bench in the back of the room. There were no hot lunches; everybody brought their own lunch in a brown sack or pail. They had no bologna then; they'd have good bread and rolls. Their mothers were good bakers. Sometimes, there would be only one pupil in a grade. Sometimes, all eight grades were in one room. There would be about ten students in the rural schools. But when I taught in Neola Public School, I might have 40 in one room. That's

the most I ever had. The rural school had one room with two rows of seats---one on each side of the room. If it was crowded, two pupils would sit in each seat. The furniture in the classroom was some of the poorest. Seats were old, the teacher's desk was old, and the stove wouldn't be very good. We burned wood and coal. We had to empty our own ashes. You'd see a big pile of ashes outside the school waiting to be hauled away after every winter was over. The books for the students seemed a little harder (to understand) than those used now. The books weren't as colorful or bound as nicely as they are now. When I was teaching, the children played games like you do now. They played ball and mostly hide-and-seek. There were no swings or any kind of playground equipment at all.

Most everyone went to school. Sometimes they had to stay out to help with farm work. Students in Neola Public Schools went on to high school. The school didn't want the kids (in town) to bring their lunch because there were too many of them. So the students were expected to go home at lunch. Some of them had to hurry because they lived quite a distance from the school.

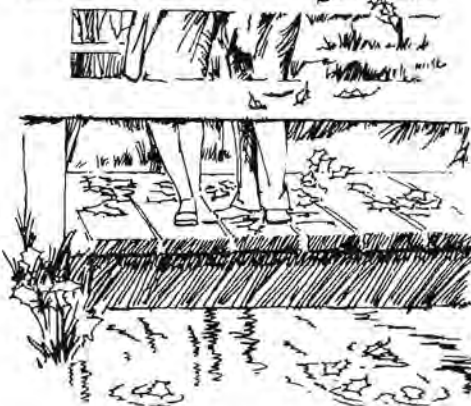
After graduating from high school, I went to summer school for about twelve weeks (preparation for teaching). Then I went to college in Cedar Falls several summers, and I attended Omaha University one summer. It was fun teaching. But it wasn't always so much fun getting there. I'd have to walk all the time when I taught out here, and I had to be there before the kids got there. Sometimes, somebody would come along and pick me up when I was walking along the road. But many times I had to walk all the way, rain or shine, because there weren't any telephones to tell the parents I wouldn't be there if the weather was bad. I remember one night coming home from school. A man picked me up who was driving a team of horses---one of which he was breaking to drive!! I got to ride home behind a wild horse!! The last school I taught in was two miles out here where Arrowhead is. There was kind of a road through there. To take a shortcut, I used to follow through that road so I wouldn't have to climb the steep hill. Otherwise, I was afraid to go through there. Then I would walk all the way around the road. I had to walk about two miles out and back to the rural schools. Some of the students were George Rodenburg, the Brumers, the McSweeneys and Kinneys.

After I stopped teaching, I was a postmistress (they called me a postmaster). There were several women working as postmistresses at the time. I used to go to postmasters' meetings in different cities, and there were a good many women postmistresses there. The first post office in Neola was where Von Hebel's Beer Parlor is. It was a cold, old building. We had to haul coal there, too, to keep the fire going. When I was first working as a postmistress, all the mail came in by train. Then gradually it was sent by trucks until now all the mail comes by truck.

Some of the stores in Neola at that time were Clem Crowley's; Mr. Arner's Drug Store was where Clem Crowley's Drug Store is now. There was a bakery next to the Blue and White. There was a movie theater; it was where the Masonic Temple is now, across the street from the post office. There used to be a beauty parlor up where the Blue Moon is. Brandenburger's was where the Floerchinger Apartment is now. Schierbrock's had a store where they now are. Once there had been a fire there, and they had to rebuild. There were two train depots. The Rock Island depot was across the railroad tracks where the depot is now. The Milwaukee depot was down near the Nelson Elevators. The lumberyard was there then, and another one was up where the apartments are on the corner."



FAMILY HISTORIES



THOMAS MONROE ADAMS

Thomas Monroe Adams (1898-1977) and Anna Barbara Wellman (1895) were united in marriage on February 15, 1927, by Reverend William Kleffman.

Thomas was the son of Thomas Jefferson Adams and Almira Trifine Dickens of Lebanon, Missouri. Anna is the daughter of Henry Wellman (1838-1917), who came from Intrabruck, Germany and Anna Elizabeth Graver (1856-1938) from New York, New York.

Tom, youngest of eight, was born in Lebanon, Missouri. He joined four brothers and three sisters. At age 17, he came to Iowa and worked as a farm hand for Bob Carse of Oakland, and for George and Kate Ring south of Neola. He then worked for the Ford Plant in Omaha before his marriage in 1927 to Anna Wellman. Anna was also the youngest of eight children, with four brothers and three sisters. They moved to a farm north of Neola where they raised seven children. Phillip (1928-1973), Barbara (1930), Mary Jo Dressel (1932), Joseph (1933), Gertrude Russell (1934), Thomas (1936) and Margaret Rief (1940). They also have 39 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. After living on the farm for 47 years, they moved to Neola in the fall of 1974.

Tom and Anna celebrated their Golden Anniversary on February 15, 1977, with a Mass in their home. Their children and attendants, Joseph Wellman and Theresa (Goodwater) Widhalm shared this happy occasion. They received an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Paul VI honoring this event.

Anna is was residing with her daughter, Barbara Corrin, until her death on May 14, 1982.



Tom & Anna Adams 1927



Tom & Anna Adams 1977



Tom Adams Family

BERNARD ALFERS FAMILY

Bernard Alferts was born in Germany August 20, 1868. He came to Neola direct from Germany in 1893. Bernard had three brothers and one sister who lived in Germany. On May 5, 1896 he was married to Miss Anna Von Hebel. They were married at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. The Rev. A.J. Drexler celebrated the Nuptial Mass.

Mrs. Alferts (Anna) was born in Germany on November 23, 1872 and until the age of 20, resided there. In 1892 she came to America locating in Neola, and lived there the rest of her life. She had two brothers, Herman and Bernard Von Hebel, and three sisters, Mary Bermier, Angela Soppe and one sister in Germany.

To this marriage, four children were born. Mary, born February 17, 1897. She kept house for her brothers, then went to Des Moines, Iowa, and worked at St. Ambrose Cathedral for 30 some years. She retired at 80 years of age and resides at Harlan, Iowa. Anthony (Tony), born March 17, 1899. He married Anna Plagge, April 22, 1941. Tony and Anna farmed, living on the Plagge home farm after their marriage. Tony died December 2, 1959. Anna moved to Neola with her father, Lambert Plagge and sisters, Katie and Mary. Anna passed away January 2, 1970. Henry, born April 4, 1901, and J. Herman Alferts born February 21, 1905, (see J. Herman Alferts). On January 30, 1907 Bernard was instantly killed as the team and wagon he was driving were demolished by a Rock Island passenger train. Mr. Alferts had been hauling corn for August Bombeck and delivering it at the Rock Island Elevator. Two years later in February, 1909 Mrs. Anna Alferts was married to Mr. Henry Kuper. Mrs. Kuper passed away February 15, 1915.



Bernard Alferts Family



Herman Alferts & his sister Mary Alferts



Mary Alferts on her 80th birthday



Tony & Anna Alferts

RAYMOND ALFERS

Raymond Alferts, son of Henry Alferts and Minn Remmes, was born September 24, 1941, and grew up on his father's farm near Neola. He attended grade school in Bentley, Iowa, and St. Joseph's High in Neola. Ray was an avid sportsman and enjoyed playing basketball for St. Joe Rockets, and was named to All Southwest Iowa (S.W.I.) 2nd Team his senior year in 1959.

Ray continued farming, living with his mother. A great baseball enthusiast, he played centerfield for Neola Look-Outs for 13 years and managed the team two of these years.

He married Marilyn Schleimer (Panama, Iowa) in November 1963. They are parents of five children: Kristine 1964, Dean 1965, Jeffrey 1967, Kathleen 1969 and Tony 1971. The family is active at St. Patrick's where all children attended St. Joseph's and St. Albert's High School in Council Bluffs.

Ray and his family own and operate a dairy farm west of Neola. Marilyn does bookkeeping at Barrier Tire Co. in Neola. Many enjoyable hours are spent with softball, baseball, football, basketball and track in which all children are active.



Henry & Minnie Alferts

HENRY ALFERS

Henry Alferts, son of Bernard Alferts and Anna Von Hebel, was born and reared in rural Neola and married Minn Remmes in the spring of 1938. Henry and Minnie farmed in the same area and were parents of three sons: Robert (1939), Raymond (1941) and Kenneth (1944). After Henry's death in 1955, his sons operated the farm until their graduation from St. Joseph's School.

Robert attended Loras College, Dubuque; St. Bernard's Seminary, Dubuque; University of Nebraska, (M.S. in Spec. Ed.); and University of Kansas, (counseling certificate). He is presently Dean of Students at State School of Deaf in Kansas. Married Bernetta Maloney in 1974, they reside in Olathe, Kansas.

Ray, (see Ray Alferts Family).

Kenny attended Creighton University, receiving P.H.D. in history from George Washington University and presently teaches at Mountain View College, near Dallas, Texas. Married Mary Jo Hobbins of Neola and father of Andrew and Michael, resides in Duncanville, Texas.

Minn Alferts died March 19, 1972.



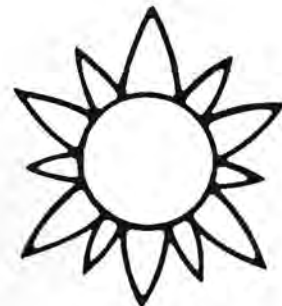
Ray Alferts Family

BERNARD J. ALFERS FAMILY

Bernard J. Alferts, son of J. Herman Alferts and Florence (Mohatt) Alferts, was born June 29, 1932. Bernard was graduated from St. Joe in 1950. He was in the service from 1953 to 1955, serving one year in Germany.

Bernard married Louise Kautzsky, daughter of Ed Kautzsky and Bernice (Krelin) Kautzsky of Perry, Iowa. They were married February 4, 1956 at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa. They became the parents of six children. Joe, born April 26, 1957, married to Debra Krummel June 7, 1980; Nancy, born December 13, 1958; Jane, born January 26, 1959, married to Tom Goetz, June 19, 1978; Karen, born June 6, 1962; Mary Kay, born February 19, 1964; Gina, born September 30, 1967.

Louise passed away February 19, 1973. Bernard married Karen (Alliott) Borrink March 7, 1980 at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa. Bernard has two step-children, Debra and David Borrink. Bernard is employed in Omaha, Nebraska, at Natkin Co. Bernard, Karen and family reside in Minden, Iowa, and have three grandchildren.



JOHN HERMAN ALFERS FAMILY

J. Herman Alferts was born February 21, 1905. He was the youngest child of Bernard Alferts and Anna (Von Hebel) Alferts. Herman attended a country school in his neighborhood south of Neola. After completing his eighth grade, he attended Bentley School. He farmed with his brothers until his marriage. Herman married Florence E. Mohatt, daughter of Everett J. Mohatt and Elizabeth (Fitzsimmons) Mohatt on August 7, 1928, at Sacred Heart Church, Omaha, Nebraska.

To this marriage, four children were born. Elizabeth A. born February 3, 1930 (see Robt. J. Masker, Sr.), Bernard J. born June 20, 1932 (see Bernard J. Alferts), Margaret M. born January 25, 1935 (see Donald E. Fischer, Sr.) and John H., Jr. (Jack) born July 18, 1938.

Jack attended St. Joe School and graduated in 1956. Jack married Marilyn Neu, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Neu of Valley, Nebraska, June 18, 1960. They were married at St. Patrick's Church, Elkhorn, Nebraska. To this marriage three daughters were born. Joanie, born September 21, 1968; Julie, born February 13, 1972; Debbie, born July 14, 1973. Debbie passed away January 19, 1976. Jack, Marilyn and family reside in Omaha, Nebraska. Herman and Florence farmed near Neola. Florence died September 1, 1952, at the age of 44. After her death, Herman owned and operated a portable grinding mill until his retirement. Herman had 21 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



Herman & Florence Alferts 1948



Herman & Florence Alferts Wedding August 7, 1928

John Herman Alferts Family 1953



AMBROSE AUDEMORE FAMILY

Ambrose Ausdemore was born 10-18-1917. Married Cecilia Temme 1-16-1921, on April 5, 1948. They had six children.

Dale, 2-23-49, married Jan Tysor 5-31-1950. They were married on 2-6-1971. They have three children, Kevin, 5-22-1972, Amber, 7-9-1975 and Dustin, 9-17-1980. They reside in Council Bluffs.

Sharon, 3-18-1950, married Tyrell Thonvold 11-23-1946. They were married 11-29-1969. They have two children, Tyon, 7-15-1970, Shane, 5-27-1971. They reside in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Karen, 4-24-1951, married Waldean School, 5-22-1945. They were married on 10-3-1970. They have six children, Jeffrey, 7-26-1971, Lynn, 11-29-1974, Kim, 3-16-1975, Brian, 3-10-1979, Robbie, 3-10-1979, and Ann, 3-30-1981. The family resides in Petersburg, Nebraska.

Marion, 10-24-1954, married Bonnie Witt, 7-29-1955. They were married on 8-26-1978. They have one child, Ryan, 3-4-1980. They live in Neola, Iowa.

Lynn, 11-21-1957. He also lives in Neola.

Pam, 4-16-1959, married Jack Pateman. They have two children, Christopher, 9-14-1975, Kelli, 7-10-1981. They live in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Ambrose and Cecilia also raised a step-son, Ronald Temme. He's married and resides in Denver, Colorado.

Ambrose's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ausdemore. Ambrose has lived on the "homeplace" all of his life.



Ambrose Ausdemore Family



Ronald Temme



Harry & Lucille Ausdemore with David, Donna, Dennis & James

HARRY AUDEMORE FAMILY

Harry Ausdemore, son of Tony and Helen Ausdemore, married Lucille C. Bruck November 19, 1957. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Bruck of Earling, Iowa, the second of ten children, five boys and five girls. Her grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Nick Bissen and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bruck, all of Earling. All are deceased.

Harry and Lucille have three sons. David, born May 15, 1960, is a graduate of Tri-Center High School. He married Donna Jean Hansen August 16, 1980. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hansen of rural Council Bluffs. Donna, the oldest of three children, works at Interstate Electric Co. in Council Bluffs. Dave farms at rural Persia, Iowa.

James, born December 17, 1961, is a graduate of Tri-Center High School and farms near Neola.

Dennis, born April 14, 1966, is a student at Tri-Center High School and plans to farm.

ANTON AUSDEMORE FAMILY

Tony Ausdemore was born January 5, 1898, at Dunlap, Iowa. He is the oldest of eight children born to Joseph and Elizabeth (Fischer) Ausdemore. In 1905, the family moved from Dunlap to a farm south of Neola. In April of 1924, Tony married Helen Remmes of Dunlap. Helen was born September 21, 1902, and was the oldest of two children born to Frank and Wilhelmina (Grote) Remmes.

Tony and Helen farmed in the Neola area most of their lives. Helen passed away June 20, 1974. Tony retired and lived in the Neola area until his death on May 19, 1982.

Tony and Helen are the parents of seven children. Donna was born in June of 1925, and is married to John Sobotka. They live on an acreage near Omaha.

Irene was born in July of 1927, and is married to John Konz. They live on a farm near Neola and are the parents of eleven children.

Leonard was born in April of 1930, and is married to Laura Miller. They farm near Neola and are the parents of six children.

Walter was born in August of 1931, and is married to Rose Mary Ring. They farm near Neola and are the parents of four children.

Ruth was born in June of 1933, and married Ervin Konz. Ruth passed away in February of 1981. Ervin is farming near Neola, and they are the parents of four children.

Harry was born in March of 1935, and is married to Lucille Bruck. They farm near Neola, and are the parents of three sons.

Mary was born in May of 1942, and is married to Richard Cronk. They reside in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Richard is a member of the police department. They have five children.

Tony Ausdemore's father, Joseph, was born at Merzen, Germany, in 1868. He came to the United States in 1885. His parents were John Theodore Aus de Moore and Maria Anna Wellmann. In the early nineteenth century, the name Ausdemore was recorded as Aus dem Mohre.

Elizabeth Fischer's parents were Anton Fischer and Annie Hennykemper. Anton's first wife was Theresa Metendorf.

Wilhelmina Grote's parents were Frederick and Lena Lubbers Grote. Frederick was born in 1850 in Germany. They moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, about 1856.

Frank Remmes' parents were Bernard and Mary Angela Brink Remmes. They came from Germany, and are buried at Neola, Iowa.

JOSEPH AUSDEMORE

Joseph Ausdemore was born September 20, 1868, in Merzen, Germany. His parents were John Theodore and Maria Anna (Wellmann) Aus de Moore. He had two older brothers, Theodore and Heinrich and a younger sister, Wilhelmine.

The family name has been traced back to 1797, in Germany when it was spelled Aus dem Mohre. By 1848, the spelling changed to Aus-de-Moore. Through immigration process as the family came to America, the name became Ausdemore.

About 1882, Joseph's brother, Theodore, came to American and settled with his Uncle Henry in Crofton, Nebraska. In 1885, Henry sent for Joseph to come to Crofton. After farming for five years with his uncle, Joseph moved to Neola at the age of 22 and worked on the farm of Jim Langin about seven years. In 1897, Joseph was married to Elizabeth Fischer at St. Patrick's Church in Dunlap, Iowa. Elizabeth was born June 25, 1879, in Council Bluffs and lived in Neola. Joseph and Elizabeth settled at Dunlap where three of their children were born.

The oldest, Tony, was born January 5, 1898, and married Helen Remmes in 1924. They farmed at Neola and had seven children. Veronica, their second child, was born June 2, 1899, and died in 1902. Barbara was born September 10, 1904, and married Garrett Brommer in 1920. They farmed at Dunlap and had three children.

Joseph and Elizabeth bought a 147-acre farm south of Neola from J. G. Bardsley. They built the house on this land and moved in March 1905. On January 3, 1909, their fourth child, Helen, was born. Helen married Ted Stamp in 1937. They farm outside of Persia and have three children. Another daughter, Regina, was born on December 16, 1911. Regina married Fred Hadfield in 1932. They farmed outside Neola and had five children with one deceased.

On March 1, 1912, Joseph and Elizabeth purchased an additional 40 acres from G. W. and Maude Gusie. This adjoined the original farm.

A second son, Francis, was born on September 21, 1915. He married Regina Hookom in 1949, and had two daughters. He settled in Torrance, California. Another son, Ambrose, was born October 18, 1917. He married Cecilia Temme in 1948. They farm the home place of Joseph and Elizabeth and have six children. Joseph and Elizabeth's eighth child is Joseph, Jr., born June 29, 1922. Joe married Maude Matthis in 1951. They farm at Neola and have two children. Barbara Brommer died in 1964, Francis died in 1971, Joseph died on November 30, 1936, at the age of 68. Elizabeth lived on the farm with her sons, Ambrose and Joseph, until her death on February 9, 1943.



Anton Ausdemore



Joseph & Elizabeth Ausdemore

FATHER BEESON

Rev. Lawrence A. Beeson is the son of Earl Jerome Beeson and Johanna Ada Olmstead. His brothers and sisters are Harriet Marie, who died in infancy; Everett Jerome; Robert Earl; Justin Leo; Sister Rachel (Marietta); and Rachel Norton. Paternal grandparents were Renfred Beeson and Emma Kloubec. Maternal grandparents were Everett Olmstead and Margaret Farrell. Renfred's father's first name has been lost but his wife's maiden name was Sarah Burns. Emma Kloubec and her mother used the place name they were from when they migrated from Czechoslovakia so their real names were lost. Everett Olmstead was the son of Everett Elias Olmstead and Ada Burdick. Margaret Farrell was the daughter of Johanna O'Rourke and David Farrell.



Earl Jerome & Johanna Ada Beeson

HENRY AND MARIA BENTLAGE

Henry Bentlage, Sr. was born April 25, 1856, in Province of Gwengen, Holland to Herman and Helena Bentlage. In Holland, the name "Bentlage" was pronounced Bent-lä-gē. Henry came to America at the age of 23, he worked for a dairyman in Wisconsin for a short time, then for the Milwaukee Railroad from Perry to Council Bluffs. He frequently visited the Kuper family in Neola who were his distant relatives and it was through them that he met Maria Benedickt. They were married in Neola, October 16, 1886. It might be of interest to add that one of their wedding gifts was a wagon seat from Anton Fischer. Later on, Anton was the godfather of Henry and Maria's daughter, Mary. Maria Benedickt was born October 30, 1864 in Prague, Austria to Johann and Anna Lutter Benedickt. She worked in a health resort occupied by wealthy people called The Carlsbad in Vienna. She came to America to learn the English language and planned to return to Austria to be an instructor. Her father and brothers were musicians and had their own band. After their marriage, they farmed in the Neola vicinity and eventually acquired the farm one-half mile west of Neola which is presently the home of Mary Berens, their daughter. Eight children were born to them. Henry (Hank), who married Suzanne Early of Omaha; Charles, who died at the age of 2 of drowning; John married Julia Stoker of Persia; Bill married Mary Cecelia Kenney of Neola and their daughter is Helen Byers. Mary married Joe Berens of Dunlap. They are the parents of Dolores Fischer, George, Ret. Col. Robert (Bob), **Jim and Joann Kenealy**. Joe married Mary Kay of Minden and their children are Leo, Betty Ann (who died in infancy), Frances Miguel, Donald (who died of drowning), Jerry, Collette Kusek and Mike. Frank married Marie Leahy of Omaha and George, who died in a car accident July 11, 1920.

Henry Bentlage died May 6, 1915 and Maria died April 5, 1931.



Henry & Maria Bentlage Family

JOE AND MARY BERENS

Joseph Felix Berens was born November 20, 1894, on a farm 5 miles northwest of Dunlap, Iowa, in Crawford County. He was the son of Hubert and Paulina Glawinsky Berens and was one of fourteen children. His brothers and sisters were Bill, Mike and Henry, Mary Gepson, Barbara Schwab, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Wettengale, Mollie Heller, Frances Larson, Laura Wessel and Anna Frazier. Three children died at birth.

In 1917, Joe enlisted to served in the U.S. Army with the Infantry Division. On May 20, 1919, he married Mary Magdlean Bentlage, the only daughter of Henry and Maria Benedict Bentlage. She was born May 22, 1894. She attended St. Joseph's School to the 8th grade. Her brothers were Henry (Hank), Charles, who died at age 2 of drowning, John, Bill, Joe, Dr. Frank and George, who died in a car accident July 11, 1920.

Joe and Mary began their married life on a farm northwest of Dunlap and in 1927, moved to the farm one-half mile west of Neola, which was Mary's former home and is still her home. Their children are Dolores who is married to Cornelius (Con) Fischer, their children are Mary Jo Dobrydney, Dorothy Anne Mauro and John. George married Betty Ann Krouse of Westmoreland, Kansas. Their children are Cindy Notham and David. Bob married Betty Lou Ehlike of Des Moines. Their children are Barbara Oxley, Leslie Holton and Jeanne. Jim married Dorothy Gabel of Kingsley, Iowa. Their children are Kathleen Rudolph, Mike, Tom, Mary Anne and Theresa. **Joann married Leo Kenealy and their children are Kris Stamp, Kathy, Dennis, Pat and Mike (twins) and Susie.** There are 18 great-grandchildren. Joe and Mary observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1969. Joe passed away February 22, 1974.



Joseph & Mary Berens 1959-40th Wedding Anniversary



Joseph Berens Family 1974

HAROLD BRICH

Harold Brich was born July 29, 1933, the oldest of eight children of Paul J. and Geraldine Atkins Brich. He attended St. Joseph Grade School and was graduated from St. Joseph High School in May, 1950. He served in the United States Army from July, 1953, until July, 1955, spending 18 months in the Far East most of which was at a post near Kwangju, Korea. He and Mary Janette Kral, a native of Vail, Iowa, were married in St. Ann's Church there on October 22, 1955. In January 1982, Harold completed thirty years of service with the Union Pacific Railroad in Omaha.

Harold and Mary had two children, Christine Marie, born November 10, 1956, and Jeffrey Joseph, born July 3, 1962. Both children attended St. Joseph Grade School and graduated from St. Albert, the Great High School in Council Bluffs. Christine graduated in 1974, and Jeffrey in 1980.

Christine attended Marycrest College in Davenport and Jeffrey attended University of Iowa in Iowa City. Both children majored in vocal music and have performed at night clubs in the area.

The entire family has sung in the Neola Community Choir since its inception in 1974. The choir is a 65-voice ecumenical choir with membership from many churches in the area.

The family attended the Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II at Living History Farms in Des Moines on October 4, 1980. Jeffrey was selected to sing in the choir, chosen from the entire diocese, which sang for the Mass.



Harold & Mary Brich



Chris & Jeff Brich

BRICH FAMILY HISTORY

Casper and Franziska Brich and children, Anna, Josephine, and John, came to the United States in 1875 from Marienbad, Bohemia, now a part of Czechoslovakia. Casper was born June 30, 1823, and died July 5, 1903. Franziska Egger was born February 10, 1832, and died December 30, 1905. They are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Neola, Iowa.

Anna married a Mr. Carl and moved to a farm in Oklahoma. Josephine married Henry Holzaster and they farmed south of Neola. Military service in Bohemia was compulsory at this time and they did not wish their only son to go into the service. Word was received of land for sale in Iowa. They bought 120 acres, 1½ miles east of Neola in Minden Township, Pottawattamie County, from the Rock Island R.R. The family stayed with friends in Council Bluffs while the men erected a two-room house on the land.

John William Brich, born November 18, 1864, and Catherine Nuschy, born November 26, 1868, at Festina, Iowa, were married at St. Patrick's Church in Neola, Iowa, on May 30, 1893. Catherine's parents, Joseph and Catherine Schoegle Nuschy, came from Behringsdorf, Austria-Hungary in 1868. Catherine was born just prior to this. John and his wife lived with his parents on the farm, taking care of Casper and Franziska until their deaths.

Eight sons and four daughters were born to John and Catherine. Mary, Anna, Joseph, John, Jr., Edward, Paul, Herbert, Clement, Lawrence, Marcella, Phillip and Thecla. Anna Nuschy, a sister of Catherine, also lived with them.

Of these children John, Jr. and his family, Clement and the families of Edward and Paul still live in Neola.



**John & Catherine (Nuschy) Brich Sr. Wedding Day-
May 30, 1893**



**Philip, Lawrence, Clement, Herbert, Paul, Edward,
John, & John Brich-Sons of John Brich Sr.**



**Anna, Marcella, & Mary Brich-Daughters of John
Brich Sr.**

CLEMENT BRICH

Clement was born on May 26, 1905, in Neola. He farmed with his father until the father's death. Clement then moved to Neola with his sister, Mary. He served in World War II returning home in 1948 to marry Catherine Fitzgerald and reside in Des Moines. After the death of Catherine, Clement returned to Neola to live where he continues to be active in the Knights of Columbus and the life of St. Patrick's Parish.

EDWARD J. AND GLADYS G. BRICH FAMILY

Edward, son of John and Catherine, was born May 28, 1901, and married Gladys Smith February 2, 1905, at St. Peter's Church, Council Bluffs on June 10, 1925. They lived on a farm one mile east of Neola until 1961, when they moved to Neola. They had 10 children, all of whom are still living. They are Joan (Kemmish) Janson, Marian Madden, Robert, Charlotte Stephens, Margaret Vorthmann, Thomas, Francis, Stephen, Theresa Berriman and Virginia Kilts. Ed helped with the building of St. Patrick's Hall. Gladys was active in the PTA, the Altar and Rosary Society, and is now a member of the Senior Citizens. Ed died July 22, 1962. Of their 10 children, Charlotte and Francis live in Neola.

Charlotte (2/11/34) married William M. Stephens, Jr. on September 17, 1953, at St. Patrick's Church, Neola. They farm northwest of Neola. Their children are Bernard, Michael, Raymond, Shirley, Barbara and Annette. Bill and Charlotte have been active with the church, community and school. Charlotte has served as trustee for St. Patrick's Church and Co-ordinator of the Altar and Rosary Society. They both are members of the Neola Community Choir. Their son, Bernard, married Laurie Schley and they live at Persia. They have four children: Rebecca, Jessica, Jamie and Matthew.

Ed and Gladys' son, Francis who lives in Neola, was born August 13, 1943. He married Marlene Bruck on November 22, 1969. Their children are: Kristine, Chad, Linda, Curtis, Janet, Craig and Amy. Francis has served on the St. Patrick Parish Board of Education. Francis and Marlene are both members of the Neola Fire Department and Rescue Unit. Francis and his cousin, Herb Brich, operate Brich Plumbing and Pump Repair.



John & Angela Brich & Family 1947



Bill & Rosemary Brich Children, 1973

**Bill & Rosemary (Christiansen) Brich Wedding-
November 26, 1960**



Bill & Rosemary Brich Family-October, 1978





Ed Brich Family

PAUL JAMES BRICH FAMILY

Paul James, son of John and Catherine, was born August 1, 1902. He married Geraldine Atkins in 1932 at St. Patrick's in Council Bluffs. They lived on a farm east of Neola until 1946, when they moved to Neola. Paul died in 1954. Paul worked as janitor for St. Patrick's at one time. They are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living. Jermome died in an accident when he was two and one-half years of age. The other children are Harold, Catherine Kloewer, Paul James Jr., Marilyn Perez, Carolyn Carlin, Fredrick and Michael.

Harold and his wife, Mary, and two children, Christine and Jeffery, live in Neola and are active members of St. Patrick's Parish. All are members of the Community Choir. Harold has served on the parish school board and Mary has been a Co-ordinator of the Altar and Rosary Society.

James (Jim) married Donna Green, also of St. Patrick's Parish, and they now live in Omaha, Nebraska. Jim will be ordained a deacon at St. Cecilians in Omaha in October, 1982.

JOHN BRICH, JR. FAMILY

John William, Jr. married Angela Lustgraaf in 1924, in St. Patrick's Church with the Rev. A.J. Drexler officiating. John and Angela have farmed all their lives in Pottawattamie County except for a few years in Shelby County. They own a farm 2½ miles east of Neola but now reside in a home in the town of Neola. John and Angela had 7 daughters and 4 sons. Six girls, Dorothy Nissen, Donna Bloomquist, Rosemary Kloewer, Cecilia (Sister Roberta), Josephine Losh and Jeanette Masker and three sons, Bill, John Herbert and David are still living. Leonard and Roberta died as infants. John and Angela have 44 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. They will celebrate their 58th Wedding Anniversary on May 12, 1982. John has been a Knight of Columbus for over 50 years.

Cecelia Ann, Sister Roberta, was born in Minden, Iowa, September 1, 1934. She was graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1952, entering the Congregation of the Sisters of Humility, Ottumwa, Iowa, that same year. Sister Roberta spent the next years serving as teacher and/or administrator in schools in Iowa, Illinois, Arizona and Hawaii. She is currently Principal of St. Joseph School,

Neola, Iowa. Sister Roberta was educated at MaryCrest College, Davenport, Iowa, and received her Ed. Specialist Degree from Arizona State University in Tempe. During her 27 years as a Sister of Humility, Sister Roberta has taken active part in the governing of the community, serving as Senator and chairperson for the Ed. and Ministry Committee and The C.H.M. People's Investment Fund Committee.

William C. Brich, born November 23, 1939, married Rosemary Christiansen on November 26, 1960, at St. Patrick's Church, Neola. They have 6 children, Scott Michael, Kathleen Jo Ann, Christopher William, Michelle Ann, Nancy Lynne and Kevin Alan.

Scott was married to Diane Engman on March 7, 1981, and is employed in a hog confinement. Kathleen is attending Creighton University. The other four children are students at Tri-Center Community Schools.

Bill and Rosemary farmed from 1960 to 1981. In 1975, Bill started in the auction business and in 1981, he reduced his farming operation and spends most of his time in the auction business. Bill and Rosemary are both active in church and community affairs. Rosemary is a member of the Rosary and Altar Society and is presently a co-ordinator of the Society. Bill is the current President of the Parish Council and has served on the Farm Committee, has been a lector, extraordinary minister and member of Council 1115 Knights of Columbus in Neola. He is a member of the 4th Degree Knights of the Luke E. Hart General Assembly in Defiance, Iowa. He has also served on the Minden Township ASCS Committee for the past 14 years.

Jeanette Marie, born May 14, 1941, was graduated from St. Joseph High School in Neola in 1959. She married William C. Masker, son of Joseph C. and Loretta Masker on April 27, 1963. Jeanette and Bill have five children: Julie, Patrick, Kenneth, Michael and Jeanine. They have lived on and farmed the John Good farm northeast of Neola since July, 1965. Jeanette has served as a member of both the Diocesan and St. Joe School Boards. She has been an officer of the Altar and Rosary Society and the St. Joe Parent Club. Jeanette has been active in 4-H and serves as a project leader.

John Herbert Brich was born to John and Angela Brich December 11, 1942, on a farm near Shelby, Iowa. Herb has lived in Pottawattamie County near Neola all his life. He was graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1961. On October 26, 1968, Herb married Ruth Ann Romesburg of Council Bluffs. They became the parents of six daughters: Pamela, Karen, Sarah, Laura, Cecilia and Cheryl. Herb has served as a volunteer fireman in Neola and is at present the Neola Fire Chief. Since 1978, Herb and his cousin, Francis, have operated Brich Plumbing and Pump Repair.



FRED AND MARY ELLEN (HINES) BROWN

Fred Brown, son of William and Eva (Hillard) Brown of Logan, Iowa, was born May 18, 1897, in Logan. He died December 9, 1945, at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Norfolk, Nebraska. He was buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Neola. Fred graduated from Logan High School, worked as a clerk for Hetrick's Store and later ran a store in Beebeetown and Atlantic, Iowa. He later bought the Hetrick Grocery Store in Logan and he was a W.W. II veteran.

He married Mary Hines in 1932, at St. Patrick's, Neola. She was the daughter of Joseph and Margaret Plagman Hines of Neola. Mary was born March 20, 1898, in Avoca, Iowa, had graduated from Avoca High School in 1916, and later taught schools in and around the Avoca area.

Fred and Mary sold the grocery part of the store in 1943. Louie Bolton continued to run the furniture store. Later, they moved to Norfolk, Nebraska, to run a new furniture store. In 1944, Norfolk was hit with a cloud burst and flash flood. Six feet of water filled the store, forcing Fred and Mary to take refuge on a display platform. They caught a table floating by and waited eighteen hours before being rescued. Johnny Carson worked for them as a clerk for two years. They enjoyed a good business and met many wonderful people. They were interested in the young boys and girls that worked for them. Mary was always happy to hear of the students, and was concerned for each of them.

When the Catholic Daughters of America organized in Neola, Mary joined and remained a life-long member.

Dr. Joseph Gillespie and Mary were married in 1952. Joseph died in 1978. He was born in Gretna, Nebraska, November 9, 1893, and graduated from Creighton University in Omaha. His first wife was Anna M. Muller, born 1896, died in 1949. Joseph and his first wife are buried in Norfolk.

Mary lives at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Norfolk, Nebraska, managed by the Catholic Sisters.



Fred & Mary Ellen (Hines) Brown



Philip & Phyllis Burke

PHILIP R. BURKE FAMILY

Phyllis Josephine McDonald (Burke), daughter of Patrick John McDonald and Mary Catherine (Masker) McDonald, born July 4, 1917. Graduated from St. Joe's School, Neola, with the Class of 1934.

Philip Richard Burke, son of Martin J. Burke and Edith (Stoker) Burke, born June 20, 1917.

Phyllis and Philip were married October 12, 1937, at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa, by Reverend William Kleffman. Witnesses were Clarence Ring and Rose Catherine McDonald Leonard.

Children, spouses and grandchildren are: Philip A. married Kathleen Case and have one son, Scott A.; William Lynn married Judith Ann Forgette, two daughters, Cheryl and Patricia; Robert A. married Betty Lou Hunt, no children; Joseph M. married Linda L. Robinson, one daughter, Tracey Jo, two sons, Chris and Kevin; Mary Kay married Terry J. Marshall, have two sons, Patrick and Robert; Marsha Ann married Thomas L. Wise, twins, Michael and Michelle, sons, Robert and Paul; and Thomas G. married Debbie M. Martin, two daughters, Christine and Sarah.

BURNS

Sixteen year old Edward Burns arrived in Pennsylvania from Ireland in 1855, where he joined his mother, two sisters and four brothers who had made the trip ten years earlier. His father died in Ireland. In 1864, Ed married Bridget Lambert who had come to Pennsylvania from Ireland four years earlier. That same year, Ed and Bridget, with Ed's brother, James, and his wife, moved to Iowa. Ed and Bridget settled in Council Bluffs where Ed was yardmaster for the Rock Island Railroad. Eleven children were born to this family, James H., Mary, John, Frank, William, George, Charles and Kate. Three children died as infants. In 1876, they moved to a farm in Hardin Township, south of Neola where they resided until Bridget's death in 1900.

James H. Burns married Mary Ellen Lynch at St. Patrick's in Neola on January 29, 1895. Mary Ellen, with her two brothers, Tom and John, and their parents, Patrick and Julia (Falvey) Lynch, had come to Neola via Ireland and Illinois in the 1870's. They lived on a farm south of Neola.

In 1905, Jim and Mary Ellen moved to 306 Third Street into a newly erected home, which is still in the Burns family. Their four children, Edward P., Mary, Kate and Joe graduated from St. Joseph High School, as did Joe Hobbins, son of James and Kate Burns Hobbins, who joined the family after the death of his mother in 1917.

Edward P. Burns, served with the Armed Forces in Germany in World War I. After returning to Neola, he managed the Dawson Grain Co. for 40 years. Mary Burns taught at Neola Public School for many years and then became postmistress in Neola in 1947.

Kate Burns, a graduate of St. Catherine's School of Nursing, lived in Omaha. She received the Spirit of Mercy Award. Joe Burns managed the Local Loan Co. in Bellingham, Washington.

Edward P. Burns married Loretto O'Connor at St. Patrick's, Neola, on April 16, 1929. Loretto's parents, Michael and Minnie (Doyle) O'Connor, who lived at 306 Second Street, in the house Mike built, had eleven children, four died as infants. The seven all graduated from St. Joseph High School. Mike operated a general store in Neola from 1890 to 1932.

Edward and Loretto, "Gretch", had four children. Mary Elizabeth, James M. and Maureen, Richard who died in infancy. "Gretch" worked for many years for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. The three Burns children all graduated from St. Joseph High School. James M. and Mary Jo Masker were married in St. Patrick's, Neola, on October 13, 1951. They have five children and live in Omaha. Mary Elizabeth Burns married Gerald Beach and resides in Syracuse, Nebraska. They have five children. Maureen Burns wrote this and the less you know about her the better.

THE DONALD BURNS FAMILY

Donald Joseph Burns was born on a farm near Bentley in 1903. Later the family moved to Neola where he attended St. Joseph's Grade and High School. He died in 1975. He was the son of **Francis Jeremiah Burns and Mary Veronica (Buckley) Burns.** He had three brothers and one sister, who died at birth. His paternal grandparents were Edward Burns and Bridget (Lambert) Burns. They came from County Cork in Ireland to Pennsylvania and later to the Neola area. Times were bad in Ireland; America looked good. His maternal grandparents were **Patrick Buckley and Annie (Ratigan) Buckley.** They came from Ireland, lived for a few years in Dubuque, Iowa, and later moved to Neola.

Donald married Esther Marie Bonnesen in 1928. She was born in Kimballton, Iowa. Her maternal grandparents, Chris Christensen and Anna Marie Mortensen, came from Denmark. Her paternal grandparents lived in Denmark, Lars Nels Jensen Bonnesen and Stina Sorensen. Esther graduated from Dana Academy in 1917, with a Bachelor of Science Degree from Dana College in 1922, and a Master's Degree from Creighton in 1927. She joined the Catholic Church in 1926, and taught school for 35 years.

The Donald Burns family consists of 2 girls and 4 boys.

(1). Mary Helen married Henry Greiner. Their son, Michael, married Kimberly Gray of Casper, Wyoming, have a son, Nicholas James. Another son, Thomas Lynn, married Terry Ring of Neola. Daughter, Karen Maureen, married Paul Ward of Ohio. Their children are Thomas, Timothy and Katherine. Daughter, Kathleen Ann, married Kurt Wollenhaupt of Neola.

(2). Robert Jerome, second oldest of the Burns' children, died when he was four years old.

(3). Son, John Francis, married Connie Pieper of Minden. Their children are: Renee married to Steve Osbahr of Avoca. They have three sons, Christopher, Darren and Joseph. Daughter, Julie, married to Randy Smith of Council Bluffs. They have one son, Chad. Son, Kevin, is living in Council Bluffs.

(4). Son, William Edward, married Linda Pelz from Blairsburg. They have one son, James.

(5). Son, Joseph Donald, married to Sharon Bixler of Casper, Wyoming, with a son, Todd, and a daughter, Dee Ann.

(6). Daughter, Karen, married Duane Fahn from Harlan. They have a daughter, Linda, and a son, Douglas.

Donald was a machinist by trade and worked several years at Swan Island Ship Yard in Portland, Oregon, later at Kelly Ryan in Blair and American Roads in Omaha.

Esther is, at present, very active in Senior Citizen work. She was an Older Iowans Legislative Delegate last fall, is a member on the Advisory Board representing Pottawattamie County at the Area XIII Agency on the Aging, and at present, Grand Regent of Court Carmelita of Neola.



Mrs. Esther "Bonnie" Burns

JAMES BURNS

James Burns and Anne Holland were born in County Kilkenny, Ireland. They came as young people to Pennsylvania with their parents. They were married there in 1864. They then traveled to Dubuque, Iowa, and then to Boonsborough where he worked on the railroad. Later, they came to Council Bluffs. In the spring of 1867, they moved to their first farm in York Township. In 1871, they bought land in Washington Township, which was their home until death.

They were the parents of twelve children. Jerry, their eldest, died in this early thirties, Molly, Richard, Edward, Kate, John and David (twins), Ellen, Margaret, James, Michael, who died at birth, and Anne. They, as a family, were early pioneers establishing St. Patrick's Church. They made the journey by team, a distance of sixteen miles. Not everyone could go every Sunday.

Anne was married in St. Patrick's in 1910, to James Brougham. They made their home in the Neola vicinity until 1937. They were parents of eight children: Margaret, Joseph, James, Thomas, Phillip, Ruth, Mary Catherine and Bernard. Margaret, now Mrs. Harry Christo, is a member of St. Patrick's, the only descendant of James Burns now here.



James & Anne Burns

WALLACE F. CORRIN

Since their marriage on January 22, 1947, Wallace and JoAnn (Denning) Corrin have lived on the same farm 4½ miles east of Beebeetown. Wallace was born December 15, 1925, to Walter and Ella (Peterson) Corrin, the second youngest of five children.

JoAnn was born April 19, 1926, to William and Loretta (Cavanaugh) Denning, the third oldest of nine children.

Wallace and JoAnn had five children: Connie Jo, born December 4, 1947, Walter William, born August 15, 1952, Wayne Robert, born December 16, 1953, William James, born January 4, 1962, and Kevin James, born January 14, 1963.

Connie and Walter attended a one-room school, Frog Pond, one-half mile from home, until it was closed in 1959. From then on, the Corrin children attended Beebeetown School, graduating from Tri-Center Community School.

Connie graduated from Jennie Edmundson School of Nursing in Council Bluffs. She is now married to Dr. Richard Wendt. Connie and Richard reside near Woodbine and have four children: Clifford, Diana, Patrick and Katherine.

Walter was engaged in farming, when he died in a tractor accident on a gravel road one mile from home on July 16, 1971.

Wayne married Theresa Bruck of Portsmouth, November 24, 1972. They have two children: Angela Sue and Christopher Walter. Wayne has been engaged in farming since graduation and lives on a farm one mile west of his dad.

Willy is now engaged in farming, after graduating from Tri-Center and attending Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Kevin is a freshman at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri.

The Corrins farm and raise cattle, including an ever-growing herd of registered Angus...and pigs...and grandchildren.

CARRIGAN

Marjorie Ditzler Carrigan, daughter of Louis and Ruth Ditzler, was born and raised around the Portsmouth and Persia area, attended church in Portsmouth, Iowa, and lived at Persia. Married to Roger Carrigan, son of Lawrence and Gladys Carrigan of Underwood, Iowa. We were married at the Catholic Church in Portsmouth, Iowa, on July 6, 1959. We have five children; Gary, Karen, Sharon, Mary and LuAnn. Gary is married to Kathleen Kline, and they live at Underwood, Iowa. Karen is married to Gary Otterpohl, and they live at Beebeetown. They have one daughter, Beth.

We lived at McClelland for 16 years. We attended church for a number of years at St. Francis Catholic Church in Council Bluffs. We have gone to church in Neola for a number of years. Marge is a member of the Altar and Rosary Society. Roger is now a member of the Knights of Columbus. Roger is an electrician by trade.

HAROLD F. CASSON FAMILY

Helen Claire McDonald and Harold Francis Casson were married at St. Patrick's Church on May 11, 1949.

Helen, the daughter of Patrick J. McDonald and Mary C. Masker, was born on March 20, 1928. Harold, the son of John R. Casson and Margaret M. Underwood, was born October 18, 1923.

Harold and Helen have ten children, two boys and eight girls. Colleen Claire born December 14, 1950, married James P. Garafalo July 29, 1972. They have two girls, Michelle, born 10-5-77, and Erin, born 2-10-82. Sandra Lee born May 14, 1952, married Samuel C. Bertelsen August 19, 1978. One son, Luke, born 2-4-81. Steven Craig born July 19, 1954, married Connie Borkowski November 8, 1980. Denise Kay, born October 8, 1956, married Tony Holzinger June 24, 1978. One son, Andy, born in Greece 1-19-80. Janelle Marie, born July 30, 1958, married Mark Finken February 3, 1979. Lynette Sue, born August 7, 1959, married Dan Masker September 19, 1981. Melanie Renee born October 28, 1961, Jeffrey Alan born December 5, 1962, Shelley Lea born July 16, 1967, Lisa Ann born November 12, 1970.

Harold served in the Army two years, Philippine Campaign and Occupation duty in Japan. He is currently employed at Fehrs Tractor and Equipment in Omaha.

Helen is a cosmetologist and has operated a shop in her home.

Most of the children went to St. Joe's School, with four graduating from St. Albert's and four from Tri-Center. Shelley and Lisa are now attending Tri-Center.



Mary Reagan Daley



Charles & Agnes Caster



Harold Casson Family

CHARLES & MARY DALEY CASTER

Conrad Reagan, an Irish immigrant, born in 1818, came to Neola after living in Linn County, Iowa. His family, Conrad, Josephine, Sarah and Mary came also. His wife had died and soon his children were also gone except Mary. Josephine had married Joe Bowers and Sarah married Johnny Green and lived in Omaha.

Mary, born in 1860, was 16 when she was married to her father's friend, Edward Daley, a railroad laborer, who had come from Limerick County, Ireland, where he was born in 1836.

To this family were born Nellie (Broderick), Katie (Kenney), Eddie, Aggie (Caster), Josie (Spies), Bess (Mulligan), Ann (Jackson), Billy, and Paul and Ruth, both of whom died in early childhood.

Of these, only Aggie and Billy remained in the Neola parish for a long period of time.

Billy and his wife, Ismay Reese, lived on his parent's farm southeast of Neola. Their children were William, Norvin, Paul, Gene, David and Ann (Ankenbauer).

Aggie married Charles Caster and moved to a farm near Underwood. She remained a member of St. Patrick's Parish until her death. She and Charlie were the parents of Mary Ann (Finn), Charles, Helen (Madsen), Robert, Alice (Martin), Sarah, who died in infancy, and John, who died in W.W. II.

Mrs. John Fischer, Mary, daughter of Patrick and Alice Martin, Imogene, is now a member of St. Patrick's. Charlie was baptized in the Catholic Church at the age of 79.

THE JIM CATTONI FAMILY

Jim Cattoni was born June 5, 1943, to Joseph and Ruby Cattoni in Oil City, Pennsylvania. He moved with his parents shortly after his birth to Bradford, Pennsylvania, where he lived until he joined the Air Force in January, 1962. During his tour of duty, he was stationed for a time at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, Nebraska. After his discharge in December, 1965, he decided to remain in the Omaha area where, through mutual friends, he met Janet Kenealy.

Janet, daughter of Ray and Rosaline Kenealy, was born October 10, 1946, in Omaha, Nebraska. She lived in Omaha with her parents until 1949, when the family moved to the Neola area. Janet was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1964.

Jim and Janet met in March, 1966, and were married November 5, 1966, at St. Philip Neri Church in Omaha. They have three children, Scott born November 8, 1968, Tracy born December 24, 1969, and Jennifer born February 10, 1972. The family lived in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area until May, 1976, when they moved to Minden to take over ownership of the Minden Bowl. Janet and the children are members of St. Patrick's Church where Janet has taught in the C.C.D. program. The children attend Tri-Center School.



Jim Cattoni Family

HUBERT CAVANAUGH FAMILY

Harry Costello came from Ireland in 1871. He was married to Mary Ryan. They told of the number of people dying on the voyage from their native land. Mary Ann was nine months old when they arrived. They had six other children besides Mary Ann (Costello) Cavanaugh, Margaret Costello, Julia Costello Corrin, Nell Costello Hannan, Catherine Costello Ring, Thomas and Henry Costello. Henry is still living in Denver.

Mary Ann married Hubert Cavanaugh and lived in the Carson area where their oldest daughter, Mary Cavanaugh Hummel was baptized. They moved where Joseph Fischer now lives, building all the buildings after the tornado took them in the early 1900's.

When the "Orphan Train" went through Neola, Grandpa Cavanaugh, hoping to get a boy to help with the farm, came home with a little red-haired girl called Evelyn, this gave them Mary Hummel, Catherine Ruth (Fischer), Lucille (Decker), Loretto (Denning) and Robert Cavanaugh. At the age of fifteen, Evelyn joined the Sisters of St. Benedict. She died at Rapid City, South Dakota in 1978. Her memorials were some of the first money used to start the St. Joseph School fund.

Grandpa Cavanaugh told of helping collect money to build the new St. Joseph School in Neola and how hard the times were. Cathrine Hobbins came to live with the Cavanaugh's after her mother died; and in 1922, when Grandpa Cavanaugh passed away, she went to live with William and Loretto Cavanaugh Denning.

Grandma Cavanaugh took care of Frank Cavanaugh's five children when their mother died after giving birth to twins. She moved to Denver only to come back to Neola to care for the Joseph Fischer children when her own daughter, Ruth Fischer, died in 1942.

Grandmother Cavanaugh died in the Convent of the Good Shepherd in Denver at the age of ninety-five.

HUGH CAVANAUGH FAMILY

Hugh C. Cavanaugh was born on December 25, 1869, at Arklow, County Wicklow, Ireland. He came to the United States at age 16 and worked on cattle ranches and in the mines until he married Angeline West of Brady, Nebraska, in 1903. They lived at Deadwood, South Dakota, and Hugh worked in the Homestead Mine for two years. Mary was born here in 1904, and the next year they moved to Brady, Nebraska, on a farm. Helen and Hubert were born at Brady. In 1909 or 1910, they came to Neola, bringing their household goods, machinery and cattle and horses in a boxcar on the railroad. They came to Neola because of the church and school, and Hugh also had relatives here. Angela, Daniel, James, Margaret, Paul and Rose were born at Neola. All, except Rose who died at one year, attended St. Joseph School. Hugh died in October, 1945, and Angeline died in November, 1965. In 1982, there are four surviving members: Mary, Neola; Angela, Omaha, Nebraska; Margaret, Stockton, California; and Paul, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Mary Cavanaugh married Frank Schwieso of Schleswig, Iowa, in 1928. Two children, Robert in 1933, and Marian in 1938, were born at Vail, Iowa. In 1947, the Schwiesos moved to Neola on the former Cavanaugh farm north of Neola. Robert lives in Mayville, North Dakota. Marian married Neil Pauley of Portsmouth in 1958, at St. Patrick's Church. They live on a farm near Shelby and they have four children: Rosemary, Randall, Linda and Robert. They attended Shelby-Tennant School, and the family belongs to St. Patrick Parish. Frank Schwieso died March 1977, at the age of 71.

Angela Cavanaugh married Thomas W. Schuyler in 1936, and had five children: Claire, Roberta, Kathleen, Constance and Thomas. The children grew up in Omaha, but spent many happy summers in Neola with their Aunt Mary and Uncle Frank Schwieso. Kathleen (Kay), born in September, 1940, married Don Oberdin in 1963, and they bought a farm in Neola in 1976. Don is the youngest of 9 children born to John P. and Pauline Lenhardt Oberdin of Omaha. Don is an electrician, presently working in Omaha; Kay is a teacher here at St. Joseph School. Don and Kay have four children: Michelle, 4/13/64; Thomas, 6/14/67; Stacy, 4/4/70; and Stephen, 6/24/71. They attend St. Joseph School and St. Albert High School in Council Bluffs.

WILLIAM C. CHRISTIANSEN

William C. (Bill) Christiansen was born January 30, 1889, son of John and Mary Reisie Christiansen of Shelby, Iowa. He was married in 1910, in St. Patrick's Church, Neola, to Rose A. Good, daughter of John and Rose McClusky Good, formerly of Red Oak, Iowa. Rose was born February 16, 1888. She had eight brothers and sisters: Grace (McDonald), Mary, Loretta (Masker), Ethel (Hines), Vera, George, Ray and Charles. Vera, Ray and Charlie remained on the Good farm and all of the nieces and nephews helped on the farm. Many made their home there through the school year to attend St. Joseph's School.

Bill and Rose were the parents of six children: Harry, Arthur, Joseph, Ione, Jerry and Jim, all attending St. Joseph's. They farmed east of Neola during these years. Bill died August 4, 1960, and Jim and his mother remained in the farm home. Rose died July 27, 1970.

Jim, who was born January 26, 1932, worked with his brother, Jerry, as a meat cutter at their grocery store in Underwood until Jerry sold to a new owner. Jim has remained as a meat cutter and now lives in Neola.



Bill Christiansen Family 1942



Art Christiansen Family

MONSIGNOR THOMAS COSTIN

Monsignor Costin was born April 4, 1903, and died February 22, 1981. He was ordained for the Diocese of Des Moines June 9, 1930, and served at Dowling in Des Moines from 1930 to 1959. He was then moved to St. Francis Xavier in Council Bluffs. He was always known as an educator having served as President of Dowling and as one of the Founding Pastors of St. Albert's High School in Council Bluffs.



Rose Christiansen with Jim



Bill & Rose Christiansen

ARTHUR J. AND THELMA CHRISTIANSEN

Arthur John Christiansen and Thelma Mary Wellman were married on June 1, 1938, at St. Patrick's Church, Neola. Arthur's parents were Will and Rose (Good) Christiansen. His grandparents were John and Rose (McClusky) Good, originally of Red Oak, Iowa, and John M. Christiansen and Mary (Reisie) Christiansen of Shelby, Iowa.

Thelma's parents were Fred F. and Caroline (Masker) Wellman of Neola. Grandparents were Joseph and Augusta Masker of Minden, and Henry and Anna Wellman of Neola. There were seven children in the Wellman family; Phillip J., deceased at 9 years of age, Theonita Nelson, Thelma, Leonard, Max L., died at age 13, Frederick J., and Rita Mae Honz.

Art and Thelma's children are: Robert Arthur, married to Betty Jane Martin of Persia; Betty Jean married to Wayne Honz of Omaha; William Frederick married to Linda Porter of Council Bluffs; Ronald married Paula Southall of Council Bluffs; Larry Dean married Jean Heron of St. Joe, Minnesota; Phillip Lee married Laura Ryan of Persia; and Bonnie married to Gary Boughton of Omaha.

Thelma and Art have 19 grandchildren.



Father Thomas Costin, Father Art Ring, Mrs. George Ring

THOMAS COLPITTS

The Tom Colpitts, Jr. family became a part of the Neola community and members of St. Patrick's Parish June 1, 1955. Thomas Franklin Colpitts, Jr. was born in Hobart, Oklahoma, on January 23, 1921, son of Thomas Franklin Colpitts and Verna Weed. Mary Violet Spitznagle was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on June 16, 1918, daughter of Bernard Henry Spitznagle and Violet Mary Kramer. Tom and Mary were married February 6, 1945, in St. Peter's Church, Council Bluffs, by Father Ignatius Stein. Seven of their twelve children were born while they resided in Council Bluffs. Mary Ellen (2/28/46) married Eugene Meyerring, a native Neolan, and they have four children: Deborah, Gwyn, Ann and Michael. Martha (7/18/47) married Chad Randall of Minneapolis and they have five children: Alicia, Craig, Amy, B.J. and Jacob. Tom III (10/28/48) married Kathy Lewis of Council Bluffs and they have three children: Tom IV, Terry and Kitten. Joe (3/6/50) was married to Vicki Hansen of Council Bluffs and has three children: Jennifer, Dawn and P.J. Greg (5/23/51) was married to Lorna Klein of Omaha and has a daughter, Gina. Bernie (11/5/52) married Joni Brown of Council Bluffs and they have two sons, Jeremy and Brian. Geri (6/16/54) married Don Christensen of Underwood and they have three children: Angela, Jenny and Matthew. Monica (9/12/55) married Chuck Bueterbaugh of Council Bluffs and works for Mutual of Omaha in the Computer Department. Chris (1/19/57) married Vicki Beult and they have one son, Abraham. Peter (1/9/60) married Kim Easterling of Kentucky and is a member of the Air Force. Rick (1/1/61) is a junior at the University of Northern Iowa. Michelle (12/14/61) lives in Minneapolis and works for Equico, a subsidiary of Equitable Life Insurance Company.

Tom, Jr. passed away March 3, 1972. He was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus at the time of his death. He was one of the first Lectors and Special Ministers here at St. Patrick's.

BARBARA OSTDIEK GROTE COTTER

Barbara Ostdiek Grote Cotter was born in 1881, in Ottumwa, Iowa, and came to Neola when she was about seven or eight. So she is not a founder of Neola, but she did do her part to keep the town going.

Barbara married Fred Grote in 1904. They had four children: Geraldine, Margaret, Frank and Helen. Fred Grote died in 1916, and Barbara turned their newly built home into a boarding house to support her children. One of the first teachers to move in was Lottie Finerty, who is still a dear friend of the family.

In 1926, Barbara closed her boarding house and moved next door to take care of her mother and father. She continued to provide board for people on occasions, however.

She was active in Catholic Daughters of America, the Rosary and Altar Society of St. Patrick's Church, the Neola Community Club, and of course, St. Joseph's PTA. She also sang in and directed St. Patrick's Church choir.

When she was president of the Community Club, there being no library in Neola, she contacted the State Library in Des Moines and arranged to have books sent to her every three months. The library was stored at her home and the kids came every Wednesday evening to return and check out books. A woman remarked that only Barbara Grote would allow that many kids in her house at one time.

In 1938, Barbara married Ed Cotter. They had a happy life together for 20 years. After his death, Barb stayed in Neola, visited her children in various parts of the country, and made soup to take to sick people. She died in 1972.

Our mother set an example of giving which her children have tried hard to emulate.



Tom Colpitts Family

SISTER MARY ZOE DIETER, O.P.

I was born in Vail, Iowa, the daughter of John A. Dieter and Caroline (Pound) Dieter. I was baptized Mary Caroline at St. Ann's Church, where I also received First Holy Communion. I attended St. Ann's School. My father died when I was five years old, and we moved to Omaha and the Cathedral Parish when I was in the second grade. I attended St. Cecilia's Grade School and High School, taught by the Dominican Sisters.

Two months after graduation, I joined the Dominican Sisters of the Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary at Sinsinawa, Wisconsin. I have taught in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Portage, Wisconsin; Alhambra, California; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mobile, Alabama; Chicago, Illinois; and Neola, Iowa. I earned a Bachelor of Education from Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin, and a Master's of Religious Education Degree from the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas.

I have a brother, Reverend Earl L. Dieter, S.J. and a sister, Faye Mullen, living in Omaha, and a sister, Ada Mae Brogan, living in Chicago, Illinois.



Sister Dieter O.P.

CLEMENT B. CROWLEY

Clement B. and Joan Doyle Crowley became members of St. Patrick's Church in 1959, when they purchased the Arner Drug Store and moved to Neola.

Clem, born in Avoca, Minnesota, August 16, 1923, was the son of James and Mary Crowley (Farrell), whose parents were all emigrants from County Cork and County Kilkenny, Ireland, around 1865. He has an older brother, James, retired from the F.B.I. and four sisters, all registered nurses, Virginia Sabinske, Norbertine Costa, Rose Paal and Marjorie Tentinger. Clem served in the Army in W.W. II, seeing action in Germany.

After graduation from Creighton School of Pharmacy in 1950, he married Joan Doyle on June 13, 1950. Joan, born February 16, 1924, was the daughter of James and Adeline (Wilmes) Doyle of Neola. She attended St. Joseph's School, is a graduate of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Council Bluffs, and a Pediatric Post-graduate of St. Louis University.

The first year of their marriage, Clem worked with the Food and Drug Administration in Minneapolis. In 1951, they moved to Council Bluffs, and he worked for an Omaha pharmacy. Four of their children were born at this time. Dr. Kevin P., born July 17, 1951, is a graduate of Creighton School of Medicine, with a residency in Internal Medicine, and is now with the Cogley Clinic in Council Bluffs. Ann Marie, born September 24, 1955, is a graduate of Creighton with a degree in Medical Technology and is married to Rory Conces of Munster, Indiana. They are living in Columbia, Missouri. James P., born June 25, 1957, graduated from Creighton School of Pharmacy and is now employed at Jennie Edmundson Hospital. Timothy J., born March 8, 1959, is in his first year at Creighton School of Medicine.

After moving to Neola, Thomas G. was born June 3, 1961. He is a junior at Loras College, Dubuque. Mary Patricia, born June 28, 1962, is a sophomore in the Creighton School of Pharmacy. Still at home is John E., born January 4, 1970, attending St. Joseph's, following his older brothers and sisters.

JOHN & MARGARET DIXON

John Dixon was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, 1850. Margaret (Lillis) Dixon born at Labasheda County Clare, Ireland, 1852. John and Margaret married at Dubuque, Iowa. Born to them were Margaret, Hugh, Thomas, John, Ann (Rogers), Elizabeth, Joseph, Daniel, James and Bernard. All the children were born within the parish of Neola, Iowa, except Margaret and Hugh. All this family have died but many grandchildren and great-grandchildren are in the vicinity. Those who at one time attended St. Joseph's were Josephine and Cecilia, daughters of Dan Dixon; Gertrude, Mildred, Helen, Jean, Alice and Quentin, children of Joe Dixon.



Clement Crowley Family

ALMA AND CECILE DARRINGTON

Alma Darrington, son of Alfred and Bertha Darrington, was born July 24, 1898, in Boomer Township. His grandparents, William and Mary Ann Darrington and John and Sara Carlile, came from England and settled in Boomer Township. At that time, there was no mail route, no telephones for communicating. Only what was called a Pidgeon Post Office.

Alma married Cecile Hough, daughter of Delbert and Clara Hough, at St. John's Church in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1938. Cecile was born April 4, 1906, in Hazel Dell Township. Her grandparents were Delbert and Ann Hough, and Delorma and Eletha Parish.

Alma was baptized in the Catholic church in 1938.

Cecile and Alma had one daughter, Marilyn Olsen, now living in Treynor, Iowa, and one son, who died at six weeks. They have six grandchildren.

They bought the farm, one-half mile west and one-half mile north of Underwood in 1945, where they still live.

WILLIAM DENNING

William Denning was the son of Theodore Denning and Sarah Kelly moving to Neola in 1917. Loretto Cavanaugh Denning and William were married in St. Patrick's in Neola 1921. They had nine children: Mary Corinne Sweeney, Eugene, Josephine Ann Corrin, Hubert Michael, Bernard Joseph, Leona McCarthy, Pauline Fischer, Angela McDonald and Kathleen Dermody. They also raised Julie Denning when her mother was killed. (Michael is her father.)

They belonged to the St. Mary's Parish at Avoca until the time of their deaths in 1975, and William in 1978. There are five of their children members of the St. Patrick's Parish.

John & Margaret Dixon

RICHARD DARGIN

The Richard E. Dargin Family came to Pottawattamie County in the year 1900 from Stuart, Iowa.

The Lawrence Dargin Family came originally from Ireland, landing in Massachusetts. There were six boys and one girl. Their names were: Tom, Jim, Richard, Mike, Cornelious, Lawrence and Ellen. Ellen and Lawrence lived in Neola for awhile but went back to Illinois where they died and are buried. Richard was the only one of the seven to settle in Pottawattamie County.

Richard Elias Dargin was born March 8, 1852, at Bellview, Iowa, died March 1, 1929, buried in Neola. He was married to Cecilia Jane James, born February 17, 1859, in Merlin, Wisconsin. She died October, 1942. They bought a 160-acre farm near Neola.

Richard E. Dargin farmed, was a member of the Board of Supervisors of Carroll County, an avid reader and liked to debate. In the early days, debating was a form of entertainment much enjoyed by all. He died March 1, 1929, at Neola. His wife, Cecilia, was a homemaker, liked sewing, gardening, church and her family.

To this marriage, six children were born: John, Agnes, Cecilia, Joseph, Francis and David. Joe and Frank enlisted in the Army in 1917, and served mostly overseas for the duration. Spent some time in Neola and then moved elsewhere.

David James Dargin was born September 20, 1898, at Stuart, Iowa. At the age of two, he and his family moved to the Neola farm where he has lived all of his life. He also enlisted in World War I for 85 days. His hobbies are traveling, horse racing, shooting craps and playing cards. He married Mabel Wehrli, born November 23, 1907, in Harrison County. She taught school 20 years in the Tri-Center School District. Dave and Mabel have three children: James, Larry and Ida.

James David Dargin, born October 18, 1938, married Janet Graalfs. They have three children: Mary Beth, Annette and Melinda. They live in California, where Jim works for IBM as a programmer.

Larry Richard Dargin, born September 27, 1940, married Mary E. Long of Atlantic, Iowa. They have three children: Amy, Cathy and Sandy. They live on a farm adjoining the Kopper Kettle near Minden, Iowa. Larry farms his own farm and his dad's farm at Neola.

Ida Karen Dargin was born September 8, 1942, married James N. Jessen. They have three children: Jennifer, Jill and David (who was named after his grandpa). Ida taught at Thomas Jefferson High School for 13 years. Jim is the branch manager of Booth Fisheries in Omaha. They live in Omaha, Nebraska.

Compiled by Ida Dargin Jessen



Dave & Mabel Dargin



Larry Dargin Family



Jim Dargin Family



Jim, Ida, Jennifer, Jill, & David Jessen

MARTIN DERMODY FAMILY

Martin Dermody, Sr. was born in the county of Tipperary, Ireland, July 21, 1822. The exact date of his coming to this country is not known. He arrived in New York City as a young man with two brothers and a cousin. He worked two years in New York before he and his brothers traveled to Cleveland, Ohio.

They parted company; his brothers going to New Orleans, Martin seeking employment on the railroad. When the building of the railroad took him to Muscatine, Iowa, he settled for a time. He was married there in 1862, to Miss Catherine Dwyer who also came from Tipperary County, Ireland, born December 10, 1838. Four years later, they settled in Council Bluffs where they lived 12 years. They bought the farm three miles north of Neola in 1876, and started farming.

In the spring of 1898, they retired in Neola. Nine children were born, two daughters and seven sons. The daughters died in early years, one being buried in Council Bluffs.

Patrick, born September 19, 1863, later lived in British Columbia.

Michael T., born July 13, 1865, later lived Noland, South Dakota.

Phillip, born August 19, 1867, later lived Armour, South Dakota.

Mary, born September 14, 1869, died January 5, 1870.

Martin, born July 10, 1871, later farmed the home farm in Neola.

James, born June 10, 1873, later lived in Platte, South Dakota.

Twins, John and Mary, born March 10, 1876, with John later living in Twin Falls, Idaho. Mary died November 15, 1879.

Dennis, born June 27, 1878, later lived in Neola.

Martin Dermody, Jr., born in Neola July 10, 1871, lifetime farmer. He married Mary Hobbins in 1907. Mary Hobbins was born January 27, 1875. They had four sons: Philip, born May 11, 1908; John, born May 31, 1909; Leo, born June 3, 1911; and James, born September 29, 1914.

Philip Dermody, born May 11, 1908, married January 25, 1937 to Mary Jo Good, born May 18, 1914, Griswold, Iowa, farm. They had six children: George, died at birth; Michael, born September 19, 1939, lives at St. Louis, Missouri. He married Kathleen Denning; Doramae, born September 15, 1941, lives at Portsmouth, Iowa, married Philip Heller, children are: Joseph, born December 4, 1942, married Renee Kay, lives in Neola; Thomas, born August 18, 1944, married Margaret Deppe, lives in Indiana; Stephen, born December 14, 1951, married Rosemary Beraldi, lives in Creve Couer, Missouri.

Philip Dermody and family lived in Neola. Mr. Dermody was employed as a receiving clerk in Omaha, Nebraska, at the Cold Storage Building. His wife, now deceased, was a registered nurse and worked at the Neola Clinic for several years and also Mercy Hospital.



Martin, Mike, Jim, Dennis, & Phil Dermody-Cousin Jim & his Father Mike Dermody



Martin & Molly Dermody-Michael Hobbins & M. Welsh



Mrs. Catherine Dermody



Phil & Mary Jo Dermody & Family

DANIEL THOMAS DOYLE

Daniel Thomas Doyle was born on August 4, 1885. His parents were Patrick T. and Hannah Doyle. He had two brothers, Patrick and Michael, and two sisters, Loretto and Mayme.

He married Alice E. McDermott in Neola on September 4, 1911. They had three children; Patrick T., Daniel J., and Catherine H., Patrick died at the age of twenty.

The family lived in Neola most of their lives. Daniel T., a rural mail carrier, died at the age of 55. Alice E. died at the age of 63.

Catherine married Thomas L. Ryan of Neola on December 1, 1945. They live in Davenport, Iowa. They have five children; Patrick T., married to Connie Marland. Their two children are Shannon M. and Daniel J. Terrence D., married to Shiela Carter, has one child, Matthew T. Alice A. is married to Steven F. Soppe, Kathleen G. and Timothy J. They all live in Davenport, Iowa.

Daniel J. Doyle married Barbara O'Connor of Council Bluffs in 1948. Their children are; Dennis D. married in 1977, to Kathi Schmidt of Hastings, Nebraska, and have one child, Carmen Danielle, born in 1982. They live in Omaha. William J. (Bill) of Tucson, Arizona; Mary D. (Dee) married Brian Sweeney in 1976. They are the parents of two boys, Daniel J., born in 1978, and William J., born in 1980. They live in Omaha. Robert P. Doyle resides in Tucson, Arizona. Diane L. lives in Omaha and Patrick T. lives in Neola.

All of the Doyle children attended St. Joseph's School and graduated from St. Albert's High School. Dee and Diane have followed their mother into the nursing profession. Barbara has worked at Mercy Hospital for many years.

Dan J. was postmaster in Neola from 1965 until 1972, when he died at the age of 55.

THE DONOVAN FAMILY

Nora Kane Donovan is one of the oldest living members of St. Patrick's Parish. Nora was born March 31, 1889, in Vail, Iowa. She moved to Oakland at age four to live with the O'Donnell family after her father died leaving nine children. As a young lady, Nora taught school in the Neola vicinity, where she met Tim Donovan, a member of one of the pioneer families of the parish.

The Donovan family settled here in April, 1876, following the marriage of Timothy and Julia Calahane. They had been living in the United States for several years, having come from County Cork, Ireland. Besides, Tim, the other children of Julia and Timothy were Daniel, John, Kate (Thompson), Mary (Weeks), Ellen (Fitzgerald), Bill, **Julia (O'Connor)** and Jerry.

Tim and Nora farmed south of Neola until his death in 1945. Of this marriage there were three children: Helen, Tim and Frances (Hobbins). Helen, now retired, taught school for many years in the area.

Frances married Joseph Hobbins in 1942, and has lived in Neola for the past forty years. Joe served the farmers of the community as an oil distributor until his retirement in 1979. There were five children born to Joe and Frances: Molly (Alfers), Tim, Patricia (Freeman), Cathy (Norton) and Peggy.

Tim married Geraldine Smith in 1942. He operated Donovan Oil until his retirement, when their son, assumed the business. Timothy (Mike) Donovan married Kathy Inman in 1979, and they have one daughter, Lacey. It is interesting to note that Timothy Donovan was one of the pioneer members of the parish, and in this Centennial year, four generations later, there are two Timothy Donovans that are active members at St. Patrick's Parish.

TIMOTHY & JULIA DONOVAN'S MARRIAGE---Published in a New York Newspaper in 1876.

A curious bit of romance has just had a very happy termination in this city. Some years ago, one Timothy Donovan and Julia Calahane were children together in the southern part of Ould, Ireland. They played in one game, they attended the same school and at last they loved and courted each other. Timothy, however, saw very clearly that he could not make such a home for Julia in the land of his birth as he would like, and determined to emigrate. His affianced was very much opposed to this mode of procedure and endeavored to persuade her lover from his intention. Timothy, however, was resolute in the matter, and they parted. He to come to America, she to go about her daily work, hoping he would some time return to claim her as his bride.

Soon after the arrival of Timothy in this country, he departed for the "far west", and engaged in agricultural pursuits, and by dint of industry and prudence he obtained in Iowa an excellent farm. He was not much of a man to write letters, and Julia in her innocence, not receiving any from him for some time, thought she had been forsaken for another of Ireland's beauties who happened to be located in the new world. Circumstances led her to determine on coming to America, and she fixed on Newport for a home, where she has ever been a good, honest, industrious girl.

In the meantime, Timothy was prospering and determined to have a home of his own and commenced preparations to send for Julia. He discovered that she had left home and after a diligent search discovered that she was located on the beautiful Isle of Aquidneck. He, therefore, lost no time coming here, arriving in Newport more than three weeks ago, discovered his old love, told of his prosperity and arranged for a wedding. He desired, however, to return home speedily, but bethought him that it was necessary to be "thrice" published and therefore was obliged to content himself by remaining over until last Sunday evening, when "as the shades of night were falling fast."

He and Julia were made perfectly happy by being made one at Saint Mary's Catholic Church by the Rev. Mr. Clinton. The church was filled by a very large number who from the peculiar circumstances of the case, had taken an interest in the matter, and had a curiosity to see the couple who had been the principal actors in romance in real life. The happy pair left yesterday morning for their home in Iowa, receiving before departing the best wishes of a host of friends.



Four generations of Donovans-Tim, Nora, Lacey, & Mike

MICHAEL J. DOYLE

Michael J. Doyle was born July 17, 1859, at Youghal, County Cork, Ireland, the son of Daniel and Mary Meighan Doyle. His wife, Mary Ellen, was also born on July 17, 1864, in Jones County, Anamosa, Iowa, the daughter of James Flynn and Julia Buckley Flynn, both born in Ireland. Michael Doyle, with his parents and three other children came to America in 1866, by sailboat. The Daniel Doyle family settled in Scott County, Davenport, Iowa, and later settled in Pottawattamie County, at a place then referred to as Eight Mile Grove, southeast of Neola.

James Flynn, on arriving in America, lived in Delaware County, Dyersville, Iowa. In a few years, he settled in Jones County, Anamosa, Iowa, where he farmed and was married on August 25, 1859. In 1868, the Flynn family came to Pottawattamie County by covered wagon. Mr. Flynn bought 120 acres of land southeast of Neola.

Michael Doyle and Mary Ellen Flynn were married on April 9, 1888, at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. Mr. Doyle bought a farm two miles east of Neola, where he and Mrs. Doyle lived until 1919, when they bought a home in Neola. They were the parents of ten children, James, John, Mary Dixon, Julia Minahan, Catherine Scott, Helen Hess, Joseph, Margaret O'Connor, Cecilia and Gertrude M'Guire. All ten children attended St. Joseph's School and seven were married in St. Patrick's Church. There are three surviving daughters and one daughter-in-law. Margaret, Cecilia and Gertrude, and Mrs. Joe Doyle are present members of St. Patrick's.

Michael Doyle died July 11, 1953, and Mary Ellen Doyle on February 5, 1954. Both Mr. and Mrs. Doyle and six of their family are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Neola.



Michael J. Doyle Family 1904



Michael J. Doyle Family 1967

JAMES D. DOYLE

James and Adeline Wilmes Doyle were married April 17, 1912, at St. Patrick's beginning their fifty-seven years together on a farm directly east of his parents farm east of Neola.

Jim, son of Michael and Mary Ellen Doyle was born February 14, 1889, at Neola and baptized by Father Schiffmacher at St. Patrick's Church. He started school in 1895, in the old remodeled church building. From that time until the present year of 1982, when his grandson, John Crowley leaves St. Joseph's, there has been a continuous succession of descendants of Michael Doyle attending St. Joseph's School.

Adeline M. Wilmes was born at Tilden, Nebraska, May 29, 1890. The third child of Herman and Maria Ann Vecnker Wilmes, emigrants of Germany and Holland. She moved to Neola with her parents and brothers and sisters in 1902, (George, Ann, Mother Magdalen, Mary, Herman, Henry and Cecilia). She attended St. Joseph's, graduating in 1910, from the Normal School. She taught school in this area till her marriage.

After leaving the farm in 1939, Jim worked as a carpenter. During W. W. II, he worked at the Bomber Plant at Millard, Nebraska. He was active in the Neola Order of Knights of Columbus, serving as Grand Knight. In later years, he worked with the District K of C. initiation team.

Their first child was Robert J., October 12, 1913, retired railroad, living in St. Louis; Catherine, September 17, 1914, died at 11 years; Philip, March 1, 1917, a lawyer living in Oakland, California; Mrs. Russ (Margaret) Britton, September 16, 1921, of St. Louis till her death in 1971; Joan Crowley, February 16, 1924, registered nurse, Neola; Mrs. Vincent (Dolors) Waltz, April 4, 1926, Newton, Iowa, teacher; Richard, who died in 1960; and Mrs. Bill (Mary Ellen) Hagedorn, February 28, 1932, also a teacher living in Carmichael, California.

Adeline passed away in 1969, and Jim in 1974.

They have 17 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.



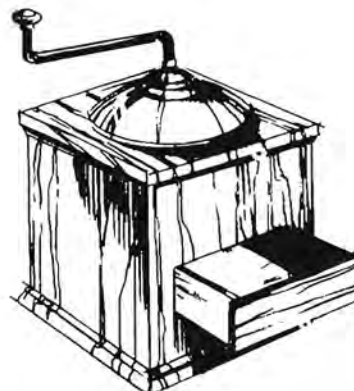
James & Adeline Doyle 1962



James Doyle Family-1931



Jim & Adeline Doyle 1912



FRED DREHER

Fred Dreher was born March 3, 1903, at Hausen Arn Tann, Wurtenburg, West Germany of Eberhard Dreher and Josephine Neher. He immigrated to Council Bluffs, Iowa on October 8, 1929. He worked with farmers south of Council Bluffs for three years. He was employed by Brumt Floral in Omaha and became a U.S. citizen in February of 1941.

Grace Ann Brumt was born November 26, 1913 at Blair, Nebraska of Ernest and Leonie Marie Mueller Brumt. They had migrated from West Germany earlier in 1913.

Fred and Grace married September 15, 1934, at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Omaha, Nebraska. Father Edward Hunkler, later Archbishop of Kansas City, spoke the marriage vows in German. They came to Neola in March of 1945.

Fred became a member of the Knights of Columbus and N.F.O. Grace joined the Altar and Rosary Society and St. Joseph School Club. They lived in Neola 28 years. They have 8 children, 7 living and 23 grandchildren. They moved to Kimballton, Iowa in 1973, but plan to return to Neola for their final resting place. Thanks to faith in God, their love for their family and hard work, they are in good health and are loved very much.

Their children are: 1.) Joseph Frank Dreher was born 10/7/35 in Omaha, Nebraska. He married Maureen Frances O'Neill. He spent 3 years in the Marines and spent 12 years with American Transfer. Their children are: Joseph Frank Jr. and Elizabeth Diane. 2.) Leonie Magdalena born 3/7/38 in Omaha, NE. She married Earl LeRoy Sanford of Omaha, NE. She has worked for Physicians Mutual Insurance Company for 22 years. Leonie was widowed August 1, 1981, when her husband was killed in a plane accident. Their children are: Michael Frederick, David Franklin and Steven Earl. 3.) Frieda Maria was born 8/16/40 at Scottsbluff, NE., was married to Larry Gene Calhoon (12/26/36), of Clarinda, Iowa. His parents are Harry L. Calhoon and Opal Marie Twaddle Calhoon. He lived at Oakland, Iowa, where he received his education. He served 3 years in the Army, 18 months in Korea. He has worked for D.O.T. for the past 24 years, 12 of those in Neola. Frieda is employed by St. Patrick's Church Corp. Their children are: Rodney Allen, Teresa Lynne, Larry Gene, Jerald Lee, Charles Edward, Kevin John, Laura Anne and Eric Scott. All have attended St. Joseph's School. 4.) Susanna Louise, born 1/9/43, was married to Ralph Reinhardt Schmidt of Brookings, S.D. Their children are Christopher John, Carl John, Carol LeAnne and Cheryl Anne. 5.) Karl E. Dreher was born 1/19/45, at Omaha, NE., was graduated from St. Joseph's. He spent six years in the U.S. Navy, and was graduated from I.S.U. at Ames in 1975. He manages the Karl E. Dreher Construction Co. in El Paso, Texas. 6.) Frances Anna was born 7/15/46 at Neola, married Joseph Eugene Minear of Underwood, Iowa. Joe works for the U.S. Postal Service. Their children are: Michaela Marie, Angela Renee, Jolene Ann and Erin Lynn. 7.) Paul Martin was born 11/7/47 at lives in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He has two sons, Martin Wayne and Marcus Paul. He works in the meat packing industry besides being an independent roofer. 8.) John E. was born 12/27/51 at Neola and died at birth. He is buried in the Neola Cemetery.



Fred Dreher Family



Larry & Frieda Calhoon Family

ELIAS - ROBINSON

Simon Elias came to Omaha, Nebraska, from Beirut, Lebanon, in the early nineteen hundreds with his four brothers, Sam, George, Eli and Abraham. After acquiring enough money, Simon went back to Lebanon to return with a wife name Mary Haj (John) and her brother, Nick. They left one brother, Jacob, in a small town near Beirut. Nick married and settled in Modale, Iowa.

Simon and Mary settled in Omaha, on 13th and William Street and he went out into rural Iowa in a wagon to peddle goods. Later, they moved to Modale, Iowa, where he established small grocery stores in the neighboring towns. They had a family of six children - James, Edward, George, Mary Louise, Mary Evelyn and John. In 1922, they relocated in Neola, Iowa, where a Catholic church existed. The oldest sons helped to establish more grocery stores in Minden, Neola, Shelby, Underwood, Avoca, Walnut, Moorehead and Modale.

Louise Elias married Wilton E. Hough from Neola, and had two children, David and Pamela. Louise died of cancer in May of 1977.

Simon died on January 1, 1943, of lung disease. John Elias established himself at the Blue and White Store in Minden, to carry on business.

Evelyn Elias married Fred "Dutch" Robinson from Malvern, Iowa, in 1945. Fred was the son of Fred C. and Mabel Robinson.

Eddie Elias died on October 31, 1946, and Jimmy Elias died February 5, 1949.

Fred and Evelyn Robinson had four children, Doris, Mary Lou, Jamie and Edward, and decided to make their permanent home in Neola. Fred was a Major in the National Guard Army and retired as Lieutenant Colonel. Evelyn was an assistant in managing the Club 64 with her brother, George.

In October of 1969, Doris married Stephen Lubman of Omaha, Nebraska. They had a son, Jason Eli and a daughter, Anneliese Rebecca.

Mary Lou married Bruce Strauss, of New Milford, New Jersey and established residency in Omaha, Nebraska. They had a daughter named Jamie Robin in 1970.

Mary Elias died on December 5, 1969, and on the following August 18th, Fred "Dutch" Robinson died of a heart attack at the age of fifty. Evelyn developed cancer and died on January 29, 1974.

In December of 1974, Jamie Robinson married Daniel Ring and had two daughters, Jessica Simone and Sarah Danielle. They established themselves in Neola.

Edward G. Robinson went to Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, and played football for the semi-pro team, "Black Hawks".

LOUIS G. ECHRICH JR.

Louis George Eckrich, Jr.-born in Neola, Iowa on May 31, 1932, second of three children; attended Sorrell Top Grade School, and a graduate of St. Joseph High School, Neola, 1950; served 2 years in U.S. Army, 1952 to 1954 in Missouri and France; toured Rome and Lourdes; returned from service and married Wilhelmina Talty on November 13, 1954, and started farming.

Wilhelmina Frances Talty-born in Neola, Iowa, October 14, 1934, fifth child; raised on a farm, attended St. Joseph Grade School and a graduate of St. Joseph High School, May 1952. Parents of six children; Lynn, Julie, Doug, Michael, Thomas and Christopher, all of Neola, Iowa.

Paternal Parents:

Louis G. Eckrich, Sr.-born in Neola, October 3, 1892. Oldest of three children. Died January 22, 1982. Farmer all of his life. Married Fern Stoker September 1927.

Fern Stoker-born at Yorkshire, Iowa; died February 1943.

Maternal Parents: Clifton Talty-oldest of six children; born at Massena, Iowa. Came to Neola at 17 years of age. Lifetime farmer. Married Clara Fischer, February 1927.

Clara Fischer-born in Neola March 12, 1905. Graduate of St. Joseph School, Neola.

Paternal Grandparents: Frank Eckrich-born in Iowa City, Iowa, came to Neola later. Married Elizabeth Rohret, who was born in Eastern Iowa.

Jess Stoker-lived at Yorkshire, married Emma Thomas of Neola.

Maternal Grandparents: John Henry Talty-born June 9, 1865, at Atlantic, Iowa, married Martha Waters who was born September 5, 1871, at Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Frank Fischer-born and raised in Lee County, Iowa, and later came to Neola. Married Wilhelmina Meirs, who was born in Germany and later came to Neola.



Louis G. Echrich Family



MR. AND MRS. EVERETT EIMS

Patrick Murphy was born in Queen County, Ireland in 1808. He married Mary Boyle who lived near by. They owned and operated a dairy farm until they came to the U.S. They settled first in Pennsylvania and then on to LaSalle, Ill.

George Murphy married Mary Feritor. They had seven sons. After the death of his wife in 1888, George and his sons, George II, William, Edward and Patrick II, migrated to Iowa. They shipped their livestock, machinery and furniture by train. Upon arrival they purchased 200 acres northwest of Neola in Neola Township.

Patrick Murphy II, born at LaSalle, Illinois on October 12, 1869, married Mary Ann (Doll) Rhyhan, who was born November 13, 1872, at Maple Park, Ill. They were married at St. Patrick's in Neola on May 4, 1903. Her ancestors also originated in Ireland.

Patrick Rhyhan Sr. was born in Langford, Ireland in 1831. He emigrated to the U.S. with his parents, settling first near Johnstown, Pa. Later they came to Maple Park, Illinois. Here Patrick took Mary Ann White as his bride in 1861. They had nine children. They came to Iowa in 1873--all their possessions loaded into wagons which were pulled by horses. They settled near Taylor Station east of Quick. The family came to St. Patrick's Church before the present church was built. It was a distance of some 20 miles. Weather and poor roads made the trips to church difficult.

Mary Murphy Eims, born July 13, 1913, daughter of Pat and Doll Murphy, had the good fortune to travel through the homeland of her forefathers in August of 1976. Mary had a brother, Marion F. (known as Pat), born March 4, 1906. He lived on the Murphy farm until 1945. His aunt, Nell (Rhyhan) Wolff, made her home with him until he went to work in the Omaha Stockyards. He married Marie Remde of Dunlap. Pat had a keen interest in paying off the debt on St. Patrick's Hall, so he hired the orchestras and managed the dances in "the finest hall in Southwest Iowa". Pat died August, 1978. His wife, Marie, died February, 1977.

Mary Murphy andd Everett Eims, son of Martin and Lilly Eims, were united in marriage at St. Patrick's on January 30, 1939. Mary has lived on the Murphy farm for all but seven years of her life. She is the last of the Murphy family and she has lived longer on the Murphy farm than any other member of the family.

Everett Eims was born in Persia on August 6, 1909. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Martin Eims of Neola, formerly of Persia. The family moved northwest of Neola, 4½ miles, to a farm known as the Tom Weldon farm in 1928. It is now the Maurice Corrin farm. There were four sons: Emery, Everett, Harry and Leroy.

Father, Martin Eims, was born in Oldorf, Germany in 1879, son of Hero F. Eims and Renste T. Eims. In 1881, with their children and other families, Christian and Martha Eims Ulfers, the Conrad family, Bill Cook and Oltmans sailed from Oldenburg, Germany, on the ship, Bremerhaven. It was a brave and gallant little group of 14. Never to hear from the families left behind, they settled in Kanesville, Iowa in 1882 to start a new life among strangers. The men worked on the railroad that was being laid across Pottawattamie County and Persia in Harrison County in Iowa. Hero Eims (1818-1894) and Mrs. Eims (1848-1908) are buried in Valley View Cemetery in Persia. Mrs. Eims farmed with her two sons, Martin, Theo and daughter, Minnie, until she was killed in a tornado. Another daughter, Helen Tieden Oltmans (1867-1891), and husband, Theodore Oltmans (1863-1893) are buried in Persia and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Eims and sons, Emery and Harry.

The father of Mrs. Lily Sweet Eims, Joseph Sweet, came from Canada and married Molly Champlin of Persia, Iowa. She was one of a family of three sons and eight daughters. Mr. Sweet ran a livery stable for many years in the southeast part of Persia. After their marriage, Martin and Lily Eims ran a hotel in Persia. Fire completely destroyed the hotel in 1912. Martin Eims and Harvey Ulfers were carpenters and made cement blocks. Later they returned to farming.

Leroy Eims, youngest son of Martin and Lily Eims, lives with his wife, Virginia Kreft, formerly of Council Bluffs, at Colorado Springs, Colorado. They are the parents of two sons, Larry and Randy, and one daughter, Beckie Jo. She lives at Tuscon, Arizona with husband, Richard Hinebaugh and two daughters, Joy Alicia and Amber Lynn.

On an International Navigator Ministries Tour of Europe, Leroy and Virginia spent three days in Northern Germany going through old German records with an interpreter and found the records of their father and his sister, Grethe Hermine (Minnie) Eims, at Oldorf where they were baptized at the same church where Leroy's grandparents had been married.

They brought back pictures of the large church and outside belfry. When the high waters of the North Sea were endangering the dikes, the church bells were rung. All the surrounding people came with provisions to stay safe and dry inside the church. The walls were of stone masonry, with walls eight feet thick and windows 20 feet high. It was built to withstand the water pressure and water depth. Two sisters of Martin Eims had drowned during one of these episodes.

Leroy Eims is assistant to President Lorne Sanny Navigators, International Headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colorado, at Glen Eyrie (Valley of the Eagle, Scottish). Leroy has written nine books on religious subjects, published by Victor Books of Wheaton, Illinois. Several books had been translated into the Korean, Chinese, Taiwanese, Spanish, German and French languages, where the Navigators have ministries around the world.



Mr. & Mrs. Pat Murphy 1933



Martin & Lily Eims, 1945



Virginia & Leroy Eims, Jackie & Randy Eims, Beckie Jo & Rich Hinebaugh, Joy & Amber-January 2, 1982



Pat & Marie Murphy, 1960

THE FINERTY FAMILY

James Finerty was the first member of the Finerty family to belong to St. Patrick's in Neola. He came over from Ireland originally and, with his wife, Dora Cavanaugh Finerty, settled in the Neola area. Their children were three daughters and two sons, Nellie, Ann, Lillian, Hugh and James Jr.

James Finerty Jr. remained in the Neola area after growing to manhood and married Eva Jungerman Finerty. Both were always members of St. Patrick's in Neola. They were blessed with four children, James, who died at a young age, Betty, John and Mary. James and Eva have since passed away.

Betty Finerty married Jack Petratis of Missouri Valley, Iowa, and to this union, six children were born. Jack died suddenly of a heart attack in 1964. Betty is currently a nurse at Western Electric in Underwood. She is a member of St. Patrick's in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and her children all reside in the immediate area.

Mary married Orville Larsen of Honey Creek, Iowa. They have three children, Lori, currently a student at St. Albert's High School, Tim a student at Kern in Council Bluffs, and Susie attending Crescent Grade School. They also are members of St. Patrick's in Council Bluffs.

John married JoAnn Ingwersen in 1955. After serving in the Army for two years, John and JoAnn began their married life on a farm near Neola. In 1957, they moved to their present farm near Persia. They were the parents of four daughters, Patricia, who is married to George Harmon and currently residing in Council Bluffs. They have a son, Matthew John. Patty is a nurse at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs. Kathy married Ron Gau in 1981, and currently resides in Harlan, Iowa; she also is employed at Mercy in Council Bluffs as a nurse. Karen is also a nurse and will be married in August of 1982, at St. Patrick's in Neola. She will marry Paul Waltz of Portsmouth; he is currently a student at Creighton University in Omaha. Connie Ann died in infancy in 1965.

John and JoAnn remain active in the church and enjoy traveling, friends, and living in the Persia area.

FLEMMING

On June 4, 1966, Jan William Flemming, son of Kenneth A.W. and Vivian Elizabeth (Mumby) Flemming of rural Avoca, Iowa, married Lois Jean Klindt. Her parents were Leonard John and Mary Clare (Wise) Klindt of rural Harlan, Iowa. Jan was born on June 17, 1945, grew up on his parent's farm, and attended Shelby-Tennant School in Shelby, Iowa. In 1972, he graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a degree in Business Administration. Being one of three children, Jan attended the Presbyterian Church of Shelby. Lois was born on August 6, 1945, grew up on her parent's farm and attended grade school at Tennant Consolidated School in Tennant, Iowa, and high school at Shelby-Tennant in Shelby. Lois was one of five children and attended St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca.

After their marriage, Jan and Lois resided on a farm northwest of Minden, Iowa, where they continue to farm. To this union were born two children: Brian William born July 25, 1967, and Suzanne Renee, born April 13, 1970. Both children now attend Tri-Center School of rural Neola and St. Patrick's Church of Neola.

RICHARD PAUL FISCHER

Richard Paul Fischer was born on March 23, 1930, in Neola, Iowa, to Chris and Anastasia Ryan Fischer. He was raised on a farm two miles south of Neola, graduated from St. Joseph's in 1948, and was in the Army from 1951 to 1953, where he served in Korea. He married Jean Zimmerman in April of 1953. Jean, the daughter of Floyd and Berniece Talty Zimmerman, was born December 9, 1932, in Omaha, Nebraska, graduated from St. Joseph's in 1951.

Jean and Dick are the parents of nine children. Mary Kay, married to Jim Lee, are parents of Erin and live in Nashville, Tennessee, where Jim is a student at Vanderbilt. Tim, married to Donna Haig, are parents of Kelly and live in Omaha. Steve, married to Donna Slater, lives in Denver, where Steve is stationed with the Air Force. Janet, married to Richard Jensen and parents of Christopher, live in Council Bluffs. Tom is a student at Maryville, Missouri. Ken is a student (senior) at St. Albert's. Dale is in the eighth grade, Matt in third grade and Eric in kindergarten.

ANTON FISCHER

Anton Fischer was born in Germany, January 8, 1835. Anton and his family came from St. Louis, Missouri, to Iowa. His first wife, Theresa Mettendorf, died of typhoid fever at St. Paul, Iowa, in March, 1867 or 1869. Anton was a Civil War veteran. They had two children, Frank (born April 21, 1865) and Kate (born May 6, 1867), died November 17, 1887. Anton remarried in Eastern Iowa and moved to Pottawattamie County in 1880 and to Neola two years later. Anton's second wife was Anna (last name unknown). She was born March 16, 1834, died May 18, 1887. To this union two daughters were born. Mary, born June 1877, died July 2, 1895, and Elizabeth (the other daughter--history appears under Joseph Ausdemore). In 1875, Anton bought the farm south of Neola where Dean Fischer lives. Dean is fourth generation of Fischers on that farm. His family is Mike, David, Theresa, Diane, Douglas, Brian and Catherine and are expecting a baby in June. Anton had one brother, Doctor Peter Fischer--his only known kin.

Frank was married January 12, 1887, to Wilhelmina Meier born in Germany on December 1, 1864. Wilhelmina passed away September 21, 1923. Frank and Wilhelmina were the parents of ten children. The oldest one was Anthony (Tony) born January 21, 1889, died January 30, 1973. He married Mary (Mae) Hannifan, June 27, 1917. Their children are---Helen Clare (Murphy), Con, Paul, Leo, Rose-Mary (Schwertly), Marilyn (Carr).

Christina, born September 26, 1890, married Wm. O'Connell in 1913. Their children are---Mary (Sister Jerome), Dick, Theresa, Clara (Flecky), Patricia (Humphrey), Helen (Haas), Margaret and Bill.

Their third child, Caroline, born December 11, 1893, married Gerard Pogge May 26, 1913. Their children are---Cecilia (Beck), Isabelle (Madigan Bartz), Frank, Raymond, Philip, Kenneth. Theresa was born June 10, 1894, died December 13, 1918, during flu epidemic.

Second son is Christian born October 1, 1896, married Anastasia Ryan January, 1922. Anastasia passed away May 19, 1977. Their children are---Virginia (Simon), Frank, Robert, Harold, Dick, Don, Mary Cecilia (Schnitker), Father Gene.

Another son, Joseph was born October 21, 1898, died October 22, 1963. He married Ruth Cavanaugh February, 1923, who passed away May 3, 1942. Their children are---Joseph, Max, Mary Ann (Langer), Margaret (Kardell). In 1954, Joseph married Helen Melidinger Pruch. Francis born February 2, 1901, passed away March 28, 1903.

Edward, the youngest son was born December 7, 1902, died June 9, 1973. **He married Mary Ryan.** Their family is---Edward Jerome (E.J.), Lenore (Allred), Dean, Linda (Clausen).

Clara was born March 12, 1905, married Clifton Talty February, 1927. Their children are: John, Emmett, Dan, Mary Alice (Wickham), Wilhelmina (Eckrich).

The youngest daughter, Mary, was born December 19, 1908, died at birth. Mrs. Fischer's (Wilhelmina) uncle was a nephew of Joseph Wellman's father.



Anton Fischer



Ed Fischer



Frank Fischer Family



Dean Fischer Family

CHRISTIAN PAUL FISCHER FAMILY

Christian Paul Fischer born 10-1-1896, son of Frank and Wihlemina Meir Fischer lived on a farm and attended St. Joe School, married Anastasia Helen Ryan at St. Patrick's, February 1, 1921.

Stasia was born March 28, 1900. Her parents were E. B. and Mary Zahner Ryan.

Virginia Marie born 3-2-1922, married Frank Simon 2-7-1943. Robert born 1-1-1952, Frank born 7-15-1953, Joanne 1-1-1957, was killed in car accident 12-6-1975. Richard born 7-15-1953.

Lucille Ann born 3-30-1924. Died May 14, 1924.

Francis Patrick born 3-16-1925, married Emma Hunt 5-22-1946. Gary born 3-17-1947, Marcia born 8-11-1948, Cindy born 10-24-1949, Debbie born 5-6-1951, Rhonda born 11-23-1956, Laura born 7-20-1964. They have 10 grandchildren and live in Council Bluffs.

Robert Joseph born 1-16-1927, married Jayne Ann Hovey 11-12-1948. Twins, Dennis and Diane born 2-5-1950, John stillborn April 1952. Bob and Jayne later divorced. Bob lives in Council Bluffs and has one granddaughter.

Harold James born 9-6-1928. Married Hirako in 1972. Leo was born 11-1972. Akira 12-30-1976. They live in Weetangard, Australia. They teach school there.

Richard Paul born 3-23-1930. (See Richard Fischer Family)

Donald Edward born 11-19-1932. (See Donald Fischer Family)

Mary Ceceilia born 4-15-1934. Married James Schnitker 2-6-1952. Michael born 8-8-1951, Ellen 12-22-1954, Colleen 9-7-1956, Connie 11-5-1957, David 12-23-1958, Kevin 4-8-1960, Pat 5-26-1961. They have seven grandchildren and live in Council Bluffs.

Eugene Bernard born 10-18-1939, ordained a Priest at Joseph Cathedral San Deigo, California, May 27, 1965.

Chris and Stasia lived on the same farm for 40 years before moving into Neola. Stasia was crippled with arthritis and confined to a wheelchair over 30 years. Chris was a very devoted husband and cared for her those many years.

Stasia passed away on May 20, 1977, on her grandson, Ron Fischer's 15th birthday. Chris passed away on March 13, 1978, in San Jose, California. He had spent the winter with his daughter, Virginia and family.



Chris Fischer Family



Chris & Stasia Fischer
50th Wedding Anniversary 1971

E.J. FISCHER

E. J. Fischer was born July 20, 1934. His parents were Edward Fischer and Mary Ryan Fischer. E.J. was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1952, and started farming with his father. Jean graduated in 1953 from St. Joseph's High School, and attended Creighton University and Ottumwa Heights College, receiving a teaching certificate. On February 2, 1957, they were married. Jean's parents were Louis and Fern (Stoker) Eckrich. E.J. and Jean moved to their present farm north of Neola at the time of their marriage. They own 260 acres, Sections 10 and 11. They also rent 240 acres from E.J.'s mother, Mary Fischer.

E.J. and Jean are the parents of four children: twin daughters, Karen and Karol, born March 17, 1959. Karen is a registered nurse working at St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha. Karol is a beautician working at Cut and Curl in Council Bluffs. Mary Pat, born March 25, 1962, is also a beautician working at Command Performance in Council Bluffs. Mark, born April 28, 1964, is a senior at St. Albert's High School in Council Bluffs.



E. J. Fischer Family

CON AND DOLORES FISCHER

Cornelius (Con) Francis Fischer was born July 14, 1921, to Anthony (Tony) and Mary Catherine (Mae) Hannifan Fischer. His brothers and sisters are Helen Clare Murphy, Paul, Rosemary Schwertley, Leo and Marilyn Carr. He attended Bentley Independent School and St. Joseph School graduating in 1938. After going to Van Sant's School of Business, he worked in the bookkeeping department for International Harvester Co. four years and then with the company auditor. He returned to the family farm in 1945 to work with his father. On August 9, 1947, he married Dolores Marie Berens, daughter of Joseph and Mary Bentlage Berens.

Dolores was born April 25, 1920, at Dunlap, Iowa. She moved with her family in 1927 to Neola. Her brothers and sister are George, Bob, Jim and **Joann Kenealy**. She graduated from St. Joseph's School in 1938 and then attended Van Sant's School of Business. She worked in the steno department of Paxton and Gallagher in Omaha.

Con and Dolores began their married life on the farm 4 miles south of Neola where they presently live and own. They have three children who attended Underwood Elementary and St. Albert's High School in Council Bluffs.

Mary Jo has a degree from ISU in Home Economics. She is married to Frank Dobrydney of Milford, Connecticut. He is in the U.S. Navy. They have a son, John, and daughter, Vicky.

Dorothy Anne graduated from Commercial Extension as a secretary. Her husband is Michael Mauro of Des Moines a high school coach and realtor. They have two sons, Steven and Nicholas.

John has a degree in Farm Management and Ag. Business from ISU. He is married to Mary Martin of Imogene, and R.N. from Jennie Edmundsen Hospital. Their children are Tony, Anne and Emily.

LEO FISCHER

Leo A. Fischer and Pauline Denning were married at Neola St. Patrick's Church in 1955. Leo was the son of Tony (A.J.) and Mary Catherine (Hannifan) Fischer. Pauline was the daughter of William Denning and Loretto Cavanaugh Denning. They were married in Neola because the new St. Mary's Church was in the process of being built. Also, the organ in Neola was being repaired, so the organ from Avoca was brought to Neola.

Theresa was born in 1956 and baptized at St. Patrick's in Neola, had graduated from St. Albert's High School in 1974, attended Benedictine College at Atchison, Kansas, and was graduated from Creighton University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. In June of 1979, Theresa married Richard Lane, a graduate of Benedictine College and son of the late Marvin Lane and Mary Ann Lane of Carroll, Iowa.

Roberta Ann was baptized at St. Patrick's in June of 1958, graduated from St. Albert's in 1976, and from the College of St. Mary in Omaha in 1980, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Records. She is now Medical Records Administrator at the V.A. Hospital in Vancouver, Washington.

Gregory Anthony was baptized in Neola 1959, graduated from St. Albert's in 1977, and attended two years of college at Ames, returning home to start farming where the former Fr. James Hannan S.J. lived. Greg was married in St. Patrick's in Council Bluffs in 1981, to Kathryn Rath, daughter of Edwin and Carol Rath. Kathryn Rath Fischer will graduate in 1982 from Kearny State College with her degree in nursing.

Con & Dolores Fischer Family



Con Fischer Grandchildren-Tony, Anne Marie & Emily Joan

Bernard Joseph Fischer was baptized in St. Patrick's in Neola in 1963, Benny graduated from Underwood Community High School in 1981, and is now attending Northwest Missouri State University.

A. J. (Andy) was baptized in 1963 at St. Patrick's and is a freshman at Saint Albert's in Council Bluffs.

Leo and Pauline have both served on school boards, area boards and various parish activities. Leo was one of the first Extraordinary Ministers in the parish.



Leo Fischer Family

JOHN FISCHER FAMILY

John Fischer and Mary Martin first met in the Neola Cemetery on Memorial Day 1975. It must have been fate that finally brought them together to become the John Fischer family.

John was born to Con and Dolores Fischer and grew up south of Neola. Mary was born to Pat and Alice Martin of Imogene. She was the third of seven children. Her mother was Alice Caster, formerly of the Underwood-Neola area. Alice's parents, the Daley's, lived across the section to the northeast from where John's parents live.

John and Mary's grandfather had a lot in common. When Charlie Caster was baptized at age 79, he chose Tony Fischer, John's grandpa, to be his baptismal sponsor.

All of this history happened before they met. On that memorable Memorial Day, John paid no attention to Mary. He was an ISU student at the time as was Mary's oldest brother. The two boys discussed college and John's upcoming ag travel course trip across the United States. Mary went home and wrote about meeting John Fischer in her diary. Two years later, they again met at a wedding dance in Minden. Mary was a nursing student at JEMH then. John had just graduated from ISU in Ames in March 1975 with his degree in Agriculture Business. He was farming west of Neola on his grandpa's, (Tony Fischer) estate.

John and Mary dated a couple years and were married on a cold snowy Saturday, November 26, 1977. By that time, John was getting established in farming, raising corn, soybeans, cattle and hogs. Mary was a RN working at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs.

After getting through the first winter on the "Old McGinty Place" three miles west of Neola, they began expanding the business. They added a garden to the farming operation.

More additions followed: Anthony (Tony) John was born September 18, 1978. Anne Marie followed, born October 11, 1980, and their third child, Emily Joan was born April 7, 1982.

It's been a good life in good communities for both of us. John attended school in Bentley, Underwood, St. Albert's in Council Bluffs and ISU in Ames. Mary attended St. Patrick's Grade School in Imogene, Shenandoah High School, and Nurses Training in Council Bluffs. They've lived a lot of places, but Neola, without a doubt, is home.

Submitted by Mary A. Fischer

John, Mary, Anne Marie, & Tony Fischer



John & Mary Fischer-November 26, 1977



Tony, Anne Marie, & Emily Joan Fischer 1982

TONY AND MAE FISCHER

Anthony (Tony) Joseph Fischer was born January 21, 1889, to Frank and Wilhelmina Meier Fischer on a farm one mile south of Neola. He was taken to the church the next day, via team of horses and wagon to be baptized. His parents told him that he was the first baby baptized in the present church. He attended St. Joseph's School. His brothers and sisters were Christina O'Connell, Caroline (Callie) Pogge, Teresa (died in 1918 during the flu epidemic), Christian (Chris), Joseph, Francis (died in 1903), Edward (Ed), Clara Talty and Mary who died at birth. Tony married Mary Catherine (Mae) Hannifan on June 27, 1917, in Weston.

Mae was born December 4, 1892, to Cornelius and Honora Leonard Hannifan on a farm southwest of Underwood, Iowa. She attended Underwood Grade School and Mount St. Scholastica in Atchison, Kansas. She taught school in Downsville before her marriage. Mae was from a family of seven girls, two boys died in infancy. Her sisters were Irene Hartwell, **Honora (Honor) Kenealy**, Cornelia (Babe), Josephine (Jo) Finley, Anita Brown and Florence Finley.

Tony and Mae began their married life on a farm three miles south of Neola where they lived until March 1921, and then moved to a farm one mile further south. That was their home until Mae passed away on November 6, 1957.

They were the parents of six children. Helen Clare married to Joe Murphy, Omaha. Their children are Catherine Ann, Mary Sledge and Tom. Cornelius (Con) married Dolores Berens. Their children are Mary Jo Dobydney, Dorothy Anne Mauro and John. Paul is married to Ethel Malick of Harlan and their daughter is Paula Carlstedt. Rosemary is married to Fred Schwertley of Mo. Valley and their children are Mary Elizabeth, Katherine Ann and Frederick. Leo married Pauline Denning of Shelby. Their children are Theresa Lane, Roberta, Greg,



Joseph B. & Ruth Fischer-January 21, 1922

JOSEPH BERNARD FISCHER

Joseph Bernard Fischer, son of Frank and Wilhelmina Fischer, was born October 21, 1898, in Neola. He attended St. Joseph's School. He married Catherine Ruth Cavanaugh January 3, 1922, at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. Ruth, the daughter of Mary Ann and Bert Cavanaugh of Neola, was born February 15, 1900.

Ben and Andy. Marilyn married Dr. Dennis Carr of Estherville, Iowa. They are the parents of Mary, Kevin, Connie, Kelly and Mark. There are nine great-grandchildren.

During his life, Tony was active in various community affairs such as church and school committees, school board, farm programs, soil conservation and Federal Land Bank Director. He was honored as a 50-year shipper to Omaha Livestock Market. Tony died January 30, 1973.



Tony & Mae Fischer Family

Joseph and Ruth were the parents of four children:

Joseph Hubert, July 9, 1923, Max James, July 30, 1926, Mary Ann, February 10, 1929, and Margaret Mary, January 2, 1935.

All of the children attended St. Joseph's School while living on a farm north of Neola.

Ruth died May 3, 1942, and was buried from St. Patrick's Church.

Joseph was remarried to Helen Medlinger on June 9, 1954, in Omaha, Nebraska. They lived in Neola until Joseph's death on October 23, 1963. Helen made her home in Omaha after Joseph's death. She died January 17, 1982, and was buried from St. Philip Neri Church in Omaha.

Joseph H. married Virginia Schnitker in 1948. They had five children. Virginia died June 10, 1963. He later married Mary McConnell of Neola. Joe farms in the Neola area.

Max J. married Arvanna Rhine of Omaha, October 2, 1951. They had seven children, one deceased, and live in Omaha.

Mary Ann married Arthur Langer July 30, 1949, at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, and now lives in Omaha. They have four children; Jeannie Marie (April 6, 1951), Daniel Arthur (November 9, 1952), Mary Elizabeth (October 18, 1955) and Julie Ann (March 25, 1960).

Margaret Mary married Lester Kardell in St. Patrick's Church on April 25, 1959, and now lives in Omaha. They have five children: Frank (April 3, 1960), Tom (November 23, 1961 died February 28, 1964), Mary Jo (March 19, 1963), Bob (May 27, 1966), and Jeannie (July 25, 1967).

DONALD EDWARD FISCHER FAMILY

Donald Edward Fischer born November 19, 1932, son of Christian Paul and Annastasia Helen Ryan Fischer was raised on a farm south of Neola. He graduated in 1951 from St. Joe, married Margaret Mary Alferts at St. Patrick's November 7, 1953.

Margaret born January 25, 1935, in Omaha, Nebraska, at her grandparents' home, Everett and Elizabeth Fitzsimmons Mohatt. Herman and Florence Mohatt Alferts are her parents.

Don entered U.S. Army April 19, 1954. Served in Japan for 16 months.

Denise Ann born December 2, 1954. Graduated from St. Albert's in 1973. Denise and David Sprinkel married in Council Bluffs, April 4, 1981. John David born October 13, 1981. They live in Council Bluffs.

Donald Edward Jr. (Weasel) born February 19, 1957, graduated in 1976 from Tri-Center. He married Kathy Rodenburg at St. Patrick's April 22, 1978. Jason Anthony born December 16, 1979. Weasel works for Neola Grain and they live in rural Underwood.

Susan Marie born January 16, 1958. Graduated 1976 from Tri-Center. Graduated IWCC 1978 with Child Care Course. She married Lynn Stenlund May 27, 1978, at St. Patrick's. They live in McClelland.

Sharon Jo (Sheri) born August 25, 1960. Graduated Tri-Center 1979. Married Scott Wohlers October 13 at St. Patrick's. Christina Marie (Chrissy) born April 4, 1980. Sheri is expecting a baby in August 1982. They live in Beebeetown.

Ronald James born May 20, 1962. Graduated from Tri-Center 1980. He is single, lives at home. Works for Nebraska Heating and Air Conditioning at Offutt Air Base.

Stacy Elizabeth born March 13, 1969. She is a student at Tri-Center.

All of the children attended St. Joe Grade School.

Margaret has worked for Western Electric at Underwood since 1977.

Don has worked at U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in Omaha since April 1956. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus, and was the Financial Secretary for several years. He belongs to the American Legion Post 330 and has been its Commander the last two years. Served on the town council the past four years.



Don & Margaret Fischer



Chris & Stasia Fischer
50th Anniversary



Don Fischer Family 1979

REVEREND EUGENE B. FISCHER

Father E. Fischer was born October 18, 1939, the son of Christian P. and Annastasia H. Ryan Fischer. He was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in May, 1957. He attended St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kansas, and Immaculate Conception Seminary in Missouri. He received his B.A. from the School of Theology at the University of San Diego. He was ordained a priest on May 27, 1965, at St. Joseph Cathedral, San Diego, California.

He celebrated his first Solemn Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Neola on June 5, 1965. A reception was held for him at St. Patrick's Hall.

Ministers of the first Mass were Rev. Joseph Ryan, Archpriest, with the new priest's brother, Rev. Harold Fischer of Des Moines serving as deacon.

The Very Rev. Mgr. Michael W. Schwarte preached. Other ministers were Rev. Robert Alferts and Rev. James Freeman.

Father Gene is now serving as Assistant Pastor at Our Lady of Grace Church in El Cajon, California.



The Rev. Eugene B. Fischer

* * *

First Mass For Eugene Fischer

Special To The Nonpareil
NEOLA

RUTH PURCELL FREEMAN

Ruth (Pursell) Freeman was born, November 4, 1897, near Persia, Iowa, to Armenta Champlin and Frank Pursell. She was reared on her father's farm around this same area. She was married to Purcy E. Freeman, from Atlantic, Iowa, area November 28, 1917.

To this union, five children were born. The family grew up near Persia, attended Persia Public Schools and were parishioners of Neola St. Patrick's Church.

In 1949, after the death of Mr. Freeman, Ruth and her son, Jim, moved to Neola in a small house at 2nd and Remington. Ruth cooked for the nuns at the convent for many years and was housekeeper for Father Joseph Ryan for about ten years until her death, March 24, 1968.

Her children were Eloise, who lives near Sioux City, Iowa, Frances, who died at sixteen, Jerome, who lived in New York State, Rita, living in Texas and Father James, presently in Dunlap, Iowa.

Jim graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1957, and will be remembered for his great efforts on St. Joe's basketball team. He played guard and was honored by being chosen for All Southwest Iowa 1st Team in that same year of 1957.

After graduation, Jim attended four years at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa and four years at St. Bernard's Seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 6, 1965, in Des Moines, Iowa. He said his first Mass at St. Patrick's in Neola. He also attended Notre Dame for one year on a Sabbatical.

His assignments have been St. Francis Parish, Council Bluffs, St. Patrick's in Bayard-Jamaica area, St. Peter's in Defiance, Iowa, Holy Trinity at Locona-Rosemount-Mile, Iowa, and has been at St. Patrick's of Dunlap for the last three years.



Reverend Jim Freeman & his mother Ruth

HENRY GROTE FAMILY

Henry and Caroline Grote were long-time members of St. Patrick's Parish and lived their entire married life in the Neola area. Henry B. Grote was born at Underwood, Iowa, January 19, 1874. His parents were Frederick S. Grote and Helena Lubers Grote. Caroline M. Ostdiek was born at Ottumwa, Iowa, May 31, 1877, daughter of Gerard and Mary Ostdiek.

They were married at St. Patrick's Church by Reverend Schiffmacher. To this union were born twelve children: William married Julia Lustgraaf, Gerard married Mary Honz, Joseph married Rosalia Talty, Barbar married Bernard Walker, Mark married Ruth Yeaton, Eulalia married Charles Loney, Gertrude wed Fay Osborn, Henry wed Pearl Weber, Catherine wed Carl Muschall, Mildred wed Dale Moreland and Mary wed Thomas Martin. One son, Raymond, died in infancy. All of these children were educated in St. Joseph's School. At the time of her death, Mrs. Grote had 225 descendants, including great-great-grandchildren. Henry's family was raised on the Gerard Ostdiek farm and in 1936, the family moved to a farm northeast of Neola. After Mr. Grote's death, the farm was sold to Les Felton. Mrs. Grote made her home with daughters, Mary and Barbara. She passed away in April 1977. Henry died in December 1952.

The Grote's loved music and often played the violin and piano for the old time dances and at the K. of C. Hall. With the help of Fred and Herman Grote, they had a Grote family orchestra. Henry and his sons also played in the town band at concerts in the Neola Park during the summer months. There was always some of the Grote's playing some of the instruments. It was said, "What would a Neola band be without Herman Cooper's trombone and Henry Grote's french horn!"

The family was very active in parish affairs especially during the depression years and people gave much of their time and labor in parish life. Caroline was ever mindful of everyone's birthdays, loved to work crossword puzzles, enjoyed her gardens and white purebred chickens. Henry made the straightest corn rows in the area.



Neola Band in front of Brandenberger home



Lustgraff Triple Wedding-Julia & William Grote, Catherine & Richard Messerschmidt, Barbara & Raymond Muhlberg



Henry & Callie Grote Family



Henry & Callie Grote

JOSEPH H. & ROSALIA GROTE

Joseph H. Grote was born at Neola, Iowa, June 21, 1902. Joe had four brothers and six sisters. He attended St. Joe's School, was raised and worked on his parents farm until his marriage to Rosalia Talty, daughter of John H. and Martha Waters Talty. She was born at Massena, Iowa, October 10, 1906, and had two brothers and three sisters.

In April 1914, the Talty family moved from their farm at Massena to Neola where they retired. After graduating from St. Joe's School, Rosalia was a beauty operator and school teacher until her marriage, when the Grotes moved onto a farm at Neola.

Joe, a lover of music, played violin and banjo with the Grote family orchestra, playing for public dances and house parties.

The Grotes were married in a double wedding ceremony with Rosalia's brother, Cliff Talty and his wife, Clara Fischer Talty, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church on February 22, 1927, with Joe's uncle, Reverend Frank B. Ostdiek of Des Moines, Iowa, celebrant.

Joe and Rosalia had two sons, Joe Grote Jr. and Jack H. Grote, Sioux City, Iowa, and a foster daughter Gloria Osborn Jacobson, Lakewood, Colorado. They have 15 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. They were members of St. Patrick's Church and active in church and community work. Joe served on the parish council and was a Past Grand Knight of the Neola Knights of Columbus, Council 1115. He was awarded the 50-year certificate in recognition of his work with the council. Rosalia is a member of the Rosary and Altar Society, and presently serving as treasurer for the Catholic Daughters of America. The Grotes were both 4-H leaders. Joe was a board member, representing 4-H on the first "Hoo-Doo" committee in Neola. He served many years on the Minden Township A.S.C. Committee and was a township trustee. Rosalia was secretary and treasurer on the senior citizen organization when it started in Neola. She also worked through the social services and the University of Nebraska in Omaha programs to bring the first "Public Health Nurses" and "Homemakers" into West Pottawattamie and Harrison Counties. She also completed the home study courses on food preparation and sanitation conducted by the Nutrition and Dietary Health Division while working as the meal site manager for four and one-half years, helping to establish the nutrition program for senior citizens in Underwood, Minden, Persia, and Neola areas serving meals at Neola.

The Grotes retired from farming and moved into their present home in Neola in February 1973. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in a shared celebration with Cliff and Clara Talty with a Mass at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday, February 27, 1977, with Reverend Lawrence Beeson, pastor as celebrant. A reception followed in St. Pat's Hall, hosted by the Grote's and Talty's children and grandchildren.

Joe passed away January 29, 1978 at age 75.



Joe & Rosalia Grote



Joe Grote Family



Joe & Rosalia Grote



Joe & Rosalia Grote Golden Anniversary



Jack H. Grote Gloria Osborn Jacobson Joe Grote, Jr.

SAMUEL GAYMAN FAMILY

Sam Gayman was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, approximately 1836. He was the son of Joseph Gayman who came from Alsace-Lorraine, France. Sam migrated from Pennsylvania to Davenport, Iowa. He married Annie Killion on February 14, 1865, and they had 10 children. Sam Gayman was a stone mason by trade and worked on the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, Utah. He died May 9, 1917 in Neola.

John Joseph Gayman, son of Samuel, was born at Davenport, Iowa, on November 26, 1865, and came to Neola when he was 8 years old. He lived at the Monaghan farm. He attended school through the sixth grade. He was very musical and played the following instruments: violin, trumpet, mouth harp, and Jew's harp. He rendered music for community events; dances, parties, and for the church choir. His daughter, Mathilda, and brother-in-law, Andrew Cheney, accompanied him. He farmed on several farms near Neola, and at Portsmouth had a partnership in a store. He served on the country school board. He married Ann von Tersch. They had 11 children: Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, Celia, Samuel, Mathilda, Leo, James J., Agnes, Rosalia, and Alex. The family was active in the Catholic church, and the seven surviving children all attended St. Joseph's School.

John Gayman died February 7, 1948, and is buried at Portsmouth.

JOSEPH R. GROTE

Joseph R. Grote (10-11-28) is the oldest son of Joseph H. and Rosalia (Talty) Grote. He has a brother, John, of Sioux City, Iowa.

Joe's great-grandfather, Fred S. Grote, married Lena Lubbers and in later years joined the Catholic church. His grandfather, Henry, married Caroline Ostdiek. His maternal grandparents are John and Martha (Waters) Talty. These families are among the early parishoners and helped build the church and school.

On February 8, 1950, Joe married Lorraine Schnitker (10-3-30), daughter of Fred and Alma (Schuning) Schnitker, also long time church members. Both are graduates of Saint Joseph's School and have farmed in the Neola area since their marriage.

Their children are the fifth generation to attend Saint Patrick's Church. Patricia Willard (7-2-51), (Dr. Craig) of Onawa has two sons, Kenneth and Nathan, Michael (10-2-52) of Council Bluffs, served in the Vietnam War, married Katherine Schroder and has one daughter, Michelle. Robert (12-30-53) is a graduate of Iowa State University and is associated with the Brenton Bank at Jefferson, Iowa. Janice Craft (1-7-56) (Richard) Portsmouth, has a son, Philip. Norma (1-1-61) is a R.N. at Mercy Hospital, Council Bluffs, and like her sister, Janice, graduated from College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Nebraska. Richard (2-25-64) is a member of this year's graduating class of Saint Albert High School, following the tradition of his older brothers and sisters. Fred (2-3-68) is an eighth grader at Saint Albert Junior High. All the boys have been Mass servers. Like their father, all children have been 4-H members and both parents have been 4-H leaders.

Joe is a member of the fourth degree Knights of Columbus and its Chalice Club, served as Grand Knight of the local council, chairman of the farm committee, serves on the Bishop Sheen Board and is a member of Century Club at Saint Albert.



John J. Gayman & Annie Cheney



John Gayman Family



John Gayman with his violin

HENRY GREINER FAMILY

Henry Greiner was born December 5, 1927, at Portsmouth, Iowa, the son of Nicholas Henry Greiner and Mary Elizabeth Bauer and married Mary Helen Burns, born February 20, 1930, at Neola, Iowa, the daughter of Donald Joseph Burns and Esther Marie Bonnesen.

Henry served from July 1952 to July 1954 with the Army in Korea. Mary graduated from St. Catherine's School of Nursing July 7, 1951.

Henry and Mary were married November 23, 1952, at St. Mary Magdalen's Church of Omaha, Nebraska. They have four children.

Michael Joseph Greiner was born March 6, 1954, and married Kimberly Ann Grey of Casper, Wyoming September 10, 1977.

Thomas Lynn Greiner was born February 12, 1955, and married Terryl Ann Ring, February 23, 1980.

Karen Maureen (Greiner) Ward was born January 8, 1958, married Paul Eugene Ward of Marion, Ohio.

Kathleen Ann (Greiner) Wollenhaupt was born December 31, 1960, married Kurt Joel Wollenhaupt of Neola, Iowa, June 23, 1979.

Henry and Mary have four grandchildren: Thomas Michael Ward, Timothy Henry Ward, Katherine Ann Ward and Nicholas James Greiner.

Henry farmed and operated a custom farming business until his death November 19, 1979.

PATRICK GREEN

Patrick Green was the son of Thomas and Margaret Green, both born in County Galway, Ireland. Thomas died in 1896 and Margaret in 1907. Both are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Most of the Green children obtained work at the packing houses in South Omaha, since jobs were scarce in the area.

Mary Kenney Green was the daughter of Luke and Margaret Kenney, both born in County Galway, Ireland. They came to the United States and settled in Anamosa, Iowa. They later came west with the building of the railroads and farmed in York Township for many years. Mary later told her daughters she had only \$40 "tucked" away to establish a home after arrival.

Luke Kenney died and Margaret died in 1898.

Patrick and Mary Green were married in Neola and had eight children. Patrick died in 1916 and Mary in 1921.

Their son, Frank, who died in 1942, was married to Margaret Denning. They had three children: Francis of Harlan, Rosemary Hahn of Earling, and Bernice of Council Bluffs.

Mary Green Monnig, Frank's twin, who died in 1968, was married to Justin Monnig, yardmaster for the Rock Island Railroad. They had three children: Dr. Phil Monnig of Sioux City, Mary Modesta Nagle of Davenport, and Jack of Philadelphia.

Vera Green was a long time employee of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Neola and retired from the Federal Reserve Bank of Omaha after many years of service. She died in 1976.

Cecilia Green Case, a school teacher, married Victor Case and they farmed in the Portsmouth area. Cecilia died in 1972. They had four sons: Richard of Council Bluffs, Gene of Manning, Tom of Charter Oak, and Frank of Dow City.

Tom Green, married to Eileen Donlin, died in 1970. They had no children. Tom was a rancher in O'Neil, Nebraska.

John Green, married to Ursula Ring, farmed in the Neola area until retiring in Neola. Ursula died in 1976. They were the parents of seven children: Georgeann Prusa, Helen Sahulka, Dennis and Mike of Omaha, Mary Jane Stokes and Terry of Council Bluffs, and Catherine Ward of Detroit, Michigan.

Joe Green, who died in 1969, married Wilma Schmaedecke. They also farmed in the Neola area. They had five children: Donna Brich and Renee Cummings of Omaha, Cynthia Nelson and Jerry Green living in Neola, and Jim Green, who was killed in a tractor accident in 1976.

Genevieve Green Porter married Paul Porter of Neola in 1944. They were the first couple married by Father Shaw, after his arrival in Neola. Before her marriage, Genevieve was Assistant Cashier at the Farmers and Merchants Bank in Neola and served as Neola City Treasurer. She also served as Secretary of the School Board. They had two children: Donna Mae Knop of Council Bluffs and Ronnie, who died in 1979.

HENRY HOLZFASTER

Henry Holzfast was born on May 6, 1854. He came to America from Germany in 1856. He married Josephine Brich in Council Bluffs, Iowa on April 10, 1883. Henry and Josephine were among those who established St. Patrick's Parish in Neola. They farmed south of Neola off of what is now L-55 all their married lives. They were blessed with eleven children: William (dec), Amelia (Sister Barbara) (dec), Edward (dec), Martha Langin (dec), Francis, Albert (dec), Joseph (dec), Paul, Roseanna Sweeney (dec), Walter and Max (dec).

Of those children, only Sister Barbara, Rose, Al and Max stayed in Iowa. Al and Max married sisters from Neola. In 1929, Al married Leta Ring and they had one child, Madeline (Clausen). In 1934, Max married Ann Ring and they remained in the Neola area. Max and Ann had three children: Joyce (Barrier), Jean (Casson) and John.

Jean and Terry Casson are members of St. Patrick's Parish. They have four children: Dianne, Doramae, Robert and Joseph.

IN MEMORY OF JEROME HAYES FROM HIS LOVING WIFE, DOROTHY

Jerome was born at Lindsay, Nebraska, July 22, 1895. He was the son of Daniel Sage Hayes and Margaret Dailey. He had three brothers and one sister. Jerome attended Holy Family School at Lindsay, Nebraska. He attended law school at the University of Nebraska in Omaha, Nebraska.

Jerome Hayes and Dorothy Knoll were married at St. Francis Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on October 18, 1930. Dorothy attended Wisner, Nebraska Public School. She graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Omaha, Nebraska.

Jerome and Dorothy started farming at Belgarde, Nebraska, and for several years they farmed in that area. Then they purchased a farm in Minden, Iowa, and farmed there until they retired and moved to Neola. Dorothy and Jerome joined St. Patrick's Church in Neola and have been parishioners since their move to the Minden area. Jerome passed away August 30, 1980.



Jerome & Dorothy Hayes

JOSEPH AND MARGARET HINES FAMILY

Joseph and Margaret Plagman Hines were married at St. Mary's Church, Avoca, Iowa, in 1896. He was employed by the Rock Island Railroad. Margaret's parents farmed north of Avoca, and then worked for Jack Austin, a cattle feeder. Joseph and Margaret started farming four miles southwest of Avoca, renting from Mrs. Woods and Mr. Walker. They moved to the Lafferty farm east of Beebeetown, Iowa in 1920. They also lived on farms near Persia, Minden, Yorkshire and bought their first farm in 1935. They attended St. Patrick's Church.

They were the parents of five children:

Mary Ellen, was graduated from Avoca High School, received her teacher's certificate at Summer School. She married Fred Brown, of Logan, Iowa, in 1932, at St. Patrick's Church. Fred, the son of William Brown, died in 1945 and is buried in Neola. Mary married Dr. Joseph Gillespie in 1952. Joseph died in 1977 and is buried in Norfolk, Nebraska with his first wife.

Herman quit school and joined the Army in W.W. I. He married Meta Kobs of Walnut, Iowa in 1934 at St. Patrick's. She was the daughter of John Kobs of Walnut. Herman and Meta farmed near Neola. They had four children; Lawrence, Margaret, Neal and Robert.

Arthur was forced to quit Beebeetown School due to poor health. He suffered a liver ailment most of his life. He died in 1952. He never married.

Margaret was graduated from Minden High School. She married Harry Farenkrough of Persia, Iowa in 1925. They had only been married three months when he died in a car-train accident in Neola. The crossing signals were not working. They were married in St. Patrick's Church and are buried in the Neola Cemetery.

Paul, who was graduated from St. Joseph's School in 1934, married Ethel Good in 1951. She was the daughter of George and Mary Good, deceased, and the step-daughter of Theresa Good of Red Oak, Iowa. They adopted five children: Paul R., Pauline, Mark, Michel and Daniel. They are farming near Yorkshire.

Joseph Hines parents were Bernard and Ellen Sullivan Hines of Ireland. Bernard died, leaving four small children. His burial place is unknown. Ellen is buried in Vandalia, Illinois. Margaret Hines was the daughter of Henry Plagman who lived west of Frankfort, Germany and Mary Stuhler Plagman of Germany. They are buried in Seattle, Washington. Mary Stuhler Plagman's parents were Johann Stuhler and Anna Garstensen Stuhler from Schleswig, Germany. They are buried in Minden, Iowa.



Joseph & Margaret Hines 1942

PAUL HINES FAMILY

Paul Hines was born in Avoca, Iowa. Graduated from St. Joseph's School. He served in the U.S. Army in W.W. II with T/5 BTRY. A, 353 AAA, SL. BN. He served in Africa, Corsica, France, Germany, Austria, and U.S.A. He was awarded five battle stars, (Tunisian-African) (Rome-Arno) (Southern France) (Rhineland) and (Central Europe). He received the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Ribbon, one service stripe and five overseas service stars. Paul married Ethel Good, in St. Patrick's Church 1951. They farmed near Yorkshire, Iowa. Ethel Good was born in Neola. Her parents moved to Red Oak, Iowa to farm. Her mother, Mary, (Bruce) died in 1918. Her sisters, Frances, Agnes and Mary Jo (married Phil Dermody of Neola). Her brother, Joseph, married Marjorie Pitzer, they are farming in the Griswold, Iowa area. Her step-mother was Theresa (Weldon) of Neola, Iowa. "Grandma Theresa" and son, Tom, farm north of Red Oak, Iowa. Theresa's daughter, Dorothy, married Don Stuvick, Red Oak, Iowa, who is manager of a Penney's Store, Norton, Kansas. Ethel was graduated from St. Joseph's School, cared for her grandparents and kept house for her Uncle Ray Good. Ethel was a member of C.D.A and the Rosary and Altar Society of St. Patrick's, Neola. Paul and Ethel adopted five children: Paul R. (George), born in Darmstadt, Germany. (Rizard Komoda) He married Sandy Goodwin of Hastings, and they have one son, Jeremy. He is employed at Eaton Transmission, Shenandoah.

Pauline was born in Amberg, Germany. (Sophia Komoda) She married Carl Arthur Rieber at St. Patrick's and they have three daughters: Theresa, Deanna and Helena. Carl is employed at Woodbine Locker.

Mark Allen, born Mark Brown, California, married Judy Kendrick of Red Oak at St. Mary's Church of Red Oak. They have one son, Matthew Allen. Mark is with the Army Quartermasters as a computer operator, stationed in Anchorage, Alaska.

Michel was born in Des Moines (Michel Brown). He married his wife, Marla, at St. Patrick's Church. They have one son, Michel. He is employed in Atlanta, Georgia.

Daniel, born Daniel Gooseman, in Council Bluffs, is still single. He is an Army cook and has been stationed in the U.S., Korea, and now is in Germany.

Ethel's grandparents were John M. Good and Rose Clusky Good, who migrated to Neola from Ireland, and are buried in Neola. Her great-grandparents were John M. and Annie Good of Ireland. Her maternal grandparents are Paul Bruce of Rhineland, Germany, and his wife, Susan Schmid of Herznach, Switzerland.

The Good's moved to Neola to be near the Catholic church and school.



Paul & Ethel Hines & Family

THE HERMAN AND SADIE HANSEN FAMILY

Our dad, Herman Hansen, was born and raised in Neola. He started working for the Rock Island Railroad when he was 16 years old. He worked in different towns in Iowa, but finally returned to Neola. He worked for the railroad for 45 years. He was a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus serving as Grand Knight and Financial Secretary. He was a member of the K of C's State Choir and sang in the choir at St. Patrick's Church. He also served as President of the St. Joseph's PTA.

Our mother, Sadie, belonged to the Rosary Society and St. Joseph's PTA. Many of you probably remember that she made that good hot chocolate served at the First Friday breakfast at St. Joe's. She was also a member of the Monday Dozen Club that always met on Tuesday.

There were six children in the Hansen family. Five of us attended and graduated from St. Joseph's. Alberta died when she was 17.

Margaret graduated in 1932 and is a member of this year's 50th class. She taught school and after 44 years of teaching retired in 1980. She is living in Waukon, Iowa, where she taught for 24 years.

Joe is married and with his wife, Agnes, lives in Springfield, Illinois. He is a nurse anaesthetist in Lincoln, Illinois. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Rose Mary married Bob Doyle who is also a member of this year's 50th class. They live in St. Louis, Missouri. They have two daughters and nine grandchildren.

Agnes married Bob Morrissey. She lives in Omaha, Nebraska. They have eight children and eight grandchildren.



Herman & Sadie Hansen



Herman Hansen at work in Rock Island Depot



Marie C. Johnson

MARIE C. JOHNSON

Marie C. "Doll" Johnson is the daughter of Lysander B. Johnson (July 4, 1858) and Mary Ann Lynch (March 17, 1858). Her parents were married in Council Bluffs on January 17, 1882. The witnesses were Daniel Lynch and Catherine White. Her twin sister is Veronica M. Kelley. Her brothers were Clarence B. Johnson (November 17, 1882) and William R. Johnson (November 2, 1887). Marie and Veronica were born April 1, 1891. Doll's father ran an undertaking and furniture store in Neola and was the first manager of the Neola Telephone Company. Doll became the chief operator and later the manager of the Neola Telephone Company. She lived her whole life in the same house in Neola and has been a lifelong member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

PATRICK HANNAN FAMILY

Patrick Hannan and Mary Kennedy each emigrated with their families from County Sligo, Ireland. They reunited and married in 1866 in Ohio, and later moved to Neola. Mary died of pneumonia in 1894; Patrick died in 1913.

Mary (1867-1935), the eldest daughter, was called Millie from childhood. She learned the dressmaking trade, but returned home at age 25 to care for the family when her mother died. After the children were grown, Millie married Chris Tracy.

Hannah (1868-1940) married Charles L. Campbell and raised nine children.

Thomas (1870-1911) married Nelle Costello and had five children. He died in an explosion.

Anna (1872-1952), the wife of Miles Scofield, had eight children.

John (1874-1918), married Julia Finerty and had six children. He was Pottawattamie County Auditor, organized the Knights of Columbus in Neola, was the First Grand Knight and joined Neola's first volunteer fire department. He died in a car accident.

Margaret (1876-1957) married Frank Coyle and raised six children.

Patrick (1878-1957), a member of the Creston, Iowa, fire department, served as its chief for many years. He married Gertrude Howe and had three children.

Catherine (1880-1921) married Michael Ratigan and had six children. After he died, she married John Buckley and had two more children who both died in infancy. Catherine also died giving birth to her last child and mother and daughter are buried in the same casket.

Winifred (1882-1921) married Bert Wise and had eight children.

James (1884-1971) Father Jim died one week before celebrating his 50th anniversary as a Jesuit priest. He taught for many years and was a retreat master and spiritual director, then "retired" to a career of building shrines dedicated to Our Lady. One is located in the Neola cemetery.

Sara (1886-1969) became a nun in the Humility of Mary Order (Sister Mary Agnes). She was a teacher and a RN.

Leo (1888-1968) married Elizabeth Janisek when he returned from W.W. I. He was district Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus, Commandant of the VFW and national representative of the Disable Veterans. His beautiful bass voice graced the cathedral for many years. He and Elizabeth had 10 children.

Agnes (1890-1980) was a RN. She married John L. O'Neill and had four children.

Theresa (1891-1982) also joined the Humility of Mary order (Sister Mary Aloysius) and taught for many years. Her death in February 1982, marks the end of the original Hannan family, which is survived by numerous second, third and fourth generations.



Patrick Hannan Family

JAMES HOBBS FAMILY

The first Hobbs members of St. Patrick's Parish were Michael and Julia Ryan Hobbs. Both were born in County Mayo, Ireland and settled in the Neola area after moving from Lincoln, Illinois.

Michael farmed and was proprietor of the Red Onion Tavern in Neola. The three children born to Michael and Julia were James, Michael and Molly (Dermody).

James married Catherine Burns in 1907 and farmed in the Neola community all of his life until his death in 1952. Catherine died in 1917 leaving six young children: James, Leo, Mary, Joseph, Loretta and Catherine. With such young children, aged from 12 years to two weeks, relatives of Mr. Hobbs helped raise the three youngest. Jim and Mary Burns reared Joe. Mark and Molly Dermody cared for Letty and Bert and Mary Cavanaugh raised Catherine for several of their young years.

Jimmie married Mildred (Dickie) Dix and resided in Council Bluffs until his death in 1968. Leo, who lives in Des Moines, is married to the former Margaret Gagen. Also living in Des Moines are Mary and George Winn. Catherine Phillips, the youngest, has lived in California for many years.

Two of the Hobbs family remain in St. Patrick's Parish. Loretta (Letty) married Dick Schnitker and has three children: Dean Danny and Sharon. They have farmed in the Neola community since their marriage in 1943.

Joe and Frances Donovan Hobbs have lived in the community for forty years. They have five children: Molly (Alfers), Tim, Patricia (Freeman), Cathy (Norton) and Peggy.

The three Hobbs sons served in the Armed Services during World War II.



James & Catherine Hobbs



Joe & Frances Hobbs & Family



Joe Hobbs

JOHN AND ROSALIE KENEALY

John Kenealy, born September 20, 1896 on a farm near Neola. He was the son of Jerry and Catherine Doyle Kenealy both descendants of Irish emigrants. He attended St. Joseph's School and farmed after being graduated in 1915.

Rosalie McGuire Kenealy was born in Hamlin, Iowa, daughter of William and Ellen McGuire. After graduation from St. Joseph's School in 1916, Rosalie worked at the State Bank of Neola.

They were married January 26, 1921 and farmed southeast of Neola till retiring in 1979. Rosalie worked after she was married for several years at the State Savings Bank in Underwood. She took over her father's insurance business after his death in 1943. While also working at the Neola Post Office, they celebrated their 61st year of marriage in 1982.

They have one son, Jack, born May 19, 1922, now living in Burbank, California. Jack graduated from St. Joseph's in 1939.



Jack Kenealy



John & Rosalie Kenealy



Bernard, Francis, Jerome, Joe, & John Kenealy

THOMAS J. KENEALY FAMILY

Thomas J. Kenealy was born June 27, 1930 in Neola, Iowa to Jerome and Florence Kenealy. His parents and brothers Ray, Phil and Leo, and sister, Mary Catherine, farmed in the Neola area for many years. Tom was graduated from Beebeetown High School in 1947. On September 7, 1953, he married Mary Joanne Schierbrock at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa. Joanne, whose parents were Leo J. and Regina Schierbrock, was born on July 28, 1933 at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She was graduated from St. Joseph School in 1951. Tom and Joanne farmed for several years near Neola. They now live in Neola. Tom is employed by Continental Can Co. in Omaha, Nebraska. Joanne is employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Council Bluffs. They have four children. Lori was born March 6, 1957, attended St. Joseph Grade School and was graduated from Tri-Center in Neola in 1975 and from Iowa State University in 1979. She is now living in San Francisco, California. Joseph was born December 17, 1958, attended St. Joseph Grade School and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1977. He was married to Kristi Kennedy of Underwood, Iowa in October 1981. They live in Neola and he is a mechanic. James was born January 5, 1961, attended St. Joseph and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1979. He is attending the University of Iowa at Iowa City. Lisa was born June 30, 1971. She is a student at Tri-Center.

JEROME D. KENEALY

Jerome D. Kenealy was born on November 19, 1889 to Jeremiah and Katherine Doyle Kenealy. He was the oldest of four brothers, who were Bernard, Francis, John and Joe. He was raised on a farm near Neola and attended St. Joseph School in Neola. He married Florence Schierbrock, daughter of Henry and Mary Ellen Lewis Schierbrock on September 8, 1920. She was born April 26, 1896 and had three brothers and two sisters, Bill, Ray, Frank, Ella and Grace. She attended St. Joseph School and Ottumwa Heights College. Jerome and Florence were the parents of five children: Ray who married Rosaline Mohatt, had four children and they are living in Pierson, Iowa; Phil married Patricia Miller, had seven children and they are living in Ellston, Iowa; Mary Catherine married William O'Rourke, had four children and they are living in Logan, Iowa; Tom married Joanne Schierbrock, had three children and they are living in Neola, Iowa; Leo married Joann Berens, had six children and they are living in Minden, Iowa.

"Rome" and Florence lived their married life on farms in the Neola and Beebeetown areas. Florence passed away on October 4, 1941 and Jerome passed away July 1, 1975.



Tom Kenealy Family

LEO AND JOANN KENEALY

Leo Bernard Kenealy was born October 8, 1932 in Neola to Jerome and Florence Schierbrock Kenealy. He was raised on a farm in the Neola-Beebeetown area. His mother passed away in 1940 and his father in 1975. His brothers and sister are Ray, Phil, Tom and Mary (O'Rourke). On October 16, 1954 he married Joann Berens, daughter of Joseph and Mary Bentlage Berens. Joann was born December 15, 1932 on a farm west of Neola. Her father passed away in 1974 and her mother is still living in Neola. Her sister and brothers are Dolores Fischer, George, Bob and Jim. Both Leo and Joann graduated in 1950 from St. Joseph School. Joann worked at World Insurance Co. in Omaha before her marriage. Leo farmed with his father. They are the parents of six children, who all attended Tri-Center Elementary and High School. Kris, born in 1955, married Jack Stamp and are living on a farm near Persia and are the parents of two children Lynn, 6 and Sheri, 4. Kathy, born in 1957 is a 1976 graduate of Patricia Stevens College in Omaha, is working for Inter-North in Omaha. Dennis, born in 1959 is in the United States Navy stationed in Maryland and is married to Jeanette Rodenburg of Neola. Pat and Mike, twin sons were born in 1960-Pat is a 1982 graduate of Dana College, Blair, Nebraska, with a degree in Business and Mike is a 1982 graduate of Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa, with a degree in Business. Susan, born in 1962, is in her second year of Nursing at Creighton University in Omaha. Leo and Joann farmed two years west of Neola following their marriage, then moved to a farm north of Minden, Iowa, in 1957 and lived there until 1970 when they quit farming and purchased The Minden Bowl and Cafe and moved to their home in the town of Minden. They sold their business in 1976 to Jim and Janet Cattoni, a niece of Leo's. Leo has been District Supervisor for O's Gold Seed Co. since 1971.



Leo Kenealy Family

ERVIN KONZ FAMILY

Ervin Konz was born in Lindsay, Nebraska on July 23, 1928 to Michael and Elizabeth Keimig Konz. On May 1, 1954, he was united in marriage to Ruth Ausdemore, born June 6, 1933, to Tony and Helen Remmes Ausdemore.

Ervin and Ruth farmed his father's home place south of Neola until 1966, and then moved to their farm east of Neola. They are the parents of four children.

Marcia was born May 23, 1955. On May 29, 1976, she married Charles Dusing. They have one child, Carol. Marcia is a registered nurse and Charles is an X-ray technician. They have made their home in Council Bluffs.

Elaine was born May 14, 1957. On March 1, 1980, she married Gilbert Campbell and they have a son, Glen, and a daughter Gina. Elaine is a special education teacher and Gilbert works for Linsay Bros. Distributing Firm in Omaha. They have made their home in Council Bluffs.

Don was born February 28, 1961. He attended Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs and is now engaged in farming.

Ken was born July 2, 1963, and is now attending the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

Ervin served in the Marine Corps for two years during the Korean Conflict. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Neola American Legion. Ruth was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society, Catholic Daughters of America and the Auxilliary of the Neola American Legion. She was a past president of St. Joseph's School Board; and in 1981, she was inducted into the Neola Hoo Doo Hall of Fame. Ruth passed away February 16, 1981.



Leo & Joann Kenealy



Ervin Konz Family

MICHAEL J. KONZ FAMILY

Michael Knoz was born January 23, 1885 at Glenwood, Iowa. He was the sixth child of a family of nine born to John and Helena Leick Konz. On January 24, 1911, he married Elizabeth Keimig of Atchison, Kansas. Elizabeth was born May 30, 1887. She was the ninth child of a family of eleven born to William and Fredericka Weckerle Keimig.

Michael and Elizabeth resided at Panama, Iowa; Lindsay, Nebraska; and Glenwood, Iowa before moving to Neola in 1946. Michael passed away on March 19, 1965, and Elizabeth on September 10, 1956. They are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Council Bluffs. They were the parents of 10 children.

Rose was born March 11, 1912, and was married to Dale Will. They had one daughter, Madonna Will Nisson, before Rose passed away in 1940. Violenta was the second child born to Michael and Elizabeth, on November 27, 1913. She married Richard Krause, and had three sons. Both Violenta and Richard passed away in 1979. Michael Konz, Jr. was born October 20, 1915, and is married to Lucille Grudle. They have three children. Marie was born November 8, 1917, and is married to Everett Grudle, a first cousin to Lucille Grudle mentioned earlier. Marie and Everett have one daughter, Sharon Grudle Archer. Joseph was born January 28, 1920, and is married to Betty Ring. They have two children. Raymond was born February 11, 1922, and passed away on April 10, 1977. Irene was born on May 24, 1924, and is married to Paul Lustgraaf. They have nine children. John was born August 7, 1926. He married Irene Ausdemore and have eleven children. Ervin was born July 23, 1928, and was married to Ruth Ausdemore, a sister to Irene Ausdemore. Ervin and Ruth have four children. Madonna was born January 24, 1932, and died in September of 1935.

Michael Konz's great-grandparents, the Mathias Konz family, and grandfather, John J. Konz, were early settlers in what was then called the territory of Wisconsin. They came in 1847 from Mullenbach, Germany. The family has been traced back to the year 1720. Michael's father, John Konz, was born in 1853, and came to Glenwood, Iowa in 1875.

The Peter Leick family came from Pickliesem, Germany, in 1854. Peter had six children by his first wife, Christine Liver, and eleven children by his second wife, Catherine Zender. In Germany, the Leick name was Leuck.

The John Keimig family came in 1869 from Gros Ost Heim, Bavaria. Joseph Weckerle came from France in 1851. Both families lived in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

RAYMOND KONZ

Ray Konz was born at Lindsay, Nebraska, on February 11, 1922. He was the sixth child of Michael and Elizabeth Keimig Konz. At the age of 25, Ray ended his farming career due to his diabetes. He became a barber and practiced first in Bellevue, Nebraska. Then he moved to Atlantic, Iowa before settling in Neola in 1959. His health forced him to quit barbering in 1976, and he passed away April 10, 1977. He was a member of the Neola Knights of Columbus and past Grand Knight. He also served on the Neola City Council and Hoo Doo Committee.



Mike & Elizabeth Konz



Raymond Konz

JOHN KONZ FAMILY

John Konz was born August 7, 1926 at Lindsay, Nebraska to Michael and Elizabeth Keimig Konz. On May 7, 1947, he was united in marriage to Irene Ausdemore, born July 17, 1927 to Tony and Helen Remmus Ausdemore. They have lived at their present farm east of Neola since their marriage and are the parents of eleven children.

Gerald was born March 3, 1948 and is married to Sandra Merket. They farm near Minden, Iowa. Their first child, Barry, was born July 18, 1970, and died July 19, 1970. They have four other children, Matthew, Sheila, Michele and Scott.

Robert was born May 25, 1949, and served in the United States Army during the Vietnam conflict, during 1969-1970. He is married to Leona Salvo Green and farms near Shelby, Iowa. They are the parents of three children, Joseph, Jarrod, and Jill.

William was born January 1, 1951, and is married to Kristie Clausen Johnson. They reside on their farm near



John Konz Family

JOSEPH AND NELLIE (HILLERS) LUSTGRAAF

Joseph Edward Lustgraaf was born April 21, 1908 the fifteenth child of John and Louise Lustgraaf, immigrants from Germany in the late 1800's that married and settled in the Neola area.

Nellie May Hillers (Lustgraaf) was born May 11, 1912 the third child of Thomas and May Hillers, long time residents of the Neola-Persia area.

Joseph and Nellie were married in St. Patrick's Church on September 27, 1928. The Reverend William Kleffman officiated. Later Nellie took religious instruction from Fr. Kleffman and was baptized in the Catholic Church in August of 1929.

From this union fifteen children were born.

Lavern (2/11/29-2/25/29), Marlowe (2/25/30), Marcel-line (1/5/32-5/23/38), Carmelita (1/31/34), Alberta (4/15/38), Elizabeth 4/15/38) Marjorie (2/14/40), Robert (1/18/42), Cletus (5/23/43-5/28/44), Gary (5/28/45), Janet (10/24/46), Marion (9/22/48), Richard (3/27/50), Mary Jane (4/29/53), and Darrell (10/27/54).

Joseph and Nellie have 39 grandchildren, 11 step-grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 14 step-great-grandchildren.

Joseph Edward farmed with the family farm until the age of 24, then went to work for the Milwaukee Railroad for nine years. Later worked for Rief's Hardware Store in Neola, where he delivered propane gas. The company changed hands and he eventually retired from the now Suburban Propane Gas Company of Council Bluffs. Joseph retired in April 1973 after 17 years with the company. The Lustgraafs with their son, Robert, opened a car wash in 1967 and continued to operate it until selling it in 1975.

Avoca and are the parents of three children, Todd, Stacy and Brian.

Marilyn was born March 16, 1952, and is married to Dennis Jipsen. They are engaged in farming near Griswold, Iowa, and are the parents of three children, Dawn, Kevin and Kimberly.

Rose Mary was born July 15, 1953, and is married to Mitch Rieber. They reside in Minden, Iowa and are the parents of one daughter, Jody.

Shirley was born April 18, 1955, and is married to Tim Cannon. They have made their home in Omaha, Nebraska, and are the parents of two daughters, Jessica and Michayla.

Kay was born April 25, 1957, and is a graduate of Dana College in Blair, Nebraska. She majored in Elementary Education and Psychology, and was a special education teacher in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She is currently a graduated student in school psychology and a teaching assistant at the University of Iowa.

Colleen was born February 28, 1959, and is married to Greg Meng. Colleen attended Northwest Missouri State University, and she and her husband currently reside in Kansas City, Missouri.

Vicki was born June 8, 1961, and is attending the College of Saint Mary School of Nursing in Omaha, Nebraska. She will receive her R.N. degree in May of 1982.

Julie was born June 21, 1962, and is attending Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, in early childhood education. She is employed by the Council Bluffs YMCA as the instructor of the Pre-school Program.

Daniel was born December 11, 1964, and is a junior at St. Albert High School in Council Bluffs. He will graduate in May of 1983, and currently is working with his father on the family farm.



Joe Lustgraaf Family

DANIEL AND MARY ANN LAFFERTY FAMILY

John Lafferty was born in Ireland about 1828 as was Ann Kelly whom he married about 1848 after coming to Philadelphia. They moved to Council Bluffs about 1858 and later to a farm north of Neola. They were among the first parishioners of St. Patrick's Church. They raised eleven children. Their eighth child, Daniel, was born in 1862 and died in 1943. He married Mary Ann Sweeney in 1895. She was born in 1870 and died in 1938. They had six children. The oldest, Mary, was born in 1898 and died in 1918. Ursula was born in 1902 and married Francis Meehan of Vail, Iowa. They farmed at Vail and later moved to Carroll, Iowa. Francis passed away in 1982. Regina was born in 1903 and passed away in 1949. She married Leo Schierbrock in 1929. They lived in Neola and belonged to St. Patrick's Parish. They had seven children: Gerald, Mary Joanne, Leo Joe, Sister Marilyn, Jane Lustgraaf, Eileen Matthews and Kathleen Schierbrock.

Eunice was born in 1905, married Clifford G. Ryberg in 1930. Now living in Omaha, they had five children: Mary Pat Miller, Rev. James Ryberg, John, who died in infancy, Joseph and Daniel.

James D. was born in 1907, married Ruth Woods in Omaha in 1937. They have two children, James and Judith.

Gertrude Ann was born in 1910 and died the same year.



Jim Lafferty Family



Daniel Lafferty Family



Cliff Ryberg Family



**Katherine Mehan, Francis, Ursula,
Mom & Dad Lafferty**



Eunice, Jim, & Regina Lafferty

WALTER A. LANGER FAMILY

Walter, son of Peter Langer of Minden, Iowa, born 2-21-1893, married Margaret Lustgraaf 5-24-1892, daughter of John and Louisa Lustgraaf of Neola.

They were married at St. Patrick's Church March 6, 1916, and lived in Minden and Neola. Born to them were six children. Helen 3-9-1921, Eugene 5-2-1923, John Eldon 6-24-1926, Arthur 9-19-1928, Beatrice 9-9-1930, and Urban 11-6-1934. All six children received the sacraments of Baptism, Penance, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation at St. Patrick's. All attended and were graduated from St. Joseph's High School.

Helen was married to Lawrence Smith of Omaha at St. Patrick's. They now live in Omaha.

Eugene married Vivian Olson of Wichita, Kansas, they are living in Omaha.

John E. married Mary Margaret Lienen of Portsmouth, Iowa and they now live in Omaha.

Arthur married Mary Ann Fischer (daughter of J.B. Fischer of Neola) at St. Patrick's. They now live in Omaha.

Beatrice married James Burns of Emmettsburg, Iowa, at St. Patrick's. They now live in Des Moines, Iowa.

Urban presently lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

There are now 31 grandchildren.

Walter died 5-3-1965. Margaret, after being raised, married and raising their children in St. Patrick's, passed away 9-23-1977. Both were buried from St. Patrick's and are laid to rest in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Mrs. Langer opened her home to her children's friends and many happy times were spent together.

We the children wish to congratulate St. Patrick's on their Centennial and say thanks once again for our education and training in St. Patrick's Parish and community.

CHARLES LUMPKIN FAMILY

Charles Lumpkin, the second child of three, born to William and Glenn Dora Lumpkin, was born July 3, 1949, in Oakland, Iowa.

He received his education in the Oakland Community Schools, graduating in 1967. He attended the University of Omaha. During his college days, he worked for American Beef at Oakland, and then for Beefland in Council Bluffs until their closing.

A year went by before he found work, and then he was fortunate to be offered a position at A.B.P. in Oakland that he had at Beefland. He is currently a beef selector for Land O'Lakes-Spencer Beef Division, Oakland, Iowa.

Charles and Marian Handlos were married in 1972. Marian, born Dec. 1, 1946, was the youngest of three children. Her parents were Henry and Genevieve Handlos, who farmed in the Oakland area.

Marian attended the country school until she was in the sixth grade, when it was closed and she then attended the Manning Community School. She graduated in 1964. Later, she moved to Omaha, where she worked as a secretary and assistant cashier.

Their daughter, Jennifer Lynn, was born in Omaha in 1973, and they then moved to a farm near Oakland, Iowa. In 1975, their son, Justin, was born in Omaha. At this time, they moved to a farm near Minden and became members of St. Patrick's Church.

After moving several times, they built their own home in 1976 on Charles' Grandfather Stude's farm, seven and one-half miles northwest of Oakland, near Hancock. They have one acre of land and their new home which they are very proud of at this time. They also have a horse and pasture, as Charles is a calf and team roper.

Their children are both attending the Oakland Community Schools, just as their father did.



Walter Langer Wedding



Mrs. Margaret Langer with Helen, Eugene, John, Arthur, Beatrice, & Urban

BILL LUCKE

Bill Lucke was one of four children. He was born on a farm at Minden, Iowa, September 13, 1939. His parents are Bill and Scena Lucke of Shelby, Iowa. Bill graduated from Avoca High School in 1957. He started farming in 1959 on the same farm he now lives on.

Bill married Babetta Stamp at St. Patrick's Church in Neola on July 26, 1958.

Babetta was the oldest of three children born to Ted and Helen Stamp of Persia, Iowa. Babetta was born on December 14, 1938, and was graduated from Minden High School in 1957. She then attended Merch School of Radiologic Technology and was graduated in 1959. Babetta has been working at Mercy Hospital since 1965 and is the Chief Technologist. Babetta also served on the parish council for three years.

Bill and Babetta have four children. The oldest is Kevin, born May 1, 1959. Kevin was graduated from Tri-Center in 1977. He attended Iowa State University and graduated in December of 1981, with a degree in Chemical Engineering. Kevin married Sharon Moodraska from Harlan on July 24, 1982 at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. Kevin is employed as a design engineer for Standard Oil in Los Angeles, California.

The next child was Gay Lynne. She was born April 6, 1961 and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1979. Gay attended Iowa State University for two years. Gay is now in the school of pharmacy at Creighton University and working part time in the pharmacy at Mercy Hospital.

The third child was Craig. He was born January 31, 1967 and is a freshman at Tri-Center School.

The youngest child is Ann Marie. She was born on December 6, 1970 and is in the fifth grade at Tri-Center School.



Bill Lucke Family



Bill & Babetta Lucke



Kevin & Sharon Lucke

THE LANGIN FAMILY - NEOLA, IOWA

Patrick Langin (1818-1886) was born in County Mayo, Ireland in the year 1818.

He was one of six brothers who immigrated to the United States and it is believed originally settled in New York State.

His wife's name was Mary. The Langin family moved to Pennsylvania in the 1850's in the Minersville and Schuylkill Co. Penn. Area. They were engaged in coal mining at this time.

Patrick and Mary Langin had nine children with four sons: John, James, Henry, and Christopher and five daughters, Mary, Julia, Catherine, Agnes, and Alice.

The family moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa and lived there for some time. In 1881, Patrick Langin purchased land south of Neola from the railroad. He moved to Neola with his family in 1881 and engaged in farming.

A daughter, Agnes, was one of the first weddings recorded in St. Patrick's Catholic Church. She married Andrew Finney on Nov. 22, 1882. This being the third marriage recorded on page one of the church records. Another daughter, Julia, married Dennis J. Farrell on Jan. 1, 1883, and is also recorded on page one of the church records.

John Langin (1851-1927) lived in various parts of Iowa and South Dakota. He finally settled in Marshall, Minn., where he and his wife, Mary raised 10 children.

Christopher Langin (1858-1921) moved to Western Nebraska, he remained single throughout his life. He was buried in Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Catherine Langin became Mrs. John O'Brien (1862-) and Alice married Benjamin F. Steart.

Henry Langin (1856-1873) was born in Penn. and died at Cedar Rapids, Ia. at age 17. He is buried in the family plot at Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Mary Langin (1850-1930) remained single and moved back to Cedar Rapids, with her father. Both are buried there.

James Lawrence Langin (June 17, 1853-Sept. 5, 1937) remained in the Neola area. He married Bridget Elizabeth Christopher at Peru, Ill. on Dec. 29th, 1884. They remained on the Langin farm south of Neola and raised four children: Harry, Edward, Mollie and James.

Mollie, (1885-1954) married John McSweeney and moved to Sutherland, Nebr. and they raised ten children.

Edward (Dec. 21, 1889-Oct. 23, 1953) married Martha Holzfafter and moved to the Sutherland, Nebr. area. They raised a family of four children.

James (1895-1921) attended Creighton University for a time before serving with the Nebr. National Guard on the Mexican border in 1916-1917. After returning in 1917, he joined the Dodge Engineers that were being formed at that time. After his outfit arrived in Camp Cody, New Mexico, he transferred to the air service. He became a pilot and eventually transferred to Washington D.C. where he also attended Georgetown University Law School. He became interested in the Washington-Dayton air way and was given charge of the establishment of that line. The first field on that line was designed and laid out by Lt. Langin at Moundsville, West Virginia. On April 15, 1921 while on a training flight over Bolling Field, Va., his plane crashed and burned and James was killed. He would have graduated from law school in June. An air field in Moundsville, West Virginia was named Langin Field in his honor.

Henry Langin, Sr. (1887-1936) attended the Neola Public School and entered Creighton University in Omaha, Nebr. from which he received a degree in Pharmacy. After graduation on February 29, 1912, he worked in a drugstore in Colfax, Ia. On January 14, 1914 he married Margaret Ann Liddell at Immaculate Conception Church at Colfax, Ia.

Harry moved back to Neola where he had purchased a drugstore. He and Margaret were the parents of five children: Leila, Alice, James, Frances and Harry. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Neola Volunteer Fire Department. He was very active in local civic affairs and was well known in the Neola area.

Leila attended St. Joseph's School in Neola, Creighton University and University of Iowa. She taught high school in the Neola Public School. She married Rev. J. Riley West and they have six children: George, David, Margaret, Hugh, Jean and Owen. The West's have lived in several of the states as well as Columbia, So. America. They presently live in Scottsville, Va.

Alice attended St. Joseph's School, Creighton University and St. Catherine's School of Nursing. After graduation, she held nursing positions in Omaha and Glenwood, Ia. Alice joined the Army Nurse Corps in 1940 and served with the Army Air Force in England during World War II. Alice married Phillip Bock and has made her home in Detroit, Michigan since then. They have two daughters, Leila and Frances.

James Langin attended both St. Joseph's and Neola Public School from which he graduated. Jim joined the Navy in 1939 and was stationed at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked by the Japanese on Dec. 7, 1941. He served in the Pacific during World War II and was among the naval personnel who were in the funeral procession for President Franklin D. Roosevelt. After the war, Jim married Gladys Corrin. He attended radio and electronics schools in Omaha, Nebr. and Columbia, South Carolina. The Langins have three daughters: Linda, Shelly and Jolene. They presently live in Marion, Ia.

Frances attended both St. Joseph's and Neola Public Schools. She also attended the University of Iowa after high school and joined the Waves in 1943. Frances married Dr. Robert Wunder and lived in Ames, Iowa while both attended Iowa State University. They are the parents of six children: Steve, Brian, Mary, Dennis, Ellen and Mark. The Wunders make their home in Avoca, Ia.

Harry Langin attended St. Joseph's School from which he graduated. He joined the National Guard in 1947 and was a member of the organization for twenty-one years. He retired in 1969 with the rank of Major. He married Barbara McCune in 1955. They are the parents of five children: Kevin, Dan, Patrick, James and Monica. Harry is employed with the Sperry Vickers Corp. in Omaha, Nebr.

Mrs. Margaret Ann (Liddell) Langin (Jan. 18, 1892-June 26, 1980) the wife of Harry Langin, Sr. was employed as a telephone operator and also played the piano in the silent film theatre in Colfax prior to her marriage. After the death of her husband, Margaret raised her family of five children and remained a resident of Neola until her death in 1980. She was active in the Community Club, Patsy Club, and Altar and Rosary Society. Margaret was also active in the local Red Cross group during W.W. II and was a member of the Senior Citizens organization. Mrs. Langin's father, Ames A. Liddell (1852-1938) was born in Iroquois, Ontario, Canada. He came to the United States and became an engineer on the woodburing trains of that era. He recalled bringing his train into Northfield, Minn., shortly after the famous raid of the James-Dalton gang on that city. Mr. Liddell married Julian M. Hanlon (1856-1918) of Wells, Minnesota on Dec. 29, 1881. Julia could remember bands of Indians coming to her family home in Minnesota demanding food. The Liddells made their home in Austin, Minnesota where four of the eight children; Daisy, Leila, Hazel, and Arnold were born. The family moved to St. Joseph, Mis-

souri, where Margaret, Thomas, Stella and Frances were born. While living in Missouri, Mr. Liddell was the engineer on a Great Western train which wrecked near Bethany, Mo. He suffered the loss of a leg in the accident and is said to have saved his own life by tying off the severed limb with the bell rope from the engine. They later moved to Colfax, Iowa where Mr. Liddell operated a coal train from Colfax to Valeria until he was seventy-five years old. Mrs. Margaret Liddell Langin was the eldest living member of the Langin family at the time of her death. Some of the Langin family have lived in the Neola vicinity continuously since Patrick Langin arrived in 1881.

JOE AND LORETTA MASKER

Joe Masker Jr. was the son of Joe Masker Sr. and Augusta Hopp. Joe Sr. came from Germany at the age of sixteen; Augusta at the age of seven from Germany, also.

Loretta (Good) Masker was the daughter of John Good and Rose Cluskey. John grew up in Red Oak and Rose was from Illinois.

Joe Masker and Loretta Good were married Feb. 1926 by Father Drexler at St. Patrick's in Neola.

Joe and Loretta lived on the same farm for better than 52 years. They had six children: Betty, Richard, Mary Jo, Donna Rae, Leo and Bill.

Betty married Jake Ring Jr. and they have six children: Sharon, Bonnie, Kathy, Larry, Terry and Mary Ann. Phillip is deceased.

Richard married Janet Hovey. They have three children: Peggy, Nancy and David.

Mary Jo married Jim Burns and they have five children: Ron, Ed, Jadine, Jo Ellen and Margaret.

Donna married Dick Scott and they have five children: David, Patti, Cathy, Dennie and Dale.

Leo married Shirley Ring and they have eight children: Wanda, Brad, Danny, Jannelle, Joe, Jim, Cindy and Sarah.

Bill married Jeanette Brich and they have five children: Julie, Pat, Kenny, Mike and Jeanine.

Joe and Loretta have thirty-three grandchildren and twenty-five great-grandchildren.

Joe died on October 27, 1978. Loretta moved to Neola shortly after his death.

This picture was taken at our their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1976.



Joe Masker Family

Harry Langin Family-Jim, Dan, Monice, Harry, Barbara, Pat, & Kevin



LEO MASKER FAMILY

Leo Masker, son of Joe and Loretta Masker, married Shirley Ring, daughter of Louis and Charlotte Ring, on August 27, 1955 at St. Patrick's Church by Reverend Joseph Shaw.

They graduated from St. Joseph School together in 1954. Shirley attending that school from 4th grade and Leo coming from country school five miles northeast of Neola, in the 9th grade.

They have eight children: Wanda; Brad, who is married to Rhonda Wohlers; Dan who is married to Lynette Casson; Janelle who is married to Dick Harmon and have a daughter Jessica; Joe Masker; Jim Masker who is married to Jeanne Hansen and daughter Stephanie; Cindy and Sarah who are still at home.



Leo Masker Family

BILL MASKER FAMILY

Bill Masker, born January 11, 1940, has lived in the Neola community his entire life. After graduating from St. Joseph's High School in 1958, he farmed with his father and also on the Good farm, which was owned by his mother's family.

He married Jeanette Brich, daughter of John and Angela Brich on April 27, 1963. They moved to the Good farm in August, 1965.

Bill and Jeanette have five children: Julie born Oct. 20, 1964; Patrick born Dec. 3, 1965; Kenneth born March 29, 1967; Michael born June 12, 1969; and Jeanine born Feb. 17, 1974. The four oldest children are currently attending St. Albert's in Council Bluffs, while Jeanine is in 2nd grade at St. Joseph's.

Bill is actively serving on the Farm Committee and the Area Board of Education.

Bill Masker Family, 1977



THE EDWARD AND LORETTA MASKER FAMILY

Edward "Jake" Masker was born on November 13, 1910, and raised around the Neola-Minden area. Jake worked for Pottawattamie County for 17 years as a road drag operator and died on November 21, 1967 while operating his grader.

Mary "Loretta" (Ring) Masker was born on August 24, 1915 near Carson, Iowa. She was raised on a farm but attended St. Joseph's School and graduated in 1933. Loretta worked at Bentley School as a janitor and at Mercy Hospital for five years. Before her retirement, she worked at various cafes in Neola.

Jake and Loretta were married on February 22, 1938 at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. Out of this union came four children: Jerry (November 3, 1938); Ed, Jr. (February 8, 1940); Bernard (June 16, 1942); Marilyn (July 3, 1950).

Ed married Judy Davis and out of that union came three children: Douglas, Dwayne and Debra. Dwayne married Denise Heitink in September of 1981.

Bernard Leo married Jackie Justin and out of that union also came three children: Buffy, Jodi and Danny.

Loretta had a heart attack on June 27, 1981 while taking care of her mother and died on July 2, 1981. Both are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Neola, Iowa.



Edward Masker



Loretta Masker with
the Masker grandchildren



Edward Masker Family

JOSEPH AND AUGUSTA MASKER

Joseph Masker was born Sept. 10, 1865, to Bernard and Margaret (Cramer) Masker in Germany. Because of the compulsory military service he left Germany and immigrated to the United States at the age of 18. He made his way to the Neola community, where he had friends from the "old country", the Lustgraaf and Meyerring families. Some time later, he left Neola for California when a "fair price war" was being waged between the railroads. He took advantage of the situation to see the country. He worked there, saving his wages all in gold pieces, and returned to Neola with the intention of staying only a few days and then returning to his homeland. While in Neola, he met Augusta Hopp, who later became his wife.

Augusta Hopp was born March 8, 1872 in Germany. She entered this country at the age of 8 with her widowed mother and six brothers and sisters. Her mother, Mrs. Frederick Hopp, married Henry Heitman sometime after coming to this country. The older children eventually left home and went to work for various families around the Neola area. Augusta Hopp lived with the Minahan family. She became acquainted with their customs and eventually accepted their faith into her life, and became a Catholic convert. Before her death on March 9, 1946, she received the Holy Eucharist and died one-half hour later.

On February 12, 1890, Joseph and Augusta Hopp were united in marriage by Father M.T. Schiffmacher at St. Patrick's Church. Out of this union came twelve children, sixty grandchildren and uncountable great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Masker farmed near Neola, later buying a farm in Minden Township, remaining there until retirement, when they moved to the town of Neola where they lived until their death.

Joseph and Augusta had 12 children: Mary C. (Mrs. Patrick John McDonald), Caroline (Mrs. Fred Wellman), Agnes (Mrs. George Spencer), Clara (Mrs. Wilbur Boatwright), John married Vivian Talty, Joseph married Loretta Good, Francis married Alice Leitzke, Paul married Edith Gallagher, Edward married Loretta Ring, Clement married Alice Yokumsen, and Gertrude, who died at age three.

Joseph Masker died on March 13, 1957 at the ripe old age of 91. When asked about his longevity, he would laugh and say that he had a "cast iron belly" or that he "was preserved in alcohol".



Joseph & Augusta Masker

JOHN B. MASKER FAMILY

John Bernard (Jack) Masker, oldest son of Joe and Augusta (Hopp) Masker was born at Neola, Iowa, Jan. 31, 1900. He attended St. Joseph's Grade School, and lived on a farm all his life. He was married to Vivian Loretta Talty, oldest daughter of John H. Talty and Martha (Waters) Talty, on Feb. 19, 1924. Vivian was born at Massena, Ia., April 28, 1900 and moved to Neola with her parents in 1914. She was graduated from St. Joseph's High School with the Class of 1919, and attended Normal School at Ottumwa, Iowa. Vivian was a teacher before her marriage.

Their family consisted of four children: Eyleene Walter of Council Bluffs, Iowa, a R.N. at Mercy Hospital; Bob (with wife, Betty) now lives on the family farm; Beverly Christiansen of Council Bluffs, Iowa (with husband Jerry) are in the grocery business. Bob and Beverly are twins. Lois Dau, (who with her husband Donald) are operators of D.&D. Equipment Co., which has the dealership of John Deere products in Osceola, Iowa. All the children are graduates of St. Joseph's School. Vivian and Jack have 21 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Jack passed away March 1, 1969, and since then, Vivian has resided in Neola.



John B. Masker Family



John & Vivian Masker
35th Wedding Anniversary

ROBERT J. MASKER SR. FAMILY

Robert J. (Bob) Masker and Elizabeth A. Alfery were united in marriage at St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Ia., Rev. Joseph Shaw celebrated the Nuptial Mass.

Bob was graduated from St. Joe High School in 1947. He was engaged in farming after graduation. Betty was graduated from St. Joe High School in 1948. She was employed in office work in Omaha, Ne. until her marriage to Bob. They have farmed all our married life.

They have four children, R. John Jr. born March 30, 1952. John was graduated from St. Albert's in 1970. He was engaged in farming with his parents after graduation. John married Debora King July 2, 1977. They were married by Father Beeson at St. Patrick's Church. They have one daughter, Ellen, born Aug. 6, 1980. They are members of St. Patrick's Parish. John and Debbie farm east of Neola. Cynthia A. born Oct. 4, 1953. She was graduated from St. Albert's in 1971 and was graduated from Jennie Edmundson Hospital School of Nursing in May of 1974. She is a R.N. at Jennie Edmundson Hospital. Cindy married Dale Watson Feb. 24, 1973. Fr. Alfery married them at St. Patrick's in Neola. They have one son, Nathan, born June 7, 1978. They reside in Council Bluffs, Ia. Mary Florence was born July 21, 1956. She also was graduated from St. Albert's in 1974 and attended St. Mary's College in Omaha, Ne. She married Mike McMahan May 21, 1977 at St. Patrick's by Father Beeson. They reside in Bennington, Ne. LuAnne was born April 14, 1958. She was graduated from Tri-Center High School in 1976. She attended Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Ia., and was graduated in 1977 as a Dental Assistant. She married Mike Bissell Sept. 12, 1981. Lu Anne and Mike were also married by Father Beeson at St. Patrick's. Lu Ann and Mike live in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Bob and Betty have two grandchildren, Nathan and Ellen.



**Bob & Betty's children
Lu Anne, Mary Florence,
Cindy and John**



**Bob and Betty Masker, Mary Florence,
Lu Anne, John and Cindy**



**Bob Masker Family
Lu Anne & Mike's Wedding
9-12-81**

**Bob & Betty's Wedding
11-29-50
Dad & Mom Masker
Bob & Betty
Mom and Dad Alfery**



DONALD J. MCDERMOTT

Donald J. McDermott was born on July 9, 1914 in Gridley, California. He moved to Neola while still an infant with his parents who were returning to their hometown territory after a short adventure in California.

After completing nine years of education, part of which was at a country school and later at St. Joseph's School, Don had to quit his years of education to help with the work on his grandparents' farm with whom he and his mother were living.

On February 7, 1939, Donald was married to Alma Marie Dahl, daughter of Andrew P. and Ane Marie Dahl of Shelby. To this union were born six children: four sons, Lyle, Jerald, Daniel and James; and two daughters, Patricia Ann (Mrs. Dean Fischer) and Mary Bonita (Mrs. Peter Turner).

Don and Alma were engaged in farming, from 1939 to 1941. They first started on the Lustgraaf place, northeast of Neola, and from there moved to Shelby and continued farming until 1951.

In 1953 Don started working at Omaha Steel Company, Omaha, Nebraska. In 1957 he and his family returned to Neola to live in order to give their six children a Catholic education. Don continued his employment at Omaha Steel Company until 1973 when the plant closed its doors. From then on until retirement at the age of 62, he held various part-time jobs.

Don and Alma still live in Neola. To date they have been blessed with 26 almost 27 grandchildren and one great-grandchild, five of these being McDermott boys. Hopefully this will insure the continuation of the family name in the future. Descendants of the McDermott family still live in or near Neola.

JERALD L. MCDERMOTT FAMILY

Jerald Lee McDermott was born in Shelby, Iowa, June 11, 1941, the second son of Donald and Alma McDermott. His family moved to Neola, Iowa about 1957. He attended high school at St. Joseph's and continued to work for his uncle in Shelby after school and on weekends until he went to the Army in 1962 following graduation. He served most of his two years in Germany. In 1964 he married Caroline Martin at St. Patrick's Church. Caroline was the second child of Tom and Mary Martin who were long-time residents of Neola. She also attended St. Joseph's School. They had five children: Lisa Marie, born April 19, 1966; Barbara Ann, Oct. 16, 1967; Julie Catherine, Febr. 25, 1969; Jeremy Patrick, Aug. 29, 1970; Jason Thomas, Aug. 27, 1976. All have attended St. Joseph's School.

Jerald worked as a body and fender worker at Boyer Body Shop in Neola until 1979 when he went to work for Tri-Center School as a custodian. Jerald has been a very active member of the Neola community. He has been on the Neola Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Squad since 1967. He has a knack for being able to do almost anything and he is often asked by the older citizens to do some little task when they don't know whom else to ask.

Caroline is an X-ray technician, having received her training at Mercy Hospital. She has worked there part time since her marriage. She is also very active in her parish and community. She has served a short time on the ambulance crew and she and Jerald made several runs together having sent their children to the neighbors while they made the run. Their children seem to be following in their parents' footsteps and the oldest, Lisa, has just renewed her CPR certificate. The others seem to like helping the elderly people they come in contact with whether it be just to chat or carry a bundle for them.



Four generations - Louisa Lustgraaf, Mary (Lustgraaf) McDermott, Donald McDermott, Lyle McDermott - 1943



Donald and Alma McDermott married February 7, 1939 at St. Pat's, Neola



Twenty-four of the twenty-six McDermott grandchildren, 1980



Don McDermott Family - 1980
(back row) Alma, Lyle, Jerry, Jim, Don
(front row) Pat, Dan and Bonnie

THOMAS W. McDERMOTT

Thomas W. McDermott was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, on December 16, 1852 and died at Neola, Iowa, April 23, 1920. He remained in his home in Illinois until nearing his majority, then coming west, locating first at Council Bluffs.

At that time there was great unrest in the farther west by reason of Indian uprisings; and being of an adventurous nature, he joined the Whites as a government scout and for four years rendered excellent service between the scattered and isolated forts then being maintained in western Nebraska and Montana.

That he played a personal and important part in those stirring times is evidenced by the fact that in 1876 when not yet 22 years of age, he was guiding a detachment of government troops in the wake of Custer and arrived at Little Big Horn in Montana the day following the Custer Massacre. The troops, he was then with, were hurrying to Custer's relief.

His experiences, when one could get him to talk of them, were always most interesting. Tom McDermott was an absolutely fearless man, a man of nerves that were tempered in the furnace of real manhood and turned in later years by peaceful civilization.

Upon his return home at the expiration of his term of service, he took up his work of blacksmithing.

On December 31, 1880 he was married to Miss Catherine Cavanaugh. To them were born four children, Alice (Mrs. Daniel Doyle), Winifred (Mrs. Harry Weber), Rebecca (Mrs. Floyd Stoker), and Daniel T. McDermott.

The family lived in Neola for many years. Tom, first conducting his blacksmith shop and later making a study of the mechanics of the gasoline engine and perfecting himself as a "mechanician". Always physically strong he kept at his work up to the time of his death at the age of 65.



Tom McDermott Family

(back row - left to right) Winifred, Daniel, Alice
Thomas (father), Rebecca, Catherine (mother)



Francis McDonald Family 1979

MR. AND MRS. FRANCIS MCDONALD

Francis (Mickey), son of Patrick John McDonald, Sr. and Mary C. (Masker) McDonald, married Rosemary, daughter of John C. Stinn and Irene Hegarty Stinn October 24, 1945 in St. Patrick's Church in Neola.

Both were graduated from Saint Joseph School and are members of St. Patrick's Parish, Neola, Iowa.

They have seven children: Michael Lynn, born December 26, 1947; Patrick Joseph, born May 16, 1949; Dennis James, born November 4, 1952; Theresa Ann, born June 5, 1957, Thomas Francis, August 1, 1960; David Lee, born December 15, 1963; and William Leo, born August 14, 1968.

At this time they have eight grandchildren. Michael married Rosemary Shank and has four children. Pat married Rogene Heuwinkel and they have two children. Dennis married Jill Voss, they have two children. Theresa married Jim Rice May 22, 1982 at St. Patrick's Church, Neola.

Francis (Mickey) and Rosemary operate a farm two and one-half miles west of Neola.

PATRICK JOHN MCDONALD

Patrick John McDonald (1891-1976) son of John Joseph McDonald (1862-1946) and Catherine Buckley (1862-1921) was the third child in the family of eight. He was united in marriage to Mary Catherine Masker (1891-1979) eldest of twelve children of Joseph H. Masker (1866-1957) and Augusta Hopp (1873-1946) on April 9, 1913, by Reverend A. J. Drexler.

P.J. and Mary bore eleven children, the first a daughter, stillborn, next, Marie Patricia (Mrs. Elmer E. Mortensen), Phyllis Josephine (Mrs. Philip Burke), John Emmett (Ruthann Stinn), Paul Cletus (Shirley Maxine McMullen), Francis Joseph (Rosemary Stinn), Rita Catherine (Mrs. Robert R. Roane), Helen Claire (Mrs. Harold Casson), Loretta Cecilia (Mrs. John R. Stinn), Patrick John Jr. (Mary Angela Denning), and Martin Jerome (deceased).

P.J. and Mary celebrated their golden jubilee at 8:30 Mass on April 21, 1963 with Reverend Joseph Ryan officiating. Their attendants, William McDonald and Margaret (Masker) Schwensen shared this happy occasion. An Apostolic Blessing was received from Pope John XXIII.

In April 1973, they received an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Paul VI honoring their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Their 62nd anniversary was celebrated with a Mass in their home by Reverend James Holden. At this same Mass, four little granddaughters, Diane McDonald, Carol Stinn, Ann McDonald and Shelly Casson made their First Holy Communion.

Both P.J. and Mary remained in this home they purchased when they retired from farming until their death. They were both waked at Hillside Mortuary (former Convent of Sisters of Humility) in Neola with burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery at Neola. They were survived by nine children 57 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.



P.J. and Mary, 1913



P.J. & Mary McDonald



P.J. McDonald Family

DANIEL T. MCDERMOTT

Daniel T. McDermott was born March 25, 1883, in Neola, Iowa. He lived here during his entire boyhood and attended school here. After completion of his education he was employed at Albert Smith's Store which was located in what was later known as the Sealock building and where now stands the Neola Fire Department.

On February 22, 1911, he was united in marriage to Mary Helen Lustgraaf, at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. To this union were born three sons. An infant son, who died at birth, and Donald and John or "Jack" as he was known.

In approximately the year 1912, Dan and Mary accompanied Dan's father, Tom, to California. There was a land-buying rush at that time. While there they built their home by themselves out of used lumber, the house was 14 feet by 8 feet. They engaged in farming while in California.

Apparently life in the West wasn't as rosy as they had expected or perhaps a longing for families back home made them return to Neola after just a couple of years in California.

Upon their return home Dan obtained work as a farm hand. It was during the time of the flu epidemic that Dan died at the early age of 35 on October 25, 1918.

After Dan's death, Mary and her two sons went to live with her parents. In 1929, son Jack, was killed instantly in a fall from his pony on which he was riding out to the pasture to bring in the cows for milking. Jack was 12 years old.

After a long illness, Mary died on September 13, 1950 of cancer.



Daniel & Mary McDermott sons, Donald and Jack



Daniel & Mary McDermott married February 22, 1911 St. Pat's, Neola



Tom McDermott looking for land during his two year adventure to California at the time of the land buying rush in 1913



Dan & Mary McDermott's home they built in 1915, during their stay in California

PAUL MCDONALD

Paul McDonald lived in Neola Township and farmed a prosperous area within four miles of Neola. Paul McDonald was born in LaSalle County, Illinois in 1857. His father, James McDonald, was born in Ireland in 1844 and settled in St. Louis, Missouri before moving to LaSalle County. He pioneered and developed a farm there, where he reared his family. He had three sons and a daughter, Paul McDonald being the eldest. The others were: Bridget, who married Dennis Owens; William J. McDonald who farmed in Illinois; John J. McDonald who was a Neola Township agriculturalist.

In 1882, Paul McDonald settled in Pottawattamie County, where he raised 100 head of high-grade Hereford cattle with two pure-blooded registered bulls. In managing his business affairs, he displayed acute common sense and unfaltering resourcefulness.

In 1885, Paul McDonald married Rachel Ballard in Neola. She was a native of Salt Lake City, Utah, a daughter of Mrs. Peter Drury of Boomer Township. Paul and Rachel had three daughters: Elizabeth, who married John J. Sweeney in 1910; Ellen, who married Garrett Schnitker in 1905; and Mary, who married John Schnitker in 1912. Descendants of all three families are parish members.



Paul & Rachael McDonald

MR. AND MRS. JOHN EMMETT MCDONALD

John Emmett, son of P.J. and Mary C. Masker McDonald, and Ruthann, daughter of John C. and Irene Hegarty Stinn, were married January 13, 1948 at Saint Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa.

Their family consisted of six children: Sharon Kay passed away June 17, 1951; John Emmett Jr. passed away January 16, 1976; Kenneth Dean; Duane Francis; Baby McDonald passed away November 24, 1967; and Diane Lynn.

The three children are living at home. The boys were graduated from Tri-Center and Diane is still in school.

They farmed in the Minden area until 1968 when they moved to Persia, Iowa where they bought a farm. They belong to Portsmouth Parish now, but a lot of memories are with St. Patrick's Parish of Neola.



John & Ruthann McDonald

WILLIAM J. MCDONALD

William J. McDonald and Grace E. Good were united in marriage on St. Valentine's Day, February 14, 1917. Will was the son of John J. and Catherine Buckley McDonald. Grace's parents were John and Rose Clusky Good.

Will and Grace's occupation was farming. They had five children, who are all married. Bernard J. to Iris Christensen of Minden, Nebraska; Rose Catherine to Edward T. Leonard of Council Bluffs; Raymond F. to Mary Ann Bobier of Omaha; Patricia Ann to James W. Grudle of Council Bluffs; and Ruth Mary to James P. McDonald of Shenandoah, Iowa. (no relation).

There are 17 grandchildren: three are members of St. Patrick's Parish, Neola: Sandy Kay (Grudle) Denning, Marjorie Ann (Leonard) Petersen and Robert A. McDonald.

William J. McDonald: August 18, 1893 - October 5, 1971.

Grace E. McDonald: December 2, 1894 - September 2, 1931.

Interment in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Neola, Iowa.

FRANCIS AND GERTRUDE MCGUIRE

Francis M. McGuire, son of William and Ellen McGuire, was born in Neola, May 1, 1903. He attended St. Joseph's School graduating in 1923. Gertrude, youngest child of Mike and Mary Ellen Doyle, was born May 17, 1903 and also attended St. Joseph's graduating in 1922.

Francis "Shag" worked for his father in the General Store while he was growing up and started with the U.P. Railroad in 1923. He retired after 45 years of service. He was an avid baseball fan, pitching for the U.P. baseball team in Omaha and semi-pro ball for several years.

"Gert" and "Shag" were married June 29, 1935 at St. Patrick's Church. Gertrude taught school, accumulating 37 years of service, retiring in 1968.

Gertrude taught school before and after their marriage on June 29, 1935 accumulating 37 years of dedicated service.

They have two children, Mrs. Mary Ellen Zimmerman born Sept. 6, 1936, and Michael born March 13, 1941 of Tulsa, Okla.



Francis & Gertrude McGuire

WILLIAM AND ELLEN MCGUIRE

William "Bill" McGuire was born in New York, April 15, 1863 and moved with his parents to Audubon, Iowa. Ellen Murphy was born in Wilton, Iowa, Feb. 5, 1869 and later moved to Audubon. William and "Nellie" were both descendants of Irish emigrants coming to Iowa in the early 1800's. Her father's naturalization papers were signed by Andrew Jackson.

After marriage in Audubon, William operated a merchandise store and the post office at Hamlin, Iowa. In 1900, Bill purchased the General Store in Neola from Mike O'Connor and operated this business for 35 years. Later he sold insurance and assisted L.B. Johnson in his mortuary and furniture store.

The McGuires were the parents of eight children. Mrs. Rosalie Kenealy and Bill were born at Hamlin, Ia., Mrs. Monica Worley, Francis and Bernard were born in Neola, also the twins, who died of scarlet fever at one year of age, and a son, Vincent, who died when four days old. Bill and Bernard are now deceased.

"Bill" passed away Nov. 15, 1943 and "Nellie" on Oct. 23, 1952 after many years of dedicated work for their church and community.



Bill & Nellie McGuire

HENRY JOHN MEYERRING

Henry John Meyerring was born to Gerhard and Anna Meyerring in Neola, Iowa on March 30, 1900. Henry was the oldest son of five children. He was baptized at St. Patrick's in Neola by the Rev. M. Schiffmacher. Henry attended St. Joseph's School in Neola, Iowa. He farmed with his father and also a brother Bernard for a number of years.

On November 4, 1936, Henry married Mary Frances Tamisiea at St. Patrick's in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Frances was the daughter of Albert and Mary Tamisiea. The Rev. P. R. O'Donnell and the Rev. William Kleffman of Neola officiated at the ceremony.

To this union five children were born: Gary, who lives in Neola; Renee Doyle of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Janet Hines - deceased December 11, 1973; Eugene who also lives in Neola; and Imelda Wojtkowski of Valparaiso, Indiana.

Henry and Frances purchased the Ford Dewey Farm and connected adjoining tracts of land through the years north of Neola.

Henry died April 27, 1962 at the age of 62.

The Meyerrings have 10 grandchildren.



Henry J. & Frances Meyerring

GERHARDT HEINRICH JOHAN VITUS MEYERRING VON THYMANN

Gerd ("George") Meyerring was born in Hanover, Germany on the 26th of March, 1861. Filled with a love of adventure, he emigrated to the United States in 1888. To help himself become Americanized as quickly as possible, he hired out to the most English of all the farmers in the vicinity of Neola, Iowa. When his employer asked him what his name was and Gerd recited the above lengthy, impressive "handle", the Englishman smiled and said, "I'll call you George"---and it stuck.

During the winter months when there was little work on the farm, Gerd, at age 27, walked to the neighborhood country school and sat in class with boys and girls from age seven to those in their late teens. He continued this until he had completed the eight grades then offered in the rural schools. (In Germany, he had received the equivalent of our high school education.) His active vocabulary in English was easily college level, but he never completely lost his German accent.

As soon as five years had elapsed and he became eligible for United States citizenship, Gerd applied and was accepted. A Mr. Schierbrock, probably a great-great grandfather to the local Schierbrocks, was his character witness.

Gerd worked hard and lived frugally. After a few years as a hired hand, he rented some land, bought horses and equipment. A few more years and he was able to purchase 100 acres northwest of Neola. Later, he added the adjoining 160 acres, now the E.J. Fischer farm.

Meantime, Gerd Meyerring made two trips back to Germany to visit family and friends and to see if the "girl he left behind" was still waiting. She was not. Returning to America, he began to think of others and remembered a dark-eyed lady of French ancestry who had been a servant in the household of Gerd's uncle. He wrote to her parents to ask if she was available. If so, he wanted to send her passage to the new world, court her, and see if they could make a match. This materialized and on February 23, 1897, Anne Margaret Klene became Mrs. Meyerring. The nuptial took place in St. Patrick's Church. The officiating pastor was Father Schiffmacher. It should be interjected here that this marriage would not have been in good form in Germany in 1897. The caste system was still strong and members of the aristocracy did not intermarry with peasants. It is good to know that after World War I, a leveling off took place.

To this union were born five children: Mary Angela, who became a Servant of Mary, Sister M. Tekla, O.S.M.; Henry John, who went to a trade school in Kansas City but came back to Neola and remained on the family farm, "Airy Knoll"; Bernard Aloysius, who attended Dowling College in Des Moines until the 1918 influenza caused him to drop out because of an extremely long hospitalization and longer convalescence. Eventually he married a South Dakota girl, Irene Kieffe, who had been a teacher of music at the St. Joseph School in Neola. They became first merchants, then ranchers in the Dakotas and Nebraska; Herman Stephen Benedict, who took his advanced schooling at Marquette University in Milwaukee and became a mechanical engineer; Anne Gertrude Marie who, to quote her father "ran away" to Milwaukee where she enrolled in an earn-while-you-learn commercial college for a 1½ year secretarial-bookkeeping course. Most of her career years were spent as an employee of the City of Milwaukee. She pursued further education during evening classes at the Vocational School and at the University Extension.

Gerd Meyerring was intellectually gifted. He would have been an excellent teacher for he could inspire a thirst for knowledge. He managed both his time and his finances well and it was not uncommon for the local businessmen to seek advice from this immigrant. When he died, he left to charity an amount equal to that which his children inherited.

Gerd's hobbies were numerous: reading, keeping up political and personal correspondence; travel (he had visited most of the lower 48 states and took his wife to Europe for a planned one-year sabbatical); horticulture; dancing; playing the accordion; playing cards; ice skating and having friends in for Sunday dinner and a long afternoon visit.

In 1916, when not many farmers had automobiles, Gerd bought a Dodge touring car from Sweeney's Garage. The slogan that year was "No hill too steep; no sand too deep". In 1921, he presented his eldest son with a new Model T Ford for his 21st birthday.

Mr. Meyerring died at the age of 85. He said that he had never spent a day when he felt bored and insisted that he had lived through the best and most interesting of times.

Mrs. Meyerring was a "mouse" and a saint. She understood what the Germans meant by a woman's role being "kinder, kuche, kirche" and fulfilled it until her death in January 1938 at age 71.

The Meyerrings had 17 grandchildren, two of whom (Gary and Gene) live at Neola, are members of St. Patrick's Parish and were schooled at St. Joseph.

Submitted by Anne (Mrs. Clayton Silas Mills) of Gallup. N.M.)



Mr. and Mrs. Gerhardt (George) Meyerring

JEROME MESSERSCHMIDT

Jerome Arthur Messerschmidt son of Richard and Kathryn Lustgraaf Messerschmidt. Born Oct. 25, 1922. Married Dec. 15, 1945 to Esther Jeannette Rock Messerschmidt. Esther is the daughter of Albert and Mary Bogs Rock. Born Sept. 5, 1927. Jerome and Esther have been members of St. Patrick's since Jan. of 1952. They have farmed their entire lives and have been living on the farm at Shelby since Jan. of 1952. To this union born were six children.

Steven James Messerschmidt - Sept. 7, 1947. He resides in Kansas City, Missouri. Steve has one daughter, Holly Anne - June 1972.

Stanley Joseph Messerschmidt - Aug. 12, 1950. Married Oct. 20, 1973 to Mary Sue Gibson Messerschmidt - Dec. 12, 1950. They reside in rural Oakland, Iowa, and have three children. Allison Anne - July 9, 1975. Andrew Joseph - June 9, 1976.; Amy Sue - Oct. 12, 1978.

Paula Marie Messerschmidt Fuschner - Jan. 31, 1951. Married June 14, 1974 to Terry Lee Fuchser - July 24, 1948. They reside in Neola, Iowa, and have two children. Erin Jeannette - Jan. 6, 1976. Scott Robert - Dec. 22, 1978.

Patricia Mae Messerschmidt Kroll - Sept. 3, 1952. Married June 17, 1972. They reside in rural Council Bluffs and have four children. Jeremy James - Dec. 10, 1973; Michelle Marie - Feb. 3, 1976; Melissa Mae - Oct. 17, 1978; McKayla Maeann - Feb. 26, 1981.

Stewart Jerome Messerschmidt - Nov. 6, 1961. Stewart still resides at home.

Sydney Jerard Messerschmidt - Oct. 1965-1965.

MICHAEL AND MARY MINAHAN

Michael Minahan was born in County Cork, Ireland, Sept. 29, 1845. He was the son of Jeremiah and Mary McCarthy Minahan, both natives of Ireland. His father, a farmer, was born about 1820. His mother was born about 1824. Michael received his education in the common school of Ireland, and was raised in that country until 1868. In May of that year, he came to the United States, locating in Pennsylvania. He came to Pottawattamie County in 1871. After working for the railroad for several years he bought 80 acres of farmland near Neola. He later bought 200 acres south of Neola and continued to live there.

In 1878 he was married to Mary Stewart at Council Bluffs. Her father was a native of Ohio and her mother of Ireland. They had five children: James, Kate, Ellen, Ann and Frances. After the death of his father, James took over the farm and remained there until his death in 1950. Kate was married to George Burns in Neola in 1907. They lived in Omaha and had three sons. The oldest son, Emmett, died in 1925 after a long illness. Philip was married to Ellen O'Brien in Omaha and lived in Detroit. They have three children: Philip Jr., Barbara and Ellen. Philip married and has two sons: Philip and John. Barbara married Michael Grosse. They live in Detroit and have three sons: Michael, Steven and Tommy.

Ellen became a Dominican Nun, Sister Ellen Catherine, and teaches in the parochial schools of Detroit.

Ellen Minahan joined the Sisters of Humility (Sister Mary Marcelline) and taught in the parochial schools of Iowa.

Ann stayed on the farm and cared for her parents and brother, Jim.

Frances was a teacher and taught in schools in Pottawattamie County. She and Ann retired and moved to Neola in 1950.

Michael Minahan was one of the founders of the present St. Patrick's Church and also helped the pastor plot the cemetery. He was instrumental in bringing the Order of Sisters of Humility to take charge of St. Joseph's School.



Jerry Messerschmidt's grandchildren



Jerry Messerschmidt Family



Frances and Ann Minahan



Michael & Mary Minahan
Frances, Ann, Sister Marcelline,
Kate and Jim

JACK MOFFATT FAMILY

Jack and Clementine Moffatt were married March 22, 1941 at St. Patrick's Church in Council Bluffs. They lived in Buffalo, New York one year.

Jack working for Curtis Wright defense plant. They returned to Council Bluffs to take a job with Martin Bomber plant, he worked there until the spring of 1943. That year They started farming west of Neola, taking over the family farm. Jack's mother's health was failing and had to give up farming.

Jack is the son of Edward A. and Bertha (Handbury) Moffatt who lived and farmed in Neola area their entire life. Clementine is the daughter of Clement and Ellen Tamisiea of Council Bluffs, formerly of Missouri Valley.

Jack attended the Neola Public School and was graduated in 1934. Clementine attended Missouri Valley and was graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs.

They lived on the family farm until 1958. They then purchased and operated a grain and livestock farm four miles south of Persia. In 1975, they moved into the town of Neola, where they are enjoying a semi-retired life.

They have five children: Richard J. married Judy Stuhr of Glidden, Iowa and live in Omaha, owning the Industrial Coating Incorporation, they have one son. Madonna is a medical secretary at the Methodist Hospital in Omaha. Trudy married Thomas Gollobit, they have five children. Her husband works for Vickers in Omaha. Marjorie married Harold Bertelsen and lives on a farm at Persia, Iowa, they have three children. Edward married Renee Wachner, he works for Union Pacific Railroad and lives in Neola.

Their children all were graduated from Neola schools except Madonna, who was graduated from Mt. Loretta High School in Council Bluffs.



Jack Moffatt Family

EUGENE & MARY MEYERRING

Eugene H. Meyerring (7-5-45) and Mary E. Meyerring (2-18-46), children of Henry and Frances Meyerring, and Thomas and Mary Colpitts, were united in marriage at St. Patrick's Church in Neola, Iowa, on Sept. 4, 1965.

While residing in Council Bluffs, their first daughter, Deborah Ann (7-7-66), was born. In 1967 they returned to Neola. They purchased a home in 1969 which they remodeled. Their second daughter, Gwyn Marie, was born (12-17-71). In 1976, just before building a new home, their third daughter, Ann Marie (4-30-76), was born. On September 11, 1979, Michael Anthony was born.



Eugene & Mary Meyerring



Deborah, Gwyn Marie and Michael Meyerring

ELMER E. MORTENSEN FAMILY

Marie Patricia McDonald, daughter of Patrick John McDonald and Mary Catherine (Masker) McDonald. Marie married Elmer E. Mortensen April 19, 1936. To this union were born nine children: Janice Rae (Kilker), Leo James, Connie Jo (Heeney), Carolyn Jean (Russman), Judith Kay (Patton), Joyce Ann (Barko), Jacqueline Marie, Pamela Jayne (Bloom) and Jerry Lynn. Marie and Elmer celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary in 1977.

Elmer died February 14, 1981 at age 75. Surviving were his wife, nine children and sixteen grandchildren.



Elmer & Marie Mortensen

MORSE FAMILY HISTORY

Darrell and Roberta Morse moved to their farm near Neola after their marriage September 6, 1975. Roberta, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kenkel, was raised on a farm near Woodbine, Iowa. After graduating from high school, Roberta worked 3½ years as a secretary in the Omaha area.

Darrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Morse, was raised on a farm between Treynor and Council Bluffs. After graduating from high school, Darrell began farming with his father. Darrell and Roberta have three children: Jimmy born January 2, 1977; Amy born October 1, 1978; and Katie born February 24, 1982. Darrell and Roberta are involved in more than their family and farming activities as Roberta is active in St. Patrick's Altar and Rosary Society, teaches C.C.D., belongs to the Neola Fireflies, and is a member of the Pottawattamie County Porkettes. Darrell is a volunteer fireman and EMT with the Neola rescue unit, is the Co-Chairman of the Pottawattamie County Pork Producers, and sells Vigortone livestock premixes as a sideline. Darrell and Roberta enjoy bowling, golfing, playing cards in a neighborhood card club, and spending time with their family.

JOSEPH GARY MEYERRING

Joseph Gary Meyerring, son of Henry and Frances Meyerring, was born in Missouri Valley, Harrison County, Iowa on September 12, 1937. Gary was the eldest son of five children. He attended school at St. Joseph's in Neola. After that he served in the Iowa National Guard 168th Infantry for seven years. He farmed with his father until his father's death in 1962. Gary continues on with farming and raising livestock. He presently lives with his family on the farm where he grew up and lived since five years of age. On September 1, 1962 Gary married Bridget Agnes Schmitz at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha, Nebraska. Agnes was one of nine children and daughter of Frank and Irene Schmitz and she was born and raised in Custer County, Nebraska near Broken Bow.

Gary and Agnes have three children: Dennis, Diane and David. All were born in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.

Dennis attended St. Joseph's School and graduated in 1981 from St. Albert's in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He is presently farming. Diane attended St. Joseph's and is presently a sophomore at St. Albert's.

David attended St. Joseph's and Tri-Center Community School in Neola and will be a seventh grade student at St. Albert's in Council Bluffs. Gary is presently serving on the Board of Education for St. Joseph's School. Agnes is a member of the Altar Rosary and an officer of the Catholic Daughters and is helping with the C.C.D. program.



Gary & Agnes Meyerring with
Dennis, Diane and David

GEORGE MURPHY

George A. Murphy was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, Sept. 17, 1843. He was a descendant of a sturdy Irish family. His father was Patrick Murphy born in 1808 in Queens County, Ireland. His mother, Mary Boyle, was from Queens County. In the early 1920's Queens and King County were renamed to Port Laoise because of the Irish Rebellion. This is a very beautiful section of Ireland, about halfway between Shannon and Dublin, and still a dairy, hay and pasture country.

The Murphy family owned and operated a dairy in this beautiful green country. Family legends are that due to the extreme taxes levied on the Irish people, young Patrick tossed the tax collector into the family lake!! Patrick left "The Old Sod" that night, hurriedly. He spent many months in London, until his family could join him, and they could start a new life in the "New World of America". They settled in Pennsylvania for a few years. they dreamed of having a farm again with a solid foundation for a homestead and where cities would rise and people could live and prosper and no tax collector around.

Their next adventure was the move to LaSalle, Illinois where their children were born and raised. Here two girls, Elizabeth Murphy married Barney Cranigan and Sarah Murphy married John Schade. A son, Thomas, married Mary Ann Horn. Here these people raised their families and in time, their grandparents, Patrick and Mary Murphy, died at LaSalle after a long and happy life in America.

A third sister of George Murphy, Mary Ann Murphy Gibson, moved to Grand Mound, Iowa, with her husband and raised ten children.

George A. Murphy married Miss Mary Feritor in Livingston County, Illinois. Seven sons were born, three of whom died in infancy. The mother passed away Jan. 9, 1886. In March of 1888 George Murphy and four sons: William, Patrick Edward and young George, moved to Pottawattamie County to a 200-acre farm in Neola Township, Section 77. They selected a farm to the north and west, four miles from Neola so the horses would not be scared of railroad crossings. The large locomotives and their shrill whistles caused many runaways and frighten the teams that must pull the buggies and wagons.

George Murphy lived on this farm until he married Elizabeth Graves on February 15, 1898. He retired from farming and moved into the town of Neola, leaving his son, Pat, to take care of the farm. Four children: Lawrence, Virginia, Teresa and Vincent were born here. Mr. Murphy was hired by the town of Neola as town marshall for several years. He helped to lay out sidewalks, which were so necessary back in the horse and buggy days.

Around 1912 George Murphy and family moved again to another seemingly new frontier, Twin Falls, Idaho. Here the family invested in 40 acres of orchards. Apples, cherries, plums, grapes and berries were grown. Here irrigation was a brand new adventure, much easier and nicer than waiting and praying for rains as the farmers in Iowa did.

During these intervening years in Idaho, George Murphy returned to Neola every year and spent a few weeks with his son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Murphy and family. He suffered from ill health of high blood pressure. When he was able to travel with his son Pat, he returned to his homestead and spent his last days among old friends and memories. He passed away June 27, 1927.

Son, P. W. (Pat) Murphy born at LaSalle, Ill. on Oct. 12, 1869. Married Mary Ann (Doll) Rhyan, Nov. 13, 1872, at St. Patrick's Church on May 5, 1903.

Pat Murphy came to Iowa in 1888, and Mary Ann (Doll) Rhyan, at the age of two years in 1874 with her parents, Patrick and Mary Ann (White) Rhyan, to Pottawattamie County, to Harden District No. 1. In a few years traded to a different farm in District No. 6 known as Taylor Station. Here Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Rhyan raised five sons, and four daughters: Catherine Hetzel, Ida Reausaw, Helen Wolffe, and Doll Murphy. Sons: William, Matthew, Tom, Frank and Joseph. The Rhyans were not (strictly speaking) "pioneers", but Pottawattamie was thinly settled at this time. Their neighbors were few and far between with the greater part of the land being wild prairie.

Early in 1888, the Rhyan children saw a group of horsemen watering their horses and resting under a grove of trees beside the road near the Rhyan farm. The group caused no bother and rode on. The group was later identified as Jessie and Frank James, the notorious bank robbers on their last trip to Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Murphy lived on the farm with their son Pat. (M.F.) and daughter Mary until their death. Mrs Murphy died on May 12, 1934 and Mr. Murphy on Dec. 6, 1934.

Pat (M.F.) Murphy lived on the farm until moving to Omaha in 1945. He worked with livestock at the stockyards in Omaha until his death in August of 1978. His wife, Marie Remde Murphy, was born at Dunlap, Iowa, but lived her adult life in Omaha and passed away Feb. 1, 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Eims and their daughter, Mary, moved back from a farm near Persia where they had lived for seven years to the old homeplace. The same farm, same hills, four miles northwest of Neola. The big white house is much more comfortable to live in with the coming of R.E.A. Modern furnaces, gravel roads and some paving, all have made living so much easier than in the 1888's. Many of these same farms are 3rd, 4th and 5th generation of the same families that settled these hills and valleys in the 1880's and 1890's and drained the wet fields by laying tile in the muddy prairie.



Murphy Brothers



Mr. & Mrs. Pat Murphy
George Murphy and Nell
Rhyan Wolff - 1903

MINAHAN FAMILY

Dennis Minahan came to America in 1857 from County Cork, Ireland. He started work for the railroad in New York and followed it west. In 1870 he settled in Neola, working for the railroad. In 1874, Dennis purchased 160 acres of land southwest of Neola. He married Ellen Barry in 1875. To this union were born eight children: Mary (Harrington), James, Charles and Tom. Four other children, Mike, Jeremiah, Johanna and Anne died in early childhood.

At the time of his death, Dennis was living with his son, Charles, on the farm he homesteaded for 50 years. Dennis died in 1924.

Charles Minahan, born in 1886, continued farming after his father's death. In 1910, Charles married Florence Jordan. They had one son, Bernard T. Minahan.

In 1912 Florence Minahan died following complications of childbirth. Charles later married Julia Doyle of Neola in the year 1918. They were married for 49 years. Julia died in 1967.

The farm on which Charles was born and lived for 83 years had grown from 160 acres to 400. Charles died in 1969.

Bernard Minahan, born in 1912, graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1930. After graduation he combined working on the farm with his father and playing baseball for the Neola town team. He enjoyed playing 2nd and sometimes 3rd base for several years.

In 1940, Bernard purchased 120 acres west of Neola. The same year he married Ernestine Kohles of Earling. They have eight children: Jean, Jan, Pat, Mike, Tom, Chuck, Dave and Terry. They have 12 grandchildren.

Jean Minahan lives in Des Moines.

Jan married Gary Sunderland and lives in Petersburg, North Dakota. Gary is involved in farming and Jan works as a social worker in Lakota.



Mrs. Nell Wolff
Pat Wolff, Magdelean Wolff Ryan
Judy Ryan and Jason - 1966



Dennis Minahan

Pat married Terri Thielen of Earling. Pat was killed in an accident in the fall of 1975.

Mike married Corrine Meadows of Neola. Mike is currently farming his grandfather's and father's farms.

Tom married Debra Hintz of Minden. Tom is employed by Ring Construction.

Chuck married Sheila Ring of Neola. Chuck is employed by Jack Roane.

Dave married Linda Withers of Omaha. Dave owns his own business, Minahan Motorcycle and Sheetmetal.

Terry is currently living at home and is working at Standard Oil Station at the Minden interchange.

After retiring from farming, Bunny and Ernie enjoy living in Sun City, Arizona during the winter months.



Charles Minahan

MAXINE JACOBS NIELSEN HISTORY

Maxine Jacobs Nielsen was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hartman of Grand Junction, Iowa. She was united in marriage to LaVern W. Jacobs son of Nicholas Jacobs of Harlan, Iowa, on September 25, 1944. They lived in Harlan, Iowa. Mr. Jacobs owned and operated the Jacobs Tool Co. They had eight children, Jill, Diane, Daniel, Thomas, Robert, Patrick, Timothy and Lisa. LaVern Jacobs died January 29, 1962.

Jill Jacobs married Lt. David Thomas April 11, 1970. They have two children, Brian and Beth. David is a career Army man. He is a Major and the family are on an overseas tour of duty at Stuttgart, Germany.

Diane married Dr. Bruce Malina on August 1, 1972. Bruce is a professor at Creighton University in Omaha.

Maxine Jacobs remarried on December 1972, to James P. Nielsen and they moved to Neola, Iowa. James has four children: Cindy, LuAnn, Phillip and Roger. James owns and operates Nielsen Construction Co.

Tom Jacobs married Teresa Kleffman on March 8, 1975. They live in Corley and Tom is in charge of the body shop at Roecker Ford, Harlan.

Daniel Jacobs was killed in a car accident on August 24, 1976.

Patrick Jacobs joined the Army in December of 1978 and was discharged in December of 1981. Much of his duty was spent in Italy.

Cindy Nielsen married David Brouse December 30, 1978. They have a son named Jonathon. They are both graduates of N.W.M.S. University and teach at Rockport, Missouri.

Robert Jacobs is a carpenter-contractor in Omaha.

LuAnn Nielsen was graduated from U. of I. as a medical technician in 1981 and is employed in an Iowa City hospital.

Tim Jacobs is attending U. of I. at Iowa City. Lisa Jacobs will be graduated from U. of I. in May 1982 as an Art History Major.

Phillip and Roger Nielsen are attending N.W.M.S. University at Maryville, Missouri.



Bernard T. Minahan



Jim & Maxine Nielsen, Lisa, Tim and Pat Jacobs, Cindy, Lu Ann, Roy and Phil Nielsen



Jacobs-Nielsen boys



Diane, Lu Ann, Lisa and Jill Nielsen Jacobs

CHAS. O'ROURKE FAMILY

Charles Edward O'Rourke was born Sept. 8, 1890 of Charles and Catherine (Martin) O'Rourke at Valley, Iowa. He had a twin brother, James Charles. They grew up on a farm six miles east of Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Mary Isadore Walsh was born May 15, 1895 of Lawrence and Mary (Burns) Walsh, on a farm 9 miles south of Neola. Her family moved to a farm 9 miles east of Missouri Valley, Iowa in 1911. The O'Rourke and Walsh families were both large and fun loving and they spent many Sundays together.

Charles and Mary were united in marriage at St. Patrick's in Missouri Valley, Iowa on September 5, 1917. Later two O'Rourke sisters, Nelle and Edna, married two Walsh brothers, James and Thomas.

Charles and Mary's first two children died in infancy. Patricia was born May 27, 1921. She grew up on the farm near Missouri Valley, Iowa, was graduated from high school, studied to be a teacher at the College of St. Mary in Omaha, and married Victor Shea of Neola on April 11, 1942. Irene was born July 21, 1922. She also was graduated from Missouri Valley High School and took a secretarial course at St. Mary's in Omaha. She married Francis Green of Neola on June 3, 1942. She later studied to be a nurse and now works in the Harlan, Iowa Hospital.

Donald was born May 15, 1926. His greatest ambition was to be the best farmer in Southwest Iowa--even as a little boy. He was stricken with polio in Nov. 1949 along with quite a number of Neola people. His wedding date to marry Shirley Pace had to be set back to Aug. 30, 1950. He was determined to walk down the aisle on his own. His determination to be a farmer helped him to overcome his handicap. He still operates his own farm at Silver City, Iowa and walks with two canes.

Charles was born Nov. 1, 1930; Rita, Oct. 8, 1932 and Jean April 9, 1936.

The family moved to a farm northwest of Neola in 1945. Charles went to St. Joseph School for one year and then went to study in the Columban Father's minor seminary. He was ordained in Boston, Massachusetts on Dec. 21, 1957. He has been a missionary in Korea since Dec. 1958. He plans to celebrate his silver jubilee in Dec. 1982 here at St. Patrick's, Neola.

Rita was graduated from St. Joseph's in 1951. In 1952 another epidemic of polio occurred and Rita's life was threatened, but she recovered to walk with two canes, too. She later married Gerald Gubbels of Portsmouth and they live in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The O'Rourke family moved to a small farm east of Council Bluffs and Jeanne went to Mt. Loretto Academy during her high school years. She joined the Sisters of Mercy in Aug. 1954 and she's worked as a teacher in Omaha, Council Bluffs and Kansas City parochial schools since then.

When Interstate 80 was built, it took the east end of the O'Rourke's little farm. Charles and Mary moved into Council Bluffs where they lived until their deaths. Mary died Sept. 12, 1975. Charles died Sept. 17, 1976.



Charles O'Rourke Family - taken on the day of Father Charles' First Mass (left to right) Rita, Mary, Father Charles, Charles Sr., Sister Jeanne, Pat, Irene and Don

JOHN AND MILDRED OSTDIEK

John Paul Ostdiek and Mildred V. Herrick were married in St. Patrick's Church on July 3, 1912. There were five children: J. Wayne married Josephine (McDonald) (deceased 1968 at age 51), now married to Marguerite (Werth); Mrs. George (Geraldine) Delanty; Mrs. Carl (Mary Clare) Thompson Sick (deceased in 1975 at age 58); Dick Thompson (deceased in 1958 at age 48); Mrs. Claude (Berniece) Hammitt; and **Mrs. Vince (Shirley) Kenealy, (Vince deceased in 1973 at age 50).**

When they were first married, Dad worked for the Milwaukee Railroad before going to farming in the Bentley, Harrison Co, and Neola areas. They retired in 1948 to Neola, but "Jack" went to the farm everyday on which Wayne still lives. Their great joy was working in the garden as "Millie's" favorite expression was "get up early in the morning and tear into it". At age 73, Jack upset the tractor losing an ear. He painted the house when he was 78 and roofed it when he was 80. He fell off of a loaded hayrack at one time, tangled with a bull another, and his only concern was not being able to go to the dance that night. This picture was taken on their 50 Wedding Anniversary. They were married 64 years before Dad died at age 91 in 1977 and Mother age 87 in 1978. There were 22 grandchildren, 58 great-grandchildren and 19 great-great-grandchildren. Grandfather John Ostdiek came from Germany, Grandmother Amelia (Steidle) Ostdiek from Pennsylvania, Grandfather Guy Thomas Herrick from Wisconsin and Grandmother Olive (Redfield) Herrick from Kansas.

GERARD OSTDIEK

Gerard and Mary Ostdiek were early members of the Neola Parish. Gerard was born in Southern Germany, 1840 and Mary Steinger was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1843. Gerard came to America by sailboat and came up the Mississippi River and settled in Fort Madison, Iowa in 1867. He met and married Mary Steinger, a school teacher, and they came to Neola about 1888. To this union were born eight children, Catherine Poggee, Mary Loobey, Willimena Menke, John Ostdiek, Barbara Grote Cotter, Caroline Grote, Herman (died in infancy) Francis Ostdiek, priest at Holy Trinity Parish in Des Moines.

Francis, Father Frank, was the first priest from Neola Parish and also the first priest ordained for the Des Moines Diocese. He was pastor at Red Oak, Iowa, then went to Holy Trinity to build and serve for 49 years.

The Ostdieks went to church in Council Bluffs before the parish had a church. They gave much time and interest in the parish's beginning. They always had time to help other people when sick and to give work to help foreigners to get started in a new country.

The Ostdieks owned the farm now owned by Johnny Brich. The barn still stands and is a reminder of a master craftsman. The bricks were made there on his farm, the timbers were shipped from Fort Madison. The brick basement and two stories are outstanding. Gerard was a fine blacksmith. This was his favorite work. He repaired equipment and made farming tools. In those early days they took their wheat and rye grain to Council Bluffs to have it ground into flour. The trip would take three days using a horse-drawn wagon. Gerard died in 1932; Mary in 1926. Both lay in the Neola Cemetery.

The Ostdiek grandchildren received the sacraments in St. Patrick's Church and were educated in St. Joseph's School.



Jack Ostdiek Family - 1972



John & Mildred Ostdiek



Shirley and Vince Kenealy



Father Frank Ostdiek

HISTORY OF JAMES LEO O'CONNOR

James O'Connor was born on a farm near Underwood, Iowa on November 30, 1898 to Daniel O'Connor and Mary Wittig.

He had three sisters: Mae, Anita, Veronica; and three brothers: Francis, John and Jerome.

James' father was a farmer. He also did railroad contracting and laid the tracks for the Great Western from Nebraska to Illinois. He spent four years in Canada to lay the line from Ottawa to the West Coast. James spent his boyhood on the farm and attended St. Joseph's School and was graduated in 1918. In 1922 on June 21, James married Margaret Doyle, a classmate, who was the daughter of Michael Doyle and Mary Flynn.

They resided on the family farm, and to this marriage were born Marian, Mary Ellen and James Gerald (Jerry). The infant Marian died when she was six weeks old, and Mary Ellen was stillborn.

James spent his life as a farmer and died on May 24, 1952 at the age of 53 years. He was survived by his wife, Margaret, son Gerald (Jerry) and three grandchildren.

Gerald (Jerry) was married to Lucille Schnitker on October 8, 1947 at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. They both attended St. Joseph's School. Jerry was graduated in 1944 and Lucille was graduated in 1945. From this marriage were born seven children: Kathleen, James, William, Daniel, Elizabeth, Barbara and Marian. These children attended St. Joseph's School and were graduated from St. Albert's in Council Bluffs.

James married Joyce Krupa and they have two children, Julie and Jeffrey. Daniel married Marcia Zimmerman and they have two children, Amy and Michele. Barbara married James Farris. Kathleen lives in Jacksonville, Oregon; James lives in Omaha, Nebraska; William lives in Denison, Iowa; Daniel and Elizabeth live in Council Bluffs, Iowa; Barbara lives in Missouri Valley, Iowa; and Marian is at home.



Jim & Margaret O'Connor



Jerry O'Connor Family

DARREL AND MARJORIE PETERSEN

Darrel E. Petersen, born March 7, 1953 in LeMars, Iowa and Marjorie A. Leonard, born April 28, 1953 in Council Bluffs, Iowa were united in marriage on June 1, 1974 at St. Patrick's Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Darrel's father and mother are Robert (Bob) K. Petersen and Leona T. (Barnesberger) Petersen of Minden.

Darrel and his twin brother Harold were adopted by Bob and Leona when they were three years old.

Darrel and his twin were reunited with their biological family in April 1981. He soon found out that instead of having one twin brother, he had two deceased brothers, two living brothers and three living sisters. It was a very heartwarming affair. He had known there were others in his family, but never knew where to begin searching, until his twin started with the telephone book of Le Mars and within three weeks they were all found.

Darrel attended Tri-Center and was graduated in 1971. He engaged in farming with his father in 1971 and has been farming ever since.

Darrel is active as a volunteer fireman for Minden, has served four years on the County Extension Board, a Farm Bureau member and a Minden Community Club member. His hobbies are softball and antique tractor collecting.

Marjorie's father and mother are Edward T. and Rose Catherine (McDonald) Leonard Jr. of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Marjorie has one brother, Thomas, of Council Bluffs.

Marjorie attended Underwood Elementary and Junior High School and was graduated from St. Albert's in Council Bluffs in 1971.

She then attended Iowa Western Community College and graduated as a medical assistant in 1972. She has worked off and on for doctors in Council Bluffs, and also Clarkson Hospital and Jennie Edmundson Hospital. Currently, she is staying at home raising their son, Jeremy, and sharing with the farm work.

Marjorie is active as a Jaycette Member, Minden Community Club, Rosary and Altar Society and also the Activity Circle for St. Patrick's Church. Her hobbies are crafts, horseback riding and softball.

Darrel and Marjorie's son, Jeremy Robert Peterson, was born February 17, 1981.

Darrel, Marjorie and Jeremy are members of St. Patrick's Church in Neola.



Darrel & Margorie Peterson with Jeremy

REVEREND CLETUS J. PORTEL

Father Cletus J. Portel was born in Neola, April 26, 1893. He was the son of Thomas Henry and Anna O'Neil Portel who moved to Neola from Stewart, Iowa. Cletus was baptized at St. Patrick's Church. His godfather was Patrick Minahan. Twin girls were also born to the Portels during their stay in Neola. Cletus attended grade school in Neola until his parents moved to Des Moines, Iowa where he attended Visitation High School.

He attended St. Ambrose College for five years and took his Theology at St. Mary's, Baltimore, MD. He did post-graduate study at Catholic University, Washington, D.C.

Father Portel died Feb. 4, 1961 and is buried in Des Moines.

DONALD POWELL

Donald Powell was born and raised in the Bentley and Underwood area. He was the son of C. Darrell and Rose Powell of Underwood. Don was a graduate of Underwood High School in 1962.

Diana Scarpello Powell was born and raised in Council Bluffs, the daughter of Tom and Mary Scarpello of Council Bluffs. Diana was a 1965 graduate of Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs and attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Don and Diana were married Oct. 9, 1971 at St. Francis Church in Council Bluffs, by Monsignor Thomas Costin.

They are the parents of two children. Jared Powell, born Oct. 9, 1973, in Council Bluffs and baptized at St. Francis Church. He is presently a 2nd grader at Underwood Elementary.

Sara Powell, born June 10, 1976 in Council Bluffs, and baptized at St. Patrick's in Neola. She will be attending Underwood Elementary in the fall.

Don and Diana moved from Council Bluffs to Bentley in August 1976. Don is a plumber for May Plumbing in Council Bluffs. Diana is a part-time clerk-typist for the State of Iowa Department of Transportation.



Don & Diana Powell, Jared and Sara

POGGE HISTORY

Herman Pogge came to Neola from West Point, Iowa at the age of 14 years. He worked on the Hubbard farm west of Neola until his marriage in 1889 to Marie Wohlers. Marie came to Neola from Germany at the age of 13 years and met Herman while also working for the Hubbards'. Shortly after their marriage, Herman was able to bring Marie's family to Neola from Germany. Herman and Marie had six children. He bought land west of Neola and farmed until his death in 1929. Marie died October 7, 1957.

Alfred D. Pogge was the youngest child born of Herman and Marie on February 25, 1903. Alfred married Cecelia Bernardine Meierotto of Clinton, Missouri in 1924. Her parents were Henry John and Margaret Kelly Meierotto. Alfred and "Sadie" have four sons, Louis "Bud" Richard of Neola, Frank Raymond and John Jerald of Council Bluffs and James Leo of Minden, Iowa. All four sons served a tour of duty in the military service. Alfred resided on the home place for 76 years before retiring in the town of Neola. Alfred and Sadie celebrated their 40th and 50th Wedding Anniversary at St. Patrick's.

They have 27 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

James Leo Pogge, the youngest son of Alfred and Sadie, was born August 19, 1931. He was graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1949. Jim served duty in the Army from 1952 to 1954 during the Korean conflict. On May 26, 1956 he married Gretchen Ann Campbell. Gretchen was born September 21, 1932 to William Don and Rose Julia Manz Campbell of Council Bluffs. Don Campbell was born in Chicago, Illinois on April 28, 1893 and died April 17, 1981. Rose Campbell was born in Shelby, Iowa on April 28, 1897 and died January 16, 1970.

From May 1956 to March 1958, they farmed for Tony Fischer and now operate their own dairy farm near Minden.

Children born of this marriage are Steven James, Sept. 30, 1957; Janet Carol, Sept. 2, 1958; Daniel J., Oct. 5, 1959; Geri Ann, Dec. 6, 1960; Kelly Jo, March 9, 1965; and Mark Andrew, Jan. 21, 1967.

IN MEMORY OF THE LAMBERT PLAGGE FAMILY

Lambert Plagge, son of Herman Plagge and Anna (Rolefs) Plagge, was born March 19, 1865. He came to Neola from Holland where he was born. Elizabeth Mestemaker, daughter of Henry Mestemaker and Henericka (Warner) Mestemaker, became the bride of Lambert Plagge on Sept. 23, 1890. Rev. M.F. Schiffmacher married Lambert and Elizabeth. Elizabeth also came from Holland. They farmed west of Neola. To this marriage were born five daughters: Katherine, born Aug. 31, 1891, passed away Dec. 26, 1962; Mary Rose, born Oct. 23, 1892, died in infancy; Mary Gesin, born Feb. 9, 1896, died March 29, 1966; Ellen Henrietta, born Jan. 14, 1898, died in infancy; Anna Frances, born Nov. 7, 1900. She married Anthony Alfes April 22, 1941. (See Bernard Alfes Family)

A nephew of Mr. Plagge's, John Herman Plagge came from Creighton, Nebraska, in 1930 to help his uncle pick corn and continued to stay in Neola until his death Jan. 13, 1976.

After the marriage of their youngest daughter, Anna, the family moved to the town of Neola. The Plagge's were very outstanding Catholics and practiced their faith very strongly. They attended daily Mass when their health permitted. Mrs. Plagge died July 9, 1942. Mr. Plagge died Dec. 4, 1960.



Jim & Gretchen Pogge Family



Herman & Marie Pogge, 1919



Alfred & Sadie Pogge



Mr. & Mrs. Lamberty Plagge
Golden Wedding September 23, 1940



Herman Plagge and
Uncle Lambert Plagge



Plagge sisters - Katherine, Anna and Mary

REVEREND ARTHUR R. RING

Father Arthur R. Ring, son of George and Catherine Ring, was born and raised in Neola. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's High School. He was ordained to the priesthood in Des Moines in 1937.

After his ordination, Father Ring served as assistant pastor to St. Joseph's Church in Earling. He was a professor at Dowling High School in Des Moines from 1942 until 1955. He then became pastor of the newly formed St. Pius Tenth Parish in northwest Des Moines. He is now retired though assisting at St. Joseph's Parish in Des Moines.

Taken from the Council Bluffs Nonpareil, 1937

The Rev. Arthur Ring, who was ordained to the priesthood during the week celebrated his first Mass at St. Patrick's Church Tuesday. Out-of-town priests attending the ceremony were Msgr. F.P. McManus, the Rev. William Coughlan, the Rev. J.P. Danahey, the Rev. J.F. Costello, the Rev. Dennis Curtain and the Rev. P. J. Owens, all of Council Bluffs, the Rev. Father Larkin of Adair, Ia., the Rev. Father Cashman of Avoca, the Rev. Father Gaul of Portsmouth, Ia., the Rev. Father Schiltz and the Rev. Father Nail of Panama, Ia., the Rev. Father Steiger of Earling, Ia., the Rev. Father O'Donnell of Missouri Valley, Ia., the Rev. Father Georgen of Earling, Ia., the Rev. Father Schomer, the Rev. Father Ostdick and the Rev. Father Costin of Des Moines, Ia., the Rev. Father Beacom and the Rev. Father Urbanski of Omaha, the Rev. Louis Rossmann of Woodbine, Ia., and the Rev. Father Duren of Westphalia, Ia.



Jake & Juriah Ring, Ray, Dutch, Loretta, Paul and Jake Jr.

Taken from the Neola Gazette, May 24, 1962

REV. ARTHUR RING HONORED ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY

A large group of relatives and friends from Southwest Iowa attended the Mass and reception for the Rev. Arthur Richard Ring who was honored in Des Moines Sunday on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Rev. Ring was a graduate of the Neola St. Joseph High School.

After his ordination in 1937, Rev. Ring served as assistant pastor to St. Joseph Church in Earling. He was a professor at Dowling High School from 1942 to 1955. Then he became pastor of the newly formed St. Pius Tenth Parish in northwest Des Moines, where he was honored Sunday.

Relatives attending the Mass and reception in Des Moines, Sunday from Neola were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ring and Eddie, Mrs. Joe Konz and Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ring and Carrie Mae, Mr. Donald Ring and Mrs. Jake Ring, Sr. Other relatives were present from Avoca, Council Bluffs, Red Oak and Omaha.



Reverend Arthur Ring

JAKE RING SR.

Jake Ring Sr. was born on August 14, 1885 near Carson, Iowa. He engaged in farming all of his life and did custom thrashing for farmers in the surrounding areas. He married Juriah Burke on October 11, 1911, at St. Patrick's Church. They had six children; Raymond, Clarence, Loretta (Masker), Bernard, Paul and Jake Jr.

Jake was active in church work and helped as did all the men of the parish in building the parish hall. He died on December 29, 1952 while visiting a neighbor. He was found by a grandson, Jerry Masker.

Juriah, who celebrated her 92nd birthday on Christmas Eve, 1982, was born December 24, 1889.

PATRICK RHYAN FAMILY

Patrick Rhyan was born in Longford, Ireland, March 17, 1831. He, with his parents, brothers and sisters, emigrated to America, first settling around the community of Johnstown, Pa. Patrick, the youngest child, was sent to a Pennsylvania Dutch school, where he learned to spell his name Rhyan with the "H", by the strict disciplinary ruler of a stern, Dutch lady teacher. None of his brothers and sisters ever had this problem. **Their name is spelled Ryan.** This was a habit so "pounded" into him that it stayed with Patrick all his life, down to all his children, grandchildren and until the present time wherever they live.

The senior Mr. Ryan even had to defend his family and home taking part in some French and Indian wars. Being taken captive and in fear for himself and fellow companions of being scalped, his hair turned white over night. Somehow the gallant little group was released the next afternoon.

The Rhyan family helped build the earthen dam by mule and cart and man-pushed wheelbarrow, now the famous "Johnstown Dam". Rhyans moved away many years before the tragic Johnstown flood of 1889.

Leaving the hilly countryside of Pennsylvania for the rolling flat land of Illinois the family settled around Maple Park in the upper part of the state.

At the age of thirty, Patrick Rhyan married Mary Ann White in 1861. While living in Maple Park their family grew to five children. In 1874, they bought a farm in Harden District No. 1 in Pottawattamie County. In a few years, they later traded for a farm in District 6, near what was then known as Taylor Station.

Rhyans were not, strictly speaking, pioneers, but the country was thinly settled, neighbors few and far between and the greater part of the land, unoccupied wild prairie.

Mr. Rhyan, though born in a foreign land, well understood and appreciated the superior advantages and privileges of the "new" over those of the "old" country and wars. He brought up all nine of his children to be loyal Americans.

Traveling by team and wagon, later a good buggy, he always attended St. Patrick's Church at Neola--a distance of over seventeen miles on very difficult roads.

On the death of Mrs. Rhyan in 1902, Mr. Rhyan retired from active life and moved to Neola on an acreage on the northwest edge of town. He lived in this home until his health failed and then made his home with his daughter, Mrs. P.W. Murphy, and family until his death on September 10, 1918.

The nine children: Thomas died in 1899 in South Dakota. Killed defending his wife and 3 small children protecting his "water rights", a deep well he owned on his homestead. A bitter battle was waged between cattlemen and sheep ranchers.

Frank of Rapid City, So. Dakota; Catherine Hetzel, Spearfish and Ida Reausaw of Lead, So. Dakota; William Rhyan of Wadena, Minn.; Matthew; Doll Murphy; Helen Wolf and Joseph Rhyan all of Neola.

There are 27 grandchildren, three grandsons served the colors during World War I, with Frances Rhyan in the Philippines, Verner and Harry Rhyan in France. They all returned home.

With the 4th and 5th generations scattered into many of the fifty states. Mr. and Mrs. Everett Eims of Neola, a granddaughter, are still farming north of Neola where Patrick Rhyan spent the last days of his life. He passed away at 87 years of age.



Patrick Rhyan Family

JAMES ALBERT RING

James A. Ring was born Sept. 26, 1917 at Oakland, Ia. The 6th of 8 children born to John Adam and Carrie Mae Ring. The family moved to a farm near Bentley, Ia. when Jim was six months old, and it was here that the family lived until 1940. At this time the farm was bought by the Gage family and is now the home of Jim's daughter, Connie. Jim and Evelyn M. Grudle, daughter of Joseph and Matilda (Buettner) Grudle were married Dec. 31, 1945 at St. Peter's Church in Council Bluffs, Ia. with James Grudle and Leta (Ring) Burke as attendants.

They have six children. They are Connie Jo, born Oct. 24, 1946. She married Don R. Fleming in May 1966. They had one daughter, Sheri Lyn, born May 13, 1969. Divorced in 1980, Connie married John H. Gage in 1981.

Susan Kay, born Feb. 3, 1950. She married Daniel G. Harvey in 1968 and had two children, James Gail, born July 6, 1969 and Angela Marie, born Dec. 25, 1971.

Geraldine Elizabeth, born June 14, 1953. She married James A. Newman and had two children, Lisa Ann, born Aug. 24, 1973 and James Arthur, born Feb. 24, 1978.

Martin James, born Nov. 1, 1959. He served with the U.S. Army 1977 to 1980.

Eileen Francis was born Sept. 1, 1961.

Lyn Aaron was born Nov. 29, 1967.

James (Pappy) was with the 95th Div. of Infantry during WWII and served in the European Theater. He has been a member of the American Legion Post 330 for 37 years. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus. James and Evelyn moved to their farm near Bentley in 1952. It neighbors the one on which he was raised. They moved to Council Bluffs in 1964 and lived there until their retirement in 1980, moving back to his farm. Jim worked at Swift's Packing Co. and University of Nebraska at Omaha and also farmed for a number of years. Evelyn worked at Tip Top Products in Omaha, Ne. All the Ring children were baptized at St. Patrick's with the exception of Lyn, who was baptized in Council Bluffs, Ia., at St. Patrick's Church.

JOHN E. AND VELMA M. RING

John E. Ring was born in 1925 to John A. and Carrie M. Ring. He was the youngest of eight children, three girls and five boys. His father came to Iowa from Kentucky and were engaged in farming.

John went to school in Bentley, Iowa. His first job was working for Pottawattamie county in 1946, where he is still employed.

In 1947 John and Velma M. Thielen were married in St. Mary's Church in Portsmouth, Iowa. Velma is the daughter of the late John A. Thielen and Cecilia (Thielen) Zimmerman, born at Panama in 1926. Her father died in a fire when she was two years old and her brother, Jack, one year old. Another brother, Harold was born six months after their father's death. Her mother operated a cafe in Portsmouth for 20 years. After John and Velma's wedding, they resided in Neola for twelve years. Their seven children were baptized at Portsmouth.

John and Velma purchased an 80 acre farm in Persia in 1959. They moved to an old English farmhouse in Persia. In 1968, the farmhouse and building burned down. The young child, Jesse, was six months old. They rented a house east of Persia for one month and then bought a house in Neola in 1968. In 1969, they bought an acreage in Arrowhead Acres where they now reside.

They have ten children: Jacqueline Marie, married Eugue Blum from Westphalia. They have three children, Scott, Jeff and Marcy. They belong to St. Boniface Church in Westphalia.

Debra Ann married Steven P. Lippold. They have three children, Brenda, Bari and Brett. They belong to St. Mary's Church in Avoca, Iowa.

Marvin John married Jan Tupper from Magnolia. They have three children Kim, John J. and Kirk. They belong to St. Patrick's Church in Neola.

Kevin Gerard married Pamela M. O'Neill of Council Bluffs. They have three children, Merridy, Amy and Jay. They belong to St. Patrick's Church in Neola.

Carla Mary, children Shawn and Jamie. Was divorced and later married David Hutchens of Council Bluffs. They now live in Carroll, Iowa and belong to St. Lawrence Church in Carroll.

Cynthia Cecilia married Robert Hamilton of Walnut. They have two children, Traci and Brian. She belongs to Queen of Apostles Church in Council Bluffs.

Julie Kay Hernadenz, Henry Neil, Todd Adam and Jesse Edward are all living at home.



John & Velma Ring

JOSEPH R. AND MARY RING

Joe and Mary Ring have lived in and around this area since they were married in 1917. They have five children: Richard of Council Bluffs; Bernard of Los Angeles, California; Gerene; Dorothy and Edna of Seattle, Washington. They have nine grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Joe's parents were Jake and Madlyn Ring of Maysville, Kentucky. They came to America from Germany in 1851. There were nine children. Joe, one of the youngest, came to Iowa in 1912 and found employment in Avoca, Iowa.

Mary's father was Philip Quirk, whose parents came from Ireland and landed in Toronto, Canada, where he was born. He moved to Peoria, Illinois in 1852. Later, he came to Iowa in a covered wagon and settled near Avoca, Iowa. Mary's mother was Margaret Carey, whose parents came from Ireland and settled in Wisconsin, where Margaret Carey was born. She came to Iowa with her fold in 1856 and found a home in Avoca, where she met and married Philip Quirk. There were nine children from this marriage. Mary Ring was the oldest of three girls and six brothers.

Joe died in 1969. Mary is now living in Neola.



Joe R. Ring Family - Richard, Bernard, Dorothy, Gerene and Edna



Joseph R. & Mary Ring

PAUL FRANCIS RING

Paul Francis Ring born March 3, 1922, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fing Sr., and Phyllis Ann Matthews, born Aug. 9, 1928, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Matthews, were married May 14, 1947 at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa. Four sons and two daughters blessed this union.

Kenneth Raymond Ring, born March 4, 1948, married to Carolyn Jolly in Charlotte, N.C. on July 24, 1971.

David Alan Ring born Nov. 27, 1950, married to Mary K. O'Neill on August 19, 1972 at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa.

Michael Jacob Ring born Nov. 23, 1954, living at Neola, Iowa.

Matthew Paul ring born Jan. 2, 1959, married to June Ainsworth on April 19, 1980 at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa.

Terryl Ann Ring, born July 21, 1961, married to Thomas L. Greiner on Feb. 23, 1980, at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa.

Lori Kay Ring, born March 29, 1963, married to Michael Eckrich on Nov. 21, 1981, at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa.

Grandchildren are: Jennifer Ring, daughter of Ken and Carolyn Ring; Craig, Brad and Emily, children of David and Kathy Ring; Shaun, son of Matthew and June Ring.



Paul Ring Family, 1980



Mrs. George Ring and Mrs. Burt Cavanaugh



George T. Ring Family

GEORGE THOMAS RING FAMILY

George Thomas Ring was the son of Adam Ring and Anna Cobb. Born at Maysville, Kentucky. He moved to Oakland, Iowa where his father was a farmer. George died November 13, 1958.

On Octboer 23, 1899 he married Catherine Veronica Costello, daughter of Harry Costello and Mary Ryan. She was born in Illinois and moved to Neola with her parents where her father was a farmer. She died September 7, 1959. George and Catherine had six children, four daughters and two sons.

Mary Anna married Luke Kenney of Neola. Born to them were four daughters and one son. Mary now lives in retirement at Omaha, Nebraska.

Ursula Edith married John Green of Neola. Born to them were four daughters and three sons. She died May 30, 1976.

Catherine Veronica married Paul A. Floersch of Omaha, Nebraska. Born to them were three daughters and one son. Catherine was a registered nurse. She died May 3, 1980.

Arthur Richard was ordained a priest in 1937. He served at Earling, Iowa and Des Moines as assistant priest and instructor at Dowling High School 1942 - 1955. He became founding pastor at St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale in 1955. He retired September 1974 and lives in Des Moines.

Helen Gertrude married Lloyd Burke of Neola. One son was born to them. She lives in Council Bluffs.

George Thomas Jr. married Mary Ellen Staley of Neola. Born to them were four sons and two daughters. They live in Clarion, Iowa. He is a representative of Batten, Batten, Hundson and Swab merchandising consultants of Des Moines, Iowa.

JOHN ADAM RING FAMILY

John Adam (Quincy) Ring was born Jan. 11, 1881, in Maysville, Ky. He was the second of nine children born to Jake and Madeline Ring. In 1902 John moved to Iowa to join his Uncle Adam Ring, who farmed in the Oakland-Carson area. There he met and later married his cousin Carrie Mae Ring. Carrie Mae was born Oct. 8, 1883, the seventh of the eleven children born to Adam and Anna (Cobb) Ring. She was raised in the Carson area and it is said that her father, Adam, traveled around the countryside in his covered wagon collecting money to help build their Catholic church in Carson, Iowa. It was near Carson that John and Carrie lived until 1981, when they moved to a farm near Bentley, Iowa. This farm is at present the home of their granddaughter, Connie. In 1940 they moved to a farm three miles south of Neola. It was this farm that was to be the home of their son, Louis. Presently it is the home of Louis' sons, Fred and Alvin. Also part of this land was owned in later years by their son, Donald, and presently farmed by Donald's son, Donald Jr. The last years of John and Carrie's lives were lived in a home in Neola which is located across from the church hall. John was a Pottawattamie County Supervisor from 1936 to 1939. He and his brother "Kentucky" Joe were very political minded and stressed to their families the importance of exercising their right to vote.

Carrie is remembered by her children for her nursing abilities and was at the bedside for the births of many family member and friends. Carrie was a diabetic and died of complications in 1948. John died in 1951 from a heart attack. Both were members of St. Patrick's.

There were eight children born to them. Francis (Frank) married Rowena Talty. There were twelve children born to them: Mae Clare, Donna, Francis (Dick), Theresa, Martha, Albert, Jeannette, Andrew, Ronald, Bernard, Frances (Frankie) and Linda. Frank passed away in 1951. Dick passed away in 1963.

Leta (Sis) married Al Holzfaster and had one daughter, Madeline. Al passed away in 1934. In 1946, Leta married Lynn Burke.

Louis married Charlotte Torneten and they had seven children: Fred, Shirley, Rosemary, Robert, Margaret, Alvin and Carrie Mae. Louis passed away in 1976.

Donald L. married Esther Rodenburg and had two sons, Gerald L. and Donald L. Jr. Don passed away in 1974. Ann married Max Holzfaster and had three children: Joyce, Jean and John. Max passed away in 1974.

James (Pappy) married Evelyn Grudle and had six children: Connie, Susan, Geraldine, Martin, Eileen, and Lyn.

Deloris (Dot) married Francis (Pat) Hough and had five children: James, Michael, Rick, Leta Ann, and Eldon. Deloris passed away in 1981.

John Jr. (Jack) married Velma Thielen and had ten children: Jackie, Debbie, Marvin, Kevin, Carla, Cindy, Julie, Henry, Todd and Jesse. The majority of the children and grandchildren are or have been members of this parish.



John Adam Ring Family

JOSEPH R. RING FAMILY

Joseph R. Ring, born to Mr. and Mrs. Adam Ring, married Mary O. Sampson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Sampson. They were the parents of seven children. Harry B. Ring, married Opal Fischer. They have three married daughters: Lois Hemmingsen, Sharon Fox and Sandra Larson, and a daughter Tami who lives at home. They have seven grandchildren.

Marion F. Ring, married Phyllis Quirk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Quirk. They had seven children: Lonnie, Dan, Judy, Celeste, Thelma and two who passed away, Charles and Chris. They have six grandchildren.

Howard B. Ring passed away at the age of two.

Edgar J. Ring, married Thelma Dilley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Madison Dilley. They have two children, Sister Barbara Ring and Edward Ring. They have three grandchildren.

Rita M. Ring married John Zolck, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Zolck. They have two children, Janice Boan and Dennis Zolck. They have seven grandchildren.

Lloyd T. Ring passed away at the age of 45. He was married to Mary Graybill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Graybill. They have two married children, Mary Lee Ravlin and Thomas Ring. They have three grandchildren.

Beatrice J. Ring married Joe Konz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Konz Sr. They have two married children, Diane Mason and Bernard Konz. They have four grandchildren.



Joe & Mary Ring

LOUIS RING FAMILY

Louis B. Ring was born to John A. and Carrie M. Ring in 1909. He was the third child of three girls and five boys. His father was a farmer who moved to Iowa from Kentucky. In 1931 Louis married Charlotte Marie Torneton, the oldest daughter of Edward and Rose Torneton. She had two brothers and five sisters. She attended Clark College in Dubuque, Ia., and taught school for a short time before marrying Louis. Louis and Charlotte were married in St. Andrew's Church in Tecumseh, Ne., where Louis was working in construction. They returned to the Neola area where Louis trucked with his brother Frank. They began farming in the Giliate and Bentley areas, then in 1947 they moved to Louis Father's farm three miles south of Neola. When Louis' father died, the farm was split and bought by Louis and Donald. Seven children were born to them. All were baptized at St. Patrick's Church and many are still members of the parish, along with thirty-four of their grandchildren. Their children are: Fred Thomas married Sheila Patten and they have seven children, Jeff, Karleen, Greg, Jennifer, Lee, Becky and Ralph.

Rosemary Eileen married Walter Ausdemore. They have five children: Gary, Sally, Amy, Tony and Ron.

Shirley Ann married Leo Masker. They have eight children: Wanda, Brad, Danny, Jannelle, Joe, Jim, Cindy and Sarah.

Robert Louis married Judith Clausen, and they have two children, Barb and Charlotte.

Margaret Ellen married Terry Church, and they have four children: Brett, Brenda, Bridgett and Brooke.

Alvin Leo married Jana Kilts. and they have four children: Bart, Lori, Louis and Jill.

Carrie Mae married Tom Davis and have four children: Mike, Chris, Amber and Jennie.

During their years in the Neola area, Louis drove a school bus for the Tri-Center School for eighteen years and Charlotte began to substitute drive until 1965 when Fr. Ryan asked her to drive for St. Albert's School, which she did for nine years. Louis died in 1976 following a bout with cancer. His sons, Fred and Alvin, now live on and farm the family farm which is three miles south of Neola. Charlotte also resides on the family farm.



Louis B. Ring Family

MARION RING FAMILY

Marion Ring was born Aug. 18, 1916 at Avoca, Iowa. The son of Joseph and Mary (Sampson) Ring. He had two sisters and three brothers. He married Phyllis Quirk of Minden, Ia., and were married Nov. 24, 1941 at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. Phyllis was the daughter of Lorita Belle (McClelland) and Charles Quirk. They had seven children, five of whom are living. They are: Judy born May 15, 1944; Lonnie born Aug. 6, 1946; Dan born May 29, 1950; Celeste born June 10, 1954; Thelma born July 5, 1958. There are five grandchildren, Michelle, Penney and Joseph children of Lonnie and April Ring; and Jessica and Sara, the daughters of Dan and Jamie Ring. Phyllis worked for two years as a volunteer at the Veterans Hospital in Omaha, Ne., and served as president of the American Legion Auxilliary for two years. She was also active in civic and church organizations before her death in June of 1981. Marion is a W.W. II veteran. He is a member of The American Legion Post 330 and served as its commander for two years. He worked for Swift Packing Co. until his retirement in 1978. He has been a long-time member of the parish.



Marion & Phyllis Ring

GERALD L. RING

Gerald L. Ring was born October 19, 1937 in Council Bluffs to Donald and Esther Rodenburg Ring.

Grandparents: John Adam and Carrie Ring and Herman and Bertha Ecklund Rodenburg.

Mary Josephine Hoffmann Ring was born May 9, 1939 to Fred and Margaret Koralewski Hoffmann of Cody, Nebraska.

Grandparents: Peter and Margaret E. Schwertly Hoffmann and Andrew and Anna Stasch Koralewski.

Gerald and Mary were united in marriage July 7, 1962 in St. Nicholas Church at Valentine, Nebraska. To this union eight children were born: Melissa Ann, Vicky Marie, Michelle Leigh, Lori Renae, Douglas Gerald, Darin James, Emily Margaret, and Adam Jacob. The family resides on a small farm one and one-half mile north of Neola and operate Ring Construction Co., originally started by Donald Sr. in the middle 1940's.



Gerald & Mary Jo Ring Family

CLARENCE J. RING

On January 14, 1948, Clarence James (Dutch) Ring, son of Jacob James and Juriah Agnes (Burke) Ring, was joined in marriage to Mary Helen Matthews, daughter of Michael and Anna (Dahlquist) Matthews. Like many marriages of that time, they started farming as their means of making a living, and after 34 years they are still in the farming business. From their marriage came five children:

Carolyn Ann (4/18/49), Myron Thomas (9/21/51), Sheila Marie (8/24/54) Timothy James (8/20/56) Nicholas Edward (10/4/60).

In June of 1972, Carolyn married Daniel Joseph McDermott, son of Donald and Alma McDermott. They have four children: Joshua Daniel, JoAnn Lynn, Jessica Lea and Jacob James.

Myron married Becky Jolene Witt, daughter of J. William and Estella Witt, in September of 1974. They have two daughters: Lynette Jo and Laura Jean.

In September of 1973, Sheila married Charles Daniel Minahan, son of Bernard and Ernestine Minahan.

Tim and Nick are currently living at home.

Mrs. Juriah Ring, mother of the Jacob Ring family is presently residing at the Clarence Ring home at the fine age of 92.



Jo Ann, Joshua, Jacob and Jessica McDermott, children of Dan & Caroline McDermott



Laura Jean and Lynette Jo, children of Myron Ring



Clarence & Mary Ring Family

GEORGE RODENBURG

George Rodenburg was the youngest of eleven children born to John and Magdalen Rodenburg in Neola in 1903. George's parents were born in Schleswig, Holstein, Germany, and came to America in 1884. George was a farmer and cattlefeeder with his father.

He married Rosetta (Rose) O'Riley, who was born and raised in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Rose was the twelfth child born to Bernard and Mary Alice O'Riley. Her mother was born in Warre, Illinois, and her father in Trenton, New Jersey. Her grandparents were all born in County Cork, Ireland. In 1980 Rose went on a tour to Rome and Ireland. While there, she made a trip to the city of Cork with friends who also had ancestors that at one time lived there.

George and Rose were united in marriage at St. Patrick's Church in Missouri Valley on October 2, 1935, by the Reverend P.R. O'Donnell, who also instructed and baptized George into the Catholic faith. They lived on a farm in Neola, five miles west of town. After ten years, they moved into town where they had built a new home. George served on the town council for some time. He also operated a small cafe and tavern called the "R-Bar".

In 1975, George suffered a stroke and was bed-ridden for two years. He passed away on Nov. 23, 1977. He was a member of St. Patrick's Parish in Neola and was buried from that church and laid to rest in St. Patrick's Cemetery. Rose still makes her home in Neola.



George & Rose Roden Rodenburg

DR. ANTHONY M. ROMANO

In 1960 Dr. Anthony M. and Joanne Romano, both Omaha natives, became members of St. Patrick's Parish and for thirteen years contributed their services to the church and school.

After graduation from Creighton School of Medicine and serving his internship at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Dr. Romano joined Dr. Max Olsen of Minden, practicing there for one year. In 1961, he opened the Neola Medical Clinic and moved his young family to Neola. Seven of their children were baptized at St. Patrick's and their school-aged children attended St. Joseph's School.

Dr. Romano and Joanne were both very active in the community. They both held positions on the St. Joseph's School Board. He served on the Parish Council, Neola Swimming Pool Committee and the Neola Board of Health. Joanne was president of the Altar and Rosary Society and held office in the St. Joseph's Parents Club.

In 1972, Dr. Romano joined the Cogley Clinic in Council Bluffs. On leaving, he deeded his interest in the Neola Clinic back to the City of Neola.

They were the parents of twelve children: Angela, Mike, Susan, Tony, Joe, Rosemary, John, Fred, Paul, Rex, Anne Marie and James. They now live in Council Bluffs and have continued their interest in the parish and their friends in Neola.



Dr. Anthony & Joanne Romano Family

JOHN J. ROANE FAMILY

Kathleen A. Sullivan of Dunlap, Iowa married John J. (Jack Roane) of Neola, Iowa. They were married in St. Patrick's Church, Dunlap, Iowa. They live on a farm south of Neola, and have six children: Sheila, born Aug. 22, 1963; Jackie, born July 28, 1964; Shirley, born Jan. 28, 1966; Fred, born May 2, 1967; Donna, born June 28, 1970; and Frank, born June 24, 1973. All of their children were baptized, made their First Communion, and Confirmed in St. Patrick's, Neola. The children attended St. Joseph's School, Neola, and St. Albert's of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Their daughter, Shelia, was graduated from St. Albert's and is a student at Drake.



John Roane Family

FRANK RING FAMILY

My name is Martha Jane Ring Denning. I am the fifth child in a family of twelve born to Francis Richard (Frank R) and Rowena Mae Talty Ring. I married Bernard Joseph Denning, the fifth child in a family of nine. His parents are William H. and Loretto Marie Cavanaugh Denning. We were married February 19, 1955, at St. Patrick's, Neola, Iowa. Father Art Ring married us.

My father's parents were John Quincy Adam Ring and Carrie Ring. Dad was born September 5, 1903, at St. Joseph, Missouri. Rowena Mae Talty Ring was born October 1, 1904 at Massena, Iowa. My mother's family moved to Neola in April 1914, so the children could attend St. Joseph's School. Frank and Rowena were married January 4, 1923. My father was the first son in a family of eight. Grandma Ring died in 1948 and Grandpa in 1951. My father died February 22, 1951 at the age of 47 years. His brothers and sisters are: Louis B. (deceased), Donald (deceased), Jim, Jack, Ann Holtzfaster, Lita Burke and De-lores Hough (deceased). My mother is the third child in a family of six. Her parents were John Henry Talty and Martha Catherine Waters Talty. They were married at Massena, Iowa, August 25, 1896. The children are Clifton, Vivian Masker, Rowena Ring, Rosalie Grote, Thelma Gragert and Norbert (deceased).

My Grandma Talty's flower gardens were very beautiful. I can remember her working in them after she had a stroke. She had a crutch under one arm and a spade in the other. I like to think that I inherited my love of flowers from her. My brothers and sisters are Mae Clare Delanty, Donna Jean Stageman, Francis R. (Dick - deceased), Theresa Taylor, Albert Leo, Catherine Jeanette Long, Andrew Charles, Ronald Joseph, Bernard James, Frances Renea Tiarks and Linda Ann.

All of the children attended St. Joseph's School except Linda. My mother and father started Ring Trucking Business in 1923. When my father died, seven of the children were still in school. I had just graduated. If it hadn't been for my brother, Dick, and then the other brothers as they were old enough to step in, my mother wouldn't have been able to make ends meet. However, she did and we are all very proud of her. My brothers especially so. She was honored at a banquet this winter hosed by Ring Transfer. Today, Ring Transfer is one of the oldest businesses in the town of Neola.



John Quincy Adam Ring Family



Frank, Lita, Donald L. and Louis B. Ring, 1912

Frank & Rowena Ring, Mae Clare and Donna



Rowena Ring with her family



Rowena Ring

THOMAS J. AND GRACE RYAN

Grace Ryan, the widow of Thomas John Ryan, was Neola's postmaster from 1935 to 1947. She served as postmaster during the World War II years. After working nine hours a day, six days a week, she often delivered letters from servicemen, especially those in enemy prison camps to their families after her full work day. She delivered these letters on foot as she had no car.

She and her husband were married in 1915. The former Grace Delaney Leytham, Mrs. Ryan was a native of Portsmouth, Iowa. she worked a store clerk in the local hardware store before her marriage.

Tom Ryan's mother ran a boarding house in Neola, then on the site of the present Beebe residence. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ryan lived in Minden where he operated the lumberyard.

They were the parents of four children: Tom (Hickory), Betty, Bill and Raymond, all of whom attended St. Joseph's School.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan lived in Minden before moving to Neola in 1927. He was manager of Green Bay Lumber Companies in both towns. After Mr. Ryan's death in 1929, she was a home care products salesman until accepting the postal position.

In her quiet way, Mrs. Ryan was friend of all any many people in Neola benefited from her able assistance in time of sickness or other trouble. She capably rendered this assistance while caring for her own family. An episode with tuberculosis forced Grace to spend one year away from her family in Oakdale.

In 1917 Grace converted to Catholicism, and as a member of St. Patrick's Church, she was active in its Rosary and Altar Society, a member of the Catholic Daughters of America. She also was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the Neola Community Club.

After devoting her life to others, Mrs. Ryan died in June of 1977 just before her 92nd birthday.



Mrs. Grace Ryan



John Roberts Family 25th Wedding Anniversary August 26, 1967

JOHN LEVI ROBERTS

John Levi Roberts was born August 14, 1912, the oldest of the three children born to Frank and Hattie Elizabeth (Berry) Roberts of Meadow Grove, Nebraska. John met his future wife, Anna Christine Wellman, when she came to Norfolk, Nebraska to visit her aunt.

John and Anna, the daughter of Joseph and Mame (Merten) Wellman were married August 26, 1942, at St. Patrick's Church in Neola. The next ten years they made their home in Norfolk, moving back to the Neola area in 1952 where John was engaged in farming. In 1960 they moved to the present home in Neola which was the home of Anna's father until his death. Anna passed away March 4, 1968.

John and Anna had seven children. Elizabeth Ann was born August 11, 1943. She married Ken Card, and they have four children, Irene, Larry, David and Doris. Wayne Francis was born July 16, 1944. He married Linda Baker and they have one daughter, Kristina. James Joseph was born December 4, 1947. He married Gayle Jacobsen, and has one son, Derek. Marilyn Irene was born April 4, 1949. She passed away February 1, 1950. Leo John was born May 25, 1950. He married Linda Hutchinson and they have two children, Johnny and Leila. Albert Ray was born July 27, 1953. He married Joanne Zeilenger and they have two girls, Amanda and Anna. Mary Alice was born July 10, 1957. She married Steve Tomkinson. They have two sons, Frank and Matthew.

ROBERT T. ROANE FAMILY

Rita Catherine (McDonald) Roane, daughter of Patrick John McDonald and Mary Catherine (Masker) McDonald, seventh of eleven children, was born on a farm northeast of Neola and attended kindergarten at St. Joseph's, Neola, commuting by team and buggy with two older sisters, Marie and Phyllis. When the older girls were graduated from St. Joseph's, a one-room school in Minden Township provided the remaining grade school days. They went back to St. Joseph's and were graduated from high school with the Class of 1943.

On 2-3-45 I married Robert R. Roane, only child of R.R. Roane and Zella Mae (Killion) Roane. We moved to the Roane farm south of Neola, later selling the farm and moving to the town of Neola. Bob and I had five children, two girls and three boys. The girls, Catherine Lee (Cathy) was married May 8, 1982 to Richard Corrin, son of Freeman and Barb Corrin, and Barbara Ann the youngest is single. The boys are married. The eldest, Larry Dean, is married to Jerry Kathryn Coy, daughter of Gerald and Kathryn Coy, and they have one son, Matthew Dean. Robert Alan (Rob) is married to Judy Diane Westerberg, daughter of Jim and Hazel Westerberg and they have one son, Robert Michael, and one daughter, Regina Ann. Darrell Francis is married to Kathleen Ellen McGinn, daughter of Edmund and Mary Margaret McGinn, and they have one son, Daniel Robert.

Larry also was graduated from St. Joseph's but changes made it necessary for St. Joseph's to consolidate with the Catholic schools of Council Bluffs. Consequently, Cathy, Rob, Darrell, and Barb were graduated from St. Albert's.

Robert (Bob) died from cancer December 23, 1980 at age 57.



Darrell and Kellie Roane



Robert & Judy Roane, Regina and Robert



Robert Roane Family



Larry and Jerry, with Matthew Roane



Daniel Robert, son of Darrell & Kellie Roane

MONSIGNOR FRANCIS SAMPSON

Father Francis Sampson was assigned as assistant to Father Kleffman in July 1941. In his first greeting to the parish he related he had expected to be welcomed by three personages of the city - the Mayor of Neola, the local mortician and the St. Joseph's girls' basketball coach, which was in reality, one man. Jack Farrell, a man many remember for his hours of volunteer service.

Many of the young men of the parish recall Father Sampson's supportive counseling during the upheaval of the first year of World War II.

Father Sampson enlisted in the service in May of 1942. He served with the famed "Screaming Eagles" (101st) Paratroopers which participated in the Normandy and Holland invasion. He was captured three times by the enemy during heavy fighting in Northern France and Belgium. He was captured and held prisoner by the Germans at Stalag 2A near Neubrandenburg. There he spent five months in confinement until he was liberated by the Russians shortly before V-E Day. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Presidential Unit Citation for his heroic work with the 101st Division.

He later was appointed General in the United States Army and Chief of Chaplains. After the war, he wrote of his experiences in a book titled "Paratrooper Padre". During the Korean conflict he authored "Look Out Below". During this time he said he was thinking of the peaceful existence of life in "a small town in Iowa".

Father Sampson is now retired and living in his home state of South Dakota.



Rev. Francis Sampson, 1942

WILLIAM SCHIERBROCK FAMILY

William Schierbrock was born about 1854 and died in 1935. He settled in Pottawattamie County where he was a carpenter. He married Mary Holzfaster and they had six children. The oldest, Anna, was born in 1882 and died in 1959. Kate was born in 1885 and died in 1969. Adolph "Ed" was born in 1887 and died in 1974. Leo was born in 1894 and passed away in 1978. These four owned and operated the Schierbrock Dept. Store in Neola. Two other boys, Jerome and Bernard, also have passed away. Jerome married and had two boys, Bill and Jim, who was killed in W.W. II. Bill and his wife have two children and live in Las Vegas, Nevada. Leo married Regina Lafferty in 1929. They had seven children. Regina passed away in 1949. All were members of St. Patrick's Church and were instrumental in establishing St. Patrick's.



Ed, Jerome, Leo, Kate and Anna Schierbrock



William Schierbrock



Mary Schierbrock

LEO SCHIERBROCK FAMILY

Leo J. Schierbrock was born in 1894 in Neola, Iowa. His parents were William and Mary Holzfaster Schierbrock. In 1929 he married Regina Lafferty. They had seven children. The oldest, Gerald "Jerry" was born in 1930 and married Mary Pat Grieder and have five children: Michael, William, Greg, Cheryl and Debra.

Mary Joanne was born in 1933 and married Thomas Kenealy. They have four children: Loretta, Joseph, James and Lisa.

Leo Joseph was born in 1936, married Jean Reed and has one daughter, Mary Ann.

Marilyn was born in 1939 and belongs to the Sisters of Humility Order.

Jane was born in 1942 and married Robert Lustgraaf. They have two daughters, Carol and Diane.

The twins born in 1947 are Kathleen and Eileen. Eileen married Gary Mathews and they have three girls: Tonya, Tricia and Tami. All the Schierbrock children were graduated from St. Joseph School. Kathleen and Eileen were in the last graduating Class of 1965. Leo passed away in 1978 and Regina in 1949.



Leo & Regina Schierbrock



Leo J. Schierbrock Family



Janie, Regina and Marilyn Schierbrock

LEO JOSEPH SCHIERBROCK

Leo Joseph Schierbrock, son of Leo and Regina Schierbrock, was born in Neola on May 16, 1936. He attended St. Joseph's School and after graduation worked on his uncle's farm near Vail, Iowa. He married Regina J. Reed, daughter of Elmer and Mary Reed, August 12, 1978 in St. Louis Church, Colorado. They have one child, Mary Ann, born September 7, 1979. They are now farming on Francis and Ursula Meehan's farm in Vail.



Leo Joe, Regina and Mary Ann Schierbrock

GERALD LEO SCHIERBROCK FAMILY

On March 4, 1957, Gerald L. Schierbrock, son of the late Leo and Regina Lafferty Schierbrock, and Mary Patricia Grieder, daughter of Clifford and Hazel Elizabeth Grieder, were united in marriage. They are the parents of five children: Michael Jerome born September 27, 1957; William James born July 1, 1959; Gregory Allen born September 7, 1960; Cheryl Ann born November 1, 1966; Deborah Lynn born December 4, 1973. William was united in marriage to Deborah Ann Ring, daughter of Albert and Verna Ring, on October 18, 1980.

After keeping with the family business since childhood, Jerry now operates the Schierbrock Dept. Store along with his wife, Mary Pat.



Gerry & Mary Pat Schierbrock



Gerry Schierbrock Family

VICTOR SHEA

Victor was born February 1, 1915 of Matthew and Elizabeth Shea on the farm three miles west of Neola that his father purchased in 1913 just before his marriage. On April 11, 1942, he took Patricia O'Rourke, oldest daughter of Charles and Mary (Walsh) O'Rourke as his bride. They came to live on the same farm to which his father had brought his bride. Matt and Elizabeth moved into Neola then.

Vic and Pat had six children. Tim served in the Marine Corps from 1962-1964. He drowned July 10, 1966 in a lake near Central City, Nebraska where he had been working. Tom served in the U.S. Navy from 1963-1967. He married Joann Hough of Underwood in 1967. They have two sons, Tim and Mark. Tom is a Council Bluffs fireman. Jeanine married Tom Cirillo of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1967 and they have three girls, Annie, Jai and Briene. Jeanine and her girls live in Boulder, Colorado, where she works at the university. Dennis married Patsy Hough, Joann's sister, in 1970. They have two sons, Shawn and Ryan, and a daughter, Katie Jo. Dennis manages an architectural firm's printing office in Omaha. Michael married Nancy Fernside in 1977. They have two daughters, Staci and La Ria and live in Neola. Michael works for the Chicago, Northwestern Railway. He feels he's carrying on a tradition. His great-grandfather Walsh and several of his great uncles on the Walsh side worked for various railroads in the Council Bluffs and Omaha area. Joanne married Rick Snyder of Wichita, Kansas in 1981. They have a son, Judd Paul and now live in Omaha. All the Shea children attended and were graduated from St. Joseph's School except for the last three who were graduated from St. Albert's in Council Bluffs. Vic had some health problems in 1968 that prompted the family to sell the farm and build a new home in Neola.

Patrick Shea migrated from Ireland during the potato famine around 1850. He met and married Margaret Hickey in 1867. They lived on a farm near Lincoln, Illinois prior to coming to Silver City, Iowa by train in 1886. They brought some of their livestock with them. Their youngest child was six months old. The Hobbins, Costello, Burke and Hickey families came from the same area with them. All were unhappy at being so far from a Catholic Church so they migrated again about 1869 to Neola. The Shea's settled west of Neola in Boomer Township. They had nine children, three sons, Edward, Matthew, and Patrick. Six daughters, Joanne and Ellen, died as children. Mary never married, was a seamstress here in Neola. Margaret kept house for her bachelor horse-trader brothers, Edward (Ned) and Patrick (Pat). Many people still talk about the horses their fathers and husbands bought from the Shea Brothers. Nora and Rachel were teachers and taught in the local area. Nora later lived in Omaha. Rachel married John Fitzsimmons here at St. Patrick's on June 26, 1907. They had four daughters, Linnus, Margaret, Maureen and Elinore. Matthew married Elizabeth Tamisiea at St. Patrick's Missouri Valley, Iowa on February 18, 1914. They had two children, Victor and Eileen.



Victor Shea Family - Michael, Pat, Vic, Joanne, Tim, Jeanine, Tom and Dennis

Pat has taught various grades in Underwood Elementary School since September 1961. She had received an associate degree in 1940 at the College of St. Mary. The Iowa teaching laws were changed to say that a teacher had to have four years of college, so she began work on her bachelor's degree in 1958 and completed work for it in 1972. Many others were working to get their degree, teaching, and raising a family at the same time.

Pat is a lector at St. Patrick's. They're both extraordinary ministers. Every Sunday morning for the past four years they have held a paralyturgy and distribute Holy Communion to the people at the County Home.

FRED SCHNITKER FAMILY

Fred and Alma Schnitker family: 5 children, 31 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Their children are: Reynold married to Dorothy Boege; Donald married to Mabel Petersen; Virginia married to Joseph Fischer; Lorraine married to Joseph Grote; Frederick married to Barbara McGinn.

All are members of St. Patrick's Parish in Neola, except Frederick and his family, who are members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Omaha, Nebraska.

Deaths: Fred (father) died in 1946 age 53, buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Neola.

Virginia (daughter) died in 1963, age 35, buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Patricia (granddaughter) died in 1949, age 1½ years, buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Lois (granddaughter) died in 1979, age 32 buried in Neola Township Cemetery.

THE FAMILY OF FREDERICK SCHNITKER

Frederick Schnitker (1843-1902) was believed to be born in Hanover, Germany and came to Lee County, Iowa in the mid 1800's. He and his first wife, name unknown, lived in Lee County and had one daughter, Mary (Schnitker) Bentler. They also had a son, John, who died at an early age. His wife also died young. His second wife, the former Mary (Marks) Schwartz (1853-1896), had also been married before and had one son, Nick Schwartz and a daughter, Catherine M. (1877-1966) wife of John R. (Jack) Cavanaugh (1870-1941). He and Mary were married in Lee County and moved to Neola Township in the late 1800's. They lived on what was known as the Ramsen place. It is now owned and farmed by Joe Grote Jr. northwest of Neola. They were the parents of five sons and three daughters: Hermon who married Eva Arrick; Hank who never married; Garrett (1883-1958) who married Ellen C. McDonald (1888-1932); John H. (1886-1972) who married Mary McDonald (1891-1965); Fred J. (1893-1946) who married Alma Schuning; Anna who married Fred Nelson; M. Elizabeth (1886-1966) who married J. Frank Pickernell (1878-1937); and Mary who married Dale Stewart. They were members of St. Pat's and are all deceased except Alma Schnitker who lives in Neola.

JOHN F. SCHNITKER, JR.

John was born June 8, 1948 eldest son of Jack and Alice (Soppe) Schnitker. He attended St. Joseph Grade School, Neola; three years at St. Joseph High School; and was graduated from St. Albert's in 1966. He attended Creighton University in Omaha for one year. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1967 to 1970. In 1972, he began his present occupation, a meat inspector for the U.S.D.A.

John and Kristin E. Redinbaugh, daughter of Dorothy Jean (Clausen) and Ivan W. Redinbaugh, were married September 12, 1970 at St. Patrick's Church, Neola. They are the parents of two sons, Eric John (11-19-71) and Ryan Matthew (11-18-74).

Kristin is a graduate of Tri-Center High School (1967) and J.E.M.H. School of Radiologic Technology (1969). She is presently Director of Education for the J.E.M.H. School of Radiologic Technology in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She is a member of the American Legion Aux. and various professional organizations.

John is currently mayor of Neola, a member of the Vol. Fire and Rescue Department, American Legion, 40 & 8, a lector at St. Patrick's and other organizations.

Eric Schnitker was the 5th generation to reside on the Paul McDonald farm (from '71 to '73).

by John F. Schnitker, Jr.

John Francis (Jack) Schnitker, son of John H. and Mary Schnitker and Alice Mary Soppe, daughter of George and Alice Soppe, were married at St. Patrick's Church in Neola in 1947. At that time, Jack was engaged in farming with his father.

He, Alice and their three sons (John F. Jr. 1948; Larry George 1949; and Michael Dennis 1951), moved to the "home place" in 1952 when Jack's father and mother retired and moved to Neola.

Their first daughter, Janice Mary, was born in 1953. Four more daughters were born to them, Linda Marie (1954), Marcia Anne (1957), Catherine JoAnn (1961) and Carol Jean (1964). All of the children except Carol attended St. Joseph's School in Neola. John was in the first graduating class from St. Albert's. Larry graduated in 1967 and Michael in 1970. Janice and Linda also attended St. Albert's until the family moved to Laramie, Wyoming in 1970. Janice was graduated from Laramie High School in 1971, Linda in 1972, Marcia in 1975, Cathy received her G.E.D. there in 1980, and Carol will be graduated in 1982. Janice was graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1976 with a degree in Nursing.

Janice married Douglas Ankle in 1973 and they have two children, Jennifer Mary and Christopher John. Douglas is a building contractor.

Marcia married Harold Vigil in 1976 and they have two daughters, Annessa Ashlee and Melissa Ann. Harold is a brakeman with the U.P. Railroad.

Cathy married Ronnie Armijo in 1978. They have two daughters, Julie Dawn and Amy Marie. Their son, Michael Stephen, died at the age of two months in 1979. Ronnie is presently in the U.S. Army.

Larry is married to Beverly Ivy from Powell, Wyoming. She is a nurse and Larry is in the construction business. They have a son, Aaron George.

Michael is a pipefitter working mainly in the state of Wyoming. He was graduated from Local #192 Plumbers and Pipefitters apprenticeship in 1976.

Linda, following in the footsteps of her father and brother, will be graduated from pipefitters apprenticeship in 1982. She will be the first woman in Wyoming to complete this apprenticeship through a local union.

John was married to Kristin Redinbaugh. They have two sons, Eric John and Ryan Matthew.

Jack was born and raised on the farm and farmed until he was 42 years old. He also was a plumber and did business at J.S. Plumbing until 1970 when he moved to Laramie, Wyoming. He has been a union plumber for 11 years.

by Alice Schnitker

JOHN HENRY SCHNITKER

John H. (1888-1972) was the son of Frederick and Mary (Marks, Schwartz) Schnitker. It is believed he was born in Lee County Iowa and moved to Neola Township with his parents in the late 1800's.

John was married to Mary McDonald (1891-1965) on May 19, 1912 in Canyon City, Colorado. Mary was the daughter of Paul (1857-1927) and Rachel (Ballard) (1864-1933) McDonald. John and Mary raised their family of two daughters and four sons on the Paul McDonald homestead after Paul and Rachel built a home in Neola (the Vern Redinbaugh, Sr. residence) and retired to the city. Their oldest daughter, Josephine, taught school in the Neola area for many years. She never married and lived with her parents until their death. After retiring from teaching, she did volunteer work at St. Joseph School. She is presently living in Clarinda, Iowa.

Their daughter, Bernice, married John (Speed) Dermody. She, like her sister, taught school until her retirement in 1981. She and John have two daughters, Mary Loretta (Molly) and Linda. Bernice died in May of 1982.

Their eldest son, Richard, married Lettie Hobbins and have two sons, Dean and Dan, and one daughter, Sharon.

Phil married Betty Ryan and have two sons, Tom and Steven.

Leo (Bud) married Bernie Volner and they reside in Florida. They have four sons and four daughters: Karen, Steve, Bill, Ann, Ellen, Kevin, Mark and Mary.

John (Jack) married Alice Soppe and has three sons and five daughters: John F. Jr., Larry, Mike, Janice, Linda, Marcia, Cathy and Carol.

John H. farmed until his retirement in 1952 when he moved to Neola. He remained very active throughout his retirement. He was co-chairman of the parish farm committee for many years. Seldom a day went by that he didn't drive out to the parish farm and mend fence, cut weeds or oversee the work crews he helped form to do the plowing, planting and harvesting of the crops. All this work was done by volunteers who furnished their equipment and man power. Even the town's people became involved by furnishing food and drink for the crews.

John H. was a strong supporter of Catholic schools, both St. Joseph's and St. Albert's. All of his and Mary's children were graduated from St. Joseph's High School.

John H. was loved, admired and respected not only by his children and grandchildren, but by all who knew him.

by John F. Schnitker, Jr.



The thrashing crew of 1908. (Top row left to right) John H. Schnnitker, Bob O'Neil, Herman and Garrett Schnitker, Martin Dermody, Jack McDonald and Otto Terraus. (lower row sitting) Jack Dermody, Mr. Geidel, Tink Bowen, Jim Hobbins, Unk. and John McDonald



The John H. & Mary Schnitker 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1962. John and Mary, their six children and their spouses, nineteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



John H. Schitker and Mary McDonald, May 19, 1912. Their witnesses **Mary Dixon** and Fred Schnitker.

REVEREND JEROME NICHOLAS SCHNITKER

Born: August 5, 1923
Ordained: May 15, 1954
Died: August 20, 1964

A much decorated aerial gunner of World War II said his first Mass as a Catholic priest in St. Patrick's Church in Neola on Monday, May 17, 1954.

The Reverend Jerome Schnitker, who served two and one-half years in the Air Force, became the fifth member of the local parish to enter the priesthood. He was ordained in Des Moines by his Excellency, the Most Reverend Edward Celestin Daly, O.P., S.T.M., Bishop of Des Moines, on Saturday, the 15th of May, 1954 at 9 o'clock at St. Ambrose Cathedral.

In addition to many relatives, friends and members of the clergy, Father Schnitker's war-time chaplain, the Reverend Walter H. Lahse of Erie, Pennsylvania attended the rites.

"I had in mind to become a priest when I was in grade school," said Father Schnitker. "After the war, I was certain this was what I wanted."

Father Schnitker attended grade school in Neola and was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1940. He is the only one of the fourteen children of Mr. Garrett Schnitker to choose the clergy. His mother died in 1932.

The new priest who attended Creighton University and St. Benedict's College before entering the seminary was assigned to St. Peter's Parish in Earling as assistant to Monsignor Bissen. He served there for five years. He was then assigned to Holy Trinity in Des Moines as assistant to Father Frank Ostdiek, serving there for four years. His next assignment was at St. Clare's in Clarinda.

In addition to flying thirty missions as a tail-gunner on a B-17, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four clusters. His bomber crew received a Presidential Citation for its heroic service.

Father Lahse recalled the Neolan's visit to his Chapel when the two men were stationed in England. "I remember when we had to dodge a buzz bomb while we were visiting the zoo in London one day," Father Lahse said.

"His inspiration certainly helped me to make my decision to become a priest," Father Schnitker responded. He added that his service also pointed "to the fact that men were not created for killing each other - there is a far greater meaning in life than wars".

Father Schnitker became known lovingly by his friends and relatives as Father "Butch", a nickname from his youth.



Father Jerome Schnitker, 1964



Father Jerome Schnitker with Father Walter Lahse, 1954

Taken from the Neola Gazette, August 27, 1964.
**FUNERAL SERVICES FOR
 REV. JEROME SCHNITKER HELD MONDAY MORN-
 ING.**

The Rev. Jerome N. Schnitker, 41, pastor of St. Clare's at Clarinda and St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Vilisca, was killed in a traffic accident Thursday evening, August 20, near Carson. He was born at Neola, August 5, 1923.

He was a graduate of St. Joseph's High School at Neola, Class of 1940, and served as a tail gunner in the Air Force during W.W. II. Following his discharge from the service, he spent two years at St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas.

He then transferred to Immaculate Conception Seminary at Conception, Missouri, and was ordained a priest of God by the Most Rev. Edward C. Daly, Bishop of Des Moines at Des Moines May 15, 1954. He was named assistant to St. Joseph's Parish at Earling and at Des Moines and was appointed to his first parish at Clarinda in October of 1962.

Father Schnitker was a member of the Knights of Columbus, third and fourth degrees, a member of St. Joseph's High School Alumni Association at Neola and acted as toastmaster at the annual Alumni Banquet this year as he had done many times in the past. He was the current president of the Alumni at Conception, Missouri.

Father Schnitker was preceded in death by his parents, Garret and Ellen McDonald Schnitker and a sister, Margaret. Survivors include seven brothers, Paul of Sunrise Beach, Mo., William and Edward of North Platte, Ne., Francis of Shelby, Bernard of Omaha, Joseph of San Jose, Ca, and James of Co. Bluffs. Six sisters, Mrs. Mary Stebbins of Co. Bluffs, Mrs. Cecilia Juels of Nichols, Iowa, Mrs. Loretta Baker of North Platte, Mrs. Florence Cross and **Mrs. Lucille O'Connor of Neola** and Rosemarie of Bedford.

Funeral services were held Monday morning at St. Clare's Church in Clarinda with burial at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Neola. Pall bearers were his brothers. The American Legion Post of Neola conducted military services at the grave.



Father Jerome Schnitker, May 17, 1954

HISTORY OF GARRETT JOHN SCHNITKER

Garrett Schnitker was born in Ottumwa, Iowa on June 25, 1883 to Fred Schnitker and Mary Marks.

There were eleven children in the Schnitker family. Garrett had two step-sisters, Mary Schnitker (Bentler), Catherine Schwartz (Cavanaugh), and one step-brother, Nickolas Schwartz, and brothers, Herman, Henry, John, Fred and sisters, Mary Schnitker (Stewart), Elizabeth Schnitker (Pickernell) and Ann Schnitker (Nelson).

When he was a young boy, the family moved to a farm north of Neola, known as the "Ransom Place". They lived on this farm until the death of their parents. Mrs. Schnitker died at the age of 43 on October 12, 1896. Her husband, Fred, died a few years later in 1902 at the age of 59.

In 1905 Garrett was married to Ellen Cecilia McDonald, daughter of Paul McDonald and Rachel Drury. They were married in St. Patrick's Church in Neola. They moved to their own 120-acre farm, two and one-half miles north of Neola. Fifteen children were born to the couple, Mary, Paul, Joseph, Francis, Margaret, Cecilia, William, Edward, Bernard, Florence, Loretta, Jerome, Lucille, James and Rose Marie. In 1917 their daughter, Margaret, died of influenza at the age of four.

On February 2, 1932, Garrett's wife died at the age of 44 leaving him with eleven children still at home. He kept his family together during the depression years on the farm, but in 1936, he was forced to leave because of the bank's foreclosure on his land.

He then moved into the town of Neola and found work with the W.P.A. For several years he was a carpenter for William Thomas and finally took a job as custodian of St. Patrick's Church and school which he held until 1945.

When World War II started his four sons, William, Edward, Bernard and Jerome served in the Armed Forces. Bernard was a prisoner of war for 27 months. All returned home safely.

In 1945 he and his son, James, moved to North Platte, Nebraska where they worked for three years. On his retirement, he returned to Neola and made home with his step-sister, Catherine.

A great day in his life was when his son, Jerome (Butch), was ordained a priest on May 15, 1954 for the Diocese of Des Moines.

Garrett died on May 28, 1958 at the age of 74. His Mass was concelebrated by his son, Reverend Jerome and Bishop Daley. His sons were his pallbearers. He was survived by 14 children, 42 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



H.H. SOPPE

Mary Catherine Ostdiek was the daughter of Ferdinand Ostdiek and Catherine Schnitker Ostdiek. She married Henry Herman Soppe. They raised six children: Ferdinand, John, Gerhard, George, Mary Catherine (Kate) and Helena (Lena).

Ferdinand Soppe married Angela Von Hebel and they had seven sons: Henry, Albert, Raymond, and Joseph (all deceased), Bernard, Francis and Harold. There were three daughters Mary Catherine (Sister Mary Marcella) and Angela (both deceased) and Leona. Leona is a graduate of St. Joseph School Class of 1932 and Mercy School of Nursing, Council Bluffs.

John Soppe married Minnie Arrick and they had four daughters and one son. They are: Mrs. Bob Yaggie (Eva), Mrs. Jerry Townsend (Irene), Mrs. Angela Earp, Mrs. Ruth Forsythe and George Soppe.

Helena (Lena) married Edward Pickernell and they were the parents of four children: Wilbur, Florence Detamore, Raymond and Edna Potter.

George Soppe married Alice (Whitmore) Mortensen in 1927. They were the parents of three children: George Jr., Alice Mary Schnitker, and Geraldine Joan Gardner. Alice is the mother of three children from her marriage to Clarence Mortensen. They are: Ruth Deveraux, Clarence LeRoy and Claretta Whaley.

Gerhard Soppe never married and resided most of his life in Colorado.

Mary Catherine Soppe did not marry and lived with her mother for many years, helping to raise some of Ferdinand Soppe's children after the death of their mother when the children were very young. She also helped in the care of other nieces and nephews. She was dearly loved by many people and was known affectionately as "Aunt Kate".



Garrett & Nell Schnitker, John Schnitker
Elizabeth McDonald Sweeney



Garrett Schnitker Family



H.H. Soppe Family - Mary Catherine (Aunt Kate) (1872-1965), Gerhard P. (1879-1939), Helena (1884-1925), Ferdinand, John, George (1887-1963), H.H. (11833-1907) and Mary C. (1849-1926). Their family was one of the first families of St. Patrick's Parish.

MARK STAGEMAN JR. FAMILY HISTORY

Mark Stageman Jr. was born May 7, 1925 the son of Susan A. (O'Hara) Stageman and Mark P. Stageman Sr. Mark Jr. is the sixth child in a family of eight children, seven of whom are still living. The family lived on a farm homesteaded by Mark's grandfather, near Glendale Acres in Council Bluffs, Ia. until 1937, when they purchased and moved to a farm south of Neola. Mark Jr. attended Glendale Rural School through 6th grade, then a country school, Pleasant View, across the road from their farm in Neola. He entered high school at Abraham Lincoln in Council Bluffs, Ia. and graduated from that school in 1942. Mark enlisted in the U.S.M.C.R. in Sept. of 1942 and served with the 2nd U.S.M.C. Div. He received the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat while serving in the South Pacific. Mark was honorably discharged in Nov. of 1945 and returned to Neola. Mark served an apprenticeship in the electrical field, under the G.I. Bill, and is currently self-employed as an electrician in Neola.

On May 29, 1946 Mark married Donna J. Ring. Donna is the second child born Nov. 23, 1925 to Rowena M. (Talty) Ring and Francis R. (Frank) Ring of Neola. Ten other children were born into this family. Donna and all the children of this family attended St. Joseph's School. Donna graduated in May of 1944. Mark and Donna Stageman are the parents of five children. Mark P. III, born April 15, 1948, Dennis J. born Sept. 16, 1950, Jean M. born Jan. 24, 1953, William F. born March 24, 1955, and Steven A. born April 28, 1956.

St. Patrick's Church and St. Joseph's School have played an important part in the lives of the Mark Stageman Jr. family. They were primary reasons for our parents staying in this area. Four generations of the Talty and Ring families have been members of St. Patrick's and three generations have attended St. Joseph's School. The important events of these families were celebrated in St. Patrick's Church and many of the deceased are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery. Mark and Donna were married in St. Patrick's Church, each of their five children were baptized, received First Confession and First Communion, celebrated Confirmation, attended St. Joseph's School and graduated from St. Albert's in Council Bluffs, Ia. Their daughter, Jean M., was married here. On Nov. 28, 1982 Bishop Maurice Dingman came to St. Patrick's, Neola, and issued a formal "Call to Candidacy" to Mark and Donna to the order of the Permanent Diaconate of the Diocese of Des Moines. Mark, Donna and their family along with the community of St. Patrick's, accepted the call, with the Grace of God in 1983 after four years of study, Mark will be ordained a Permanent Deacon, the first to answer the call from St. Patrick's. Our lives and our roots are deeply entwined in St. Pat's. We hope to give back to this community just a little of what so many have given to us.



Mark Stageman Family

Mark Jr. & Donna Stageman



Dennis J. & Carol Stageman



Jean & Jerry Kulczewski, Philip



Mark & Larane Stageman, Laura and Lisa

ALBERT AND ELIZABETH STANGL

Albert Gerhard Stangl - born March 23, 1899 at Maple River, Iowa.

Elizabeth Mary Hoffman Stangl - born March 18, 1900 at Willey, Iowa.

Married June 13, 1921 at St. Mary's Church, Willey, Iowa, and moved to Neola in Sept. 1938, where Albert worked for the Milwaukee Railroad from 1923 until his retirement in 1964. Albert passed away Jan. 8, 1971.

They had eight children, five boys and three girls.

Marietta Ann Stangl Groat born April 16, 1922 at Dedham, Iowa, was graduated from St. Joseph's School in 1939. Married to Robert L. Groat in 1951 at Kansas City, Mo. Marietta died June 5, 1972 at Council Bluffs, Ia. She had three children.

Joseph Philip Stangl born May 28, 1925 at Dedham, Iowa. Died and buried May 31, 1925 at Dedham, Iowa.

Eldron Joseph Stangl born Sept. 21, 1927 at Dedham, Iowa. Served in the U.S. Army 1945 to 1947. Married Jane F. Renner on Nov. 26, 1960, at St. Francis Church, Council Bluffs, Ia. Presently lives in Neola. They have four children.

Mervin John Stangl born Jan. 19, 1931, at Dedham, Iowa. A graduate from St. Joseph's High School, Neola, in 1952. He served in the Marine Corp from 1950 to 1954. He married Rita R. Goodman in 1954 at St. Mary's Church, Omaha, Neb. They had four children. Mervin died Sept. 7, 1965. Mervin's wife resides in Papillion, Neb.

Kenneth George Stangl was born Nov. 11, 1936 at Woodward, Ia. He was graduated from St. Joe in 1954 and from the University of Neb. at Omaha in 1965. He married Eileen R. Conroy, June 6, 1960 at St. Mary's Church, Des Moines, Iowa. They have four children. They presently reside in Brea, California.

Kathryn (Kay) S. Stangl Schechinger was born May 13, 1939 at Neola, Ia. She was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1956 and married James L. Schechinger on Jan. 14, 1961 at St. Patrick's Church, Neola. They have five children and presently live in Harlan, Iowa.

Jolene Frances Stangl Wetmore, born July 6, 1941 at Neola. She was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1959, was graduated from Mercy Hospital School of X-ray Technology in 1961 and was graduated from Iowa Western Community College Medical Assistant Program in 1970. She married William J. Wetmore on Dec. 4, 1964 at St. Francis Church, Council Bluffs, Ia. They have two children. They presently reside in Council Bluffs.

Warren Leo Stangl, born Dec. 31, 1943 in Council Bluffs, lives with his mother in Neola.

Albert and Elizabeth Stangl's grandchildren:

Marietta's children:

David M. Groat born Jan. 19, 1952 at Kansas City, Mo, married Leah Thomas Corival Dec. 19, 1980. They have two children, Wendy age 6, and Misty age 3.

Robert L. Groat born Sept. 25, 1954 at Council Bluffs, married Theresa Harris Feb. 20, 1977. They have two children, Amil age 4, and Amber age 1.

Dale D. Groat born April 19, 1958 at Council Bluffs, Ia.

Eldron's children:

Anthony L. Stangl born Aug. 10, 1961 at Council Bluffs.

Mark W. Stangl born Dec. 21, 1962 at Council Bluffs.

Beverly D. Stangl born Jan. 21, 1964 at Council Bluffs.

Donna M. Stangl born Sept. 3, 1965 at Council Bluffs.

Mervin's children:

Wayne F. Stangl born Aug. 26, 1955 at Omaha, married Jean Schrum on April 7, 1978.

Steven G. Stangl born Dec. 15, 1960 in Omaha.

Timothy J. Stangl born Dec. 15, 1961 in Omaha.

Mary Beth Stangl born Jan. 11, 1963 in Omaha.

Kenneth's children:

Thomas M. Stangl born April 26, 1961 in Omaha.

Timothy P. Stangl born Aug. 5, 1962 in Omaha

Jacqueline A. Stangl born Nov. 22, 1963 in Omaha

Jennifer T. Stangl born Nov. 7, 1970 in Omaha.

Kay's children:

Patricia J. (Pat) Schechinger born Aug. 2, 1961 at Harlan, Ia.

Jay A. Schechinger born Dec. 7, 1962 at Harlan, Iowa.

Carol L. Schechinger born June 6, 1965 at Harlan, Iowa.

Ken L. Schechinger born Sept. 22, 1970 at Harlan, Iowa.

Dave M. Schechinger born July 21, 1971 at Harlan, Iowa.

Jolene's children:

William J. Wetmore, Jr. born May 15, 1966 at Council Bluffs, Ia.

Matthew G. Wetmore born July 15, 1968 at Council Bluffs, Ia.

ASA AND RUTH STALEY

Mr. and Mrs. Asa Staley came to Neola in February 1933 from Shenandoah, Iowa. He was manager of the Green Bay Lumber Co. which was located on the east edge of town where an apartment building now stands.

They were both active in church and civic activities for the 47 years they lived in Neola. Asa was a regular ticket taker at the Saturday night dances held at St. Pat's Hall for many years and at one time was a trustee of the church. He was a World War I veteran and a 60-year member of the American Legion. Ruth was a member of the Rosary and Altar Society, American Legion Auxiliary (50 years), Community Club and other social groups. In later years they were active in the Senior Citizens Organization.

After the Green Bay was sold in 1943, Asa commuted to work at the bomber plant in Omaha for several years. After the war he worked at the carpenter trade in the Omaha and Neola area until his retirement.

The Staleys had one daughter, Mary Ellen, who married George T. Ring, Jr. in January 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Staley celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in January 1979. Mr. Staley died in December 1979 and Mrs. Staley died in May 1981.



Asa & Ruth Staley

WESLEY STAMP FAMILY

Wesley John Frederick Stamp was born December 10, 1916 in Persia, Iowa. His father, Herman, died in 1963. His mother, Dora, and one brother, Alden, live in Persia, Iowa. Wesley married Augusta Margaret Leinen on April 16, 1942 in St. Mary's Church, Portsmouth, Iowa.

Augusta was born May 20, 1918 in Portsmouth, Iowa. Her parents Michael E. and Anna Leinen are deceased. She has two brothers and three living sisters.

Six days after their marriage, Wesley went to serve four years in the Army and Air Force during W.W. II. Sergeant Stamp was an instructor in radio operation and mechanics. He has retired from the Omaha Housing Authority. Augusta was graduated from St. Mary's School, Portsmouth, in 1936. She attended Mt. St. Scholastica College. After this she taught five years in the elementary rural school in Portsmouth. She received her degree in Elementary Education from the College of St. Mary. She has been teaching in Underwood Elementary since 1963.

Their six children are: Wesley Jr., a graduate of St. Joseph's High School and Creighton University. Wesley is a partner in the firm of Frankel, Zacharia, Nissen, Stamp and Urban-Certified Public Accountants. Wesley married Eileen E. Foley of Kansas City Missouri in August of 1976. Eileen has a children's clothing store, "The Stamp Collection", located in Country Side Village. They have one son, Matthew John.

Barbara is a graduate of St. Joseph's and Mount Saint Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas with a B.A. Degree. Barbara married Dennis Stevens April 4, 1970. Dennis is employed by Bell Telephone. Their five children are Jennifer, Teresa, Emily, John and Joseph.

Elizabeth was in the first graduating class of St. Albert's. She received her B.A. from Mt. St. Scholastica and her M.B.A. from National University of San Diego. She is employed by Bell Telephone in Omaha. In January of 1981, she married Bruce Zatkowsky. Bruce is a computer analyst while attending Omaha University. They have one daughter, Anna Catherine.

Lori is a graduate of St. Albert's, 1968. She attained her B.A. from The Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. Recently she received her Masters Degree from K.C.U. She is in charge of the Talented and Gifted Program in Oleta, Kansas.

Phillip, a graduate of St. Albert's in 1971, has a B.A. Degree from Iowa State University. Phil is employed as Assistant Road Master from the Chicago-Northwestern R.R. in Boone, Iowa.

Marilyn is also a graduate of St. Albert's and has her B.A. from Iowa State University. Marilyn was married to Michael Barker on September 3, 1977. Marilyn is employed by Catholic Mutual Insurance Co. of Omaha. Michael is presently attending Creighton Law School where he has been appointed to the Law Review Board as Executive Editor.

The Stamps have made their home at 611 3rd St. Neola since December, 1958.



Wesley Stamp Family

TED AND HELEN STAMP

Ted Stamp was one of five boys. He was born on a farm near Persia, Iowa, April 3, 1902. His parents were Peter and Emma Stamp. He bought a farm in 1936 five miles southeast of Persia in Washington Township. He served six years on the AAA (farm program), five years on township school board and five years as 4-H leader. He's 78 years old and still active in farming. He married Helen Catherine Ausdemore of Neola, Iowa. They were married at St. Patrick's Church in Neola, November 25, 1937.

Helen was born at Neola, January 3, 1909. She grew up on the family farm two and one-half miles south of Neola. She was one of nine children. Her parents were Joe and Elizabeth Ausdemore. She attended college at Ottumwa and taught school 10 years in Harrison and Pottawattamie Counties before she was married. She went back into teaching in 1964 at Neola St. Joseph School. She taught until 1974. She served three years as president of Rosary and Altar Society at St. Patrick's Church of Neola, Iowa, two years as President of P.T.A. at Minden, Iowa, and as a member of the steering committee that organized a club for Senior Citizens at Minden, Iowa, 23 years 4-H leader and one of five Iowa Master Farm Homemakers of Iowa in 1977.

The Stamps have three children. Babetta who married Billy Lucke of Shelby, July 26, 1958. She works as an X-ray technician in Mercy Hospital at Council Bluffs, Iowa. She and her husband have four children. Kevin is in his fourth year at Iowa State University majoring in Chemical Engineering. Gay is completing two years at Iowa State. She plans to attend Creighton at Omaha in the fall of 1981 in Pharmacy. Craig is in the eighth grade at Tri-Center and Ann is a fifth grader at Tri-Center.

Major Dan married Mary Carol Stanger of Davenport, Iowa, November 9, 1968. Dan has completed twelve years in the Air Force. He has a degree in Aerospace from Iowa State University. He has two masters in Business, one in Aerospace Business and one in Business Management. He and his wife have three girls. Pam is in the fifth grade, Lisa is in the second grade and Andrea is two years old.

Nadine married Norm Ridder of West Point, Nebraska, August 18, 1972. Nadine was graduated from Wayne State College majoring in Home Economics and P.E. She taught two years at Elgin, Nebraska, two years in Omaha and two years at David City, Nebraska. She and her husband have three children. Tim is four, Theresa is two and Mary is one.

by Mrs. Ted Stamp



Ted & Helen Stamp, 1937



Ted Stamp Family



Ted & Helen Stamp, 1982

DAVID STAMP FAMILY

David Lynn Stamp was born in Harlan, Iowa on December 12, 1955. He was the second child of Mr. and Mrs. John Stamp of rural Persia, Iowa. He attended Tri-Center High School and excelled in their wrestling program. He achieved first place in the 167-pound weight class in the state tournament in 1974. He also participated in the football and baseball programs at Tri-Center. After graduation, he attended Iowa State University and graduated with a degree in Agricultural Business. In 1978 he married Jean Ruth Kenkel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kenkel of rural Woodbine, Iowa. Jean graduated from Woodbine High School where she excelled in basketball, track and academics. She attended Creighton University and graduated in 1978 with a degree in nursing.

After their marriage, Dave and Jean lived in Osaloosa, Iowa where Dave was a feed salesman and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. After living in Osaloosa for one year, Dave and Jean moved to Harlan, Iowa where Dave was employed as a fertilizer specialist. After a year's experience in Harlan, Dave moved to Persia where he is manager of the Persia branch of the Farm Service Co-op of Harlan.

Dave still plays baseball on the Persia team during the summer and is Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus of St. Patrick's Church, Neola, Iowa. Jean belongs to the Altar and Rosary Society at St. Patrick's and is also a member of the Persia Women's Legion Auxilliary.

Dave and Jean are the parents of two children, Lorraine Elizabeth, fifteen months old and Joel Nicholas, three months old. Dave and Jean now reside at Rural Route #1, Persia, Iowa.



David & Jean Stamp, Lorraine and Joel Nicholas

JOHN "RAY" STINN

John "Ray" Stinn, son of John "Jack" Stinn and Irene Hegarty Stinn, is the oldest of four children. Ray was born Sept. 18, 1921. He married Loretta "Toots" McDonald, daughter of P.J. and Mary McDonald, in St. Patrick's Church on August 30, 1948. Both graduated from St. Joseph's High School.

Loretta attended Commercial Extension Secretarial School in Omaha. Ray received a degree in Radio and Communications in Boulder, Colorado and received his Electrical Engineering Degree from I.C.S. School in Scranton, Penn. He served with the Armed Forces from Mar. 10, 1942 to Nov. 20, 1945, serving 39 months overseas. Two and one-half years were spent in Italy.

Ray is currently a partner with Interstate Electrical Supply in Council Bluffs.

They are the parents of four children: Gayle Patrick born June 12, 1949, married Mickelene Michals Sept. 2, 1972; Cynthia Ann, born Feb. 28, 1952, married George Gross Oct. 26, 1974; Cheryl Marie born Dec. 23, 1955, married Dennis Boyer Sept. 1, 1979; Carol Lynn, born May 6, 1967, is now a high school student.

They have four grandchildren: Adam Stinn, Wheaton, Ill.; Chad and Judd Gross, Walnut, Iowa; and Angela Boyer of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN CHARLES STINN

John C. Stinn was the son of Peter Stinn and Mary Little Stinn. Irene Hegarty, daughter of James Hegarty and Antonia Nuschy Hegarty. They were married September 10, 1919 at Saint Patrick's Parish.

Jack worked for the City of Neola running the power plant before starting his own business as an electrician. They were both active members of American Legion (Irene a 50-year Auxiliary member) and other organizations at Neola. Jack was also an active member of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Irene was secretary-treasurer of Catholic Daughters of America for many years. Irene was a telephone operator in Neola many years and a 50-year charter member of the "Patsy Club" of Neola, Iowa.

To this union there were four children, John R. Stinn, born September 18, 1921, Rosemary and Ruthann, twin daughters, born August 13, 1924 and Julia Louis (Judy) born November 10, 1930.

Jack died September 24, 1963. Irene died April 12, 1972.



John "Ray" Stinn Family



John & Irene Stinn

SWEENEY

DANIEL SWEENEY, one of the founding members of the parish, came to Neola in the spring of 1883 with his wife, JANE (McMURRAH) SWEENEY, and their six sons and one daughter. They moved from Parkers Landing, Pennsylvania where Daniel had been captain of a riverboat, THE ANNA LAVELLE, to a prairie home seven miles northwest of Neola, where he took up farming. Both Daniel and Jane were born in Ireland--Daniel in County Lietram, in 1832 and Jane in County Donegal in 1848. Daniel arrived with his family in January of 1850 and settled near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Jane arrived in 1864. They were married in 1867 in Pennsylvania. They raised seven natural children and one orphan child. In 1910, they retired to the town of Neola. Daniel died in 1915 and Jane in 1930. Eight Children survived who carried on the Sweeney name.

EDWARD married Mary McCauley in Denver, Colorado, in 1897. They had one daughter, Mary Agnes.

MARY ANN married Daniel Lafferty in Neola in 1895. They were the parents of Mary, Gertrude Ann, Ursula, Regina, Eunice and James.

MICHAEL married Rose Holtzfaster in Neola in 1907. They were the parents of Margaret, Vincent, Emmet, Donald, Bernard and Basil (twins), Harold, Philip and Max.

DANIEL married Elizabeth Ellen Hough in Neola in 1900. They had three children: Paul, Stella and Magdelyn.

JAMES married Susan Stivers in Neola in 1907. They were the parents of Richard, Patricia and Cecelia.

GEORGE married Mary Mullin in Missouri Valley in 1907. They had five children: Frances, Helen, James, Eileen and Cecilia.

IDA ALICE MURRAY came to Neola in 1891 on an orphan train from an orphanage in New York and was welcomed by the Sweeney family as their daughter. She married Harvey Ouren in Council Bluffs in 1912. He died in 1914. They had one daughter, Mary Louise. Ida then married Roy Parks in 1916.

JOHN J. married Elizabeth McDonald at Canyon City, Colorado on July 20, 1910. Both were life-long members of St. Patrick's Parish. They were the parents of Joseph, John, Philip, Catherine and Robert. John and Catherine are current parish members. JOHN married Althea Rosmann in Defiance on June 5, 1948 and they raised four children in Neola. They are: Susan, John Patrick, Barbara and Brian (who married Mary Dolores Doyle in Neola). CATHERINE married Howard Dorsey in Omaha, Nebraska on May 13, 1943.

Daniel and Jane have twenty-three grandchildren surviving as of this writing. Among the living grandchildren only John and Catherine chose Neola as their permanent home, yet the Sweeney name endured for four generations in the Neola area.

NORBERT LEO TALTY

Norbert Leo Talty, April 23, 1911 - May 19, 1942. Killed in action, World War II at Negros Islands. Parents were John Henry Talty and Martha Catherine Waters Talty. A graduate of St. Joseph's School in 1930.



Daniel Sweeney Family



Howard & Catherine Dorsey



Norbert Leo Talty (April 23, 1911 - May 19, 1942)

JOHN H. TALTY FAMILY

John H. Talty was the oldest son of a family of two girls and five boys. John was born June 9, 1865 the son of Geroge Talty and Bridget (Meehan) Talty; he was born at Atlantic, Iowa and raised on a farm in Cass County. He worked on the ferry while the bridge joining Omaha and Council Bluffs, Ia. was being built, helping draw boats across the river carrying people, cargo or whatever. The boats were drawn by mule teams, otherwise he was a farmer. On Aug. 25, 1896 he was married to Martha C. Waters. Martha was the youngest daughter of eleven children and the daughter of James Waters and Catherine (Drum) Waters. Martha was born at Oskaloosa, Ia. Sept. 5, 1871. When she was three years old her parents moved to Massena, Iowa and settled on a farm. Martha was a school teacher before her marriage to John. John and Martha also farmed in the Massena area. Their family consisted of three boys and four girls. Their oldest child, a son, died in infancy. Their children are, Clifton born June 9, 1898; Vivian Masker born April 28, 1900; Rowena Ring born Oct. 1, 1904; Rosalia Grote born Oct. 11, 1906; Thelma Gragert born April 13, 1908; and Norbert, born April 11, 1906: Clifton, Vivian, Rowena and Rosalia live in Neola, and Thelma lives in Shakapee, Minnesota. Norbert was killed in a Japanses raid on Negros Island in World War II.

In April 1914 John and Martha sold their farm in the Massena area and moved to a small farm near Neola so that their children could attend St. Joseph's School. John died Jan. 10, 1922; Martha and the children remained on the farm.

Martha celebrated her 80th birthday with family and friends at St. Pat's Hall, Neola. Her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mike (Minnie) Talty was also honored at this time. Martha was one of the original members of a card club "The Monday Dozen" which meet on Tuesday. Some of the other members were Kate Soppe, Mrs. Louise Wilmott, Mrs. Von Hebel, Mrs. Goeser, Mrs. Minnie Talty, Kate Ring, Mrs. Dr. Doyle, Mary Nuschy, Mrs. Steve Hermesen, Sadie Hansen, Anna Schierbrock, Mrs. Willie Tracy and Barbara Cotter.

John and Martha had 26 grandchildren. Martha died Feb. 4, 1961. They are buried in the Atlantic Iowa Cemetery.



Mrs. Martha Talty



John H. Talty Family - Rosalia Grote, Vivian Masker, Cliff Talty, Thelma Gragert and Rowena Ring

JOSEPH TURNER

Joseph Turner, youngest of six children, born to Patrick and Johanna (Schickoufsky) Turner in 1916.

Joseph married Ione Jessen, daughter of Peter and Nettie (Machland) Jessen in 1943. They lived on the Turner farm north of Neola. To this union were born six children: Peter, Joan, William, Rosalie, Margery and Thomas. On July 3, 1957, Joseph and eight-year-old son, William, were hoeing weeds in the center of a cornfield when a bolt of lightning struck and killed Joseph.

Ione and her six children moved into Neola in the fall of that year. The children of Joe and Ione have all since been married. To date they have blessed their mother with thirteen grandchildren, five of these being Turner boys, which hopefully will insure the continuation of the family name in the future. Ione continues to live in her home at Neola.



Joseph & Ione Turner, 1943

PATRICK TURNER

Patrick Turner, son of Edward and Margaret (McGee) Turner, and after Edward's death, step-son of Tom Leonard, married Johanna Schickoufsky in 1900. Patrick, a bricklayer by trade, at this time he was helping lay brick for Creighton University. In 1905, they moved to a farm north of Neola, Iowa. To this union were born six children: Edward, Margaret, John, Leo, Helen and Joseph.

Patrick died in 1949 and Johanna died in 1955.

EDWARD TURNER

Edward and Margaret (McGee) Turner with son, John, left Dublin, Ireland in 1860, to settle on a farm near Dubuque, Iowa. Two more children, Patrick and Annie, were born after settling in America. Edward was called to serve in the Civil War. Upon his return, he came down with the fever and died. John was killed in an accident coming home from town in 1875.

After Edward's death in 1865, Margaret met and married Tom Leonard. Tom, with his two sons, Tom and James, and Margaret with Patrick and Annie moved to a farm northwest of Weston, Iowa. **Here they adopted a girl, Mary, who later married Ed O'Connor.** Annie married her step brother, Tom Leonard, and to this union were born four children.



Pete & Bonnie Turner, May 13, 1967



Family of Joseph Turner, 1967, (back row) Margery, William, Peter and Joan, (front row) Rosalie, Ione and Thomas

PETER M. TURNER

Peter Turner, oldest of six children, born to Joseph and Ione (Jessen) Turner on May 1, 1944, spent the greater part of his life in Neola. Pete was a 1962 graduate of St. Joseph High School and a member of St. Patrick's Church. From 1963 until 1967 he served in the United States Navy and was a veteran of Vietnam.

Upon his return to Neola, at the expiration of his term of armed service, he was united in marriage on May 13, 1967 at St. Patrick's Church, to Bonita McDermott, daughter of Donald and Alma McDermott. To this union were born six children: Michelle, Joseph, Laura, Andrew, Steven and Robert.

Pete spent the greater part of his adult life engaged in farming. He and his family lived in Neola until July of 1979, when they then moved to a small farm one mile west of Minden. Fourteen months later, on September 2, 1980, Pete met his death at the age of 36 in a tragic drowning accident. He was attempting to attach a tow line to a dead steer in a farm pond, when he was suddenly struck by cramps. He wife and children continue to live on the farm west of Minden.



Pete Turner Family - Michelle, Laura, Joe, Andy, Steve, Rob and Bonnie - December 1981

MR. AND MRS. JOHN THIELEN

John A. (Jack), son of John A. Thielen and Cecelia (Klein) Thielen Zimmerman, and Julia Louise Stinn were married June 2, 1949 at St. Patrick's Church in Neola.

Jack, born in 1927 at Portsmouth, moved to Neola in 1946. With the exception of eight years in Persia, they have lived all of their married life in Neola. Jack has been employed the past 25 years as a field superintendent on road construction. Judy has been employed the past 17 years at the Neola Gazette Reporter in Neola.

They are the parents of nine children. Micki, born June 5, 1951, married Joe Romaine, son of Amos Romaine's of Omaha, Nebraska. They are parents of two children, Chantelle and Marisa and are living in Omaha.

Jerry, born May 14, 1952. Married Wanda Thomas, daughter of Don Thomas's of Neola. They also have two children, Jeremy and Jami, and now live in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Larry born September 14, 1955 and married to Peggy Wellman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Wellman of Neola.

Ann, born July 27, 1956, married Don King of Neola, son of Pearly King's of Neola. They are the parents of three children, Brian, Christal and Jeffrey.

Anita Louis, born April 19, 1958 passed away December 28, 1968 at the age of 10 years.

Richard born October 13, 1959 spent three years in the Service and now lives in Neola.

Jeff born August 11, 1961, currently serving with the Army in Germany.

Shelley, born July 23, 1963, currently living at home and employed at Mutual of Omaha.



John & Julia Thielen



John Thielen Family

VON HEBEL FAMILY

Herman John Von Hebel was born September 28, 1869 in Hanover, Germany. He arrived in Neola in 1884 and worked as a farm hand and in the Neola brickyard.

Rosina Kuper was born July 12, 1875 in Zanberg, Netherlands. She, along with her parents, two brothers and three sisters, came to Neola in 1882.

In 1888 Herman went into the saloon business which brought the total number of saloons in Neola to nine.

Herman and Rosina were married April 14, 1896. Five children were born of this union: John (February 20, 1897 - October 1, 1970); Helen (January 19, 1899 - April 21, 1972); Marie Theresa (February 6, 1904 - January 5, 1905); Paul (July 19, 1906); and Angela (December 17, 1912).

Paul took over the business in 1929. Preceding Herman's death in April of 1933, beer was legalized and Paul reopened the tavern as "The House of Mugs".

Helen married Ben Jungferman and they had one child, Raymond. Ben died December 22, 1922, when Ray was only four months old. On August 24, 1934, Helen married Asa Schmaedecke. Asa died October 23, 1973.

Angela married Gene Floerschinger on December 17, 1945. They have no children and currently live in Omaha.

John ran the tavern from August 1942 until November 1945 while Paul and Ray served in W.W. II. John never married and worked in the tavern until his death.

Ray married Phyllis Chapman (July 2, 1922 - February 7, 1973) on August 23, 1949. They had one daughter, Patricia Jo, on September 10, 1951. Patti has one son, Corey Allen Newland.

Ray now runs the House of Mugs. It proudly displays mugs from Canada, Germany, Thailand, Philippines, Italy, Ireland, England, Denmark, Japan, USSR, Australia, Sweden, Finland and Nova Scotia, as well as nearly every one of the states. They range in size from holding a thimbleful to two gallons.



Rosina Von Hebel and Herman Kuper



Ray & Phyllis Jungferman, Angela Floerschinger and John Von Hebel



Helen & Ben Jungferman with Helen Winneke and John Von Hebel



Patti Jo Jungferman Newland with Corey



Helen & Asa Schmaddecke



Paul & Rosina Von Hebel with Ray Jungferman



John, Rosina and Paul Von Hebel



**Herman & Rosina Von Hebel, Henery Kuper and
Angela Von Hebel, 1896**

VERPOORTEN-KIRLIN

Donald Verpoorten born in Bentley, Iowa and Joann Kirlin born in Missouri Valley, Iowa were united in marriage in Dunlap, Iowa, Nov. 15, 1947 and of this union three children were born: Donna born Apr. 8, 1949 now living in Omaha, Nebr.; Dannie born Feb. 12, 1953 now living in Council Bluffs, Iowa; and Dennis born Dec. 28, 1958 now serving with the United States Air Force. The three children were baptized and confirmed at St. Patrick's Parish of Neola, Iowa and graduated from Tri-Center High School of Neola, Iowa.

MARGARET A. WALKER

Margaret A. Walker was born Nov. 4, 1904, in Portsmouth, Ia. She was the oldest child of Charles and Ann Waler who were both born in Iowa County, Iowa. The Walker family moved to Neola in 1910, where all the children attended St. Joseph's School. Mr. Walker operated the Hardware Store in Neola for many years. Cyril (Civie) was born in 1906 and died in 1960. He lived in Omaha and worked for Brandeis. Dr. Leon (Bony) was born in 1908, attended Creighton Dental School and now lives in Ames, Ia. A daughter, Veronica, died shortly after her birth in 1911.

Margaret cared for her parents in their later years and also worked at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa for nine years. She retired in 1969.



Mrs. Andrew (Agnes) Walker, Charles and Hannah Walker, Mary Walker

MOTHER MARY MAGDALEN WILMES

Mother Mary Magdalen (Elizabeth Wilmes) was born in Tilden, Nebraska on January 27, 1892. Her parents, Herman and Maria Anne Veenker Wilmes, moved to the Neola community when she was ten years old. Elizabeth and her brother and sisters, George, Anne, Adeline (Doyle), Mary, Herman, Henry and Cecilia (Klabzuba, Duffield) attended St. Joseph's School. At age seventeen, two years after the death of her mother, she entered The Convent of Humility of Mary in Ottumwa, Iowa and began her seventy-three years of service to others. She taught school for many years, served as Superior at St. Joseph's Hospital, Ottumwa, was appointed Mistress of Novices in 1943 and later elected Superior-General of the Order. She served in this position for twelve years.

Now, at age ninety, she is still very active and interested in the relocation of the Humility Order to Davenport, Iowa.

EDMUND WALSH FAMILY

Edmund Walsh was born in Donegal County, Ireland. He met Mary Walsh, not a relative, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, and took her as his bride there. They came to Neola sometime in the 1860's. They had ten children. Robert, Anastasia, Catherine and Margaret, who did not marry and lived most of their lives in Missouri Valley, Iowa area. Alice and John married and lived in Missouri Valley, also. Ellen was graduated from Neola Public School in 1897 and taught school in the area before she married Frank TeBockhorst and they farmed near West Bend, Iowa. She lived to be 101 years old. Constance became a Sister of Mercy and taught for many years in Omaha parochial schools. She was Dean of the College of St. Mary for a number of years. Francis Walsh married and lived here for some years before he took his family to Nebraska. Lawrence married Mary Burns eldest daughter of Edward and Mary Burns. They had twelve children. One of them was Mary who married Charles O'Rourke of Missouri Valley. They lived on a farm west of Neola from 1945-1950. Their son, Charles, began his studies to be a Columban priest at that time. He was ordained in 1957 and has served as a missionary in Korea since. Their oldest daughter, Patricia, married Victor Shea and they've raised their family here in this parish. Pat, their son, Michael and his family are the only descendants of the Walsh family still living in Neola.

Edmund Walsh Family



Mother Mary Magdalen

BEN WELLMAN

Henry and Anna Graver Wellman were the parents of Ben Wellman who was born and raised in the Neola area. He was born on November 1892 and passed away in May 1971 at age 79.

He married Mary Winneke in 1923. She was the daughter of Theodore and Helena Kuper Winneke. Ben and Mary lived on a farm southeast of Neola until they retired in 1958 and moved to Neola. Mary passed away in January 1976.

They have four children who are: Bernard, married to Darlene Kolbe of Omaha, has four children and lives southeast of Neola on the home place.

Pauline, married to John O'Brien of Emmetsburg, Iowa, has five children and lives in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Cecilia, married to Richard Wingate of Hamburg, Iowa, lives in New Lenox, Illinois and has eight children.

Paul, married to Mary Ellen Zimmerman, has four sons and lives in Bakersfield, California.



Ben & Mary Wellman

BERNARD WELLMAN

Bernard Wellman was born on June 13, 1924 to Ben and Mary Wellman. He was raised on a farm in the Neola area and was graduated from St. Joseph's School in 1943. He is employed with Land O'Lakes, Oakland, Iowa and also farms.

Bernard and Darlene were married Sept. 30, 1950 at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha. They have four children. Mary Ann, born in 1952, attended St. Joseph's School and was graduated from St. Albert's High School in 1970 and I.W.C.C School of Nursing. She married Tod C. Conrad of Tacoma, Wash., Nov. 23, 1979. He is currently employed with Cammarano Brothers Inc. in Tacoma as a marketing representative. Mary Ann is employed at Allenmcire Hospital in Tacoma. They have one son, John Tod, born July 9, 1981.

John, born in 1957, attended St. Joseph's School and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1975. He is employed with the Union Pacific Railroad and lives in Neola.

David was born in 1961. He attended St. Joseph's School and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1979. He is presently employed with Land O'Lakes, Oakland, Iowa.

James was born in 1965, attended St. Joseph's and is a junior at Tri-Center. He is active in football.

LEONARD WELLMAN FAMILY

Leonard F. Wellman, son of Fred and Caroline (Masker) Wellman, was graduated from St. Joseph's School. Theresa Schwery, daughter of Melchoir and Theresa (Klein) Schwery, graduated from St. Mary's School, Panama, Iowa. They were married January 13, 1948 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama, Iowa.

To this union were born six children: Douglas, married Jean Reimers in April 1973 and they have three children, Jennifer, Anthony (Tony) and Jill; Steven (now deceased), married Vickie Kreigler, August 1968 and they had one daughter, Kimberly; Theresa (Terri), married Mark Sterbens, October 1972, and they have two children, Mark Jr. and Christina Ann; Randall, Curtis and Kevin (Kelly) at home.

All children attended St. Joseph's Grade School and St. Albert's High School. Theresa lives in Neola.



Paul, Cecilia, Pauline and Bernard Wellman



Bernard Wellman Family

THEODORE WINNEKE FAMILY

Theodore Winneke was born in Germany. He came to the United States when he was two years old. His parents settled in West Point, Iowa. His parents both died when he was a small child and he was raised in foster homes.

He came to Neola, Iowa when he was older and worked on farms around the Neola area. He was married to Helena Kuper in St. Patrick's Church at Neola. Helena's parents came from Holland.

Theodore and Helena had six children: Benjamin, Mary, Helen, Elizabeth, Henry and Rose. They are all deceased except Elizabeth, who is now living in Omaha.

FAMILY HISTORY ON FRED F. WELLMAN

Fred F. Wellman has lived in Neola his entire life. He was baptized, made his First Communion, was taught catechism, confirmed and married in St. Patrick Church.

His parents were Henry and Anna Graver Wellman. Henry was born in Germany and immigrated in his early years to America. Anna was born in New York, shortly after her parents arrival to America from Germany.

Fred's parents met and married in Ottumwa, Iowa where their parents had moved after their arrival in America. After Fred's parents were married, they moved to Neola, and lived there until their death. Henry helped build St. Patrick Church and St. Joseph School.

Henry and Anna had eight children: Henry, Joe, Mary Wellman Goodwater, Fred and Frank (twins), Ben, Anna Wellman Adams and Clara Wellman Pickernell. Fred's brother, Henry, and sister, Clara, both died in their twenties. At the time of this writing only Fred and Anna Adams are left of their generation. All eight children were born in Neola.

Fred married Caroline Angela Masker, daughter of Joseph and Augusta Hopp Masker of Neola, on January 28, 1914.

To this union, seven children were born: Philip, deceased at age 9, Theonita Wellman Nelson, Thelma Wellman Christiansen, Leonard, Max (deceased at age 13), Frederick and Rita Wellman Honz.

Theonita married C.J. (Swede) Nelson of Fargo, North Dakota. They have seven children: James, Ken and Kay (twins), Max, Dennis, David and Oran. Swede was killed in a car accident August 1980.

Thelma married Arthur Christiansen of Neola and they have seven children: Robert, Betty, Bill, Ronnie, Larry, Phillip and Bonnie.

Leonard married Theresa Schwery of Panama. To this union six children were born: Douglas, Steve (deceased at age of 29), Terri, Randall, Kurt and Kelly.

Fritz married Vel Quinn of Albion, Nebraska and they have six children: Fritz, Diane, Dan, Linda, Peggy and David.

Rita married Don Honz of Avoca and they have six children: Nancy, Jim, Patricia, David, Robert and Angela.

Fred has, at the age of 93½ years, five living children, 31 living grandchildren and 66 great-grandchildren.

FREDERICK J. AND VEL I. WELLMAN FAMILY HISTORY

Frederick (Fritz) was born in Neola, Iowa, September 8, 1926 to Fred F. and Caroline Wellman. He has lived all his life around Neola, except for three years, when he served in the Army Air Force. Fritz was baptized, made his First Communion, confirmed, and was married in St. Patrick's Church. He was taught catechism by the Sisters and was graduated from St. Joseph High School.

Fritz married Vel Quinn of Albion, Nebraska, December 23, 1946. Vel was born November 9, 1926, at Valley, Nebraska, spent 12 years at Valley, from there moved to Albion, Nebraska with her parents Martin J. and Grace Quinn. Vel was graduated from Albion High and from Western Union Telegraph School of Omaha the following year.

To this union there are six children.

Fritzi, born February 6, 1948, attended St. Joseph School and was graduated from St. Albert in 1966; attended Briar Cliff College in Sioux City one year. She married Kevin Christiansen, son of Joe and Ruby Christiansen, Nov. 4, 1967. They have three sons, Darren 13, Cory 12, and Jason 8. They live in Lyons, Colorado.



Fred & Callie Wellman, 1914

Diane, born October 29, 1950, attended St. Joseph School and was graduated from St. Albert in 1964. She married Fred C. Rodenburg, son of Walter and Esther Rodenburg, January 17, 1970. They have four children: Heath 10, RaeShelle 7, Jamie 5, and Carolyn six months. They live in Neola.

Dan was born March 17, 1952 and attended St. Joseph and was graduated from St. Albert in 1970. He married Kathryn Brugenhemke, daughter of Leonard and Beverly Brugenhemke of Council Bluffs, July 18, 1970. They have two daughters: Leah 11 and Ericka 9. Dan lives in Colorado.

Linda was born July 24, 1956, attended St. Joseph and was graduated from St. Albert in 1974 and from Stewart's School of Hairstyling in 1975. She married Terry Weare, son of Richard and Helen Weare of Council Bluffs, June 5, 1976. They have a son, Christopher 5 months. Linda lives in Omaha.

Peggy was born October 9, 1959, attended St. Joseph till junior high and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1978 and from the University of Iowa in 1982. She married Larry Thielen, son of Jack and Judy Thielen, January 9, 1982. Presently living in Neola.

David was born March 9, 1963, attended St. Joseph until junior high and was graduated from Tri-Center in 1981. David is presently living at home.

Fritz and Vel have lived on the family home place three miles north of Neola for the past 26 years.

JOSEPH J. WELLMAN

Joseph J. Wellman married Mary Ann Mertens, known as Mayme, from Houghton, Iowa. They were married in Houghton on Feb. 7, 1911 and moved to the Neola area. They are the parents of three children, all born in Neola: Joseph Henry, Anna Christina Roberts and Walter Francis. Mayme is well remembered for the long hours spent working at parish dinners, funerals, weddings and in the kitchen at the Saturday night dances held in the hall.

Joseph H. Wellman, oldest son of Joseph J. and Mayme, was born on October 1, 1911 in Neola where he went to school. On May 28, 1940, he married Blanche Fisher, born August 24, 1914, daughter of John and Josephine Fisher of Clarkson, Neb. They were married in Clarkson and lived in Omaha for three years where he worked in a packing house. In 1943 they moved to a farm near Neola. In 1956 they moved to the farm northwest of Neola where they are still farming.

Their children are: Joseph Richard, Sept. 18, 1941; Judith Ann, Aug. 11, 1943; Jon Edward, April 22, 1946; and Robert Charles, April 9, 1950.

Joseph R. Wellman was born in Omaha, Neb. He was graduated from St. Joseph's High School in Neola. On August 8, 1964 he married Marion Bruck (Nov. 18, 1939), daughter of Tony and Mary Bruck of Earling, Iowa where they were married. They are the parents of: Norman (Sept. 4, 1965); Paul (May 29, 1967); Joan (Nov. 1, 1968); Alan (April 11, 1970); Raymond (Aug. 19, 1971). Two infants died, Joseph J. (May 16, 1973) and Martha Mary (Oct. 24, 1976). They are living on a farm northwest of Neola where Joseph is farming and also working at the Harlan Pork Plant.

Judith married Stanley Chapin Dec. 20, 1963. They live in Council Bluffs where he drives a truck for Hinky Dinky Foods. Their children are: Stanley (Oct. 13, 1965), Michael (Dec. 16, 1967) and Tracie Ann (Feb. 10, 1970 - Feb. 11, 1970).

Jon married Dianna Albertus, June 16, 1970. She is a R.N. at Jenny Edmundson Hospital. Jon works for the Wal-dinger Corp. in Omaha. They live in Neola where he was Fire Chief from 1977-1980.

Robert was graduated from St. Albert's High School in 1968, the first four-year class to graduate. He is engaged in farming with his father.

WALTER AND INEZ WELLMAN

Walter married Inez Stoker in Neola, Feb. 5, 1940. They lived on a farm northwest of Neola with his parents until Joe and Mayme moved to Neola in 1945.

In 1952 Walter bought a bulldozer to do some work on his farm that he had just bought south of Neola (E. A. Car-lile farm). Friends and relatives asked him to do some bulldozing for them, and this was how Wellman Construc-tion Company started. They moved to this farm in 1956 and farmed 183 acres. In 1964 they bought a home in Neola so their son, Jerry, and his wife could farm.

Walter and Inez had five children. They are Michael Joseph (Aug. 5, 1940); Gerald Walter (Nov. 29, 1942); Jane Marie (June 2, 1945-March 19, 1964); Susan Jean (April 18, 1952) and Nancy Lorraine (April 30, 1956).

Michael and Arlyn Tiarks were married in St. Pat-rick's Church July 11, 1965. Mike is in partnership with his father. They have four children Dale, Joyce, Terry and Aaron.

Jerry works for his father. He has one son, Jeffrey.

Susan married Rich Gaudian June 23, 1973 in St. Pat-rick's Church in Neola. They have two girls, Sarah and Laura.

Nancy was graduated from St. Albert's, attended Iowa Western College and is now working at Walden's Book Store.



Joseph R. & Marion Wellman Family



Joseph H. & Blanche Wellman



Joe & Mayme Wellman, Ann Roberts, Walt and Joe

JOHN AND RITA RING ZOLCK

John Zolck, son of John and Anna Urbahn Zolck of Minden, and Rita, daughter of Joe and Mary Sampson Ring were married May 3, 1941 at St. Patrick's, Neola. John entered the service December, 1942 and was discharged November 30, 1945. He spent two years overseas in Europe. We have two children and seven grandchildren. Janice married Gary Boan of Omaha and has four girls: Christie, Kim, Connie and Amy. They live in Auburn, Nebraska where Gary is sheriff of Nemaha County. Dennis of Omaha has three boys: John, Dennis and Joseph. Dennis is with the police department.

DONALD J. ZIMMERMAN

Donald J. Zimmerman and Mary Ellen McGuire were married at St. Patrick's in Neola on April 12, 1958 after Don had served three years in the Army during the Korean Conflict.

They have six children, Bruce who is married to Debra Sellin, both of whom are serving in the United States Air Force in Del Rio, Texas. He is a jet pilot and she as a meteorologist. Robert and Kevin, who are both students at Iowa State University; Phillip who will be joining the Army in August to become a helicopter pilot; and Dawn Marie and David who will be students at St. Albert's this fall.



Don Zimmerman Family



CENTENNIAL STYLE SHOW





THE EPILOGUE

by Father Lawrence Beeson

Coming to Neola was for me a really new experience. I had been stationed in Council Bluffs for three years as Coordinator of the new Area Board. I had applied for a change in assignment and, as usual, I was given just three day's notice to move to Neola.

Mickey McDonald came down with a pickup truck and got me. That was the first time anyone had helped me move. I knew I would like Neola and I did from that time on. **Father Ryan had written me a letter and said the same thing about himself.**

The contrast between my work in Council Bluffs and my work in Neola was like dying and going to heaven. I had to attend many meetings in Council Bluffs. I came to Neola where I did what I like best - visiting the sick, performing marriages and assisting people at the hour of their death.

In Council Bluffs, I had struggled to keep things going, although I realized that most of the institutions I had worked with were there long before I was; but in Neola, I fully realized that there were things that I couldn't change if I wanted to. The school, for example, continued because the people wanted their school. It was August the year before I came before they had hired any teachers at all. My presence was more just to organize things.

I have had a couple of lucky breaks in Neola. One was the fact that Sister Roberta Brich wanted to come to Neola with her system of education. This gave me the opportunity to tap into what is going on in "group work" in the United States. The school enrollment increased dramatically; but more importantly, I learned some of the language of feelings.

The other was the Scripture classes offered by Dr. Bruce Malina. This gave me much more of an insight into modern renewal as it based on the "literal sense". Sister Zoe was the one that arranged that. The fact that Sister Zoe lives in my house, answers the phone and cooks some of the meals also doubles my presence here.

Bruce also gave me an important key into what goes on in Neola. You need only look at the phone book to learn that Neola is comprised of large families. Much of what the Church does, ignores this as a structure. We elect our boards and councils. What happens is pretty much determined by the families. It is far more important for a pastor to visit families and be with people than to determine which boards and committees are going to do what because the families will decide how this is going to take place, if it is going to take place. It is all done silently.



I know that this has a lot to do with my own peace and contentment. I think a lot of priests get totally frustrated because they are trying to do in one parish what doesn't fit the people there. Every parish is very different from another parish. God in His goodness has shown this to me through other people.

I want to list what I think are some peculiar characteristics of Neola people because it belongs somewhere and I don't know where to put it.

Neola People: - have a genuine concern for one another. If you want a private life you will have trouble in Neola.
- like to be known for saying exactly what is on their minds. You never have to guess.
- love nicknames: Maggot, Jingles, Texas Jim, Kentucky Joe, Kaiser, Dirt Clod, Hippo.
- use women's maiden names if there's more than one with the same name.
- Women's nicknames are a little gentler: Gretch, Nell, Bonnie.
- Gave rural schools in Harrison County names like Sorrel Top, Frog Pond, Porter and Beehive.
- Have a storehouse of sayings. Some, of course, you can't print. These you can, "A brown Christmas and a white Easter make for a fat cemetery." The only explanation for death is "when it is your time, you go." When it comes to rain, "we just have to be thankful when it comes."

I have enjoyed the good ecumenical relationships we have had here in Neola. The Community Choir has been a source of joy for me; and by getting people in contact with one another, has done more than anything else. The ministers from the other churches and myself have also been willing to work with one another.

My only regret is that I think Neola people have much more to offer to the world in knowing how to live than they realize. My experience is that these small towns are where it is at. They are still the greatest, single source of leadership in how to live in America. We need to spread it around. It is for this reason that I wanted a good history of this parish to be written so that it can be passed down to posterity. I hope it is read far and wide.

I wish to thank Marilyn Masker whose tireless efforts have made this book possible.

GENEALOGY RECORD

Family Register

Husband's Name

Wife's Name

Children's Names

Grandchildren's Names

Parents' Names

Husband's Side

Wife's Side

Grandparents

Father's Side

Mother's Side

Great-Grandparents

Father's Side

Mother's Side

Great-Great-Grandparents

Father's Side

Mother's Side