

Vår Historia



SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Dr. Ernst Pihlblad—Pastor, President, Knight?



PUBLISHED

BI-MONTHLY



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Welcome to another SVHA newsletter. Our President, Chris Abercrombie, has written short bios on a few key Bethany College Presidents, and it's only fitting that we focus on a couple of them, starting with President #3 Dr. Ernst Pihlblad.

Upon Swensson's death the Kansas Conference of the Augustana Lutheran Synod didn't have to look far when it came to selecting the institution's third president. The unanimous choice of not only the conference, but of students, faculty, alumni and townsfolk was 31-year-old Lutheran pastor Dr. Ernst Pihlblad. He had enrolled in the Bethany Academy at age 11. Seven years later, in 1891, Pihlblad was one of four young men who be-

came the first baccalaureate degree graduates of Bethany College.

After graduating from Augustana Theological Seminary and answering a call to serve Augustana Lutheran congregations in New Jersey, Pihlblad returned to Bethany in 1895 as an instructor in Latin. That was the beginning of what Emory Lindquist calls "...forty-six years of distinguished and uninterrupted service to the institution". In the summer of 1920 Dr. Pihlblad was Knighted by King Gustav V of Sweden.

One of the greatest accomplishments of the Pihlblad presidency was the building of Presser Hall to house administrative offices, the music department, and to provide an acoustically superior auditorium for the Bethany College Oratorio Society. Pihlblad, along with conductor Hagbard Brase, oversaw the increased fame and reputation of the "Messiah Chorus", including performances in such places as Oklahoma City, Camp Funston (now Fort Riley), and Kansas City, plus the Society's first exposure to a nationwide audience

over the NBC Radio Network in 1938.

Pihlblad had the ability to anticipate hard times and meet them head on. He recognized the impact World War One would have on Bethany, especially in terms of the school's enrollment, and took action of lessen its severity. Needless to say the Great Depression of the 1930's put a heavy financial strain on the college but the determined president persevered. In the late 1930's he became Senator Ernst Pihlblad by serving in the Kansas Legislature. Pihlblad proposed and saw through to passage a number of reforms in state government, especially in the area of public education.

Still in pain and partially handicapped by a 1938 car accident, Pihlblad gave his letter of resignation to the Kansas Conference in April, 1941. Remaining vitally interested in state government and while attending a state civil service board meeting in Topeka Dr. Pihlblad died suddenly on December 9, 1943.

Dr. Pihlblad's wife, Marie, was also a Bethany graduate and became dean of female students during his Presidency.

Dr. and Mrs. Pihlblad with sons Terence and Helge



The Pihlblad Family

John and Lovisa Pihlblad made the overseas journey from Sweden to America in the year Lindsborg settled, 1869. There "new life" started in Kansas City, MO where John became quite successful in business. During those years they had two sons, Ernst, born March 18, 1873 and Arvid born Feb. 20, 1875.

It wasn't until the year 1884, when the boys were 11 and 9 years old, that the family elected to move to Lindsborg, pos-

sibly due to Dr. Carl Swensson's heavy promotion of Bethany Academy and word of the fast growing Swedish town of Lindsborg. Whatever the reason, the family found their true home.

John immediately joined Oscar Johnson and purchased Britian & Wheeler's hardware and implement store on the east side of Main Street. After three years John sold his share and started a mercantile store in Marquette. Both boys attended Bethany

Academy and later College. Friday March 15, 1889 John died at 2 am after battling pneumonia.

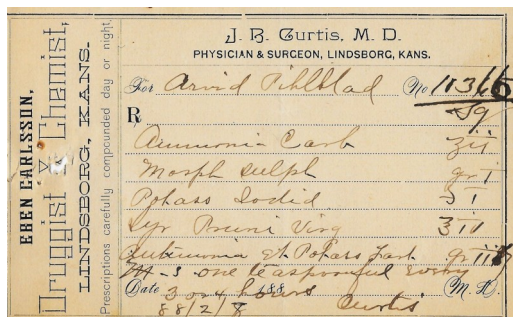
Pastor C.A. Swennson conducted the funeral service at Bethany Church where there was a large attendance. The boys were 16 and 14. While Ernst was earning his degree, getting ordained, and becoming an instructor in Latin at Bethany, his brother Arvid took a slightly different path. By 19 he graduated Bethany and went to Chicago for medical studies.

At the age of 25 (1900) Arvid started a practice as Physician and Surgeon in Lindsborg. He also bought a new Crescent bicycle to attend emergency calls. Dr. Pihlblad practiced medicine until 1933 in Lindsborg, ending just three years before his death in 1936.

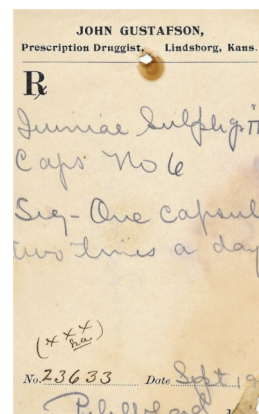
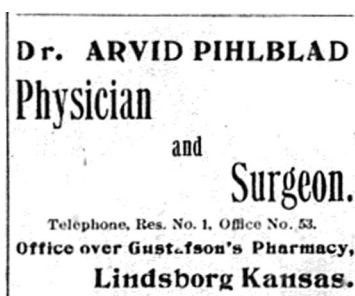
John Gustafson Pharmacy had his new brick building erected in 1902 on the north side of Sundstrom, Dr. Pihlblad moved his office upstairs at that time.

13 year old Arvid being treated by

Dr. Curtis 1888



1902 newspaper ad and prescription



Professor Emil O. Deere and the Bluffs

By the time the Lindsborg Historical Society formed July 9th, 1919, Professor Deere had already invested much time in the Smoky Hill Bluffs by taking his students (and sometimes wife, Lydia) on expeditions. The bluffs acquired the name Coronado Heights when Professor Deere and William Hagstrom was sitting on the east-

ern slopes of the hill one evening. William noticed the "golden" reflection of the sun on the wheat fields and it reminded him of the stories of Coronado looking for his gold or quivira. When the trail, road, and wooden visitor lodge (called Fernebo Lodge) was completed Coronado Heights was christened May 8th, 1924. By that time the heights also

had an 80 foot flag pole, telephone, and parking for 300 cars. Hundreds of perennials and small trees were also planted to beautify the bare hill. Picknickers vandalized the lodge, the telephone had to be removed and after the flag pole was struck by lightning a few times, the Air Force required a red light on top, so it too had to be removed.

Dr. E.O. Deere had an incredible life in Lindsborg, he started at Bethany Academy and never left. His career as professor lasted 53 years, curator of the college museum 58 years and was helping organize the museum's summer 1967 move to its current location McPherson Co. Old Mill Museum when in January 1966 passed away. (Look for a feature article coming soon.)

Get your "Swede" on - Recipes

Ostkaka

3 qts. milk 1/4 c. sugar
3/4 c. flour 1/8 rennet tablet
1 1/2 c. milk 1 egg

Heat milk until warm; add flour (beaten smooth with a little water). Mix thoroughly. Add rennet soaked in a little water. Let stand until it forms curds. Cut curds and drain off whey from time to time. Mix curds, egg, sugar and 2nd milk. Bake (1) one hour at 350°. Serve warm with lingon and whipped cream.

Krämer

Mix lingonberries with an equal amount of sugar in saucepan. Add small amount of strained lingon juice, cook until jells

slightly. Pour into mold, chill. Unmold to serve on Ostkaka.

Köttbullar (Swedish Meat Balls)

1/2 lb ground beef 1/3 t. blk. pepper
1/2 lb ground lean pork 2 t. salt
1/2 c. finely ground rusk crumbs
1/2 c. cream 1/8 t. allspice
4 T. fat 2 egg yolks (beaten)
1 1/2 T. finely chopped (minced) onion

Bring cream to boil, add crumbs and let soak. Mix ground meat, soaked crumbs,

eggs and seasonings. Roll into balls the size of walnuts. Roll in flour. Brown in hot fat, turning constantly to brown evenly. Place meatballs in casserole with 1 or 2 T. drippings and 1 T. water. Cover and bake 30 minutes in 300° oven.

Or pour off most of drippings and add 1T. Water. Cover and simmer on low heat.



These recipes were taken from the 1961 "Measure for Pleasure" cook book compiled by Bethany Teachers' Wives and published by Bethany Press.

S V H A 2016 - 2017 Program Schedule

Once again the Program Chair, Elly Ostlind, has put together a spectacular and informative schedule this upcoming cycle. Please join us 7:30 pm on the following dates at:

Bethany Home Activity Room, 321 N. Chestnut, Lindsborg. Refreshments will be served after the presentations.

Great Presentation!
Sept. 20, 2016— **Coronado Heights: Myth, Oral Tradition, and a personal connection**
Presented by Tim Weston, SHPO Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

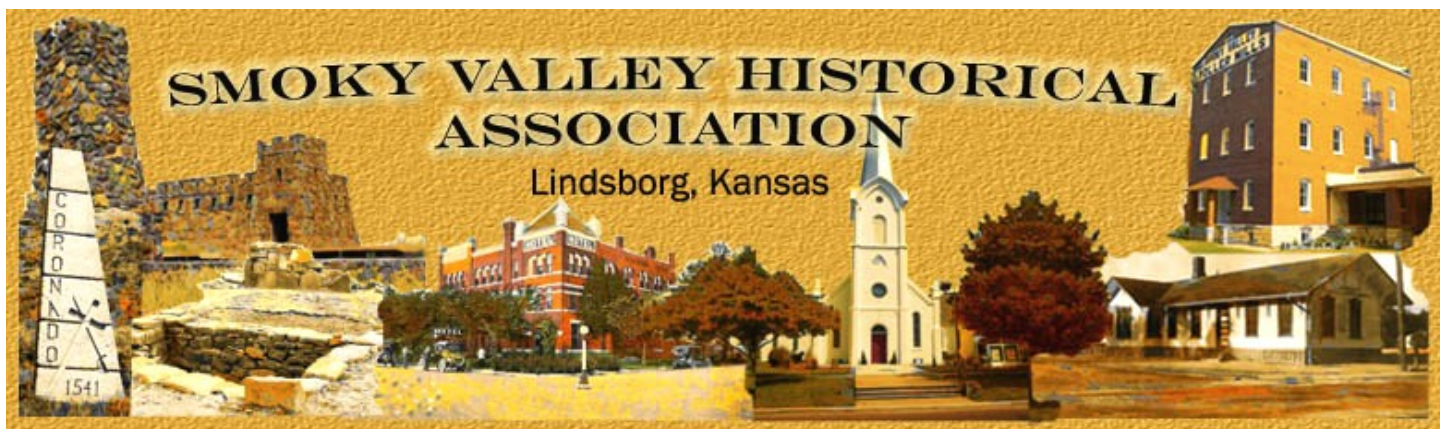
Note: date change! Nov. 15th, 2016— **Women Writers on the Santa Fe Trail**
Presented by Leo Oliva, Historian, Kansas Humanities Council

Jan. 10th, 2017—**Kansas Prairie Trail Scenic Byway**
Presented by Sue Schlegel, Coordinator

March 14th, 2017—**Journeys of the Soil**
Presented by Jim Richardson, Photographer, National Geographic

May 9th, 2017—**McPherson History**
Presented by Jinny Hall, Head, Adult Services
Steve Read, Head Librarian, McPherson Public Library

Hope you can join us!



The Smoky Valley Historical Association Board of Directors

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Meetings

We have bi-monthly meetings (excluding July) held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Bethany Home in the Activities Room. Program starts at 7:30 p.m. with topics of local historical interest. 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.

Contact Us

You can e-mail us
at: info@lindsborghistory.org

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 and its vicinity; and to promote the study of history of our settlement and its cultural growth by lectures and other available means.

mailing address:

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, including our public meetings schedule.



HELP PRESERVE CORONADO HEIGHTS

Give Coronado
Heights T-shirts and
Refrigerator Magnets

T-SHIRTS

S-XL \$15.00
XXL-XXXL \$17.00

MAGNETS 3" x 3" \$5.00

AVAILABLE AT

The Old Mill Museum

on-line: www.smokyvalleyhistory.org

Profits help the Smoky Valley Historical Association preserve our Central Kansas Wonder and Historic Site for future generations

