

The Perry Hauge Log Church Preservation Association, Inc.



The Hauge Preservation Association's efforts were recognized by the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation at their annual awards ceremony. On stage at the Orpheum Theatre in Madison are Hauge Association members Rick Fredrickson, Linda Bluschke, Paula Fredrickson (holding certificate), Margaret Berg, Russell Berg, and Craig Bluschke

Madison Trust for Historic Preservation Recognizes the Hauge Preservation Association

On May 4, 2006, the Perry Hauge Log Church Preservation Association, along with the Town of Perry Historic Preservation Commission, was honored by the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation at their annual awards ceremony held at the Orpheum Theatre in Madison. The Association received a 2006 Historic Preservation Award in the Preservation Stewardship category, recognizing the many years the group has cared for the Hauge Church site.

President Craig Bluschke officially accepted the award on behalf of the Hauge Preservation Association, with Rick Fredrickson and Russell Berg making additional remarks to the audience. For those members able to attend the event it was a thrill to see the Hauge Preservation Association's efforts recognized along with eight other prestigious properties in the Madison area.

A short multimedia slide show and historical recap of the past 154 years of the Hauge church were presented. Along with Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk, The Madison Trust group also singled out the following individuals for special recognition: Margaret and Russell Berg, Craig and Linda Bluschke, Gary Boley, Paula and Rick Fredrickson, and Ralph Kleppe.

As one speaker during the evening noted, "Historic preservation should be done because it's the right thing to do, but this award is frosting on the cake!"

Your Help is Still Needed!

The Hauge Preservation Fund was established in 2001 to support the Town of Perry's acquisition of property surrounding the Hauge Church site for use as a public park. Over \$129,000 has been raised to date, however your assistance is still needed in order to reach our final goal of \$150,000 during 2007. Before the rush of holidays, taxes, and winter heat bills please consider making a donation to the Hauge Preservation Fund at Post Office Box 34, Blue Mounds, WI 53517. All contributions are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law. Help us preserve the rural solitude of the Hauge Church for future generations!

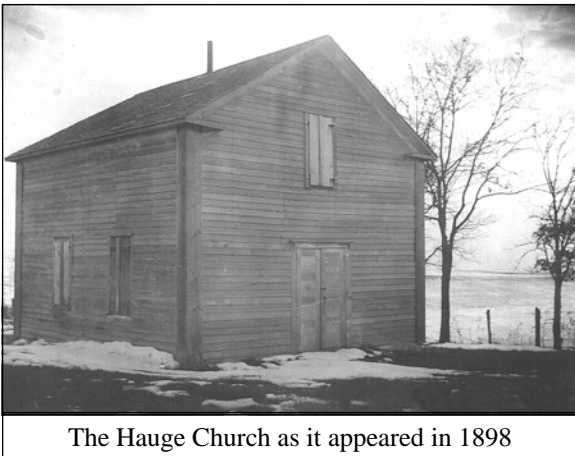
From the Archives...

Old Log Church - Perry School Days

By Ole M. Grimstvedt

June, 1896

The English school in the old Perry Log Church was held in the summer of 1852. The teacher was Sigrí Omland Dustrud, wife of Herman Dustrud of Blue Mounds. She became sick before the term was out and died that fall while yet in her teens. She was an exceptionally smart woman. All the schooling she ever received was six weeks, which, together with Sunday School and what she picked up, was the extent of her education. Her younger sister, Guro, (later Mrs. J.O. Dahlby) who attended with me, finished the school for her. There could not have been to exceed ten pupils. If I am correctly informed, Ole Bakken was clerk, Hans Dahle was treasurer, and Andres Sanderson was the director. Our teacher was a daughter of Nicolai Omland. She was a good scholar in Norwegian, but was limited in English. There had been one failure to get a license (and by a young man), so one of the board went with her to the home of Joel Britts of Primrose, then town Superintendent, Perry then being a part of Primrose. The result was that she was hardly up to requirements, but as the district wanted her, Mr. Britts finally agreed to license her provided the district officers would agree to send no advanced pupils to the school, which was no risky promise. But to use Ole Bakken's own words: "If we would assure that not any particularly high learned would come she would be allowed to slip. And so we risked ourselves, too!"



The Hauge Church as it appeared in 1898

As I remember it, we had Webster's spelling book. Each pupil was in a class of his own, and when he had his lesson, he would march right up and recite without being called. I must have recited twenty times a day and there was great rivalry to see who would get on the fastest. At first we had nothing but spelling. I could read Norwegian, but we had no English reading in school. Then, one day Mr. Britts, the Superintendent, came. Between spelling exercises he asked me to read a piece of English, which I did. The teacher was surprised as she had not known that I could read. Mrs. Dustrud was perfectly competent to teach all that could be expected at the pay of \$1.50 per week on her own board.

The next year, 1853, the second school house in the town of Perry was built about a quarter mile east of Dahle's store (in Daleyville), in about as unsightly a place as could be found. The door faced south, but right up to a deep gully and being in a hillside it was in the ground so much that the window on that side was even with the ground. It was logs, of course, and large ones at that, roofed with clapboard oaken shingles, but so low that the small window had to

be cut in lengthwise. There was a window on each side and a door on the fourth. The seats were good and strong, made of oak logs split in two, the flat side up, somewhat dressed, with four two-inch holes for legs to be inserted...desks there were none. Along three sides of the walls were slanting wooden pins on which boards were fastened. This was to accommodate those who took lessons in penmanship. All that was necessary was to turn right around on the seat to write.

A Franklin stove was borrowed from A. Sanderson and school commenced in the winter of 1853, with Miss Margaret McKenzie of Ridgeway (now Brigham) as teacher. We lived about a quarter of a mile over the line in Iowa County, but no objection was made to pupils from outside and many came a long distance to school then. I remember L.A. Sanderson of Moscow, three miles away, attended. Also Hellek Forli of the town of Brigham and Ole Ruste from the town of Blue Mounds. Many grown men used to attend. They would stand up beside the little children, the school ma'am not reaching their shoulders. Being mostly newcomers, many had a hard time learning to pronounce certain words, but they would try away and were soon out of the primer and into the second reader or Testament that was used at that time. I never knew the teacher to show any mirth over their pronunciation.

During the war an ex-teacher from Norway, between thirty and forty, concluded to put in a winter getting the rudiments of an English education. The teacher was a strip of a girl about half his age, but that made no difference to him. He also had a hard time with the pronunciation, but soon found that according to the rules he must pronounce correctly or take a whipping. Being a teacher from Norway, where the rod was not spared, he could not object to taking his own medicine. The comical spectacle was presented of a girl switching a man almost old enough to be her father.

A school month was 22 days, including Saturday half days. The half Saturday was finally made a whole day every other week. The Norwegians had several church holidays. On those days we could go to school but could not work at home. On such days the school would be chock full of pupils.

Only the three R's were taught—reading, writing, and arithmetic, besides spelling, which was always done orally. For the summer of 1853, Mr. Sanderson wanted Guro Omland to teach and Miss McKenzie said she was qualified, but the pay of \$8 a month for winter
(continued on next page)

had been cut to \$6 for the summer and Miss Omland said she could get \$1.50 a week doing housework and she preferred that. A Miss Liza Dudley was finally secured. She was well liked and taught us how to make swings out of the limbs of trees tied together. One chilly day I brought in an armload of stray wood and got my clothes full of ants and had to get leave to go to the woods and get them out. We had no arithmetic that summer, but learned many useful things. We had to stand straight, hold our heads erect, and learn and repeat many tables, as to days, weeks, months, etc. Last, we had to make an obeisance. This we learned so well that any of us would have been qualified to enter any drawing room in town at the time.

Rev. Brodahl preached his first sermon to this congregation under the large oak trees surrounding this school in the summer of 1856. This old schoolhouse did good service for about 14 years as school and polling place for the town. Then it was used as a blacksmith shop by Hans Grinder. Later some of its historic logs went into a bridge over the creek nearby.



On a sunny and warm Saturday, May 6th, 2006 volunteers from Thrivent Financial worked sprucing up the Hauge Church grounds in preparation for Summer visitors.

The Hauge Preservation Association would like to recognize the following people for their recent substantial contributions to the Hauge Preservation Fund:

- Lyle Wealti
Verona, WI
- Lois Luce, in memory of Robert P. Luce
Baraboo, WI
- Joyce Paulson
Cambridge, MA
- Edward Sands
Lakeville, CT
- Arlen and Elaine Spannem
Madison, WI
- David and Rachel Faldet
Decorah, IA
- Robert and Meda Heywood
Marshfield, WI

If you are not already a member, please consider joining the Hauge Preservation Association!

Your continued interest and support will insure preservation of the Hauge Log Church for future generations. All membership dues are used to continue day-to-day maintenance of the historic church and cemetery site.

Thank you for your continued support of the Hauge Log Church!



Membership Application Form

Please identify type of membership: \$20 _____ Individual
\$40 _____ Family (two adults and children under the age of 18)

I would like to make an additional contribution to the Hauge Preservation Fund:
_____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Name (s) : _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to and mail to: Hauge Preservation Association
Post Office Box 34
Blue Mounds, WI 53517