

Chengwatana Farmers Club (by Mrs. Earl Bombard)

As I recall it was thirty years ago we came to live at Chengwatana. We joined the Farmers Club the same year, which at that time was a very active and progressive Club.

The Club had a president, secretary, and treasurer and quite a number of members. We met at the homes. During the winter months we usually met in the afternoon and in the summer in the evenings. The business part of the meetings was attended to first then afterward a social time and at all meetings a delicious lunch was served, all members bringing something for lunch.

Many social activities were enjoyed also many worthwhile projects were carried out.

Mr. Hammergren, the county agent attended some of the meetings, these meetings were very educational.

One thing I recall the club members ordered a large amount of Paris Green for spraying potatoes. By ordering a large amount each farmer saved quite a bit of cash for at that time potatoes were the farmers main cash crop.

Horses were mostly used in the first few years, sleighs in the winter and horse drawn buggies in summer. Nearly all members of the club hauled their cream and eggs to Beroun or Pine City ~~taxes~~ and many of them hauled big loads of wood to Pine City to earn some extra cash.

Some of the activities of the Club were a delightful trip to Taylors Falls, a play given by a number of the members "Aaron Slick from Pumpkin Creek" & Circus held at the town hall besides several dances for both young and old and a 4th of July picnic in the year 1922 held at the J. Russell Wilson home. At that time the community had their first look and listen to a radio set up by Mr. J. Holiday. It was not very successful but lots of fun. In the evening a dance was held in the Wilson barn. One 4th of July a picnic was held in Beroun and a Community Fair was also held one fall at Beroun. A New Year's Eve affair was a big oyster supper held for several years at some members home.

All together we all had a very enjoyable Farmers Club. We profited by it a great deal. We were all a happy family., made many friends which we shall never forget.

Some of the members were George Geislars, Ole Lyseth, Wm VonBush', Claus Petersons, Elmer Smiths, J. Becvars, Fred Millers, Sr. , Grant Chapins, Den Tinpanes, J. Hollidays, Otto Gaukels, The Wilsons, M.K. Smiths, Bill Bakers, J. Jensens, Albert Noreen, Joe Blanks, Steve Smiths, August Ericsons, Bakers, Thorwald Thomsens, and Earl Bombards.