



The Stage Line Quarterly

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Happy Holidays!

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Our mission is to preserve the history of the Miles Ranch and to create a legacy of sustainability for future generations.

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Binder Family Generosity Benefits Miles Ranch Foundation

The Binder Family of Table Rock, Nebraska has generously granted the Miles Ranch Foundation full access to the two silos located on their property just south of the Miles Ranch mansion house. The

Foundation intends to restore the two silos and remove some of the trees that have grown around them and are affecting the integrity of the two iconic structures.

The silos were the first of their type to be built in Richardson County and used to be a crucial component of the massive operation at the Miles Ranch. A total of three silos were built at the Ranch in the early 1900s, but only two remain standing. The two structures stand 50 feet tall and 25 feet in diameter. They can be seen all the way from Hwy 8.



The history of the Miles Ranch is an irreplaceable heritage. We should do all we can, so it will not be forgotten.



*"Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose."* From The Village Blacksmith, a Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 – 1882) poem apparently often recited by Colonel Stephen B. Miles

The Miles Ranch Foundation is a Nebraska non-profit corporation with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations should be made payable to the Miles Ranch Foundation and mailed to the following address:

F&M Bank
1701 Stone Steet
Falls City, NE 68355

The first phase of the project will involve removal of trees. The west silo will be restored in the second phase and the east silo during the third phase of the project.

The Binder Family purchased the bulk of the Miles Ranch in the late 1990s and have successfully farmed the land ever since. They have been strong supporters of all the restoration efforts going on at the Miles Ranch and the mission of the Miles Ranch Foundation. Mr. Tyler Binder speaking on behalf of his family stated they are committed to being good neighbors. He feels the silos complete the Ranch and should be restored.

We are all very excited about this project and so thankful for the tremendous generosity of the Binder Family. This certainly highlights their longstanding commitment to community and historic preservation.

If you wish to contribute to this important project, please send donations to F&M Bank payable to the Miles Ranch Foundation. F&M Bank's address is 1701 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355.

Miles Family Reunion a Success



Miles Family descendants from across the country held their family reunion the weekend of June 17-19. On Friday evening, the group enjoyed a reception at the Grand Weaver Hotel in Falls City.

On Saturday morning family members visited the Miles Family grave site before heading to the Miles Ranch. At the Ranch, they enjoyed some Miles Ranch wine and a delicious meal

catered by Cross Creek Catering. Of course there was much discussion about all the history and stories. Steve Miles was there and graciously shared many photographs and historic documents.

MRF Ice Cream Social Refreshing Treat On a Hot and Humid Afternoon



The Miles Ranch Foundation and several descendants of the Miles Family organized an ice cream social in downtown Falls City on Friday, June 17, 2016. The event was great fun and all participants enjoyed meeting many members of the community. Three flavors of ice cream were served, chocolate, vanilla, and butter brickle.

Colonel Miles' Desk Returns Home



New acquisitions allow us to better interpret the history of the Miles Ranch and Colonel Miles' legacy. Steven Miles, great- great- grandson of Colonel Miles, donated the desk that once belonged to Colonel Stephen Boyd Miles. The desk had to make the trip from Oregon to Nebraska and arrived at the Miles Ranch June 13. It arrived in two large boxes. The desk dates back to 1868. Although it is in a remarkable state of preservation, it will soon undergo a complete restoration. Thank you, Steve for your tremendous generosity!



New Descendants Found

For quite some time the Miles Ranch Foundation had been trying to locate the descendants of Caroline (Miles) Williams. She was the daughter of Colonel Stephen Boyd and Hannah Scarborough. We never realized that some of them lived nearby until we received a phone call from Theresa Sisco Dunekacke. Some of them came down for a visit last August



and we had a wonderful time. We enjoyed meeting them and hope to meet even more descendants.

Did You Know?



Stage lines often hired a Coach Gun to provide additional security and protection against attacks from natives and outlaws. Lonely coaches traveling long routes were often a target. The “Riding Shotgun” would travel alongside the stagecoach driver. A double barrel shotgun was the weapon of choice because it provided some leeway in accuracy as they bounced along the bumpy trails.

Current Needs/Projects

- Archival grade boxes and containers
- Period appropriate picture frames to preserve and display historic photographs
- Help with general expenses and cost to maintain website and legal status
- Collections Management software to track and catalog artifacts
- Development of web-based exhibit
- Visitor Center Project
- Silos Preservation

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Quarterly Quotes

“In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy.” John Sawhill, was CEO of the Nature Conservancy and 12th President of New York University

“There may have been a time when preservation was about saving an old building here and there, but those days are gone. Preservation is in the business of saving communities and the values they embody.” Richard Moe, National Trust of Historic Preservation
