



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Please feel free to contact any of our trustees

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Don Romundson

Carla Struble

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What Does It Take...

What does it take to provide cemetery maintenance and to maintain and restore the SHN church? It takes a diverse group of dedicated individuals that are willing to donate their precious time and energy. Since the original group of Trustees took on this task, there have been many people that have focused on continuing the goals set by the original trustees.

Work recently completed at SNH includes the cleaning of the attic, attic electrical installation, and then the attic insulation completed under the direction of **David Breyhan**. The future gazebo cement foundation labor and materials were donated by **Joel Melum**. An 8-foot, all weather picnic table donated by the **Loberg family** will be placed on the foundation this spring. When funds have been secured for the gazebo, the construction will begin.



Stained glass window above the front entry

Our current goals are to have storm windows installed for the entire church followed by insulating the exterior church walls. The beautiful stained glass windows should be protected from the elements. Also, the stained glass window above the front entry is in need of repair. There is a generous donor that has provided \$3,000 to kick-start this approximate \$10,500 project.

The current Board of Trustee welcomes volunteers in these areas: cemetery and grounds, building maintenance & restoration, history research, marketing, events & activities, and fundraising. Contact one of the Trustees if you are interested!

Please use the new foundation and picnic table for your family and friend gatherings or perhaps, just to sit and enjoy the day. The cemetery grounds and church are to be used and enjoyed by all the members and the community!



Did You Know?

- ...it has been 12 years since the renovation of the church began.
- ...a carefully marked expansion of the cemetery has added a number of available gravesites.
- ...that 7 gravesites have been purchased since that addition.
- ...there is always turnover on the Board of Trustees. Thanks to those who have left and welcome to those new members and those that are returning members.
- ...improvements to the church have slowed down considerably.
- ...that it might be time to up my giving to South New Hope.
- ...beautiful lights and a wreath will greet you as you stop or drive by.

SOUTH NEW HOPE'S MISSION STATEMENT

To restore and preserve the church building, its grounds and cemeteries; to develop historical archives preserving the Norwegian heritage and memories for current and future generations so that all may experience how South New Hope Norwegian Lutheran Church served as the heart of the community.

November 8, 2010

2024 Calendar of Activities

All activities at SNH

- Saturday, May 11—8 a.m.**Workday at the Church and grounds
- Thursday, June 20—4 p.m.**Sons of Norway Annual Picnic
- Thursday, July 4—2 p.m.....** Fire Cracker Parade
- Tuesday, August 13—2 p.m.**Annual Meeting
- Saturday, October 5—11 a.m.....** 13th Annual Pie Social
- Saturday, December 14—10:30 a.m.....**Wreaths Across America

We welcome you to these events & activities!

Follow Us:



Located on Cty Rd T, 1/2 mile north of Hwy 161 at 1410 Cty Rd. T

South New Hope Cemetery Association

Board of Trustees

The South New Hope Board of Trustees Would Like to Thank Our Recently Resigned President Arden Stoltenberg

Arden served us well for 7 years. Throughout that time, he was often juggling responsibilities between the church and his private life. Often times, the church came first. He was a dedicated leader and did a lot monetarily without the board's knowledge. He will be surely missed, but will remain a wonderful and invaluable resource. The door is always open for him to return in any capacity.

We hope that his new found free time brings him opportunities to finish long put off projects, enjoy more social events, and travel.

Welcoming New Members of The South New Hope Board of Trustees



Returning as a trustee to South New Hope Cemetery Assoc. is **Roger Dobbe**. He had previously served as a trustee from November, 2016 until the summer of 2022. Due to the number of turnovers of trustees at the same time, Roger has agreed to return for a transition period.

Roger is currently the President of the Armed Forces Veterans Club of the Wisconsin Rural Letter Carriers. Roger was in the U.S. Army serving one year in Vietnam and then completing his time at the Fort Lee military base in Virginia. In April, 2023, Fort Lee was renamed Fort Gregg-Adams. He has lived most of his adult life in the Waupaca area and is retired from the U.S. Post Office.

Roger has family ties with the SNH Dobbe and Albert Anderson families.

Denise Maves joined the Board of Trustees in November, 2023. She was born and has lived in the Amherst area most of her life. For



34 years, Denise dairy farmed with her husband Tom Maves. Even though the dairy cows are gone, they still continue to farm but at a much slower pace. Denise enjoys volunteering for church and school. And, she always has had an interest in genealogy and local history. In the 1800's, Tom's family began farming in the New Hope area near Trout Creek Road.

Don Romundson recently retired after a 35-year career as an attorney, and he is now operating his century old farm in the Town of New Hope where he manages black angus beef, bees, cash crops, and the woodlots in the winter. Don is also currently on the Board of Directors of North Central Conservancy Trust. He was recently on the board of the State Bar of Wisconsin Appellate Practice Section, having served as its first Chairman.



Don has a long-held interest in local history and has presented numerous lectures including the history of Norwegian immigration to New Hope and the doctrinal split in the Norwegian Synod which led to the building of the South New Hope Church.



Carla Struble has returned to the Board of Trustees after a short break, having recently served as the SNH Treasurer. We value her previous life and work experience which she has brought to our organization.

Carla's previous work experience included being an office supervisor, a cost and budget supervisor, and a manager of a distribution center, all for the Pillsbury Company. After the closing of the distribution center, she was an accounting manager and a senior staff accountant for Agnesian Health Care.

Currently, Carla is a member of and Treasurer for the Amherst United Methodist Church and on the Lettie Jensen Library Board of Directors, serving as Treasurer.

She and her late husband enjoyed traveling, both in the U.S. and internationally, visiting many historical sites. She is also a member of the Tomorrow River Historical Society. What a wonderful fit for our organization!

The Board of Trustees is still in need of an additional member. Interested? Call Sharon Ehr, at 920-244-7737.

SNH News

Sadie Simonson Watercolor Painting



South New Hope Church has been gifted from Kayla Montgomery a watercolor painting by **Sadie Eleanor Sodersten Simonson (1912 to 1974)**. The painting that was in storage has now been displayed in the church's fellowship room.

Sadie was a renowned local artist. Sadie attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. First-year Luther College students considering an art major have an opportunity to apply for

the **Sadie Simonson Memorial Art Scholarship**. The scholarship was established by Chester, Sadie's husband, to honor his wife who had a long-term interest in art.

Kayla Montgomery is the great-granddaughter of Christian Hellestad and the great-niece of Ole Jorgen (Sillekjar). Christian and Ole were brothers-in-law

and their families lived across the street from each other on Highway 49 just outside of Scandinavia. Chester's family lived just a short distance from the Hellestad and Jorgen farms.

The Board of Trustees thank Kayla for the gracious gift that has found its new home in the church that inspired Sadie to paint this little, white church in its early years.



Water Like the Soul of An Angel: Memoirs of a Fisherman

SNH has a new item for sale. We have a donation of twenty beautiful books titled *Water Like the Soul of An Angel: Memoirs of a Fisherman*. The book of poems is about fly fishing, a "treasure of wisdom, whimsy and humor..." and will be a wonderful gift for the fisherman or the person who will be able to see the powerful connection to peace as experienced by a young boy facing difficulties and sadness.

The author is **Jack Jelinski**. Readers met Jack in another newsletter article dated December 2016 talking about another book he wrote, *Searching for Magdalene, A Memoir About Finding my Mother*. This book can be found on-line or inter library loan in libraries and on Amazon.com. Along with finding his mother's grave, Jack found South New Hope!

Please help support SNH by purchasing one or more of these books, for the small cost of \$20.00.

Wreaths Across America 2023

Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

South New Hope Cemetery Association observed Wreaths Across America 2023 on December 16th. For the veterans buried in the cemetery, their names were announced and the church bell was rung in tribute to the veterans. As the remembrance wreaths were placed on the graves of veterans, they were thanked for their service to our country.

Of those buried in the main cemetery, there are 25 veterans and 13 veteran's wives. Mable Dobbe, the wife of Gustave Dobbe, was noted to be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

There is a small cemetery behind the main cemetery that contains a number of graves of unknown persons. Further research is needed to identify the graves and to determine if any of those persons were military personnel. Please contact Sally Prideaux if you have any information.



Above: L to R: Veterans Arden Stoltenberg (Army), Clinton Lane (National Guard), Roger Dobbe (Army), Michael Hafemann (Navy)

More on page 4

Wreaths Across America 2023

Please consider participating in the future by attending the event and consider sponsoring a wreath. You can either send a \$17 check to SNH or go online to www.wreathscrossamerica.com to make your donation by clicking on "Specific Cemetery" and then selecting "South New Hope Cemetery".



Above: L to R Jamie, Karen, and Mike Lane and Sharon Ehr placing wreaths upon the veteran's graves

Right: Arden Stoltenberg Master of Ceremonies

Left: Ceremony in the Fellowship room



A BIG Thank You To...

- the hard-working spring and fall cemetery, grounds, and church work crews!
- the pie social's dedicated pie bakers, the fresh apple cider makers, and all the volunteers. There were 65 pies made this year and we were totally sold out by 2:30 p.m.



- the Thiege family for the pie social basket donation, the decorations, and their time serving and greeting our guests!
- the Loberg family donation for the 8-foot picnic table!
- the full cost of the concrete and labor donated by Joel Melum for the picnic table/future gazebo foundation!



Fund Raising Items for Purchase

1. Custom made park benches available. Brass engraved plaque indicating donor or honoree. \$500.00
2. Church style bird houses: \$25.00
3. Limited number of unframed color pictures of South New Hope in the fall: 5 x 7 \$5.00 8 x 10 \$10.00
4. Book: *Water Like the Soul of An Angel: Memoirs of a Fisherman* by Jack Jelinski: \$20.00 See the article on page 3 for more information.

If interested in making a purchase, please contact us at southnewhope1889@gmail.com



Electronic Giving

A safe, secure, and convenient method of supporting South New Hope's church restoration, cemetery fund, church maintenance fund and the special projects can be made by going to SouthNewHope.com. On the top right corner of the page, click "Giving A Gift". On the next page, click on "Contribute Now". A page will appear that you can enter your information and follow all the prompts. Please contact a Trustee if you need assistance.