



The Stage Line Quarterly

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Happy Holidays!

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In This Issue

- Making History for 160 Years
- Red Hat Society Visit
- A 2nd Group of Scouts Visit
- New Acquisitions
- Current Needs
- Quarterly Quotes

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Making History for 160 Years

The first Miles Ranch Foundation Picnic was held this past summer to celebrate the ranch's 160th

Anniversary. The event was open to the community, and approximately 300 people were in attendance. There were guests from all the neighboring states and as far away as Oregon, Texas, Florida, Illinois, and New York. Many donations were received at the picnic totaling \$2,751.25.

The picnic would not have been possible without the support of local businesses and the hard work of all the volunteers, which included members of the community and numerous descendants of the Miles family.

In addition to being able to see the house, barn, and outbuildings, visitors had the opportunity to listen to live Old Time Fiddle

music, performed by the talented Knapp children. Stagecoach rides were also a hit. The delicious lunch was catered by the local Six Mile Café and was served next to an original chuck wagon. In the house, approximately 100 historic photographs



were on display depicting the history of the Miles Ranch.

The event was free to the community and received extensive coverage by the local media. The next picnic is planned for the summer of 2017.



The history of the Miles Ranch is an irreplaceable heritage. We should do all we can, so it is not lost, forever. We are the last generation that can save this heritage.

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



Red Hat Society Visit

Members of the local Red Hat Society enjoyed an afternoon visit to the Historic Miles Ranch on

September 23rd. They received a tour of the entire property and were able to hear and share many stories about the Ranch. The Red Hat Ladies were great fun and brought delicious cookies baked by Karen Krofta. We can't wait for their next visit!

A 2nd Group of Scouts Visit

On October 26, a group of local Cub Scouts came to visit the Miles Ranch. This was the 2nd time we have hosted a group of Scouts. They learned about the rich history of the Miles Ranch and how important it was to the



development of the West. In the age of emails, social media, and instant messaging, it is easy to take for granted the crucial role the Overland and Oregon Trails played in westward migration. Thanks to brave men like Colonel Miles, passengers, mail, and goods traveled across the plains connecting and binding a new nation.

The Scouts got to see the inside of Nebraska's oldest barn with its heavy hand hewn beams connected by mortise and tenon joints held together by wooden pegs. They also toured the main floor of the historic mansion house. They had some great questions and in the end received some candy bars. The kids were excited, but so were we with the opportunity to share the ranch's story with a new generation.

New Acquisitions

New acquisitions allow us to better interpret the history of the Miles Ranch and Colonel Miles' legacy. At the picnic, Steven Miles, the great- great- grandson of Colonel Miles, brought several historic documents and photographs that have revealed new details and filled some gaps. We were able to scan several items from Steve's amazing collection.

Photos of Samuel and Flora Belle Miles have been located and copies sent to us by his descendants. This is a great acquisition since we had very little from that side of the Miles Family. Those photos can now be seen on the Foundation's Facebook page.



In June, Mrs. Myrt Lanning Arnold shared several photos of her husband, Charles Arnold, and his family taken during the time they lived at the Miles Ranch between 1938 and 1942. She also shared the Historical Sketch of Dawson 1908 – 1914 which contained several pictures of the Miles Ranch. These pictures identified 3 large barns formerly located at the Ranch.

The existence of these barns had been unknown until now. Thank

you to all who have added to our collections!

Current Needs

We are always looking for new artifacts which allow us to better interpret the history of the Miles Ranch to the public. Because we do not yet have a permanent location to display and store our collections, we are in constant need of archival grade boxes and containers. We also frequently have expenses printing historic photographs and documents to insure their preservation. Some of our general expenses involve fees to maintain our website and legal status. Donations should be made payable to Miles Ranch Foundation and mailed to the following address:
F&M Bank 1701 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355

Quarterly Quotes

"We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us." Winston Churchill

"I wish I had realized that family history is a perishable commodity. It disappears with time, as memories fade, and as loved ones pass on. I wish I had known that the most important aspect of family history is preserving a record of the present for the future." Guy Black
