

January 2017 ISSUE 231

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JANUARY 2017

The American Mages Family wants to wish our German Mages Family a warm and joyous Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Love to all of you.

God's Blessings to all, Linda



January Birthdays

Taylor Mages	Jan 09
Jessica Schmitz	Jan 09
Zach Mages	Jan 10
Kyle Strate	Jan 11
David Fischer	Jan 11
Andi Mages	Jan 11
Tom Mages	Jan 14
Riley Strate	Jan 18
Ryan Wolf	Jan 19
Laura Wolf	Jan 20
Amanda Bemmels	Jan 20
Noah Mages	Jan 23
Arlene Mages	Jan 25
Ashley Mills	Jan 28
Autumn Butler	Jan 29
Grace Mages	Jan 31

Happy Anniversary

Steven and Melanie
Mages

Dec. 28 2 years

A Special Hello to my
Grandson Tobi Mages From
Oma Barbara!!!!
A special hello to our
German cousins, Helmut,
Birgit, Andi, and Tobi

www.magesonline.com

News Deadline

20th of each month.

Send articles and photos
to Linda

lindagall@rocketmail.com

Coming Events

December 27, 2016-Bridal shower for Kaylee Cline and Jacob Fischer.

February 3,4 & 5,2017- Men's Fishing and Cards at Emerald Hideaway.

March 28, 2017- New baby due for Amanda and John Cook.

April 29,2017- Wedding of Jacob Fischer and Kaylee Cline.

June 10,2017- Wedding of Zachary Mages and Brittany House.

July 15, 2017-Mikayla Mages and Billy Brueggeman wedding.

July 22, 2017- Mages Fest hosted by the Dean and Donna Nelson family at Jermayne Mages' barn in Paynesville, Mn.

September 16, 2017- Stacie Mages and T.J. Roiger wedding.

September 23 & 24,2017- Sister's Weekend Emerald Hideaway.

February 2018-Sister's week in Florida with Betty.



Chuck Strate

11-26-47-----01-19-01

It takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, and a day to love them, but it takes an entire lifetime to forget them. Nancy and family

Saints in the Making



St. Michael

Taking at St. Mary's Catholic Church's new addition in Sleepy Eye, Minn. Look new statues of St. Michael on the left, and St. Richard below. Don't they look angelic! Actually the statues designated for those areas have not arrived as of yet, so Mike and Rick took advantage of the situation.



St. Richard

Remember When by Mom

Alphonse knew we'd have to have a bigger farm if we were going to raise our family the way we wanted to, so the last couple of years we lived at the Morton farm we were looking for a bigger farm that had to have a big house and a big barn.

Sometimes I went along, or else a real estate agent would show the farm. We looked at farms near Sanborn, Lambertton, Springfield, Vesta, Osakis, Benson, Bird Island, Hector, Waterville, Henderson, Gibbon, LaFayette and Essig. One day we went looking at farms with real estate agent, Otto Kolb, from New Ulm. He was an older guy very friendly, very knowledgable. He had several farms to show. We looked at the 400 acre farm that Clem Bezdeckek eventually bought. Coincidence that Dan and Arlene farmed that farm for many years. He showed us the William Dempsey farm northeast of Sleepy Eye, 367 acres with a big house and a big barn. He said the owner was, "iffy," about selling, but he'd keep in contact with us. Mr. Kolb had a noon meal with some men at the Dakota Hotel every day, and William Dempsey was one of the group, so from time to time he'd write us, or call us to come. Maybe that was the day Mr. Dempsey would do business. We kept that as our, "dream farm," in our minds for a couple of years.

We also had another farm in mind, the Ralph Streise farm by Benson, 520 acres with a huge barn, cemented cow yard, very modern, but the house had a new kitchen, bedroom, bathroom addition on one side with a flat top. We'd have to finish building an upstairs addition on top of that, and expand the upstairs. It was possible.

In the meantime we kept paying off our 160 acres till it was free and clear. We were ready for business.

It just so happened both of these farms became available at the same time. Mr. Dempsey who was an older gentleman, a lawyer from New Ulm, passed away in the New Ulm hospital, and his heirs, sons, were going to sell the farm by Sleepy Eye. The Streise farm was ready to be sold. It was St. Mary's Catholic School in Sleepy Eye that was the "winner." Alphonse had gone to catholic school in Morgan, and he wanted a Catholic education for our children.

We worked with a Prudential agent out of Marshall, Mn. And we were able to mortgage our Morton farm, and the Sleepy Eye farm, and get enough to make the final payment to buy our, "dream farm." In June of 1965 we made the earnest money payment with closing scheduled for March 1st of 1966.

We kept an eye on our, "dream farm," that summer. It was a late spring, so much rain, crops weren't planted in that area until the middle of June. At our Morton farm we had a normal growing season with a good crop of corn and beans.

Marv and Bernice Goldschmidt were renting the place, and they found a farm to move to. Same neighborhood that Doug and Connie Goblirsch live in now.

Remember When Continued

Alphonse started hauling ear corn with our big truck to the Sleepy Eye farm. Marv said he could use the wooden corn crib, as he wasn't going to be using it. We could even use his elevator. Alphonse bought a tractor, and Dan also brought a tractor, the big, "80 John Deere," to plow small grain fields. When they started plowing the neighbors decided to meet those guys, so Ethelbert Schmid and Ramey Strate, were at the field one day, and Herb Olsen another day. They had to see what that big, "80" would do. The neighbors said the earth just shook with that big tractor.

One day as Alphonse was crossing Highway 4 and 29, the brakes went out on the truck, and he was so lucky that no one was coming, as he could not stop.

That fall we put in a new septic system. We planned on adding two more bathrooms, one on the main floor, and one in the basement, and doing laundry in the basement so a bigger system, and a deeper system was necessary, and that was also tiled. This was hooked up and ready to go.

The corn was planted so late, so it was late by the time it was harvested, so we weren't able to do any tillage on the cornfields. This was because of all the rain in the spring.

We had been driving in Birch Coulee Park by Morton one summer when Alphonse saw this pasture close by, creek running through. Bill and Warren Pitts lived on the farm. Bill was a widower, and Warren was his son. When Alphonse asked them if they would be willing to rent the pasture to him to put some cattle on it, they thought it a good idea, and said they'd even take care of the cattle. For a couple of years, we sold the cattle right off the grass. Then Bill said he'd fill his silo if Alphonse wanted him to take care of finishing the cattle. So, Yes, Alphonse bought his corn field, and filled the silo.

1966 came along, and we sold the cattle. The roads were already posted so a semi was waiting at the, "Y" at Morton, and hauled the cattle to the semi. When those cattle were sold, that check paid off our operating loan. Now we just had to worry about our mortgage.

We never know when our angels come along. Another angel we had was Joe Eischen, a retired carpenter, from Morton who helped us remodel, add on, tear down or build new on the farm. Joe and his wife, Christine, would come and play cards. They'd love to out bid each other, so it made for good times playing cards.

March 01, 1966, was coming soon. On that day we signed papers, gave up our checks from Prudential and, became owners of our Sleepy Eye farm. We drove into the driveway, and realized now we are the owners. Marv Goldschmidt, and his family were ready to leave with trucks and trailers. They would be back for the cows later.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Love, Mom, Grandma, Great Grandma

Mages Christmas 2016



Our 2016 Mages Christmas hosts, L-R: Jane, Amy, Mom, Arlene and Debbie. Back row L-R: Rick, Mike and Stretch. Thank you for a wonderful day.



Top left, every family received a decorated bag for all to place cards into. Right photo is note the beautiful centerpieces that were on each table made by Debbie. L-R: Trevor Wilson, Betty Jass, Josie Andersen and Nolan Gall.

Mages Christmas Continued



Arlene presented Mom with her present from the children of a new Ipad and plant.



Brianna, Riley, Steven, Melanie, Bonita and Eric



Top photo is Cameron and Issac Wagner at the activity table. Left photo is a picture of all who wore boots at Moms request.



Debbie presented Verna Wendinger who helps us in the kitchen, but she is part of our family. With a gift for her help.



6 of the 8 new babies, Kim and Max, David and Lizzy, Julia and Brody, Mom, Erica and Vann, Joe and Edison and Jennifer and Aubrey.

Mages Christmas Continued

The Christmas sweaters



Our homemade gifts from Donna



The "Outlaws"



Debbie presented Jermayne with a huge clock windmill for their barn. LaCosta, Roger, Jermayme, Steven and Melanie



Gina, Josie, Nolan, Brandon and Lisa on the horse drawn trolley viewing the lights in Sleepy Eye



Gina with the, "Family Reunion," at Sportsman's Park during the trolley rides to view the lights sponsored by Magesland.