

St. Bridget News

Mass for Deceased on Sunday, November 2

Make Plans To Join Us At St. Bridget - Dress Accordingly

You are invited to join us on Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 p.m. (weather permitting). This will be our Fall get-together. Mass for all our deceased family and parishioners starts at 2 pm. *Remember the church is not heated.* So dress accordingly. If weather is threatening, and you are not sure if Mass at St. Bridget will be held, feel free to call Fr. Tom (736-2220) or Norma or Terry Stallbaumer (736-2910) before 12:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF 28th ANNUAL MEETING May 25, 1997

The 28th annual meeting of the St. Bridget Historical Society was called to order by President William Sunneberg at 1:40 P.M. with 12 members present. Father Tom Dolezal said the opening prayer.

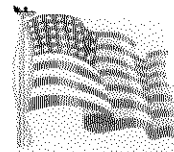
Secretary Leo Glynn read the minutes from the previous general meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Leo Glynn gave the Treasurer's report, it was approved as presented.

Tuckpointing and preservation of the church was discussed. Chari Reynolds explained that the work all has to be done by hand, and not by machine to preserve the brick. Restoration has to be done to the standards set by the National Registry of Historic Places. We need to get started on applying for grants, which can be turned in by the end of July. Chari Reynolds said part of the criteria is *"how bad it is needed."* An architect from the Kansas Historical Society will come and determine our need. We probably will apply for part of the total project or maybe the entire exterior renovation. Mid-Continental has evidently done restoration work in Kansas and Chari thinks that we should try to get a contractor who is familiar with Kansas Historical Society restoration rules. Galen Runnebaum said we can't wait too long, because the mortar is falling out. Vince Buessing suggested adding to the Glen Wuester Trust money (\$5,000.) which we received to assist

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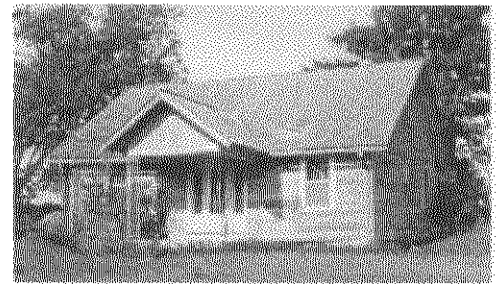
NEED YOUR HELP



The St. Bridget cemetery board would like to update its records on veterans. We are asking families, who have men or women veterans buried in our cemetery, to please send us information, such as:

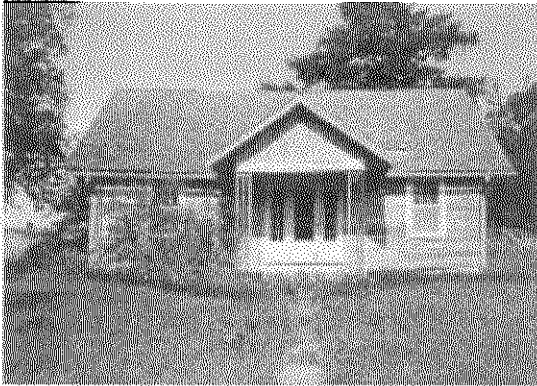
- a) Dates of service;
- b) Where they served;
- c) Branch of service they were in.

We would like to properly mark their graves and honor them with flags on Memorial Day. The American Legion will furnish the flags and markers. The past year, we are grateful to Mr. Dallas Bowhay of Summerfield, who marked the graves of those we had listed. If you would like your deceased veteran so honored, please let us know.



Do You Know? This issue's article is about this house. Do you know how it ties to St. Bridget? See page 2.

Do You Know?



What is it?

If you said the "*old convent*" at St. Bridget's, you are correct! This is a recent picture of the building and as you can see, it has deteriorated quite a bit over the past forty years, since it was moved off the grounds of St. Bridget. **Parishioners, to replace the original convent that burned down on October 21, 1935, built this house in 1936.** When the Sisters returned in July of 1936, it was ready for them. The recent "*History of St. Bridget*" book tells us what happened after the Sisters were no longer able to teach at St. Bridget.

"Since nuns were no longer available for the school, the convent was sold in the late 1950's and moved to a farm southwest of the town of Summerfield."

This old building is presently located about 1/2 mile west of Highway 99, about two miles south of Summerfield on property owned by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Rohmeyer. Mrs. Rohmeyer said it has been used as a "**rental house**" but being on a farm site, it was hard to get a rent on it that will pay all the maintenance bills that go with it. She also said no one is living in the house at this time. The roof is bad and part of the basement walls have collapsed."

This building was a real part of St. Bridget School and parish. ...

Now You Know!

A RENOVATION / TUCKPOINTING FUND IS NOW ESTABLISHED

At the annual meeting in May, the subject of tuckpointing (or sometimes simply called "repointing") the exterior bricks was again brought up for consideration. Some background work on this has already been done by the Society. It was mentioned that the tuckpointing project will cost in the neighborhood of \$75,000 to \$100,000 (depending on what is designated for repairs) and the only grants available are 80% / 20% grants. The Historical Society will then be responsible for \$15,000 to \$20,000 or 20% (twenty) of the total amount. It was then suggested that a restoration fund (which at this time, would be set aside for tuckpointing), be established. This has now been done. A separate "*Restoration Fund*" for St. Bridget Church has been established. At the successful conclusion of the tuckpointing project, if there were any monies left in the restoration fund, they would be kept for the next restoration project.

A return envelope has been printed for your convenience. On the envelope you can designate where you wish your offering to be assigned. **Remember, all contributions are tax-deductible.** You can designate your offering to one or all of the following:

- a): **Annual dues** (\$ 5 per year, due in July)
- b): **The Restoration Fund** - which at this time means the Tuckpointing Project.
- c): **Cemetery Offering:** You can designate either for maintenance/upkeep or for "Perpetual Care"
- d): **Other:** You designate what your intentions are with this category.

The envelopes are pre-addressed to Mr. Leo Glynn, our Historical Society Treasurer. The society has some funds set aside for this project, but not enough. We are hoping for the generosity of our St. Bridget Historical Society patrons to help us in this necessary and worthy cause.

St. Bridget, Pray for Us

Minutes of the 28th Annual Business Meeting

Continued from page 1

in our share of the cost, if we get a grant. It can be used for a tuck pointing fund, if we don't get a grant. (See related story on page 2).

We need to **check our Insurance about liability** for workers and contact a lawyer before contracting anyone. In case we don't get a grant, Chari Reynolds suggested possibly getting an architect class from one of the Kansas colleges to look at it for a class project.

Terry Stallbaumer reported on last year's workday: trimmed trees, worked on repairs at church and cemetery. It was a shorter than usual workday. This year's workday will be the 2nd Saturday of July, (July 12). We will be doing window repairs and painting, tree trimming and also plan to rock road at cemetery, if we have enough help. Chuck Smith has repaired the church windowsills.

Mowing cemetery -- Stallbaumers will continue it for the same price -\$150 for each mowing.

Gerald Carroll had contacted us about moving an old school house that is 2 miles east of St. Bridget to the St. Bridget property. He would rather have the original St. Bridget schoolhouse back, but it has been torn down. The State Historical Society would have to approve of it before we could move any building in, even if we wanted to. No one at the meeting was very interested.

Nominations for Secretary-Treasurer: Galen Runnebaum nominated **Leo Glynn**. Vince Buessing seconded. All approved.

Father Tom Dolezal led the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 with 17 members present.

Leo Glynn, Sec.

WE HAD SPECIAL VISITORS



On May 31st, the **Beattie Vacation Bible School Group from St. Malachy's**, came out to tour St. Bridget Church. The eight ladies and thirty children came prepared with intelligent questions and comments on the history and architecture of St. Bridget. They enjoyed the casual stroll through the church and being able to check it all out at their own pace. **We are glad they came.**

ANNUAL WORKDAY REPORT

Saturday, July 12, 1997

The **annual workday** at St. Bridget Church and Cemetery was held on **Saturday, July 12, 1998.**

About **eight men and ten women showed up.** The projects for the day included:

- A) Painting the window frames, front doors of the church, and the outdoor restrooms;
- B) Trim the cedar trees in front of the church;
- C) Put a load of rock on the cemetery driveway.

We appreciate all the help and/or financial donations given toward this yearly maintenance effort. Thank you.

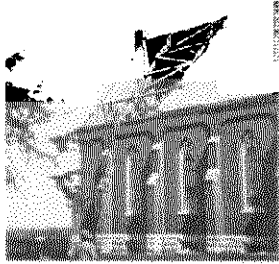
HERITAGE TRUST FUND GRANT



Cherri Johnson-Reynolds, coordinator of grants for the St. Bridget Historical Society, reports that **Mr. Courtney Swann**, an architect for the Kansas State Historical Society, met with her and the officers of the Society at St. Bridget Church in early August. **The purpose of the visit was to determine if there was a real need for the grant money we were applying for.** After inspecting the building his assessment was that the limestone foundation was sound, but **repointing the bricks was very necessary.** The building is still sound, but the repointing should be done as soon as possible. His assessment cleared the way for our application to the Heritage Trust Fund for assistance in repointing St. Bridget Church. Mr. Swann mentioned that there were approximately 50 other applicants for these same funds. He also said that there is **no partial funding**, either the applicant receives all the funds they request or they are "not approved" but encouraged to apply again in the next funding period. A "non approval" may be because there are not enough funds available this time around for that particular project or there is some further clarification needed on the application or some other reason. Sherri made our application on time. **We thank her for all her work, and thank all that wrote letters of recommendation.** The Heritage Trust Fund will make their decisions on which projects to fund in November.

Ask St. Bridget to pray for us to help get this necessary funding.

Maintenance & Repairs Over the Years



(Above): Repairs to Church - A spring storm in 1950 tore off part of the roof at St. Bridget.

(Below): Hauser Stain Glass Company workers repairing stain-glass windows in the Spring of 1977



Important Anniversary Approaching!

September 2, 1998, will be the 90th anniversary of the dedication of St. Bridget Church. On September 2, 1908 Bishop Lillis dedicated the church in a beautiful service. Archbishop Keleher has said he would like to celebrate that anniversary with us if we can work out a schedule with him. We are tentatively thinking of Sunday, August 30, 1998 as the date, if this meets with Archbishop Keleher's busy schedule. We thank the Archbishop. We enjoy his time with us. We would like to follow the celebration with a dinner. St. Bridget was known for its chicken dinners. Someone suggested a good Irish dinner of Corn Beef and cabbage. Any suggestions?

Join Us Sunday, November 2
At St. Bridget Church - 2:00 pm
Mass for Deceased of Parish and Society
Dress Warm - Church not heated

St. Bridget News

St. Michael Church
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