

HEBRON HERALD

Celebrating Our 123rd Year

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Emil Krauth - Hebron's 'Butterfly Man'

By Jared Beasley

On the northwest edge of town, a white marble stone sits in the field of St. John's Cemetery. Carved into the slab is a large butterfly and above that a masonic star. Beneath it is a three-tiered black granite base that reads, *Dich Mein Stilles Tal, Gruss ich tausendmal*, or "you my quiet valley, I greet you a thousand times."

The man had died alone on a cold November day, so poor that collections had to be taken up to pay for his funeral. Yet, he was once one of the most prominent figures of Hebron Society. Chances are you've never heard of him. It's been 80 years since his passing. Still, there is much to learn from the man known by the Sioux as *Kimamana Wicasa* - "the Butterfly Man."

An award-winning painter, draftsman, and sketch-artist, Emil Krauth was born in Eberbach, Germany on April 10, 1873. His family there dates back centuries and was chock full of creative talent. His uncle, Theodore Krauth, was a master draftsman and artist, once commissioned by the Duke of Baden for a portrait. He was, "a man of professional practice, educated architect, well-skilled teacher and art expert," according to Badische

Biografien, printed in 1906. He published over twenty books on architecture, design, and art in his lifetime and was awarded the Knight's Cross First Class of the Order of the Zähringer Lion in 1894.

Then, there is his second cousin, Alfred Krauth, a famous photographer, artist, and inventor. Alfred experimented with stereo photography, developing the "Indupor" system, but is best known for his coin changing contraption



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that gained world-wide fame. (You know the tubular change dispensers you see on a vendor's belt?) He then founded the Krauth Technology Company, which is still in existence today.

Emil was born with a heavy dose of these family gifts. His furniture designs won awards all over Germany as well as in Paris and gained notice at the World's Fair in Chicago. And his ink drawings and oil paintings received high praise at exhibitions in Karlsruhe and Mannheim. They ranged from extraordinary realism to moody, expressionistic sketches to colorful portraits, verging on what would later be called "pop art."



Emil Krauth

prairies outside of town. But his real passion was butterflies.

He amassed the largest private collection of moths and butterflies in North America and became a nationally recognized lepidopterist. For Hebronites, a trip to his garden to learn to stand still and allow them to cling to your arms was a thrill. In 1928, while collecting butterflies in the Black Hills of South Dakota, Emil found the *Parnassius* butterfly near the tops of the higher mountains. It was the first time they had ever been found east of the Rocky Mountains, and his find made headlines in prominent scientific papers. He would later discover a new species of butterfly that would bear his name: *Colias Christina Krauthii*, and it is on permanent display at the Museum of Natural History in New York City.

A gregarious man with a passion for good beer and fine wine, Emil's basement had a wine press working at all times. Next to it, he kept three 100-gallon kegs and on the walls 500 quarts of wine, bottled and corked. Parties were weekly events. Emil's wife, Lina, usually started the evenings with herring that she pickled herself. With that, she'd serve dark rye bread and beer. Later, the wine would come out. Though the Krauth's were Protestant, the local priests from St. Ann's were always invited and enjoyed the gatherings immensely. Sitting around the

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"Aging in Community Grant" will help elderly in Hebron community

An "Aging In Community Grant" has funded the start-up of a new program. This program will soon be offering services and needed connections to Glen Ullin and Hebron area residents. The goal of this program is to assist older adults with remaining independent and in their homes as long as they feel safe to do so. This program is a joint effort of several agencies and community organizations in the area: NDSU Extension, Custer District Health Unit, Morton County Council on Aging, Marion Manor, Hebron and Glen Ullin Senior Centers and Aging Services.

A search for a program coordinator is underway. Your help is needed to identify candidates for the position.

Below is the link to the NDSU job postings and the Aging In Community Volunteer Coordinator position. Please pass this on to those who may consider applying.

[Employment Opportunities | NDSU](#)

As soon as a part time coordinator is hired, programs can begin. Some of the services that will be coordinated by this person will be, but not limited to, coordination of transportation to and from medical appointments, seeking out volunteers for companion visits, errands and connection to necessary services.

Please direct questions and/or suggestions to Vanessa Hoines, Morton County NDSU Extension Agent at 667-3340 or vanessa.hoines@ndsu.edu

After graduation, he married Karolina Dietz in Eberbach and enjoyed a very upper-class lifestyle. In a house full of musicians, artists, maids, and extravagant objects, Emil played the violin and the German accordion. It is ironic, then, that such an aristocratic family would uproot themselves and become settlers on the wild plains of North Dakota.

The reasons for his immigration passed down over the years have been conflicting. His daughter, Anna, believed her mother had a respiratory illness and needed an arid climate, while the facts heavily suggest that Emil suffered from an incurable kidney ailment of his own, something he alluded to in many of his speeches. What we do know is that in October of 1910, he followed a distant cousin, Charles Krauth, and moved to Hebron.

Emil was a tall, attractive man with endearing grey eyes and an enormous appetite for knowledge. He was a photographer, an amateur archeologist, and even a glider pilot, often giving lessons in the

Morton County was moved to 'low green' Covid-19 level

With active cases of COVID-19 in North Dakota at their lowest level since mid-August, Gov. Doug Burgum announced the statewide risk level was being adjusted from moderate/yellow risk to low/green risk, effective 8 a.m. Friday, January 29.

A low/green risk level increases the recommended occupancy limit for bars, restaurants and other food service establishments from 65 percent of licensed facility capacity up to 200 patrons, to 80 percent of licensed facility capacity up to 300 patrons, Continued Page 6

January "very" dry with only 3.5 inches of snow; .20 moisture

Linda Heinle, weather person for the City of Hebron, reported the month of January was a very dry month with only 3 ½ inches of snow falling here, creating a total of .20 inches of moisture.

She stated that the high temperature during the last week was 28 degrees and the low temperature was minus 2 during two different evenings.

Temperatures and moisture during the last seven days included January 25 - high 15, low minus 2; ½ inch of snow creating .03 inches of moisture; January 26 - high 7, low minus 2, ½ inch of snow creating .01 inches of moisture;

January 27 - high 15, low 4, trace of moisture; January 28 - high 20, low 7, trace of moisture; January 29 - high 23, low 15;

January 30 - high 25, low 4, trace of moisture and January 31 - high 28, low 8.