



MIKE BOYSON (l) AND GARY CLARK make sure the Ward Bond sign is secured to the trailer before sending it off to its home in Benkelman, Neb.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Memorial park gets new sign

By Linda Schneider  
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It was the second time Mike Boyson, the owner and operator of Hot Brush in Bird City, was called upon to do the job of creating a memorial sign for the Ward Bond Memorial Park in Benkelman, Neb.

Ward Bond was born in Benkelman on April 5, 1903, and lived there until 1919, when he and his parents moved to Denver. Mr. Bond went on to Hollywood and became a famous actor in numerous films, one of his most famous roles was as the wagon

master on Wagon Train which he portrayed from 1957 until his death in 1960.

It all began when several residents wanted to replace the memorial sign that had been removed from its place over the shelter house at the Ward Bond Memorial Park. The sign had been languishing in obscurity for six years and well weathered.

Relatives of Mr. Bond, Shirley Baney, a second cousin; Arden Ham, a first cousin, and two community-minded residents, Gary Clark and Marilyn Jean Hendrickson got together and

did something about replacing the sign.

The group first applied and was awarded a grant through the Hansen Charitable Foundation to repair and replace the sign to its original condition and spot over the park's shelter house.

Mrs. Hendrickson, a former kindergarten teacher in Bird City, called up a former student who is now grown up, but still living in Bird City, Mike Boyson.

No one can recall just how long ago Mr. Boyson made the last sign, but this time it was

made to last. The Ward Bond Sign Committee located the original sign and found the frame still could be used and took it to Mike.

The first sign was hand-painted by Mr. Boyson, this time he used vinyl material and with the original frame, the sign is as good as it ever was.

Once the sign was completed, Mike and Gary Clark carefully placed the sign on a flatbed and secured it for the ride home to Benkelman where it awaits the time to be placed back where it belongs, Ward Bond Memorial Park.

## Students get commended

By Linda Schneider  
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The Cheylin Board of Education began the March meeting by formally commending the Cheylin High School Scholar's Bowl team for placing second in the regional competition and qualifying for the state competition.

The team was present to accept the commendation along with their coach, Kevin Dixon. Team members were Craig Busse, Danny Frisbie, Mitchel Jensen, Caleb Keltz, Wil Orten and Steven Pham.

"The area these guys really excelled was in the fine arts," said Superintendent Bruce Bolen. "We are all very proud of them."

In addition, the board commended Naomi Reeh to the Western Kansas Liberty League All-Academic Team.

"Naomi was chosen as one of 24 students out of 10 schools," said Superintendent Bolen. "She was chosen for being well-rounded in all areas of school programs, not just in academic, and for giving back to the school. We are extremely proud of her accomplishments."

### Diplomas

It is that time already to choose who will give the eighth grade and graduating classes their diplomas.

Dale Hazuka, Lori Janicke and Dave Frisbie will be giving out eighth-grade diplomas. George Louderbaugh and Eric Churchwell, will give out high school diplomas, with the help of Mrs. Janicke.

### Executive session

Executive session was called for non-elective personal. Upon reconvening, no action was taken.

### Board of Education staff luncheon

Hal Antholz, board president, talked to the members about the staff luncheon with Tammi Carmichael, Emily Bolen and Blanca Ponce.

He said there were no serious concerns talked about, but everyone spoke highly of Ms. Ponce and her contributions to the school and the community.

He said she has passed her para-professional test and qualified to be a para professional with Cheylin.

### School calendar

The 2010-2011 school calendar was officially approved by the board.

School will open on Wednesday, Aug. 18, and last day of school will be May 19.

Superintendent Bolen explained that no one is 100-percent agreeable with the calendar, especially with Fridays. But he did get approval for scheduling an Adequate Yearly Progress school day off for achieving the status for 2009-2010 year.

He added that the tests are coming up soon, and if Cheylin maintains the Adequate Yearly Progress status, a school day will be scheduled off in the 2010-2011 school year.

"I think they would like a day off better than giving them a pizza party," he said.

### Sports participation

There was much discussion concerning students who participate in two sports during the same season.

Superintendent Bolen said that there needs to be a determination on the issue and he is in favor of students in one sport per season. One reason he said was that students who participate in two sports miss a lot of classroom time, which was a shared concern with many teachers.

"I encourage one sport per student simply because there are many students who need to stay put in class," he said.

## Time to set clocks ahead

The sun is coming up earlier and the days are a little longer. The first day of spring is March 20 and this year, Daylight Saving Time will arrive on Sunday.

With the change, the evenings will be lighter longer. Those itching to get out in the yard and garden after work will now have an extra hour. It will also give the golfers a little more time to hit those balls around Riverside Recreation.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, although most people spring their clocks forward Saturday

Jan Busse, board member, mentioned that there are other students who can perform well in class and keep up their grades as well as perform two sports in one season.

"There are students who shouldn't have to choose, they should be able to do both if they are capable," she said.

David Frisbie, board member, said that when a student is on two sports teams in one season, it can hurt either team. The student misses one practice for the other and still is allowed to participate as a regular playing team member.

Choosing the sport to participate in could also create a problem with their teams, and parents will have to honor the student's choice. An example would be to choose a sport over another that would leave the other team without enough players to compete. Motion carried 6 to 1 for approval of one Kansas State High School Activities Association sport participation per student per season.

### Outside school options

Superintendent Bolen said the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland has offered classes for Cheylin students to attend.

While it sounds good, it would mean loss of student funding if the student leaves during school hours to attend one of the classes. In addition, Cheylin would be obligated to pay the tuition.

"And besides all that, some of the classes they are offering are already offered here," said Superintendent Bolen. "I'll tell them we are not interested."

He added that he was to meet with the Brewster superintendent to discuss sharing staff; however, he did not think it was feasible because Brewster is 40 miles away. Furthermore, he has been talking with St. Francis which is much closer and better roads.

### Community Builders

Lori Janicke, board member, said that she and Superintendent Bolen attended the recent St. Francis Community Builders meeting.

She said both St. Francis and Bird City have the same concerns about their schools and medical systems, and want to work together.

### Miscellaneous school items

Other topics the board discussed were:

- The interview process for new Cheylin teachers will begin. Thirteen applications have been received.

- The approval of the senior class trip to Corpus Christi, Texas. The students will be leaving on April 16 and returning April 19.

- The approval of the junior and high school cheerleading rules for the 2010-2011 school year.

- The approval of the dance team rules with changes for 2010-2011 school year.

- The approval of the golf team and track team rules for 2009-2010 school year.

- The board accepted the resignation of Susan McKain, part-time custodian, effective Feb. 18.

- Four new vacuums have been purchased for \$90 each for students to help clean their rooms at the end of the day.

- Bid approved from Carmichael Roofing to repair the bus barn roof for \$9,844.

### Next meeting

The next monthly meeting has been set for Wednesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. Superintendent Bolen and Loretta Rucker, secretary, will be attending the Power School University program during the regular scheduled meeting.



A LARGE CROWD WAS IN ATTENDANCE for the first Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show meeting. In the front row, left to right, is Phyllis Wright, Gerald Wright, Ivan Kemp, Bonnie Burr, Valerie Clark, Mary Dorsch and Ken Beougher.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

## Thresher Show plans are in the works

By Casey McCormick

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Although the 57th Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show is months away, plans are in the works for this year's event.

About 30 members attended the annual meeting on Saturday at the shop on the show grounds in Bird City. Among the topics discussed were the purchase of coal, show dates and ticket prices.

During his report on the steam engines, Gerald Wright said coal was needed for the machines to operate.

"It's getting harder to find coal with plants being shut down and power companies taking more," Mr. Wright said.

However he does have a supplier that will provide a minimum order of 20 to 23 tons. At a cost of about \$200 a ton, the purchase will be around \$5,000. Considering that this will fuel the steam engines for two to three years, the members voted to have Mr. Wright order the coal.

This year's show will be held on July 29, 30 and 31. The buttons have been ordered with the dates and the yearly newsletter will soon be put together.

The group discussed raising the price of admission. Each year

membership to the association comes with the purchase of a show button. This also gets the wearer into the show all three days.

Donna Wright, the treasurer for the association, thought that last year's sales went well.

"It's hard to tell though how many were used at the gate," Mrs. Wright said. "Some buy membership buttons and don't attend."

Since the group is not struggling financially and the economy continues to be weak, it was voted to not raise gate prices this year.

Mrs. Wright is stepping down and the board recognized her for her dedication and hard work as treasurer.

The association also noted that two of its long-time members, Delbert Powell and Jim Wilkens, had died last year.

Other officers present were Lonnie Coon, president, Ken Beougher, vice president, and Chad Hendricks, secretary.

### In Other Business

In other business:  
• There was some trouble 1st year with campers taking spots without being there. The policy has always been, "first come-first served." There is no fee for camper sites, however, there is a \$5 fee for electricity. Hall Sager will be

the contact person for campers and will enforce policies.

- Rosemary Powell represented the Schoolhouse. She said that Dorthy Mast has written a program about Bird City. The play features actors playing seven of the founders talking around a campfire. This might work as the literary if the right venue can be found.

- The sod house report was given by Norm Dorsch. Several patches have been made to the soddy and the continuing problem of ground squirrels making holes in the sides is being dealt with.

- Ann Burr spoke on the Eggers Building. More kids activities are planned with music, readings and the candy counter. Also, a white-washing contest is scheduled.

- The quilt building and print shop were represented by Dee Dorsch. Two more quilts were donated and a request for a storage box for them was approved. A quilt is being made this year with blocks done by various quilters. It will be given away during the show.

- Mr. Beougher said the church service will be held from 9 to 9:30 on Sunday morning. This will be

followed by machinery being put back into storage.

- Discussion was made on a better way to store coal that won't damage buildings or equipment. A storage area was considered.

- The Auto Club representative was Fred Magley. Stating health reasons, he is stepping down as president of the club, but is hopeful that a younger person will step up.

- The association will be advertising in the *Bird City Times* and *The Saint Francis Herald's* special Thresher Show section which will feature the show. The section will be sent out earlier this year and may be sent to cover a larger area.

- Phyllis Wright announced that the entertainers for this year will be Heart City Heart Warmers. Next Year's plans are to have the Erickson Family Band.

- Gary Brubaker asked if the Bird City Boy Scouts could sponsor a turtle race. The group approved the idea.

- The peddle tractor races will be held again.

- A 1910 tractor that the association owns will be displayed at the WaKeeney County Fair this year. It is hoped to help promote the show.

