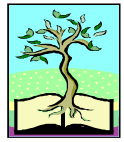




Bottke Newsletter



“Feeding the Family Tree”

Holiday EDITION 2004

2329 Chestnut Way ◊ Bedford Tx. ◊ 76022 ◊ Email: marvcarole@comcast.net ◊



What do people do after they quit work and retire? Laverne Goedtel grows plants and vegetables, but mostly makes things from scrap lumber and sells it Saturday mornings at Central Park Market in Faribault. “It’s something to do” says Laverne.



Kristen & Brian Gieck were married at 4 p.m. September 25th at Glory of God Lutheran Church; Wheat Ridge Colorado. Friends and relatives gathered for a vey nice reception afterwards at their home.



One of many items on display was a recent creation of a casket that Laverne made for halloween decorations.



Nancy, Marvin and Gladys among the chickens again; this time as children and as seniors all in the same photo. (Nance’s ideas on computer enhancements.)



Tiny tater tots with their eyes all aglow will find it hard to sleep tonight.

Laverne Goedel enjoys retirement. He spent his entire working career in sheet metal and roofing in Faribault. After retirement, at first, he and his wife Jean did some traveling together. This was quite enjoyable. One year they went to Texas where their car was stolen. Unfortunately, but naturally, this left a bad taste about spending time in Texas in the wintertime. Later on, Jean experienced adversity and blessing both. She unfortunately became a victim of pancreatic cancer, but through a whole lot of faith and good medical help, she became a survivor from a pretty severe case of it. Adjusting and supporting healthy hobbies is something Laverne obviously has demonstrated throughout all of his retirement years. He talks about hunting and fishing with the kids. He helps with annual Lutefisk and Lefse dinners at the church. In addition, if you go to Central Park on a Saturday morning during the warm weather months in Minnesota, you'll be very apt to see the results of Laverne's talents and interests as you stroll past the produce and crafts. He'll be set up alongside his pickup where he's displaying and selling garden items as well as craft things that he makes in his wood shop. Photos on the front page of this newsletter were taken near closing of the season at the Saturday morning market in Faribault.

We Always Enjoy Mail

Greetings came to us from Saluti da Capri in Italy this past summer. A postcard arrived that told us all about a wonderful trip to be in a friend's wedding near Siena. It also announced that travels at the time of writing the card were in Southern Italy. Written in a beautiful European style of penmanship, the card was signed Susanne. We immediately assumed "Soo-Zahn-Ah Ramm, our former exchange student from Hamburg. Days later we to our former exchange student and thanked her for it. She wrote back telling us she had not been to Italy and did not send us a card from there. We were puzzled. We looked at the Signature again and again but could not figure out who "Soo-ZAHN-ah" was. After a great deal of

pondering, The thought came, "Could it be "Soo-Zan" Bottke from San Fransisco. Would she have gone to Italy this past summer. So we wrote to Susanne Bottke and here's what she wrote back:

Yes I did send you a postcard from Italy. I was in a friend's wedding in June and then traveled around, Capri being one of the places I went to. I'm so glad you received it ok since they took forever to get to everyone. I have been to Italy before but not to the places I went to this time. I was in Sierre Di Rapolano at a castle where the wedding was and then I was in Rome, Capri, Sorrento and Positano. The last three places are along the Amalfi coast so it was beautiful to be by the sea. I was gone for about 15 days and it was really nice.... It really was hard to get in the groove of things once I returned, but it's easier now.

Anyway, thanks for the newsletter. As always it was very entertaining. You do such a great job on it. Hope all is well with you guys and hope your summer is going well. Keep in touch and I'll talk to you soon!
Susanne

**A note from another relative; July '04
From Tom Ackman;**

Received your nice Bottke newsletter again. You do a great job putting it together. We have moved to:

40685 West Island Drive
Rochert, MN 56578

May (Ackman) has retired from teaching at Northwest Technical College in Moorhead, MN and Tom is selling real estate for Coldwell Banker-Lyon Realty in Detroit Lakes, MN. We are enjoying our home on Island Lake.

Thanks and keep up the good work,
Tom and May Ackman
Rochert, Mn.

80th Birthday Celebrant, Faribault, Mn.

May Bottke celebrated her 80th Birthday this past August in Faribault, Minnesota. The event took place at the Congregational Parish House in Faribault on Sunday August 8th from 2 to 4 p.m. and was hosted by her Family members. The line up waiting to wish May a Happy Birthday was about an hour long most of the time. May was greeted by hundreds of new, renewed, and long-time friends and acquaintances from all walks of life. Her charming personality brings her many new friends. She also maintains a high level of popularity in Faribault well into retirement. May sets an excellent example of how to enjoy retirement life to its fullest.

For those who cannot attend our (Carole and Marv's) Celebration Jan. 21st in Waikiki, perhaps you can join us in spirit at home.

Here's a Christmas recipe for your Hawaiian Holiday Fixin's.

Hawaiian Pineapple Cheese Ball

1 lb. Softened cream cheese (whipped)
10 oz. Can crushed pineapple (drained)
1/3 cup green pepper (chopped fine)
1/8 cup onion (chopped fine)
1tsp. Season Salt

Chill, then roll in chopped pecans, or sprinkle the pecans over the cheese ball. (For More Authentic Hawaiian, use Macadamia nuts).

Here is another special old-fashioned Holiday recipe

PFEFFERNUESE

Old-fashioned German Pepper-Nut Cookies

For maximum flavor, bake these cookies at least two weeks before you plan to eat them. (They keep for a long time), and are best eaten after first being dunked into a cup of hot coffee or tea to soften them up.

4-1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon ground cloves
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon finely ground black pepper
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons anise seeds

4 eggs
2 cups brown sugar, firmly packed

Sift the flour before measuring it. Resift the flour together with the cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon, black pepper, baking soda, and salt. Add the anise seeds and mix well.

Beat the eggs lightly in a large bowl, then add the brown sugar and stir until well blended. Add the flour mixture one cup at a time, stirring until all ingredients are thoroughly combined. As the dough becomes stiffer, knead it by hand to mix all of the flour into it.

Lightly dust your hands with flour. Pinch off a large handful of dough and roll it by hand, on a lightly floured surface, to make a "snake" about 3/4 inch in diameter. Cut each "snake" crosswise into pieces about 3/4-inch long. Place the pieces of dough 1 inch apart on greased baking sheets, and let the cookies dry overnight, uncovered, at room temperature

The next day preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Bake the Pfeffernuesse, one pan at a time for twenty minutes. Transfer the Pfeffernuesse to a wire rack and let them cool completely. Store the cookies in a tightly covered container. The Pfeffernuesse will improve in flavor after about two weeks and will keep well for several weeks in an airtight container. Makes approximately 13 dozen small bite-size cookies.

(NOTE: You can dress them up by sprinkling them with Anise liquor or rum as soon as you take the cookies out of the oven.) Then roll the warm cookies in confectioners or powdered sugar.

Since they are so sturdy, they are excellent cookies to send through the mail.

Harvest time in old Pommerania

In "Pommern", as it is spelled in the German way, the finishing of the harvest time was a time to celebrate. After the last grain had been cut, the people would decorate their harvest tools and march in a parade led by musicians or a band. They would go to a designated farmer for a meal and dancing.

In certain regions where the fertility of the soil produced a good yield in the wheatfields, a special costume would be worn by the people for special events. (Continued on page 3)

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It was called "Die Weizackertracht", taken from the word "Weizacker" meaning wheatfield. Tracht, of course is a very common German folk dress. These 'tracht' garments were not exactly inexpensive. Many times only the well to do farmers could afford them. The 'tracht' fashion diminished after world war 1. Today it can be seen worn in limited degrees in a few communities there when they hold special biennial reunions.

Anyone traveling in USA might stop in Menoquin Wisconsin, near Milwaukee. It is the home of the Pommerscher Verein Freistadt (Pommeranian United organization that also has a newsletter). The Library in Menoquin has a great deal of Pommeranian History. Website: <http://www.my.execpc.com/~pommern/> email: Pommern@excecpc.com

Words from Charles and Mary Evans

Everything is good out in Alamogordo, New Mexico. They've had a little rain recently. Aunt Lee, (Christman) recently had a fall and broke her hip. She now is in therapy and recuperating in Alamogordo. As soon as she can, she will relocate to assisted living quarters in Alamogordo.

Charles and Mary are looking forward to going to Yuma near Mexican Border in January. Plans are that Patty and Rita will be coming from Wisconsin and Alaska to visit while they are enjoying Yuma. Warren (Buck), of course, will need to stay back in Alaska where he will keep busy with the business there. Not only does he work a job with the oil industry there, but he also maintains his fishing and guide business. Hunters come up to go hunting, and fishermen come to go fishing.

(Is there an interest in a fishing trip of *somehow related people* within this newsletter umbrella? Let us know.)

Meets, Greetings, and Married

Brian and Kristen Gieck were married in Wheat Ridge Colorado in September. (Kristen is the daughter of Denise Gazda, granddaughter to

Gladys (Bottke) Longpre.) It was one of those days when it sure looked like rain, but God held off the rain for the lovely ceremony which took place at the outdoor chapel behind Glory of God Lutheran Church. Friends and relatives attended from locally and far away as well. Brian and Kristen hosted a very special reception right in their back yard of their home afterwards. Kristen met Brian through her dad's business, since Brian works for her dad.

Elly Mae, the daughter of Tom and Amy Storch, was married August 5th in Corpus Christi, Texas to Lucas Edward Sweet. Lucas is from Oregon. They met at college in Texas.

Class reunions were also part of this past years events. It has already been 20 years for the Faribault High School class of 1984. (Bill Bottke, and Les Bottke's class). The 20 year reunion was held in Faribault this past August.

Perhaps you recall in a previous Newsletter, the story about Dr. Karl Bottke in Iowa and his volunteer work with the Red Cross. We have not heard for sure, but perhaps Karl was somehow involved with the disaster relief in Florida from the recent Hurricanes. We will try and get some further information before the next newsletter in June.

Erich and Lydia Bottke of Torgelow, Germany recently sent a gift to us. It is the nicest large volume *Serges Medien Woerterbuch* (dictionary) that exists. It has always been a wish to have such a fine quality and comprehensive dictionary for translation purposes. We give special thanks to them for this very unique gift. It was accompanied with a short letter bringing us up to date on things with them in Torkelow. They write that winter is knocking on their door and hopefully it will not be so cold this winter. Erich had a knee replacement this past May on his right knee. The recovery has been excellent. "Er Laeuft schon gut." We send them the Newsletter and then accompany the newsletter with a short personal letter in my simple style of German.

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In our thoughts and prayers:

We've received word that Bill Goedel was very seriously injured as a result of a car accident this past year. We encourage everyone to remember Bill and Debbie and their family and keep them all in our prayers.

Come Celebrate with us

- Carole's 20 years at American Airlines
- Marvin's 62nd Birthday and pre-retirement
- Marvin & Carole's 36th year "Friends of Bill and Lois W." program

Aston Waikiki Banyan, Honolulu

Fri. Jan. 21st, 2005

4:30-7:30 p.m.

6th floor poolside, or 3rd floor Tower 1

Hospitality suite (Depending on weather)

Write us, call, or send e-mail if you can make it

Help us with address updates if you can:

We get mail returned due to wrong addresses from these names:

Jerry Goedel, Terry Delmerico, Betty English, Donna English, Shawnda Purdy, Sarah Purdy Blain Hvamsal

Send your items of photos or family news events for our next Newsletter by May 1st.

It's all about Teamwork

By Lonnie Bottke

I remember as a kid growing up that Christmas time meant one thing to me. Peak football season! That's right, all those college bowl games: NFL playoffs...playing football in the snow! Oh, and of course, gifts. Especially when the gifts were sporting equipment or apparel. This was back in the days when bowl games actually meant something. The Sugar Bowl, The Rose Bowl, Orange Bowl etc. It was not the Nokia Sugar Bowl, or the Fed Ex Orange Bowl. It was back when if a team only won 2 games there was no bowl game for them. In my opinion, It's become excessive. Even for a sports freak like me. The way college bowl games have evolved over the years I figure in about 15-20 years teams will go to a bowl game just for playing. Can you imagine; the Dr. Scholls Foot Fungai Bowl. And those kinds of bowls will probably be done with college teams that even God hasn't heard of yet. You know, I've been watching football for most of

my 37 years on this earth and I still don't know what state *Ball State* is actually in! I believe it's toward the east coast.

I vividly recall the days when the Rose Bowl was the heralded bowl game. Whichever team won that bowl game, they were then the national champions. Now, there are a million more bowl games and they still don't know who is #1. "Back in the days", I didn't have to sit through 6 replays of a guy getting tackled at the line of scrimmage. Now, replay overrules the officials. They thought they'd take the fun out of complaining about the bad call that lost the game on Monday morning. But you know what? They can't even get it right with replay. "Back in the days", New Year's Day was the final day for college football. Now, we have to wait 'til Tuesday to see who ties for #1. "Back in the day", I didn't have to go to school for two weeks. Now, I get a day off from work.

So then you may ask, "Well, Lonnie, what does any of this really have to do with the holidays?" My answer is: "Maybe not a darn thing." But I always enjoyed seeing people sitting down and watching the game; especially those folks who didn't know much about football. Particularly the women who picked the team they were rooting for because they liked the color of their uniforms. I've always liked teaching others about sports strategies and philosophies. Showing people how sports teams are much like a family. By watching how a team works well together might just show you how you'd like your own family to be more like. The next time you sit down and watch a game, even if you don't know the game, think about how each position on the team is a necessary and vital position to the team's success. Think about how all those players have to have the same goal: How all those players have to communicate to achieve that goal. It's poetry in motion. But it's ugly when it's not.

I don't get caught up in the commercial hoopla about who's number one anymore. I like to watch the teams who are having success with their teamwork. What better time is there to watch that hard work pay off than Christmas time? Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lon Bottke
Midnight Baker at Super One Foods
Virginia, Minnesota.

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