

A PUBLICATION
FOR AND ABOUT
THE TOWN OF
NAPER,
NEBRASKA,
PUBLISHED BY
THE NAPER
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY.

The mission of the Naper Historical Society is to preserve, interpret, display, communicate, promote and honor the 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 initially focus on four themes: School Days, Life in Naper Through the Years, White Horse Ranch, and Naper 28 Plane Crash.

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Naper Paper

Volume 21 Issue 1

www.napernebraska.org

Spring, 2023

ROCK ON!

By Ramona Bentzen

Throughout the state of Nebraska, there are many areas of rock formations. Many are historic, scenic places; others provide grazing land and amongst all are fertile farm fields too.

There are places along the Oregon Trail such as Chimney Rock, Courthouse Rock, Scottsbluff National Monument, Agate Fossil Beds, to name a few. North of Scottsbluff there is a badlands area similar to those in South Dakota.

Locally, we have the Twin Buttes a few miles east of Naper, just off Highway 12. The east Butte is a tall formation, rocks all the way up. Many folks, young and old, have climbed to the top. From there, you can see forever! At the top is a beautiful lighted cross. Dave Schmitz faithfully has it lit for all holidays. Especially meaningful is the cross at Easter. On Good Friday, after dark, you can perhaps imagine Golgotha. It is well worth the trip.

I live a mile northeast of Naper. A line of rock runs southwest to northeast across my far and the neighboring farms to the north and west. This always made fencing interesting to say the least. But there also was a use for pieces of this rock, which is sandstone.

The house I live in has a partial basement built entirely of these pieces of rock laid up for the walls. The walls are 10-12 inches thick. Some form of mortar

was used between the rocks. There is a concrete floor and about one foot high concrete footings on which the rocks were laid. There is a concrete foundation on top of the rock that then extends around the west half of the house.



Above is a photo of the corner of the basement still in place today. We had a storm cellar, too, made of laid-up rock for the interior. The steps and walls going down were of concrete.

Below is a close-up of the manner in which the rocks were laid.



This house was built in 1905. For that time, it was quite an ingenious way to use the supply on hand. We always joked that the building site was chosen on this spot because the land couldn't be farmed. One granary was set entirely on the bigger existing rocks with a few added to make it level. As we added grain bins and other buildings, these rocks came in very handy as filler and to add strength to the cement foundations. Our children remember doing a lot of rock gathering. At one time, several dump truck loads of rock/sand were hauled out for a road project. We called it the rock quarry after that.

A man named Charlie Kimball owned this place in 1905. The story goes that his sister owned a house just like it in Iowa. He hired the same carpenters to come here and build a house for him. In 1905, that would have taken some doing.

Maybe there are other such rock walls in the area. Where did they get their rock? Otto Bentzen bought this farm in 1926 and moved his family here in 1927. Ray and I were married in 1954, so I have been here 69 years. Otto used to tease me about wanting a lawn. At first it was small, just for the kids to have a place to play. It has gotten much bigger through the years. We still have to avoid rock outcroppings and a fence post won't go in just anywhere.

DONALD GOODMAN

Donald Goodman was born at Naper, November 9, 1938. He was a member of the class of 1957, its 19 graduates making it the biggest in NHS history at that time.

He was a farmer, an Army veteran, a volunteer firefighter, a paramedic (one of the First Responders of the Flight 232 plane crash) and in later years, a gold miner and a prospector.

He and Letha Audiss were married October 8, 1961. He is survived by Letha and their six children: Mary, Cindy, Lisa, Donnie, Kim and Mike; a brother Jerry and a sister Donna.



“Dad, you are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers every single day. I cannot put into words how much we will miss you but we know you are going to a better place, where you will be treated like the angel that you are.”

(Submitted by Cindy Goodman)

RONALD KULM

(submitted by daughter Becky)

My dad’s life of 83 years,, his influence, his spirit, is eternally linked to mine, to my sisters, to my brothers, to his grandchildren and to my mom, and I take great comfort in that.

I hear my dad in my brother Jason’s ornery laugh and his humor. He loved to laugh, be silly and have a good time.

I see my dad in my sister Pam’s “just get it done, never a moment to be still” personality. I never truly remember my dad sitting still or kicking back and relaxing very often, until in later years when he had to. From working on tractors, cars and machinery, welding, pouring concrete, doing electrical work, moving buildings, roofing, baking, cooking, canning, Dad would and could do just about anything and sometimes did it just to keep busy.

I see my dad in my sister Amy and how she never met a stranger. My dad could talk to anyone. I would tease him that he probably wouldn’t even have a problem talking to the President of the United States. “Well, why would I? He’s

just like you and me. I’m sure we’d have a lot to talk about.”

I see my dad in my brother Ted’s way of figuring out a solution to every broken thing. Whether it ws a car, our plumbing, the washing machine, toaster, record player—anything. Dad would know how to fix it.

I see my dad in my brother Tom’s teasing nature. My dad loved to tease—especially my mom!

I feel I know how he’d tell me to live a good life: love your family, work hard, stay busy, forgive, be kind, have integrity, stay curious—never stop learning, use humor to get through the hard times, have a positive attitude, never give up, and always try to help all those who come to you in need, because you just never know if that’s Jesus you might be turning away.

Pam sent this message to all six of us: “The grief never ends, but it changes. It’s a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness nor a lack of faith. It’s the price we pay for love.”

(edited for length)

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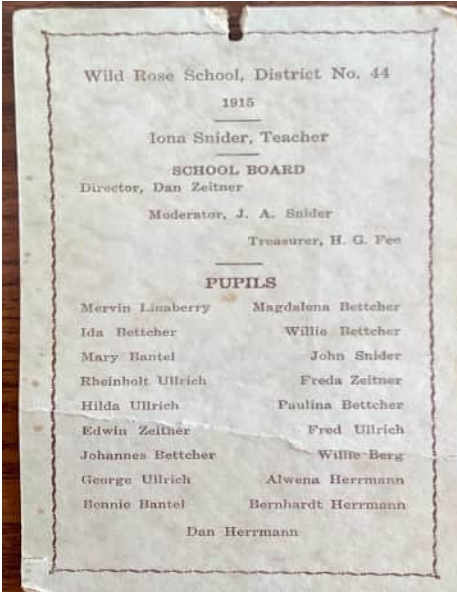
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WILD ROSE SCHOOL, DISTRICT #44

by Marilyn Smith Sieh

The year is 1915, the teacher is Iona Snider (Luree Snider Barnes' sister), the moderator is Jacob Snider (Luree's father) and the treasurer is H..G. Fee, my great-grandfather.



The schoolhouse was located five miles west and one half mile south of Naper off the present Highway 12. The map shows the location of the school and where the families lived.



The students were as follows: Linaberry-Mervin-no information (a Linaberry child is buried in Knoll Crest Cemetery.) Betcher-Ida (9 years old), Johannes (14 years old), Magdalena (12 years old), Willie (10 years old) and Paulina (6 years old). The family lived in a sod house north of the

school and at last report, parts of the soddy were still standing. The map shows a different spelling of their name.

Bantel-Mary-no information available. Ullrich, George II-Rheinholt (age 6) and George III (age 12).

Ullrich, Martin- Hilda and Fred (no ages given) Martin Ulrich and George Ulrich II were brothers. Martin Ulrich lived on Morse Creek in a house with a stone front built into a hill. It had been used by horse thieves as an outlaw hideout.

Zeitner- Edwin (6), Freda. The father had traded land near Carlock, South Dakota, for land six and one half miles west of Naper. The map shows Phillip Burr as the owner of record. I was told that the Zeitners held barn dances there.

Snider- John (brother of Luree). I believe his family lived across the road from the school.

Berg-Willie. No information except he is the nephew of Alta Berg Small.

Herrmann-Alwena, Bernhardt (10), Daniel Bernhardt, known as Ben, owned and operated a hardware store and shoe repair shop on the east side of Main Street in Naper on the lot between where the hall and the café now stand. Dan owned and operated the café on the east side of Main Street in Naper after buying it from Albert and Clara Bechtold.

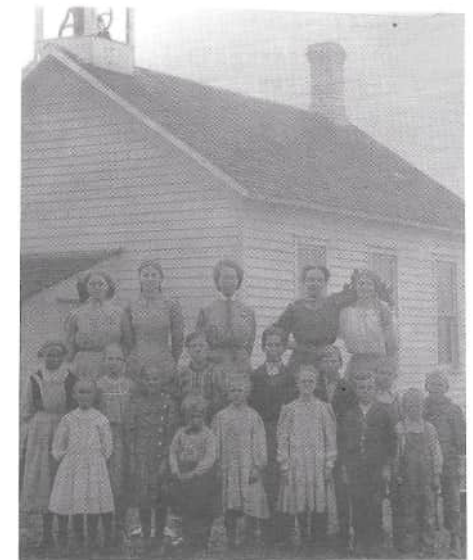
From History of Boyd County Nebraska, compiled by Luree Snider Barnes, County Superintendent of Schools, 1938.

District 44 was organized February 15, 1892, and located in Section 2, Township 34 North, Range 16 West, with classes held in the Linaberry house, located near the lone evergreen tree about three or four miles west of where the District 44 schoolhouse was later located. In about 1900, Pete Andersen donated an acre of his land for the schoolhouse site, across the section line east of the farm where Ken and Elaine Vogt Ellwanger now live.

Sufficient collection and donations were made to fund the building of a school. Mr. Fast shot prairie chickens and sold them for 35 cents each in order to raise his share. Bill Stockwell donated his services as a carpenter and others worked free of charge. "The district was started on a cash

basis and has remained thus to date."

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Dist. #44 west of Naper in early days. Back row: Belle Fast, Olive Foster, Thea Aarhus (Teacher), Myrtle Sherman, Edith Fee. Second row: Hulda Ullrich, Christina Burr, Tillie Ullrich, Willie Helmedinger, names of next 3 persons unknown. Front row: Elsie Forde, Olive Snider, Reinhold Ullrich, name unknown, Gladys Forde, John Snider, name unknown

Photo from A Continuing History of Naper, Nebraska, 1892-1992

=====

Support for common or rural schools (those without a high school) was provided by a land grant in 1867 to the state of Nebraska of 2,797,520 acres, usually sections 16 and 36 in each township. By 1900, almost half of the original acres were sold.

Rural schools provided education for thousands of children, grades one through eight. When students had completed the eighth grade, they had to take the eighth grade exam, which covered all subjects in the elementary school course of study—drawing, writing, mental arithmetic, spelling, civics, arithmetic, grammar, history, general geography, English composition, reading, agriculture, geography of Nebraska, physiology, and bookkeeping or farm accounting. All counties in the state used the same examination.

Until the early 1950s, students in rural school districts had the option of taking the exam and ending their education or enrolling in the high school located nearest their home district and receiving free high school tuition.. The law was changed in the early 1950s, requiring students to attend school until age 16. It has since been changed to require attendance to age 18.

A TRUE/FALSE QUIZ

Which of the following statements are true? Answers are found on page 5.

1. Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
2. Alfred Hitchcock didn't have a belly button.
3. A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately two teeth every ten years.
4. People don't get sick from cold weather. It's because they are indoors more.
5. When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart.
6. Only seven percent of the population is left-handed.
7. Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute.
8. Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until they are between two and six years old.
9. The average person over 50 will have spent five years of his life waiting in lines.
10. The toothbrush was invented in 1498.
11. The average housefly lives for one month.
12. 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.
13. A wire coat hanger is 44 inches long when straightened.
14. Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.
15. Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep.
16. The REAL reason ostriches stick their heads in the sand is to search for water.
17. The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot.
18. John Travolta turned down the starring roles in An Officer and a Gentleman and Tootsie.
19. Michael Jackson owns the rights to the South Carolina state anthem.
20. In most television commercials advertising milk, a mixture of white paint and a little thinner is used in place of the milk.
21. The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor.
22. If coloring weren't added to Coca Cola, it would be green.
23. Our eyes are the same size from birth.
24. All the ants in Africa weigh more than all the elephants.
25. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.
26. A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
27. The cruise ship QE2 moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
28. In 1932, it was so cold that Niagara Falls froze solid.
29. Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
30. A person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
31. All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of a \$5 bill.
32. In a lifetime, an average American will spend six months waiting at red lights.
33. There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
34. The Bible doesn't say there were three wise men. It says there were three gifts.
35. A snail can sleep for three years.
36. A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.
37. February 1865 is the only month in recorded history to not have a full moon.
38. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
39. A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.
40. There is no Betty Rubble in the Flintstones Chewable Vitamins.

HELD THE THIEF!

By Mrs. J. Naper, Boyd Co.

In 1882, my parents bought a homestead from some people who were becoming concerned over the frequent lynching of horse thieves by the "Vigilanters." My father was superintendent of schools in an Iowa town, so he stayed behind while Mother moved west with the family of seven youngsters.

Our place, known as "The Point," was bounded on the north by the Kewa Paha River, which was then the boundary between the Rosebud Reservation and Nebraska. Like all the settlers along the river, we herded our cattle and horses on the reservation. I was 10 that summer and accustomed to responsibility.

One day Mother left me home alone to see that the stock did not cross the river and get into the fields. At that time, there were no fences. We had a pony but it was also one of the driving team, so I was on foot.

About the time for the cattle to come for water, I climbed a high bank that commanded a long view up and down the river. I discovered them moving in my direction, but driven by someone horseback—a renegade almost everyone was afraid of!

I was terribly quaky. My thoughts flew to the revolver in the bookcase. I had been taught to shoot. Away I went and by the time the rider arrived at the ford, I was there also, brandishing my revolver and commanding him to stay back. He regarded me a few moments and again headed some of the animals for the crossing.

I aimed directly at him and shouted, "No!" We sat there for hours, it seemed, never removing our eyes from one another. The cattle evidently were not thirsty, for they climbed the bank and resumed their grazing.

Finally he sat up short, listened a bit and then rode his horse quickly into the willows. Then I could hear a wagon approaching. I dashed to the house. The family was there and I quickly told my tale.

My brother gravely took the weapon from my cramped hand. "Good little girl," he said, and breaking open the gun, he disclosed its empty cylinder. (From The Nebraska Farmer, December 8, 1934, loaned by Bob Allpress.)

Ed. Note: One assumes Mrs. J. Naper was in some way a part of the family of R. R. Naper who donated land for the town of Naper and owned one of the first stores.

DID YOU SEE THE CROP CIRCLES?

In 1996, folks in Boyd County were astonished to learn crop circles had cropped up (no pun intended) in a grain field west of Butte, along Highway 11.

Were there aliens afoot? Were there pranksters in the area able to create such a phenomena? Had there been some strange meteorological event that felled part of the barley field?



Above: Ed McNulty, Mitchell, Nebraska, standing in the crop circle west of Butte along Highway 11, July, 1996
(Photo by Ramona Bentzen)

Crop circles are large areas of flattened grain or corn that mysteriously appear in fields. They have been observed in many countries, most notably England, but also in the fields of at least 20 other countries in the past 35 years.

An engineer in England who suggested crop circles were created by “superior intelligence”, most likely extraterrestrial visitors, has written a book claiming he has the answers. Alas, he does not.

According to a young Englishman named Matthew, the fields appear as a blank canvas to the crop circle artists. Timing is one of the biggest challenges to the artist. Designing and then creating the circles without being seen is difficult but not a mystery. Teams have to work quickly and efficiently, somewhat like a military operation. “You get in, you do the job, you get out and you don’t get caught.”

Other young men, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley, who lived near Winchester, England, were sitting in a pub in 1978 and decided they could create a fake

UFO landing site. The crop circle was born.

They needed only some boards, rope and a twist of wire stuck to the bill of a cap for siting their patterns. Once the design is determined, a stake is driven in the ground in the center of the circle, a rope is attached, and the team starts walking in circles stomping (hence the term “stompers” for the boards) the grain to the ground.

It was not an instant success, but took years for the press and global media to take notice. UFO enthusiasts were quick to say they had seen glowing lights, strange air craft, “little green men”. Not true.

Bower and Chorley admitted it was a hoax—and they enjoyed every minute of it! To date, no one has taken credit for the Boyd County circles, but I’ll bet whoever was responsible in 1996 also enjoyed every minute.

FASHION TIPS FOR OLD(ER) FOLKS

No matter what you might see on the street, on social media, or television, DO NOT combine the following fashions:

- Nose ring and bifocals
- Spiked hair and bald spots
- Tongue piercings and dentures
- Miniskirts and support hose
- Ankle bracelets and orthotics
- Speedo and cellulite
- Belly button ring and appendectomy scar
- Unbuttoned shirt and heart monitor
- Midriff shirts and midriff bulge
- Bikini and liver spots
- Short shorts and varicose veins
- Inline skates and a walker

All of the true/false statements on page four are true. How did you do?

REMEMBER ENGLISH CLASS? PUNCTUATION MATTERS!

“Woman without her man is nothing.”
“Woman! Without her, man is nothing.”

Hello, Naper High School Alumni

THE FIRST NAPER HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET WAS IN 1954.

THE THEME THIS YEAR IS

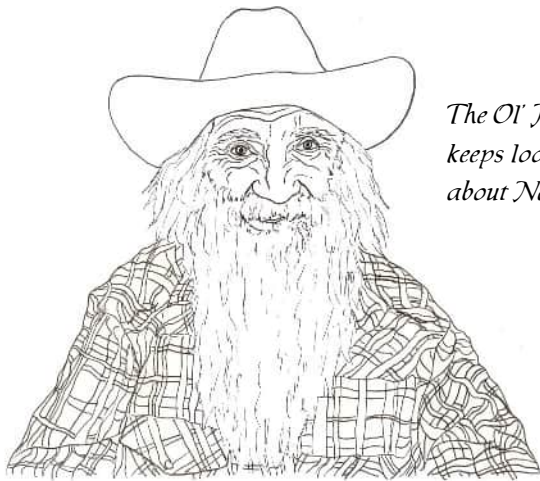
“REMEMBERING HOW IT USED TO BE! 1954-2023”

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SENDS LETTERS TO ALL ALUMNI WHO LIVE OUTSIDE BOYD COUNTY AND TO ALL ALUMNI WHOSE CLASS IS HONORED WHO LIVE IN THE COUNTY.

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE CLASSES WHICH GRADUATED IN YEARS ENDING IN “THREE”, YOU’LL BE GETTING A LETTER SOON WITH DETAILS AND YOUR CLASSMATES’ NAMES AND ADDRESSES.

THE BANQUET WILL BE SATURDAY, MAY 27, WITH SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6 PM, DINNER AT 7 PM. THERE ARE NO DUES COLLECTED. MEALS ARE \$10 EACH. QUESTS ARE WELCOME. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE PRESENTED AT THE BANQUET.



*The Ol' Homesteader
keeps lookin' for news
about Naper!*

BOYD COUNTY SCHOOL NEWS

Kyla McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie McCarthy, granddaughter of LeRoy and Maxine Windmeyer McCarthy) and Elly Zeisler (daughter of Mark and Tiffany Zeisler, granddaughter of Sheryl Zeisler) played basketball for the junior high girls' team.

Paige Druke (daughter of Tony and Beth Goodman Druke, granddaughter of Vern and Linda Goodman), Lanie Lechtenberg (daughter of Shane and Beth Nelson Lechtenberg, granddaughter of Ivan and Nancy Wentz Nelson, great-granddaughter of Bob Wentz) and Natasha Zeisler (daughter of Jesse and Kim Zeisler, granddaughter of Sheryl Zeisler) played basketball for the high school girls' team.

Zander Kluckman (son of Jim and Blair Vogt Kluckman, grandson of Kelly and Lois Nicolaus Vogt, great-grandson of Don Vogt), Wyatt Heermann (son of Casey and Jill Heermann, grandson of Jerry and Dorothy Dummer Heermann) and Austin Cadwallader (son of Lee and Stephanie Whitley Cadwallader, grandson of Tim and Bonnie Fuhrer Whitley) played for the high school boys' basketball team.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Honor Roll students at Boyd County Schools include Zander Kluckman, Natasha Zeisler, Paige Druke, Brett Koenig (son of Kevin and Staci Zink Koenig, grandson of Jeff and Rindy Zink, great-grandson of Louise Neumiller Zink), Lanie Lechtenberg, Jaylee Lechtenberg (daughter of Shane and Beth Nelson Lechtenberg, granddaughter of Ivan and Nancy Wentz Nelson, great-granddaughter of Bob Wentz), Ethan Zeisler (son of Jesse and

Kim Zeisler, grandson of Sheryl Zeisler), Kyla McCarthy, Shaeden Polenske (daughter of Guy Polenske and Trudy Watterman), Elly Zeisler and Kaci Koenig (daughter of Kevin and Staci Zink Koenig, granddaughter of Jeff and Rindy Zink, great-granddaughter of Louise Neumiller Zink).

Kyla McCarthy's presentation in the District 9 STAR competition resulted in her being named district champion and a state qualifier.

Natasha Zeisler, Zander Kluckman, Brett Koenig, Paige Druke and Lanie Lechtenberg were among Boyd County students named to the Niobrara Valley Conference Principals' All Academic team for 2022-2023.

Natasha Zeisler was chosen Princess at the spring formal at Boyd County Schools.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD!

Dylan and Laura Reiman welcomed their daughter Oaklynn Jean on November 17. Casey and Lisa Ahlers Reiman are her grandparents, her great-grandmother is Virginia Schonebaum Ahlers.

SAYIN' GOODBYE TO OUR OLD FRIENDS

Dan Duffy, superintendent of Naper School from 1948-1952, died September 13, 1922 at the age of 100. He visited Naper often and had many friends in the area. He was playing his accordion at rest homes in the Belle Vista, Arkansas, area until shortly before his death.

Arlen Mills, a 1966 graduate of Naper High School, died December 6, 2022.

Kevin Blum, a 1979 graduate of Naper High, died December 26, 2022. He had lived in Norfolk for many years where he

The Naper Paper is your paper. We rely on you, our readers, for support, both financial and "a pat on the back". We count on you for stories and ideas about what we need to write, print, explore, photograph. We appreciate you and want to say "Thanks!"

and his wife Rogena raised their family.

Wilma Kortmeyer Aubut, age 91, grew up south of Naper. She died in Rapid City, South Dakota, December 29, 2022.

Margaret Bendig Heien, a 1958 graduate of Naper High School, died January 7, 2023. She had lived north of Spencer for many years.

Donald (Donnie) Goodman, a member of the class of 1957 at Naper High School, died December 23, 2022. He had recently moved back to Nebraska from Washington.

Jake Boucher, a member of the 1950 graduating class from Naper High School, died February 11. He had lived in Nevada for many years. If you'd like to send a memorial, the family suggests Naper Paper as a recipient.

Have you looked at the Naper Historical Society website? (napernebraska.org)

You'll find every issue of the Naper Paper (photos in color on the website!), photos of all the classes from Naper High School, stories of Naper history, the White Horse Ranch, businesses, cemeteries, and historical photos.

If you need to contact the historical society, you may:

call 402-832-5471,

mail to Naper Historical Society
Box 72

Naper, NE 68755

e-mail at papabear@threeriver.net

LETTERS, LETTERS, LETTERS

I am enclosing a check in memory of my aunt, Velda McLaughlin Stahlecker, to help support your paper. A number of years ago, Aunt Velda put my name on your mailing list and I have been receiving and enjoying it ever since. While there aren't a lot of people in Naper that I know, I do recognize a lot of the names.

My mother was Virginia McLaughlin, Jim and Gene's sister. When their mother died, Mom was only three and moved to Omaha to live with her aunt and uncle Hilma and Rudy Eggers. (Hilma's maiden name was Rasmussen.) Their dad Clint and the boys stayed in the area.

My dad was Oramel Clayton from Gregory. After Mom and Dad got married, he was in the navy and we never lived in the area. However, every three years when Dad was transferred, we almost always stopped in Naper and Gregory on our way from one part of the country to another. I have fond memories of visiting in Naper and it was a treat to get to go to my Uncle Jim's Naper Super Service and grab a "Squirt"—they weren't sold where we lived.

It has been quite a few years since I have been back, the last time in 2008 when my wife, my son and I came back to visit Velda, Duke and my cousin Stan. Stan, my son and I had a great time pheasant hunting around Gregory—we don't have those where we live either.

I do enjoy reading the paper and will continue to do so, but I also know that it is available online. To help minimize your costs, it is ok to stop mailing the printed paper to me and I will keep up with the happenings in and around Naper on line.

Greg Clayton

Enclosed is a check for the paper and whatever you need. Enjoyed the picture of the White Horse Ranch. I remember sitting on the side of a hill for a show. Also remember the girls coming to Naper on a Wednesday or Saturday night to sing in the back of a truck. They had a lot of fun. What fun times everyone had.

So do enjoy all the good stories that people share in the paper. Some I remember and some I don't, but I still enjoy them.

Lavonne Boes

We enjoy the paper to keep up on the events. Have a Merry Christmas.

Wayne and Betty Cline

Merry Christmas, everyone, and Happy New Year!

We sure enjoy the Naper Paper. Enclosed is a donation for the paper. We enjoy reading it and Mom loves learning what is happening where she grew up.

Laurel Walton, Bill Walter, Virginia (Rockholm) Walton

Enjoy the paper. Use [the donation] as needed.

Donna Wittmeier

Enclosed is a check to use as you can. Enjoy reading the paper.

Viola Cline

Thank you for sending me the Naper Paper. I read it all!

You must be staying out of trouble. Have not seen your names on the news lately.

Carolyn Holmberg

We enjoy your paper.

Tony Wewel

Thank you to all who make the Naper Paper so special. I look forward to every issue and enjoy the history and memories it brings.

Enclosing a contribution.

Frieda Ahlers Voll

Thank you for printing our letter and picture honoring Violet Stahlecker as lunch lady. Could I have five copies of that edition to share with family?

We enjoy the paper so much. Thank you for all the work you do to keep us together and our beautiful Naper alive.

I will be "home" for my 60th class reunion this next May and look forward to seeing everyone.

Thanks again.

Carolyn Honke Swanda

You have no idea what it means to get the Naper Paper. I grab it and sit down and read it all the way through. I always see something about someone I know.

I'm proud to be from Naper! Enclosed is a donation for the Naper.

So nice to see you last year at the Alumni Banquet. Dwight and I along with my brother Duane enjoyed it.

I know this is late but better late than never.

Lois Kibby Chittim



The above tintype is a photo of Lars and Ulrika Johansson Erickson who came to the United States in 1887 and homesteaded southwest of Naper. They were parents of five children—Bess, Elof, Alfred, Ellen and Lloyd, all of whom were raised on the homestead and attended District 51. Bess, Ellen and Lloyd moved from Boyd County to the West Coast.

Elof and his wife Olevine had four children (Maxine, Bernelda, LeRoy and Virginia) who also attended District 51. LeRoy was a 1955 graduate of Naper High School. Elof had a welding and blacksmith shop in Naper and moved it to the homestead. He made the sign for Oak Dale Cemetery that is still in place.

Alfred bought a farm south of the homestead and hauled cream from area farms to Verdigré for many years.

(Tintype courtesy of Marilyn Sieh)

NAPER PAPER

Naper Historical Society

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Naper, NE 68755

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IN THIS ISSUE

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- HELD THE THIEF!
- CROP CIRCLES
- ERICKSON TINTYPE
- OL' HOMESTEADER
- LETTERS



Some wild and crazy guys—from left: Otto “Jack” Bentzen Jr., Norman “Red” Rockholm, Fred Rockholm Jr., Art Bentzen, Darro “Rocky” Rockholm; Roger “Doc” Rockholm sitting on the running board. Photo taken about 1927.