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RENOVATION—NEXT STEP

We all know there are many curves in the road when formulating plans. Never has that been clearer than now as the board grapples with the next restoration project, addressing the church's exterior. Plans to do several small projects to the front of the church have been put off, with the realization that those improvements could become obsolete when the bigger picture comes into focus.

Estimates have been secured for painting the exterior or for replacing the original wood siding with steel siding. The question also lingers as to whether or not the building should be insulated for possible use during winter months.

Many issues come to light when seriously examining the old 1889 cedar siding. If only it was just a matter of slapping on a new coat of paint! Presented to the board is the need to replace broken and cracked siding, re-nailing boards, and cleaning the siding before any painting could take place.

This realization brings the discussion to consider an alternative siding, such as steel, which would give much more longevity to the

project and eliminate the need for painting every 10-12 years. Neither option is cheap. Preliminary contractor estimates indicate painting would cost approximately \$30,400; steel siding would cost approximately \$57,500, with pros and cons to each option. Insulation of the walls prior to installing steel siding would cost about \$10,000. Insulation under the painting option would not be practical.

Presently the board has \$23,000 available for the project, which indicates a shortfall range of \$7,400-\$34,500, depending upon the option selected.

Much discussion will be taking place in the next few months while the board debates these pros and cons, and decides which route to take.

The board has never started a project without having the full financing of the project in hand, and feels this is the only policy to follow. Needless to say, the board is anxious to have enough funds to cover the cost to get the project underway. So this is a good time for you to make a donation. The need has never been greater.

Calendar of Activities - All activities at SNH

May 20: 8:30 - Workday on grounds and interior of the church. Come and volunteer.

June 20: 5:30 - Stevens Point "Vennligfolk" Sons of Norway Midsummer Picnic. Private party.

July 4: 2:00 - New Hope Firecracker Parade, ending at SNH Church. The church will be open before and after the parade. SNH will have a refreshment stand on the grounds.

July 8: 2:00 - The Newland Duo, Vidar Skrede & Sara Pajunen, a program of Nordic folk music with a contemporary twist. Donation of \$10 appreciated. (See article)

August 6: 2:00 - "Under the Gun & On the Run—John Dillinger" presentation by Lowell Peterson, retired cardiologist from Appleton, WI. Lowell has written several books that will be available for purchase, including one on John Dillinger.

September 9: 8:30 - Workday on grounds. Volunteers welcome!

September 10: 2:00 - Smokey Express. We are delighted to bring this well-known musical entertainment group to South New Hope. Watch the newspapers for more details.

October 7: 11:00 - 4:00 Pie Social. A great way to relax, eat pie, visit and at the same time enjoy a walk through the church and grounds located in a beautiful setting. SNH is close to many of the Hidden Studios art studios. See www.hiddenstudiosarttour.com.

December 16: 10:30 - Wreaths Across America. A chance to honor our veterans by laying wreaths on their graves. (See article)

We welcome you to these events and activities! See our website for details and possible program additions as the season unfolds.

South New Hope Cemetery Association



Ingeborg Boe 1853-1905

INGEBORG BOE

The altar painting at South New Hope has become a memorable image in the South New Hope sanctuary. People are amazed at the painting, the quality of its condition and the fact that a member of the congregation painted it in 1898. The author of the following article, Charlotte Loberg Nelson, grew up in the Loberg family home in Nelsonville surrounded by many of Ingeborg's artistic works. Ingeborg was Charlotte's great aunt and Charlotte has done extensive research on Ingeborg. The following information is directly from Charlotte, who wrote the article several years ago. It will be divided into two segments, with the second part coming in the November newsletter. Her remarks can also be found in the Portage County Historical Society's website, along with a number of pictures of Ingeborg's paintings, showing her varied subjects. *Thanks to Charlotte for sharing this history.*

INGEBORG DAVIDSDTR. BOE NORWEGIAN AMERICAN WISCONSIN WOMAN ARTIST (Part 1)

Ingeborg BOE was born in Lærdal, Sogn og Fjordane, Norway, on June 24, 1853. She emigrated to the U.S.A. from Bergen to Buffalo, New York, via Quebec, Canada, in June 9, 1854, with her parents, David Knutsen BOE and Kirsti Andersdtr MOE.

They bought land and settled on a farm in Amherst Township in Portage Co. Two more daughters were born there. Her mother died on February 15, 1864, so she became a great helper at age eleven for her father and sisters, Dina, age eight, and Elsa, age three.

Her father built an addition to their small farm house to give Ingeborg (Belle) a place to do her oil painting work. We believe that she was a very talented, self-taught person, who did a variety of work in photography and developing, hair art, wax flowers and picture framing, other arts and crafts, and some charcoal drawings, besides her oil paintings. According to old letters that I have read, Ingeborg taught a variety of art lessons to people in her home.

Eventually, her father passed away on February 21, 1896, at the BOE farm. She and her youngest sister, Elsa, then

moved to Nelsonville, about two miles away, to live with her sister, Dina, who had married Nels J. LOBERG, in 1889. They had built a big house there in the village and were in the General Merchandise business.

She painted a beautiful Altar Painting, The Resurrection of Christ, at the South New Hope Lutheran Church in 1898. She was a member of this church after the Doctrinal Split in the Norwegian Lutheran Synod, about 1888. The painting still exists, and the church is now used for special events, like weddings or funerals. My sister and I were there in August, 2003, and I was able to take some colored pictures, and also saw the date—Feb. 1898, and her signature on the bottom of the painting. What a thrill!!

I have Ingeborg's little notebook and written in it is—"Resurrection of Christ", copied by Ingeborg (Belle) BOE, Feb. 1898, from a picture copyrighted and published in 1883 by F. W. Wehle, Milwaukee, WI. I have found out that Friedrich W. Wehle was a German-American church artist, born in Neu Jonsdorf, Saxony, in 1831, emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1866 and died in Milwaukee in 1901." (To be continued...)



Heavenward Oil, 22 X 29



Cat & The Fiddle Signed "Belle Boe"



Mountain Scene Oil, 33 X 43

SCANDINAVIAN MUSICIANS TO PERFORM

For about the first 50 years of activity at South New Hope Church, the language used for worship, as well as the language of the Norwegian community that settled in the Town of New Hope, was Norwegian. On Saturday, July 8 at 2:00 p.m., the Scandinavians are returning! The South New Hope Cemetery Board is excited to present The Newlands Co-op, a duo of Vidar Skrede and Sara Pajunen, who will perform a program of traditional and contemporary Nordic folk tunes, often with a contemporary twist.



Vidar and Sara

Vidar Skrede (from Haugesund, Norway) plays hardanger fiddle, violin, guitar and Greek bouzouki. He has a master's degree in Nordic folk music from the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, as well as the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and the Carl Nielsen Academy of Music in Odense, Denmark. Vidar is a leading musician on the Nordic folk music scene and is a popular tune writer who now resides in Chicago. Vidar is one of Scandinavia's most outstanding folk music artists of the day.

Sara Pajunen, who grew up in Finnish American northern Minnesota, is a Minneapolis-based violinist, composer and creator who has been described as an amazingly versatile musician who now counts among the most ambitious and notable practitioners of Finnish folk music outside Finland. Pajunen holds classical music degrees from both the United States and Finland, and her work has received funding from Jerome Foundation, MN State Arts Board, and Koneen Säätiö. She was the 2015-16 Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year.

The public is invited to this performance. South New Hope Church is located ½ mile north of Hwy. 161 at 1410 Cty. Rd. T, Amherst Jct, WI, halfway between Stevens Point and Waupaca. A suggested \$10 donation is appreciated for this event.

REMINDER TO ALL

New rules for the care of the cemetery began May 1, 2017. The new rules were published in the December 16 issue of the newsletter. They are also posted on the east wall of the maintenance shed at the cemetery. These changes will help save time on overall maintenance, plus improve the appearance of the cemetery. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The Cemetery Association will be participating with over 1,100 other locations around the U.S. in placing Christmas wreaths on veterans' graves again this year. 2017 will be the third year in showing our appreciation to our veterans who served our country.

The participation from readers of our newsletter last year was remarkable, as many of you for the first time embraced the program by purchasing a wreath for a veteran. We are asking your support for this program again this year.

The cost of honoring our service men and women is minimal if we each share our gratitude by purchasing a wreath or two. Wreaths cost \$15 each.

Here are two options on how to order.

Option 1: Write a check to SNHCA, write "Wreaths" in the memo section of your check and send to SNHCH, PO Box 62, Nelsonville, WI 54458.

Option 2: Visit WAA website, www.wreathscrossamerica.com and follow the prompts on how to support a local group. You will be asked for the address of the cemetery, which is Amherst Jct., WI 54407. Our group # is WI0016. Use your credit card under this option.

We are looking forward to an even larger response this year. Thank you for showing your appreciation!

Watch for a table that will be set up at our events this summer where you will



be able to get answers to questions about WAA and to donate to the cause.

APPLYING FOR HISTORIC STATUS

The South New Hope Cemetery Board has begun the process of application for historic status with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the National Register of Historic Places.

The first step in making application is to see if the site qualifies as having historic significance. That step has been approved, and now begins the application procedure that we have been told is a lengthy and demanding process.

SNH is one of the last, if not the last church built in the late 19th and early 20th century in this area that has not been drastically altered. Some churches have been beautified and added on to, some have been destroyed, still others have become a business or home.

The board feels that South New Hope Church is historic and they look forward to this process. There will be more on this topic in future newsletters.

REDUCTION OF INVENTORY

In order to reduce the inventory of pictures and minutes books that are on hand, the board has lowered the prices.

COLOR PICTURES of SNH, ready for framing, as seen on every newsletter, are still available. Cost, including postage and handling, is \$10 for an 8x10, and \$7 for a 5x7.

MINUTES BOOK of SNH church and cemetery board for the years 1888-2007 has been translated where needed, copied, and printed into book form. Only one printing was done, so anyone wishing to order this special copy can include a check for \$10 for each book ordered and we will mail it to you.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

\$10.00 per book, # books _____, \$ _____

8 X 10 color picture, \$10.00, # _____, \$ _____

5 X 7 color picture, \$7.00, # _____, \$ _____

Donation toward postage is appreciated \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Send to:

South New Hope Cemetery Board
PO Box 62, Nelsonville, WI 54458

OLD CHURCH AVAILABLE FOR NEW USE

Ever since the beginning of the SNH restoration, the goal has been to invite the community in for programs and events. That has been successful by having varied programs each summer, as well as the annual pie social.

Now the cemetery board would like to see its use be extended to the general community. There are a number of ways that the community might be able to use the building and grounds: weddings, funeral service, memorial services, family reunions, organizational events or meetings.

The large basement with a kitchen has been updated with new electrical facilities, and a portable PA system is available for instructional classes or seminars. The space will seat approximately 70 people around tables for potluck meals.

Also, the north lawn has been recently re-landscaped, and is maintained to offer space for outdoor events, or if needed, the erection of a large tent. Including the sanctuary that will seat close to 200, this brings together three different spaces available for different activities.

This is an exciting endeavor into which the board has wanted to expand. We are sure that we are only scratching the surface with ideas for the area's use. Perhaps you or your organization will consider SNH for your next event now or sometime in the future.

The church interior has recently been used for a family picture, (see picture below) which to our knowledge is a first such use.



Luedtke Family

Used with permission of the Luedtke family and Bonnie Bronk Photography

CORRECTION - We were alerted that Marwin Wrolstad's name was omitted from the veterans listed in the last newsletter. Marwin was in WWII, serving in the U.S. Navy. Thanks to Mark Wrolstad for calling this to our attention.