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# THE PLATTSMOUTH JOURNAL

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## Independence Day



Have a Good Time July 4th Weekend... But Be Careful!

## Who Put Fireworks in The Fourth of July?

Who put the fireworks in the Fourth of July?

Much of the credit goes to John Adams, according to the World Book Encyclopedia. The Founding Father declared that Independence Day "ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for evermore."

So from that time forward, the birthday of the U.S. has been marked by brilliant explosions of color and noise... and the deaths and accidents that invariably accompany them.

Americans, however, got the idea for fireworks from Europeans, who got the idea from the Arabs, who merely copied the Chinese.

In 1322 A.D., when a Chinese city was besieged by Mongols, the defenders cooked up a batch of saltpeter, sulfur and charcoal and frightened their attackers with "arrows of flying fire."

Arabs were quick to copy these weapons, which probably were rockets. The Crusaders brought them back to Europe, where the Italians discovered that they made fancy exhibitions as well as formidable weapons.

By the time fireworks spread to England and France, figures and structures of wood and plaster had been added.

In 1520, when Henry VIII met Francis I on the Field of the Cloth of Gold in northern France, the historic moment was celebrated by the appearance of a huge dragon that thundered across the sky breathing fire.

By the 1600's, fireworks had developed into such an art that two schools of thought had arisen to argue over methods of display.

The Southern School, centered in Italy, concentrated on building elaborate structures such as castles and temples, from which the fireworks were exploded. The technique of setting off the fireworks was shrouded in mystery.

The Northern School, influenced by the Protestant movement in Germany, thought the Italian procedure too austere. The Northerners exhibited their fireworks before the show, for all to admire and then made them the important part of the display.

While the two schools fumed over their firecrackers, fireworks crossed the Atlantic and became an American institution.

## Don't Be Independent On Roads!

"The Fourth of July is Independence Day, but the driver who gets too independent on the road may find himself in an accident or in the custody of the Patrol."

This warning was given to motorists today by Col. C. J. Saunders who said, "The Safety Patrol will be making an all-out effort to see that traffic accidents will not mar this year's Independence Day celebration."

National accident records show that traffic deaths and injuries usually reach a peak for the summer on July 4. However, Nebraska recorded no traffic deaths on the Fourth of July last year. Six deaths is the high for a July 4th weekend in Nebraska, which occurred in 1954.

"Specifically," Col. Saunders said, "fatigue from trying to cover too many miles during the Fourth weekend, excessive speed and drinking, and improper passing are contributory factors in holiday accidents. The Patrol will center their attention on these violations with the aid of aircraft and radar."

### Indoors Picnic

The Rotary Club had its annual family picnic Tuesday night at the Methodist Church. The event had been scheduled at Merritt's Beach before weather interfered. Ladies of the church served fried chicken dinner

## Rob't Hodgson Of St. Luke's Is Ordained

Historic Christ Episcopal Church, which was founded at Sidney in 1879, was the scene of the first ordination in its 80-year existence on St. Peter's Day, June 29.

The Right Rev. Howard R. Brinker, Bishop of Nebraska, celebrated the Holy Eucharist and officiated at the ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons of Robert Everett Hodgson, candidate for Holy Orders from Christ Church, and of Terence Edward Keefe, candidate for Holy Orders from St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Lincoln.

Mr. Hodgson, who graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1956, recently completed the three years post-graduate course in theology which Episcopal Church Canon Law requires, at Seabury - Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., where he was granted the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.



Robert E. Hodgson

Mr. Hodgson is Deacon-in-Charge of St. Luke's Parish in Plattsmouth.

Mr. Keefe completed his theological education at Berkely Divinity School, New Haven, Conn. Mr. Keefe is to be Deacon-in-Charge of St. Hilda's Mission in Kimball.

The Bishop's Chaplain was Mr. Waldo Dearing, former Senior Warden of Christ Church Parish.

The following Clergy of the Diocese assisted the Bishop at the celebration: Presenters — The Rev. Chas. Fred Parks for Mr. Hodgson and The Rev. James L. Stilwell for Mr. Keefe; Prefacist—The Rev. Clyde E. Whitney, rector of St. Andrew's Church, Scottsbluff; Preacher—The Rev. Lloyd Metheny, Rector of Holy Apostles Church, Mitchell; Litanist—The Rev. Tom Johnson, rector of St. Matthew's Church, Alliance; Epistoler—The Rev. William A. Cross, rector of Holy Trinity Church, Lincoln; Gospeller—The Rev. Robert E. Hodgson, Dean - in charge of St. Luke's Church, Plattsmouth; and Master of Ceremonies, The Rev. James L. Stilwell, Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Lincoln.

## L. B. Todd, Murray Heads Aberdeen-Angus Breeders

The Southeast Nebraska Aberdeen Angus Breeders Association held its annual meeting Friday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Railsback near Lincoln.

The officers of the group were re-elected for the ensuing year: president, L. B. Todd, Murray; vice president, Glen Railsback, Lincoln, and Walter Neeman, Dunbar, secretary - treasurer and sales manager.

New members of the board of directors are Lloyd Clark of Auburn, John Tucker of Lincoln, Richard Brunner of David City. Other board members are Jack Todd, Murray, Vern Moody of Auburn and Edward Howe, Humboldt.

The annual March sale will be held at Lincoln. The group will hold its annual picnic in August at Wauonsie Park for members and their friends.



1939 CLASS REUNION — Members of Plattsmouth High, Class of 1939, who were here Saturday are, left to right: back — Don McPherson, Tom Solomon, Dale Nearhood, Virgil Stander, Don Wall, Keith Elliott, LeRoy Wilson, Don Burcham, Elmore Brink, Dale Jackson; second row—Dorothea Fulton, Betty Valley, Rosemary Steppat, Maxine Thimijahn, Mary McCarroll, Maxine Nielsen, Shirley Jacobs, Opal Byers, Alice Grosshans, Anna Austin, John Tidball, Helen Sikora, John Jacobs, Warren Reed, Bob Hayes, Bill Armstrong, Jim Sandin; front row—Anna McMaken, Vivian Warner, Mary Kvapil, Kathleen Nolte, Juanita Wood and Alma Moore. (Those arriving too late for the picture but attending the reunion, Stuart Sedlak, Hazel Kelley, Frances Hadraba, Norma Johnson and Don Akeson.)

## Prizes Offered Public During 'Ridikus Daze'

If you think last year's Ridikus Daze were a bit on the balmy side, you've some real surprises coming, according to Bill Knorr and Herb Freeburg, co-chairmen of planning the event.

This year's "fun shopping days" will be opened Friday, with a Ridiculous Parade with prizes for the most Ridiculous "get-up". The competition is open to the public. Three prizes will be offered \$5.00, \$3.00 and \$2.00 for the most ridiculous costumes.

The event will close Saturday evening, July 11 with a Crazy Auction. At that time, all merchandise that merchants have previously displayed at their side walk counters and remaining unsold will be offered at auction.

Tentative plans are for the auctioneers and buyers to move from store front to store front for the climax of the two day event.

The Mrs. Jaycees "Sweet 16" will be crowned Friday morning and the Jaycees Carnival will be on the streets both days.

## Henry G. Klinger Dies After Long Failing Health

Henry George Klinger, 71, died at Omaha Monday, June 29. He had made his home there for the past four years, moving from Plattsmouth in 1956. Mr. Klinger was in failing health several years.

Mr. Klinger was born in Plattsmouth Jan. 28, 1888, son of George and Barbara Reeg Klinger. In this city, he grew to manhood and attended the local schools.

He was married Dec. 31, 1929, to Miss Jessie Cotner and they enjoyed many happy years together in this community.

Survivors are the wife; sister Mrs. Sophia McKinney of Brownville, Tex.; and a large number of nieces and nephews. Preceding him in death were his parents and a brother, George.

Mr. Klinger was engaged in various business activities while a resident here and also as a sheet metal smith with the U.P. Railroad for a number of years at the Omaha shops.

A man of very pleasant personality, he had made many friends in the community. He was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church of this city for years and the family had been active there.

Funeral services will be on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the chapel of the Sattler Funeral Home, Rev. G. E. Seybold of St. Paul's officiating. Interment will be at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Visiting hours will be this afternoon and tonight 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 at the chapel.

## 75 At Reunion Of Class of 1939

Welcome Flags on Main Street Saturday waved for the class of 1939, of the Plattsmouth High School, who met in the Lions Club Rooms for their first reunion since graduation 20 years ago.

Seventy-five husbands, wives and grads enjoyed a social time starting at 5:30 p.m., spent in renewing acquaintances and sipping old times.

At seven o'clock, fried chicken dinner, served by a local cafe was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Dorothea Fulton Roberts, offered the before-dinner blessing and asked for silent prayer honoring Harriett Case and Roy Hughes, deceased class members.

LeRoy Wilson introduced Mayor Grant Roberts who welcomed the class to the city and presented a symbolic key to class president Tom Solomon.

After introducing the class treasurer John Jacobs and class secretary Mrs. Frances Hadraba Cotner, Mr. Wilson presented a loved teacher of the group, past Supt. of Plattsmouth Public Schools, Lowell S. Devoe of Lincoln, who served as toastmaster of the evening.

Mr. Devoe's marvelous memory of faces, tales of the past, stories and anecdotes were a constant source of enjoyment throughout the evening.

Mrs. Maxine Nielsen Bowman read the class roll of 20 years ago and Mrs. Alice Jayne Grosshans McShane read the class prophesy.

Each member present introduced his spouse and gave a thumbnail sketch of his life.

Warren Reed, Denver, read aloud all letters and telegrams received from members unable to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hayes were honored for coming the longest distance to attend, traveling from Columbia Station, Ohio. Having the largest families were three grads with five children each, Warren Reed, Mrs. Mary McCarroll Smock and Mrs. Juanita Wood Larson.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Kiel, Omaha (Maxine Thimijahn) were married longest, their 20th wedding anniversary to be observed this coming December and Mr. and Mrs. Grant Roberts (Dorothea Fulton) running a close second with a 20th anniversary in February.

By motion, the class decided to dissolve the Harriett Case Award as of this year. Plans were made to celebrate a silver reunion in five years with the same committee in charge. Dues of \$1 per year are to be paid to meet expenses.

Mrs. Roberts was presented to the group and she expressed the sentiment of the class toward Mr. Devoe and gave a personal message received from Mrs. Clara Weyrich who was prevented at the last minute from attending due to the illness of her brother.

Mrs. Roberts recognized her co-chairman Roy Wilson and was lavish in her praise for the committee for unusual cooperation and interest shown. Committee members are Tom Solomon, Don Burcham, Jayne McShane, Maxine Bowman, Don Wall and Mary Smock.

The evening's entertainment was concluded with a collection of old time school days snapshots and recent snapshots of the children of the grads being projected on a wall screen by Dale Bowman.

The grads enjoyed being together, as most of the group remained past midnight visiting and enjoying the fellowship and looking over keepsakes from school days displayed on the "memories table."

Those in attendance were grateful for the hospitality shown them by the Chamber of Commerce and the entire city.

Those listed on the class roll of 1939 are as follows:

Donald Akeson, Charles Armstrong, Mary Ault, Anna Austin, Theodore Baker Jr., Homer Barton, Alice Bennett, John Bestor, Elmore Brink, Donald Burcham, Opal Byers, Veda Capps, Willis Chandler, Helen Dieter, Keith Elliott, Dorothea Fulton, Eleanor Giles, Emilie Gradoville, Alice Grosshans, Frances Hadraba, Ruth Haft, Robert Hayes, Roy Hughes,

## Candidate for Sweet 16 Queen



Lois Kellison

Miss Lois Kellison, above, is one of the seven candidates for Sweet 16 Queen here. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Kellison.

Other candidates in the Mrs. Jaycees-sponsored contest are Dorothy Farris, Eileen Porter, Sharon Davis, Susan Sharp, Janet Jacobs and Carolyn Vinduska.

Bernard Jackson, Dale Jackson, John Jacobs, Betty Jasper, Shirley Jacobs, Gloria Johnson, Norma Johnson,

Hazel Kelley, Mary Kvapil, Theodore Libershal, John Livingston, Edythe Lushinsky, Mary McCarroll, Ann McMaken, Donald McPherson, Doris McPherson, Clarence Mayab, Alma Moore,

Dale Nearhood, Maxine Nielsen, Kathleen Nolte, Charlotte Palmer,

Ronald Rebal, Warren Reed, Barbara Rhoden,

James Sandin, Stuart Sedlak, Helen Sikora, Thomas Solomon, Barbara Stander, Virgil Stander, Rose Steppat, Margaret Sylvester,

Charles Tasler, Dorothy Thimijahn, John Tidball, Dorothea Toman, Kathryn Tschirren, Betty Valley,

Donald Wall, Vivian Warner, James Webb, Janet Westover, Stephen Wiles, LeRoy Wilson, Norma Wood, Juanita Wood, Robert Yelick.

## Standings In Queen Contest:

Mrs. Lloyd Fitch and Mrs. Harold Smock, co-chairmen for the Plattsmouth Mrs. Jaycees' Sweet 16 Queen Contest, today announced the standings of the voting for the Queen. Voting as of early this morning resulted as follows:

Carolyn Vinduska	1st
Eileen Porter	2nd
Janet Jacobs	3rd
Lois Kellison	4th
Dorothy Farris	5th
Sharon Davis	6th
Susan Sharp	7th

Voting will continue through Thursday, July 9, and the crowning of the Queen will take place Friday morning, July 10, immediately following the Chamber of Commerce Ridiculous Days Parade.

Everyone wishing to vote for a particular girl may still do so, and you may call either Mrs. Fitch, 9240, or Mrs. Smock at 7263 for the location of the containers for voting.

More voting results will be announced in Monday's edition of the Journal but none will be published after that until the crowning of the Queen.

Remember, the co-chairmen remind, you can help one of the girls become Sweet 16 Queen and also help the Mrs. Jaycees. Proceeds from the voting will be used by that organization for charity contributions and local projects.

## Homer H. Shrader Dies at Home In Murray Monday

Homer H. Shrader, 75, member of one of the pioneer families of Cass county, died suddenly on Monday at the family home in Murray. Mr. Shrader has been a sufferer from a heart ailment for several years.

He was born August 26, 1883 son of George and Isabel Hutchinson Shrader at the farm home of his pioneer parents south of Plattsmouth, and has spent his life time in this community.

Homer was married on June 20, 1905 at Plattsmouth to Bertha Seybold, daughter of one of the early day families of the Murray community. The family has made their home in that community since marriage. Mr. Shrader engaged in farming until his retirement in 1946 when he retired and moved into Murray.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Mae Burk, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Velma Rea, Plattsmouth; one son, Forest Shrader, Lincoln; five grandchildren, eight great grandchildren.

Also surviving are four sisters, Mrs. Georgia Creamer, Plattsmouth; Mrs. Lulu Wolfe, Murray; Mrs. Jennie Klimm, Plattsmouth; Mrs. Verna Rhoden, Plattsmouth.

Mr. Shrader was widely known for this portion of Cass county and a gentleman who possessed a large circle of friends who will share with the family the sorrow that his passing has brought.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the chapel of the Sattler funeral home. Rev. Joseph Barr and Rev. Victor Schwarz of Murray officiating.

Burial will be at Oak Hill cemetery.

## Mrs. Leslie Schmidt Dies at Red Cloud

Mrs. Leslie Schmidt of 301 Hillcrest died Tuesday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Niles at Red Cloud. She had been a sufferer from cancer and had been hospitalized for some time but later was taken to the parents' home.

Survivors are the husband, Leslie, and two children, Patsy and Tommy of this city.

During her four years residence here, Mrs. Schmidt made many friends as she was very active in the societies of the Presbyterian Church as well as in PTA.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Red Cloud with Rev. Keith DeLap of the First Presbyterian Church of this city officiating.



MEMBERS OF THE BASKETBALL team of 1939 posed for a picture at the reunion Saturday. Left to right are John Jacobs, Bob Hayes, Warren Reed, John Tidball and Don Wall.

THE WEATHER  
June 22, 23, 1959

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Monday	80	56	.00
Tuesday	57	53	1.10

Forecast: High under 60's. Cloudy through tonight. Warm - temperatures Thursday. Sun sets tonight at 8:01; rises Thursday at 4:55.