

# Vår Historia

## SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### DR. DUANE FREDRICKSON - LIFE DEVOTION



**PUBLISHED  
BI-MONTHLY**



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Lindsborg and the Smoky Valley are in a better place, largely due to one man's life devotion of self-less volunteer work and humanitarian ideals.

Dr. Duane Fredrickson, or "Doc Fredrickson" might not have been born in Lindsborg, but when he decided to set up a private practice there in 1969 fresh out of the United States Air Force Medical Corps, his roots were established.

Doc's family roots start in Sweden. His great grandparents Christopher and Botilda, along with grandfather Carl immigrated to America from Skåne Sweden in 1886. While in New York, the family heard there were Swedes in Osage City, KS so they made the journey and settled there. Carl met Emma, a 1st generation Kansas born Swede, and the two married. In 1890 the family became US citizens through Naturalization, the photo below is from that time. Carl and Emma are in the back row stand-



ing. How young they were to be married.

Doc's parents, Harold and Olive, were married in 1930. Harold, like his father, were farmers and continued to live in Osage County.

Duane was born in 1939 in Osage City, the youngest of three. This photo shows the family with



brother Ronald, Duane, and sister Marlene. Growing up on a

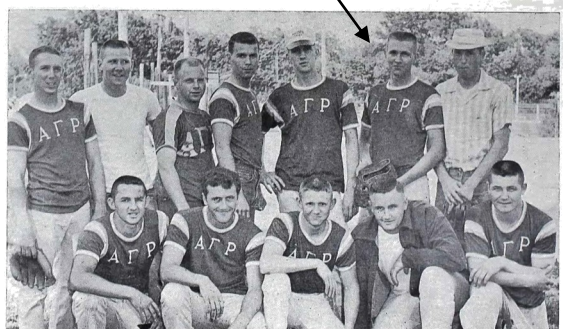
farm instilled a sense of ownership to the land and people, a trait Duane carried all through his life..

After graduating Osage High School in 1957, Duane attended Kansas State University, where it became clear that simply fulfilling a degree wasn't going to be enough. His life-long volunteering started long before he became a Doctor. Duane became involved in many organizations while in college, Lutheran Student Association, Collegiate 4-H, and →

## DR. DUANE FREDRICKSON — LIFE DEVOTION (CON'T)

Religious Coordinating Council to name a few. He also got in a little softball as an upperclass-

Alpha Gamma Rho Softball Team — Top Row: Elton D. Aberle, Jerald A. Riemann, Rodney T. Symes, Richard D. Rees, Dale A. Rodman, Duane E. Fredrickson, Gary E. Peterson. Bottom Row: Larry D. Woodson, Jarvis Brink, Patrick H. Koons, Robert E. Wingert, George A. Teagarden.



man at K-State. Duane furthered his medical education at KU School of Medicine and interned at Kansas City General Hospital in 1966. School wasn't the only thing on his mind though, during the summer of 1963 Duane married Nancy Harris.

After completing his degree and internship in K.C., Duane joined the US Air Force Medical Corp in 1967. He, along with Nancy and now two children, traveled to Japan where he served as a Captain. Upon being discharged in 1969 and back to Stateside, Dr. Fredrickson looked for a rural community to start a practice. Lindsborg's Swedish culture drew the family in.

The accomplishments Doc Fredrickson has achieved during his lifespan in the Smoky Valley is considerably too large to fit in this newsletter, but I will try to hit some moments that can visually paint a picture of his legacy. While establishing his private practice, Doc wasted no time finding extra-curricular activity, like dancing in the Scandinavian Folk Dance Group, or singing in the Messiah Choir. Though often times he would have to sing off to the side by a little door just in case his pager went off and had an emergency to attend. Of course even in volunteer efforts, Doc was always there for his patients. He once stated that a member of the chorus asked for medical advise, wanting to know if he should sing or not, Doc just said "well, you have a bad heart, you could die up there. But he couldn't think of a

better way to die than singing in the choir."

Doc was also drawn to community history, becoming a member of the Smoky Valley Historical Association in the early 1970s. Back then, Coronado Heights was owned by Saline Co., so much effort had been placed in moving historical buildings to the grounds across from the Old Mill, now known as Heritage Square. Doc was appointed Chair of the Roller Mill restoration project in '73 which carried all through that decade. He was elected a SVHA Director in 1982, and was made an honorary emeritus member in 2016. His work with Coronado Heights started with a joint committee of McPherson and Saline Counties, and he was instrumental in getting ownership back to SVHA in 1987. He, along with his son, a group of kids, Fred Briggs, or more recently Leland Nelson, cleaned the park once a week, rain or shine.



DUANE E. FREDRICKSON  
Osage City  
B.S., Kansas State, 1961  
A.B., Kansas State, 1962  
Kansas City General  
Hospital  
Kansas City, Missouri

Doc opened his practice shortly after moving to Lindsborg, working along side Dr. Deryl Fuller, who moved to Lindsborg from Marquette in 1957. The Fuller Clinic was changed to "Fuller-Fredrickson Clinic" until Fuller's retirement in 1983. Doc Fredrickson, invested much effort in making Lindsborg Hospital a better place too, and helped fundraise for the 1988 "renewal" of a new building. In 1993 Doc sold his private practice, in order to open the Lindsborg Rural Health Clinic next to the hospital. Doc was also Medical Director of Bethany Home and Marquette Emergency Medical Service. Doc cared for his patients over and beyond what might be expected. He was even known to go mow a lawn or help in other ways. Always the gentleman with kindness, generosity, and efficiency with all.

In 2009 Doc was awarded the Kansas Family Physician of the Year, an award well deserved. He went on to retire in 2010, which of course freed up more time to help others. Through an illness, Dr. Duane Fredrickson left this earth August of this year. Say not in grief he is no more, but live in thankfulness that he was.



SVHA PROGRAMS FOR 2020-2021

Nov 10th, 2020

The Opera Houses of McPherson County

Janet Monson



Jan 12th, 2021

Another Kansas Explorer: Etienne Veniard de Bourgmont

Richard Monson



March 9th, 2021

Historical Performance of Lucy Tayiah Eads

“Chief Lucy of the KAW Indians”, Pauline Sharp



May 11th, 2021

Some History of the Smoky Valley Roller Mill

Lorna Nelson



All programs start at: 7:30 pm

New location:

Robert and Cathy Ahlstedt “Cracker Box” 222 S. Coronado Ave. (Burma Rd) Lindsborg, KS.

Parking is limited, carpooling is suggested. Due to Covid-19 we will be practicing social distancing and providing face masks if needed. Refreshments will not be served.

Please cut along the dotted line

Smoky Valley Historical Association P.O. Box 255 Lindsborg, KS. 67456



Membership options: \$25, \$50, \$100, Other \$

Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Phone, Email, Date fields

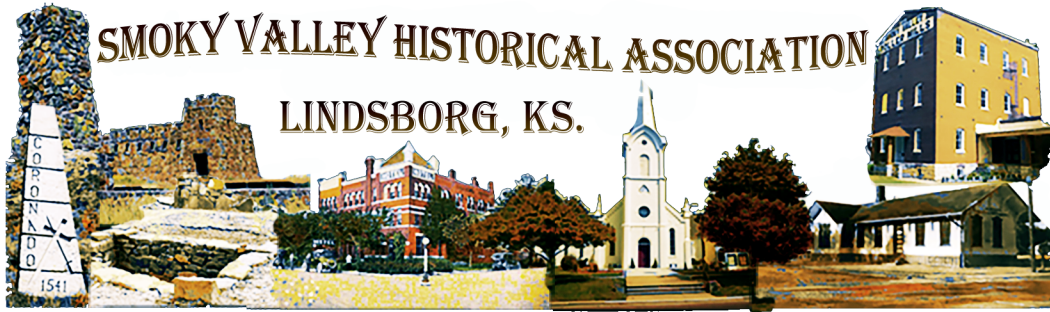
Smoky Valley Historical Association is a non-profit organization and is registered under 501(c)3

All Membership Donations, Bequests, Trusts, and Legacy Donations are tax deductible.

Please mail to P.O. Box listed above. Thank You!

Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year





**SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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- Elly Ostlind - *Program Chair*
- Leland Nelson
- Jim Malm
- Christine Rocco
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**Interested?**

**We have one BOD position open.**

**Smoky Valley Historical Mission**

*The purpose of this association shall be to collect, arrange and preserve historical data, books, pamphlets and manuscripts pertaining to the early history and settlement of our community in general and the City of Lindsborg in particular; to preserve and beautify places of historical interest in our city, its vicinity, and properties entrusted to the association; and to promote the study of history of our settlement and its cultural growth by lectures and other available means.*

**Contact info:**

e-mail us at:

[info@lindsborghistory.org](mailto:info@lindsborghistory.org)

or mail to:

Smoky Valley Historical Association, Inc.  
PO Box 255  
Lindsborg, KS 67456

Check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information concerning the Smoky Valley Historical Association.



*Thank you for your contributions, and supporting the historical preservation of Lindsborg and the Smoky Valley of Central Kansas.*

*Our pioneers left their legacy long after they were gone, so can you. Managing estates, bequests, and gifts through retirement plans can help keep our preservation ongoing and long-lasting.*

**Meetings**

We have bi-monthly meetings from September thru May and held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. There are five meetings per academic year (Sept.-May). Program starts at 7:30 p.m. with topics of local historical interest. Location is listed on schedule page 3.

Come join us!



**Funding**

Membership contributions are the SVHA's major source of on-going funding. A free-will donation in any amount will secure your membership in the Association for the year. Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year.

Grants, such as those awarded by the Kansas Humanities Council, are also available from time-to-time to further the mission of the SVHA.

Is a member of the  
SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, Inc.  
which has headquarters in Lindsborg, Kansas

Was born in a log cabin .....  
Was born in Sweden .....  
Great-grandparents came from Sweden .....  
Forefathers were here before the Swedes .....  
Great-grandparents homesteaded in the Valley .....  
Attended Bethany .....  
Has worked at The Old Mill in operation .....  
Has sung in the Messiah Chorus .....

TACK SÅ MYCKET!



SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
LINDSBORG, KANSAS 67456