

Vår Historia

SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**PUBLISHED
BI-MONTHLY**



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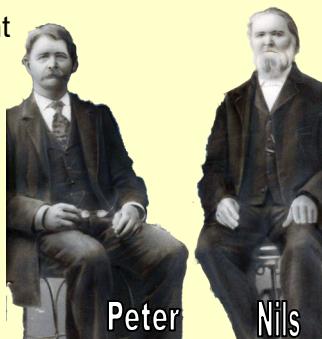
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THE "PRINCE" OF BROADWAY RFD

Harold "Prince" Elmquist, born 1922 in Lindsborg, is 4th generation living in the Smoky Valley. Though known for many talents, acting seemed to his true natural talent.

Prince's Great-Grandfather, Nils Magnus Elmquist, followed his brother Johan (John) to America in 1868. After a short stop in Indiana, they settled on Spillman Creek (near Lincoln, KS). I say settled, but at that time it was a dugout, covered with two quilts. In May of 1869, 16 Indians made a last attempt of pushing settlers out by pillaging and killing along the creek's scattered settlements. Four Swedes held their ground and fought back, John, Nils and Nils' son Peter Magnus were three of those. John was the last to survive out of the four, Peter died 1932 and John in 1933, at 91 years old.

Nils was granted Naturalization May 1st, 1876 in McPherson County, and bought 160 acres east of Lindsborg using the Homestead Act. He then bought a plot of ground from the Lindsborg Land Co. in 1878 for \$1, what is now 134 S. Wash-



Peter

Nils

ington St. Harold's grandfather, Peter Magnus, farmed and raised cattle on the homestead land.

Harold's father, Luther, was a farmer, rancher and carpenter. At the time of Prince's birth, Luther served as Constabulary of Bonaville Township.

Harold acquired the name "Prince" in grade school, it was common to put on an annual operetta, or what we call "musical" now. Around 1932-33, Lindsborg grade school put on "Maid and the Golden Slipper", which is the story of Cinderella. Young Harold was cast as the Prince and June Bengston played Cinderella. The performance must have been good enough for the name to stick with Harold, but acting was just one of his many talents. In 1940, now in high school,

Prince placed "outstanding" with a flute solo at Salina's music festival. There were 2600 students from 44 schools participating at this, and Lindsborg took more awards than Salina.



THE "PRINCE" OF BROADWAY RFD (CON'T)

After graduating high school 1940, Prince enrolled in Bethany College where he joined the band, Blue Dozen and Asst. Editor of the Bethany Daisy. In 1942 Prince filled out his Selective Service card as WWII was underway. One year later he was called up. Prince served the US Army from 1943-1946, and during that time got the opportunity to play clarinet in the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Miller, too old to enlist, convinced the Army to let him join to form a marching band and entertain troops, before his plane disappeared in 1944.



After his discharge from the Army, Prince married Ethelynn Olson March 8th, 1947 in Denver. The couple

moved back to Lindsborg and had three kids, Larry, Luran, and Gary. Ethelynn passed away in 1973 and Prince later remarried to Carol.

Prince's diversity showed in job or career choices too, anywhere from carpenter, to mail carrier, to railroad, to newspaper editor. By 1955 he was Secretary of Lindsborg Chamber of Commerce, and President of the Missouri-Kansas-Colorado Midland Throughway Association. The fall of 1958 Harold opened an upholstery shop in his garage, six months later he announced he was starting a furniture factory, named "Prince's Furniture", which was to be opened around May 1959. He was known as a master cabinet and ping-pong table maker.



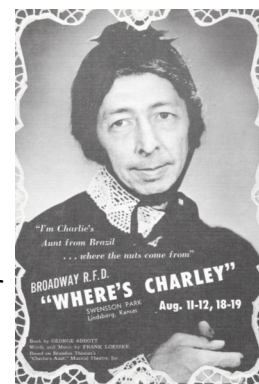
Prince's acting got resurrected, as Max Muller, who came to Lindsborg in 1955, shared a vision of creating a community theater. Once the first play "Annie Get Your Gun" became a success at the 1959 Hyllningsfest, Max wanted to keep the stage set for more shows that college students could participate in. Prince not only was a great actor, but his upholstery/fabric shop contributed to many of the costumes too.

Broadway RFD was born at that time, but wasn't official until April 1961, when it became incorporated with bylaws and officers. Prince was elected Secretary/Treasurer. All through the '60s, Prince both acted, and in many plays, directed. Max and Prince acted in many Salina Community Theatre's early plays as well. One of Prince's most memorable performances was as Charley's Aunt in the 1961 play "Where's Charley", it seemed many spectators didn't know this Lindsborg businessman could be so funny.

Lindsborg newspaper writer/editor took time away as he also wrote for Salina, and later became Editor of Russell's newspaper. In 1977 he resigned from Russell to be Editor of the Kansas American Legion newspaper "Sunflower Legionnaire". Prince returned to RFD Directing in the late 1980s and also served as Director of the Lindsborg Arts Council until 1993.

Harold truly lived up to the name "Prince" all through his life, which sadly ended 2001 at the age of 78.

"Look for these and more photos for this article on our Facebook page"



REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1926)

SERIAL NUMBER 1. NAME (Print) ORDER NUMBER
N. 37 114888

2. PLACE OF BIRTH (Print) 3. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
Lindsborg, Kansas Lindsborg, Kansas

4. (THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION. LINE 4 OF REGISTRATION CARD MUST BE IDENTICAL)

5. MARITAL STATUS
MARRIED

6. TELEPHONE
Lindsborg 370

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO KNOWS YOUR ADDRESS
Mrs. Ethelynn Olson Lindsborg, Kansas

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
Lindsborg, Kansas

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
Lindsborg, Kansas

10. I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ADDRESS AND THAT THIS IS MY TRUE ADDRESS.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1926

SVHA PROGRAMS FOR 2020-2021

Sept 8th, 2020

Portrayal of "Mother Bickerdyke"

Lu Adams



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 be served

 Please cut along the dotted line

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

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year

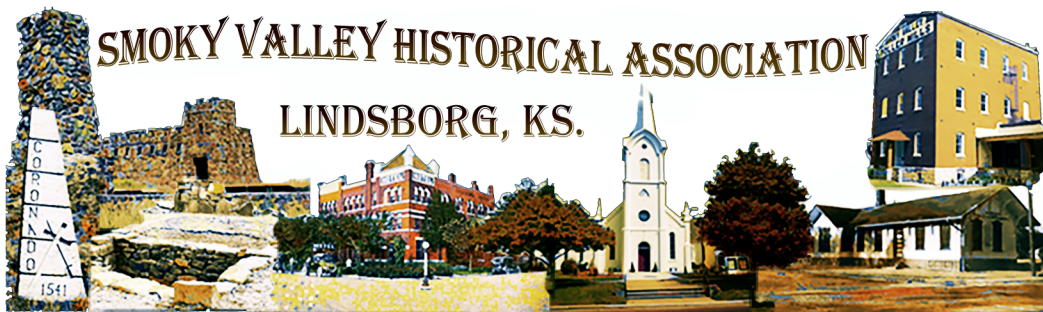


Smoky Valley Historical Association is a non-profit organization and is registered under 501(c)3

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

Please mail to P.O. Box listed above.

Thank You!



SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Lenora Lynam - *Treasurer*
 Elly Ostlind - *Program Chair*
 Leland Nelson
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 Duane Fredrickson - *Emeritus*

Interested?

We have two BOD positions open.

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.

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

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.

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 one-room school
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