

6/3/77

3/13/79

7/8/79

Two new grandchildren this year brings the total to three. They are all as happy and good natured as their pictures appear. (Of course, this is grandma & grandpa speaking.)

1979 NEWS FROM THE ANDERSONS OF CHAOS CASTLE

JAN. first Dean, Steve and I left for Bethesda, Md., for nephew Andy's wedding. He and Ilene are a beautiful couple. We stayed with Carol and Arvey two days after the wedding & visited with Marge and Chris near Chicago on the way. I was elected church Benevolence Sec. It keeps me in touch with our missionaries and projects. I enjoy it. Steve enjoyed a weekend retreat in Duluth with our church Jr-Hi'ers.

<u>FEB.</u> We attended Land Surveyors and Minn. Savings League conventions in Mpls. We saw "Camelot" at Chanhassen Dinner Theater with Don and Carol.

MARCH We helped Carol and Don paint and paper their nursery just in time for Benjamin's arrival. Then, of course, grandma had to help out for a week. Ben is a real delight to grandma, grandpa and uncle Steve.

We had an exciting trip in <u>APRIL</u> and <u>MAY</u> when we went on a 16 day tour to Greece, Egypt, Jordan and Israel. It was packed with fascinating sights and experiences. We had an Easter service on Mars Hill where Paul preached Christ almost 2000 years ago; and saw the Parthenon on the Acropolis in Athens; and viewed the ruins of old Corinth. We rode camels at the 5000 year old pyramids; flew to Luxor to King Tut's tomb and fabulous Karnak Temples. We saw the unbelievable city of Petra in Jordan carved out of red living rock. We

took a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and walked where Jesus walked in Capernaum, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. We waded thru the centuries old tunnel built by King Hezakiah to supply water to Jerusalem in time of siege and swam (or more accurately, floated) in the Dead Sea. We boarded planes nine times, boated on the Nile, rode in horse drawn carriages, walked blisters on our feet and rode busses until we had blisters elsewhere; and came home with 500 pictures. Steve stayed with friends in Merrifield and had a real good time. Later Dean went on a fishing trip in Canada; then we went to St. Paul for Benjamin's dedication. Don's parents, sister and brother from N. Y. were there, too, so we had a good visit.

JUNE was a busy month. I taught Bible School and Steve attended Bible Trails Camp, always a highlight for him. Carol and family visited one weekend and the Phelps family was here.

I took a few painting classes in \underline{JULY} and we used our pontoon a lot by ourselves and with guests. This was also the month for the arrival of our precious Jeffrey David.

AUGUST We went on another blueberry jaunt in Canada. Those pies are tasting mighty good. During our church "international weekend" we hosted a family of 4 from Chile. Great!!

In <u>SEPT</u>. Mark transferred to a 3M plant in Prairie duChien, Wis. After house hunting & a few days with us, we joined them in St. Paul for Jeffrey's dedication Dale came from Kansas

City and we all moved in with Carol & Don. The place buldged--like Chaos Castle II. I enjoyed a 2 day church women's retreat at Clearwater. Christian fellowship is very special.

OCT. 19 Carol, Ben and we 3 went to help Mark and Judi move. Judi's brother & family were there, too. We cleaned & unpacked boxes, but no furniture except a bed, a table & 3 chairs got in. We took turns sitting on chairs. Grandma & grandpa were the privileged ones to get the bed. Each family was assigned a room and all rolled out sleeping bags---Chaos Castle III.

NOV. wasn't all good. I fractured a foot bone and have a cast up to my knee until Dec. 20. It's not all bad, either, because I am getting jobs done at home that I have neglected a long time. Dean & Don went hunting. No luck but enjoyed getting out. Thanksgiving all the family was together in St.Paul.

DURING THE YEAR Dean has led a Bible Study and is involved with the committee to choose a new pastor for our church, a very time consuming and responsible job. I am on the Board of the Paul Bunyan Arboretum. Steve is busy in school and at his job at the Work Activity Center, mows the lawn & shovels snow.

It's been a busy, wonderful year & we thank God for his care & direction. We wish you God's blessing this Christmas time.

Love from all of us,

Dean, Libby : Steve







DALE

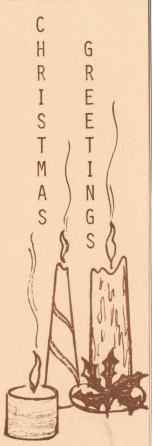
CAROL

MARK

STEVE

AN LIBBY

DEAN



As we write our annual Christmas letter telling you what has happened in our family this year, we are anxiously waiting to hear from you about your activities. It's a great custom and we love it.

Dean is happy to have Dale working for him. He came home in March expecting to take a few weeks vacation, but it didn't take long for his dad to find a job for him, and then another, and another, until he became a part of the staff. He spends his spare time renovating an old school bus converted into a camper. He, Mark, and another friend took one trip with it to Montana this summer. Dale is living in Grandma Haster's house

in Crosby.

Mark is also working for his Dad. He spent a few weeks in N. Y. for computer training and has done some programming on the side for a Minneapolis firm. He is looking for a job in his field, Mechanical Engineering. The field is pretty tight but he is optimistic about the future. One reason for his optimism is that SHE said, "Yes". The wedding date is set for May 25. SHE is Judi Hendricks, a very nice gal, and we are very happy for them. One of Mark's hobbies is photography and he has been having a lot of fun with a telescopic lens.

Carol graduated from Bethel College last spring in Psychology. She is also looking for a job in her field, but is now working for a Bethel Professor doing research and writing in the field of Christian Education. The work is challenging and she enjoys it. Both Carol and Dale worked for a time this summer at Center Lake Bible Camp in Michigan counselling and helping in camping activities. Carol loves to sew and makes good use of the sewing machine she got for graduation. In addition to her own clothes she has made a hit with her brothers by making jackets and shirts for them.

Steve continues to be an active, happy boy. He is in a different special ed program with more advanced kids which gives him more of a challenge. They also do many fun things like overnight camping, bus tours, swimming, etc. When his teacher called today saying they were going to Minneapolis to see Daytons Toy-

land, I jokingly asked when they had time to study.

Dean's work keeps him pretty tied down. (He dreams of an early retirement.) He is bogged down with many meetings each week, having plats approved by councils of local and area cities and villages; bank board meetings, engineers meetings, etc. We took off a couple long week ends to go up to Canada with friends for blueberry picking and fishing. In July our family canoed into Lake Hudson in northern Minn. We can't brag about all the fish we caught, but we did see much wild life, including a magnificent wild bull moose. Steve carried his bird book and pad with

him all the time so he could keep track of all the birds he saw.

Libby has kept busy trying to keep schedules straight for the constant coming and going of the kids and company. Then when I put the wrong number of plates on the table, they laugh and say it's my fault. It's all a part of managing Chaos Castle. I have also helped with the book work at the office and found time for sewing which I enjoy so much.

Mother Haster went to the Crosby Hospital Oct. 1 with a back injury. She is making good recovery, but it is slow. She is walking with a cane or walker, but tires easily. She transferred Nov. 29 to the Intermediate Care Facility until she gets stronger. Dean's mother continues to be active and sews anything from hand puppets to wedding gowns for many who learn of her talents.

Again we wish all of you a blessed Christmas and pray that God will guide each one through these troubled times to Jesus Christ, who alone, can bring peace to those who will turn to Him.

Love from all of us,

to a hope you mally enjoy again bycame ato

Dean o Lilly Dale, Mich Canal & Steve

BRD HS. Class 1946

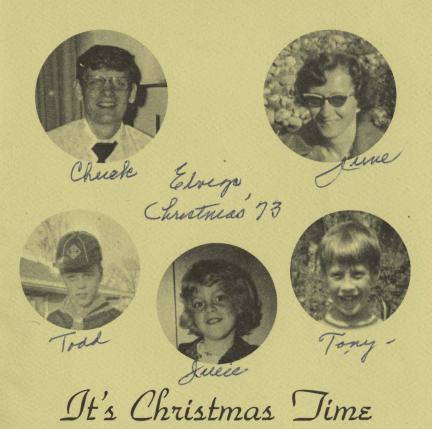


971



... And Now We Are Scren

Praise the Lord





Christmas 1973

Presents galore, goodies so rich, a time to renew friendships, and all this because of the birth of a child. Of course that child is our blessed Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Children are so precious and they grow so fast. Todd is 9, a 3rd grader, proud to be a Cub Scout, and excited about being a hockey player. Tony is 7, in 2nd grade, a swimmer, and a hopeful hockey player. Julie just turned 6, is in Kindergarten, anxious to learn, and Mommy's helper.

Chuck is also in school again — learning to speak Norwegian and thus a dream is being fulfilled for him. The Pharmacy continues to keep him busy and we are so thankful to have a Registered Pharmacist working with him. Chuck is still gardening though will close the greenhouse for the winter months to help fight the fuel shortage.

June's school activities involve visits with the teachers, help with the homework, and learning as the children learn. As secretary for our P.T.A. she is being made aware of school, teacher, student, and parent concerns. Her life centers more than ever around the family and together with Chuck she works in the Sunday School and finds it all very exciting and fulfilling.

A family vacation in August took us to Winnipeg, Calgary, Banff and Yoho National Park, Idaho, Montana, and home. The mountains continued to fascinate us, the battlefields held a special interest for the boys, and a swimming pool on a hot day was delightfully refreshing.

Sheba, our faithful and lovable Boxer died in May. We now have Princess, an impetuous, pretty, and very inquisitive puppy.

Wvery blessed + merry Christmas to you. We must get together this Winter so count on hearing from us. In Christian love, Check, June Told, Jony, Speler

First Presbyterian Church

MINNESOTA

EIGHTH

NORWOOD

Pastor PAUL K. HENDRICKS, D. D. 510 South Tenth Street Phone 9705

Director of Music MRS. EDGAR BENDER 18241/2 Norwood Street Phone 9334

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16



"Holding

forth

t h e

Word

o f

Life"

MISSIONARIES WE HELP SUPPORT

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Lindholm

Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Wick Guatamala, Central America

Rev. and Mrs. L. Paul Moore Camerouns, Africa

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Eagle Japan

Rev. and Mrs. Ross Cleeland Klawock, Alaska

Rev. and Mrs. Victor Alfsen Palmer, Alaska

Rev. and Mrs. Richard Deursen **Sunday School Missionary Duluth Presbytery**

"FAITHFUL IS HE"

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Jer. 33:3

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1950

MORNING WORSH IP	*	11 o'clock	
Organ Prelude *"All Hail the Power			
*Doxology Invoca "He Leadeth Me"	ation Gloria	Threefold Amen	
	(In Unison) Eph. 6:1-9	
*Pastoral Prayer		Response	
Investing in God's	Kingdom	Nancy Rae Ruttger Offertory	
Message Dr. Paul K. Hendricks "RISEN WITH CHRIST"			
*"Pass Me Not" *Benediction			
**	** ** ** **	**	
PULLING CEDUTAE	4	7-15 0107001	

EVENING SERVICE

7:45 o'clock

Christian Endeavor Night, when the young people take over the Evening Service. Let's show the young people that we as a Church are united behind them.

** ** ** ** ** **

Attendance last week	
Sunday School	145
Morning Worship	443
Senior Christian Endeavor	18
Junior Christian Endeavor	16
Evening Service (Cantata)	146
Mariners Club	20
Junior Christians! Club	25
Prayer Meeting	20
CE dinner for Ladies Aid	60

** ** ** ** **

"THANKS"

The Ladies Aid takes this opportunity of expressing their appreciation to the CE for a lovely dinner and program on Friday evening. They are sorry that every member of the Aid couldn't have enjoyed the evening!

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

TODAY:

"Presbyterian Call" broadcast at 8:05 a.m. over KLIZ.
Prayer Preludé, 9:25 a.m. in the west study.
Sunday School, 9:40 a.m. Ralph Falconer, Supt.
Christian Endeavor, 6:45 p.m. (Pre-prayer 6:30 p.m.)
Seniors - leader, David Ruttger.

Juniors - Dick and Virginia Bender, advisors.

MONDAY:

Sunday School Council Meeting, 7:45 p.m.

TUESDAY:

Junior Christians' Club, 4:15 p.m.

Presbytery and Presbyterial meeting in Moorhead on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 18 and 19. Anyone desiring to go or having a car to offer, please contact Mrs. Robert Falconer.

THURSDAY:

WCTU meeting at the home of Mrs. A. G. Kurz, $502\frac{1}{2}$ So. 1st St.; 2:30 p.m. Devotions, Mrs. Margie Angel; program, Mrs. P. O. Peterson.

Senior Choir practice, 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study in Romans, 7:45 p.m. "Be careful in nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God".

FRIDAY:

Women's Missionary Society, 2:30 p.m. Topic, Mrs. Whiting; devotions, Mrs. Risk. Hostesses are Miss Alma Brown and Mrs. Godfrey.

SATURDAY:

Junior Choir practice, 1:15 p.m., Mrs. Tullar and Mrs. Piggott, co-directors. Please note change in time.

COMING-

Junior - Senior banquet on May 5, 1950.

** ** ** ** ** **

\$127.92 was received toward the loudspeaking system. The total cost of the system complete with broadcasting equipment, three microphones, loudspeakers, and individual earphones is \$500.

MEMORIAL FUND: In addition to the memorial flowers, there was a memorial offering of \$5.00 in memory of Peter Dryburgh.

THE SECRET

I met God in the morning
When my day was at its best,
And His presence came like sunrise,
Like a glory in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered, All day long He stayed with me, And we sailed in perfect calmness O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed,
But the winds that seemed to drive them
Brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings, With a keen remorse of mind, When I too had loosed the moorings, With the Presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret, Learned from many a troubled way: You must seek Him in the morning If you want Him through the day!

-Ralph Cushman

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up".

Psalm 5:3

8-22-94 Doct the resurrection and the life

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Paul K. Hendricks Pastor Emeritus

Born in Coon Rapids, Iowa

First Presbyterian Church Brainerd, Minnesota August 25, 1994

July 6, 1905

August 22, 1994

PRELUDE

OPENING SCRIPTURE

CALL TO WORSHIP

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #8 "All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name"

INVOCATION

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Lead On, O King Eternal" H.Smart/N.Johnson

SCRIPTURE READINGS

MEDITATION

SPECIAL MUSIC "When We Come To The End Of The Day"

PASTORAL PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #289 "Blessed Assurance"

COMMITAL

BENEDICTION

... Following the service there will be a luncheon served in Hendricks Hall. All are cordially invited.

Organist - Virginia Bender
Vocalists - Tollefson Family
Chancel Choir - Dr. Albert Johnson, director
Pastor - Rev. John M. Person
Liturgists - Rev. Dwight Johnson
Mike Heuberger

Pastor Paul K. Hendricks

Pástor Paul K. "Doc" Hendricks, 89, 804 Wright St., Brainerd, died Monday, Aug. 22, 1994, at Bethany

Good Samaritan Village.

He was born July 6, 1905, in Coon Rapids, Iowa, to Granville and Elizabeth C. (Johnson) Hendricks. He graduated from Northwestern College in 1927. He married his first wife, Zella, on June l, 1927. He served for 11 years at a church at Hinckley and preached at several other churches in the area, then served for nine years at Westminister Presbyterian Church in Duluth. Later he served at First Presbyterian Church of Brainerd, until his retirement in 1978. He had a radio broadcast seven days a week for more than 50 years. He assumed many leadership positions in the community, the Presbytery, the Synod and at Northwestern Bible College, where he served on the board for 21 years. He was active in missions work, which included the founding of two local camps: Grindstone Lake Bible Camp and Camp Jim. His first wife, Zella, died in 1969. He married Clarice Brunelle in 1970 in Santa Barbara, Calif.

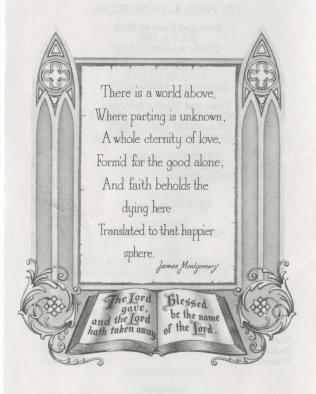
Survivors include his wife; six sons, George, Elwyn, Paul Gene, Dwaine, Mark and Deane; three daughters, Maurine, Sharon and Judi; two stepsons, Paul Brunelle and Philip Brunelle; 43 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren

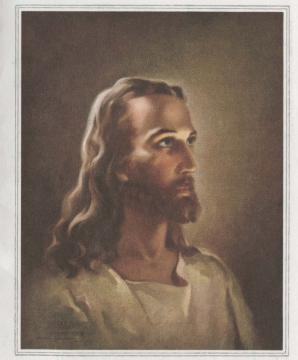


PASTOR PAUL HENDRICKS Dies at age 89

His first wife, Zella, a stepson, Greg, three brothers and three sisters died earlier.

Services will be 11 a.m. Thursday at First Presbyterian Church with Pastors John Person and Dwight Johnson officiating. Burial will be in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens. Friends may call at Halvorson-Johnson Funeral Home from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, and Thursday at the church for one hour before the services.





Head of Christ

by Sallman

In Memoriam



The Twenty Third Psalm

The ford is my Shepherd: I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the baths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death. I will fear no evils for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil:

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the ford for ever.

my cup runneth over.

Following services, lunch will be served in Hendricks Hall.

In Memory Of DR. PAUL K. HENDRICKS

Date and Place of Birth JULY 6, 1905 COON RAPIDS, IOWA

Entered Into Rest AUGUST 22, 1994 BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Place and Time of Services FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BRAINERD, MINNESOTA AUGUST 25, 1994 11:00 AM

Officiating Clergymen PASTOR JOHN PERSON PASTOR DWIGHT JOHNSON

> Reader MIKE HEUBERGER

Organist MRS. VIRGINIA BENDER

Music FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHOIR DUET BY DON AND ERIC TOLLEFSON

Honorary Casket Bearers

James Brunes Pastor LeRoy Nevin Pastor Ralph Chamberlain Gary Peterson

Active Casket Bearers

Dean Anderson Richard Ashmun Charles Elvig Richard Bender Bill Fudge Harry Nysather

Larry Gilbertson

Interment EVERGREEN MEMORIAL GARDENS BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Arrangements By
HALVORSON-JOHNSON FUNERAL HOME



Piano Recital

MRS. KENNETH ANDERSON

presents . . .

Bethany
Covenant
Church
**
Saturday
June 12, 1960
**
7 p.m.



owns for protection, In the cities, many white homes now have guns, parties and children to race from the cities.

March of the Lead Soldiers (6 hands) Tillery Craig Nelson - Danny Kunde - Marlon Goble Steiner The Little Bird Laura Anderson Ketterer Piggly Wiggly March Joey Harting Aaron The Birdling's Serenade Gary Kunde KENNE Steiner The Wayfaring Stranger Jimmy Dahl Steiner White and Black Ivories Douglas Hohman Ketterer Sweetly Sings the Brooklet Patti Morris MacLachlan Climbing Craig Nelson Shaw Kite Capers Bruce Kunkel Steiner Alpine Serenade Susan Howard Petrie Asleep in the Deep Marlon Goble Garrow Blue Jeans & Calico Paula Dale Holtz Timber Auction Polka Linda Albrecht Wortzman Prairie Wagon Danny Kunde Burnam Holiday in Switzerland Susan Anderson Bai nes Here Comes the Band Jerry Anderson Kleinman In a Merry Moon Kay Thompson Kasschau Up Country Dance David Dahl Nevin Trepok Mancy Ruttger

Dance of the Sunbea	(Four Hands)	Cadman
Nancy F Sombrero	Ruttger-Sally Ander	son Eckstein
Nola	Terry Swenson	Lively
Zangareska	Sally Anderson	Epstei n
	Tod Paulson	Browning
Hungarian Fantasy	Susan Haugene	
Hawaiin Twilight	Arla Norwood	Tieman
Sunrise in the Val	1ey	Rodgers
Night Breezes	Johnny Fjelde	Carre
Curious Story	Marie Gadway	Heller
Hungarian Rhapsodi	Myrna Swanson e #2	Liszt arr. by Schaum
M. 1. Av. of Loug	Ricky Anderson	Engelmann
Melody of Love	Susan Dahl	Manville
Little Mam'selle	Susan Halvorson	Dett
Juba	Karen Kanne	
Havana Nights	Van Van An	Charrier-Schaum
Hungarian	Kay Kunde	McDowell McDowell
Polichinelle	Jean Gadway	Rachmani noff
	Ruth Ann Keppers	

* * * * * *

Mrs. K. Anderson To Present

Pupils in Recital

Mrs. Kenneth Anderson of Brainerd will present her pupils in a piano recital on Saturday, June 11, at 7 p. m. in the Bethany Covenant church. (1960)

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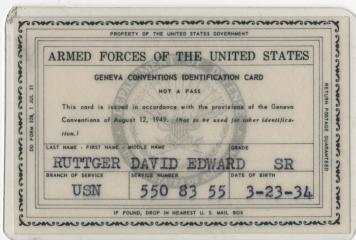
Pupils taking part in the recital are Craig Nelson, Ruth Ann Keppers. Susan Howard, Terry Swenson, Patti Morris, Susan Haugene, Bruce Kunkel, Sally Anderson, Nancy Ruttger, Jean and Marie Gadway, Susan Halvorson, Linda Albrecht, Paula Dale, Marlon Goble. Kay Thompson, Tod Paulson, Shelly Garvey, Danny Kunde, Arla Norwood, Dorothy Larson, Myrna Swanson, Karen and Gary Kanne, Douglas Hohman, Susan Anderson, Kay Kunde, Susan, David and Jimmy Dahl, Mark Mull, Dianne Bubalo, Joev Harting, Laura and

Jerry Anderson, Gary and Stevie Olafson, John Fjelde, Ricky and

The public is invited.

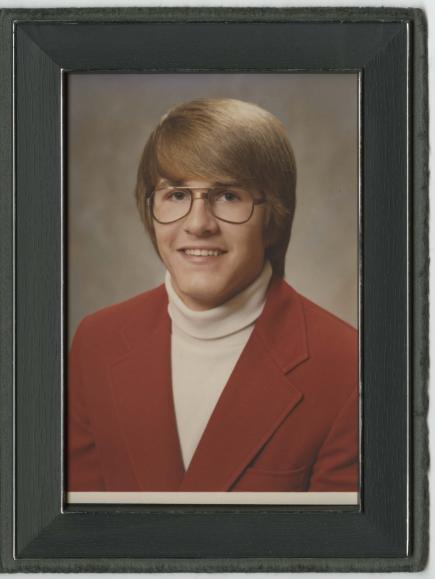
Christine Anderson.

Asleep Th wie Deep





Raxell Headin









Logging Camp, Complete With Mill, Returns to Brainerd

By BOB MURPHY
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

BRAINERD, MINN.—Brainerd was founded as a lumber town, but it has been many years since a full lumber crew worked here—until lately.

The present crew works in miniature, and is busy much of the day, at the behest of visitors to Paul Bunyan center, where there is a full-sized replica of an old-time logging camp, with log buildings, bunks, cookstoves and a collection of lumbering relics.

Inside one of these is the logging operation, manned by sixinch figures working in a winter scene mounted on a 6 by 12-foot table where, at one corner, men chop and section trees, and at the other, they are sawed into boards and timbers.

The animated scene is the work of E. B. Hendrickson, Wausau, Wis., who built a couple more like it, calling on his memory of logging operations from several turns in lumber camps during his youth.

Hendrickson carved the figures. Mrs. Hendrickson knitted and sewed clothes for them. Then Hendrickson put them to work.

Of 32 figures on the table, 30 do something. There are eight buildings, and inside half of them, something is going on, seen through the windows.

A resting lumberjack reads a newspaper. He turns his head and the pages, Two men saw a tree. One man splits wood for the cook stove. A chip flies off, then comes back up so he can knock it off again.

One man trots down a path from a shed into the cookhouse, carrying wood, another carries pots and pans. The doors open for them. The door pops open on a Chic Sale, revealing a lumberjack inside. A man washes clothes busily, another cleans up for chow. One pumps water. A sawyer turns his head as a timber slides by the saw, and three men pile boards.

A foreman chatters to two other men, and his chin-whisk-



PINT-SIZED LUMBER CAMP IN BRAINERD Paul Bunyan watches replica at work

ers work busily. One lumberjack pounds on the scantlings of a building going up. One man eats. A blacksmith pounds at the forge. A jack saws a log. A laborer wheels a load in a barrow. An axman sharpens his weapon.

Not all the figures are human. A lumberjack on a sled loaded with logs cracks his whip and the team strains at the traces. A dog darts into a hollow log. A rabbit pops out the other end. At that moment a huntsman raises a gun to shoot at him.

Logs, lying helter-skelter on a river of glass, are skidded up an incline to the saw carriage. A lumber train runs around the circumference of the table. So much goes on that many observers spend a quarter hour checking up on everything, and former loggers note the various operations, virtually everything that goes on in a lumber camp.

The scene is actuated beneath the board by an electric motor and a bewildering array of belts, chains, gears, cams and eccentrics, from which wires reach up through the table to move the figures and the machinery. The action is paced so that the scene is busy, but not overly mechanical.

Installed in Paul Bunyan center on trial this spring, the logging panorama has now become a permanent exhibit. It remiteds this community of the industry which gave it birth.



EA Max

1916

Bryon Scott



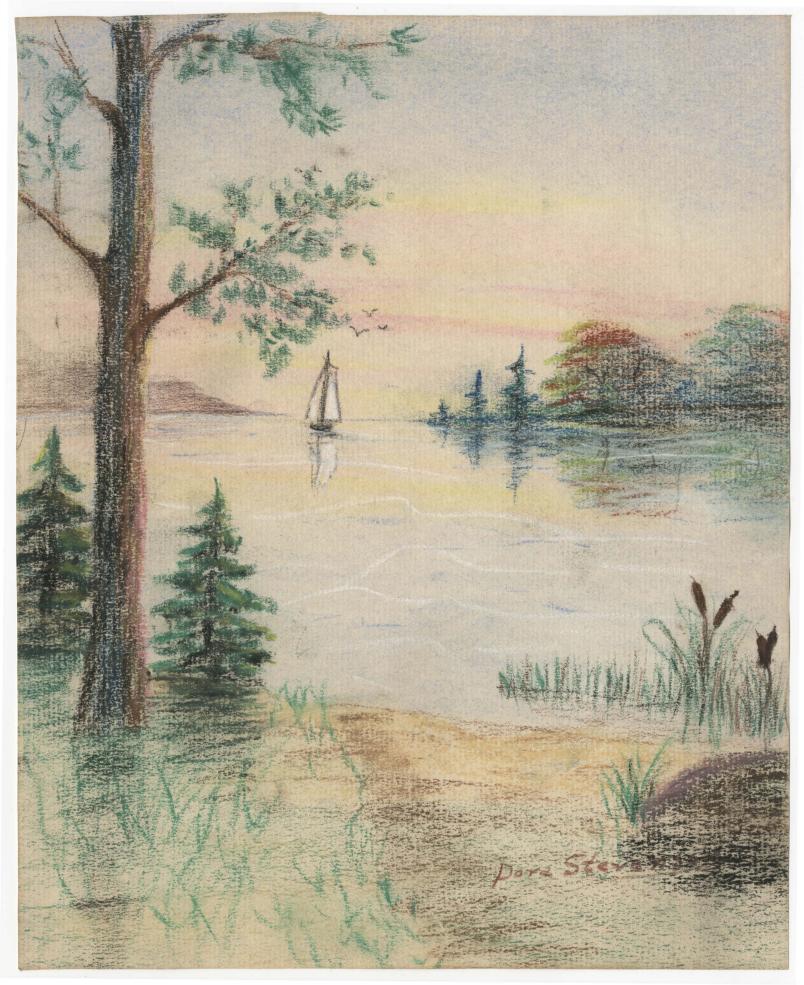
Reddywart kins With "Grandma Nellie"

A PICNIC IN 1922

Donney Buzz Rosie Eva-Ed



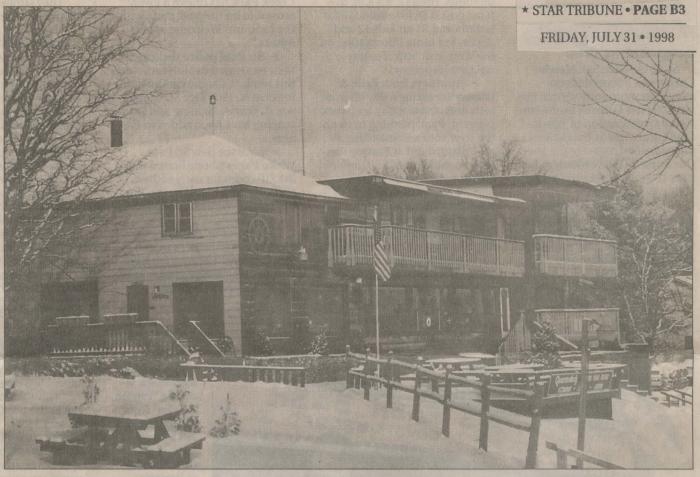




Since the 1950s, families have celebrated special occasions at the Quarterdeck restaurant and lodge.

The landmark resort on Gull Lake, seen here before it was struck by lightning and destroyed July 13. 1997.

Owners Jane and Alan Gunsbury said there was never any doubt that they would rebuild. "We couldn't walk away," **Alan Gunsbury** said. "Too many people were de-



Gull Lake resort gets fresh start out of ashes

By Larry Oakes

Northern Minnesota Correspondent

NISSWA, MINN. — As fire consumed the Quarterdeck restaurant and lodge last summer, owners Alan and Jane Gunsbury watched history go up in smoke.

But in the flames they also saw

the future.

"As it burned, I said, 'We'll go from 1929 to the year 2000 in one year,' " Alan said. "I said, 'It will be a rebirth, a new resort.'

And so it is.

Exactly a year after a late-night lightning bolt destroyed a place on Gull Lake where families and friends had toasted anniversaries and birthdays since the 1950s, a new lodge has risen. A new restaurant, the Boathouse Eatery, sits nearby. Last week was the reopening celebration.

It's a reconstitution, not a replication. The \$2.5 million lodge and restaurant started with a \$10,000 survey and study done by the Gunsburys to find out what their

customers wanted.

"You find you really don't know business as well as you thought," Alan said. "We found a lot of things in the survey that we should have done years ago.

The Boathouse retains the nautical theme and rustic elegance of the grand old supper club, but it offers a hipper array of choices for the health- and budget-conscious. Alan said they wanted a place people could afford to come to once a week, not just on special occasions.

"We found in our survey that customers wanted different options, not necessarily the threecourse meal," Jane said.

To the disappointment of some customers, it's not right on the water where the old Quarterdeck was located. That's because it took several months last summer and fall for insurance adjusters and engineers to decide whether the old restaurant was a total loss.

Meanwhile, the Gunsburys had to get a new place open by December in order to keep their resort afloat and have work for several dozen employees they kept on the payroll throughout the rebuilding.

They chose a woodsy spot behind the old building.

Finishing touches are just being made to the new 11,000-square-foot lodge, built in less than three months this spring and summer where the old restaurant used to be. (The old lodge had 6,000 square feet of usable space.)

It has 14 luxury lakeside "villas" with vaulted ceilings, stone fire-places, hot tubs, decks, kitchenettes and custom-built furniture and cabinets. The new buildings also contain amenities and features that the Gunsburys had accumulated on their wish lists

since buying the resort in 1976.
"We had the opportunity to rethink everything," Alan said. "It's now 10 steps from the serving area to the dining area, compared with 21 steps at the old Quarterdeck. The work areas are designed so every staff member faces the customer. Average food preparation [time] was cut from 31 minutes to 10 minutes.'

A new start

Although there was no eyewitness to confirm it, fire officials said they think lightning struck a castiron vent pipe on the Quarterdeck's roof in the early morning of July 13, 1997. It appeared to have traveled down the pipe and started a fire above the basement ceiling, possibly in some old insulation.

Jane Gunsbury discovered the blaze just after 6:30 a.m. It was already shooting through the roof, beyond hope of being extinguished in time to save the build-

Alan said there was never any doubt that they'd rebuild. They had raised five children at the resort, after leaving other careers



Star Tribune photo by Vickie Kettlewell

After watching their resort burn down, Alan and Jane Gunsbury built a new lodge in Nisswa, Minn. They surveyed their clients and came up with a fresh approach and more choices for customers. Along with their black Lab, Bear, the Gunsburys marked the opening of the Boathouse Eatery last week.

and moving to Minnesota from Illinois in the 1970s. Some of their employees had been with them 20

"We couldn't walk away," Alan said. "Too many people were depending on us.

It meant starting over in more

ways than one.

At the time of the fire, the Gunsburys had only \$60,000 left to pay on their mortgage. Insurance covered \$1.5 million, a million hort of what they to rebuild. They got loans for the

"They had good insurance, and they're honest operators who are very enthusiastic about their business," said Bob Verkennes, of First American Bank in Brainerd, who helped arrange financing. "I'm not at all surprised they're back up and running in a year.

Alan and Jane said it meant a

million decisions in a year of 18hour days. Friends whose marriages were almost done in by mere kitchen remodelings marvel at the Gunsburys' feat.

"There were times ..." Jane said, but they pressed on.

A few decorations survived the flames to remind patrons of the old place - including a blackened ship's wheel and wooden carving of a ship's captain, so badly charred he looks like a half-consumed yule log that went out in the night.

Both were carefully cleaned and varnished and are on display in the Boathouse, to take their place next to newer keepsakes.

'We still have some nostalgia for the old place on the water, said Lori Meyer, a longtime patron who lives on Gull Lake. "But they've done a marvelous job with the new one."



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