

The Circuit Rider

An Interview With Manfred Peterson



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 Sand Hills of Nebraska became homesteads to many from other countries looking for a place to become permanent residents. Such is the story of the Peterson Family. As the Circuit Rider crosses another grassy plain he comes in view of the Peterson ranch and thinks this would be a good chance to stop, rest his horse and perhaps be invited for a cup of coffee with another "cowboy," Manfred Peterson. Manfred is the eldest of seven kids. There are 4 other brothers and 2 sisters born to Axel and Martha Peterson. Martha and Axel were both born in Sweden and came to the country that they called the "land of opportunity", America. Axel had told his family there was no future for young people in Sweden. Taxes were high and Sweden had a socialistic government that kept anyone from making money or owning any real estate.

Axel and Martha met at the home of a relative north of Gregory, South Dakota near Dixon, about the year 1916. The couple courted but didn't marry until the end of World War I. Axel was called into the service before he even became an American citizen. His choices were to go to war to gain his citizenship or return to Sweden. He stated that "America was going to be his home." He went to war in May of 1917 and returned in July of 1919. Axel served as combat medic while in France. Upon his return from war, he worked for different farmers in the Gregory and Dixon areas.

Axel and Martha got together again and were married in Dallas S.D. on December 30th, 1920. They rented a place 10 miles north of Gregory but didn't farm it. Then in the spring of 1921 they rented a place 4 miles north of Gregory where they lived for the next 8 years.

It was on this place that Manfred was born December 4th, 1921. He started school in 1927. (Since he couldn't speak English, the teacher sent him home.) The next year, he again started with his brother Karl who was 13 months younger. They were in the same class all eight years of grade school.

From this place the family moved to a place south east of Gregory called the Kucera school. By then there were three more siblings, Lovera, Martin and Margaret who went to the Kucera School. The family again moved to what was called the McCarthy school in 1932. While there two more little brothers Frank and Arne were born, Frank was born in 1930 and Arne in 1931. There were seven children born in 10 years.

By this time the depression and drought had begun. At the time the family lived southwest of Burke on the banks of the Ponca creek on what the family called the George Seigal place. It was here that Manfred, Karl, and a neighbor friend, Marvin Vosika became friends with the Cournoyer brothers who lived up the creek about 3 miles. These brothers were part Indian. The Peterson brothers enjoyed their stories and the mother's cinnamon rolls. All of the brothers, Claude, Charlie, and John carried .45 caliber pistols on their hips.

In 1934 the Peterson family moved again to Nebraska to the



John Doyle place 2 miles south and 1 mile west of Brocksburg. Axel was lucky to find this 640 acre place because it had 2 sub-irrigated hay meadows. Since 1934 was the hottest and driest year in South Dakota history, Axel was fortunate that he didn't have to sell off any cattle to the U.S. Government. Many cattle were sold because they had no feed and were starving. The very best cow would sell for only \$20 and calves were going for \$3 or \$4 per calf. These cattle were driven to Burke, shot and put in a pit southwest of Burke.

Brocksburg had a grocery store which sold feed and bought cream and eggs. This was about as far from home as any farmer went. There was also an empty church. Martha was a very strong Christian and wanted her family to go to church. So she and another lady, May Felton, decided to open the doors to this community church. Then World War II broke out and the young men had to serve their country and some of the women went to work in factories. The doors closed again.

Martha had a saying, "God gives you 24 hours a day, and that you should be able to give Him 15 minutes of the day". At that time the family joined the Jamison Methodist Church, of which Manfred is still a member.

The family moved from the John Doyle place to the Hoblet place, two miles south of Brocksburg. World War II broke out at this time. The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. At the supper table Manfred told his folks that he was going to Springview to enlist in the service. His mother begged him not to go. She said, "You'll get to go soon enough." So, Manfred worked for different people. While working near Dixon, S.D. in the harvest fields, he was called to report to Fort Crook at Omaha, Nebraska Sept. 11th, 1942. They were sent home for two weeks, then on to Fort Leavenworth, KS. There, they received their equipment and were then put on a troop train to Camp Roberts, CA for basic training. The next move was to Camp White, OR to the 650th Engineer Battalion where he became a truck driver. On March 1st, 1944 the outfit was sent to the Southwest Pacific. Fifteen months were spent at Finchaven, New Guinea, and from there to the Philippine islands for 3 months, while there on August 6th the first Atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, and then August 9th the second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Unconditional surrender was signed by the Japanese. Manfred was then sent to Japan for 3 months and then home. He was officially discharged on Jan. 11, 1946.

After coming home, Manfred began to go to Naper. He went to the dances, sold seed corn for Harry Bennett and patronized several other businesses.

Several times Manfred recalls going to the White Horse Ranch on Father's Day for a picnic, and observed Cal and Ruth Thompson's shows with their White Horses.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

By Wayne Anderson

My roots are still at Naper and despite travels across much of our world it remains "our home town". My parents, grandparents and great grandparents are all buried in the local cemeteries and all were involved in contributing to the town's history. I began Naper Public School under the loving care of Janet Cerny and graduated in 1949. I attended Wayne State Teachers College and eventually graduated from Syracuse University in NY.

I joined the Marine Corps in 1951 and over the next 20+ years experienced a life that was exciting, challenging and unforgettable. I became a pilot and qualified in over 30 different aircraft and helicopters. The majority of my flight time was in single seat jet aircraft which provided the biggest pleasure. While serving 2 tours in Vietnam I completed over 500 combat missions and was only wounded once and never lost a plane. My aviation career took me aboard aircraft carriers, travels to Japan, Hong Kong, Hawaii and virtually to every State in the U.S. While flying over 5000 hours there are still a few flights that are more memorable. One such flight was in the summer of 1955 while flying from California to Sioux Falls. We (a friend was in the 2nd aircraft) decided that he should see the town I had been raised in, and we changed our course to take us over Naper.

We began our descent from 36,000 feet to pick up a visual contact on the Missouri River. We soon identified Gregory and not much later picked up Burke, Herrick and St. Charles. We headed straight south on the St. Charles to Naper road and hit Naper's main street exceeding 400 miles p/hr. We put on a small air show and covered a large area crossing over many farms and their owners. It was memorable, and somewhere we still have the picture that Elsie Wentz sent to me showing our aircraft going down Main Street.

When we retired from the Marine Corps, my wife Neita (Schock) and our 4 children returned to and operated a cattle ranch 9 miles south on the Niobrara. We became active in the VFW; and, as time passed, my local Post supported my goal of becoming the Nebraska VFW State Commander. That position allowed me to lobby for Veterans issues in Washington where I became a friend of Congressman Charley Thone. Later Representative Thone became Governor Thone, and he asked me to take the job of Director of Aviation for the State. I worked in that job for 4 years, and then accepted the job of Executive Director of the Lincoln Airport. I was elected to the International Airports Council, and Neita and I were able to travel on business to Europe and Asia. In 1996 we retired and moved to our current home in Venice, Florida which is located on the Gulf of Mexico.

Memories and lessons learned in Naper at the edge of the Depression still influence our lives and indeed make one less wasteful and more frugal. All one has to do is look at that group of first graders in a 1937 class picture and there is a lack of "snappy dressers". When one reflects on the past the small things come first to mind and they are happy events. Swimming on a Sunday afternoon at the Camin slide bank in the Keya Paha; drinking cold water from the Kortmeyer spring; getting a watermelon off George Alexander's truck; flying paper kites in the pasture; Saturday night dances at the Bowery; free movies on the State shed door; and virtually all these memories were free.

There is and was a warmth of friendship in this small town and they offered whatever they had without reservation and no thought of reward-they were just good neighbors and that is the way things are to be done. Our children are scattered about this U.S. but to them as to Neita and I our roots are still there. Our family and generations before them began at Naper.

CIRCUIT RIDER (cont'd from page 2)

Axel was very proud that he had 5 sons serve their country. All were overseas veterans: three in WWII, two in the Korean War, and one grandson, Nilo Reber, in the Vietnam war.

On August 22, 1955, Manfred married Norma Norton. They bought a 400 acre farm with a good home and some outbuildings. Norma and Manfred were married 47 happy years when she suddenly passed away June 10, 2002.

Four children were born to this couple: Dewey married to Dianne Schochenmaier, Anita married to Randy Swim, Alan married to Teresa Melcher, and Vicki married Bruce Ferguson.

Throughout all the years with happiness and hardships, Manfred acquired 1560 acres which he shares with family today. Manfred attributes hard work, honesty and a good wife to his happiness and success.

This Circuit Rider has been fortunate over the last few years to have had an opportunity to become acquainted with good people who helped make America great and honest. Let's pray that the youth of today have the strength and courage to continue to accept the challenges ahead of them with courage and dignity.

The Circuit Rider

MAINTAINING A PIECE OF FAMILY HISTORY

By Velda Stahlecker



This is a story about the grave of Susanna Littau. Susanna is buried in the Schock (German Baptist) Cemetery in Naper. She was the Great Great Grandmother of Don Schock and Clarence Mayer. Her grave has been marked with a home-made marker since her death in 1913. Don & Dolores have kept the grave marked as did Don's parents & grandparents before him. Several years ago Tony Littau from Wasali, Alaska contacted me about the grave to see if it was marked and if I could find it. I did so and family members worked to get a tombstone to put on the grave. Pictured are Don & Dolores, along with Tim & Clarence Mayer, Tony Littau and his wife Jeanine.

As a side note, Jeanine is a distant cousin of my son Stan.



REMEMBER THE AUTOGRAPH BOOKS?

Years ago it was customary for students to write a note or poem in their teachers' books as the school year ended. Here are a few we've uncovered, written to Janet Cerny Sattler who taught at Naper Public School. The entries are dated May 1935. They were provided to us by Helen Cerny Putnam.

Dear Teacher,

When the roses bloom in winter,
And it snows the 31st of June.
When the snow comes out at midnight,
Instead of Mr. Moon.
When 4 times 8 is 48,
And 2 times 4 is 10.
Oh, then my dearest teacher,
I'll forget you then.

Your pupil,
Dorothy Berg

Dear Miss Cerny

When the golden sun is setting
and your heart with care is free
While of others you are thinking
Won't you sometimes think of your friend.

Pauline Camin

Dear Janet,

If you love me as I love you
No one can cut our love in two.

Your friend,
Jack Kortmeyer

A FIVE-GENERATION FAMILY!



Grandmother Lora Cline, great grandmother Marilyn Sieh (standing), great-great-grandmother Frances Smith (seated), Kurt Cline holding his new daughter Rebekah.

HOW MANY KIDS? The Delmer & JoAnn (Cerny) Jons Family Reunion



The Delmer & JoAnn (Cerny) Jons family had a reunion recently. They were married when Delmer returned from the Korean War in 1952, and they'll celebrate their 55th anniversary on June 6th in Naper where they live. All 14 (count them!) kids returned, and here's a great picture of them all. **Back row:** Paula lives near Brandon, SD. Lorna lives in Washington, D.C. Julie resides in Colorado Springs. Brenda is in Sioux Falls. Eldon has a new home near Spokane, WA. **Middle row:** JoAnn, Janet resides in Aberdeen. Arlyn and (next) Verlyn are in nearby St. Charles. Barb lives in Naper. Lisa lives near Brandon, SD. Delmer. **Front row:** Galen resides near Yankton. Patty is in Ft. Collins, CO. LeAnn doctors in Omaha. Gordon lives in Cedar Rapids, IA.

NAPER BANK ROBBED

(continued from Page 1)

desperado was killed at the second shot. The officer was unhurt.

Summation

Further information reveals Jake Zimmerman was the father of Naper's Dr. Charles Zimmerman, who was a well liked early Naper doctor. Jacob Zimmerman died Feb. 19, 1918 and is buried in the Zimmerman plot in Knollcrest Cemetery. Etta Fee (grandmother of Marilyn Sieh) observed the robbery in progress as she crossed the street; she went back and alerted people. A bullet hole in the large South window of the bank (later the Naper Post Office) was repaired, but was still evident when the building was demolished in the 1980s.

Reports of Clifford Rohrs burial in a cemetery East of Dustin were followed up with a trip into the area looking for the cemetery. After visiting many locals and driving a number of miles, these reporters could not find "Sunnyside" Cemetery. If any of The Naper Paper readers have information on "Sunnyside" Cemetery, please let us know.

Duke & Velda Stahlecker

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



The Ol' Homesteader

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

Getting' Together!

The good folks of Naper and surrounds got together twice lately--once during a blizzard February 11 when the Naper Historical Society had a Valentine gathering featuring roast pork, and again on March 29 (more bad weather and bad roads) when the Spring Fling was held. Don't need to tell you about all the good food and good talk and good fun, do I? Lots of prizes for Bingo at the Spring Fling--thanks!

Bingo started up again at the VFW, thanks to the West End Club--come on in and have some fun!

The UCC women cooked up a storm in April, once for the lunch stand at Larry Anderson's farm sale; again for their annual Easter bake sale; and one more time for breakfast at church on Easter morning. Why does the Old Homesteader always know about food??? Mighty good stuff, all three times!

The annual Easter Egg hunt was held April 7--thanks, VFW Auxiliary, for another great memory for the Naper kids. How many years do you think those ladies have been doin' that?

Folks get together to work too--cleanin' up branches on April 14 from the ice storms earlier this winter and again April 29 walkin' the ditches. Tried ditches on the 22nd but it rained! And we were mighty glad to see the rain.

Young'uns Makin' the News!

Lots of names we know on the Honor Rolls: Marcus Alford (son of Jim and Becky), Jonathan Alford (son of Jim and Becky), Alex Bendig (son of Kelly and Monica), Kendall McCarthy (son of Kevin and Angie), Paul Honke (son of Keith and Gina), Holly Vogt (daughter of Bryon and Sharon). Then Amber Bendig (daughter of Kelly and Monica), Blake Ahlers (son of Dan and Tara), Adrienne Bengtson (daughter of Matt and Ellen; granddaughter of Janet Eggert), Jesse Cline (son of Hoyt), Ridge Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda), Jason Honke (son of Keith and Gina), Samantha McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie), Jon Alford, Skye Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda) and Holly Vogt had perfect attendance. Crystal Keller (daughter of Randy and Carol) was named to the honors list at Dakota State University. Lotsa' smarts on display here.

Kelly McCarthy (daughter of Kevin and Angie) was awarded a blue and gold basketball for winning in the third and fourth grade division at the state FFA convention coloring contest. Shelly Melton (daughter of Sterling and Sheila) participated in the 31st annual Doane College music festival. Amber Bendig received a prize for her efforts in the Bright Futures exercise challenge. Brooke Reiman (daughter of Casey and Lisa) was the recipient of the Champion Speech Award at the 4-H Jamboree. Dylan Reiman (son of Casey and Lisa) received a ribbon for his non-original reading. Connie McCarthy was recognized as a leader. Brooke Reiman and Shelly Melton qualified for the state speech meet on UNK campus in Kearney and did very well--Shelly got a first place medal! Haily Cline (daughter of Hoyt) received a silver award for presentation at the state FCCLA conference in Lincoln. Lotsa' good work!

Marcus Alford was named Prince of Hearts at the Spencer-Naper Carnival of Hearts. Skye Higgins and Holly Vogt were also candidates. Holly Vogt was crowned Queen at the Spencer-Naper Prom.

Jon Alford, Paul Honke, Kendall McCarthy, and Alex Bendig played for the West Boyd boys junior high team; Dylan Reiman for the 5-6 grades. Samantha McCarthy played for West Boyd girls' junior high team. Holly Vogt played for the S-N Lady Pirates and made a fine showing. Marcus Alford was a member of the Pirates team who went to State Tournament for the seventh year in a row--they won second place and also the sportsmanship award. Way to go guys! Ol' Homesteader remembers the excitement of playing in a state tournament--oh, yeah!

Track season started--the weather turned wet. And if it ever rains in Boyd County, it rains during track season. Logan Titus-Ahlers (daughter of Tara and Dan), Shelly Melton, Brooke Reiman, Elizabeth Honke (daughter of Keith and Gina), Kendall McCarthy, Jon Alford, Alex Bendig, Paul Honke, Riley Bengtson (son of Matt and Ellen), are all doin' well in track and field events.

Congratulations!

Jamie Zeisler (daughter of Craig and Stacy) and Bob Nordstrom of Wahoo will be married June 30 in Wahoo. Sarah Nicolaus (daughter of Dale Nicolaus and Linda

Vomacka) will marry Marshall Bachman June 30 in Lincoln. Amanda Schoenefeld (daughter of Dennis and Mary Reber Schoenefeld) married Justin Goodwin August 5, 2006. Rebekah Joy, daughter of Kurt and Cindy Cline, arrived January 23 in San Jose, California. She is the granddaughter of Keith and Lora Cline; great-granddaughter of Marvin and Judy Cline and Duane and Marilyn Sieh; great-great granddaughter of Frances Smith! Wow--lotsa' grandpas and grandmas there to love that baby! Irene Weickum celebrated 90 years January 7. Irene Forsch Green celebrated 80 years on April 20.

Thanks a Heap!

The Niobrara Valley Electric Good Will Fund again gifted Naper Historical Society with \$500 to help in the creation of the White Horse Museum. (Niobrara Valley Electric members can choose to "round up" their bills to the next dollar and that money then goes into a fund used for community projects throughout the NVE service area. Maybe you want to kick in...).

And Goodbye...

Delbert Forsch (68) passed away in Norfolk January 22. He attended grade school in Naper. Regina Schmitz Zeitner (96) passed away in Eugene, Oregon January 23. She lived in the Naper area for many years before moving to Oregon in the '50's. Dick Porter of Norfolk was buried in the Baptist Cemetery on April 19. He and wife Florence (Wetzler) had farmed in the Naper area before moving in the '50's. Leona Zeisler Loewe passed away April 21 in Kearney. Her husband Russell Loewe was Naper school superintendent for many years.

Well--I'm worn out from all this thinkin' and rememberin' and writin'--time for a nap. Have a good spring!

Ol' Homesteader



TWO 100 YEAR OLD FAMILY RANCHES

By Robert Allpress

The Naper Paper continues its recognition of farms and homesteads that have been in the same family for more than 100 years...

During a visit over Labor Day, I was jawing with the ole Circuit Rider and he told me the Naper Paper was doing a series of stories on family ranches or farms that had been in the same family for over 100 years. Ole CR, knowing of my studies of the Naper area, asked me if I knew of a place that had stayed in the same family for the last century. I told him I did not know of one, but I did know of TWO! Gotcha CR!

The Allpress family has two ranches that meet this mark and here are their stories. The first is of the 117 year old ranch located southwest of Naper and the other is the exactly 100 year old ranch southwest of Jamison.

In the year 1882, the Allpress boys and their siblings were living on their parents' homestead south of the Keya Paha on the NW quarter of Section 6 in Twp. 33 of Range 16W, which is now the John C. Davis ranch. It was also near the extinct town of Munt, Nebraska. For seven summers, Henry and his brother Will herded livestock for the local ranchers across the Keya Paha and into Sioux Indian territory. Even though white men were not supposed to be on that side of the river, he and Will spoke fluent Sioux and they had no problems. The ranchers always "lost" a few cows before the herd came back home in the fall. This may have been one of the reasons for the amicable relationship with the Indians.

The north side of the Keya Paha River opened up for homesteading in 1889 when the Sioux signed an agreement with the U S Government ceding almost the entire eastern quarter of Gregory County, South Dakota. (It wasn't until 1895 that the present state boundary was established.) Will, Henry and their sister Bessie claimed the first three homesteads on Alkali Creek, north from the confluence of the creek and the Keya Paha River.

Horse Thieves & Western Justice

According to the family legend relayed by Howard, around 1900, while Henry was living with Will on Will's horse ranch, they experienced a raid by rustlers and lost numerous head of horses. Since the two men's personal riding horses were in the barn, and not affected by the rustling, the two men mounted chase. They trailed the thieves and Will's horses out of Nebraska, through South Dakota and into Wyoming. There in Wyoming, the thieves tried to steal more horses, but were too slow on their getaway. When Will and Henry found them, they were "swinging to Western justice". Will and Henry were able to identify their horses and soon found themselves herding their property back to Nebraska.

Marriages & Homesteads

The original agreement between the two brothers and Bessie was that she was to claim her homestead and, with her brothers' help, "prove up" on the land. She was then to sell the land to Will and Henry. The deal fell through when Bessie met her future husband Ben Rinehart, and they instead got married in March of 1902 and stayed on the homestead. Henry became upset with this turn of events and sold his land to Will and left the river.

After leaving the ranch, Henry met his future wife, Ms. Mertie Kelley. Mertie was a school teacher in the town of Munt, Nebraska. In 1903, they were married and first set to farming on a rented place east of Naper, Nebraska. In 1906, they moved their growing family to a farm southwest of Jamison, Nebraska and started the second 100-year-old family ranch. The "new" home originally consisted of two structures that were joined together and made habitable. One side consisted of two rooms of



This house, belonging to Bob and Nancy Allpress and located in nearby Jamison, came complete and ready to build in 1921 — from the Sears Catalog! At one time, there was a wrap-around open porch which Bob later enclosed in the late 1960's.

sod; the other side was made from converted wooden corn cribs. This house was located on the north side of the then east-west road running at the southeast corner of their land. On the 7th of December 1914, Henry and Mertie paid off the 200 acres of land and all appurtenances for the sum of \$2,000.

Sears Home Still Stands

In 1917, a "Sears and Roebuck" 2 story home with 4 bedrooms, kitchen/dining area, pantry, living room, a full basement and covered porch, was built on a slight rise about a hundred yards north of the original house. This house still stands in its original location, today.

Mertie only got to enjoy this new house until 1920 when she was stricken and died from the flu pandemic. After Mertie passed away, Howard moved down to the river ranch to help his uncle Will. In March of 1936, Will passed away. Being childless, he left the river ranch to Howard.

In September of 1938, Henry passed away and the Jamison ranch became the property of the Allpress siblings.

Coming home after WWII, Howard and Glenn resettled on the river ranch. Albert and Lloyd bought out their sibling's interests, and moved onto the Jamison ranch.

In 2003; Bob, Doug and Paul along with Albert joined the two ranches into what is now known as Allpress Brothers, LLC.

High Water and Ice Jam!



The Keya Paha River, located apx. 3.5 miles south of Naper, Nebraska, overflowed with heavy rapids and ice floes in February of 2007. These photos were taken by Leroy and Maxine McCarthy near their home at the McCarthy Bridge.



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

My husband and I learned about the Naper 28 in a news item in the Fremont Tribune. While we had no connections to your community, I was inspired to send a small donation to the approaching dedication of 28 of our finest. Neither of us expected to receive a gracious invitation to attend the event. However, Naper became the heading for our annual vacation that year. We were impressed by a small town gleaming in the summer's sunlight highlighting the fresh coats of white paint. Your people and neighbors were refreshingly friendly. We were amazed at the size of the gathering and the generosity expressed by your community. I was a recipient of the Naper Paper, Vol. 2, Issue 5 in the Fall of 2004. Since I am employed at a library and do not have a shortage of reading material, I set aside the issue until today following a week of illness. It was an oversight that I regret! Because I found your stories about the German-and Russian-born residents of interest, I wonder whether your people are aware that the beautiful poem that appears on the base of our nation's Statue of Liberty was inspired by the desperate circumstances of the Germans who had been lured to Russia to teach Russians how to farm during the reign of Catherine the Great. Unfortunately, the hard-working Germans had become targets for natives' preference to steal from those more successful. The people arriving at our country's coast were desperate people indeed. They brought with them a little more than a tradition of hard work with small reward. Our country was enriched by their efforts. Those early settlers more than rewarded their new country by their efforts. Naper News Is (still) Good News indeed. I was interested in historical news and the variety of inclusions. I have long believed we received far more in benefits than my modest contribution was worth. I am enclosing a check to help make up a bit for that oversight. I have no doubt your people will make a good choice for its use.

Best regards,
Iris Doksansky
Fremont, Nebraska

(Editor's note to Iris: Thanks for your lovely letter. We hope you are feeling better.)

We enjoy the Naper Paper very much. Keep up the good work. Enclosed is a check to help pay expenses.

Dennis & Carol Wentz (class of 62)
Burke, SD

Kathy & I enjoy the Naper Paper. We also enjoyed going through the museum last July. It seems most appropriate, too, that the White Horse Ranch memorabilia be housed in Naper.

Joyce Blakkolb

I cannot tell you how much I enjoy the Naper Paper. The letters to the paper are like a trip back in time. When I saw the letter from Karen Jurocek (Reber) my mind went back to country school days at "Wild Rose" district #44 when I sat behind her. Karen's mom, Ethie, was our teacher and broke a ruler over my head for whispering with Karen during class. The school plays put on from behind sheets strung across the end of the school house. Everyone had a part. The box socials and school picnic. The pot belly stove on a cold morning and, of course, "town night" as cousin Donna May (Windmeyer) Leuhmann called it. Enclosed is a check. Keep up the good work!!

Orland Cline

I am enclosing an order for a calendar and extra \$ for the historical society. I have moved to Yuma full time now, and enjoy reading the paper.

LeRoy Erickson, Yuma, Arizona

Sorry we had to miss the supper. We were afraid of the ice, so "chickened out" on going. I'm enclosing a check to help. Thanks for all you do. We appreciate you.

Ed & Lois Alford, Naper

Check for Naper Paper. Really enjoy it!

JoAnn Jans, Naper

I was going to send in a little Memorial money in Fred's memory to give to the White Horse Ranch Fund, but it just got sent back. This time it isn't. Hope it will come in handy. Your paper is tops! I enjoy reading it all, then send it on to Fred's son Dennis. He and his wife enjoy it also. Flipping around on the TV here a while back I stopped at our local access station (channel 5) when I saw they were showing a film done in the 1930's on the White Horse Ranch all in black and white. Then they had a short segment in color taken in the 40's. I was thrilled to see it. I always lamented not having one of Cal's paintings. Fred's folks had some but I don't know what happened to them. Anyway they did make films. The program was called Strange & Unusual things from Nebraska. Maybe the films would be interesting in the museum.

Elayne Weickum, Lincoln, NE

(Editor's note to Elayne: Thanks for the tip. We appreciate it.)

I love the paper. Thanks for keeping it up.

Julie Broekemeier, Central City, NE

Thanks for the Naper Paper. Sending a check to help expenses. Look forward to each issue.

Marvin Stoltenberg, Spanaway, Washington

I am sending a check for my paper, also for a new subscription for my sister Marcella. There are still 8 brothers & sisters and their spouses in our family. We all meet at the coast house every Fall for 4 days. I save the Naper Paper and take it with me. Everyone enjoys reading the paper and remembering old times. My sister, Mary Lou, also gave me the Naper Calendar for my birthday. Frank & I have really enjoyed it, especially the pictures. May God bless everyone.

Lillian Herrmann Wallace

Just wanted to let you know we appreciate all the research and work you do to be able to print the Naper Paper. We really enjoy reading about the past and present around the Naper area and hope to continue receiving it.

Lawrence & Gladys Ahlers, O'Neill, NE

I hope this scrap of paper will do as an order form for a calendar. I do not want to cut up my paper! I'm looking forward to the calendar. Hope it is not too late to order one. Thank you.

Karen Juracek

(Editor's note: No, it's not too late to order, so if anyone still wants a calendar, let us know.)

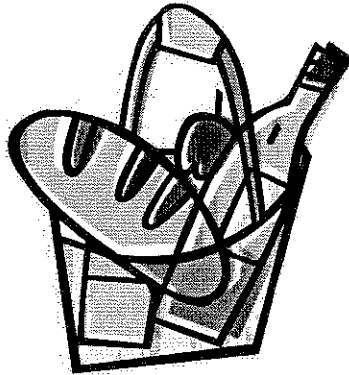
I enjoy reading the Naper Paper so much! Thanks to all who do so much to make it possible.

Donna Windmeyer Luehmann

A PUBLICATION FOR
AND ABOUT THE
TOWN OF NAPER
NEBRASKA

The Naper Paper
PO Box 72
Napier, Nebraska 68755

I REMEMBER WHEN...



Editor's Note: In the previous issue, the "I Remember When..." story was incorrectly attributed to Marilyn Sieh. Sorry!

Remember when your Mother went to the grocery store in Naper to purchase flour or chicken feed? The 50# sacks were made of pretty various-patterned fabrics. She would pick out the particular fabric that she liked best and buy that sack of flour. She then would sew something for the children or make aprons for herself.

Let us switch our trip down memory lane to aprons. An apron, at that time, was a necessity. Women wore only dresses and an apron to protect the dress from getting dirty. The apron slipped over the head and tied in the back at the waist, covering all of the sides and the front of the dress. It not only kept her dress clean but had a multitude of practical uses. It was used to wipe her hands, dry tears, and handle hot dishes in place of a hot pad. The bottom could be made into a pouch to either gather garden vegetables, eggs from the hen house, cradle baby chicks, or carry wood for the cookstove. It also had one or two pockets for a handkerchief.

Each woman had her own unique uses for her own apron, so everyone will have memories of "Their Mother's Apron."

Marilyn Sieh

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Naper Historical Society
PO Box 72
Napier, NE 68755
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