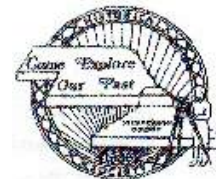


NEWSLETTER
RICHARDSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
1401 CHASE ST. - PO BOX 45
FALLS CITY, NE 68355

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Issue #36

Fall 2022

Board of Directors 2022-2023:

Leon Wilhelm, President	Rita Seeba, Secretary
John Seeba, Vice President	Austin Duerfeldt, Treasurer
David & Arleta Kentopp	Richard Zentner
Jane Zentner	Jan Deckinger
June Bowers	Shirley Gormley
Rich & Jan Duerfeldt	Richard Meinzer
Barbara Curley-Fail	JoAnn Koso
Kenny Killingsworth	Terry Stradtman
Norma Thompson, Records/ IT	
Contact Information: 402-245-4407 or 402-801-1307	Email: rchs@sentco.net

Greetings from the RCHS Board of Directors -

At the Annual Meeting in August, Leon Wilhelm was elected to replace Richard Meinzer as board president. We thank Richard for his many years in that office and are pleased he is continuing as a board member and support person in other ways around the museum.

Thank you to Matt Beer, Ann Meinzer, and Susan Nutzman whose terms expired. Matt could be counted on to provide the necessary manpower to move and install displays and storage cabinets as well as contributing helpful suggestions. Ann gave many years as a caterer, board member, and assistant to the president. She had a way of recruiting volunteers. Her enthusiasm and delicious meals are appreciated. We hope she will continue her support however she is able. We thank Susan for the years as our treasurer, a very important office. We miss Kenny Arnold after a brief term. Our sympathy.

Welcome to the board is extended to Richard & Jan Duerfeldt and David & Arleta Kentopp.

The museum buildings were the site of several gatherings and events this past year. Some family gatherings, club meetings, and a public forum were held. The Farm Service Agency used one of our displays as a photo shot on its regional meeting's scavenger hunt, and we were a stop on a recent Chamber of Commerce Art Jaunt of downtown Falls City. We frequently answer requests for area history and genealogy help, and visitors often are seeking information about county family connections. We are adding to our resource library shelves and files and appreciate all contributions to such.

A storm did major damage to the south side of the main building, so the siding needed replacing. A water line break needed excavation and repair. Window frames were repaired.

Brighter lighting was added to our RC town display cases. The basement chair lift is fixed!

Thank you to John Seeba and Leon Wilhelm for mowing and maintenance.

Thank you to those who served as docents and hosts for events: Jan Deckinger, Deb Gerweck, Shirley Gormley, JoAnn Koso, Jean McNeely, Richard Meinzer, Barb Parrish Sickel, Cathy Perkins, Terry Stradtman, Norma Thompson, Richard & Carolyn Zentner, Joan Zoeller.

Thank you to all who have contributed through memberships, donations, and memorials. Please continue to help with the upkeep of our buildings and expenses. Our Board of Directors continues to use your gifts wisely. If you have not paid your Sept. 1, 2022-Sept. 1, 2023 dues, please do so. A form is included in this newsletter for your convenience. Questions? Call the museum, leave a message, or contact one of your board members. Have a good year.

New in the AG II Building

Fairmont Motor Car operated by Burlington Northern RR signal inspector, Eugene Garrett, until the early 1980s when such cars were replaced. He retired from a long career with the RR in 1999. Donated by his daughter, Sherry, & Joe Fischer.



1952 John Deere 60

An example of the two-cylinder tractors called “Johnny Poppers” because of their distinctive exhaust sound. Donation from the family of Gale H. Marsh who farmed on the Big Nemaha River bottoms southeast of Salem starting in the 1950s. We also received two small feed grinders from his family. A son-in-law, John McBride, provided funds for the transportation, cleanup, and display signage of the items.



County 1922 High School Graduates:

Falls City		Sacred Heart		Salem
Bippes, Edwin J. Butterfield, Florence Crawford, Eva Mae Daggett, Winfred Deuchler, Edwin W. Gerhart, Robert Goldner, Ruth Green, Hazel Greene, Eleanor Gursch, Adeline Harkendorf, Alice Harris, Edith Heiser, Charles Hilgenfeld, Silas Hoffmann, John Inks, Hillard James, Ethel	Kanel, Hannah Ketter, Hilda Kottman, Harold Kreuger, Ida Lewis, Ruth Margrave, Margaret Matthews, Claud McDonald, Marjorie McManus, Lois Merritt, Margaret Meyers, Erma Morgan, Ben Parsons, Bessie Parsons, Jennie Phelps, Alice Pollard, Russell Porr, Hester	Redwood, Agnes Reynolds, Nellie Richardson, Harry Rieger, Edna Rieger, Lillie Ross, Lois Schmid, Leah Sharritt, Charles Shier, Bernice Sperry, Mable Steinbrink, Clara Sutter, Mary Travers, Lula Uhlig, Charles Vaughn, Lorena Walthall, Gladys Yoder, Francis	Bien, Della Brown, Margaret Coupe, Mary Frederick, Mary Halbert, Anna Lollman, Anthony McDougal, Anna Rawley, Cecilia Sheehan, Julia	Mason, Lillian Richardson, Emmet Wittwer, Ethel
			Verdon	Shubert (11th)
			None	Bratton Union
				Berg, Genevieve Rush, Marguerite Watton, Emery
				Avery, Wilber Cook, Opal Lampe, Mable Mehlin, Claude Morris, Ducie Whitfield

Humboldt		Dawson	Stella	
Albin, Henry Beutler, Hazel Biggs, Leslie Boomgaarn, Opal Brown, Zelia Cornelius, Floy Dorland, Drusilla Frey, Liah Frey, Wilma Gentry, Vaileria Hardy, Evelyn Lambert, William	Lee, Mary Locke, Jennie Ninger, Frank O'Keefe, Perry Philpot, Enid Rist, Clarence Schmidt, Elva Smith, Harold Smith, Harry Smith, Howard Stetler, Verna Workman, Blanche	Belden, Irene Broady, Ruby Lee, Thelma Lyons, Jeremiah Tiehen, Alex Wuster, Ruth Wiltse, Elta	Chism, Herbert Curtis, Verne Davis, Cecil Gergens, Gerald Goodloe, Lois Harrison, Myron Henderson, Herbert Higgins, Faye Hinkle, Zelma	Larimore, Elsie Marts, Boyd McGinnis, Pearle McKenney, Opal Noa, Margaret Smith, Merle Wagner, Raymond Young, Vivien

This knee-length gold corduroy Honey Creek School cheerleading dress with attached purple 'H' was worn from 1953-1955 by Shirley Wittwer Brammer, pictured wearing the uniform. The Wildcat football team won the Big 8 football championship in 1953. The museum has the trophy with team photo.

Fifty Humboldt School yearbooks and several from other schools were donated this year, so our collection is growing. Thank you to the donors.



The Tri-State Corners Genealogical Society has compiled lists of all county high school graduates.

Richardson County Chinese in the 19th Century

In its early years Richardson County became the home of several nationalities. German, Irish, Welsh, Bohemians, French had all settled here, as well as Native Americans. All played a part in early settlement. What is little known is that there were several Chinese attempts to settle here also. Not many came, largely due to prejudice and suspicion which would lead to the Chinese Exclusion Act passed by the government in 1882. Chinese were relatively new in America and with their long queues, mandated by the ruling Manchu dynasty, they were very conspicuous.

In 1870 there were no Chinese in Nebraska or Kansas according to the Census of that year. That changed nine years later. The *Falls City Globe-Journal* of Apr. 19, 1879 reported their arrival:

“Two Chinese came to town last week, and as a great many of our citizens had never seen one, they created quite a sensation. They have come to stay, and will run a laundry.”

They were soon joined by three others who arrived from California and it was announced that Fong Hong, their leader and spokesman, will open his laundry “opposite Hanna’s block.” This was near the Central Hotel which stood at 13th and Stone. It didn’t take long for prejudice and local opposition to raise its head. The *Falls City Press* edited by Andrew Reed commented that “three new ones arrived from Sacramento, Cal. on Saturday last, all of them as ugly as Ah Sin.”

(It should be noted that Falls City at that time had two major newspapers reflecting the major political parties. The *Globe-Journal* was Republican and the *Press* was Democratic. Reed was a “staunch Democrat” while the *Journal* editors, May and Davis, were more tolerant.)

In its issue of May 8, the *Press* predicted that “we are soon to have an exodus of Chinamen” and “Wong Fong to be in keeping with modern style, sports false hair.” This began the *Press* campaign against the newcomers. Reed would frequently misspell the Chinese leader’s name.

The issue of the *Journal* of May 10, announced that Fong Hong had opened a laundry in “the building recently occupied by J. P. Hull on Chase street.” It is not clear if he was forced to move. The notice also gave his prices: Shirts – 10 cents, Drawers, etc. – 75 cents a dozen, Collars, handkerchiefs, etc. – 30 cents a dozen. He charged nothing to sew on buttons for bachelors. That same issue reprinted a *Press* editorial threatening the Chinese, and gave the *Journal*’s response:

“Five Chinamen have arrived in Falls City and propose to locate. Their coming creates quite a commotion among the laboring classes and we shall not be surprised if the pig tails found it an unhealthy place of abode. We hope it is not true, but we hear that some of our people are soliciting work for these Chinamen to the exclusion of our own worthy people. If this is true there will be a muss and that is what no one is hankering after. These Chinamen have as much right to come here as other nationalities and as much right to secure employment as any one, but the man who attempts to crowd them into situations occupied by honest, industrious white people, because their services can be had for a mere pittance, had better look out for his back hair. We understand that more of them are coming, and if this proves true—there being no demand for more laborers—somebody will have trouble on their hands in a few months—
Press

“No person with common horsesense would make the foolish reporting that the coming of five Chinamen to a town the size of Falls City would create a commotion among the laboring classes, and follow it up with the remark that ‘we shall not be surprised if the pigtails found it an unhealthy place of

abode.’ The *Press* evidently desires to convey the impression that these people and all who help them to employment will be mobbed. We do not desire to have that impression go abroad. The citizens of Falls City are not communists, though a stranger would think they were, after reading Reed’s editorial.”

The *Press* response was soon to come, on May 15:

“The *Journal*’s celestial pig-tail pets have been on a marauding expedition. It took three of them to purchase a wash tub and board from a woman living in the northeast part of town, and it had to be done in the cool of the evening, too. It has only taken six trips thus far to complete the bargain, and the end is not yet, as they have not got the washing utensils. We always thought they used a brush instead of a white woman’s plan of tub and board anyway.”

The *Journal*’s response on May 17:

“We are informed that the Chinamen now in our city have been notified that unless they leave they will have their goods destroyed. We hope this is not true. We would be sorry to think that we have among us men who would allow their indiscretion to get the better of their judgement.”

The *Press* of May 22:

“The pig tails are packing a navy revolver each, and have been heard to remark that ‘if any dam white Melican manee tries to runee this ‘ere Chinese Laundree out of townee they’ll getee shootee all to hellee.’ We also heard a white man remark that ‘if Johnny didn’t skip he was likely to have his cue utilized into a blacksnake whip.’” (“Johnny” refers to “John Chinaman” – a derogatory term often used to name a Chinese. California’s 1880 Census lists many Chinese by this name to avoid the trouble of getting their proper names.)

The *Journal* of May 24 responded with an article from the *Humboldt Sentinel*:

“The editor of the Falls City *Press* is terribly scared about the influx of Chinamen to that city, and makes some horrible threats, in last week’s *Press*, against those who may encourage their coming. He even goes so far as to intimate that he will snatch the capillary growth from the outer covering of the cerebellum of any one who may be so bold as to give them employment. Brother Reed, like the party he represents, is a whole menagerie of wild beasts when he lets himself loose, and we hope the calm and peacefully disposed citizens of the county-seat will keep an eye on him and see that he does nothing rash or blood-curdling.” (Notice the term – “brother” used with Reed. This is how newspaper editors referred to each other.)

The *Journal* of the same date also printed a query from its Salem correspondent:

“Our Salem correspondent asks ‘how many Chinamen have been killed in Falls City up to date?’ In reply we will say that none have yet been killed, but the work of slaughter will probably begin as soon as the *Press* gets its gang armed and equipped.”

The paper further reported that two of the Chinese had filed their declaration of intent to become citizens presumably “for protection against the lawlessness of the *Press* and its followers” and also opined that “a good way to kill the Chinamen off would be to have them wash a pair of the *Press* man’s socks. It would poison them, sure.”

The *Press* of May 29 didn’t waste any time in responding to the *Journal*’s Salem correspondent:

“The Salem correspondent of the *Journal* seems to receive the Chinamen as bosom friends, and advocates cheap labor with a vengeance. We can imagine such correspondent as greatly improved in looks, swinging a cue, working for twenty-five cents a week and boarding for his clothes.”

The *Journal* of May 31 issued a caution:

“The *Press* has apparently concluded to allow the Chinamen to stay. But hold your breath: perhaps we are now experiencing the awful calm before a terrible storm.”

The editorializing continued with the *Press* of Jun. 5 quoting the *Humboldt Sentinel*:

“One of Falls City’s Chinamen has allowed himself to be shorn of his pigtail, and joined the Methodist church and the Greenback party. He was doubtless led to do so by promises from the editor of the *Press* that his life would be spared in consideration of such sacrifices. Brother Reed’s war-cry is ‘Blood or booty.’ – *Humboldt Sentinel*”

That same *Press* issue continued Reed’s diatribe against the Chinese and the *Journal* for that socks comment:

“Our devil is soon to bring out a beautiful serial story, entitled. ‘The Smothered Celestial,’ or ‘The Cruise of the Deadly Shirt.’ The graphic description of how the poor rat-digester, Fong Hong, wrestled with the *Globe-Journal*’s man’s garment, and came to an untimely end in his earnest endeavor to manufacture a white spot in the shirt large enough for a shirt stud, are thrilling as well as pathetic.”

Getting tired of the animosity of the two papers, and of being caught in the middle, Fong Hong and his workers soon left, with the *Press* reporting in its June 12 issue that “Fong Hong has gone.” The *Journal* of June 14 editorialized that Reed tried to “kill off the Chinamen, but was too cowardly to do it decently.”

Months later, in April 1880, the *Journal* looking back, related that Reed “once threatened to eat up some Chinese who came here to run a laundry, but he changed his mind, and the Chinese came and staid (sic) as long as they wished and departed unharmed.” In May of that year the *Journal* reported that Hong Fong (sic), Falls City’s former laundryman, had been arrested in St. Joseph by the Chinese agent from Omaha for taking out his naturalization papers, likely to be returned to China and a death sentence. Naturalization of Chinese immigrants would later be prohibited by the Exclusion Act of 1882.

With the departure of the laundrymen, there were no Chinese in Falls City in the 1880 Census, and due to the Exclusion Act, none returned to Falls City until August 1889. The *Falls City Daily News*, successor of the *Press*, and also Democratic, reported on Aug. 30, 1889 that “a Chinese laundry is the latest acquisition to our city.” Earlier, on Aug. 23, the *Journal* reported that newcomer Sing Lee “John Chinaman was allegedly robbed by Jack Frenchy,” a local black handyman. Sing Lee ran a laundry in town until January 1892. He must have done fairly well because in September 1890 his shop was one of the businesses in town to get electric lights. Some of his prices were: Shirts – 10 cents, Collars – 3 cents, Cuffs – 5 cents. In early 1892 Tom Fu took over the shop from Sing Lee. A rumor was soon spread that Tom Fu had the dreaded leprosy. He was examined by Drs. Houston and Wiser and pronounced healthy. The *News* reported in its Jan. 8, 1892 issue that “it would seem that some malicious person has placed the report in circulation for the purpose of injuring the poor heathen’s business.” Tom Fu seems to have left town soon after, as his name was no longer in the papers.

A third attempt at a Chinese laundry was made in Falls City when the *Journal* of Jun. 11, 1897 reported that Charles (Charley) Lung, a “native of the Orient” was now doing laundry. A feature in the Nov. 26, 1897 *Journal* described in detail all the major business men in town and Charley Lung was

among them. He “wields the slippery soap and starch to a queens taste in his capacity as a laundryman of our city.” He would work into the night to please his patrons. Some of his prices: Two shirts ironed – 15 cents, Under shirts and drawers – 15 cents, Collars – 8.5 cents, Pair of cuffs – 5 cents. His slogan was “Fine Chinese Laundry Work a Specialty.” “Goods called for and delivered to all parts of the city.” In the Jul. 8, 1898 issue of the *Falls City Times* it was announced that new arrival George Sing had taken over for Charles Lung. Soon after George Sing moved away.

The 1900 Census for Richardson County shows no Chinese in Falls City, but there was one individual in Humboldt. Sam Kee was the sole Chinese in that town and worked as a laundryman. He resided at the Park Hotel, and as there was apparently no Chinese laundry in Humboldt, he possibly was employed by the hotel operator, Oakey Andrews, for services there.

Submitted by Bill Rowan



From the Falls City Journal October 25, 1889 Page 8



This 56" window cornice is one of eight we received that were once in the 1875 A.J. Weaver House located at 19th & Harlan until the mid 1960s. History Nebraska was deacquisitioning some of its holdings, and these were returned to Falls City.



1843 -1887

Congressman Archibald Jerard and Martha Meyers Weaver were the parents of Governor Arthur J. Weaver and grandparents of Arthur J. Weaver, Jr., Archibald J. (Jack) Weaver, and Rep. Phillip Hart Weaver.



Weaver House during a tour shortly before demolition

National Park Service Network to Freedom Recognition

August 29, 2022 marks an important day for Falls City. On that day the National Park Service announced that the Dorrington House and Barn site, located at 1601 Stone Street, as a new addition to its “Network to Freedom.” This designation is awarded to sites important to the Underground Railroad, which was used to usher slaves to freedom. It is one of 17 newly added sites, now bringing the national total to over 700. <https://www.nps.gov/ugrr>.

The National Park Service reviews applications from sites, facilities, and programs for approval twice each year. These applications are studied with great scrutiny. Only properly researched and verified applications with legitimate connections to the Underground Railroad are accepted.



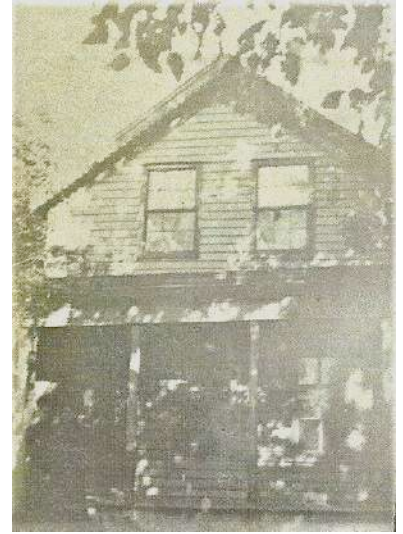
David and Ann Dorrington, originally from England, sailed to America in 1842 and settled in Oneida County, New York. David, an accomplished carpenter and joiner, continued that vocation there until 1857, when they moved to Doniphan County, Kansas. While in Kansas, David and Ann became involved with the abolition movement and with Gen. James H. Lane, the famous Free-Soiler.

It was Jim Lane who first envisioned the town of Falls City. It was to be located at a spring that was found on the high ground of the north side of the Nemaha valley. It was intended to be a community that would be a haven for anti-slavery sentiment along the “Lane Trail.” The Lane Trail was first created to bring Free Soil settlers into Kansas, in order to sway the popular vote to make Kansas a free state. The Kansas-Nebraska act of 1854 allowed territories to self-determine if they would or would not, as new states, accept slavery. The Lane Trail helped the Free State cause to prevail in Kansas, as many Free Soil newcomers were brought down through this route, which avoided passing through proslavery Missouri. The trail crossed the Missouri River from Iowa to Nebraska City and then proceeded south through Peru and Nemaha City to Falls City, and extended down to Topeka.

The Dorringtons and their friends, Isaac Hamby, John A. Burbank, and J. Edward Burbank, were enticed to pick up and settle the newly-planned town. With a daunting challenge before them, they were first met with ridicule by many in the nearby towns of Nemaha Falls and Archer. But the prospects of prosperity brought a few adventurous pioneers, and David Dorrington soon had his hands full with building contracts. The town was off to a hopeful yet uncertain start.

As the traffic south on the Lane Trail slowed, John Brown and his associates found the Lane Trail to be a desirable route to send freed slaves north to safe destinations. Away from the “Missouri ruffians,” the freed men and women took flight with the help of their conductors, and occasionally Brown himself.

The Dorrington house was built on the northwest corner of what is now 16th and Stone Street. It was finished in early 1858. David (sometimes referred to as “Squire Dorrington,”) acquired the federal contract to transport mail from Rulo to Topeka, via Falls City. He built a large barn just to the west of the house, where horses and wagons were sheltered. It was there in the hay loft that freed slaves were hidden on their journey north.



The undertaking of this activity was treacherous. The surrounding communities were comprised of mostly pro-slavery sympathizers. Falls City was an abolition island, and was sometimes threatened with violence from both near and far. Nebraska’s leader of pro-slavery Democrats, J. Sterling Morton (yes, that one), had great disdain for the “abolition hole” Falls City, and it’s “Black Republicans.” Enemies seemed to be everywhere.

David Dorrington was closely watched, and didn’t visit the barn when the freedom seekers were there. Ann Dorrington would take food and coffee to them at night, slipping in and out of the barn with no light to guide her. Their fugitive guests stayed in the hay loft during the day and were then moved in the dead of night or sometimes during the day under a wagon load of corn. False bottom mail wagons were also used in transporting the freed slaves. It was said that sometimes there were very narrow escapes.

The youngest two Dorrington boys, John and Will, rode mail routes. They knew never to mount a horse in the morning that had dried sweat on it, because that meant the horse was used for underground transport the night before. On one occasion, apparently Will tripped on a man who was sleeping in the barn. It was allegedly John Brown himself!

Squire Dorrington wore many hats during the early period of Falls City. As a contractor, he was a chief builder of many early structures. He also served as the first justice of the peace, the first undertaker, the town’s third mayor, land investor, and key figure in the county seat fight of Richardson County. “Mother” Ann Dorrington was not only important to her family and the Underground Railroad, but she also ministered to the sick and dying in the absence of doctors and a hospital in those early days.

David and Ann were the first permanent residents of Falls City, and were often referred to as “The Father and Mother of Falls City.” Of their six children, three remained in Falls City and became prominent members of the community. Many of their descendants still live in the Falls City area.

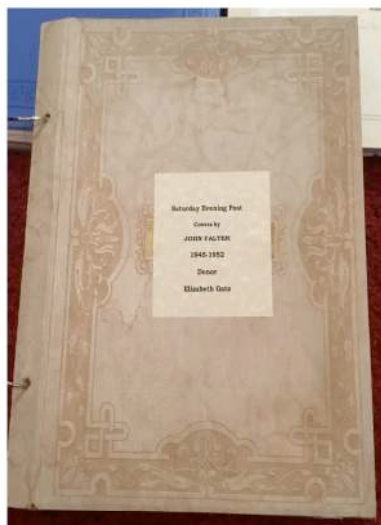
It should be noted that there were other places in and around Falls City where slaves were hidden on occasion. It was a community effort. Falls City’s importance and standing as an abolition seat is even apparent in the names of the first major streets in town. Stone, Chase, Harlan, Lane, Morton, Wilson, and McLean Streets were all named for prominent abolitionists of that time.

The Dorrington barn has been gone for over a century. There are no known photos of it. Presumably, the house and barn were razed at or near the same time. The original Dorrington home (see photo) was replaced by a brick structure that remains today. A name & date stone that reads, “Dorrington & Sons, 1881,” can be seen near the top of the front of the building. For many years the building was well known as the Falter’s Clothing Store. It now serves as the Collection Museum, a non-profit museum that features collections, antiques, and various memorabilia. A display in the front window commemorates the site as the Dorrington home and Underground Railroad station.

Submitted by Dave Kentopp



This pre-1900 red velvet settee with removable back and adjustable arms came to us from David & Debbie Kirkendall Ebel. It was left in the house where Debbie and brother, Doug, grew up east of Falls City aka "Pig Hill" when Dave & Lena Gatz left the farm. It is a beautiful piece of furniture, although family members tell it did not make a comfortable bed when as many as seventeen James & Lois Kirkendall family cousins stayed over at the Don & Sheila Kirkendall home! It was restored in 1984 by Buckminster Upholstery.



Among the museum art displays are these four scrapbooks of Saturday Evening Post covers in the 1940s-early 50s compiled by Elizabeth Gatz, a county native who lives in Chicago. She is retired from a long art education career. One binder is of John Falter covers, and one is of Norman Rockwell covers. In the other two are covers by Alajalov, Hughes, Schaeffer, Staehle, Dohanos, and Atherton.

Thank you, Joan Zoeller, for organizing and assembling this display of scrapbooks.

A donation in honor of Amalia (Amy) Morehead was given by her family.

Memorial Donations

In memory of Kenny Arnold, Judy Miller, Glenn Godemann, Al Comer, Dennis Mellage, Georgia Rhodd, Mel Harmon, Mary Lou Simpson-Hill, Paul Meinzer, June Scheitel, Norma Lee Duerfeldt, Bear Scholl, Rex Jones

This and past newsletters are available in color on our website:
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~nericchs>

Some Other Recent Acquisitions

- USDA Richardson County aerial photos of each county section 1940s land so includes farms and towns
Note: We need a cabinet with many drawers that will hold large maps such as these
- Dempster pump used for pumping from water from water wagon to steam engine
- Collection of Congressman Phillip Weaver memorabilia including area government proposals
- Honey Creek School and community pictures, yearbooks, and sports items
- Crazy Quilt pieced by Addie Mitchell Brockman, wife of John Brockman, farmer/state politician northwest of Stella. The quilt includes ribbons from Old Settlers Picnics.
- Horse-drawn cultivator and two small hand garden tillers
- One-row furrower
- Two-wheel scoop for moving ear corn.
- Six original naturalization record book
- Scrapbook containing Rulo news items
- Emmett Fisher's saddle
- Sheriff's Posse flags and a uniform
- Falls City Riding Club flags and queen accessories
- Box of items pertaining to Willard & Margaret Smith Lewis
- Large box of Saville farm, RC Fair, Salem church items, and an 1895 Falls City High class picture
- Several oil lamps and photographs pertaining to Carl Weinert
- Water drainage district #5 Record Book (Muddy Creek SW of Verdon to east of FC)

This newsletter does not provide a complete list, but every donation is important to us.

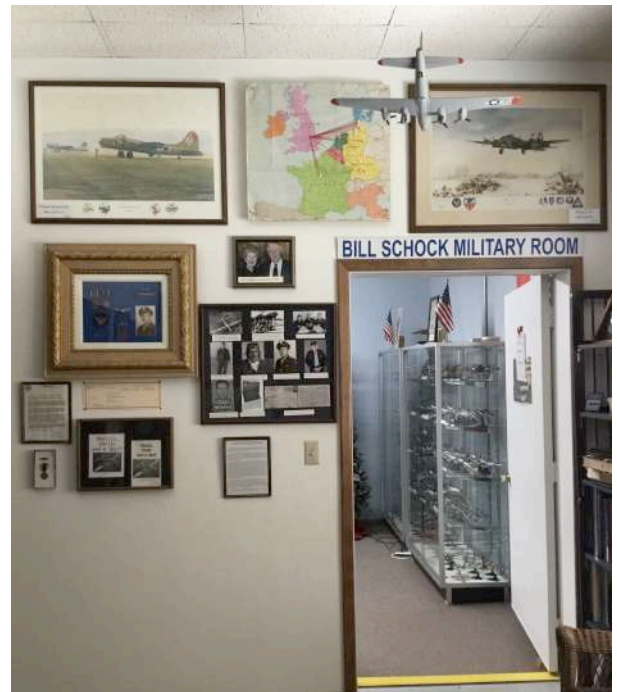
The Military Room has been dedicated to the memory of **George W. (Bill) Schock**, not just because he was a WW II prisoner of war, but that in his 70-year career with the *Falls City Journal*, he promoted everyone and everything that was good about Falls City and this county. He attended a multitude of meetings and events as reporter and photographer, many which involved veterans.

He served and led on the boards of many civic, service related, and journalistic organizations. These included: Rotary Club, Outstate Daily Publishers Association, 34 years RC Veterans Service Commission, City Council, Board of Education, Community Hospital Board, 20 years Falls City Federal Savings & Loan, Nebr. Committee for Employer Support and the Guard and Reserve.

He was a member of the American Legion, VFW, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Elk's Club, Methodist Church

Honors included: Outstanding Young Man, Boss of the Year, Community Service Award, Key to the City, Nebr. National Guard Legion of Merit Award, RC Fair King, Cobblestone Parade Grand Marshal, & EDGE Wall of Fame.

We thank his family and friend, Robert Ferguson, for supplying the memorabilia for this Tribute Wall.



Inside the door you see the two showcases of war plane models collected by Gary Nelson.

We invite you to visit the museum to see the new and updated displays.

We always need volunteers, and suggestions are most welcome.

Think about becoming a docent next year. Contact a board member.

Consider having your group meeting at the museum or arrange a tour. 'Closed' means that no docents are scheduled, but we will gladly arrange a showing at other times.

BULK RATE
U. S. Postage
P.A.I.D.
Permit #39
Falls City, NE 68355

Richardson County Historical Society
P. O. Box 45
Falls City, NE 68355



Drive by and look at the addition to our landscape southwest of the AG II Building.

Students from the Falls City High School Horticulture Class submitted plans for beautifying the premises, and this attractive berm of rock and plants was the result.

The RCHS Logo, designed by Janet Surman Pommerville in 1986, was laser cut from steel by the students.

Students included Grace Morris, Kaydence Catrell, Jude Chapple, Kemper Foster, Havyn Ruiz, Blake Rolfe, Lexi Brewer, Jozie Kirkendall, & Jodie Uhri.

Instructor: Brian Miller
RCHS Board Members: John S. & Leon W.

Support for mailing this newsletter graciously provided by Falls City Care Center.