



Dakota Memories Oral History Project Biography Form

Date: 07/14/2007

Your Biography Information

Name: Herbert Thurn

Maiden Name (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address:

Unavailable*

Street Address:

Unavailable*

Phone Number: Unavailable*

E-Mail Address: Unavailable*

Birth Date: 02/07/1927

Birth Place: Venturia, North Dakota

Occupation(s) (list all occupations chronologically):

Farm Laborer (until 1950)

Rural Country School Teacher (1944-1950; McIntosh County)

U.S. Army (North Dakota National Guard; January 1951-August 1952)

Elementary School Teacher (Morristown, South Dakota; 1952-1953)

Ellendale Teachers College (1953-1955)

High School Teacher (Enderlin, North Dakota; 1955-1956)

Skelly Oil Co. (draftsman; Bismarck, North Dakota; 1956-1961)

Job Service of North Dakota (interviewer, counselor, program administrator; 1961-1988)

Religion: Lutheran

Schooling (list all schools attended, the dates of attendance, and note the level of education you have completed):

McIntosh County School (until 1941; 8th grade)

Wishek High School (1941-1944; High School Diploma)

Ellendale Teachers College (1942-1955; Bachelor of Science Degree)

North Dakota State University (1965-1966; Master's Degree; Fargo, ND)

Clubs and Organizations (note dates of memberships and offices held):

International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (1961-1991)

North Dakota Employment Counselors Association (1964-1989)

North Dakota School Counselors Association (1964-1988;President 1 year)

Germans from Russia Heritage Society (1970-present)

Dakota Pioneer Chapter (GRHS; 1973-present; director and president)

American Legion (1961-present)

Flickertail Woodcarvers (1988-present)

AARP (1988-present)

Gluckstal Research Association (1979-present)

Retirees Breakfast Club (1988-present)

Your Mother's Biography Information

Name: Rosina Thurn

Maiden Name (if applicable): Kemmet

Birth Date: 09/28/1897

Birth Place: Glueckstal, South Russia

Occupation(s): Homemaker
Farmer

Date of Death: 04/26/1979

Place of Death and Burial: Wishek, North Dakota; St. Luke's Cemetery, Wishek, North Dakota

Her ancestor's village in Russia (Ukraine) or Bessarabia: Glueckstal, South Russia, Ukraine

Her parents' names (include maiden name): Jacob and Rosina (Schilling) Kemmet

Her siblings' names (include maiden names):

Jacob Kemmet b. 1899; d. 1900

John Kemmet b. 1901; d. 1946

Mary (Kemmet) Walth-Rudolf b. 1903; d. 1988

Jacob Kemmet b. 1905; d. 1970

Edward Kemmet b. 1909; d. 1997

Emma Kemmet b. 1911; d. 1947

William Kemmet b. 1913; d. 1974

Your Father's Biography Information

Name: Fred W. Thurn

Birth Date: 10/10/1897

Birth Place: Zeeland, North Dakota

Occupation(s): Farmer

Date of Death: 08/10/1932

Place of Death and Burial: Venturia, North Dakota; St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery

His ancestor's village in Russia (Ukraine) or Bessarabia: Kassel, South Russia

His parents' names (include maiden name): Friedirch and Christina (Schnaidt) Thurn

His siblings' names (include maiden names):

Magdalena Thurn b. 1852; d.1852

Margaretha (Thurn) Schnabel b. 1853; d. 1928

Magdalena (Thurn) Mehlhaff b. 1837; d. 1922

Christina (Thurn) Martel b. 1858

Katharina (Thurn) Meidinger b. 1862; d. 1947

Johann Thurn b. 1864; d. 1942

Karolina (Thurn) Martel b. 1866; d. 1947

Elisabeth (Thurn) Schnaidt b. 1868

Gottlieb Thurn b. 1870; d. 1933

Rosina (Thurn) Schmierer b. 1877; d. 1959

Your Siblings' Biography Information

Names (include birthdates and locations, if known):

Esther (Thurn) Olmsted b. 03/17/1918 in Venturia, North Dakota

Leah (Thurn) Grasmick b. 06/27/1920 in Venturia, North Dakota

Alvin Thurn b. 07/10/1922 in Venturia, North Dakota

Erna (Thurn) Bertsch b. 02/20/1925 in Venturia, North Dakota

Your Spouse's Biography Information

Name: Mildred D. Thurn

Maiden Name (if applicable): Dockter

Birth Date: 06/11/1931

Birth Place: Venturia, North Dakota

Wedding Date: 03/31/1951

Wedding Place: Camp Rucker, Alabama

Occupation(s): Housewife
Bismarck High School (cashier record keeper)

Date of Death: _____

Place of Death and Burial: _____

Your Children's Biography Information

Names (include birthdates and locations, if known):

Clark Thurn b. 02/02/1953 in Lemmon, South Dakota

Cheryl (Thurn) Rockvoy b. 10/28/1958 in Bismarck, North Dakota

Clarice (Thurn) Lancaster b. 11/08/1967 in Jamestown, North Dakota

Does your family have their history published? If so, what is the name of the publication? How can we secure a copy of this publication?

"Thurn, George Peter and Elizabeth, Ancestors and Descendents 1740-1987"

"The Kemmet History, Jacob and Rosina (Schilling), Descendents and Ancestors, 1740-1993"

(copies of both are at the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, Bismarck, North Dakota)

***For unavailable information, contact Jessica Clark, Project Coordinator at (701) 231-8419 or Jessica.Clark@ndsu.edu.**