



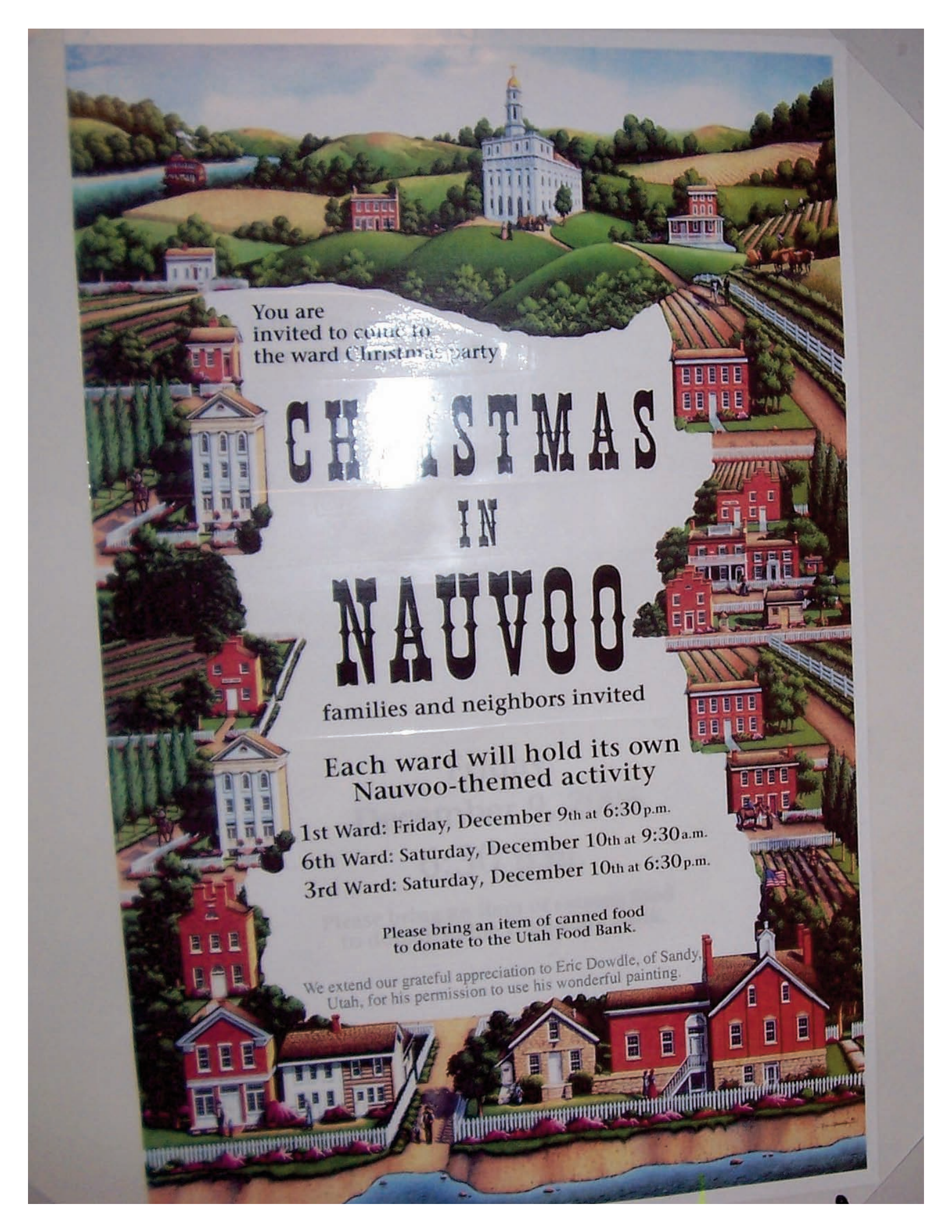
Willow Canyon
First Ward Dinner Party

CHRISTMAS IN NAUVOO

Friday, December 9, 2005
6:30 p.m.

Families and neighbors invited.
Bring an item of canned food
to donate to the Utah Food Bank.

We extend our grateful appreciation to Eric Dowdle, of Sandy,
Utah, for his permission to use his wonderful painting.



You are
invited to come to
the ward Christmas party

CHRISTMAS IN NAUVOO

families and neighbors invited

Each ward will hold its own
Nauvoo-themed activity

1st Ward: Friday, December 9th at 6:30 p.m.

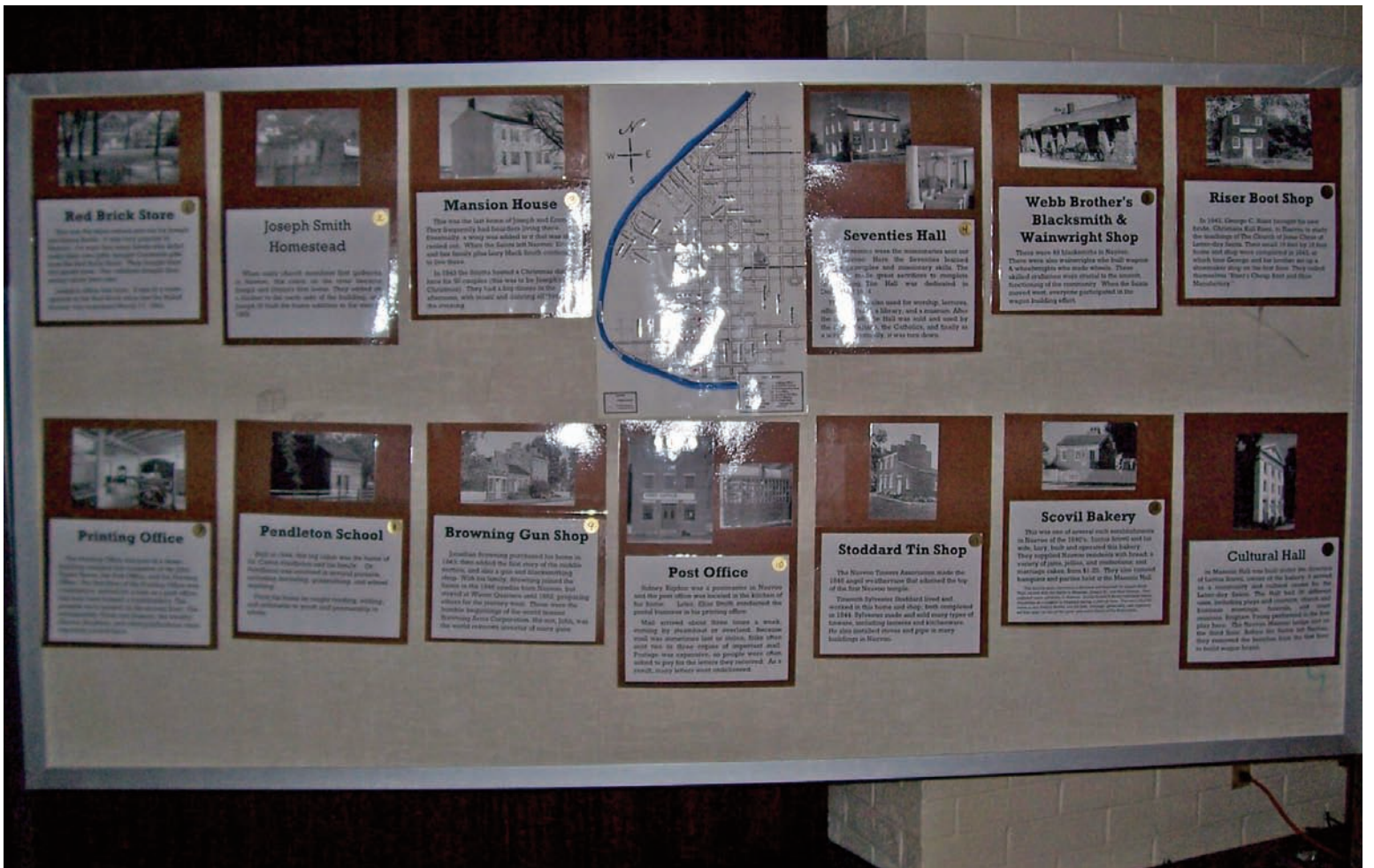
6th Ward: Saturday, December 10th at 9:30 a.m.

3rd Ward: Saturday, December 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Please bring an item of canned food
to donate to the Utah Food Bank.

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Utah, for his permission to use his wonderful painting.

















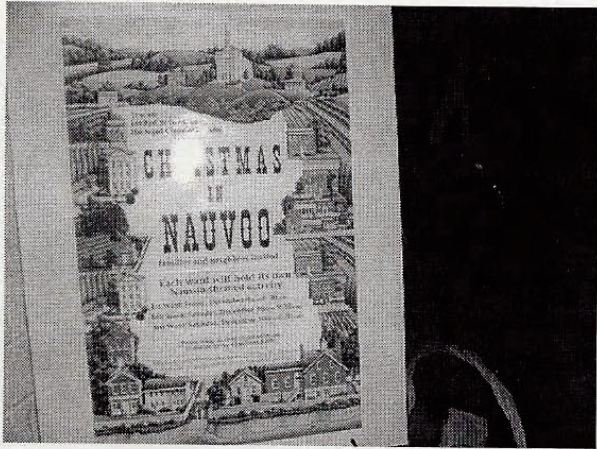






CHRISTMAS IN NAUVOO

Our ward used the ideas for “Christmas in Nauvoo” found in *Meridian magazine* and we’re grateful to Clark & Kathryn Kidd and Sister Ruth Liddell for the suggestions. We have had fancier Christmas parties, but this one was great fun for everyone and we got lots of compliments.



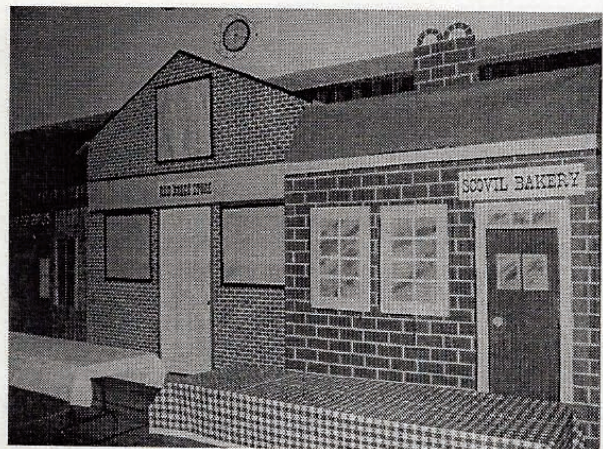
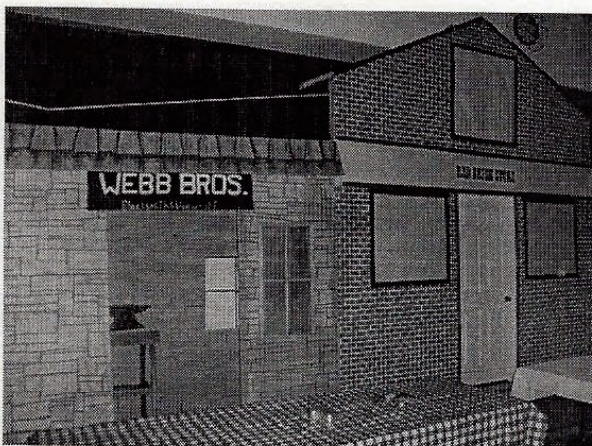
OUR POSTER – Dorothy Mahler is our great poster maker. She knows Eric Dowdle personally and got permission to use his art for our poster. If the picture was bigger, you might be able to see that all three wards that use our building used the same theme. We have done this for several years. We scheduled the building the previous January so that all three parties were the same weekend. One party was on Friday night, one on Saturday morning, and last one on Saturday night. The different times were listed on the same poster. The posters stayed up all day Sunday. The posters were later used as part of the decoration for the entries into the Cultural Hall.

DECORATIONS - The three wards also shared in the decorating and set up and take down. It saves a lot of effort and money. We got to know some of the other wards’ members in the process. Each ward made a store front (Webb Bro. Blacksmith, Red Brick Store, and Scovil Bakery) based on drawings done by Dorothy Mahler. We also had signs around the Cultural Hall that gave some interesting facts about Nauvoo. These were from the Church and Historic Nauvoo websites.

Our tables were set up in three rows of semi-circles. Our round tables were in front. Sorry this picture isn’t brighter.



ACTIVITIES - Each ward used the storefronts differently. Our ward used three of the suggested activities: the hole punched canning lid ornaments (a hit with the little boys who love to pound things –we used phone books under the lids to deaden the noise), another homemade craft, and decorating gingerbread boys and girls). This was the most successful part of the party because it kept the Primary children busy and the YM/YW were busy helping with the activities. The result: kids weren’t running all over the building and the adults could visit with each other.





FOOD - We copied Third Ward's serving method. It's not a new idea, but it was the first time we used it. We served 200 people in fifteen minutes. The bishop was so excited. We had four buffet tables with the same food, lined up perpendicular to the wall. That made eight lines. Against the wall we had tables where we set the food to replace the dishes as they were emptied. That also kept us from running back and forth to the kitchen. Dessert was served later on the same tables. We served the usual ham dinner, but one ward had stew and the other had a breakfast casserole.

PROGRAM - We had a short play on Joseph Smith's last Christmas in Nauvoo. We took the play from several stories we found on the Church website that had been in past *The Friend* and *The New Era* Church Magazines. It was directed by Sister Jane Johnson.

Scene one - carolers serenade the prophet at 1:00 am

Scene two - dinner at the Mansion House and the arrival of Porter Rockwell.



After the play Joseph Smith read the Christmas Story from Luke and Matthew and the ward members sang Christmas carols that corresponded with the various parts of the story.

The other two wards were excited about this party theme. They, too, had compliments from ward members. We may use it in four years when we again study Church History.