



Tales and Trails Newsletter

From Denton, NE, and surrounding areas...Sponsored by the Denton Community Historical Society

January, 2014

Tales and Trails - Our 58th Edition - by Teresa Sullivan

It does not seem possible but this is the 58th edition of Tales and Trails. It was July 1999 when the first issue was sent to members. It was created in part so that members not living in this area could be a part of the organization, telling them of events and activities and reminding us all of our collective history.

Denton Community Historical Society has actually been active since 1996 and has grown substantially. This was the vision of those who first worked to get by-laws written and the society set up as a legal non-profit organization. Thanks to those people and you the members who have given your time, energy and yes, money, this vision may, instead of a dream, be a reality.

Within the last few weeks, a property has become available that would make a great place for a future museum. Again, thanks to all of you, there is a substantial amount in our treasury but it is not enough. You will be receiving a pledge request in several weeks. No amount is too small or unappreciated. We will also be asking for donations from the general public and groups interested in saving our heritage as well as business leaders from the area.

Watch your mail, and please consider a donation.

Why I Would Like To See A Museum - by Teresa Sullivan

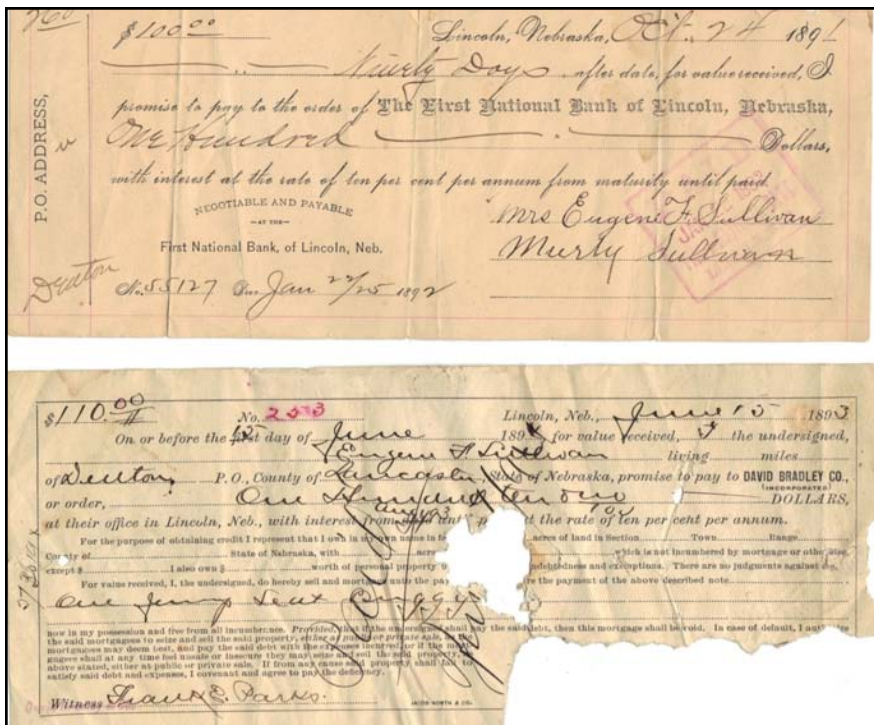
I am printing two items that I have in my possession. Even though I have possession, I do not in any way think that I own them. One note is made out to my grandfather Eugene F. Sullivan and the other to Mrs. Eugene Sullivan and Murty Sullivan. The June 15, 1893 note has as collateral, his "one jump seat buggy". A search of the internet brings up pictures of a "jump seat buggy" and so all his descendants can see what their ancestor used as transportation in 1893. It is easy to imagine my grandmother, Bridget, riding in this buggy.

The other note dated Oct 24, 1891, signed by grandmother Bridget and either her son Murty or her brother-in-law Murty, is special to me because I had never seen her signature on any other document. Such beautiful penmanship for this lady born in Ireland in 1857. Obviously she was well educated. And must have been considered a woman of integrity to be given a loan in that time period.

We need a museum so that future generations, not just my personal family, but the families of Eugene and Bridget's other children can delight in these items.

Here is a short list of items that we currently have that need a home and to be displayed.

Sprague scrapbook from Ralph and Amelia Drake---Handwritten copy of Wesley Chapel Autobiographies--Blue prints for Trinity Chapel, Rokeby---Denton Bank incorporation papers---9 Bound Rokeby Rustler books from Dr. Glenn Turner---WW 1 Honor Roll book for Lancaster Co veterans---Dr. Glenn Turner memories of his years at Rokeby High---School District #85 souvenir booklet 1907---Emerald envelope postmarked 1885---Two history book of Lancaster County---Friendship quilt from Emerald area---History of Denton Kensington---JRC Miller journal---Lucy Meyers journal---Herman Buhrmann family history book---Fraas family history book---Culp family history book---Denton Hall incorporation papers and several stock certificates for the hall---Burlington and Missouri advertisement for land in the area and number of copies of the land transactions---1921 Lancaster County bound plat maps---Steamer trunk which carried Mary Riley's belongings to America in 1871 and finally to the Denton area---Books and prints by Ruth Rosekrans, nationally known illustrator and Denton native---Denton basketball sweater from 1941 from Ed Patak---Rainbow Chasers Motorcycle Sign---WW2 uniform from Warren Spellman---Trail maps---Scale model 4 ft by 4 ft of CCC camp which was west of Denton---A number of audio tapes of programs and members---School trophies from Rokeby High---Feed signs by Cooper Feeds---Corset cover worn by Sarah Kersten in 1905---Mock up of Centerville High School-- -And a LOT of pictures that have been saved from the trash.



DCHS Website

After several months of inactivity, the DCHS website is again up and running. The address is www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nedchs. School census for the area are at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nelancas and then go to census. Please add this as one of your prime sites and visit it often. If you have items you would like to add, just send them to dsull88075@gmail.com.

4 H Achievement Book

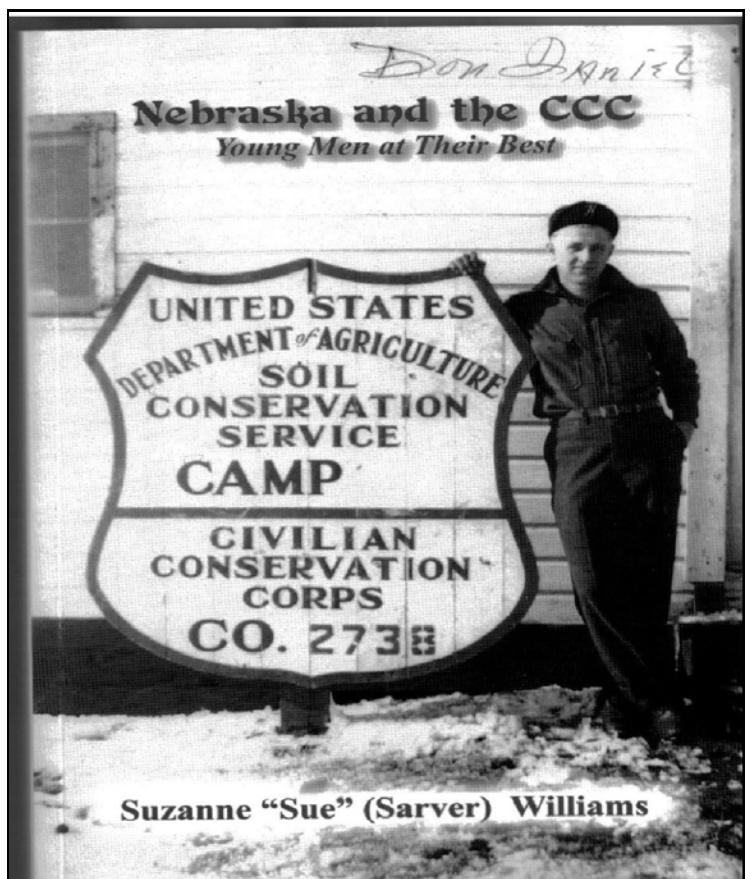
A special thanks to Clyde Burgess Sr. for the donation of a 4H achievement book that has a record of the 4H activities of Vera Burgess Lauk, Clyde's sister. It has a sample of a properly darned sock for which she received an award as well as prize ribbons etc for a lot of other accomplishments. A page of the book is pictured as well as a picture of visitors at one of the club's meetings. Can you identify these ladies?



Nebraska and the CCC (Sue Williams)

DCHS has a few of these books written by Sue Williams left in stock. The cost is \$20 and would make a nice gift or simply an interesting coffee table book. Orders can be sent to PO Box 405 Denton Ne 68339.

Also, Dale Nobbman has informed us that he has finished his 231 page history of School District #38 known as "Burd School". For more information contact him at dalenobbman@hotmail.com



Tea for Two and Two for Tea, Just Me for You and You for Me



Most of you will remember this song from the 1925 musical "No No Nanette", and the theme of course, was that this couple did not want company to interfere with their romantic tryst.

Yes, Tea for Two, would be nice but we think that Tea for Eighty would be much better. ***We are starting off our fundraising year, with a TEA on March 22nd at the Denton Community Center.*** President Charlene has been doing teas for some time and makes it festive with tea sets at each table and small goodies and of course tea. This is a chance to get that pretty dress out of the closet that you seldom wear and perhaps that flowery hat from yesteryear. But of course dressing up is optional and any nice casual wear will be just fine. The tea starts at 12 noon so come a few minutes early. The men in your life are welcome also.

And a bonus feature will be a presentation by Susan McLain who is "Yesterday's Lady" from Beatrice. She has been collecting vintage fashions for twenty-five years and her presentation will be "The Victorian Lady" featuring fashions from 1850 through 1900. She is a "Humanities Speaker" and if you would like more information on her and her Beatrice business, just Google her.

The charge for all this is 10 dollars with 5 dollars for age 12 and under and advance tickets can be obtained from any board member or by sending a check and name to PO box 405 Denton Ne 68339. Tickets can then be picked up at the door. No admittance without a pre-bought ticket.

In case of nasty weather, call any board member for advice.

DCHS Membership Dues

Yes, it is time for dues which continue to be a good deal at only \$15. What do you get for that money? The newsletter is made up quarterly, and although it is a volunteer effort, there are expenses in printing and mailing. Thank you to those of you who save those expenses by agreeing to an online edition which is in color. If you would like to change from print to online, just e-mail ***dsull88075@gmail.com***. And although the website

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nedchs is a volunteer project there are occasional expenses. There is the option of having a life time membership which is based on the age of the member. Please call 402-450-1292 and ask Marilyn Giles for details.

And go through your address book and see if there are some friends or relatives who would like a membership as a surprise or birthday gift for 2014. Do your children know what their heritage is all about? A membership could help that.

Denton Community Center Garage Sale, Saturday, April 26 - Fundraiser for Future Museum



Are you tired of that picture that you have on your living room wall and want an excuse to get a new one? Are you tired of tripping over that old stereo that is in the store room? Are you tired of dusting all the bric-a-brac you have in your house? Are you downsizing your life? We have a solution.

As part of our fund raising efforts for a museum, we are having a garage sale on Saturday, April 26 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Denton Community Center. The Methodist Church is having a garage sale that day also and so we have timed ours to coincide. So we are asking you to start a "Museum Donation box" as you do your spring housecleaning. You have no way to get your treasures to Denton? Just call any board member for help. We will also have

a bake sale and so start that oven up and bake up a storm. And of course, we will need help on sale day and Friday on set up day. We would prefer that items be priced before giving them to us. Also, if you want your items back in case they don't sell, please add that note to the item.



DCHS 2014 PROGRAMS

28 January - At the Martell Hall (former Martell State Bank), hospitality hour is at 1:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. The program will follow with ***Richard Schell sharing his memories of the Korean War.***

25 February - Meet at the Denton Community Center at 1:15 a.m. to carpool to the ***Nebraska State Museum to view the Cowboy Exhibit at 2:00 p.m.***

22 March - Tea Party at 12:00 noon. Yesterday's Lady will present her program at 2:00 p.m. Advanced Tickets can be purchased for \$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 for children 12 and under from any DCHS member or call Charlene Hobelman for more information. There will not be any tickets at the door.

22 April - Hospitality Hour at 1:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. At 2:00 ***LaVina Vagts will present her program on Pioneer Flowers.***

26 April - DCHS Garage sale at the Denton Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Set up on April 25 and help is expected.

27 May - Hospitality hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. ***Mark Awakuni-Swetland PHD will present his program starting with erecting a tepee south of the Denton Community Center.*** Help is welcomed.

28 June - Thank you for the Memories at the Denton Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Set up will be June 27 and help is expected!

22 July - Hospitality hour will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. ***Joan Buhrmann will interview Mavis Reller.***

26 August - Hospitality hour will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. ***Jerry Penry will present his program on Railroads of Lancaster County.***

23 September - Hospitality hour will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. ***Bob Kinghorn will bring a square and he will call a dance.*** Time for us to sit back and enjoy the program.

28 October - Hospitality hour will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting. ***Doug Novak will present his program on Camden.***

25 November - Potluck at noon at the Denton Community Center followed by a meeting and ***election of board members.***

How They Met - Merrill and Marjorie Loos Marriage - 26 Nov 1934

Mom and Dad had been going together for some time, but during the 1930's no one had much money so they had just never got around to getting married.

Toward the end of November 1934 Dad's father's hired man and his wife needed to get to some place in Kansas. Dad said he would take them if they paid for the gas and so the four of them left on the trip. They had to stop for car repairs once and on their return stopped for breakfast at Dad's Aunt Anna in Athol, KS. She fixed them breakfast and off they went.



By the time they got to Geneva, NE, they decided to get married. They did, but only told their parents when they arrived back in Lincoln. They each went to their own place and did not tell anyone. Harry Cropsey thought sure they had gotten married and checked all the papers in northern Kansas looking for their marriage license. He never thought to check the towns in Nebraska. I do not remember how long they kept it a secret, but Dad's Aunt Anna told them she would have done a lot better if she had known it was their wedding breakfast.

Dave Loos

Dave and Karen's First Date - Dave and Karen Loos



Back in the late 1960's, I was living with a roommate in Lincoln. For several years Terry Hoy's wife, Bobbi, and I had been going to football games together. Terry was working for one of the sporting goods stores in Lincoln and never got off on a football Saturday. After the game, Bobbi and I would pick him up and go somewhere for eats and a couple of red beers. For several years, a young married couple sat in front of us. They thought we were married and just for fun, we played along and did not say anything different. We had a great time with them, but never saw them other than at the football games.

My roommate had been in Karen's sister's wedding and she had ridden back to Lincoln with him. She came into the house and sat on the couch all prim and proper. I was on the phone talking to Bobbi about the upcoming game. I had already had a few beers and was feeling pretty good. Bobbi and I always teased each other to no end and with a new guest to embarrass, I sort of went overboard. Anyway, Bobbi could not go to the game, my roommate, who worked for the YMCA, had to work, and I was looking for someone to go to the game.

I waited a couple of days and mentioned to my roommate that I might ask Karen to go to the game. He said he already had a date with her, but would give her some alternatives. He called Karen and asked, "Would she rather go with him and his YMCA group camping for the weekend or to the football game." She said she would rather go to the football game. My roommate said, "Well, then Crazy Dave (my college nickname) will take you." She said I had to call her, I did, and to the game we went.

We sat down and the couple in front of us turned to visit, saw Karen, turned back around and never said a word to us through the whole game, but they kept checking us out. I told Karen why they acted that way. That was the last game of the year, I transferred to North Dakota, and never saw them again. They were from Omaha and I would have loved to have heard the discussion about the "new woman" on their way home.

The wife of one of the fellows in my office had been trying to line me up with some of her friends for several years. She just scared me and her friends were ten plus years older than me. After the game, Karen and I went to Tony and Luigi's for dinner and you can guess who we ran into. She was all over Karen pumping her for information and I could not get her out of there quick enough. The next Monday at work was a Living Hell, as everyone seemed to know more about Karen than I did or thought they did and showed me no mercy. I had always loved dishing it out, so what goes around comes around.

How I Met My Husband - Don and Teresa Sullivan - Teresa Sullivan

I was, as most of you know, Miss Sullivan before I became Mrs. Sullivan. It was February 1954 and a bitter cold night. I was quite comfortable in my apartment preparing to watch "I LOVE LUCY" because Lucy was going to have her baby on the show. She was going to have a caesarean birth on that same day but of course the trip to the hospital and a pretend birth had been prerecorded with two versions--one a baby boy and the other a baby girl. I did not know the girl who lived across the hall but she came and asked if she could watch the show that night.



My TV had the old rabbit ears and so I had all the lights out when someone came up the stairs to see his cousin who was now in my apartment. He had just come home from Korea. She introduced him as Don Sullivan and I started asking questions as to where he was from etc. I guess he thought I was quite interested in him. He convinced us that we needed to go get some coffee at Tastee Inn and wouldn't take no for an answer.

That was on a Monday night and the following Wednesday, I heard a banging on his cousins door and I finally went to see what was going on. It was Don. I told him that she had gone to the singles dance at Plamor. He again would not take no for an answer and wanted me to go get something to eat with him. I found out later that he was well aware that his cousin was at Plamor.

That is my story and I am sticking to it. However, several months ago, in a magazine I read at a doctor's office (that's where I do most of my reading these days) that that baby had been born in **January 1953**. I knew that was wrong and so I called CBS programming in NYC and told them so. But they are able to look back and their records show that indeed the show aired in January 1953. Actually the program that aired on that February 1954 night was one about Ricky and Fred having to baby sit the baby who was a year old.

Unfortunately, Don does not remember even that the Lucy show was on that night and his cousin has passed away so the whole thing is a mystery. But as I said, that is my story and i am sticking to it.

How We Met - Bonnie and Eddie Borgman - Eddie Borgman

When I was 20 years old, in the Air Force stationed at Elsworth AFB in Rapid City, SD in 1959, I had a roommate in the barracks that had a 8 x 10 photo of a girl on a horse taped in his locker. He said it was a local girl he had met but could not remember her name.

I had a part time job at the first McDonald's in October 1959 in Rapid city to make extra money. In early January 1960, while I was working cooking hamburgers, the same girl with a ponytail came up to the window (no indoor seating in the early McDonald's). I recognized her from the photo and went up and talked to her. She wouldn't tell me her name though.



As I was friendly with a bunch of the local guys in Rapid City I described her and they were able to tell me her name and a lot of information about all of her sisters and brothers (11 in total)

I looked up her phone number (only one last name in the book) and called her a few days later. We made a date for the following Saturday night. When I got to her parents house out in the country, her dad told me she was not there and had gone out for the evening. Needless to say I was a little upset. So her sister Ginny and I went looking for her.... Couldn't find her.

The following Monday I called her again and made another date for the following Saturday night. I showed up at her house and went in only to find she was not there again. Now I was really upset.

Once more I called and again made a date. Again when I showed up she wasn't there. As I knew most of the hang-out places for teens in Rapid City. I started checking them out. At the second one I found her with a few of her girl friends in a booth at a club called Angelos. I told her we had a date and that I was there to complete it. She said OK and we all sat for awhile and then she and a couple of her girl friends went to the restroom. When she didn't come back, I found she had escaped through the bathroom window. Talk about a slow or maybe not so slow burn.

Again, the following Monday I called and she apologized and we made another date. This time she was there and we went to a movie.

It was now February 1960. I had been trying for 4 weeks to actually go on a date with her. Fast forward 1 month and I asked her to Marry me, she said yes!! We were married on March 18, 1960. We just celebrated our 53rd wedding anniversary. I guess it shows that some things don't come easy but they can last a lifetime....

How We Met - Loren Kinner and Marilynne (Haase) Kinner - Marilynne Kinner



In the early 1930's, Bill and Florence Kinner, my husband's parents, lived in Denton and had a farm across the road from the Denton school house. My mother, Emma Vogel, was hired to teach at the school. She lived in Lincoln, so my grandfather, Henry Vogel, would drive her to Denton to stay the week and teach, and then would pick her up on Fridays to come back home for the weekend.

Emma boarded with Bill and Florence during the week while teaching. Bill and Florence decided that they would introduce my mother to John Haase, their neighbor, thinking that John and Emma would make a good couple. The four of them had many happy times together, and it was just two years later that my parents - John Haase and Emma Vogel - were married.

Those were the years of the Dust Bowl and the Depression. Bill and Florence made plans to move to the West Coast to find work and raise their little son, Loren, who was born in 1936. They left Denton in October of 1936 when their little boy was just 6 weeks old. They settled in Seattle and began a new chapter of their lives.

In the meantime, John and Emma Haase had moved to Lincoln and my father found various jobs including bar tending at the Gold Nugget and working as a grave digger at the cemetery. They had my brother Johnny in August of 1936. Two years later they had me, Marilynne, in 1938. In 1941, when I was 3 years old, they decided to move to the West Coast also - but to the Portland area as my maternal grandparents, the Henry Vogels, had moved there several years earlier.

Both men, Bill Kinner in Seattle and John Haase in Portland, found good jobs. The families grew and stayed in touch over the years. Loren and I grew up knowing each other well - making many trips back and forth between Seattle and Portland over the years. Loren joined the Air Force when he was 18 and I went to work at a local bank. We began to correspond and grew very close. Eventually, when Loren was discharged we became engaged and married in October, 1958.

We had two daughters and 5 grandchildren during the 52 years we were married. Loren passed in May, 2010 after his 3rd bout with cancer.

Obituaries

Robert Synovec, age 87, died in Aurora, Colorado on September 5th. Bob and his wife, Patty Sullivan lived in the Yankee Hill area. Three children and their families survive.

Bartholomew, (Bob) Shea, age 92, passed away September 24th. Bob was a DCHS member and his parents were Jerry Shea and Minnie Buelow, both long time families in the Denton area. Two children and their families survive.



Norma Jean (Jeanne) Gordon of Sedalia, Mo. passed away on Oct 15th. Her parents were Glenn Peterson and Lela Rundle from Rokeby. Jeanne had given DCHS pictures of the Rokeby area and a history of Rokeby and the family written by her grandmother Rundle.

Edward F. Schulenberg, Jr. age 74 died Oct 25th. He was on the school board of District #69. Four children and their families survive.

Mary Frances Goodrich, 78 of Colorado died Nov 18. Her parents were John Sullivan and Mary Miller. She had been a member of DCHS for many years. Survivors are 3 children and their families. Gladys Meyer, DCHS board member, is her first cousin.

Raymond Kratochvil, age 82, passed away Oct 31 in Michigan. Ray and his sister Irene attended Rokeby grade and high school. His wife Dolores survives as well as 4 children and families. His sister, Irene Regelean lives in Lincoln.

Bernard and Maxine Mickle Elrod, age 99 and 95 respectively passed away Nov 29th and Dec 1st. He was the son of John Elrod and Florence Mays and she the daughter of Lauren and Mable Doty Mickle. He was the sister of Sadie Elrod Juricek, the mother of Tom Juricek and Maxine was the aunt of Todd Mickle. Both Tom and Todd are DCHS members.

Word had been received of the death of **Barbara Versaw Pogue** in Prescott AZ on July 29, 2013. Barbara attended Rokeby grade and high school. Her parents were Paul and Wanda Versaw.

Dwight Allbery of North Platte died Nov 14 at age 76. He was originally from Gretna. In 1971 he married Barbara Peterson, daughter of Clarence and Evelyn Sittler Peterson. Barbara survives.

Bill G. Snider age 64 of Martell died Jan 6, 2014. Among his survivors are his son and daughter-in-law, Brandon and Renee of Denton.

Kent Kraus, son of Leonard and Florence Priess Kraus, passed away Jan 11 at age 63. He was a Vietnam veteran and is survived by many relatives including his parents.

From Linda Bryant from Voice News

Tornadoes seemed to have favored the VOICE NEWS area in the past few years, with substantial damages reported including the most recent October 3, 2013, EF2 tornado that hit properties in rural Hickman, Bennet, and Palmyra. Wagon Train State Recreation area east of Hickman was one of the hardest hit areas, yet fortunately, lives were spared. The park sustained extensive tree damage and after the VOICE NEWS publishers surveyed the ruins, an idea formed. It was decided then that the 31st annual VOICE NEWS Animal Run could benefit Nebraska Game and Parks in its efforts to rebuild and improve the park. The two mile and 5K run starts in downtown Hickman on Saturday, February 1, 2014, at 10 a.m.

Cold weather hasn't kept the most "animal-like runners" away and they've been coming back to the town 10 minutes south of Lincoln for the past 30 years. There are a dozen or so runners who have participated in nearly every run over the past 30 years, so it must be fun! Each year brings the faithful, plus fortunately, always new people who have heard about the run for years and just never committed.

The five-mile run and two-mile run/walk has been a staple of the Nebraska running scene since 1983. Longtime race director Scott Wieskamp is among those amazed that the event is entering its 31st year. Wieskamp can be credited for keeping the event a fun affair for runners all these years as well as designing the popular Animal Run long sleeved black and white t-shirt.

Neither sleet, nor snow, nor rain, nor freezing temperatures have kept the race from starting on time every year at 10 a.m. in downtown Hickman, for a run around the city of nearly 2,000. And every year, a different local charity benefits from the racers' dedication.

In recent years, runners raised money for the Sesostris Shriners Transportation Fund, Hickman Area Community Foundation Aquatic Center fund; Norris chapter of TeamMates, \$7,000 in 2012 to Norris Special Olympics, and \$6,000 last year to the Hickman Area Community Foundation Reading Center Fund. The VOICE NEWS Animal Run has raised nearly \$100,000 over the years for a variety of community projects due to the generosity of the sponsors and runners.

(Continued on last page.)

From Linda Bryant from Voice News - (Continued)

Many sponsors have signed on to support the hardy winter runners this year. Buckley and Sitzman, CPA, Butherus, Maser and Love Funeral Home, Cada Law Office, Climatech Heating and Air, Complete Chiropractic and Wellness, First State Bank Nebraska, Hickman Bar and Grill, Hickman Area Community Foundation Fund, Hickman Area Economic Development Association, Hickman Physical Therapy, Lincoln Running Co., Mattson, Ricketts, Davies, Stewart and Calkins Law, Pepsi Cola Bottling Co., Suburban newspapers, Titan U-Stop, Urbans Creamery and Grill, Vapor Pleasures, Watermyhealth.com and VOICE NEWS of southeast Nebraska have all committed to making this year's race a success. More sponsors are always welcomed- contact co-publisher Linda Bryant at VOICE NEWS 402-792-2255.

The entry fee for the race is \$25 if received by January 25, 2014. Pre-registration comes with the world-famous souvenir Animal Run T-shirt, which can be picked up alongside race packets at the Legion Hall downtown the morning of the race. Late registrations are \$28 and entrants may pick up their shirts in Lincoln or Hickman in the weeks following the race. Go to voicenewsnebraska.com to download the registration form to enter.

The top three places in the five-mile and two-mile runs in both the men's and women's divisions will receive medals as well as cash prizes of \$25 for first place, \$20 for second place and \$15 for third place. Make plans now to bundle up and join the fun and help with improvements to Wagon Train State Recreation Area, one of the jewels of southern Lancaster County, providing recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area, and bringing economic benefits to the surrounding business community.



Denton Community Historical Society

PO Box 405

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