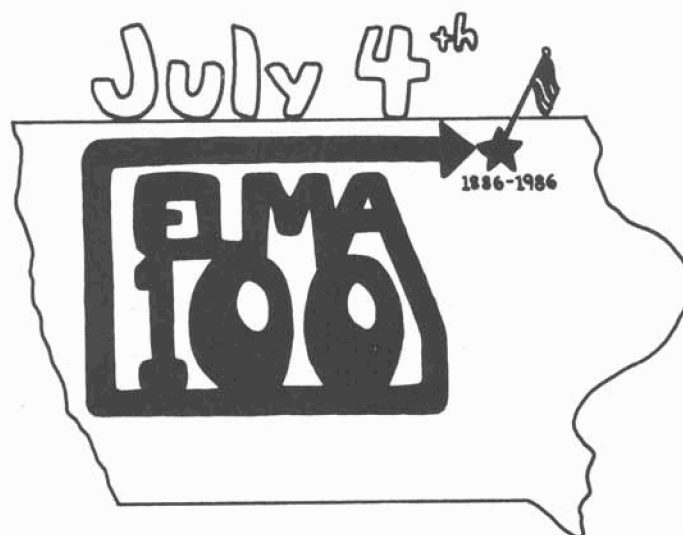


Community



submitted by David Gansen



Busti Avenue looking south before 1912. At the left is an implement shop and warehouse, a millinery shop, and the row of brick buildings which housed several general stores, a grocery, and on the corner, the Farmers Bank in the Weers Building. To the right is the corner of the Gesell Building which is now the Stardust, with a place to hitch horses at the side. A wagon pulled by horses is pictured for transportation of the day.



Busti Avenue looking north with the first store Richmond Drug Co. This was probably around 1920.



The north side of Main Street. These buildings were burned in March of 1954. On the left was a pool hall and bowling, New Bar Tavern next, and the Elma New Era publishing office last.



East side of Elma in the 1950's. The white fronted building with a flag is the Post Office, followed by Heineman Barber Shop, Bluebird Tavern, M. D. Store, the old bank building, Interstate Power Office, and Elwood & Landholt Hardware Store. On the left is the Eclipse Lumber Company. Note the water fountain in the foreground and that the parking is diagonal.



West Main Street after a snowstorm. The men are John Watson on the left and Frank Trunkey on the right. They are standing in front of a blacksmith shop that stood just west of Jerry's Plumbing & Heating present location. There is a barber pole in the snow bank for the shop next door. To the far left is the store building which is now Klobassa's Jack & Jill. It was the English Store at the time.



This postcard from 1914 shows Busti Avenue looking north. The building in the foreground is D. Casey Livery & Stable and the Hotel Irven. The hotel stood where the Memorial Hall is now. In the next block is Richmond Drug Co., the Post Office, Stritzel Store, unknown, and on the corner a hardware. The Weers Building can be seen in the background.



Busti Avenue around the late 1930's. The fenced area was a used car lot located where the Memorial Hall is now.

A Historical Landmark in Elma

by *Marlys Maravetz*
(November, 1982)

Over the decades people often forget their town's ancestry, how it came to be and the stories behind the town's landmarks.

The history of Elma, Iowa, goes back to the early settlers of the community. Mr. Lemuel Potter, a farmer, helped formulate the community by donating 80 acres of land to the "Great Western" railroad. Mr. Potter's ancestry, and strong faith in the town, was justly rewarded—the town was named after his youngest daughter, Elma.



Pictured is the home built by Lemuel Potter and now owned by Dinsmore Brandmill, a grandson of the Potters. Built in 1886, it was damaged considerably by the tornado in 1968, repaired, and occupied by the Brandmills. This is a century farm. Identified in picture left to right: Lemuel Potter, Parke Brandmill, Charles Brandmill, Honoria Potter, Elma Potter Brandmill, and Nora Potter Sisco.

The Potters' two-story home is one of the few historical landmarks still cherished. Located on the west edge of the community, the house was built in 1886. Wood for the house was cut at a sawmill north of town. This was a farm house built to hold two generations of the Potter family. The community referred to the house as "the house of the seven gables" for its architectural structure. A three-story barn was among the buildings on the property.

The front entry of the house held a spiral staircase. One of the daughters descended from these steps on her wedding day. The entry was designed for caskets to pass through and be placed in the parlor. There have been twelve family funerals held in that parlor.

The woodwork and the floors of the home are hard pine. The woodwork was originally painted.

The first floor of the house has ceilings which were twelve feet high. A parlor, dining room, kitchen, and a sleeping chamber (now known as a bedroom) were on this floor.

The second floor had four sleeping chambers, all of which had walk-in closets. These rooms had eight-foot

cove ceilings. The maid's chamber was also upstairs; it was considerably smaller.

The house, having no fireplace, was heated by a woodburning stove in the living room which was located in the center of the house. The living room was enclosed by large double doors that could be swung open for heat to enter surrounding rooms. Registers in the ceiling of the first floor were designed for the heat to rise to the second floor.

A kitchen stove was also a means of heat for the maid's chambers. The stove pipes were directly beneath her room. The stove, which was also used for cooking, had doors that opened from both sides. It also had a reservoir on the side to heat stored water.

One kitchen door led to a shanty which was a small room with a sink in it. A bucket was placed under the sink to catch the water. A pump was located outside the house.

Under the kitchen was a cellar, and under the cellar was a root cellar. The root cellar was the only means of refrigeration. Between the kitchen and dining room was a cupboard for dishes. On the kitchen side, the doors were made of plain wood, while on the dining room side they were glass.

Electricity was introduced into the house in the 1920s. Prior to that the only means of lighting was oil lamps.

Two fires have damaged the house over the years. In 1920 a fire was started when the chimney was being cleaned. It was put out by "the bucket brigade," the local fire department. Water was supplied from the nearby creek. The other fire was in 1947. It and a tornado in 1968 both devastated the house.

Most of the furnishings of the home were purchased in McGregor, Iowa, located 120 miles away. A horse and wagon transported the furniture.

The living room contained a library table placed in the middle of the room with two chairs on each side. Atop the table was an oil lamp. Also in the room were a fainting couch, a few side chairs and a wooden rocker.

The parlor was the only room that had carpeting, a rose design on a brown background. The room was papered with slightly-textured oatmeal wallpaper. The wallpaper had the color of oatmeal, possibly to hide any smoke soot the stoves may have given off.

Some of the architectural features in the room included a paterae which was a medallion motif made of plaster in the center of the ceiling. A wide wood molding was placed below the ceiling from which wires were strung to hang pictures.

In the dining room was a maple sideboard (now called a hutch) and a 58-inch round dining table.

The first floor chamber featured a black walnut bed with a high headboard, a marble-top dresser and a commode. A porcelain water pitcher, basin and soap dish, patterned with a brown rose design, accented the dresser.

Today a few of the original pieces of furniture are

still in the home. They include the maple sideboard found in the dining room; a wooden rocker and a few walnut side chairs placed in the living room; and in the parlor, a marble-top table. Hanging in the dining room are two samplers dated 1805 and 1820.

The Potter house is currently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dinsmore Brandmill. Mr. Brandmill is the son of Elma Potter Brandmill. The Potter house shall continue its line of heritage while the residents of Elma relish the historical landmark.

Houses

For years, Elma has boasted of the houses that spelled "home" to its citizens. Some still stand, although many have been extensively remodeled.



The J. W. Conway house, built in 1897 on the east side of Elma. In the background to the extreme right is the blacksmith shop and to the left of the blacksmith shop is the wagon shop that served Elma when the town was much younger. James and Loretta Stapleton made their home here for years; it is now occupied by the Kimbles.



The Sam Despres house, as it looked in 1920 when it was "home" to S. B. and Cordelia Despres. It was sold to Gaylord and Leona M. Robison on September 28, 1928. Leona M. Robison sold the house to William and Joanne (Ludwig) Rausch in October, 1976. A year later, the house was sold by the Rausches to Dennis and Sandra Stevenson who still reside there.



The Truman Robison house, also known to many as the "Burgess House" and the "Knippling House" as the years went by, is now owned by Pat Fogarty who was occupying the house when it was virtually destroyed by fire two years ago.



The house which is currently the Donald Dybevik home was known for many years as the "Doc Mulick" house. It was built by Emery and Mary Mead around 1895. Other owners were: J. R. Holton in 1903, and Louis and Sophie Keding in 1904. It was purchased by Dr. Mulick around 1910. He cared for patients in his home and is said to have done surgery there. Dr. Mulick died in 1934 and the property was sold to Miss Barbara Patchen in 1944. Her estate sold it in 1963 to George Shannon and he, in turn, sold it to Dr. Frank Havlik in 1965. After Dr. Havlik's death in 1967, the house was rented. In 1973, Donald and Jackie Dybevik purchased it and they continue to live there.



Pictured is the George Shannon house on the north edge of Elma as it looked in 1949.



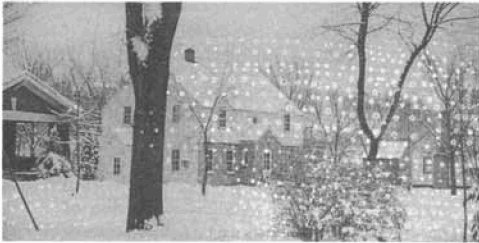
The Dennis Tierney house, later occupied by the Dr. Stute family is now the home of Mrs. Clara Boyle.



The L. H. Sisco home is located across from the property of Immaculate Conception Church. It is now the home of Marie Klobassa.



"Grand View Elma," the William Watson house until September, 1908, was moved to the site where Emma Havlik's house is now. Frank Elwood and a Parker family lived there until it was torn down in the 1930s.



This view from the Lowell Carter side porch on West Main Street, shows the Leo Heineman home, built around 1947, and to its left, the front of the "Charley Hilsman" house, now occupied by Joe and Elsie Ludwig.



Residential section of West Main Street; on the north side of the street, right to left: house built by Vern O'Neill, presently owned by Joe Ludwig, Jr.; Dr. W. C. McGrath house, now owned by Joe Klobassa; "Haaf House" now belonging to Russ Murphy; Jack Schmidt house, presently owned by the Mike Kleins; Tom Sullivan home now the home of Merle Jacoby.



This house was built by Spauldings. Other owners included the Habermans and Virg Kinnamons and it is now owned by Jack and Kay Hayden.



The Tom Cashman house, now owned by Grace Knox, a granddaughter of the Cashmans.



The George Shannon house in 1980. This home on the Shannon family farm was built by E. E. Evans using material salvaged from the Chicago Great Western roundhouse. The house was rented for years and, unoccupied the last years, has been destroyed by vandalism.

The old barn on the Shannon farm had unique siding of corrugated narrow-rib tin. The barn was razed in 1985.



Picture shows the house around 1934 and again in 1980. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bartels.



The Longstreth house was moved onto this site from a farm east of Elma around 1934. The yard had only weeds and three oak trees on it and Dr. Longstreth landscaped the yard, planting many different kinds of shrubs, trees and annuals. The home was damaged in the 1968 tornado but returned to its previous stately condition.



"House of Seven Gables" was the home of Lowell Carter DDS for years. He had his dental office in the front parlor of the house. The house has been remodeled through the years and has been home to many different families. It is now owned and occupied by Nick and Theresa Zeimetz and their family.

Looking west from the corner of 6th and Main. Left, south side of the street: Garmen home (now Lyle Hart's), Carter home, (now Nick Zeimetz home). Right, north side of street: O'Neill house, (now Joe Ludwig's), Dr. McGrath house, (now Joe Klobassa), Haaf house, (now Russ Murphy's), Jack Schmidt house, (now Mike Klein's).



A 1918 picture of the residential section of West Main Street, homes on the south side of the street beginning with the house currently owned by Nick and Teresa Zeimetz, Mrs. George Fountain, Linus Lentz family and across the corner, Mrs. Chas. Boyle's home.



The "Garmen House" was built in 1923, on the site of the old opera building, by Charlie and Claire Garmen. Lyle E. Hart family have owned the house since 1966 and still reside there.



"A house is just a house, until you make it your home." Pictured are John and Emily Watson and daughter, Eliza (Lollie) Schroeder relaxing in their home.

CLUBS

Sisco Post G.A.H.

The Sisco Post G.A.H. was disbanded in 1926 and this proclamation issued:

We, Peter Haaf and Samuel Walters, being the only surviving members of Sisco Post G.A.H. do depose and say that along about 1910 at a regular meeting of said post at which 10 or 12 members were present, a

resolution was made and seconded and carried that after the death of the last surviving member of said Sisco post the flag of said post should become the property of the Elma Public School. This statement is made at this time on account of the fact that the books of the post containing this resolution have been destroyed by fire.

Signed this 1st day of June, 1926.

Masonic Lodge

March 7, 1893, the Grand Lodge of Iowa A.F.A.M. issued a charter to Maple Leaf Lodge No. 528, Elma, Iowa. Principal officers at the time of organization were Worshipful Master, F. W. Church; Senior Warden, F. K. Smart; Junior Warden, E. E. Overfield.

Early day members included Charles Brandmill, C. R. Heinemiller, J. W. Klemme, H. A. Pardee, and A. F. Rohde.

The Masonic Lodge originally rented its quarters and furnishings from the Odd Fellows Lodge. Later the building was purchased from the Odd Fellows Lodge. Subsequently, the building was sold to the Klobassa family.

In 1983 the Maple Leaf Lodge affiliated with the Arcana Lodge No. 274 of New Hampton, Iowa.



Order of Eastern Star

The first regular meeting of the Order of Eastern Star Oakdale Chapter 212 was held February 13, 1897, in the lodge temple located in the second story of what is now known as the Klobassa building.

The first Worthy Matron was Sarah Hunt, and the first Worthy Patron was J. W. Klemme. The meetings were held on Wednesday evening on or before the full moon, commonly understood to be the first Wednesday of the month.

In addition to projects within its own organization the lodge cooperated with other projects such as Korean Relief, First Aid, Flood Relief, blood donations, etc.

October 8, 1972, the local chapter observed its 75th anniversary. Oakdale Chapter became affiliated with New Hampton Chapter 75, December 3, 1979.

PIONEER CLUB

The "Pioneer Club" was another of the early clubs. A news article relates: The Pioneer Club met February 11, 1932, to celebrate the birthday of J. W. Conway. Members present were Charles Brandmill, Ed Barrett, George Power, J. H. Crooks, Frank Elwood, Charles Parsons, E. E. Friedrich, Maurice Silver, John Gardner, D. H. Tidgewell.

Records show others that were members of the club included: Joseph Irvin, Dennis Tierney, John McAvoy, Peter Haaf, Edward Sullivan and Wm. Diekmann.

Good Samaritan Lodge No. 528

The Good Samaritan Lodge, No. 528, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was incorporated November 21, 1899, and the articles signed by B. F. Lichty, G. W. Pittenger, and F. W. Church. (From the *History of Chickasaw and Howard County*, Vol. 1, 1919.)

Lace Club

The earliest Club for ladies seems to be the Lace Club. Ladies met in homes to make lace, which was used extensively in their sewing.



November 1954—"Today's Federated Womens Club" holding its anniversary party, marking its 25th year. Charter members pictured—seated left to right: Anna Mae Lammers, Mrs. E. O. Longstreth, Mrs. Ward Cook, Mrs. Myrtle Galligan, Doris Conway, and Mrs. Reed Elwood, Sr. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Robert Stapleton, Mrs. James Stapleton, Mrs. Percy Genn of England, Mrs. Everett Ludley, Mrs. John Beecher, Mrs. V. G. Kinnamon, Mrs. D. B. Brandmill, Mrs. Eldon Brown, Mrs. Ernest Peter of Cresco, Mrs. R. K. Evans of Lime Springs, Mrs. Arnold Baker of Cresco, and Mrs. Clifford Stratton.

Tomorrow's Club

On October 23, 1933, Mrs. Maude Howard and Mrs. Goldie Elwood were hostesses to a group of young ladies interested in organizing a club to help girls unable to go to college. Mrs. Hazel Gue Richmond was elected chairman, with Edna O'Donnell as vice chairman. The first meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Bellis.

The original members were: Hazel Gue, Ruth Bailard Brandmill, Mary Steele, Lucille Kelly Corrick, Billie Hanna, Clarice Burch, Dorothy McGrane, Gayle Silver, Leone Schroeder, Edna Meirick, Geneva Fausnaugh, Esther Beaumaster, Erna Bartels, Gwen Evans, Roberta Mabry, Marion Schroeder, Marjorie Schroeder Kucko, and Zelma Green Palmer.

The first officers were: Ruth Bailard, president; Lucille Kelly, first vice president; Billie Hanna, second vice president; Clarice Burch, treasurer; Mary Steele, secretary. It was voted to affiliate with the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs and to limit the organization to 24 members.

The purpose of the club was to promote study and reading, to have a part in the spirit of the country and local community in order that members might face the hard things of life and reach out in service to the needs of the community.

One of the club's major areas of interest has been the Elma Public Library from the time it was located in the City Hall until the present time when it is located in its own building. Projects have included donations of drapes, books, book drop, a donation toward the purchase of a movie projector, and sponsorship of teas during library week. Community projects have included beautification of Elma by means of flowers especially in the park.

The club has continued over 50 years as an active part of our community.

Coffee and Thimble Club

Coffee and Thimble Club—taken in the early '50s at the home of Rose Brummond. Back row: Lois Friedrich, Hilda Tonjes, Celia Biwer, Elsie Buchholz, Helen Rimrodt, Josephine Chihak, Clara Boyle, Rose Brummond, Edna Lamprecht, Mable Friedrich, Mayme Kelly, and Dora Streich. Kneeling: Kate Showalter, Alberta Friedrich, Lucille Stapleton, Margaret Kobliska, Irene Whiting, Dorothy Quam, Nora Stapleton, Evelyn King, Maxine Friedrich, Dora Lauck, and Linda Friedrich. Several children of the members are seated in front.



Silver Club

Members of the newly organized "Silver Club" of the Elma Methodist Church. First meeting held in the home of Mrs. Jennie Niedert—1958. Standing in rear, left to right: Mrs. Florence Hatch and Rev. Ruth Husband, who organized the club. Seated, left to right: Mrs. Alice Parker, Mrs. Leona Miller, Mrs. Bertha Frank, Mrs. Della Womack, Mrs. Jennie Niedert, Mary Walters, Mrs. George Lammers, Josie Walters (sister to Mary).

Elma Garden Club

The Elma Garden Club was organized April 17, 1957. First members were: Pat Knosby, Lucinda Stratton, Avis Roethler, Jackie Lorence, Bernice Heying, Joyce Hart, Lois Haakenson, Marion Frank, Goldie Elwood, and Peggy Beecher.

In the years they were active, they held monthly meetings, had yearly flower shows, made tray favors for the hospital, had floats in parades and did community activities, such as landscaping the viaduct and planting flowers and trees.

The club disbanded in 1964.

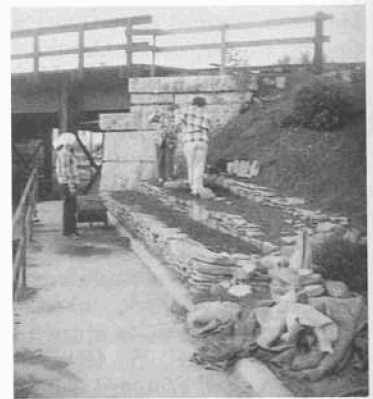


Mrs. Keith Roethler, Mrs. Goldie Elwood, and Mrs. Austin Knosby, looking over some of the Christmas novelties which the Elma Garden Club sold at its "Holiday Music in Design" flower show. Money from the show was used to improve and beautify the town.



Goldie Elwood helping with the landscaping of the Elma viaduct—1959.

Elma Garden Club caring for terraced viaduct. Left: Peggy Beecher. Right: foreground, Cindy Stratton; and Pat Knosby.



History of Troop 64

The Boy Scouts have existed in Elma for more than thirty years, although there are no records of early leaders. Scouting had become inactive for a time, until Rev. C. Stenbeck arrived in Elma in 1958, and began to re-organize the troop. His enthusiasm made scouting an important part of the community. When he transferred from Elma in 1961, John Freidhof became scoutmaster and with his camping knowledge, and interest in youth, once again the troop was active.

An Explorer Post had formed under the leadership of Kenneth (Speed) Schroeder and Art Rimrodt assisted in many outdoor activities such as boating. Dr. C. E. "Doc" Oelberg began helping in 1960, later becoming scoutmaster. There were several volunteers through the years, to name a few: Bernard Van Pelt, Jim Worpel, Lyle Hart, Tom Smith, Vern Murphy, and Dr. C. W. Rainy. Genevieve Freidhof was a long-time troop committee member. Many parents of the scouts were very active and helpful.

Troop 64 was first chartered under the Knights of Columbus Marion Council #4144 in the Wapsipinicon Area Council. The council was divided into two districts. Howard, Winnesheik, Fayette, and Chickasaw counties made up the North Star District. In 1971 the Wapsipinicon Council and the Winnebago Council converged into one. They took the Winnebago name and made Waterloo the council office, the original office of the Wapsipinicons. The districts also changed, Howard and Chickasaw combined with Mitchell and Floyd of the Twin Rivers District to form the North Rivers District. The American Legion Post #597 was now the troop's sponsor.

Camping is important to the troop. Some of the favorite spots are Sir's Woods, O'Donnell's Woods, Charlie Lentz's land and Lylah's Marsh. Some time ago, when the scouts were trying for their Red Flannel Camping award, the temperature dropped to 20° below zero; it was impossible to stay in the tent all night. Luckily, Scoutmaster John Freidhof was prepared with a portable oil heater. It was set up in a small shed, where they spent the remainder of the night.

Another camping story they love to tell is when "Doc" Oelberg took them camping with the Lourdes troop in Sir's Woods; it was so cold that a milk can of water sitting near the fire was frozen on one side and steaming on the other.

Lylah's Marsh was the site of a North Star District Camporee, where all the troops gathered for the weekend. The council has a camp in Waverly, Camp Ingawanis, which is used often for merit badge counseling as well as summer and winter camping. The Wapsie River provides canoeing and good hiking area.

Elma has had six scouts attain the highest rank in scouting, the Eagle Scout award. In 1965 Jim and Joe Hart, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hart, and Lyle Streich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Streich, were the first to receive the award. They were members of Explorer Post 64. In 1970 Creighton Weber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Weber, became the fourth, and in 1977

Jim Oelberg, son of Dr. and Mrs. C. Oelberg, became Elma's fifth Eagle Scout. In 1986, Brian Streich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Streich, became the sixth Eagle Scout in Elma. Other scouts are still striving for this honor.

Knights of Columbus Marion Council #4144

The local council of the Knights of Columbus was first formed in November of 1955. It began with 50 members and has greatly increased its membership over the years. The Knights' local programs are aimed at serving special segments of the family, the church and the community.



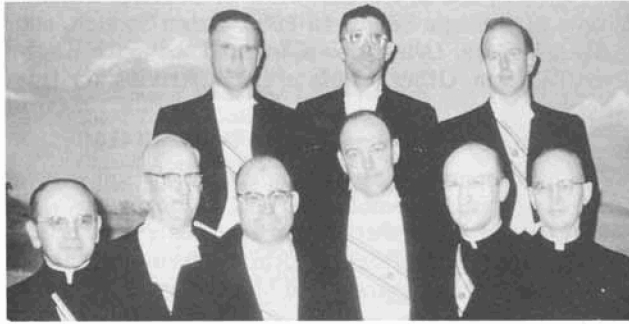
Those pictured above are some of the charter members of the Knights of Columbus. Back row, left to right: Don Gebel (guest), Eddie Beecher, Earl Kelly, Henry Rosonke, Tom Gebel, Reuben Tuchek, Robert Conway, James Gansen, Joseph Praska Jr., and Leo Chisholm (guest). Front row: Floyd Jacoby, Ralph Ries, Charles Bode, Harold Stapleton, Joe Sullivan and Dale Fox.



Mr. and Mrs. George Bayer receiving a chalice from Reuben Tuchek at 10:00 a.m. Mass at Ossian, Iowa. Mrs. Bayer is the former Clara Thiele of Elma. The chalice was given in memory of Leo Thiele, her father, a past member of the Davis General Assembly of Ossian, Iowa.

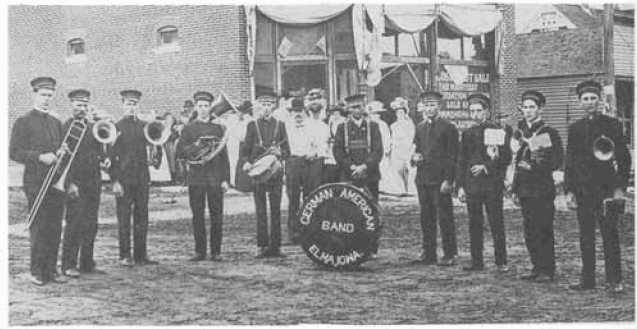


Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Marion Council #4144—1986. Back row, left to right: Francis Ludwig, Ed Beecher, Kenneth Fangman, Vern Voves, Bob Conway, Joseph Praska, Tom Smith, Joe Whittinger. Front row: Henry Rosonke, Wallace Fair, Ralph Ries, Msgr. Leander, H. Reicks, John Wacha Jr., Reuben Tuchek and Henry Fencl of Lawler, Iowa.



Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Marion Council #4144—1957. Back row, left to right: Henry Rosonke, Ralph Ries, Vern Klobassa. Front row: Msgr. John Chihak, Dr. W. C. McGrath, Reuben Tucheck, Bob Conway, Rev. Donald Heineman, Rev. Urban Churchill.

The German American Band of Elma



The German American Band of Elma. Members were from left to right: Charlie Sworg, August Wolf, Louis Diekmann, Alvin Gross, Frank Tyler, William Weers, John Weers, Charles Rowley, Orville Gross, Henry Kelding.

Elma Brass Band

First meeting was held April 27, 1907. Members:
J. C. Barr, President;

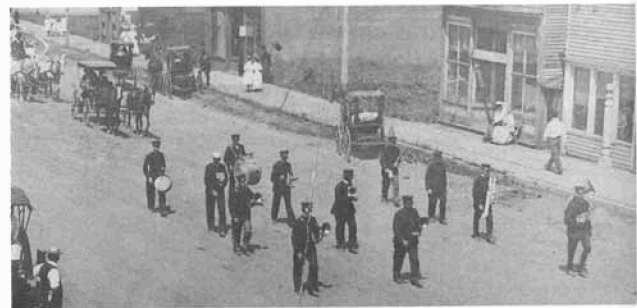
Louis Diekmann	C. A. McCullough
August Wolfe	Orville Gross
H. W. Flugge	A. F. Gross
J. W. Weers	Wm. Weers
F. H. Tyler	Ben Elgas
Dan Kinney	Ed Smith
R. H. Adams	Charles Rowley
Jake Simon	W. E. Constantine
Joe Straw	Carl Simon

Later listing of members and instruments:

Cornet	Clarinet
Arthur Weers	Burton Casey
Harrison Mahoney	Elroy Miller
Adrian Cashman	Dan Kinney
Will Tyler	Merle Trunkey
Dale Elwood	Alto
Herbert Bruns	George Evans
Vern O'Neill	Fred Gue
Slide Trombone	Albert Derr
Gene Keefe	Tenor
John Smith	Clair Rice
Will Diekmann	Bass
Saxophone	Gaylord Robison
Simon Harris	

No instrument listed—Will Clancy

The Elma Town Band



The Elma Town Band leading a parade on Main Street about 1900. Members of the band were: Charles McCullough, A. F. Gross (tuba), A. F. Wolf (tenor), Louis Diekmann (baritone), Charles Sevory (slide trombone), Henry Flugge, Fred Flugge, Charles Rowley, Frank Tyler (snare drum), and Wm. Weers (bass drum).

Elma Band in 1947

The Elma Band was directed by Dr. E. O. Longstreth. Band concerts were held each Saturday evening throughout the summer months.

Band members were:

Marvin Kirchner	Bass Drum
Verla Maseman	Clarinet
Charlotte Buchholz	French Horn
Eileen Mantz	Trumpet
James Papach	Baritone
Langdon Longstreth	Sousaphone
Reed J. Elwood	C Melody Saxophone
Dianne Longstreth	Alto Saxophone
Marie Berry	Alto Horn
Vionne Longstreth	Trumpet
Kenneth Stueber	Snare Drum
Richard Weers	Trumpet
Clarence Bueckmann	Clarinet
Reuben Friedrich	Trombone
Tommy Derenthal	Trumpet
June Brandmill	Clarinet
Ruth Kozlen	Clarinet
Rev. John Allsbury	Upright Bass



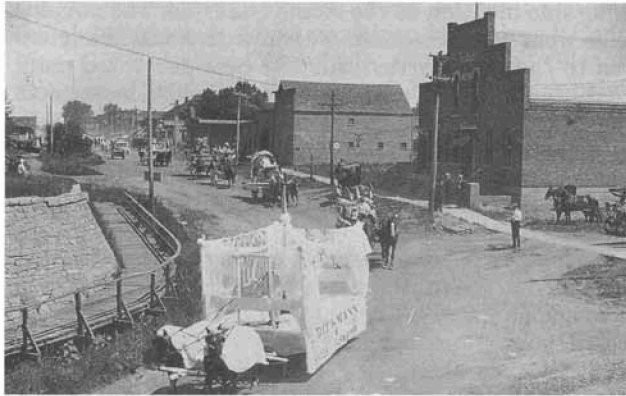
Parades



Parade on Busti Avenue about 1905. Ladies holding white parasols in the foreground are Harriet Williams and Blanche Moore, daughter of H. A. Moore, the photographer.



Young ladies riding class—Oliver Perry, early 1900s.



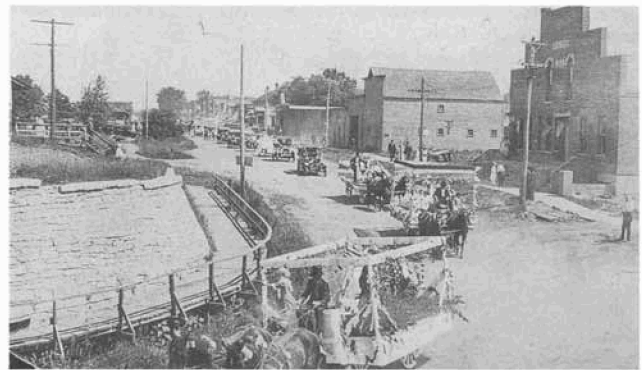
Parade on Busti Avenue. Float in front was "Diekmann Shoe and Furnishings."



Parade on West Main, looking west.



Parade on West Main—1910—A. F. Gross float in front. Buildings shown right to left: Elwood and Co. Real Estate (Frank Elwood), Mrs. E. F. Bond's Bakery and Restaurant, grocery store. The large building with three high windows was the home of Mrs. Augusta Pierce and family.



Parade on Busti Avenue around 1918.

50th Anniversary
1886-1936

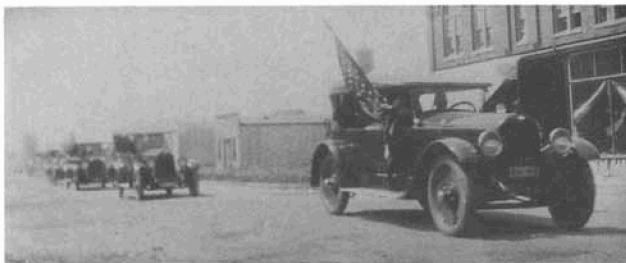
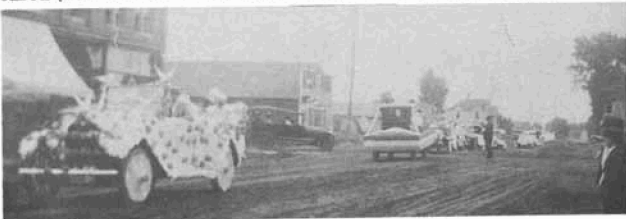
from the *Elma New Era*, July 9, 1936



Parade on East Main looking north—1914 or 1915.



Zeiner Dry Goods store was in the south half of the building pictured (now the Stardust). North half was Gross Hardware.



Parade on Busti Avenue, looking south. Building is the present Stardust. The side of the building to the picture's right was then Gross Hardware.

A crowd estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000 turned out to help Elma celebrate its Golden Anniversary. The Commercial Club was in charge of the day.

The large historical parade in the morning drew some seventy floats, representing virtually every business and professional man in Elma and several neighboring communities. The parade was eight blocks long and was witnessed by 6,000 people who lined the sides of the street from the Stute corner on the west side to the Standard Oil Station on the east side.

Three out-of-town judges awarded the prizes for the best floats in the parade.

First place—Mrs. H. D. Cook's car, carrying Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parsons, the oldest married couple in the community; second place, Camp Fire float; third place, Order of Eastern Star float; fourth place, E. D. Conway Furniture Store float; fifth place, Cedar Valley Produce; sixth place, Kobliska Dairy float; seventh place, Elite Beauty Shop operated by Bernice Marr.

Honorable mention was given to: Peoples' Savings Bank, Hastings Hospital, Study Club, the Singing School, the Elma Co-operative Creamery, Hart Oil Co., and the Township floats.

The best Indian award went to Arlyn Gesell and honorable mention to Charlotte Grover. The Rube band received first among the Ragamuffins with honorable mention to the Acme quadrille. The novelty prize went to the covered wagon with honorable mention to the just married car. The best decorated pony went to Rev. Bell representing the old time circuit rider, with honorable mention to Lyle Bunston.

The parade was headed by D. Brandmill as marshal, followed by several boys on spirited horses. The Elma Band furnished music from their position at the head followed by the floats.

During the afternoon and evening the celebration continued in the town park, with a concert by the town band and a talk by W. H. Tate of Manly, a former Elma school superintendent, who used a historical background for his talk.

In the afternoon the Acme-Cecelia baseball team defeated the Junior Legion team, followed by the Elma Independents vs. the Waterloo Cardinals. The locals won 2 to 1.

A program of street sports was then carried out. Prizes were awarded in the 100-yard dash, the fat man's race, ladies race, boys' foot race, and a pop drinking contest.

The evening program opened with a concert by the Elma Band, followed by platform acts and the amateur contest. Prizes were awarded as follows: 1st, Jimmy and Lois Cashman; 2nd, Gladys Grover; 3rd, Louise Schwickerath; 4th, Rose Schwickerath; 5th, Alice O'Donnell and Betty Cashman.

At 9:30, a new 1936 Chevrolet Town Sedan was given away. H. J. Erion of Elma was the lucky man. It was estimated 8,000 people were around at the time of the drawing and most of them remained for the fine display of fireworks.

Many hundreds of former residents of Elma and the community took this opportunity to come back and visit with their old friends and neighbors. Many a home entertained large groups of people from out of town at meals.

Floats were: Large birthday cake by the Study Club; Commercial Club welcome float; a group of Indians; the covered wagon by the stockyard industries; Elma's first mayor, F. W. Church; Elma's present mayor, F. C. FencI; the oldest married couple in the community, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Parsons; Rev. Bell, the circuit rider; the old singing school from Afton Township; modern songs by Stratton Cafe; Howard Township; Elite Beauty Shop; Afton Township; dance by the Acme Community; Conway Furniture Store; Chapman Lumber Co.; Elma Co-operative Creamery; Richmond Drug Store; American Legion; Carmalite's Beauty Shoppe; Kobliska Dairy; Peoples' Savings Bank; Green Lantern Roller Rink; Eclipse Lumber Co.; Standard Oil Co.; Earl Hayden; Cedar Valley Produce; Hastings Hospital; Elma New Era; Elma Grocery; Buchholz Dairy; tent show; U.S. Mail; Northern Iowa Telephone Co.; West Side Grocery; Royal Neighbors; Hart Oil Co.; Order of Eastern Star; Floyd's Market; the TucheK Cafe; Klobassa Meat Market; Catholic Order of Woman's Foresters; Kleen Maid Bread; Camp Fire Girls; Bellis Cafe; M-D Store; D-X Oil Co.; Skelgas; Elma Oil Co.; Gross Hardware; Mealy's Store; Elma Motor Co.; Rube Band; Ragamuffins; several rube cars; and several floats not listed here.



Celebrate Two Big Gala Days

AT

JULY 3rd & 4th

ELMA, IOWA

Come to Elma Sunday and Monday, July 3rd and 4th. Spend two notable days with your friends—two days packed with thrills. You will thrill to—two fast baseball games, fireworks, band concerts, unusual free acts, sports, games and amusements of all kinds. Two big dances will be held on a huge portable bowery floor in the park. A new 1938 Ford V-8 car will be given away. The Elma park grounds, scene of all events, will be packed with rides of all kinds, concessions, eating and ice cream stands, games, etc. Money will be thrown from an airplane both days. Come to Elma July 3rd and 4th!

SUN. JULY 3 MON. JUL. 4

MONEY DROPPED FROM AIRPLANE

AT 12:30 NOON

Promptly at 12:30 on both Sunday and Monday, money will be thrown from an airplane flying over the park, to be redeemed by anyone who recovers it.

CONCERT BY ELMA BAND

Beginning at 1:15 p. m.

FREE ACT PROGRAM

Starting at 1:45 p. m.

Six big acts by the Famous Windisch Family and the Iowa Juvenile Trio—Six to thrill you and please you

These Acts will be changed for each performance — both days—twice daily

BASEBALL

ELMA vs. DUBUQUE

Beginning at 2:30 p. m.

CONCERT BY ELMA BAND

Beginning at 7:30 p. m.

FREE ACT PROGRAM

Starting at 8:00 o'clock

BIG BOWERY DANCE

Beginning at 9:00 o'clock

Music by Ty Tyson and His Famous Swing Band

MONEY DROPPED FROM AIRPLANE

At 12:30 Noon

CONCERT BY ELMA BAND

Starting at 1:30 p. m.

FREE ACT PROGRAM

Starting at 2:00 o'clock

BASEBALL

ELMA vs. LeROY

Game Starts at 2:45 p. m.

CONCERT BY ELMA BAND

Beginning at 7:30 p. m.

FREE ACT PROGRAM

Starting at 8:00 o'clock

1938 FORD V-8 GIVEN AWAY

FOLLOWING PLATFORM PROGRAM
Program Tickets 25c each

BIG FIREWORKS DISPLAY !

Beginning at 9:30 in front of grandstand

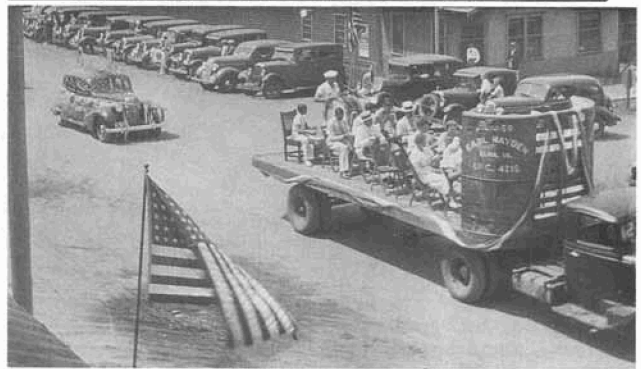
BIG BOWERY DANCE

Music by Ty Tyson and His Famous Swing Band
Starting at 9:00 o'clock

Plenty of Rides, Shows, Games, Amusements, Concessions, etc.
Roller Skating both days

Spend Two Big Days in Elma





Sports Ballteams

About 75 years ago Elma always celebrated the Fourth of July on a half-mile racetrack and baseball diamond located on the south edge of Elma on the Lyme English forty acres, the north end of which is now the Elma Park. The track had the judges, equipped with a loud bell, on an elevated stand. The baseball diamond was kept in good shape for the semi-



Baseball All Stars—Elma 1900. Back row, left to right: Arle Weed, Duffy, Krieder, Earl Hayden, George Evans. Front row: Bill Constantine, Lee Elwood, Smokey Fitzgerald, Parke Brandmill and Reed Elwood.



Elma Town Baseball Team—1909. Back row, left to right: Unidentified, unidentified, _____ Dougherty, Ed Conway, Fred Gitzy. Front row: Lou Diekmann, George Evans, Joe Elwood, Lee Elwood, unidentified.



Legion Team—1934. Front row: Bob Galligan, Alfred Heineman, Jim Conway, Ed Beecher, Joe O'Neil, Bob Kelly. Back row: Joe Joerger, Bernard Beecher, Harry Pardee, Gus O'Donnell, and Ralph Cook.

pro team which used all local players except the hired battery—Duffy and Krieder. The home players were Arle Weed, Earl Hayden, George Evans, Will Constantine, Lee Elwood, Smokey Fitzgerald, Tom Devereux, and Reed Elwood. Many native oak trees made this area a natural for picnics.

Issue of Aug. 27, 1908

The base ball fans of Elma and vicinity witnessed one of the fastest games ever pulled off on the Elma diamond last Sunday. The Rock Island Cross Country club, of Rock Island, Ill., donned their uniforms and went to driving park where they were defeated by Elma, the score being 4 to 2. Bill Rieken, the famous farmer pitcher, twirled for Elma and was supported by our local boys. One of the features of the game was the fielding done by Elwood, McGourty and Ed Rieken, they having had 11 chances and got them all. The Rock Island team were heavy hitters, but could not score on thier hits. The visiting team making their scores on errors. The Rock Island boys were a gentlemanly bunch and also a fast aggregation of players, but met their Waterloo at the hands of nine amateurs. The folowing played for Elma: Frost, W. Rieken, E. Devereaux, Cashman, T. Devereaux, Irvin, Elwood, McGourty and E. Rieken.



I.C. Basketball Team—1934-35. Front row: Harold Stapleton, Ed Beecher, Bob Conway, Don Keefe, Bob Kelly. Back row: Jim Conway, Joe O'Neil, Paul Fogarty, Bob Galligan, Harry Pardee.



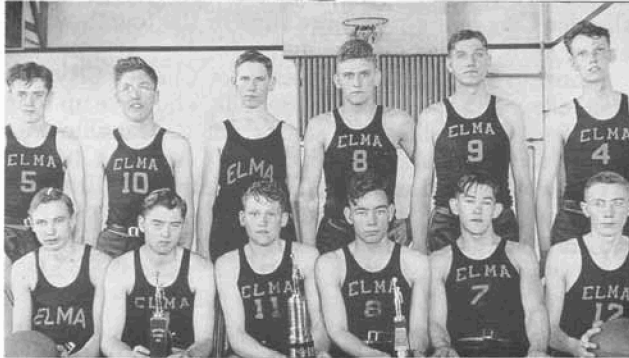
E.H.S. 1935-36 Baseball Team. Back row: Bill Diekmann, Ralph Cook, Victor Johlas, Dale Hart, Don Morris, Lee Elwood, and Mr. Lyford. Front row: John Schwake, George Haberman, Don Fausnaugh, Albert Billington, Duane Hayes, Arlyn Gesell, and Bob Hayes.



I.C.A. 1936 First Grade. Back row: Max McGrane, Corky Stute, Ronnie Kelly, Jerry Mealy, Art Joerger, Jack Sullivan. Front row: Jack Hastings, Francis Ott, Jack Hayden, Lee Klobassa, Coach—Greg Peters.



I.C. Boys Basketball Team—1945. Back row: Father Ronald Axen, Dale Showalter, Francis Ott, Jack Burns, Corky Stute, Paul Younker. Middle row: Jack Sullivan, Alfred Kobliska, Carl Richmond, Joe Heineman, Jack Hayden, Cheerleaders—Gerald Gansen and Frances Riley.



E.H.S. Basketball Team—1942. Back row: Jack McAvoy, Dick Robison, Duane Fuller, Bob Schroeder, Jim Robison, and Bill Finch. Front row: Curt Thomsen, Bill Mealy, Dale Schroeder, Gaylord Carter, Ray Reinhart and John Thomsen.



I.C. Boys Baseball Team—1945. Back row: Leroy Mohrfeld, George Lammers, Father Ronald Axen, Joe Chihak, and Dale Showalter. Front row: Carl Richmond, Jack Hayden, Corky Stute, Jack Burns, and Joe Heineman.



Elma Town Baseball Team—1945. Front row: Ed Beecher, Charlie Jones, Gene Meyer, Jack McAvoy, Joe McAvoy, Dan Showalter. Back row: Mike Meyer, Earl Billington, Corky Stute, Don Rimrodt, Venie Spaulding, Walt Tierney and Jack Kozlen.



I.C. High School 1945 Girls Basketball Team. Back row: Mary Jane Beecher, Dolores Younker, Luva Richmond, Carmella Althof, Norma Berry, Bonnie Grandpre and Coach Father Ronald Axen. Front row: Lois Oliver, Terry Lammers, Georgine Klobassa, Helen Kuhn, Mary Ann Busch, Avis Balk, and Rose Marie Sullivan.



I.C. Girls Basketball Team—1946. Back row: Doris Conway, Rita Shannon, Dolores Younker, Luva Richmond, Mary Ann Busch, Carmella Althof, Avis Balk, Father Ronald Axen. Middle row: Mary Oliver, Mary Thompson, Helen Kelly, Lucille Stevens, Anna Kohles, Terry Lammers. Front row: Marlys Mohrfeld, Lois Oliver.



I.C. Boys Basketball Team—1946. Back row: David Pospichal, Corky Stute, Jack Sullivan, Carl Richmond, and Father Ronald Axen. Front row: Joe McAvoy, Wayne LaPree, Francis Ott, Gerald Gansen, Jack Hayden, Bob Showalter.



E.H.S. Girls Basketball Team—1948. Back row: Wanda Roethler, Beverly Kirchner, Verna Maseman, Shirley Harms, Jeanette Meyer, Isabel Bueckman. Front row: Marie Boderman, Betty Roethler, Maxine Laue, Marilyn Darrah, Mary Kirchner, Coach Norbert Groth



1948 Lourdes Baseball Team. Front row: Cecil Conry, Bert Hoffman, Hoop Steimetz, Emil Dybevik. Middle: Floyd Moses, Clarence Kostka, Jim Hyke, Ed Kubik, and Amby O'Brien. Back: Dick Zak, Harlen Benson, Merrill Benson, Shorty Amble, Doc Evkerman and John Wacha Jr. Manager.



1948—Wanda and Betty Roethler, basketball players for EHS. Betty won the free throw contest at the district level, with a chance to compete at state level.

Juniors Score Win at Charles City Sunday

The Elma Junior baseball team downed the Charles City Juniors there Sunday afternoon by a 10 to 5 score.

Six scores in the fourth by Elma put the game on ice and broke the hearts of the Charles City lads. The Elma boys connected for four hits, one triple, a double and two singles, and this aided by three passes and a wild pitch netted them six runs.

Mick Sobolik opened the game for Charles City in the first with a home run and scored another run in the third on doubles by Ory Sietsma and Sobolik. Three Elma errors, two walks, and only one hit gave the Charles City lads three more runs in the fourth which ended their scoring for the game.

Manship started on the mound for Charles City but was relieved in the fourth by Sobolik who gave up four hits, issued 3 walks, and struck out 2. Manship was nicked for 5 hits and walked 2.

Conway worked on the hill for Elma and allowed 9 hits, walked 1 and struck out 2.

Lentz had a perfect day at the plate for Elma by connecting safely three times in three trips to the plate.

Box Score:

Elma	AB	R	H	E
Bob Corrick, 3b	5	1	1	2
Jim Johnson, cf	3	2	1	0
Ed Conway, p	5	1	3	0
Don Rosonke, lf	5	0	1	0
Leslie Miller, 1b	3	0	0	2
Rimrodt, ss	4	0	0	1
Buhr, c	1	3	0	0
Adolph Ludwig, 2b	3	1	1	0
Linus Lentz, rf	3	2	3	0

Batting averages of 3 or more games:

Brandmill .400
Lentz .292
Conway .266
Corrick .196
Johnson .160
Miller .160
Rosenke .150
Ludwig .090

From 1955 newspaper.



Elma Junior Legion in the 1950s. Back row: Tom Corrick, John Lentz, Jim Prochaska, Jack Brandmill, Duane Rimrodt, Les Miller, Ron Schroeder, and Coach Denny Brandmill. Front row: Bob Corrick, Ed Conway, Jim Johnson, Ron Rosonke, Don Rosonke, Bill Chihak, and Jim Chihak.

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
presents
THE 1956 SECTIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNEY
FEBRUARY 20, 21, 22, 24, 25
LIME SPRINGS, IOWA

1956
ELMA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Elma, Iowa

D. Brandmill, Superintendent
Don Frost, Coach

School Colors: Black and Gold
School Song: "On Wisconsin"

Manager: Adolph Ludwig

Cheerleaders: Wanda Schroeder, Betty Hinz,
and Jean Cook

Season's Record: Won 9; Lost 8

PLAYERS	NUMBER	YEAR
Les Miller	32	Jr.
Ed Tonjes	30	Jr.
Jack Brandmill	33	Jr.
Jim Johnson	23	Soph.
Ron Schroeder	22	Soph.
Carl Havlik	21	Fr.
Bill Havlik	20	Soph.
Ray Havlik	31	Sr.
Jim Prochaska	24	Fr.
Cal Wood	25	Fr.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
Elma, Iowa

Rev. Urban Churchill, Superintendent
Rev. John W. Moran, Coach

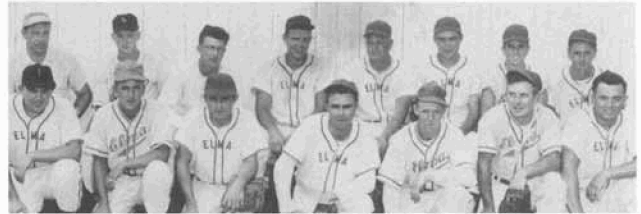
School Colors: Blue and White

School Song: Notre Dame Victory March
Cheerleaders: Betty Burke, Norma Gansen,
Norbert Gansen

Season's Record: Won 13, Lost 6

PLAYERS	NUMBER		YEAR
	Blue	White	
Matt Biber	11	51	Sr.
Francis Nibaur	4	43	Sr.
Joe McGrane	1	54	Sr.
Ed Conway	12	44	Jr.
Roger Nibaur	8	45	Jr.
Ronald Rosonke	6	52	Jr.
Donald Rosonke	9	55	Jr.
Virgil Zeimetz	2	50	Jr.
LeRoy Roethler	3	53	Jr.
Robert Corrick	10	41	Soph.
Roger Zeimetz	5	42	Soph.
Linus Lentz, Student Mgr.			

Elma I.C. lost in the first rounds to Lime Springs, and Elma Public defeated Chester and lost to Lime Springs, who went on to win the tournament.



1956 Champions of Tri-County League—Elma Blue Jays. Back row, left to right: Manager—Bob Conway, Don Burke, Julian Kostka, Ronald Hoffman, Joe McAvoy, Bob Hoffman, Jack Kozlen, Jack McAvoy. Front row: Adolph Ludwig, Ed Chihak, Bob Voves, Vel Voves, Don Boehmer, Tom Gebel, and Dick Gebel.



1957 I.C. Basketball Girls. Back row: Kathy Zeimetz, Deann Elliott, Sharon Lohuis, Charlotte Lentz, Mary Ann Bayer, Francis Hartogh, Pat Conway, Carol Riley, and Louise Meirick. Front: Marilee Conway, Judy Stapleton, Linda Conway, Sharon Beecher, Diane Kinnamon.



1960 I.C. Baseball Team. Back row: Father Tom Purtell—Coach, Jim Stapleton, Dan Lentz, Mike Meirick, Dick Fausnaugh and Chuck Riley. Front row: Gary Burke, Dave Lammers, Danny Jacoby, Lindy Beecher, Tom Corrick, and LaVern McGrane.



1960 EHS Howard Winneshiek Conference Champions—Boys Basketball. Front row: Gary Rimrodt, Max Schmidt, John Prochaska, Elroy Streich, Larry Newhouse, and Dennis Tierney. Back row: Coach Gene Rima, Merle Hinz, John Austin, Joe Friedhoff, Bob Streich, Dick Schroeder, and Student Manager Jim Hubka.



1962 Boys Baseball Little League. Front row, left to right: Chuck Johnson, Gary Klobassa, Dennis Murphy, Ron Tierney, Gary Acker, Russ Murphy, and Dave Rimrodt. Middle row: Dennis Stevenson, Pat Fair, Mike Heying, Brice Stevenson, and Creighton Roethler. Back row: Roger Palmersheim, Mike Birmingham, Tom Gardner, Jack Schroeder, Dennis Friedhoff, and Coach Dick Fausnaugh.



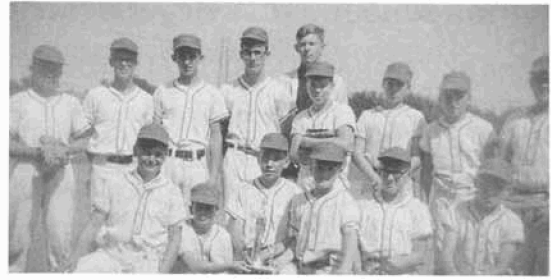
1963 I.C. Boys Basketball Team. Front row: George Fogarty, Tom Gardner, Gene Havlik, Tom Chambers, Roger Fogarty, Ralph Klobassa, Tom Schroeder. Back row: Father Tom Purtell—Coach, Leo Fair, Dan Lentz, Don Conway, John Gansen, Denny Jacoby, and Jim Fangman.



Elma I.C. Baseball Team—1966. Front row: Creighton Roethler, Alan Sullivan, Roger Palmersheim, Francis Chihak, John Kelly, and Russell Murphy. Back row: Mike Palmersheim, Dean Schroeder, Greg Gardner, Dick Fausnaugh—Coach, Mike Sullivan, Mike Heying, Mike Birmingham, and Steve Murphy.



1968 Elma I.C. Basketball Team. Back row: Mary Palmersheim, Vince Fangman, Mike Ries, Coach Dick Fausnaugh, Mike Heying, Creighton Roethler, Mike Sullivan, Carol Chihak. Middle row: Maureen Meirick, John Helfter, Dan Kobliska, Dean Schroeder, Neil Rubly. Front row: Patty Enright, Dennis Murphy, Joe Kobliska, Karla Fausnaugh, Val Enloe, and Mary Kay Kobliska.



Elma Little League—1968. Back row: Jerry Heying, Mike Palmersheim, Steve Beaston, Charles Enright, Coach Creighton Roethler, Dan Cashman, Rick Benson, Charles Garmen. Front row: Bill Sullivan, Steve Murphy, Pete Chihak, Steve Kobliska, Mike Biber, and Ed Platte.



Elma Girls Ball Team—1985. Coach Rick Heying, Angie McGrane, Kim Kolbet, Tammy Fangman, Karen Lentz, Kim Zeimetz. Front row: Brenda Lentz, Lori Cotant, LeAnn Reetz, Connie Stevenson, LeAnn Voves.



Elma Boys Baseball—1985. Back row: Coach Rick Heying, Andy Lentz, Brian Streich, Tom McGrane. Middle: David Gansen, Ted Smith, Steven Gansen, Mikel Johnson, and Jarvis Whiting. Front: Randy Voves, Stacy Reetz, Steve Lentz, Jason Whiting.

HENRY MILLER

Carpenter, Contractor and Mover

Call on me for Estimates. Plans and Specifications
Furnished.

ELMA, IOWA



Class Play 1928—The class of 1928 on the stage in the I. C. Hall on west Main Street. The name of the play was the "Gold Bug" according to cast member, Ralph Biwer. Pictured is Ralph Biwer, Irene Shanley, Gertrude Clynych, Elizabeth McAuliff, Irving O'Dowd, Earl McGrane, Willis Riley, Kathryn Casey, Frank Gardner, Ed Rubly, John Chihak, and James Gilligan. Seated is Dorothy Birmingham, Al O'Donnell, Marie O'Brien and Virgil Sullivan.



Womanless Wedding Picture Lineup. (Top row)—Coley Foley, Albert Francis, Gaylord Robison, Lou Diekmann, Jerry Conway, Chas. Sullivan, H. D. Cook, Carl Weber, Fred Biwer, Dinsmore Brandmill, Norbert O'Donnell, Walter Diekmann, Stranger in town, Georgie Keefe, Ned Parker, John Beecher, Professor Stuck, Tony Zobeck, Victor Streich, Bill Regan and John Gesell. (Second row from top)—Frank Howard, Swetzer, Raymond Hill, Ed Spaulding, Boofer Ball, Loven Weber, Robley Evans, Young McGrane, Ed Conway, Joe Stack, Husky Gansen, Dr. E. O. Longstreth, Dr. J. C. Hastings, Clarence Mantz, Cass Weber, George Beaumaster, Mark Cavanaugh, Bert Keefe, Ed Showalter, Alvin Gross, Elroy Miller, Clem Kelly, Hiney Kennedy, Bill Lamprecht, Alphonso McLaughlin. (Second row from bottom)—Vern O'Neil, Mike Cashman, Tom Kennedy, Dan Noonan, Louis O'Toole, Al O'Donnell, Lynn Markham, Ed Krugman, Andy Mead, Oliver Whetstone, Bob Mealy, Mr. Novy, John Mahoney, Ed Sayers. (Bottom row)—Eugene Parker, Pete McGrane, Fred Gitzy, Fred Sixbury, Maurice Silver, Wesley Howard, Aaron Diestler, Jerome Foley, Ed Richmond, Joe O'Donnell, Clem Enright, Leo Heineman, Reed Elwood, Hiram Erion, Earl Kelly, Baumgardner (Barber), August Unger, George Evans, Harold Kelly, and Dan Conway.

Program
Elma Festival, August 16

1. Accordion Solo Arthur VanVyve, Elma
2. Tap Dance Kay and Karen Fausnaugh, Lime Springs
3. Baton Twirling Patty Hastings and Jim Sullivan, Osage
4. Vocal Solo Judy Hart, Elma
5. Western Music Tlusty Brothers, Elma
6. Charleston "Miss New Hampton" Lois Hill
7. Vocal Duet DuWayne Kirchner and Jim Johnson, Elma
8. Tap Dance Joey Whiting, Elma
9. Two Accordions Alta Vista "Misses"
10. Vocal Solo Mrs. Harold Thiele, Elma

11. Dance Elenz and Heying from out of this world
12. Baton Twirling Sandra Gesell, Elma
13. Vocal Quartette Tom Palmersheim, John Lentz, Joe and Jim McGrane, Elma
14. Pantomine Artist . . . Vernon Laures, New Hampton
15. "The Madelons"
Chorus Line New York
16. The "Beatniks"

The Civic Betterment League wishes to thank everyone who has helped in any way to make our Festival a good one, the talented people who have performed here are especially thanked and deserve your best applause for their excellent acts.

Lylah's Marsh

Starting as low wasteland along the Little Wapsipicon River, Lylah's Marsh has become a conservation area for this community.

The Marsh was named in memory of Ward Cook's wife, Lylah. Mr. Cook donated twenty acres of land in 1959; and the Howard County Conservation Board, in cooperation with the Elma Sportsman's Club, bought ten more tillable acres at \$200 per acre to plant trees.

A dam was built to keep the water in the form of a lake. The dam washed out in 1961 and was repaired only to wash out again in 1963. Once again, the Elma Sportsman Club in league with the Howard County Conservation Board purchased thirty more acres for the total price of \$400.

These conservationists put in a soil cement waterway and a new dam. The waterway was 390 feet long with water running over the top. The two ways to cross the marsh are by boat or by crossing over the waterway. Many people, especially the younger ones, enjoy running across the waterway in the cool, clear, running water.

Dikes, 450 feet long and 5 feet higher than the water should ever rise, were built at each end of the new Soil-Cement Waterway.

By 1970, Lylah's Marsh could boast of 155 acres of game reserve domain and recreational realm. Sixty of the 155 acres were superimposed by clear water from a perpetual source. Continuous flow of water into a 20 feet wide, 390 feet long basin with a 12 feet drop, churns the water so that the waterway won't wash out.

Plans have been tried and tested through the years to make a recreational area of the lake. Attempts to make a beach for swimming have been met with poor

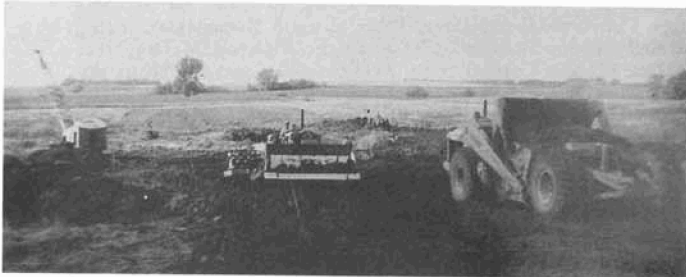
results, due to heavy silting. A proposal to make a boat ramp but restrict "no motors," has never been completed, nor was the idea for "bath houses." Two shelter houses, playground equipment and picnic tables are provided for a sunny afternoon. Vandalism has caused the need to replace one of the shelters, and to discontinue the lighting of the camping area. Much of the area that was mowed has been allowed to go back to natural habitat as the area is resorting to a game area more than a recreational facility.

At the south gate is a plaque inscribed: J. "Ding" Darling Memorial Forest, this 2,000,000th tree planted and dedicated by the Howard County Conservation Board with the assistance of R. W. Daubendick, Conservationist, Frank Church, Chairman. June 3, 1962.

This draws your attention to one particular tree and to all the trees planted throughout this conservation area and many others in our area.

In the last few years the area has been drained and vegetation planted to help provide cover for ducks. Because of soil erosion and no erosion management, the beach area has been abandoned. There were a few large mouth bass caught before the present silting problem, but fishing now yields chiefly carp and bullhead. It has become a good hunting area for wild geese and many species of duck and the increasing number of pheasants have lured hunters to camp-out at the lake at the opening of hunting season.

The Elma Sportsman Club planted evergreen trees at the south end of the marsh approximately seven years ago. Summer finds people of all ages going to the marsh for succulent red raspberries which ripen on the bushes there.



1960—Lylah's Marsh being landscaped and the dam constructed in the fall.

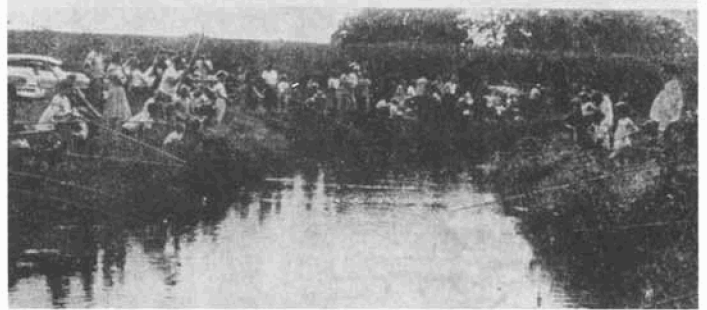




April, 1972—Arthur Frahm at the dam at Lylah's Marsh.



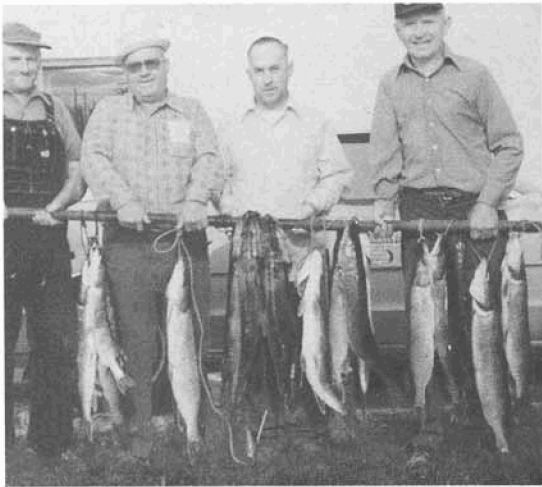
July 1954—The Elma Sportsman Club sponsored a fishing derby for community children. About 500 youngsters fished a well-stocked creek north of town for some of the 2000 bullheads released there a few days prior to the derby.



What a catch! Fred Pierce with his whopper.



1967 fishermen—Linus Lentz, Earl Kelly, Ed Novak, Arnold Maravetz with their catch at the Genoa, Wisconsin Dam on the Mississippi River.



May 1978—Ed Novak, Reuben Tuchek, Louie Tuchek, Arnold Maravetz at Lynxville, Iowa Dam.



A crew of deer hunters. (Back row)—Jim Conway, Kenneth Schroeder, Harold Stapleton, Harlan Hyberger. (Front row)—Don Blocker, Hubert Zweibohmer, Joe Chihak, Jr.



Shannon Quarry in 1944 after a spring thaw.



The Elma viaduct filled with snow.



The Elma viaduct flooded. Note the wooden sidewalks.



Later years, the viaduct flooded.



Car emerged in water. "Who would believe the water would be this deep?" In the background, to the left, is the Elma Locker (at one time, the Opera House).



West Main Street, looking west, water backed up Main Street from the flooded viaduct. Early 1960's.



Tom Zobeck and his "Cat."



1965 Flood on Elm Street. House, clearly pictured is the Arlyn Weers home.



Vincent Lentz and his dragline.

"Grandma's Attic"

I climbed into the attic to look in Grandma's trunk,
Though Ma had said, "Don't bother child, 'tis only full
of junk."

I slowly raised the lid and gazed with awe.
There, carefully folded, lay the suit, first worn by Pa.
And Grandma's brown silk wedding dress,
so soft and fine, like a caress.

A silly little hat with ruff and plume,
'twas worn by Grandma, I presume.

A sleeping doll with hair of gold.
It belonged to Mama, I was told.
I picked her up, eyes opened wide,
Hugging her to me, "Ma Ma" she cried.

Shoes so high with buttoned rows
like now, they were the pointed toes.
Nestled in tissue, snugly lies

A couple of Grandpa's real wide ties.

Then, to the bottom of the trunk I came.
There lay love letters, a gold leaf frame,
a lock of hair, a garnet wedding ring.

I softly closed the lid. My heart did sing.

—Lucinda J. Stratton
Elma, Iowa



(Left to right)—Joe Menges, Hazel Hastings, Dr. Carter, Luella Menges, Claire Garmen, Virg Kinnamon, Mildred Carter, Charles Garmen.



(Standing)—Millie Lentz, Bernie Maravetz. (Seated)—Helen Diesburg, Olga Loftus, Vi Tuchek, Irene Klobassa, Donna Vick, Mary Gansen.