

Club Clips

Bird City Historical Society

The Bird City Historical Association met on July 8 at the Bird City Senior Center. There were nine present for the interesting meeting. For the program, each member was to bring a book of history which they had enjoyed reading and share something about this book...what had made it interesting. Here are some of these books:

- Life in Sherman County from 1902 - 1905, The Range War Era, compiled and edited by Evelyn M. Ward, Sherman County. The information for this book came from the Goodland News.

- "Those Who Cried the 16,000," arranged and edited by James W. Tyner. This book is the record of the Cherokee's.

- "Seal of the Cherokee Nation," written Sept. 6, 1839.

- "Pioneer Neighbors from St. Francis."

- Another book that was written from the Amish about the Eller family. "Ancestors of the North Cutts."

- Another great book was a Cemetery Directory of the Amish Community in the Eastern Holmes and Adjoining Counties in Ohio. This was purchased in a Broom Maker's Shop in Ohio.

- "Under God" was written by Toby Mac and Michael Tait. This is a book of many stories about the founders of this country and other great leaders...but these stories are little known. Some of these stories are no longer taught in public schools, although they were in history books before 1930.

- "No Time on My Hands," written by Mabel Yost. It was written about Nellie Snyder Yost who had three goals for her life: 1. To make the handsomest quilt. 2. To marry a cowboy and 3. To see the tops of clouds. She was able to reach all three of these goals and the story tells how she was able to accomplish these.

- "The Worst Hard Times," by Timothy Egan. This is really Dorothy Mast's story as she went through the

Classy Classics Red Hatters

An international carry-in dinner was the Classy Classics Red Hat event for July. On the evening of the 20th, the meeting room at the Cheyenne Manor took on an air of far away places. Chinese, Swedish, German and Mexican decorations were the backdrops for dishes that originated from the respective countries. Chow mein, Swedish coffee cake, hot potato salad and burritos were the highlights, with many other tasty creations as well.

After the meal, Laura Pugh had four ladies tell something of the countries represented, their food and customs and some information if they had traveled in those countries. In the instance of Barb Ewing, she also named some of the other Swedes besides the Andersons living or having lived in Cheyenne County. Joyce Russ gave the German presentation, Rosemary Bierig, the Mexico experience, including some history of the country and Arlene

dust bowl time and became very ill when she was about 10 years old. She was not able to walk, and was becoming weaker day by day. A doctor told the family that if they did not get Dorothy away from Baca County, Colo., she would not live very long. Her grandmother came up with the money to move them to LaVita, Colo., in Cuchura Valley, thus saving her life.

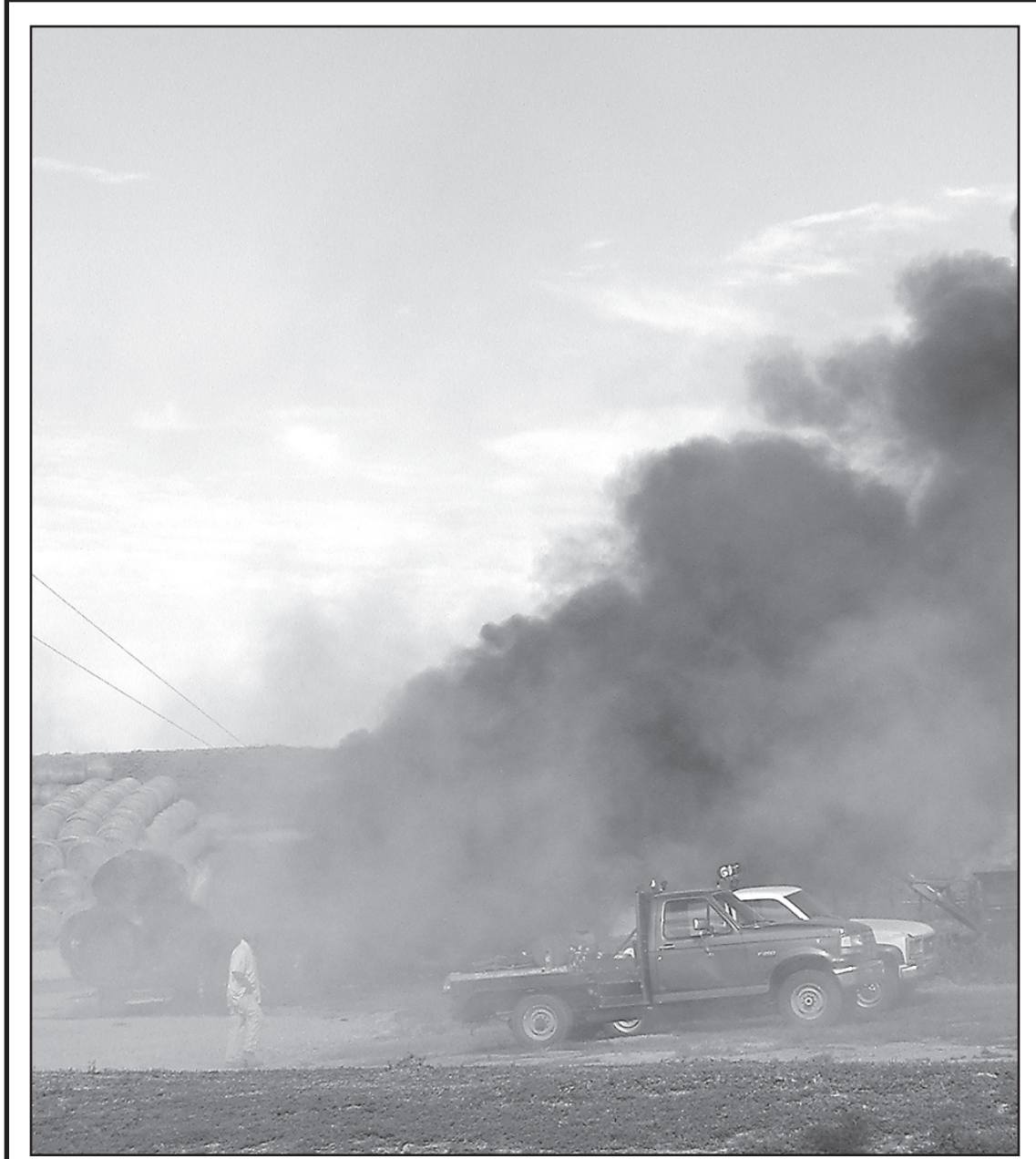
This was a very interesting time of sharing with one another and those attending learned a lot about this area and from each other's choice of books. They also talked about new projects for the association to choose to do, but no decision was made. Dorothy also gave directions and extra hints for making corn husk dolls.

Anyone who has an interest in the Bird City Area or the surrounding area, is welcome to join the group on the second Friday of each month at the Bird City Senior Center at 2 p.m.

Walz, the Chinese presentation.

Other members in attendance besides Laura and the four presenters were Carol Rogers, Ilene O'Leary, Shirley Sherlock, Neva DeGood, Donna Zimbelman, Madeleine Roberson, Nancy McCumber, Betty Winston, Helene Landenberger, Sally Wieck, Valjean Schultz, and Dolores Wiley.

Laura and Arlene were the hostess and planners for the evening.



FIREMEN have been called to put out numerous fires. Look for full report later.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Obituaries

Diana Morris

July 23, 1950 - July 15, 2011

Diana Lee Busby was born July 23, 1950, to Mervin Carl Busby and Ora Lee (Cunningham) Busby in Denver, Colo. Her untimely death came on July 15, 2011, in Idalia, Colo.



Morris

She grew up on the family farm at Armel, Colo., the oldest of three girls. Diana attended Armel School graduating from eighth grade. She graduated from Idalia High School in 1968. Diana continued her schooling at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling and finally received her cosmetologist license in Fort Collins, Colo.

She married her high school sweetheart, Freeman Wynn Morris on July 3, 1970, in Idalia. They moved to the family farm in 1972, where they raised and enjoyed their children and grandchildren until her unexpected death. Born to this union were Joshua Joe, Libby Ann and Ross Matthew.

Diana enjoyed her family and especially grandchildren most in life. She also enjoyed crafting and cooking. Diana's zest for life carried into her work of being a homemaker, grain trader and Buchanan Middle School Secretary.

Kevin Eugene Gockley

Nov. 9, 1958 - July 14, 2011

Kevin Eugene Gockley, 52, died Thursday morning, July 14, 2011, at his Fort Morgan, Colo., home after a valiant three-year battle with cancer.

Kevin was born in St. Francis, Kan., on Nov. 9, 1958, to Lester Eugene Gockley and Verla Jean (Weeden) Gockley.

He married Nelly Guevara in Fort Morgan on Nov. 4, 1995. To this union two children were born, Janese Liliana and Jessica Jean.

Kevin attended school in Fort Morgan, graduating in 1976 and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 1982. He worked for the Burlington Railroad for over 20 years, and was currently employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a meat inspector.

Kevin was a loving father, and the passion of his life was his family, whom he loved dearly. He enjoyed vacationing with them and enjoyed their activities.

Kevin loved to compete

Diana was preceded in death by her father, Mervin Busby.

She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Freeman Morris; her children Josh (Julie) Morris of Idalia, Libby (Willie) Uhing of Chadron, Neb., and Ross (Jodi) Morris of Idalia, and her loving grandchildren, Jillian and Jace Morris (Idalia), Eliana and Lillie Uhing (Chadron) and Camren, Kale, and Kolby Morris (Idalia). Diana is also survived by her mother, Lee Busby (St. Francis, Kan.), mother-in-law, Leona Swanson (Greeley, Colo.), sisters, Jeanne (Les) Gelvin (Fort Collins), Shirley (Jim) Miller (Mooresville, N.C.), and sisters-in-law Nancy (Ken) Flower (Esparto, Calif.), and Mary Lou (Joe) Whisenand (Greeley). She had numerous nieces and nephews along with countless friends who became family in her heart.

Diana's favorite holiday was Christmas and she loved anonymously helping kids in need. A memorial has been established at Wray State Bank (Wray, Colo.) - the Diana Morris Kids in Need Christmas Fund.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, July 19, at 5 p.m. at the Idalia School in Idalia. A Celebration of Life followed the memorial service at the Homestead.

Spellman-Schmidt Funeral Home in Wray was in charge of arrangements.

in various sports. He was a state wrestling champion for at his Fort Morgan and a Northern Conference champion for the University of Northern Colorado. He loved to compete in distance runs, duathlons, triathlons and bicycle races, doing so up until the time of his battle with cancer.

He was a member of the First Christian Church of Fort Morgan, where he served as a deacon.

Kevin is survived by his wife, Nelly; two daughters, Janese and Jessica; a stepson, Bryan; an adopted daughter, Betsy; his brother, Mark, of Sterling, Colo.; nephews, Brandon, Brian, Blake and niece Brook Gockley; uncles, Dennis Gockley and wife, Donna, Melvin Confer and wife, Patricia; Gaylen Weeden and wife, Dorothy; aunts, Merna Davis, Norma Dunn and husband, Richard, Idell Zuege, Esther Confer, Marie Holzwarth and Audrey Mooney, plus many cousins and a host of friends.

Leona Starbird

Oct. 1, 1919 - May 30, 2011

Leona "Gran" Starbird died of congestive heart failure Monday, May 30, 2011. She was 91.

Born in Belfrey, Mont., Mrs. Starbird was the oldest of 10 children. In 1950, she moved to Watsonville with her husband and children. Mrs. Starbird was a member of the Pajaro Valley Rock Club and enjoyed traveling. She once spent seven weeks in a cabin 30 miles north of the Arctic Circle and also traveled to France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Great Britain, Turkey,

Afghanistan, Iran, New Zealand, Japan, Mexico and Canada.

Mrs. Starbird is survived by her children Rodney Starbird of Leggett, Charles Starbird of Capitola and Barbara Grover of St. Francis; 11 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank; daughter Pat; son Don; and grandson, Kevin.

Per Mrs. Starbird's request, no services were held.

Kevin Mears

Nov. 26, 1954 - July 19, 2011

Kevin Mears, 56, Topeka, Kan., died July 19, 2011.

Kevin was born Nov. 26, 1954, in St. Francis, Kan. the son of Gene and Carol (Antholz) Mears.

He graduated from McDonald High School in 1972 and Colby Community College in 1974.

Kevin married Teresa (Beers) on Dec. 14, 1974. He was a rancher on the family farm his entire life. While farming, he also worked at Peoples State Bank in computer support.

Kevin was a past school board member in the Cheylin District. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. His greatest joy was spending time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Teresa Mears, Topeka; a son, Jory Mears (Amanda), Oklahoma City, Okla.;

daughters, Crystal Thompson (Dallas), Bonner Springs, Brandee Halbleib (Landen), Eudora; two grandchildren, Avery and Addyson; his mother, Carol Mears, McDonald; a sister, Monica Johnsen (Dave), Imperial, Neb.; cousins, Joyce Cahoj, Bud Mears and Janet Martin.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gene.

Visitation was Friday, July 22, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd. Topeka, KS 66614. Graveside service were Saturday at Lawrence Memorial Cemetery in Lawrence.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Diabetes Association sent in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Bug bites cause maddening itch

Blood-sucking mosquitoes and ticks can make humans sick. Chiggers just drive people crazy. A simple mention of the tiny mites can make listeners itchy.

This summer's heat and humidity help chigger populations thrive. Ironically, the mites prefer the shade where people linger, to escape from direct sunlight. The pests hang out on grass, weeds and twigs, just waiting for a potential meal ticket to pass by.

That's why limiting home landscape populations can include clearing weeds and other debris from shady areas. According to university researchers, it also should include maintaining lawns at the short end of their recommended mowing-height range.

Dressing appropriately can slow chiggers down, but people probably should use a repellent when spending time outdoors. The most effective repellents contain Deet (for skin and clothing) or permethrin (clothing only).

For all practical purposes, chiggers are invisible. They only

need a meal of liquefied skin when they're newly hatched, six-legged larvae. At 1/150th of an inch long, these larvae can go through the woven threads in clothing. Typically, people won't feel larvae moving around or even inserting their mouthparts.

(Eight-legged chigger adults are about the size of the dot in an Internet Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address.)

Larvae only bite once. They're noticed hours later when the skin-liquefying "juice" they inject starts causing a localized allergic reaction. Unless dislodged, they'll feed for up to four days. So, dislodging larvae quickly can limit their impact.

Chigger larvae are so small that rubbing down with a towel can break their connection. Taking a hot shower with a washcloth and soap is even more effective. Since exposed clothing can carry loose chiggers indoors, it should go in the washing machine as soon as possible (ASAP).

Information about easing chigger bites' itch and controlling large populations is available at any county or district K-State Research and Extension office.



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