

Vår Historia



SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Lindsborg - The Art of Inventors and Patents



PUBLISHED
BI-MONTHLY



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Whenever conversations strike up in the Lindsborg area about inventions, or "it started here", the quickest response is the Erickson brothers' dial telephone invention in 1896 (patent issued Jan. 1898).

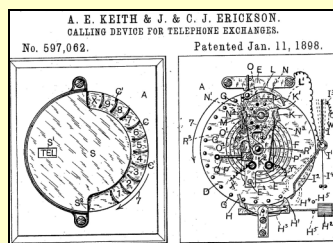
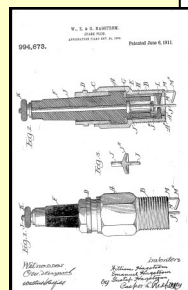
The story had its beginning on the Erickson homestead, three miles northeast of Lindsborg, where Anders Erickson and his wife, Anna Maria, settled in 1869. They came in April of that year from Värmland, Sweden, to share in founding the Lindsborg community. Anders had a great talent; he became well known as a blacksmith, carpenter, and mechanic. As his two boys, John and Charles grew up, they watched and learned, eventually getting a shop of their own next to their fathers. A friend that lived in Lindsborg, Frank Lundquist, also had big ideas and like the brothers, tinkered to make each one a reality. Lundquist visited a motel in Salina which is where his interest set in about creating a system where telephones were connected automatically. Ultimately the three had many breakthroughs and

as a result the first functional dial telephone was invented.

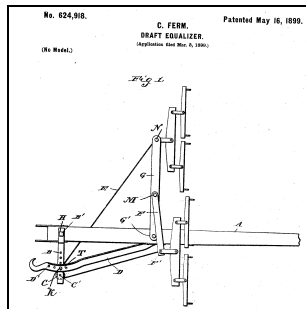
The Erickson brothers and Lundquist established an enviable pattern in the field of inventions. John was credited with 115 patents. Charles had a total of 35 patents. The latter was often called upon by company associates to solve complicated problems and met with great success. Both men received the Talbot G. Martin award for distinguished service in telephony. The award was made to John in 1936 and to Charles in 1938. The record of their achievement is impressive. Outstanding contributions were made by them in the invention of the dial telephone, the piano wire switch, the automatic selection of an idle trunk, the pay stations for automatic subscriber lines, the pre-selection of trunk lines, etc. Lundquist applied for more than 100 patents on the automatic telephone.

The next "most well known" inventors were the Hagstrom brothers. William and brother Emanuel grew out of William's bicycle shop in the early 1900's and formed a production company in Lindsborg that supplied product throughout the USA. Their biggest patents included a gas engine spark plug, inflatable tire patch, retractable lamp cord, and party line device for the telephone. They brought the first automobile and motorcycle to Lindsborg in 1902, introducing the community to the 20th century ahead of many others.

Some of the "lesser known" innovators include: Charles Ferm, who in 1891 participated in Kansas University's Chince bug disease testing on his land and in 1899 patented a draft equalizer, making it possible to pull farm implements with three horses on cut side, one horse on crop side. Ferm's land included the bluffs, known as Ferm's Bluffs to the locals before the name "Coronado Heights" was adapted.

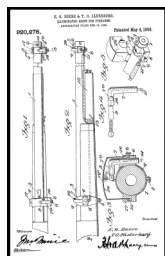


INVENTORS, CON'T.

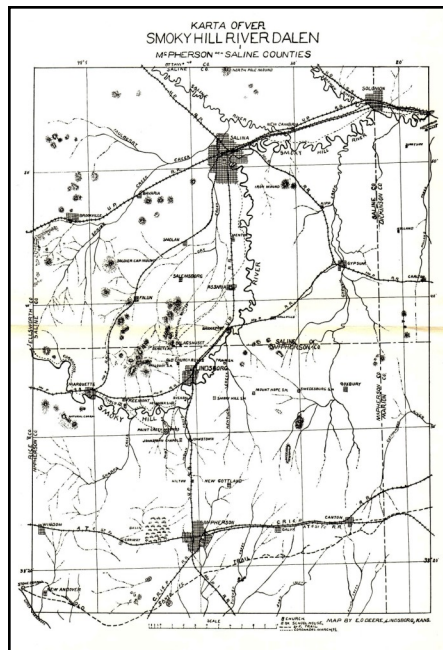


Somebody that spent a considerable amount of time on Ferm's Bluffs was Professor Emil O. Deere. Professor Deere took his classes up the bluffs many times, perhaps just for the fresh air and view. He was a Professor of Biology and Mechanical Drawing, Curator of the Museum, and later, Vice-President of Bethany College. Teaming up with Professor of Voice, Thure Jaderborg, both came up with an illuminated sight for firearms in 1909. In today's world of illuminated scopes and laser sights, the Bethany Professor team were way ahead of their times.

Another Jaderborg, Thure, Jr., also carried patents for his inventions or improvements, one being a shoe horn, so we have both father and son having patents at one time or another. This list is far from complete. In a colony that had every self-sustaining trait to create, build, and manufacture...art shined.



MAPPING THE SMOKY VALLEY

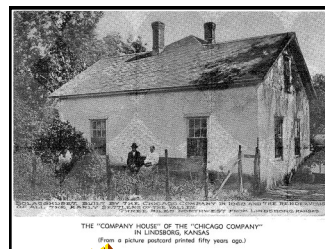


Professor Emil O. Deere drew this map of the Smoky Hill River Dalen (or Valley as translated), to layout not only towns, rivers, and railroads in the two counties of McPherson and Saline, but also the school houses, mounds, and places of interest. It graced the inside cover of Ruth Bilddt's translated version of her father Dr. Alfred Bergin's book about Lindsborg's history in 1965. Dr. Bergin's original book was a product of wanting to celebrate and preserve the first forty years of Lindsborg's history, and was published in the Swedish language January 1909.

The Smoky Valley Historical Association played a big part in publishing Mrs. Bilddt's translated book and Elizabeth Jaderborg, then Secretary of the SVHA, pro-

moted and co-translated the subsequent book shortly after. Many books have been written about Lindsborg and person's of interest in the Smoky Valley, and the SVHA has helped with publication and input material to make that happen.

This map shows interests like "Soldier Cap Mound", getting its name from looking like a military helmet, or "Coronado's March" of course with question mark added since there is no real proof the exact route the Conquistador made in 1541. At the bottom, or southern tip of the Smoky Hill Buttes you will also see the Bolagshuset, which was built 1868 by the Chicago Swedish Company to hold the first trading post or store. With the decision to move the colony closer to the river less than a year later the store was moved to what is now downtown Lindsborg.



FIKA!!

The Swedes love their coffee, as do other people, but only Swedes have fika. The British have their "tea time" which can vary but general public sips around 4 pm, Swedes have fika, which is typically around 3 pm. Fika is an afternoon coffee break, and while you're at it, eat a dan-ish. Lindsborg has a long history of coffee, Sundstrom Blend; Thor's Blend; and of course King Oscar. Even today Lindsborg has Blacksmith Coffee roasting right downtown. Check out these past Lindsborg blends:



THE SWEDE WITH THE IRISH NAME

This past December we said goodbye to one of our board members and life-time Lindsborg resident, **Richard Patrick**.

I knew him as an auctioneer first. Long before I became a SVHA board member I was a collector and antique dealer, or I could say I am like Gust Anderson from Salina, KS. was, he listed his profession as "junk dealer". Gust was born in Sweden 1884, but

let me get to Richard and his Irish name. His grandfather immigrated to the United States in 1879 under the name Gustav Jonsson, and with so many Jonssons coming over simply adopted his first employer's name, Patrick. Seems simple enough anyway. Looking back through Richard's generations explains why finding a name and holding on to it simplified namesakes. Six generations listed are:

erations listed are:

*Richard Patrick 1935-2016

*Nels R. Patrick 1906-1989

*Gustaf John Patrick

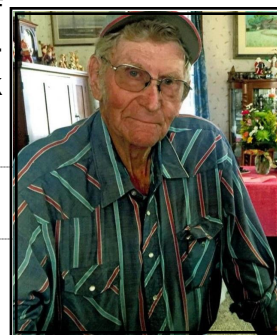
(*Gustav Jonsson*) 1857-1934

*Jon Svensson 1823-1897

*Sven Germundson 1773-1846

*Germund Ingemarsson 1742-

1789. It is easy to see why a new name in a new country worked. Thank you for your years of dedication, Dick Patrick.



SVHA 2016 - 2017 Program

Once again the Program Chair, Elly Ostlind, has put together a spectacular and informative schedule this cycle. We have two left so 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. Hope you can join us!

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

Please cut along the dotted line

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Lindsborg, KS. 67456

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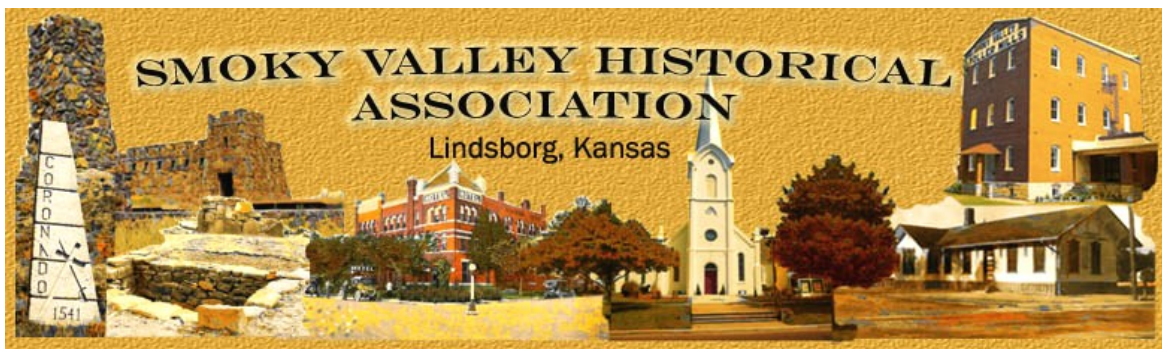


Smoky Valley Historical Association is a non-profit organization and is registered under 501(c)3

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

Please mail to P.O. Box listed above.

Thank You!



The Smoky Valley Historical Association

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Interested?

We have two BOD positions open. Email to info@lindsborghistory.org

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
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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.