

Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association

Established 1855

May 2018



Springtime on the Farm!

by J.J. Norman

Saturday, June 2, 2018

10:00am – 5:00pm

Entry fee: \$5.00 non-members

\$3.00 for members of

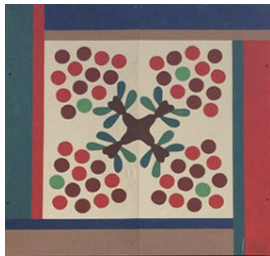
**Carver County
Historical Society**

12 & under FREE

Location: Andrew Peterson Farm

8060 State Highway 5

Waconia, MN 55387



Carver County Historical Society has put together an event which will occur annually at the Andrew Peterson Farm each Spring!

Live music. Starting at 10am, Jug Band will be performing. Traveled Ground will be performing from 2:00pm-5:00pm! Food Trucks on site too!

Tour the Andrew Peterson Farm and see the renovated farm house and explore! Scott Carver Threshers will be giving tractor rides on the Rock Isle Wagon and have antique tractors and equipment. The North Barn will be full of vendors, Sami reindeer bracelets, Leather works, seeds, plants, foraging bags, journals and more! A blacksmith will be set up outside doing demonstrations. 4-H will have a tent set up outside, in addition to a petting zoo with live animals for the kids!

- Live music
- Animals (4H)
- Carlson's Lloveable Llamas
- Scott-Carver Threshers
- Tractor show
- Old-fashioned general store
- Jug band
- Wagonrides
- Historic wagons
- food trucks
- Old-fashioned kids games



© Historic Andrew Peterson Farmstead



Scandia Baptist Cemetery Board Member Voted on to Carver County Historical Society Board of Directors in February 2018

J.J. Norman, was asked to join Carver County Historical Society Board of Directors for 2018, by Wendy Biorn, Executive Director last spring.

J.J. Norman is a great-great-great niece of Andrew and Elsa Peterson.

J.J. Norman and Dan Norman are Paul Norman's children. Both are on the SBCA Board of Directors. Paul Norman was Per Daniel and Caroline's Great Grandson. Paul had great enthusiasm for his family lineage and history, sharing that joy and excitement with his children and grand kids and anyone who expressed interest in hearing his stories.

Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association Board has expanded with new board members and is working closely with Carver County Historical Society (CCHS) as the Andrew Peterson Farm is being brought back to its original state and being turned into a Museum in the future.

The Cemetery is an important connection to the Andrew Peterson Farm and all of the Scandinavian Immigrants and pioneers from other countries who have family members buried in the cemetery.

J.J. will be active on two committees, Fund-raising Chair and the Logistics for the Andrew Peterson Farm.

Exciting ideas being discussed for raising funds in the future. The first annual event will be held June 2, 2018 "Springtime on the Farm" 10:00am -5:00pm! Please read the news article!

J.J. looks forward to a positive working relationship with the Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association Board and the Carver County Historical Society.

Please contact CCHS with any questions.

Ask for Heidi or Wendy.

952-442-4234

Newest SBCA Board Member - Dan Norman

by KJ Bach

We welcome our newest SBCA Board member Dan Norman. Dan's interest in the Cemetery seems to be 'genetic'!

As a teenager, Dan, his father, Paul Norman, and his grandfather, Cliff Norman, would visit the Benny Anderson farm in Waconia to shoot clay pigeons and visit Cliff's cousins. Dan was always interested in the stories of Peter Daniel Anderson's service in the Civil War, the hiding of the women and children on Coney Island in Lake Waconia during the 1862 Sioux War Uprising. He remembers the 1973 moving and rebuilding of the Scandia church building to the Bethel University campus and of course, being updated on the SBCA actions over the years Paul was involved. Dan hopes to generate ongoing support for the cemetery's history, legacy, and its role in the Waconia and Carver County community from the descendants of those interred in the cemetery.

Dan Norman is the Founder and Principal of North Star Villages a real estate development investment group operating out of Charlotte, NC. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota in civil engineering. Dan and his

wife, Jean (from Zumbrota, MN), raised their family of two daughters while living in Minnesota, Florida, Texas, Delaware, and North Carolina in support of a construction and real estate development career. His younger daughter, Rene' Norman, lives in Charlotte and his older daughter, Sara (Jack Evans), along with Kent (6) and Reid(2), live in Middletown, DE.

Coming soon...

The SBCA Board Secretary is creating a website for the Cemetery Association. We would like to include information on Board meetings, past meeting minutes, copies of the newsletters and a searchable database for the burial register, with photos of the gravesite markers. We will send out a link to everyone on our email list once there is something ready to share. Let us know your thoughts on other content for the website.

Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association has a new "facebook" page which is being developed now. Feel free to search "facebook" under Scandia Baptist Cemetery Association and watch the page grow!



The Peltz Family and Scandia Baptist Church

by Jacque Waugh and Jim Luedtke

John Peltz married Louisa Ehrenberg on July 5, 1916. We believe they began attending Scandia in late 1926 or early 1927. At some point they became members, and remained so until their passing in 1978 and 1975, respectively.

Peltz (or Piltz), and Ehrenberg, not really Swedish names, are they? Maybe their mothers were Swedish? Well, no, not with the names, Ziemann and Trende. Definitely German names, though some emigrated from Oesterreich (Austria). Both the Peltz and Ehrenberg families worshipped at churches where German was spoken, and as far as we know, the Scandia or Swedish Baptist Church originally held services in Swedish. Proximity to the church was also a major factor in selecting a church home in the days of horse and buggy.

John's grandparents, Johann and Theresa, came to Laketown Township around 1856-1857. Being German speaking protestants, they sought a church where they could worship with understanding and affirmation, hence attendance at the German Baptist Church in Minnetrista (now Minnetrista Baptist), about 2 ½ miles distance. John grew up at this church.

Louise grew up in the Moravian church, living across the road from Zoar Moravian on 'the creek (pronounced as 'crick') road', between Waconia and Chaska.

We are not certain what all of the reasons are that John and Louise chose to attend Scandia, but the history and circumstances of their early married years provide a few clues.

We know they moved several times in the first 10 years of marriage. They purchased a farm between Watertown and St. Bonifacius around the time of their marriage, and had grand plans, building several large barns. However, they had moved to Kimball, MN by 1924, and worked a rented farm for several years. The reason for the move was not discussed with the young children, it was only years later as adults that some of them heard 'Pa' say they had overreached, suggesting they lost the Watertown farm due to finances.

After Kimball, they moved to the Zoar Moravian parsonage. This seems to have occurred by 1927. While the parsonage was crowded for a family of 7 children (soon to be 8, eventually 10) the cemetery outside the church provided a unique playground for many games. One stone has an open bible at the top, and Karl was known to commandeer it and preach!

All that moving around, especially to the relatively distant Kimball, apparently served to disconnect them from the churches in which they grew up. When they moved to Zoar, John started working the Andrew Peterson farm, and built a small house close to the highway for his family. They moved in November, 1926, remaining there until John's parents passed on some 14 years later (who lived on nearby Parley Lake). It was this



*John and Louise Ehrenberg Peltz wedding photo.
July 5, 1916*

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home, for most of the Peltz children, that comes to mind when they think back to their growing up years. Their attendance at Scandia Baptist Church coincided with the arrival at the Peterson farm. Eventually, John and Louise moved to a farm near Buffalo, MN. Daughter Mary supported & served on the Scandia Cemetery Board Association for many years until her death in fall 2017, helping to care for "the resting place of these venerable pioneers."

Both John and Louise, as well as several other family members, are buried at Scandia Baptist Cemetery..

So, why Scandia?

Language - Everyone spoke English by now, at least in public, and worship services were no longer strictly in the original immigrants' tongues.

Familiarity - John knew many of the members as they were neighbors as he grew up.

Proximity - It was only 1 ½ miles to Scandia from the Peterson farm (it was a straight shot on the road at that time). To Minnetrista it was 5 ½ miles, to Zoar, 5 miles.

Wild card - Apparently living on the Peterson farm, with Andrew's children still in the main house, carried with it an expectation that the Peltz's attend church with the Petersons.

Some recollections of Scandia from two of John and Louise's sons, Karl and Roy: Roy (1924-present):

I don't remember it being called "Swedish Baptist", though I'm sure many did. The church was started by the Swedes, so association by name was there. I imagine we went there as a matter of convenience, as we were living at the Peterson farm at that time. Most everyone traveled by car, summer and winter, tho sometimes in winter it was impossible to attend. The horse barns were still standing; I don't remember anyone coming by sled. The Andrew Anderson family (adults) walked to church. Ollie Nelson, who lived on the north side of the lake, would skate across the lake with his shoe skates, if there wasn't too much snow.

I usually sat in the last pew with Charley Peterson and the Anderson's (Ben, Don, Len, in their early 20's, I'd guess). They made you feel like you were one of them. During the singing with everyone standing, Ben A. would stand me up on the pew and share the song book as now I was as tall as him. (He was a good singer, I had no idea what I was doing.) After the sermon, some of the elders would occasionally get up & pontificate about

something or other & hold us hostage causing Charlie Peterson to hold up his pocket watch to signal it was time for "Amen".

From about the mid 1930's I had the job of doing the mowing the cemetery for the summer for couple of years. Hard job (I thought) but the pay was good, \$10 for the summer! To my knowledge there were no other families of German descent associated with Scandia Baptist Church.

Karl (1921-present):

When the Peltz's lived on the Peterson farm, there was an understanding that the family attended the Swedish church since the Peterson's were Swedish. Brothers Ralph, Karl, and Albert drove the Charlie Peterson's Buick to help him with the driving. It was Emmett (sic) (possibly Emma) Peterson's job to make the communion wine from the farm vineyard. I remember there were comments if someone drank too much from the communal cup which was passed around. When I first attended, about five years old, I remember there were barns behind the church for the horses and buggies. Our family used a 1925 Overland car to get the church in the early days.

When I was a child, Tideman was the preacher. Since Tideman lived out of town, he preached every other Sunday. Some Sundays we would have older visiting preachers who would preach in Swedish. On the other Sundays, we would have students from Bethel Seminary preach. Rueben Omark was one of the seminary students who had preached at Scandia. When I moved my family to Modesto and attended the First Baptist Church in the 1950's, Pastor Omark was the pastor of that church.



The Board of Directors would like to give special thanks to Laurie Paulsen for helping with the beautiful newsletter. We appreciate your time, creativity and energy! Thank you for taking us to the next level Laurie!





Spring Clean up at the Scandia Baptist Cemetery, Saturday, May 12, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bring your yard clean up gear and tools.
RSVP to Jacque Waugh at:
jacqwaugh@gmail.com.
952-446-1175



Scandia Chapel images courtesy of J.J. Norman

Scandia Baptist Chapel is located on the Bethel campus.

3907 Snelling Ave. North
Arden Hills, MN 55112

How do we continue?

by KJ Bach

The Cemetery Board of Directors is interested in keeping the Association a viable entity for the future of maintaining the cemetery and honoring our ancestors who passionately toiled to make a new life for themselves and their descendants. We are looking for the 'next generation' of descendants to hear the stories

and maintain God's little Acre. Names, addresses and email addresses of the next generation can be routed to KJ Bach 1301 Burke Ave. W. Roseville, MN 55113 or email: k-j-o@msn.com. We appreciate and thank you for the names of descendants to share in keeping the cemetery well maintained and managed long into the future.

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



Diamond Jubilee Booklet

by Margaret Osborne

In 1930 the Scandia Baptist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary. To recognize this milestone, they published a booklet which tells the early history of this pioneer church and other interesting facts. The nine charter members first met in Andrew Peterson's cabin in 1855. The first baptisms were performed in the icy waters of Clearwater (now Waconia) Lake in February, 1856! In 1858 they built a log meeting house, 20 x 26 feet, which was sided in 1875. This building still exists today, on the campus of Bethel University in Arden Hills, Minnesota, where it was moved in 1973. The Diamond Jubilee celebration also included baptisms in the lake, but this time it was a warm July day.



Congregation and Sunday School

The cemetery we care for today was founded in 1859 with a half acre donated by Andrew Berquist. In the booklet they speak of this as "God's Acre... to keep in proper repair for all time the resting place of these venerable pioneers." Many of the people in the 1930 congregational photo have joined those pioneers, and now we hold the task of caring for "God's Acre."

Cemetery Archives Galore!

by KJ Bach

In effort to find more historical information and to also locate more local descendants of the Cemetery, KJ Bach, President of the Cemetery Association reached out to Pastor Jon Tolley of the Oakwood Community Church in Waconia. What was the reason for picking Oakwood Community Church to start their search? Wendy Biorn, Carver County Historical Society Executive Director, recalled that the Scandia Baptist Church had been renamed 'Oakwood Church sometime in the 1980's. Searching the web for 'Oakwood Church in Waconia', KJ emailed Pastor Tolly who then connected her with the church's Administrative Assistant, Mia Sartell. It was then they found out that Mia's husband, Nick Sartell, has ancestors buried in the Scandia Cemetery! Nicholas and Ellen Swenson are Nick's great-great grandparents and who Nick is

named after! Four members of the Cemetery Board of Directors, KJ Bach, Margaret Osborne, Jacque Waugh and J.J. Norman met with Nick on December 6, 2017 at Oakwood Community Church. Much to the Board Members surprise, the Oakwood Community Church has many documents, newspaper clippings and pictures from various Scandia Baptist Church celebrations and events. Nick's mother is also interested in sharing stories of the Scandia Church with the Board and through the Cemetery Newsletter. The Board Members all agreed they had hit the 'JACKPOT' of archival information! The connection of Oakwood Community Church and the Scandia Baptist Cemetery gives both organizations 'roots to share'. The Cemetery Board is looking for more connections, like Nick who have ancestors buried in the Cemetery, and who wish to help honor their forefathers and mothers in helping to manage and maintain the final resting Place of their ancestors.

