

A Publication for
and about the
town of Naper,
Nebraska

Naper Paper

Volume 3, Issue 4

News of 4th Quarter 2006

The Naper Historical Society

Our Mission

The mission of the Naper Historical Society is to preserve, interpret, display, communicate, promote and honor history, original structures, special places and artifacts of the people and culture of Naper, Nebraska, and the surrounding area. The Naper Historical Society intends to accomplish this mission by operating a museum, publishing a newsletter, sponsoring events, and in other appropriate ways. The Naper Historical Society will include both an Outlaw Trail School Days, like in Naper Through the Years, White Horse Ranch, and Naper 20 Years Old.

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Naper Historical Society News

My goodness, we have been so busy with such fun and interesting things. And we have had so many people helping. The whole community of Naper is involved, and we greatly appreciate everyone's help.

White Horse Ranch Museum

We spent a few weeks working on the artifacts from the White Horse Ranch. Every item had to be cleaned, photographed, cataloged, and moved. Thanks to everyone who helped, and special thanks to Bob & Leann Schultz, Duke & Velda Stahlecker, Jim & Mabel Sattler, Velta June Blum, Marilyn Sieh, Rindy Zink, Louise Zink, and Charlotte Nicolaus. We had some help with cameras and technical work on computers from Lois Vogt, Holly Vogt, Sharon Vogt, Linda Sieh, and Tara Ahlers. And special thanks to Dean & Carley for being there & providing us with information on all of the items.

It looks like we will get the old Krotter's building on Main Street to serve as the White Horse Ranch Museum. The contract has not been signed, but we seem to be in agreement with the Krotters on terms. A lot of work will be needed to fix up the old place, but when it's done it will be such a great addition to our town. Jim & Mabel Sattler donated pork roasts for a fundraiser held on February 11th, and the money raised will go a long way toward turning this dream into reality. The Naper Historical Society wants to acknowledge the strong support and cooperation of **Vernon Goodman** on this project. Thanks Vernon!

The **Village Board** has also been very supportive. Duke Stahlecker had the opportunity to meet with the Board not long ago, and he was so impressed with the wonderful cooperation offered by these fine civic leaders. Duke also has met with the good folks at the **Outlaw Trail** a couple of times, and they are so supportive. After we get the museum up and running, we will be featured on the Outlaw Trail's website and in their promotional material. Hopefully this will result in cars turning off the highway into town to take a look. And while they are in town, just maybe they'll buy a meal at the café and drop a few dollars at the Naper Store as well.

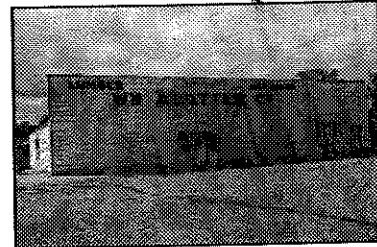
Even the Governor is being supportive. Jim Sattler and Margaret Ludemann met with **Governor Heineman** to discuss the project. He and his staff have been helpful in suggesting funding opportunities. Thanks, Governor.

Calendars

We had a ton of interest in our 2007 calendars. It was quite a bit of work, but it sure was worth it. Imagine... those wonderful photos of Naper are in homes all over the country this year. Special thanks to Bob Schultz and the many other people who helped put the calendar together.

Road Clean Up

Once again we organized a road clean up crew which



The Krotter's building on Main Street is rumored to be the new home for the White Horse Ranch Museum.

included Beverly Zink, Leonard & Thelma Schmitz, Bob Wentz, Ann Anderson, Duke & Velda Stahlecker, Jim & Mabel Sattler, Bob Schultz and the Higgins' (Brenda, Lavern, and Ridge.)

New Board Members

Finally, the Naper Historical Society is pleased and proud to announce two new Board members, Ann Anderson and Craig Zeisler. Congratulations to both. We look forward to your active participation and strong support. We also wish to thank Loren Sieh and Margaret Ludemann who are leaving the Board. They were among the first members of this society, and we thank them for their outstanding service. Both will continue to be involved, though not as members of the Board. As we have said many times, the Naper Historical Society is not just a small group of people or a little clique. Over the years you will see Board members retire as terms expire and new ones join up. That's how we envisioned it when we formed three years ago.

A Visit with the Governor



Naper's own Margaret Ludemann and Jim Sattler at a recent meeting with Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman. The three discussed the important and vital work of the Naper Historical Society. Thanks to the Governor for giving of his valuable time for our community!

IONA'S BEAUTY SHOP *By Iona Meyer Boucher Carstens*

Trade and local economy are the driving forces that keep small towns like ours alive. The Naper Paper continues its salute to businesses from Naper's past and present.

Before my husband, "Butch" Boucher, passed away in 1953, we made plans for me to go to Beauty School in Norfolk to get a license in Cosmetology. This would be my source of income. We had two children, Vicki (2 1/2), and Gale (3 months old). Family and friends encouraged me and cared for Gale. This allowed Vicki and me to live with a former schoolmate, Irene Forsch, whose husband was serving in Korea. Irene's mother, Erma, kept Vicki while I attended school.

During 1953 while I was at school, R.E.A. came to the Naper area. What timing! Now, I could have a shop in Naper. In the second week of school, I was asked to do a "touch-up" bleach for a customer. I had never seen the procedure done before, but my instructor assured me that she would "walk me" through the entire process. When I finished styling the customer's hair she told me that she was the singer for the TOMMY DORSEY orchestra playing at King's Ballroom that night. (She complimented me and gave me a whole dollar tip!) That was a confidence-builder for the rest of the term.

I was so grateful to Spec and Dorothy

Whitley who offered space in their appliance store for my new shop. My grand opening was in February 1954. Prices were 75 cents for a haircut, and \$1.50 for shampoo/set and machine-less or cold-wave permanent starting at \$5.95. The following year I rented an upstairs apartment from Liz Broekemeier where I could keep my family and have my shop on the same floor. In 1956 I bought a home from Ivan Hansen that had an ideal location, a half-block off Main Street. This had an attached garage that I converted into a beauty shop. I had good clientele built up with local customers, as well as from surrounding towns.

One little incident I never forgot was when two Native American women walked in for perms. When I was all finished they told me they had no money, but would pay me when they got their checks! I also had some good Indian customers who more than compensated me for the other two by bringing me gifts!

I had some anxious days when head lice were discovered at the school. Medicated shampoo and extra formaldehyde were used to sterilize everything. After I remarried in 1958 and had a "second" family, Mark and Tom, I leased my shop to Karen Gentele for a



Iona Meyer Boucher Carstens tends to the Beauty Shop as it was in the 1950s.

year. Orlon Higgins also moved his barber's chair in and barbered 1-2 nights a week. In 1966 my family moved to Meadow Grove, NE where I did hair 14 more years in a beauty shop, a rest home and a mortuary in Tilden, Nebraska.

In the following years several other beauty shops were in Naper. Jane Fuhrer had shop for many years in the front of the home she shared with her mother. At the current time we have a beauty shop, Curl up & Dye, which is run by Angie McCarthy.

Happy Birthday!

The Naper Historical Society Hosts 96th Birthday Party for Johnny Schonebaum

On October 13th, a surprise birthday celebration was held at the Naper Café/Lounge for Johnny Schonebaum. Daughter Virginia and her husband Wayne Ahlers brought Johnny from the Butte Health Care Center to Naper. John was greeted by a host of friends and relatives. Happy Birthday was sung, and home-baked cookies and coffee were served by friends.

Duke Stahlecker served as Master of Ceremonies for a program that included presentations by Gil Posey of KBRX Radio, O'Neill, for being the "Voice of Naper for 43 Years". James Sattler, Chairman of the Historical Society presented Johnny with a plaque for being the Voice of Naper from the Historical Society and the Naper Community. Bob Wentz, representing the Town Council, thanked John for all the years that he served on the Council "with a smile and good attitude." Velda Stahlecker, representing Loren Sieh, former Chairman of the School Board, presented Johnny with a framed certificate for the number of years he served on the school board for Naper Public Schools.

Not many small towns have citizens that so unselfishly devote all the time that John Schonebaum did for Naper. For this, the Naper Community thanks you, John!

60 Years with the VFW!



On a beautiful fall evening, October 1, 2006, Post #8256 was the setting of a scrumptious potluck meal celebrating 60 years since the VFW was organized. Commander Dale Nicolaus welcomed approximately 50 people after which Duke Stahlecker gave the invocation. Three Charter Members were present: Ray Fuhrer of Naper, Mel Fuhrer of Bonesteel, SD and Walt Ahlers of O'Neill, NE. Other notables included Ray Lange, State Jr. Vice Commander, his Wife Sharon, Dept Chaplin, from O'Neill, Jon Dyer, VFW District #11 President and Dorothy Cline, District #11 Auxiliary President, both of Naper.

An Interview With *The Circuit Rider* Violet (Sieh) Stahlecker



At sundown a mysterious rider is seen drifting along the horizon. Old timers believe he's a Sandhills Ghost or Spirit who's trying to keep the Pioneer Spirit alive. His mission: To interview favorite long-time residents of Naper, in order to help us remember our noble past. No one can actually point to specifics, but all swear, "He's out there..."

The season was growing colder and trees had shed most of their leaves at "Old Man Winter's Request." The Circuit Rider hunted some warm clothes to make the buggy trip to the household of Violet Stahlecker. He expected to hear an interesting story or two from Violet who, in her earlier years, had ridden horseback to her rural school to teach. Some interesting stories could be related about Henry, too, since he'd been Naper's Town Marshall along with other jobs.

Violet recalls one night Henry came home from a "rousing" Saturday night in Naper as the Marshall and he had bunches of long hair over his clothes. Seems as if he had to separate two "ladies of the night" from a big fight they were having.

Violet Irene Stahlecker was born July 18, 1922 to Claus and Olida (Klug) Sieh south west of Naper. She never lived farther than 25 miles from Naper for 80 years. She graduated from Butte High School and taught school for 13 years in Boyd and Holt Counties. The first year of teaching she rode horseback to school for 3 miles every day. Other jobs included cooking in the Naper school for 6 years, working for the Whitleys for 13 years and 3 years for the White Horse Registry. She also worked in the Naper Café, Blakkolb's Store and other jobs that were available.

While Hank was in the Burke hospital Violet lived in Burke. In 2003 she moved to Tilden, Nebraska close to her daughter Laura.

Hank was born January 28, 1905 in Delmont, SD to Jesaias and Mary (Zeitner) Stahlecker. Henry moved to Canada with his parents where he got most of his schooling before moving back to the Naper area. Henry served in the US Army during World War 11. After the Army, he worked various jobs in Naper, Butte, Pierce, Dustin, Nebraska and in Kansas and Idaho.

Henry and Violet moved to Dustin, Neb. in 1945 where he was Postmaster in the Dustin store. He operated the store during the school year while Violet taught school. During the summers, Violet managed the store and post office while Hank worked for various farmers in the area. After the Dustin post office closed they moved back to Naper. Henry operated the township maintainer for several years, worked on roads and bridges, and worked for various farmers in the Naper area. Henry was also on the Naper board for 8 years, 4 of these as chairman. He also served as

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The Ol' Homesteader

The Ol' Homesteader returns with more news and reviews of what's been going on in Naper, Nebraska.

Congratulations! to the kids--

Both Kelsey Zink (daughter of Jeff and Rindy) and Samantha McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie) won several awards at the annual Boyd County Fair in Spencer in August. Kelsey had the champion market lamb and Samantha had the champion senior breeding heifer. Way to go, girls! K & S Mobil Welding (our own Kevin and Staci Koenig) did right well in the parade and tied for second in the commercial division.

Brooke Reiman (daughter of Casey and Lisa), a student at West Boyd Unified, qualified for the state cross-country track meet in Kearney October 20. Logon Vogt (son of Lyndon and Kara) also ran in the state meet representing Chadron High School. Makes the Ol' Homesteader tired just thinkin' 'bout it.

Jon Alford (son of Jim and Rebecca) won top honors in the American Legion Auxiliary Americanism essay contest "What Freedom Means to Me" for 5th and 6th graders. He won first in the state of Nebraska and first in the Northwest. Now there's something to crow about.

Ridge Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda) pedaled a tractor to third place at Butte Pancake Days. Kevin McCarthy and Keith Mayer got first place in Pancake Day tractor pulls, but they had motors for power.

Mindy Haney (daughter of Mike and Tammy) was crowned Homecoming Queen at Spencer-Naper. Holly Vogt (daughter of Bryon and Sharon) was also a candidate. Holly played some outstanding volleyball and is now hitting the basketball court. Marcus Alford (son of Jim and Rebecca) and Skye Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda) did a whale of a job on the football field. Marcus is doing a good job at basketball. And that's not all-- Marcus, Holly, Jon, Alex Bendig, and Kendall have all been on the honor roll. Jon, Alex, Samantha, Macy Ahlers, Amber Bendig, Justin Drueke, Evan Reiman, and Dylan Reiman had perfect attendance! Now back when I was a young 'un...

Logan Titus-Ahlers (daughter of Dan and Tara) and Kendall McCarthy (son of Kevin and Angie) attended the 79th Annual FFA Convention in Indianapolis October 25-28. Had a great time, I'm sure. At that same convention, Tina Schmitz (daughter of Dave and Carmen) received the highest degree awarded by the FFA: the prestigious American Degree, for her livestock project.

Congratulations to the older folks, too!

Tedd Riesselman (son of Merle and Leola) married Angie Kurtenbach June 3.

John Schonebaum was honored at a surprise 96th birthday party in the Naper Lounge October 13. He received special recognition from the Naper Historical Society, the Naper Town Board, the Naper School Board, and KBRX. John is now living at the Butte Healthcare Center and thought he was comin' to Naper for a cup of coffee!

Ida Maertin had a special day on September 17 celebrating her 95th birthday. Marguerite Ludemann celebrated 97 years on January 23.

The White Horse Ranch and Dean & Carley Daugherty were featured in the winter issue of *Living Here* magazine. Mighty sorry to see that era end.

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OI Homesteader, Continued from Page 3

VFW Post 8256 and Ladies Auxiliary celebrated 60 years with a potluck dinner. Those folks have done a lot of good for a lot of people in a lot of places. Thanks!

Workin' Hard

West End Extension Club hosted Bingo parties in the VFW Club this summer. Be ready to get your card next spring-- they're closed up for winter now.

About a dozen hardy folks showed up for the fall walkin' of the road ditches. They were plumb happy to pick up less trash than ever before. No hiss'n snakes this year.

The VFW Auxiliary had a POW/MIA Remembrance Day September 20 at the Café. The UCC Women's Fellowship once again served fried chicken, roast beef, and all the trimmin's September 23. Always good food and the ol' homesteader eats way too much.

September 30 was a busy day what with garage sales all over town and a watermelon feed sponsored by the Historical Society. Thanks to Mike and Darlene Sieh for the melons-- once again Ol' Homesteader ate way too much. It was just too good! Runnin' between garage sales helped work a little of it off.

More than 160 Ludemann descendants gathered September 3 to get acquainted and reacquainted. Guess what-- more good food and you know the rest--

The annual Craft Fair was a huge hit this year-- good crafts, good food, good weather, good crowd-- can't be beat! The Post Office had open house on the 19th-- loved them cookies!

Then the really big surprise! Santa himself showed up on the 23rd at the Naper Auditorium. A fine crowd welcomed him and enjoyed all the gifts supplied by local merchants and individuals. We're all mighty grateful he had time to stop in Naper.

Our own Ms. Deb Leibel has Jerry Hamling's house available for rent. The house is right on 2nd Street in a great location. If you know someone who might be interested, please get in touch with Deb. She'd be mighty grateful.

Goodbye-

John Gosch (son of Cornelius and Anna Ludemann Gosch), age 88, passed away in Estherville, IA, August 20. Donald Schock, age 79, passed away suddenly December 9. He was a lifelong resident of the Naper area, a fine community supporter, a good neighbor. Dennis Camin, age 70, passed away December 15. Dennis had operated a successful business and

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served on many community boards.

Well, it's 2007 already. Never figured I'd still be writin' this column after all these years but guess what! I'm still here!

Guess I'll be takin' a nap and restin' up from all the hard work of finishing 2006 off. So until next time-

Ol' Homesteader

The Atkinson Homestead

By Duke Stahlecker

The Naper Paper continues its look at farms and homesteads that have been in the same family for a century or more.

Charles E. Atkinson was born in Clinton Co. Iowa February 10, 1860. Charles' parents, Thomas & Elizabeth (Mawthorpe) Atkinson were born and married in York, England. They came to the U.S. on their honeymoon. The couple settled in Davenport, IA. In 1859 they became naturalized citizens.

Charles was from a family of 9 children who were reared on a farm in Clinton County. In the fall of 1891 he visited his sister in Rock County, Nebraska and liked the country so well that he moved to Boyd County in the spring of 1892 and filed on a homestead four and a half miles southwest of Butte. There he lived the rest of his life.

After settling on the homestead he met a young neighbor girl whose parents also took out a homestead claim. On December 12, 1893 Charles married Mary Etta Sams who had been a school teacher before moving from Iowa. They had 5 years to "prove up" on their claim-- which meant building fences, buildings, and breaking sod.

The house was sod which they plowed and cut into pieces from which they laid up the walls, after which poles were cut and laid across the roof. The roof often leaked during rain, so buckets had to be placed on the floor to catch the water from the leaks. Soon Charles put down a wooden floor. The "soddie" had 3 rooms, a kitchen, living and bedroom. The new bride planted moss roses on the outside walls and they would bloom in the spring.

Neighbors were few. There was only 1 house between theirs and Butte; and 2 houses between theirs and the Twin Buttes 9 miles northwest. Being one of the first houses in the area, meetings and elections were held in their home. The first school in the area was sod, built across the road from this homestead.

Charles was one of the first to file in this area, which was Ponca Indian land at the time. All requirements were met and on March 7, 1902 he was granted ownership of these 160 acres. The patent record was signed by President Theodore Roosevelt. As the family began to grow a need was felt for a bigger house. Charles was hauling freight from O'Neill for extra money. He also hauled the lumber

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Support Our Local Merchants

A & M Enterprises
832-5388

Trenching, pump installations, backhoe work, plumbing.

Bob's Auto Body
832-5766, Box 223
Auto body repair.

Curl Up & Dye Beauty Shop
832-5573
Haircuts, styling, coloring.

Goodman Farm & Ranch and Lynn's Upholstery
832-5461
Covering chairs, couches and other furniture.

M & L Lawn Service
832-5422
Mowing, trimming, fertilizing, tilling, seeding, spraying

K & S Mobile
832-5125
Welding & equipment repair; on-site service

Naper B & B
832-5129
Lodging & breakfast.

Naper Café and Lounge
832-5272
Breakfast, dinner, supper bar.

Naper Grocery
832-5276
Full line grocery store

Naper Gas
832-5381
Propane Sales.

Naper Transport
832-5955
Propane delivery, sand & gravel hauling

U.S. Postal Service
832-5977

If we don't support our local merchants...who will? Spend Here: Keep Naper strong.

NAPER HISTORICAL SOCIETY BENEFICIARY OF WHITE HORSE RANCH TREASURES &

MEMOIRS by Duke Stahlecker

It is no secret that small towns are struggling to hang on. Identities are lost and they become history. To keep Naper alive it takes cooperation among the Village Council, the community, and our ambitious Naper Historical Society. We in Naper can thank Betty Ruth Whipple and her family for their choosing Naper as the site to place the White Horse Ranch (WHR) artifacts, which the Naper Historical Society will display for tourists and all interested parties.

Betty Ruth lives in Pleasant Hill, Oregon with her husband and other family members. Among them are 5 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. Assisting her husband in managing a motel and other real estate holdings keeps Betty Ruth very active. She has retired from 31 years of teaching home economics and coaching volleyball. In all the years her teams missed going to the state tournament only twice. During this time her husband was Principal of the school.

During the operation of the WHR over the years like most other ranches there were some difficult financial times. It was fortunate that Betty Ruth's family could help out. Through these efforts the families became close. During the 30's, Betty Ruth's entire family moved from Burr Oak, Kansas to Oregon. The elders wanted to move as far away as possible from dust storms and wind. Betty Ruth was small and was afraid they would "fall into the ocean."

Ruby Hackenberg and daughter Betty Ruth would come to Naper to visit Cal and Ruth. The relationship among this group was quite endearing. Being a niece to Ruth leaves a proud feeling with Betty Ruth. She believes Ruth was one of the most creative people that she ever met and 50 years ahead of her time. This is an era of which she is very proud.

The Ranch will be leased to neighbors, the Hipke family. The "Café House" will be kept for Betty Ruth and family when they come back to visit. Betty Ruth says, "The Naper community has done so much for the WHR that this transition has all come together like a puzzle." She also feels much gratitude for the professional manner in which Dean and Carley Daugherty helped her make this change. Naper's civic-minded citizens will miss the WHR and their contributions toward putting Naper on the map during the early years. No matter where one would travel, someone there had heard of the WHR. A sincere "Thank You" to Betty Ruth and her family for remembering the Naper Historical Society.

Editors Note: Betty Ruth's husband passed away since she was last in Naper. The Naper community extends its heartfelt condolences.



Betty Ruth Whipple

Patchwork Pix

Jerry and Cathy Ludemann from Minnesota purchased a "Memory Quilt" (a custom-made patchwork quilt created specially by Maxine Arp Meyer and her daughter Sheryl Meyer Kizer) at a silent auction during the Ludemann family reunion in September 2006. The Ludemanns' check for \$450 was donated to the Naper Historical Society. Below, Cathy Ludemann can be seen admiring a lovely antique dress on display in the museum, while "Jerry the Jailbird" awaits the arrival of his attorney! Thanks to the Ludemanns for their generous donation, and to Maxine and Sheryl for their hard work in creating such a lovely quilt.



The Atkinson Homestead (continued from Page 4)

to begin a frame house. In the fall of 1901 they were able to move into their new home which had 4 rooms. The upstairs was not yet complete.

Charles planted trees around the farmstead including apple, cherry and plum. He added buildings and continued to improve the homestead; and in the 1920's he added a water system. This was a hand dug well 17' deep and 6' across. This well is still in use today with a good supply of water. Next he dug in a supply tank and piped water to all of the buildings. He used a force pump on the windmill to fill the tank. Shortly after this he put in electricity. It was powered by a 32 volt Delco plant which ran one day a week to charge batteries. Over the years the house has been remodeled, but the structure is still the same; and the barn and corn crib are still used.

Charles passed away March 3, 1930; his son George farmed the place until 1941. Clarence, another son, then farmed there until his death in September 1950. Marvin and family moved onto the homestead in 1951 and worked the farm until 1976 when son Ron and family took over. They are still operating it today.

Circuit Rider, *Continued from Page 3*



Town Marshall.
Henry died August 9, 1999, after an 8 year battle with complications from a stroke. Henry and Violet have one daughter, Laura. She has 3 children: Crysti and husband John Obana in California, Kyle Cozad and wife Jana in Portland, Oregon and

Mark Cozad in school at Kearney. Laura is now married to Dan Gorham. They live on an acreage 8 miles from Tilden. Dan has 2 grandchildren who spend a lot of time on the farm. Laura works at the Norfolk Regional Center in Norfolk, Nebraska.

After observing the weather conditions outside; the Circuit Rider decided to get on the trail leaving the warmth of the wood burning stove and the coffee pot. On to the next "Early Times" stories.

OLD TIME WATERMELON FEED & HOG RAFFLE

Once again the streets of Naper were lined with cars on both sides. The Naper Historical Society hosted "An Old Time Watermelon Feed" in front of the old Daldorf Drug Store on Main Street. Mike and Darlene Sieh generously gave their watermelon patch to the Historical Society for this occasion.

Hog Raffle tickets for a processed hog by K&H Meats were sold. The proceeds will go toward expanding the storage for the recent White Horse Ranch artifacts that were made available to the Naper Museum. The winning names were drawn at the town Christmas party. Thelma Schmitz of Naper and Scott Zimbelman of Gregory each won half of the hog which was donated by James & Mabel Sattler.



Pork and melons...

Who could ask for anything more?



Letters to the Naper Paper

Send your cards and letters to:
The Naper Paper
c/o The Naper Historical Society
PO Box 72
Naper, NE 68755

Sorry I have waited so long to let you know how much I enjoy the Naper Paper, and look forward to receiving it (my husband, Stan, enjoys it, too.) As Clint Reber wrote: "Naper is still home." We have lived in California for 60 years, but Nebraska is forever in my heart. The Dick Ahlers farm was on the South Dakota border, and my sister Clara (Ahlers) Neumiller and some of her children live in that State, so it is special as well. We try to visit her every year, and if timing works out, we try to come to the Alumni event. This year we just drove around town and reminisced. The people and places mentioned are familiar, and the memories are precious to recall. I attended District #60 before attending High School in Naper. I boarded with Lester and Delilah Anderson during the week, which worked out well. Thank you for keeping the town and surrounding area in the news, and for all you do.

Frieda Ahlers Voll

Redwood City, California

(Stan & Frieda, Don't even think of driving through town again without stopping for a visit! We are always glad to see you. The Editor)

Having only lived in Naper 3 years... met a lot of fine people. Here is a check to help with expenses. We enjoy the paper. You're doing a great job.

Dan & Mildred Duffy

Sending \$ for my dues. Enjoy the paper. I was to Naper on September 3rd and went to the Lutheran Church to see who I would still know. I went out to the graves of my folks, grandparents, uncles and aunts, it all looked good. Naper sure was nice and clean, so green. Enjoy my paper. Sorry to read that the White Horse Ranch closed. Thanks.

Velda Hannahs

Eatonville, Washington

Thanks for the most recent Naper Paper. It's always fun to read about the history and events in our old home town even though my memories of Naper are sparse. I was just 11 when our mother, Mary Herrmann, moved us all here to Oregon back in 1946. 60 years tend to cloud childhood memories. I do remember some things, such as "town nights". One of the most vivid memories is of the night my Uncle Jake Stahlecker's store burned down along with other businesses. I awoke that night to burning embers raining down on our house and the yard. Being a good Lutheran child, I was certain it was the end of the world and that Satan was doing his "fire & brimstone" thing. Years of listening to my mother and older siblings talk of Naper have made a lot of the names and events familiar to me. I am the 7th of 9 children born to Fred and Mary Herrmann. 8 of us, Marcelle, Luree, Lillian, LaDale, LaVere, Mary Lou, Emmett (Bud), and Fred are still living and navigating fairly well even though we range in age from 67 to 87. Our oldest brother, Altor, died in 1946. Our father was killed in 1938, and our mother died in 1988. Last month we had our annual "Herrmann Kids" reunion on the Oregon Coast and were able to spend 4 days together. This reunion is just for us and our spouses. None of our children, of which there are many, are allowed to attend. We are all still married to original spouses and all, except baby brother, Fred, have celebrated 50th anniversaries. Our oldest sister, Marcelle and husband Richard, celebrated their 65th. Sister Luree's husband, Alford, died in 1987. Again, thanks

Letters, Continued from Page 6

for a great Naper Paper. I am enclosing a check to help keep them coming. Hope the Nebraska winter is kind to you all.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou (Herrmann) Clark
Medford, Oregon

(Mary Lou, Perhaps your entire family should go into business as marriage counselors! Congratulations. The Editor)

Thanks for the Naper Paper. I enjoy each issue. Look forward to receiving them. Enclosing a check to help with expenses.

Rose Marie Cerny

We both enjoy reading the Naper Paper. Enclosed find a donation to help with expenses. Thanks to all who remembered Garry with cards at the time of his surgery. He is doing great now! Keep up the good work.

Garry & Diane Hoyt

(Garry, We're all glad to hear that you are doing so well. The Editor)

The Yocum family who lived at The Point were very early settlers who had come from Charles City, Iowa. They had some harrowing Indian experiences during their first years on the Keya Paha ranch.

Marilyn Sieh

I finally got around to sending \$ for the Naper Paper. I enjoy it very much. I read every word of it. I remember a lot of those things that happened around Naper, and the people. Keep up the good work. Sometime I hope to write you about my 2 uncles, Dan & Ben Herrmann, and also my mother, also my grandmother Christine Herrmann, and also my mother, Minne Mayer. She was a nurse for Dr. Seasongood. Naper things were pretty crude in those days she said. I'm doing OK health wise. Doctor told me to keep doing what I'm doing so I will. Wasn't able to get to Naper Memorial Day. Hope to next year.

Norven D. Mayer

Enclosed is a check to help with the postage, etc. Enjoy the paper. Keep up the good work. Told my sister about the Naper Paper, and she would appreciate it if you start sending it to her. Thanks.

Marjorie (Stahlecker) Zaun

(Marjorie, We've added Berneta to our mailing list. The Editor)

The last issue of the Naper Paper with a picture of Dorwin Smith's old switchboard brought back many memories. I graduated from Naper High in 1942, and was working at the Putnam Drug Store when Dorwin asked me to go to work for him operating that switchboard. I worked for Dorwin until I moved to Montana in 1945. I was working alone at the board when the plane crashed at Naper. A number of military officers from Omaha & Lincoln phoned to determine what happened and if there were casualties or survivors. It was during war time, and I was careful about giving out information. I recall how proud I was when an Officer later came to the telephone office to tell Dorwin how well I had handled the first calls before officers arrived at the scene. I am enclosing a check to help with expenses. My husband George & I live in

Spokane in the summer and Arizona in the winter. I look forward to every issue. I've been away from Naper for 61 years and still call it home. God bless all of you.

Leona Wentz Lamb

Here's a donation to help keep the Naper Paper going.

Edward G. Higgins
Mitchell, South Dakota

I'm enclosing a donation. Thank you to everyone who works to produce the paper. I sincerely enjoy reading each issue.

Sharla Mills
Shawnee, Kansas

I've been an avid reader of the Naper Paper since its first issue. It's fun to learn or re-learn the history of the Naper area, and of course it's always heartwarming to read about former schoolmates and other friends that I haven't seen in many years. I particularly appreciated the fine article you published last fall about Douglas Martin. It takes a lot of time and work to produce a paper like this one on a regular basis, not to mention the other ambitious projects the Naper Historical Society has adopted. Everyone who contributes to these very worthwhile efforts has my deepest respect and thanks. I'm enclosing a check that I hope will help a bit.

Verne Mills

Kalamazoo, Michigan

(Verne, You may be interested to know that EVERYONE in Naper has been involved in one way or the other to make our paper and other activities successful. So, the entire community thanks you for your fine comments. The Editor)

You are doing a "Super" job on the Naper Paper. We would like one calendar, and use the rest for a donation to the Naper Paper. Keep up the great work.

Marlin & Zelda Dummer

Thank you for all your work in making the Naper Paper. I really enjoy it.

Carol (Alhers) Roth
Spring, Texas

(Carol, We've updated your address, thanks. The Editor)

I receive the Naper Paper, thanks. I won't get excited again if Ruth & Howard Camin get their's first!

Edna Camin Revilak

Thanks for your great little paper. We enjoy reading it so much and one of us isn't even a Naper native or even a Boyd County native! Keep up the good work. Enclosed is a check to help keep this neat little publication coming.

Bill & LouAnn (Ahlers) Pribil



A PUBLICATION FOR
AND ABOUT THE
TOWN OF NAPER,
NEBRASKA

The Naper Paper
PO Box 72
Napier, Nebraska 68755

I Remember When I was Young...

by Marilyn Sieh

When the folks and I came over the hill North of Naper I saw the street lights; I thought finally!

Going to the theater with a nickel pop and a bag of popcorn from Bertha Smith and thinking, "It don't get any better than this..."

Knowing where every apple, cherry and pear tree was and knowing how to climb them.

Hide and seek—tag games after a movie.

Getting chased up a tree by Jack Bentzens Bulldog every I time I walked by. (I had it coming because I stuffed it in a box when he was little.)

Coming to town on Saturday afternoon during the summer and bringing the ball glove, because you always knew there would be a pick-up game.

Playing King of the mountain in the Winter when the snow was piled in the middle at the street.

The fire crackers during the 4th of July—walking around town throwing them in the air. One time I threw one up and it came down in Maylon Kerns shirt pocket. The

bigger problem was that pocket was full of fire crackers. Dang!!

Setting pins for money in Louie and Midge's bowling alley and wondering how I was going to spend it.

Teasing Louie and Midge's great Dane until the night Bob Wentz and I were walking past Bennetts Hdw., and the danged dog came around the corner. Every man, woman and child for themselves.

Sitting on the Wall at Daldorf's Drug Store, eating licorice — pretending it was chewing tobacco—spitting it and then hitting Shirley Bechtold's white socks. Dumb... Dumb.

At intermission on dance nights sneaking around the outskirts of town and spying on parked cars. A guy could get killed doing that!

Having an older brother take you to Bone-steel for a haircut, feeding you a little beer and then making you eats peanuts before you got back to Naper and went home with your folks.

Thats enough for now—More later...

The

Naper Paper

Naper Historical Society

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