



Seward County Historical Society

Organized 1967

News Letter

September 2011

From the Prez;

As Labor Day passes I see the end of summer at it's heels. We've had a wonderful summer working together with the SCHS. Now we have the glorious Fall season a head of us. The Annual Car show will be here before you know it . There are raffle tickets to sell , cars to prepare, and the Fall clean up at the Museum. I encourage everyone to come out to the Car Show and see all of the work that has been done to the grounds. As all of you know the pine trees are in a "bad way" all over the country and we lost several trees. It's costly to remove them but they needed to go and we'll need to replace them soon. Please consider donating a good sized tree in remembrance of a family member or to sponsor a tree in you Family name. Contact any of the officers if you wish to donate and dedicate a tree. The wedding dresses are still on display so take a walk through the decades of wedding dresses. Hoping to see you all this fall at the Seward County Historical Society Museum.

Lynn Reinmiller, President

News Letter

What would you like to see in the letter??

What do you like about the past letters??

What isn't of interest in past letters??

Would you like stories of events in the past?

Help! The letter needs to be representative of all phases of the Seward County Historical Society.

A dry, in the rut, letter is of no advantage to the Society, PLEASE let your thoughts be known. Advice, suggestions, even criticism is helpful. We are not thin skinned and your input is needed and welcome

It is easy to submit your thoughts,, just call the Museum Telephone number, **(402) 523-4053**, anytime day or night and put those ideas on the voice recorder. They will be addressed and you will get a timely response.

From the Treasurer;

The First of many Annual Family Fun Days was overall a resounding success. On the financial side we did not make any money off the day; however we did gain new memberships and a better understanding of what we need to do financially on these events. Here are the numbers on the Expense side, Food \$78.83, Prizes \$38.16 and advertising \$35.80 for total expense of \$152.78. On the Income side, Donation box \$48.00 and the Food Services \$35.00 for a total of \$83.00. Loss for the day was \$69.78. I must stress we stood a dollar amount loss however we gained more visibility to the general public and knowledge on what to do next time. So from a financial point of view it was money well spent. I also want to thank everyone for helping out on tracking inventories of food and prizes. Without this help I would not be able to bring in clear report of what was done. I hope to do the same for the October newsletter on the Car Show weekend. In the event I do not get the report completed by the deadline for the October newsletter I will report on the Car Show at the Quarterly meeting and have the Car show report in the November Newsletter.

From the Buildings & Grounds;

Hixson Plumbing came over and cleared out all the drains in the Museum which were not flowing very well at all. I was told there was a pretty good plug in the drainage. Nelson contracting repaired the school house roof. We have install drain tile for the down spout on the North West corner of the house. This tile carries the rain water and sump water from the house out to the waterway. We also trenched in water lines to the house and there is a spigot on East and West sides of the house for watering. All received grass seed which has come up nicely in the receive rains. Goldsmith Tree Service cleared out the bottom branches and volunteer trees from the Wind break on the West and North sides of the grounds this month. The rains let up and the grass's growth slowed a little however in the last few weeks we have seen just over 2 inches of rain and the grass is back at growing again. With the nice rains that have fallen on the grounds this year we have enjoy a nice looking lawn on the Museum Grounds. The rains have slow down the installation of the drain tiles on the West side of the West building. There are three left to do and should be down in the coming weeks.

From the Railroad;

Members that work on the railroad completed a 2011 track rehabilitation project over Labor Day weekend by replace 140 feet of railroad on the North side of the Museum grounds. This brings to a total footage of replace trackage this year of 210 feet or just over 11% of the mainline. Work like this is ongoing every year. Some years we do more than other.

Couple of Side Notes;

Web site doing its job; A couple stopped by Labor Day on their motorcycles and was checking us out for bringing their club over during the Car show this year. They had found us on the Internet. This has been a typically response when I have ask visitor how they heard about us.

Museum's Voice mail was switch to WINDSTREAM Business Voice mail last month. Now when you leave a voice mail notification is sent out the Officer's email address as well as an email box set up just to archive these messages. A message waiting light will be installed in the office so anyone there will see a message is waiting along with instructions on how to retrieve the messages. We also update the message callers here with the Museum hours and special events that we have going on.

Antiques

If you want to see antiques, don't come to the Seward County Historical Museum, go to an Antique Store.

The dictionary definition of an Antique is as follows: "An antique is an old collectible item. It is collected or desirable because of its age, beauty, rarity, condition, utility or some other unique feature".

The Seward County Historical Museum is full of memorabilia placed there to share with others. They are not just old collectable items. These memories were mainly part of the life history of Seward County Residents.

When is the last time you visited the Museum? If not ever, now is the time.

The Museum is a well organized display of these memories. The booths are grouped around different categories. For example the Wedding Dress display is incorporated into several different areas.

The Museum is open every Thursday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and 1:30 to 5:00 PM on Sundays. If you have a group that would like to visit any time, call the Museum at (402) 523-4055 or Email Info@sewardcountymuseum.org

Too often, we think of history as "100 years ago, or at least 10 years ago." But history actually began 10 minutes ago

Hello;

This month we are going to learn about the first town in Seward county, CAMDEN, located Section 32-9N-1E in P precinct.

In 1865 Seward County took steps to be organized as a County. The Settlement at Camden near the Camden bridge over the Big Blue River in the Southeast portion of the County came the closest to being a village or town then any other area in Seward county, the location was not thought best and the matter was put off to later date. A plat of Camden was

filed May 8, 1868, but never became an incorporated village. Owners of the land at the time the plat was filed: H.W.Parker and Fordyce Rope.

A monument was erected on the farmers site of the First School district No.1, which was located SE4 of the NW4 of Section 32-9N-4E with the following inscription:

"This monument and the memory of the Nebraska Pioneer, marks the site and establishment of the Oregon Trail Cut-Off, Nebraska City and Fort Kearney in 1861. First County School District 1866 with Thomas Graham teacher.

"This monument was erected by Patriotic Citizens, 1941"

Since then the Bronze inscription has disappeared and at this time only the monument remains.

About a mile northeast of Camden School district is located the Camden Cemetery. Its location is NE 4 of the SE4 on section 29-9N-4E:

About 1/4 mile North and 1 mile west of the Camden Cemetery is another Historical Marker: On the Vance farm is a monument with the following inscription:

Council Oak: Tree and spring on the old Indian Trail used by the Pawnee Indians, between 1870 and 1880 under which they held many councils. Farm was owned by the late Mr. and Mrs. Alec Vance early pioneers.

Erected by the Crete chapter DAR, Crete, Nebraska 1932.

Will continue next month with more on Camden history.

Joan Kennel, Library

Car Show;

V.B. has been very dedicated to this car show, along with the help of his wife Lucinda and Larry Ray to help with getting the many donations and registration the day of the show. Lynn Bartlett and her daughter Crystal Dewey have helped with the counting of ballots and ladies have always had a delicious lunch stand. There are many others who have pitched in to help to numerous to mention, and he has appreciated everyone. He has always gotten donations from businesses for the purchase of the trophy's and door prizes/raffle and therefore, ALL of the proceeds from the car show are 100% profit. His hope is the car show will continue and be more profitable every year to help in maintaining our Seward County Museum. Thanks to everyone and all of their help, I was able to have the car show for 25 years.

Seward County Fair;

The Bill Gassman miniature farm was displayed in a booth at the Seward County Fair. 207 people visited the booth and signed up for a chance at the \$50 gift certificate for a meal at the Chez-buba café in Goehner. **Celia K Whitford** of Milford was the winner

Membership

We welcome new Life Member, **Mark Suhar** of Seward, and Annual Members, **Annie Klement** of Ulysses, & **Roger Graul** of Lincoln to the Society.

At the present time, the membership roster consists of: 81 Life Members, 2 Contributing Members, and 31 Annual Members, for a total of 114

DEATH OF A PIONEER.

Father Dunaway as he was familiarly called, settled on a homestead in July of 1864, in Section 3, Town 11, Range 3 east, three miles north of the site of the city of Seward. His family had not arrived. He had made a small lumber shanty, and was making little improvements. In the month of September, the writer was yet a resident of Lancaster County, but was here putting up hay preparatory to moving later in the fall.

Grandfather Imlay was taking a stroll for recreation one day, and thought he would go and have a chat with Father Dunaway. He went to the cabin and there was no one there. He thought that the old man was probably hunting his oxen. He sat down and read a book that his eye chanced to meet. Waiting awhile, he went and hallooed, but heard no response. He then began a search, and a little to the south, he found the grass wallowed down, and his suspicions being aroused, he continued his search, finding a faint trail leading southward, followed it some eight rods, found the old man dead and cold in the midst of a large patch of wallowed grass.

He hurried home and told his son, David P. Imlay. Dave mounted a horse and hurried to Lincoln Creek (the land where Lewis Anderson's farm is now), where R. T. Gale, William Imlay, Joseph Imlay and W. W. Cox were putting up hay.

"What shall we do?" was the question asked by one and all. It was suggested that Mr. Cox being a Justice of the Peace for Lancaster County, would probably come nearer having a Coroner's jurisdiction than any other available person, there being no officers yet in this county.

"Where can we get enough men for jurors?" was the next question. Mr. Gale thought they could be found in the Morgan settlement. A venire (the first, last and only ever issued by this officer), was issued. Mr. Gale was sworn as special Constable, with power to fill in names of jurors. All was hurry, horseflesh was not spared. Just as the sun was sinking behind the hills on that Beautiful September evening, the little company arrived at the scene of death of their friend and neighbor.

The parties present were David Imlay, Sr., D. P. Imlay, William Imlay, Joseph Imlay, R. T. Gale, Job Reynolds, Thomas Morgan, William Morgan and W. W. Cox.

It was a solemn scene, a little meadow, almost surrounded by a beautiful fringe of timber, a calm autumn evening, a sad stillness in the presence of death, with uncovered heads, and uplifted hands the jury took the oath which, considering all the surroundings, made a deep impression upon all.

The inquest resulted in the verdict, that the death of Father Dunaway was caused by a violent cramp colic.

The neighbors improvised a rough coffin from lumber in the shanty, and buried him beneath a sturdy oak standing near, and turned over all his effects to his widow when she arrived.



**SEWARD COUNTY
MUSEUM 25th ANNUAL
“CLASSIC CAR REVIEW”
Sunday, Oct 02 2011**

This is VB's Last Show

Registration

9:00 AM till Noon

Show

Noon till 4:00 PM

Food and drinks available all day, supplied by the ladies of the museum. Train rides for kids .

All proceeds go to the Seward County museum fund to keep the museum operating.

Entry fee for show is \$15.00, includes goody bag with dash-plaque. Looking is *free* !!!

CLASSES AWARDED BY POPULAR VOTE ONE VOTE PER ENTRANT

1939 AND OLDER, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s Original, 1960s Modified, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, Trucks, Street Rods, Novelty, Peoples Choice, Mopar and Orphan, High School.

OTHER TROPHEIS

Long Distance, Club Participation and Sponsors Choice

RAFFLE AND DOOR PRIZES

Sugar shack candles Available

The museum is located in Goehner NE. Take I-80 exit 373 and go 1/2 mile North on 80G Link or turn south from Hwy 34, on 80G and drive 4 and one half miles south.



Rain or Shine

Questions contact VB at

Box 144 Goehner Ne 68364

402-523-4460

MUSEUM AND PERSONEL RUNNING THE SHOW ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR INJURY

Seward County Historical Society
P.O. Box 188
Goehner, NE 68364-0188

Place
Stamp
Here



September 2011 News Letter

Seward County Historical Society ★



Exit 373 North

Goehner

South from 34

