

## Winter at Granny's Farm

Winter starts early in this part of the country where our farm in Konradshof was. In October it starts snowing and stays till around April the next year. We could not go anywhere with the horses and wagon but only with horses and sled. We could not ride our bikes with all that snow. Lots of snow if you would try to walk outside, we would not find you then the snow was higher. We lived right in the hills. My Daddy made us ski's. You know he was good at making things. (He made me a guitar, I still have it.)



### My guitar

picture taking in my back yard between flowers

With so much snow on the ground we some times went skiing. We started out right from the house skiing to the biggest hill on the farm, where in summer the cows were out in pasture. I remember the first time I skied down the hill, Fell and my skies went down the hill without me. I went down on my butt behind them. O!! I had a sore butt for a while. Real close to the house was a pond and the water was frozen. I and friends went ice skating a lot there . That was so wonderful. Those were joyful days. I would dream skating by music and pretend to be dancing on ice. Then we did not know about tape recorder or walkman, to bad.

Our horses would get restless in the barn, they did not like to just be standing there. I had a real nice Daddy, he would say “ Edie your favorite horse wants you to ride it, need some exercise?. He did not say which one to take, they all needed exercise. So I would go to the barn and pick one out. Mostly without a saddle. I just loved to ride horses. Still love horses very much. Sometime we would just let the horse pull a few little sleds, we Would asked friends to join us. So much fun.



**This picture taken in 1946**

Susie, one of our horses, is ready to join in the fun

To church we would ride in the big slide. To bad I do not have a picture of that. Once every year on one of our sleigh rides with the whole family, my Daddy would see to it that the big sled would tip over and we all would fall out into the snow. All of us looking like snowman laughing at each other. My Daddy with us in the snow. He was a great Dad . You know he is in heaven and some day you will meet him and he will say “ I’m your Grannies Daddy, nice to meet you”. A real sled in the 1940-picture kinder garden ride.



Another thing happened every winter, all the people in the village would get together for a sleigh ride. There were around 30 sleds following. You know! There were bells on the horses. That sounded so beautiful. Like a Christmas song you hear singing. Every step the horses took the bells would jingle saying: Jingle bells! Jingle bells! The sky was so blue with a few light clouds. The air was cool and crispy. It was always a wonderful day. The sleigh rides would be one way around one hour to a restaurant. We ordered ahead lots of cake, plain strussel, sugar, plum or apple cake. With joy in our hearts we thank the Lord for the day, the coffee, the cake and the fellowship. We had a very nice time together. You know we had wonderful old fashion times. We did not have a car then, did not have TV only radio. But don't you think it sounded like fun going sleigh riding? Take Granny's word it **was fun.....**



**Eddie in Winter**