

*FEBRUARY 2012*

*ISSUE 172*

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*FEBRUARY 2012*

I'm going to try to have the "Family Reunion" out before we all leave for the Dominican Republic for Teresa and Mando's wedding, but in case things are very hectic here before hand, and I don't get it out I guess it will wait until we get home. Hope to see all of you on the beautiful, sunny, aquamarine, clear, romantic beach of the Dominican Republic. Happy Valentine's Day!!

God's Blessings to All. Love ya, Linda

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## *February Birthdays*

Ed Mages	Feb 01
Lindsey Mages	Feb 03
Nancy Strate	Feb 12
Abigail Strand	Feb 12
Sarah Mills	Feb 16
Dylan Nelson	Feb 17
Mikayla Mages	Feb 21
Tony Schmitz	Feb 25
Brady Mages	Feb 27

## *New Addresses and E-Mails*

Jeff Plath  
416 ½ State St.  
Mankato, Mn. 56001

Dawn Plath  
5720 Oakley St.  
Duluth, Mn. 55071  
Cell# 507-469-0919

Kristen Mages  
[kristenmages@gmail.com](mailto:kristenmages@gmail.com)  
Kristen's blog  
<http://www.kristenmages.blogspot.com/>

[www.magesonline.com](http://www.magesonline.com)

### **News Deadline**

20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Send articles and photos  
to Linda

[lindagall@rocketmail.com](mailto:lindagall@rocketmail.com)

## *Coming Events*

February 18,2012- Starlite Gala, Mankato, Mn

February 25, 2012- Michelle's Choir-Hastings

February 29,2012-Wedding of Teresa and Mando in the Dominican Republic

March 03, 2012- Michelle's Choir- Totino Grace, Fridley, Mn

March 17, 2012- Bridal Shower Samantha and David Nelson, Hector, Mn.

March 25,2012- Michelle's Choir-Albert Lea

March 31, 2012- Branson, Missouri

July 14, 2012- Saturday Mages Family picnic at Sportsman's Park, Sleepy Eye, Mn Supper 7p.m. Wedding reception for Teresa and Mando Frias.

July 27, 2012- Wedding of Samantha and David Nelson, St. Peter, Mn. Gustavus College.

August 23, 2012- September 06,2012- Trip to Germany.

September 22- 2012- Annual Kodet Sister's Day Morton Senior Center, 9 a.m.

## *Important Reminder*

All children of Alphonse Mages. I just had an abdominal aortic ultra sound done recommended by my doctor because an aortic aneurysm was the cause of Dad's death. My doctor and the sonographer both said tell your siblings to have this done as it is very hereditary. Linda

## *Michelle- Show Choir 2012*



**Michelle in Show Choir**  
Feb. 25th--Hastings  
March 3rd--Totino Grace,  
Fridley  
March 24th--Albert Lea  
March 31--Branson, Missouri

## *Wedding Reception and Mages Family Picnic 2012*

This year for the family picnic I'm going to have everything in the evening. **Mark your calendars!** The Mages Family picnic will be on July 14 . 2012 with supper to be served at 7 P.M. at the **Sportsman's Park north of Sleepy Eye.** I have the entire campground reserved for anyone who wants to camp. After supper we will also have a mini wedding reception for Mondo & Teresa for everyone to enjoy. I'm requesting that all musicians in the family bring their musical instruments. I've asked Steven Mages to be in charge of the music during the evening, **So Everyone, get ready to dance, sing, drink, sing and be merry!!!!!!**

Betty Jass

## *Starlite Gala*

The 10th Annual Starlight Gala is Coming!!!

February 18th, 2012

Verizon Wireless Center

5:30 Social and Silent Auction

7 p.m. Dinner

7:45 Program, Live Auction(Matt Mages), Entertainment

Order you tickets online

- [help@onebrightstar.org](mailto:help@onebrightstar.org) or [onebrightstar.obs@gmail.com](mailto:onebrightstar.obs@gmail.com)
- \$50 per person
- This Gala supports The One Bright Star & Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention organizations



*Matt Mages Auctioneer Starlite Gala*

## *Germany Trip Update*

Just a little update on the Germany Trip. Aug 23 - Sept 6. The tentative itinerary would be to land in Switzerland, go to "The North Face" of the Eiger, travel through the Swiss and Austrian Alps to Vienna Austria, then on to the infamous WW II Auschwitz death camp in Poland, then to Prague - Tabor - Bechyne all in the Czech Republic and home of the Kodets, Then to Nuremberg - Unterhutzen Germany, home of the Mages' and Helmut Mages and then back to Minnesota. We would allow enough time for little side trips and a reunion with the Mages family. Maybe with the Kodets too, if I can figure out who to talk to there. Total time gone -14 days, about 12 days on the ground in Europe. I'm still working on mode of travel. We should try to book things in the next 60 days, hotels, travel tickets etc. Larry

# Mages "Forever Young" Program

## Respond by February 05, 2012



**Goal:** To give incentive to Exercise and reach a Healthy Weight and have fun doing it.

**Privacy:** This would be strictly a family program, NO ONE, Except one or two monitors will ever need to know your weight. This will be an honor system. We know you are all honest about whether you're exercising or not. You will weigh-in on your scale at home every week. We will officially weigh-in at the start of the program, at the summer family reunion, at Christmas and again at the year end.

**Carrot:** This could give you the incentive to reach your goal weight, and get in shape.

**Whip:** For each week that you don't make progress toward your goal, you will be fined.

For each week that you don't exercise at least 3 hours, you will be fined, even if you reached your goal weight.

1. **Who:** Anyone can join, if under 18, you need your parents permission and supervision. You will be in for one year when you can opt out or set new goals for the next year, even if it is just to maintain your weight.

2. **Fines:** Your fines will be based on a scale, if for instance you start at 252 pounds, and have a goal to reach 200 pounds in one year, you would need to lose one pound every week. If on week 4, you weren't down at least 4 pounds, you would have to pay a fine. You would also get fined for gaining weight back, so if by week 3 you had lost 6 pounds, but now on week 4 you're only down 4 pounds, having gained 2 pounds back, you would pay a fine or you're at your goal weight, but you're getting fined for gaining weight back. You will also pay a fine for not exercising regularly, at least 3 hours per week, split up however you like. If you find yourself turning things into exercise that you previously didn't consider to be exercise, or you use regular chores as exercise then throw your fine in, you're only kidding yourself. **THE FINE WILL BE MONEY, AND THE SIZE OF THE FINE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE INDIVIDUAL PERSON.** You know what will motivate you, make it hurt a little.

**So You Can be Fined 3 ways.** 1. For not reaching your goal this week, 2. For not getting in your 3 hours of exercise this week, 3. For gaining weight.

**Weight-Ins:** Weekly on your own scale in your own home, you know if you need to pay a fine. You may be able to fool us for a little while, but unless you're honest with yourself this won't work.

3. **Where will the money go. Two places:**

**A.** To the people who have reached their goal after one year. All the winners will share in ½ of the total fines. They can vote to go to any event together of their choice, Valley Fair, Mall of America, Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, A concert, State Fair, You get the idea, it's totally up to that group.

**B.** The other half will be shared equally as a scholarship for any descendant of Alphonse and Barbara that are in college. They must be in college at least one semester during our year of the "Forever Young" program.

Your weight would not be published anywhere, but reaching goals, getting fined, size of pot, etc would be published periodically in the "Family Reunion". You gotta have incentives you know.

After everyone that wants to sign up, has signed up, we'll have one meeting to set or change any rules we feel will enhance this program. We will also elect the monitors and treasurer and then do our official weigh-in. **IF YOU'RE UNABLE TO COME TO THIS MEETING, you can weigh-in wherever you are.** We'll make it work. [bidme5@magesland.com](mailto:bidme5@magesland.com) Thank You Larry

# *Mages Family Band KNUJ Radio Christmas Program*

## KNUJ Mages Family Christmas Special

Heaven only knows how we seem to get into these things. Matt and Brian Filzen were on the air in early December talking about business and The Mages Family Band was brought up and before you know it, Brian had us live on the air from 8:30 to 10:30 one morning. Brian is such a great ad libber and keeps you quite comfortable. We ended up singing about a dozen songs as they also had their regular programing. Grandma Barbara, Larry, Theresa, Matt, Amanda, Emily, Halle and Gabby all sang. With most getting to sing lead on one song or another. One thing we weren't prepared for was the switchboard lighting up, so to speak. There was a very positive response to the show with KNUJ selling out of our CDs by the end of the show. Of course, we know it was our wonderful family calling in to make us feel good. Amanda said Gabby was confused on the way home, thinking that all music on the air comes from live bands at the studios. You gotta love it. She and Halle had no fear whatsoever. I think I was the only nervous wreck in the bunch, but Brian quickly calmed us down. Larry



L to r: Brian Filzen,  
Theresa, Larry,  
Halle, Amanda, and  
Mom

Larry, Gabby,  
Amanda and Mom



Matt and Theresa

## *On The Cover Of The "Rolling Stone" Magazine*

In a surprise choice for 2011, Barbara Mages of Sleepy Eye, Mn. was chosen as this year's artist of the year by Rolling Stone Magazine. Rolling Stone magazine has been choosing artist of the year since Elvis Presley was chosen in 1959. Barbara joins other greats including John Lennon in 64, Neil Diamond in 70, Dolly Parton in 77, Bruce Springsteen in 83, others include Loretta Lynn, Donny & Marie, Michael Jackson, and recently, Taylor Swift and Kenny Chesney. Along with this great honor, Barbara was awarded a two month stay in beautiful, sunny Mesa, Arizona. Barbara is the matriarch of the singing Mages Family of Southern, Mn. After enjoying her sunny warm Arizona reward, you'll be able to catch Barbara back in action near her Sleepy Eye Mn. home. Just recently she appeared on The All Natural Brian Filzen Show on KNUJ radio in New Ulm. She was to be the featured guest on the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville in February, but it conflicted with her Arizona prize. The people of Nashville will just have to wait, as it is rumored she will be starting a world tour, including stops in The Dominican Republic, Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, and Switzerland. Keep an eye on your Ticket Master website to have a chance to enjoy the wonderful melodies of Barbara Mages the next time she's in your area. Rolling Stone magazine can be purchased at newsstands near you. (Wide Eyed in Sleepy Eye, ace reporter Dick Clark)



# CORN TALK

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Minnesota Corn  
GROWERS ASSOCIATION

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### MCGA President Mages sets priorities

**J**ohn Mages of Belgrade was elected president of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association in September by the organization's state board of directors. Other officers elected at that time include Tom Haag of Eden Valley, vice president, Ryan Duck of Goodhue, treasurer, and Bruce Peterson of Northfield, secretary. Their terms began October 1 and run through September 30, 2013.

John Mages, 54, raises corn and soybeans on his farm in Belgrade in Stearns County. He has been involved in leadership positions with MCGA for nearly six years, most recently serving as its vice president.

"The single most important issue now facing farmers is what's going to happen to the next farm bill," said Mages. "What kind of protection will the farmer have if there is a collapse in prices or a collapse in yield? What kind of bill will help Middle America stay healthy – we need a viable safety net that can be successfully maintained within current federal budgetary constraints. We also have an important message to bring to the public about ethanol, and that is to remind people of the importance of energy independence – depending on foreign oil is a risk not only to our national security, but also to our economy. Growing the renewable energy industry – with farm-based energy strongly represented in the portfolio – is the way for America to step away from its unhealthy addiction to oil."

Among his formative leadership experiences, Mages counts as most important his participation in the several classes of Minnesota Agricultural and Rural

Eric Plath received this magazine at work and noticed John was on the front cover. Sorry John I couldn't get it to copy any better. We are all so proud of you. Linda

Leadership (MARL) program. This is a competitive two-year program of seminars that brings together 80 rural leaders to learn about regional, state, national and global economies and how farming and other sectors of the economy fit within these systems. The seminars each take place in a different location around the state, to help participants become familiar with all of the state's regions and network with leaders in these places. The MARL program also includes a week-long experience in Washington, D.C., as well as a week-to-ten day international experience.



Mages also has taken part in the Syngenta Leadership Training program, which brings candidates together at Syngenta's world headquarters for training in a range of leadership skills.

"One of the most important underlying concepts we took home from MARL is that, if you want to have a say in what the future will be for yourselves or your kids when it comes to agriculture, then you have to get involved," said Mages. "Organizations like Minnesota Corn Growers are the means for keeping America's farmers prosperous and independent, through well-thought out policies and laws that are based on thorough scientific research. It takes grower leaders to step up and carry these messages to the public, and to elected officials."



## *John Continued*

### Corn Growers find Gopher relationship continues to be a "win-win"



Minnesota Corn Growers Association has teamed up with University of Minnesota Gopher Sports for the second year to help promote the similar qualities shared by the two home-grown entities. Both MCGA and the Gophers are vital components of our state's history and culture, explained John Mages, MCGA president, and fostering a closer relationship between the two entities is a great way to remind Minnesotans of the benefits Minnesota's corn farmers and Gopher athletes bring to the North Star State.

Throughout the sports year, MCGA will have a large messaging presence in Gopher venues and media outreach, including messaging and signage in the three major University of Minnesota sports facilities (TCF Stadium – football, Marucci Arena – hockey, and Williams Arena – basketball and

wrestling). Additionally, MCGA ad explaining farmers' commitment to conservation practices and environmental stewardship will play on the Gopher Sports Network.

"There is already a strong link between the University and Minnesota's corn farmers," Mages explained. "Many farmers are University alumni, and we fund and support a wide variety of University-conducted research. And, we work closely with University personnel at their Outreach Centers to help increase understanding of good agricultural practices. Not only that, but we send our kids to the U for a first-rate education and supply quite a number of 'home-grown' athletes for Gopher teams. Associating ourselves with a world-class institution like the University of Minnesota is a win-win situation and we're proud to be a vital part of Gopher Nation," said Mages.

Hey Linda!

Could you list Kristen's blog site, where's she's writing about her life in the Dominican, in the newsletter? I might be biased, but I think it's entertaining reading! Here it is:

<http://www.kristenmages.blogspot.com/>

Note from Linda

Thank you very much! Stay warm!

Kathy

*Doesn't this sound neat!!!!!!!!!!!!!! note*

## *Men's Annual Fishing and Card Playing Weekend*

Pickled Gizzards, Pickled Fish, Pickled Eggs, Pickled Heart & Tongue, Pickled Pork Hocks, Pickled Pickles, venison jerky, ring sausage, beer, aaaaahhhhhhhh, man food..... Actually, these men really impressed me with all the great meals we had. This years fishing snowmobiling weekend was pretty much all fishing and card playing and tons of laughter. I think sitting around the breakfast table is my favorite part. It usually takes us about 2 hours to just sit and tell stories before we finally head for the fish houses. Not a lot of fish were caught, but we managed to play plenty of cards or just make the rounds to the different fish houses. Lots of people there from Sleepy Eye and Gibbon-Lafayette areas. Of course, Friday and Saturday nights had poker tournaments which were won this year by Steven Mages on Fri night and Brent Mages on Saturday night. This year's crew included Dan, Brad, Jeremy, Larry, Ed, Matt, Joe, Duane, Roger, Steven, Rick, Riley, John, Jeff, Jack, Curt, Stretch, Dave F, Tom, Scott, Mike, "Big Al" Alex, Bryant, Gary, Brent, Lowell, Keith, Craig, Bob Serbus, Dick Welshon (Marylou Serbus' husband), Jeff Guggisberg (Jeremy's Father-in-law). Watching this great group of Fathers and Sons, Uncles and Nephews, and cousins etc interact is an absolute joy. Thank you to all those that brought fishhouses. Hopefully, next year we'll have some snow for the snowmobilers. Larry



Above: Ed Mages and is large fish. David Fischer is looking on.

Bottom: Brad Mages with his large fish.

# *Weekend Continued at Emerald Hideaway*



The houses on Lake Elizabeth at Emerald Hideaway.

Making soup:  
Stretch Fischer, Dick  
Welshons, Curt  
Mages and Larry  
Mages



The meal  
prayer. L-r  
Bob  
Serbus,  
Stretch  
Fischer,  
Tom  
Mages,  
Alex  
Mages,  
Jeff  
Mages,  
Bryant  
Mages,  
Joe  
Mages,  
Scott  
Mages and  
Ed Mages

# *Men's Weekend Continued*



L-r: David Fischer, Tom Mages, Rick Mages, John Mages, Gary Mages, Mike Mages, and the middle is Larry Mages.

Front row of middle photo, l-r:?, Jack Mages, Mike Mages, David Fischer, Jeff Mages, Bryant Mages and Brent Mages



## The Prizes



L-r; David Fischer, Riley Jensen, Joe Mages, Matt Mages, Rick Mages, Brad Mages, Ed Mages and Gary Mages

