

The Menno Beacon

April 2012

Volume 57 Number 1

2012 MDS All Unit Meeting

By Charlotte Hardt

Gene Claassen and Forrest and Charlotte Hardt from Menno; Linda and Darryll Graber from Evergreen Mennonite; and Terry and Debby Shenk Miller from Seattle Mennonite represented Washington State at the Mennonite Disaster Service All Unit Meeting in Sarasota, Florida on February 10th and 11th. The group heard reports from all five MDS regions, worshipped, sang, prayed, toured and ate together.



Photo by C. Hardt: Forrest Hardt, Linda Graber, Darryll Graber, and Gene Claassen with Debbie Shenk Miller on the right

On Saturday, Terry and Region IV Director Freeman Hershberger reported to the Assembly on the Partnership Home house that was built on the Dorsing farm and trucked to Ramona, California. The house recipient joined them to tell the story of the fire that destroyed his home and business and of the rebuilding process after the walls arrived on his property.

Menno Annual Meeting

Menno's Annual Meeting was held Saturday, January 28. Butch Gering was elected to a second 3-year term as Deacon. Others elected for Church offices included Melissa Claassen, Sunday School Board Member (2-year term); Reed Meyer, Sunday School Board Secretary (2-year term); Dorene Claassen, Special Concerns (2-year term); Diane Gering, Christian Enrichment Committee (3-year term); Chris Gering, Maintenance Committee (3-year term); Linda Reimer, Maintenance Committee (2-year term); and Stan Meyer, Usher (2-year term). In addition to budget discussions, members also discussed the kitchen/bath remodel and the status of the development of a new church structure.

New Building Proposal

By Michael Claassen

I will be heading a new committee investigating the possible construction of a new building just outside the church kitchen. The purpose of this building would be to combine the bathroom and kitchen remodel ideas into one new space and create an additional room large enough to handle receptions, meetings, auctions, or physical activities. My goal is to have some aspect of this new building appeal to each person. It might be the handicap accessible bathrooms, more efficient kitchen, more space to walk around and visit after funerals, or an area where the kids can run and play without disturbing the sanctuary. My hope is to have the current kitchen converted into a hallway leading to the new building. Inside, the floor plan design seems to keep changing but will include a kitchen, storage room, and two bathrooms. This process is just beginning and there will be many challenges, so please pray for God's guidance during the investigation.

News & Notes:

Happy Anniversary!

25,185 days since Edna Franz and Dan Dalke exchanged wedding vows in the old Menno church. They celebrated the day (Jan. 22) with a steak dinner in McPherson, Kansas with the pastor and his wife. The 1943 wedding day was the blizzard of the year. About one half of the expected guests were unable to make it to the church on time. God didn't promise a rose garden but the 69 years of marriage have been beautiful. Praise the Lord always.

Photo: Dan and Edna Dalke



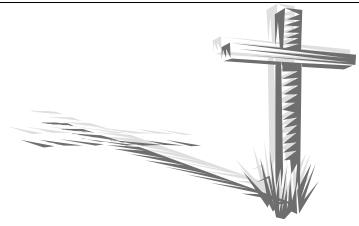
A group from Menno attended the Tri-City Americans hockey game on March 11. The Americans defeated Prince George 5-3. Attending were Doug, Melissa, and Andrew Claassen, Michael Claassen, Donna and Paula Hostick, Reed Meyer, and Derek, Susan, Devin, and Linnea Schafer.

Frieda Flaming, Goessel, Kansas, passed away Dec. 2, 2011 at Bethesda Home in Goessel. Her daughter, Dorene and husband, Gene Claassen, attend the Menno Church, Ritzville, along with grandsons, Doug and Melissa (Andrew and Benjamin) and Michael and Staci (Zach and Leah).

The **Menno Beacon** is published at the whim of the editor (who tries for at least four times per year). Any address corrections, additions, or deletions can be sent to: **Menno Mennonite Church – 1378 N. Damon Rd. – Ritzville, WA 99169**, phone 509-659-0926. Web site: <http://menno.wa.us.mennonite.net>. If you wish to help with mailing costs of the **Beacon**, donations can be sent to the above address. Matthew Yoder pastor, email: Matthewpsyoder@mennonite.net, menno@centurytel.net, Sharon Meyer, publisher, and Donna Hostick, editor. You can contact Donna at: 509-585-9214 or email at: djhostick@charter.net.

The Menno Beacon now has a group page on Facebook; just search for "Menno Beacon" and request to join the group. This group is still in its formative stage, so you never know what you might find there!

Menno Remembers...



Clara Evelyn (Franz) Reimer

Clara Evelyn (Franz) Reimer was born on the family farm near Lind, Washington, to Julius and Agatha Franz on March 21, 1927.

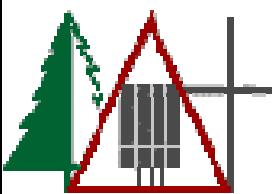
She began her primary school at the Schrag country school and continued on to graduate from Lind High School. She then attended Bethel College and graduated with a degree in Home Economics. When she returned home, she taught home economics in Lind for several years.

In June of 1949, she married Walter Reimer and the two made their home on the family farm (Franzville). After having her family, she worked as a substitute teacher and later as librarian at the Lind High School.

Walt and Clara retired in Moses Lake, and in 2009, they moved to Kidron Retirement Village in North Newton, Kansas, where they continued to volunteer at the MCC Center and enjoy attending concerts at Bethel College.

Clara enjoyed numerous activities throughout her life. She played the violin during high school and college. She was active at the Menno Mennonite Church Women in Mission; she cooked at the church camp (Camrec) and sang in the church choir for many years. Later, she volunteered at the Samaritan Hospital in Moses Lake. Her passion for sewing and quilting is reflected in every child's and grandchild's home as well as homes of friends and family and those who purchased her hand-crafted items from the MCC Sale auctions. She was also an active member of the Moses Lake Quilting Club.

Clara passed away on February 19, 2012. She is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Henry and Leonard, and three sisters, Marlene, Judy Dorsing, and Marie Ewert. She is survived by her husband Walter, three sisters, Viola Boese, Lucy Harms, and Lois Bartel, two children, Greg and Roger, and four grandchildren, Eric, Jason, Chelsea and Roxanne.



Camrec Upcoming Events:

WMF Annual Meeting - April 27-29, 2012

Birds & Blossoms Retreat - June 15-17, 2012

Mark your calendar for a relaxed weekend at camp to enjoy bird watching, wild flowers, and fellowship. Bring your field guides, camera, sketch book, and hiking boots.

Summer Youth Programs

Jr./Sr. High Camp - July 9-14, 2012

Junior Camp - July 17-21, 2012

Pre-Junior Camp - July 27-29, 2012

Our theme this summer will be "Take Me to the Water: God's Love Flows." Campers will dive into stories from the Bible that use water to show God's gift of life and blessing. More details are available at

<http://camrec.org/programs/summer-camps/>

Remember that you can find Camrec's "*The Chumstick*" newsletter at:

<http://camrec.org/the-chumstick>

PNMC conference news can be found at: www.pnmc.org *The Evangel* is only published electronically now and can be found three times a year at the following:

www.pnmc.org/Resources/Evangel

You can go to Menno Church's website to find all the above in the links tab. The *Menno Beacon* will still be on the website too, as well as the bulletins.

<http://menno.wa.us.mennonite.net>

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Ritzville, WA 99169

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A note from the (like new, but slightly used) editor...

I'd like to thank Bill Dyck for his seven years as Beacon editor; having been the editor of the Beacon for the two years prior, I am beginning to remember once again what all is involved, and I can't express how thankful I am for his service to our community.

In this day and age, as we straddle between the paper past and the electronic present, we struggle to maintain a balance that allows us to reach our entire readership. Because bulk mailings require a certain number of "pieces" to be sent, we're not quite ready to go paperless, but we will continue to weigh the options moving forward. I've heard from some of you on this topic; please keep those comments coming!

And as we go forward, I'd like to hear your ideas as to what you would like to see in the Beacon. My contact information is on page 2, and I look forward to hearing from you. To that end, I'm also interested in highlighting blogs that have been created by our community. If you'd like to have your blog featured in an upcoming issue, drop me a line! Until next time...

Calender of Events

April	11	1:00 p.m.	Ritzville Ministerial Association meets
		6:30-8:00 pm	Women's Book Study
	12	9 am-2 pm	Menno Women In Mission
	15		Speaker: Donna Hostick
	18	6:30-8:00 pm	Women's Book Study
	22-24		WMF Pastors' Retreat—Seattle
	27-29		Camrec Annual Board Meeting
May	1	noon	Moses Lake Ministerial Association meets
	9	1:00 p.m.	Ritzville Ministerial Association meets
	10	9 am-2 pm	Menno Women In Mission
	18-20		Menno Retreat at Camrec
	27		Pentecost