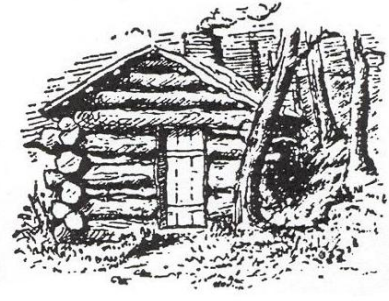


**JUNIOR
PIONEERS**
OF NEW ULM AND VICINITY



The Junior Pioneers purpose is to "keep green the memory of the early pioneers who settled New Ulm and the vicinity; and to preserve as much as possible the usages and customs, language and ideals of the early settlers..."

Vol. 29 / No. 1

JUNIOR PIONEER NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017

***All Junior Pioneers and guests!!!
Let's take a field trip to Schell's Star Kellar!!!***



Junior Pioneers Winter Social

Star Kellar,

2215 North Garden, New Ulm

Saturday, February 25

5:15 Social Hour – 6:00 Dinner and Program

Cost: \$30 per person



This new building, located at 2215 North Garden (right past Runnings!) is now an all sour brewery--referred to as the "Champagne of Beers". We will be having a catered dinner from Greenmill Restaurant right in the **beautiful** taproom. Following the meal, Junior Pioneer Member and Schell's descendant, Kyle Marti, will discuss the items in the facility and the history of Schell's Beer.

Take a step back in time....see the cypress wooden barrels.....and the beautiful way the Marti family incorporated the history of the brewery and of the land the Star Kellar is on....

This is a rare opportunity....so make your reservations today!

Seating is limited. (*Reservation information located on page 5*)

(*Building is all on one level--handicap accessible!*)

Help Junior Pioneers Go Electronic

Receive your newsletter electronically and help us communicate with you quick and easy via email.
Send your email address to juniorpioneers@nutelecom.net

Find Us

Find us and LIKE us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/JuniorPioneersofNewUlm
Or, Junior Pioneer Parks Blog: <http://juniorpioneerpark.wordpress.com>



*Deceased Members

Roberta Shipps (granddaughter of Jacob Nix)
Alys Daniels (Baumler family)

*New Members

<i>Name</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Maxwell Roehl	Roehl
Robert Ranweiler	Ranweiler/Faerber
John Schnobrich	Penning

*Memorials and Donations

Park Donation:

Pam Lynn	Gary & Ann Wiltscheck
Sharon Oswald Schamber	George & Sharon Glotzbach
Bill, Lori & Taylor Otis	

If we have forgotten or miss-credited anyone concerning; Memorials, Donations, Deceased Members or New Members, please notify the President Lori Otis at 507.359.2320 or any Board Member and we will correct it.

Dates to Remember

Summer Picnic: Thursday, June 22nd at Junior Pioneer Park
Annual Meeting: Saturday, September 30, 2017
More info will come later!

Park Report by Lori Otis, JP President/ Park Manager



We are moving onto the next phase at the park. Thank you to the volunteers for all their hard work, and thank you to the many members who have graciously donated funds to this great cause and beautiful park. The next phase will be to finish the gate that will connect to the new fence. We also will finish painting the shelter. Ultimately, when funds allow, we will have fencing that will border the river banks around the park. We continue to control buckthorn and have started to concentrate our efforts on the other side of the creek (the former Target side). We invite you all to stop out and enjoy Junior Pioneer Park!
(picture at left was the entrance decorated for the holidays!)

Submitted Story

Thank you to Keith Oswald for his submission of this article. If you would like to submit a historical or family story, please do so by emailing it to Lisa Besemer at lisabesemer@newulmtel.net.

My Great Grandfather's Letter--1850s

William Hummel

From the author: The following is an excerpt from my Memoirs which I published at Author House about five years ago. And last but not least, I acknowledge the debt owed my Great Grandfather William Hummel (who died in 1908) for writing the following after his voyage from Germany to the United States in 1844/45. I may have never attempted to write my story if his all too short message had not inspired me. So, in his own words:

"I was born in Neuffen, Oberamt Nürtingen, Königreich Württemberg, Germany on October 22, 1832 and subsequently spent my early years with my grandparents. From my seventh to twelfth year I attended public school until my parents took me along on their emigration to America. Up to that time, I had hardly known my parents.

The land trip to the Rhine river was agreeable, according to my idea. I believe that Mannheim in Baden was the end of the land trip. From there we traveled down the Rhine river to Rotterdam, Holland. At Rotterdam we had to wait two weeks before we were able to secure ship passage to New Orleans, because that was our destination.

We embarked on a large, three-masted American ship, together with over 300 emigrants from all parts of Germany. We were required to provide our own food; a certain quantity of provisions had to be furnished for every person in the family. When we were finally taken to the ship from the emigration house, we discovered that valuable articles of our wearing apparel had been stolen. After we were on board ship more pilfering started. All smoked meat that was not locked up was stolen by the sailors.

On December 24th our ship sailed from Elfurth Locks, Holland, into the English channel, where it had to lay at anchor over night. There we were overtaken by a terrific storm, and all of our ship's anchors were lost. Much damage also was done to our sails and masts. However, we were lucky to return to port where all damage was repaired, and we also recovered our anchors. But all this required three weeks. During this time we were not permitted to use any of our provisions, and we had to buy everything we needed. Those passengers who had no money, were given the most necessary provisions by the Hollanders.

Our next venture out of port was more fortunate. We negotiated the English channel without hindrance. All emigrants had to do their own cooking. This caused considerable trouble until we became accustomed to it. Finally everything went along smoothly.

The ocean voyage was long, made such by storms and high winds. When we finally arrived at New Orleans, we had spent 138 days on board ship. For a time the sailors, as well as the emigrants, had only pea soup to eat. A few of the ships that passed us on the ocean gave us some meat and flour to last until we landed on an island, where we secured sufficient provisions for the remainder of our voyage. On our ocean trip, 28 persons died and seven babies were born.

The forepart of March, 1845, we landed in New Orleans. After a brief stay there we boarded a river steamer for Cincinnati. There we secured work in an uncle's vineyard, until the grapes had been harvested. Then we returned with uncle to New Orleans where we sustained ourselves with trading in fruit and poultry.

Everything went well with us until my father succumbed to low fever, and almost all we had earned up to that time was lost. Mother was left with all four sons of whom I was the oldest and able to earn enough money to help out. I secured employment in a trade store receiving \$8 a month plus room and board.

Later I was sent to Cincinnati to learn a trade. My uncle apprenticed me to a harness maker. A short time later cholera broke out in the city and vicinity in a disease which gripped the people, and most business came to a

standstill forcing me to have to look for other work, no small matter under the circumstances. I did not want to burden my relatives so I wandered around the city for many days until a trunk maker employed me as his apprentice to learn his trade. I was to receive \$2 per week and board. The man, a devout Christian, proved to be very careful with money.

I received a five-franc note every Saturday with the promise of getting the balance soon, a difference of \$1.75 a week. That arrangement left me with too little to pay for my room and my landlord did not want to continue to write it 'on the cuff' and I was unable to get any more from my employer. Fortunately I found employment in another business where I received enough to pay off some of what I owed my landlord every week. That helped a lot although it left me with no surplus and naturally my wardrobe was very limited and I could buy only the most necessary wearing apparel. Stockings and underwear could no longer be considered then. As time went on, however, my situation improved and I was able to dress better.

In 1850, I became a member of the Cincinnati Turner Society which allowed my love for German customs to become reawakened, for I had forgotten much of my German, having lived mostly amongst English speaking people.

The principles of the Turner Society were mostly new to me, but they met with my approval, especially the advocacy of intellectual freedom. From that time on I was employed mostly on river steamers on the Ohio and Mississippi, as travel then was restricted mostly to the rivers. It was possible to earn more money at this work than in the city, and I also had an opportunity to become acquainted with the country and its people.

In 1852, I arrived in St. Louis, where I found several families of maternal relatives. They persuaded me to give up my steamer life and to accept employment in the city. I was well received there, and remained in St. Louis for six months. I also became a member of the first Turner Society in St. Louis.

In September, accompanied by two young people of my relationship, I went to Chicago, which at that time was the City of the future. I found employment immediately with good pay. I also joined the Chicago Turner Society at once. It was organized but a few months previously and had hardly 25 members. Of these, barely ten men were experienced in calisthenics. The members soon noticed that I was far ahead of them, as regards practical gymnastics, and elected me as their leader in gym exercises. I served two full years in that capacity. From then on the Society enjoyed a great success in calisthenics, as well as a large increase in membership, and the best support of German customs and manners in Chicago.

The first masquerade ball in Chicago was sponsored by the Turner Society and proved a great success, without interference from "know-nothings", although they had threatened to forcibly prevent the festivities.

Around this time there was considerable agitation in the Turner Society to establish a colony for Turners. This was accomplished at the next national convention. I immediately took part in this undertaking, and that is where I made my first capital investment for my future. After a commission, appointed for this purpose, had looked around in various states and territories, the land lying on the Minnesota river, where New Ulm is now located, was destined as the site of the Turner colony. The Turner Colony, united with the Chicago Land Association, which had already taken possession of part of the land. It was now expedient that Turners settle on the site to take ultimate possession of the land already purchased and to acquire necessary additional land. Turner, William Pfaender, was selected as agent and leader of the colony.

I immediately reported to Turner Pfaender that I was ready to go along. Men by the name of Toberer and Gerstanhauer, also members of the Chicago Turner Society, likewise joined.

On July 7th or 8th, 1856, we left Chicago and arrived at New Ulm about the middle of that month. A number of the members of the Chicago Land Association were already located on the townsite and so we found lodging at once. In the fall I took possession of a quarter section of land, lying on a lake that was very beautiful then and this was my home until 1868.

On November 11, 1856, the New Ulm Turner Society was organized, and I was one of the charter members. So began the history of the movement in Minnesota of an organization dedicated to development of a sound mind in a sound body.

In 1859, I visited my mother in New Orleans and worked there until the latter part of February, 1860. During that time, I became acquainted with Miss Mary A. Erlenwein, and we were married in December of that year.

On March 10, 1860, we went to St. Louis and thence to New Ulm. The steamer trip to St. Louis was very pleasant, but from St. Louis to New Ulm we met with many hindrances. We arrived in New Ulm April 1st and took lodging in the Dakota House. In May, my wife and I moved out to my farm by the lake, where I tilled the soil. It was hard in the beginning as I had but a limited knowledge of farming, but I was willing to learn and enjoyed a measure of success."

William Hummel

Unfortunately, Great Grandfather ended his letter here. It's too bad he didn't pick it up later because I'm not certain where my Grandfather, August Hummel, was born although I believe it was on that farm near Lake Hanska, 19 miles SE of New Ulm. August grew up as a member of the Turner Society, like his father, which when I was young still buried it's own dead after a secular, non-religious memorial service at New Ulm's Turner Hall.

Keith Oswald (whose grandparents - August and Anna (Dietz) Hummel and Otto and Florence (Gilley) Oswald, lived in New Ulm all their lives)

The Board forlornly accepted the resignation of David Kading, a Board member who added so much valuable input to our meetings and events. We will miss you Dave!! If you, or if you know of someone that would like to serve on the Junior Pioneer board, please contact Lori Otis at 359-2320 or juniorpioneers@nutelecom.net. Our Board meets about four times a year--so not a lot of time commitment! We'd love to have you!!

Junior Pioneers 2017 Winter Social

Name(s): _____

Banquet Tickets(s): _____ Number Attending: _____ \$30.00 each: _____

Reservations are Due by Wednesday, February 22nd

Payments can be made at the door, but reservations are required prior to February 22nd

You can also send checks to: Junior Pioneers, PO Box 22, New Ulm, MN 56073 or email juniorpioneers@nutelecom.net

Questions? Reservations: Rose Dittrich at 354-7500 or rose.datrucklines@newulmtel.net

Time to pay your 2017 Annual Membership fees

Single Membership \$20 _____

Joint Dues (*Husband & Wife both qualify for membership*) \$30 _____

Surviving Spouse \$20 _____

Send checks to: Junior Pioneers, PO Box 22, New Ulm, MN 56073

Questions? Lisa Besemer 766-1991 or lisabesemer@newulmtel.net

Junior Pioneers
P.O. Box 22
New Ulm, MN 56073
(Address Service Requested)

Junior Pioneer Board of Directors - 2017

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