

Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association

Established 1855

May 2017



Spring Clean up! The Spring Cleanup of the Scandia Baptist Cemetery was held on Saturday, May 13th

The Cemetery is part of Carver County Historical Society's Andrew Peterson Tour this summer! The tour ends at the Cemetery.

It was a great way to reconnect with a few of your living relatives, and also with all those ancestors who now 'reside' at the Cemetery. Our Spring Cleanup is done to honor those cemetery caretakers who have done this work before us.

Last year's Spring Cleanup was quite well attended, but we can always use more hands and feet and rakes. ALL are welcome to share their family stories, or just come and visit with everyone.

A new Swedish Flag was raised honoring those who have done the cleanup work before us.

Please contact KJ Bach with any questions. k-j-o@msn.com.

Scandia Baptist Cemetery is now a part of the Andrew Peterson Farm and Home tour

Trudi and Julie Norman attended the tour on April 8th, which was guided by Wendy Peterson Bjorn, Executive Director of Carver County Historical Society. The two hour tour was packed full of information about the Peterson home, barns, smokehouse and farm.

The tour ended at the Scandia Baptist Cemetery with information about the Scandia Baptist Chapel which is now located at Bethel University in St. Paul, MN.

We viewed the Andrew Peterson family gravestones and learned about the Swedish stone from Andrew's farm in Sweden.

Ralph Peterson and Paul Norman were responsible for transporting and donating this stone.

Wendy shared exciting plans to bring the Andrew Peterson home and barn back to as close to its original state as possible. She also mentioned Andrew Peterson's history is taught in the Swedish School system. Wendy said many people from Sweden have great interest in seeing the Andrew Peterson home, farm and the Scandia Baptist Cemetery!



We will spotlight a family in each newsletter.

Family Feature: The Lundsten Family

In 1854, John Lundsten, his wife, Maja Lisa Broberg and their one year old daughter emigrated from Sweden. Maja Lisa's brother, John, and his wife, Katerina, travelled with them. Their voyage took two months.

They first lived in a small Swedish settlement near Andover, Illinois. In 1855, F.O. Nilsen, a missionary, came to the settlement and told the immigrants about the plentiful land and opportunities in the Minnesota Territory. The family decided to move to the area which Nilsen had described. They probably took a steamboat from Galesburg, Ill. to St. Paul, MN.

On their way to St Paul, they stopped at Red Wing where the men chopped wood for the steamboats and cleared land to earn money to pay expenses.

When they arrived in St Paul, both men searched for government land and in the summer of 1856, they found and settled in Scandia, a small Swedish settlement, near present day Waconia. In Scandia, a meeting house that was to be used for church was almost finished and a cemetery had been established in 1855.

In the family bible, John Lundsten wrote, "We were among the first settlers that bought land here. Here was only the wild woods so we began to build and live. I and my wife were baptized in Clearwater Lake (Lake Waconia) and we joined the Swedish Baptist Church the same day." Minnesota was still a territory and Carver County was a wilderness.

Many Scandinavians had similar names and changed them to avoid confusion with others. Johannes Danielson changed his name to John Lundsten and Johannes Johannesson changed his name to John Broberg. They did not change their names until after they had arrived in America.

The Lundstens attended the Scandia Baptist Church for four generations and like other families associated with the church and cemetery, have been involved with the cemetery for five generations, including landscaping, care and maintenance and serving on the cemetery board.

John and Maja Lisa had nine children. Frank, their oldest son, and Mary, his wife, had nine children. Frank's son, Everett, had three children and their youngest son, David, was a founding member of the cemetery board.

His daughter, Lisa, is now a member of the board. Lisa is the fifth generation of Lundstens to live in the United States. Philip Broberg, who also serves on the board, is the fourth generation of Brobergs to live in the United States. (Please see photos on page 3).

Is the Burial Register Accurate?

By Margaret Osborne, Secretary

I've been working on the burial register over the past few years, to make sure it is correct and complete. We don't have an historical register. Our primary sources of information are a survey prepared in 1940 by F.R. Lundsten and two lists of monuments prepared by

Ralph Peterson (1992) and Debbie Boe (1998). Ralph Peterson (former president of the Board) used this information to develop the current burial register.

The cemetery is divided into 17 blocks, each of which contain 1 to 12 lots, depending on size and shape of the block. Because of the trapezoidal shape of the cemetery, the blocks are more standardized on the east and north sides of the property. The 'standard' blocks contain 2 rows of 4 lots with 4 gravesites in each lot (32 gravesites per block). Each gravesite is 8 feet long by 4.374 feet wide. The blocks are separated by alleys.

The historical graves are concentrated in Blocks 1 through 8 which are located in the northeastern part of the cemetery. It appears these were sold to families by the lot, for their use. We have registered each of these graves based on the information on the monuments. However not every gravesite has a monument. This may mean there are still some unused gravesites in the family lots, or that the original marker has not survived. For example, there is an unmarked gravesite next to Andrew Matson, Civil War veteran, in Block 6. We learned from Andrew Peterson's diary that this is probably occupied by Matson's son who died in childhood. **You can help us make sure that the register is correct by letting me know if you have any information on unmarked graves in the cemetery. (Please see photos on page 3).**

Unused gravesites in the midst of lots that were purchased by families may still be used by descendants of those families. Gravesites cannot be sold to unrelated parties. We are also making gravesites in the newer section of the cemetery (Blocks 12 and 12) available for purchase by descendants of the original families of the Scandia Baptist Church.

They cannot be sold to unrelated parties. If you are interested in purchasing one or more graves, please contact KJ Bach, President (k-j-o@msn.com) or Margaret Osborne, Secretary, (maoggmops@aol.com).

In Memory of Paul Norman May 1927 – December 2016

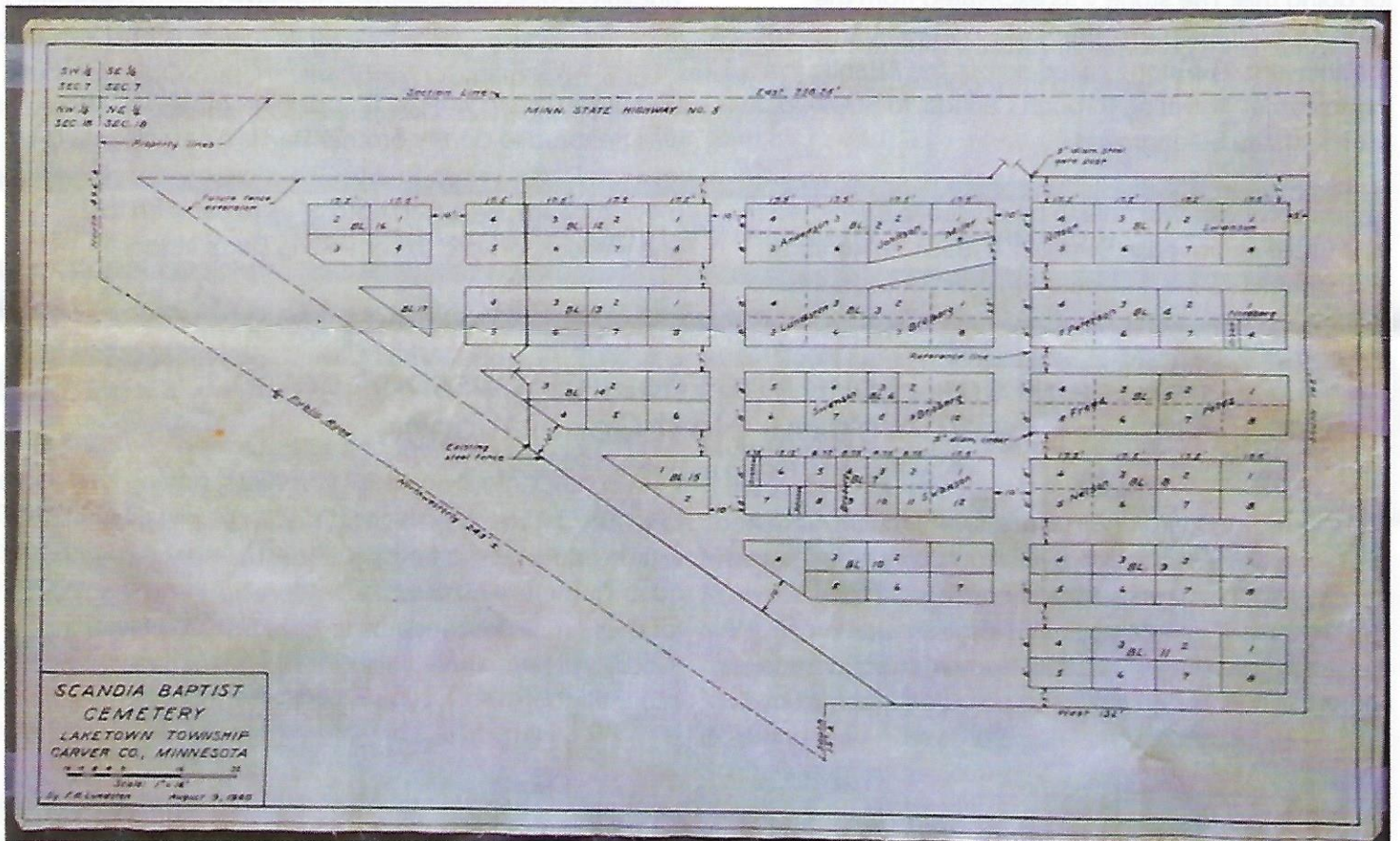
A new Swedish Flag has been donated in honor of Paul Norman. Paul's nieces, Nancy Williams Chambers, Dawn De Simone and Patty Morris have donated the flag, which will be flying high at the Cemetery. Paul was an active member on the Scandia Baptist Cemetery for years and Per Daniel and Caroline Anderson's Great Grandson. Thank you for your bright donation in honor of your Uncle Paul!



John (Johannes) Lundsten and Maja Lisa (Broberg) Lundsten - a the first generation immigrants.



The next generation: (Frank and Mary Lundsten's family) photo at Sunny Hill. Back L-R: Amy, Clarence, Francis. Front: Rhoda, Mary Lundsten, Hazel (Gudridge) on lap, Mabel (Hjort), Frank Lundsten, Everett Lundsten, Esther (Tideman)



The cemetery is divided into 17 blocks.

Paul Norman Contributes to Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association

by JJ Norman (Julie Jay Norman, Daughter, Scandia Baptist Cemetery Board Member)

Paul Norman was a descendant of Per Daniel Anderson and Caroline Anderson, a Great Grandson. Per Daniel Anderson's brother, John, married Christina Peterson, Andrew Peterson's Sister.

Per Daniel and Caroline had 10 children. Anna Louise, Charlotte Augusta, Alice Florence, Caroline Anderson, Isabelle, Abbie May Susan, Andrew Oscar, Charles Benjamin, Fritchof James, Almer J. Alice Florence one of the daughters, married my Great Grandfather, Charles Norman. They had 6 children: Maude, Wave, Florence, LeRoy, Floyd and Clifford, who was my Grandfather.

Clifford married Elvera Swenson and had 4 children. Elaine, Caldon "Kick", Sheldon "Paul" and Barbara.

Our family was the most important thing in the world to my father. My Dad was a walking and talking genealogy data bank! He took great pride and spent hours, sharing stories with his children, Dan, Trudi and Julie "JJ" about the Norman family history. Dad shared stories with his Granddaughters, Nieces and Nephews and to anyone who was interested in hearing the history of our family.

Paul and Ralph Peterson, who were great friends and Scandia Baptist Cemetery Board Members. Paul and Ralph had the granite stone brought over from Andrew Peterson's farmstead in Sweden, which was a process. I remember Dad saying the Swedes think we are crazy for doing this! The stone was excavated from the earth on Andrew's farm, then transported by truck to the shipyard. The stone sailed across the Atlantic in a cargo carrier. Traveling through Canada, to St Cloud, Minnesota, to be engraved.

Finally arriving in Waconia to be placed in the cemetery, Paul had it engraved in Swedish. It reads **"In honor of the immigrants from Sweden"**. He was in the abrasive

grinding business for granite and marble. Paul and "Ralphie" spent hours on the phone together, making plans for the stone and how to enhance the Cemetery. Dad was obsessed with a beautiful Swedish flag for the cemetery. Off to Ingebretson's we would go to pick up a new flag.

He was proud to be a part of putting the Scandia Baptist Cemetery and Andrew Peterson's Farm on the map with the Minnesota Historical Society. Paul's vision was to see a historical freeway sign on Highway 5 directing visitors to a beautiful historical granite marker, one that would combine the Chapel, Cemetery and Andrew Peterson's farm together. Dad and I took many drives to Waconia to check on the cemetery, the farm, the familiar drive on the back country roads, touring the orchards and vineyards, hearing about why we have apples and wine in Minnesota.

Dad asked me to join the Board, in his place, which I was honored to do. My brother Dan is a participant also, insuring Dad's wishes for the Cemetery continue to move forward. He asked both of us to carry on for him and we look forward to continuing Dad's vision!

Where's our Next Generation?

by KJ Bach, Board of Directors President.

The Cemetery Board of Directors is very much interested in keeping the Association a viable entity for the future of maintaining the cemetery and honoring our forefathers and mothers. If your family has a 'new generation' of descendants, please write their names, street addresses, and email address on the insert provided and mail back

to KJ Bach, 1301 Burke Ave W. Roseville, MN 55113. They will be added to our mailing list for the newsletter and other Cemetery business. We appreciate and thank you for these new descendants to have a share of keeping "God's Little Acre" well maintained and managed long into the future.

