

The Carnegie Courier

Newsletter of The Mitchell Area Historical & Genealogical Societies

Volume III, Number 1

www.mitchellcarnegie.org

June 2009

Volunteers Are Us!

Without volunteers, the CRC would not be. Volunteers are the core of our being. So in April, three of our volunteers—Jean and Gerald Dale and Dale Brick—were honored for their many hours of service and dedication to the CRC.

Dale Brick was born in 1927 in Mina, South Dakota, and went to the country school located two miles from their family farm. He went to high school in Warner, South Dakota, and graduated in 1944. He farmed for a couple of years before enlisting in the army in September 1946, and spent a year in Japan before being discharged in 1948. Dale then graduated from Northern State Teachers College in 1951. He taught at McLaughlin for two years after which he enrolled in the University of Minnesota, School of Dentistry, and graduated in 1957. Dale met his wife, Patricia Wallen, while he was in dental school. They married in the spring of 1957 and moved to Mitchell, where Dale started a dental practice. They raised three children and have five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. After retiring in 1989, the Bricks moved to California, where they lived for three years before returning to Mitchell. At the CRC, Dale does research and helps staff the CRC.



Dale Brick accepting award from MAHS President Lyle Swenson Photo by Pam Range

Jean and Gerald Dale came to Mitchell in November 2007, on an 18-month mission for the Church of Latter-day Saints. Their mission was to help people get started on their family genealogy. Jean was born in Massachusetts, and Gerald was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. They met in Massachusetts while Gerald was in the U.S. Navy. They were married on November 10, 1960, in Los Angeles, California, and raised six children. While living in California, Gerald worked in shipyards, had a TV shop, worked for the telephone company, owned a business, and was a crane mechanic before he retired in December 2003. In May, 2005, they went on a mission trip to Nigeria for 20 months and then returned home for ten months before coming to Mitchell. In May, they went to spend time with their children who live in Idaho and California.

(continued on page 3)

Lyle's Corner

What a ride! Three years ago, May of 2006, Mayor Alice Claggett and the City Council sold us the old Carnegie Library for \$1.00, and we have been extremely busy ever since restoring this beautiful structure to her original beauty. It has taken many loyal volunteers many hours to get to where we are, not finished but well on the way. We have received numerous grants and many, many donations ranging from a dollar to \$15,000 to accomplish our goals, but here we are debt free after tuck pointing the building, and putting on a new roof and insulation, new air conditioner, new window dressings, beautiful ornate ceiling fans, and the list goes on. It is because of you—our supporters—that we are able to preserve for future generations the CRC and all the historical items we have collected from you throughout the twenty years since the Society first began. Keep in mind, we have no paid staff. The work is all done by our loyal volunteers.

We believe the new roof/insulation project is already starting to pay dividends. We have compared our January 2009 heat bill with an average daily temp of 17 against the January 2008 bill, which was also 17 degrees. We have a 17 percent savings in the amount of energy used! February showed a 30 percent savings. As you can see, this will add up to big savings in the future, and it's all because of your generous donations and the grants from the South Dakota State Historical Society, the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation, and the Mitchell Area Charitable Foundation. The savings became even more significant as the price of natural gas increased.

As we begin our fourth year in the Carnegie, we have determined that we must replace the windows, all 55 of them, not only to protect the building and its contents but also to conserve energy and cut the cost of operation. The approximate cost of the window project is \$56,500. We have received several generous donations already but still have a long way to go. (See page 9.) As I'm sure you understand, we cannot install just any window; they must be of like appearance to preserve the architectural integrity of the building. When this is completed, we will have the building protected from the elements for years to come.

If you have not visited us recently, please stop by to see the latest improvements. We are always looking for volunteers to assist us. You may want to meet and greet visitors, do research, write history, pound nails, do yard work, or one of the many other tasks that must be performed to serve the people of the Mitchell area. Once again my sincere THANK YOU to each and every volunteer that has helped in any way and to you, the public, for the many donations of historical items. Lyle Swenson

READER'S NOTE—To conserve space and ink, throughout this newsletter these organizations are referred to by these abbreviations:

CRC- Carnegie Resource Center

MAGS- Mitchell Area Genealogical Societ

MAHS- Mitchell Area Historical Society

Notify the CRC of any postal or email changes.

Call 605 996-3209 or rangep@mitchellcarnegie.org.

Where's Calhoun Street?

The original town site for the Village of Mitchell was bought from the government by General John Lawler on May 5, 1879. The land was located in the SE quarter of Section 21 and the SW quarter of Section 20, Town site 103, Range 60 of Davison County, Dakota Territory. Lawler paid for the land with scrip he had obtained from a Mr. Petty of Saginaw, Michigan. General Lawler had to travel to Springfield to register his ownership of the land as that is where the land office was located.

The people of the area villages of Rockport and Firesteel were informed that the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad had selected the land upon which the railroad would build a city and that the city would be named in honor of its president, Alexander Mitchell. Said land was that which had previously been purchased for that purpose by General Lawler.

The original town site, thus platted, extended from Railroad Street north to Fourth Street and from Sanborn Street east to Langdon Street. The filing of surveyor Myron H. Rowley's plat on August 28, 1879, in the office of Rufus F. Alerton (Allerton), Register of Deeds, at Firesteel, was a signal for a rush from Firesteel, the village at the mouth of Firesteel Creek. In less than a month, the people of Firesteel had moved to Mitchell and brought the buildings with them—except for the hotel which was too big to move.

The original thoroughfares were all designated as streets. As the town grew, additional plats were annexed. The City Fathers accepted street names indicated by the sub-division developers, but reserved the option to change the names if deemed proper or necessary. They also found it necessary to start differentiating between streets and avenues. The east-west streets north of the original village plat continued to be referred to as streets, while the east-west streets south of the original plat became avenues, but both were designated by numbers—First, Second, Third, etc. The north-south streets all continued to be named for prominent citizens of Mitchell and/or took the names of the persons who filed the addition plat. Some of these names remain named streets today: Lawler, Rowley, Kimball, Burr, Duff, and Edmunds.

In 1884, Dakota University negotiated with the Hon. A. M. Bowdle, a prominent citizen of Mitchell, to plat 230 acres to the Village of Mitchell, 20 acres designated for a college campus and the rest as lots to be sold. This acquisition thus became the University Addition. Previously, the City had annexed the Railroad Addition, Van Eps Addition #1, and Van Eps Addition #2 to the south of the original town site. The University Addition abutted the Van Eps Additions.

The streets in the University Addition were purposely laid out as short streets with boulevard islands and two-block sized neighborhood parks. It was definitely designed to be a residential area. Streets were named in honor of those men who had been influential in establishing Dakota University and acquiring the land for the University Addition.

Stephen Mason Merrill, a Methodist-Episcopal Bishop in 1882, was probably the most influential individual for establishing Dakota University. The first building on campus was named Merrill Memorial Hall, and the street leading to the University is named Court Merrill.

Other streets in the University Addition named for Methodist clergy include Hurst (Bishop John Fletcher Hurst), McCabe (Rev. C. C. McCabe), Foss Place (Bishop Cyrus David Foss), Andrews (Bishop Edward Gayer Andrews), Vincent Place (Bishop John Hyel Vincent), Williams (Rev. John A. Williams), and Ninde (Bishop William Xavier Ninde).

Two cousins, Rev. Erastus Otis Haven and Bishop Gilbert Haven, were honored by having a street named for both of them, the street name having an s added to their name to make it plural—Havens. A neat semantic play on words!

Many of the original street names have been changed over the

years. The Railroad Addition had east-west streets named thus:

Brunson St. Hanson Ave.
Barber St. Ash Ave.
Bowdle Street Birch Ave.

The Van Eps Additions #1 and #2 had the north-south continuations of streets named in the Railroad Addition, which are in use today, names as follows:

Then Now Pennington St. Rowlev St. Sanborn St. Duff St. Van Eps St. Sanborn Blvd. La Due St. Edmunds St. Rathman St. Wisconsin St. Stewart St. Minnesota St. Washburn St. Montana St. Kimball St.* Iowa St.

*Interestingly, the original town site plat already had a street designated as Kimball Street.

The east-west streets were numbered, but designated as Avenues. The University Addition added confusion to the naming of connecting streets. Havens Street was the northern boundary of the University Addition. It was at this street that name changes took place. Going south on one of the following streets, one could get very confused as to what street they were actually on. Each was a continuous street, but named and/or designated differently in each Addition. These are examples from north to south:

Railroad Add. Van Eps Adds. University Add. Rowley St. Pennington St. Pennington Ave. Duff St. Sanborn St. Sanborn Ave. Sanborn St. Van Eps St. Court Merrill LaDue St. Edmunds St. Wisconsin St. Rathman St. University Blvd. Minnesota St. Stewart St. Carpenter Ave.

Montana St. Washburn St. Foss Place Mitchell Blvd.

Iowa St. Kimball St. Miller

owa St. Kimbali St. Miller

It wasn't just the south and west Additions which had confusing street continuation names. Applegate's Addition, on the east side of Mitchell, contained street names which were different from the names of the adjoining streets in the adjacent Additions. For example:

> Then Now Applegate St. Capital St. Shelby St. Winsor St. Worline St. Mentzer St. West Park St. Gamble St. Julian St. Kittridge St. Dexter St. Hunter St. East Park St. Foster St.

And not to be outdone by other Additions, Hammer's Additions contained names not familiar to us now

Then Now
Dakota Ave. Winsor St.
Mitchell Ave. Mentzer St.
Firesteel Ave. Gamble St.

The east-west streets in Hammer's Additions lined up with but did not connect with

Davison St. Eleventh Ave.
Homestead St. Twelfth Ave.
Prospect St. Thirteenth Ave.
Park St. Fourteenth Ave.

Where's Calhoun Street? (continued)

In 1924, the City Planning Commission took up the task of changing street names so that through streets had the same name along their entire course. Also, the east-west streets, for the most part, were designated Avenues while the north-south streets were called Streets.

In addition to streets and avenues, we now have many other designations such as Circles, Paths, Trails, Ways, Boulevards, Courts, Places, Lanes, Ridges, Roads, Points, Hills, and Drives.

The avenues south of Hanson were given letter designations. Avenue A, Avenue B, etc. But in 1963, the City Planning Commission and City Council changed the names of these avenues to the names of trees: Ash, Birch, Cedar, Douglas, Elm, Fir, Hackberry, Ivy, Juniper, Kay, Linden, and Maple. Norway, Pine, and Spruce were added as they became designated thoroughfares. Names of east-west avenues in the University Addition were exempted from the name change.

Many additions have been added to the City of Mitchell in an orderly, well laid-out manner with little or no confusion. While it may seem that all is well in the naming of streets in Mitchell, along comes Miller. To be more accurate, South Miller- not designated as a street or avenue, just South Miller. In 2006, a debate arose as to whether South Miller was a street or an avenue. When originally platted, in 1884 as the west boundary of the University Addition, it was designated an avenue (as were Sanborn, Pennington, Carpenter, East and West University). It remained so until September 2006. After the issue of name designation was aired before the City Council, the Council decided to eliminate any further confusion regarding a street or an avenue designation, and henceforth just called it South Miller, period. Besides, the only other remaining north-south thoroughfares in Mitchell were East University Avenue and West University Avenue. But alas, East University Avenue is now McGovern Avenue.

So, you ask, where's Calhoun Street? Named in honor of one of Mitchell's early settlers, H. H. Calhoun, the street extends from East Second Avenue north to Bridle Drive one block east of Wallace Street on Mitchell's eastside. Why wasn't it extended to East First Avenue? It would have cut right through Mr. C. F. Bates' dairy farm!

Hoursday * friday * saturday at Firestone FIRST TIME EVER AT THIS PRICE EXQUISITE DIAMOND — CLEAR Stemward A reg. '480 VALUE Suspensive that new you can enjoy this aparting clear crystal for everyday of the control of the con

Genealogy Corner

MAGS has been working on getting the resources at the CRC organized and easier to access for research. We are acquiring more material all the time, so keeping it organized and accessible is a prime concern. Along with the many files of photos and clippings, we also have city directories, school yearbooks, church books, obituaries, wedding scrapbooks, various history books on the Mitchell area, school census records, cemetery records, and newspapers. Past Perfect software was purchased by the CRC and will help in making materials more accessible. A project under way is to photograph gravemarkers in the local cemeteries to add to the cemetery records available.

MAGS members held free clinics on three Saturdays at the CRC to aid people who wanted help in starting their family research or who had hit a brick wall . All three sessions were well attended and much appreciated .

Several MAGS members of the group do research in response to requests . A modest charge of \$10 for a half hour of research helps maintain the CRC. The CRC now has a credit card machine to help make payment more convenient for those requesting information. If you would like to make a request, you can call the CRC at 605-996-3209, stop in at the CRC, or email Pam at rangep@mitchellcarnegie.org.

MAGS has provided a variety of programs in 2009:

January: New Family Search Pilot website by Gerald Dale.

February: "Tombstone Icons and Symbols" by Lynette Higgins

March: The Clooz software program by Anna Marie Bosma

April: "The Anderson Family, Swedish Immagrants" by Miriam Hegwood

May: "Cemetery Tombstone Picture Project" by Andie Sindt.

May brought a loss of two great MAGS members, Gerald and Jean Dale, who have contributed many hours on MAGS and CRC projects for the last year and a half. The Dales and Dale Brick were recognized in April for their volunteer work.

Pam Range



Karen Pooley, MAGS president, presents the volunteer award certificate to Gerald and Jean Dale.

Photo by Pam Range

Volunteers Are Us! (continued from page 1)

The Dales contributed much during their 18 months in Mitchell. They did research, contributed to archives records organization, helped with fundraisers, and provided genealogy programs .

These volunteers have made valuable contributions of their time and talent to the CRC, for which we are grateful.

Pam Range

The History of Room 221

In the beginning the people looked at the room and said, "It is not good!" It was a room in the basement of the CRC destined to collect junk, treasures, the water meter, the water heater, and whatever else it would hold. The room, pretty much unkempt for years, had plaster falling off the walls, holes in the sheetrock from various heating system repairs, abandoned floor drains, and doors that would give short people with hair a defect in their scalp.

An old hallway that served no purpose anymore except to take up room bisected Room 221, making it even smaller. First on the list was to remove the wall that formed the hallway. We were surprised and pleased to uncover the abandoned floor drain, the only floor drain in the building. Our glee did not last long as a local plumbing professional told us the drain was for naught and had a pipe to nowhere. We cemented the drain shut and moved on.

During the wall removal, the two very short doors and doorways were also removed, as we knew they would be a headache in more ways than one.

The next challenge was the north wall, which is actually the foundation of a portion of the building. It had been plastered over many years ago and had three unique conditions. The bottom one third of the wall was starting to fall off, the middle third was flakey, and the top third looked fine. Upon examining the wall behind where the plaster was falling off, we found what looked to be a beautiful rock wall made from the same rose quartzite that was used to build the rest of the building. The only difference was these rocks were of various random sizes as if the masons used the leftovers for the basement walls.

After a long discussion, the decision was made to tear off the old cement plaster and re-grout the stone wall. The project took quite some time as three or more members worked long and hard to remove all the cement and all the loose mortar from between the stones. After members had completed the cleaning, a local man with "mortar magic" agreed to donate his time and talent. He and two members stained the mortar to match closely the stones and filled and smoothed all the margins of the stones in the wall. After curing, the wall was washed with acid to remove the loose mortar and sealed. It is now DONE and beautiful

The next step was repair of the rest of the walls and ceiling that were either plaster or sheetrock. The holes in the ceiling and walls were either filled, some several times, or in some cases torn off and new sheetrock installed to repair years of damage. After a fresh coat of primer and a fresh coat of paint, we were one step closer.

The whole issue of the floor drain continued to be a concern, as we had no floor drain in the whole building. We then made a decision to have a local "plumbing engineer" install a floor drain in Room 221 near the sewer cleanout where the line could be accessed easily. As had happened many times before, our optimism and good planning were stifled by the reality of a 106 year -old building. The hole for the drain that started out to be about two feet square turned out to be a jack-hammered trench in the floor that reached almost to Mt. Vernon (but not quite). He did have to dig about ten feet to reach the soil pipe that was good enough to make the connection. Place some forms and bring in a few loads of cement to fill the cavern, and the floor is now better than new. No matter what the difficulties, we did prevail and now have a floor drain.

The floor in Room 221 came next. Initially, the thought was to paint the floor, but, after some discussion and debate, a decision was made to tile the floor to make it both more permanent and a match to some of the other floors in the basement.



Photo by Mel Pooley

We were rescued again. This time a local tiling expert jumped in and donated his time to install new baseboard and tile not only in Room 221 but also in the adjacent bathroom. We are really coming along now.

Installing new doors in the east and west sides of the room was next. A couple of very old doors with frosted glass were donated to the CRC by a local business. It is thought the doors originally came from the Champeny building at the northwest corner of Third and Main. They had a hundred years of different paint colors and more latch and lock holes than any door deserves, but today the east door proudly displays its original room number (221) just as it did in its original home. The second door is currently being stripped, cleaned, and repaired and will be installed when completed.

All in all, the Room 221 project has been a very rewarding process as most everything we do shows in a big way. Come and see what two years, donations, and lots of sweat can do. The entire Center has come a very long way, and we are not done yet.

Karen and I would like to thank Jon Airhart, Lyle Swenson, Bob Kroger, Roger Erickson, Dan Hauser, Brenda Oleson, Chad Van Laecken, and all who helped, donated, and sweated to create Room 221. Mel and Karen Pooley

Mitchell Schools History and Reunions

The CRC has on display in the Fireside Room the history of Mitchell's schools. The display is a favorite of classes holding reunions. Viewing pictures, yearbooks, and other memorabilia, visitors can remember and reminisce about school days gone by. If your class wants to schedule a tour or reunion activity, please email us at rangep@mitchellcarnegie.org or call at 605 996-3209.

"Genealogy is not just a pastime; it's a passion."

by Mary Harrell-Sesniak

A "Corny" Idea

While vacationing in Hawaii in 1982, I made up my Rotary attendance at the Pearl Harbor Rotary Club. At this club, visitors are given small bottles containing seawater and a pearl, a small remembrance of their visit to the club. I was impressed with the idea and when I returned home, I thought, "What could we do in the Mitchell Rotary Club, of a similar nature, to give to those who visit our club?" I hit upon the idea of putting a few kernels of corn in a plastic bag and labeling it with a tag stating it was "CORN" from the World's Only Corn Palace.

The Board of Directors gave me the go ahead to proceed with the project. I designed the tag and had a friend print them. I purchased 2" x 2" plastic bags. (The first order was for 1,000 bags.) I had previously grown the Indian corn at our "Experimental Garden and Weed Farm," but to make it "Corn from the World's Only Corn Palace," I had to take my sack of corn into the Corn Palace and out again to make it official Corn Palace corn. About 18 kernels of corn per bag were just right. The tags were stapled to the top of the bags, thus sealing the corn in the bag. Over the years, we have given out hundreds of corn bags to visitors attending our Rotary club and to those attending district and international meetings.

In the fall of 2008, I wanted to carry this idea one step further. I thought, "Why not use the same idea to attract people visiting the Corn Palace to the CRC?" I made up some corn bags with a new tag showing a picture of the Corn Palace on one side and a message on the other reading: "'CORN' from the World's Only Corn Palace, Compliments of the Carnegie Resource Center, 119 West 3rd Avenue, Mitchell, SD 57301." Together with displaying some of these corn bags in our window box at the Corn Palace, we could state on a placard: "Visit the Corn Palace Museum at the Carnegie Resource Center. (The address and a map would be inserted here.) All visitors receive a free bag of corn." So that's what we're now doing. Have you visited the Corn Palace Museum at the CRC and received your bag of corn?

By the way, all of the corn we use <u>has</u> come from the Corn Palace. Don Boyden, D.D.S.

Bradley Young School

When he moved to Mitchell in 1917, Bradley Young probably had no idea that one day he would have an elementary school named in his honor. He came to Mitchell as manager of the first J. C. Penney store. Although small in stature, he was a giant among men in serving his community.

To list all his accomplishment would consume more space than this article will provide. It was for his 21 years as a member of the Mitchell Board of Education, and 10 of those as its chairman, that he was so honored.

It had been known for many years that the Junior High School building at the corner of Third Avenue and Sanborn Boulevard would need to be replaced. In 1966, the Mitchell Board of Education purchased 40 acres of land located north of Eighth Avenue and west of Minnesota Street from Edwin Cassem and Thelma Cassem Cropp. The new Junior High School was built on this land and was dedicated on November 2, 1969.

In 1967, Plano Consolidated School was taken into the Mitchell School District. The junior and senior high grades were moved to Mitchell, leaving only the first six grades at Plano. In 1969, the remaining six grades were taken into the Mitchell school system and moved to the old junior high building. The name was changed to Plano Elementary School.

The Plano Elementary School remained at the old Junior High School location until the 1971 fall semester when it moved to rooms in the west end of the new Junior High School. When this move was made, the school's name was changed again to Bradley Young School.

Bradley Young School existed from 1971 to 1979. Mrs. Leona Klinkner was the principal at both Plano and Bradley Young Schools. She also taught fifth grade at Plano. The teaching staff at Plano also included Dorothy Sattler, Marian Hoff, June Goldammer, Donna Goldammer, Odile Babb, and Jan Engels. Rick Anderson, Georgia Gross, and Al Biggerstaff were added when the school moved to the junior high building. In 1979, students attending Bradley Young School were gradually absorbed into the existing grade schools in Mitchell. Thus came to an end the existence of a very short-lived elementary school in Mitchell --Bradley Young School.

Don Boyden D.D.S.



Fifth Grade, 1974-Bradley Young School

Back row-Delwin Terveen, Jeff Hansen, Dennis Winkler, Roger Mc Nary, Jeff Phipps, Kevin Goldhammer, Larry Olson, Troy Bollock Middle row-Kayleen Wendleboe, Cheryl Gebel, Maxine Van Dam, Denise Eggers, Laurie Hall, Kara Hagen, Jodi Lunn, Tami Shawd Front row—Lloyd Hall, Terry Lynde, Larry Tietze, Doug Krantz, Todd Everson(?), Doug Blackstein, Gary Fessler

Mrs Leona Klinkner, Teacher

Photo Courtesy of Laurie Hall Langland

Photo on pages 6 and 7 of Mitchell Main Street is circa 1953, businesses listed are from the 1950's to present.

205
MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
1950-1958 SHIRMER PHARMACY
1950-1958 LOON'S CHRISTIAN BOOK STORE *
1963-1977 A.R. OSBORNE INSURANCE *
1961-1964 BARNUM FLOOR COVERING
1969 THE BILLARD PARLOR
1972-1976 SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
1978-1979 GOSSARD'S LOUNGERIE
1981 GREAT PLAINS FREEZE DRIED FOODS
1989-1992 CREATIVE DESIGNS

1996 L. J. CLOTHING 1998-2001 K & B ARCHERY 2002-2009 DR. LUCKY'S BAR (* IN THE LOBBY) 221-223 1950-1960 J.C. PENNY CO. 1960-1973 WHITE DRUG 1974-1993 SATERLIE DRUG 1997-2002 DOLLAR STORE & MO. 2008-2009 BEN FRANKLIN STORE

217-219 1950-1980 MITCHELL NATIONAL BANK 1981 FOTOVIEW MIDWEST SECURITY SY 1990 ELECTRONIC SECURITY INDUSTRIA

215 1950-1999 DAHLE JEWELRY 2000-2004 DAHLE'S ANTIQUES 2006-2009 PRAIRIE BREEZE GALLERY

1950-1960 GEYERMAN'S

1961-2009 HARVE'S SPORT & TOY SHOP

203 1950-1955 TIME THEATER 1961-1974 STEWARTS SALON OF BEAUTY 1975-2008 MERCHANDISE OUTLET

201 1953-1954 SNOW'S ICE CREAM 1957 ARMY/NAVY STORE 1960-1966 SCHIFF'S SHOE STORE 1967-1998 WORTHING WESTERN WEAR 2005-2008 JANITOR'S EXPRESS

209 1950-1960 S.S. KRESGE CO. 1961-2004 GEYERMAN'S 2005-2007 CLOTHING COMPANY

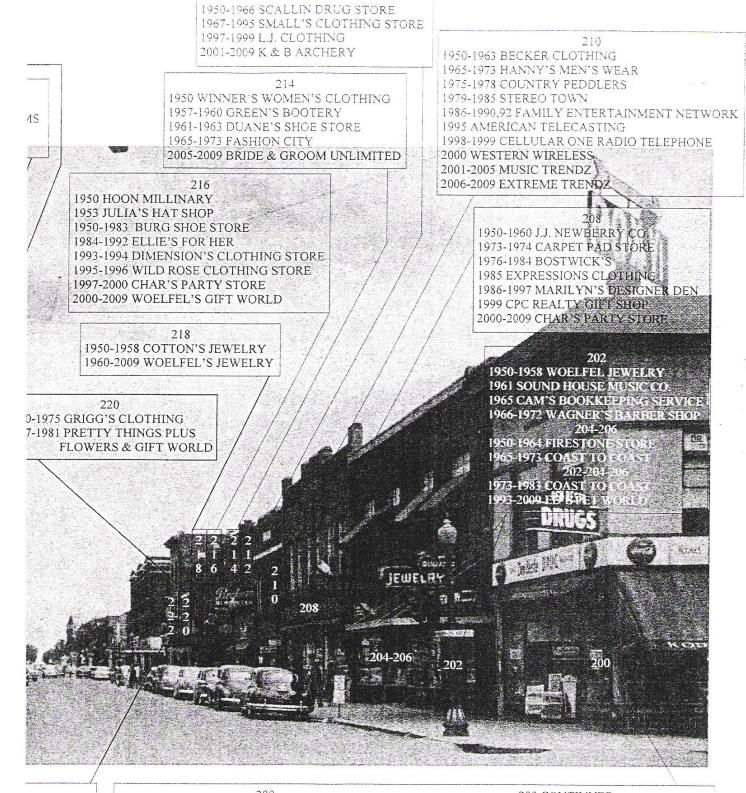
2008-2009 GEYERMAN'S

211 1950-2000 TOGGERY CLOTHING 2000-2009 TOGGERY & J.W.C. OUTFITTER

EURGE HAFT IN

CHENNI

22 1950-1960 COMMI AND S/ 1964 SCHMUCKEI 1965-1975 MITCHI SAVII 1979-1980 ELLIE'S



212

L TRUST 3S BANK JL & NOHR OME : LOAN THES LOFT 200 1950-1952 DEN BESTE DRUG 1957-1964 FASHION CITY WOMEN'S CLOTHING 1967 STEVENSON'S WOMEN'S CLOTHING 1972 PIZZA PUB 1976-1990 ED'S PET WORLD 1993 DAKOTA STUDIO 200 CONTINUED
1994-1996 COTTONWOOD CANYON COFFEE SHOP
1997 DAKOTA DESIGN
1998-1999 LINDA McMANUS
2000-2002 DAKOTA SUE GIFT SHOP
2004-2005 BITTERSWEET PRIMITIVES GIFT SHOP
2008-2009 ABACO, INC.

MAHS 2009 Meetings

The 2008 annual meeting was held at Wesley Acres on January 19, 2009 with a dinner catered by Ruby Tuesday. Speaker for the evening was Bernie Hunhoff, editor and publisher of the South Dakota Magazine. He was scheduled to tell us about South Dakota characters, but since our meeting was held on Martin Luther King Day, he changed the focus of his speech to emphasize areas where he believes South Dakota may be ahead of other areas of the United States in dealing with racial inequality. A musical program was presented by Suzuki Strings, students of Jay Reeve. Dr. Don Boyden installed the officers for 2009 who were: Lyle Swenson, president; Mike Magnuson, vice president; Chris Festvog, secretary; and Jim Hunt, treasurer.

Speaker for the February 19 meeting were Lori Holmberg, executive director and Sharon Schuer-Klein, program director/curator of the Dakota Discovery Museum. They told about the history of grain palaces and the Corn Palaces of Sioux City, Iowa.

On March 16 Steve Morgan, Mitchell High School history teacher whose article about the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was published in the <u>South Dakota Historical Society</u> journal of Fall 2006, described the history of the GAR in South Dakota and his fifteen years of research.

Another Interesting program was presented at the April 20 meeting by Dianne Mollner and Kathy Heller from the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society in Desmet, South Dakota. They talked about the Ingalls family, the history of the society, their completed restoration projects and their plans for the future. They also gave useful information about care, handling, and storage of archival material.

On May 18, Jeff Logan, owner of the Logan Luxury Theatre Corporation, narrated a three-hour slide and movie program about Mitchell's theaters, from the earliest days to the present.

"If dandelions were hard to grow, they would be welcome in any lawn." Andrew V. Mason

"Having it all doesn't mean having it all at once." Stephanie Luetkehans

Carnegie Networking

Three years of effort and over \$100,000 plus spent to preserve and restore the 1903 former Carnegie Library have brought MAHS and MAGS to the point that much effort and some funds must be spent on "getting the word out" regarding the collections and research opportunities at the CRC.

Publicity channels have opened through the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce, the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), the American Auto Association (AAA), and the Southeast South Dakota Tourism nonprofit organization. Tour buses have been routed to the CRC by the CVB. Ramada Inn employees have toured the CRC courtesy of their employer. AAA invited the CRC to join with others in hearing what is available. Rack cards to display information at ten tourist information stops on I-29 and I-90 were distributed on May 7 at the Corn Palace literature swap.

The CRC has in the Corn Palace lobby a window display with Main Street and Beyond. Also, a new video by Lonnie Wiese about the Corn Palace and visitor attractions in Mitchell includes the CRC.

Much gratitude is due Hannah Walters and Allison Thompson of the CVB in alerting the CRC to these networking opportunities Special thanks are also due KORN, KMIT, and The Daily Republic for their assistance in publicizing events at the CRC. We do have unique documents, the historic Corn Palace collection, and the irreplaceable dome mural by Oscar Howe.

Admission is free. Spread the word to friends and family.

Kathryn Crockett

Department 56 Dickens Village

Just what is Department 56? It was created in 1984 by the Brockman Floral Company out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. They sell flowers, gift items, and Christmas merchandise. A few of their employees went to dinner at a small city in northern Minnesota. The town was decorated like an English Victorian village for the Christmas season. Thus was born the idea of collectible lighted buildings.

Dickens Village started with seven lighted Victorian stores. All Dickens Village items are taken from one of Charles Dickens' many stories. If the building has an address included, that number has a meaning. Usually it is the address of a house in a Dickens story. It takes approximately 60 steps to create each item. As more buildings are introduced, the older ones are retired. Department 56 also includes other series such as Snow Village, New England Village, Alpine Village, Christmas in the City, North Pole, and Snowbabies. Several series have been retired for good, namely Little Town of Bethlehem and The Grinch. Added within the last several years are the Halloween and Easter series and Disney characters.

In 1988, Department 56 reached \$56 million in sales and expanded to a newer and larger building in Edina, Minnesota. Department 56 was sold in 1992 to a New York investment firm and is now listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1991, I started working at the Enchanted World Doll Museum in Mitchell, South Dakota, and it was there that I first saw Dickens Village. Naturally, I just had to have the "Scrooge" series. That was the start of a collection that now includes over 50 lighted buildings and about 150 accessories.

In September of last year, I was asked if I would be willing to exhibit my collection at the CRC during the Christmas season. It was my pleasure to say "Yes" and with the help of my daughter, we took over (literally) the Fireside Room of the CRC. I sincerely hope that those of you who saw the Village enjoyed it as much as I do—Oh, a belated Merry Christmas to all!

Val La Breche



Val's Department 56 Dickens Village Pho

Photo by Val La Breche

"Every Private citizen has a public responsibility." Myra Janco Daniels

"Rare is the person who can weigh the faults of others without putting his thumb on the scales."

Byron J. Langenfield

Stones



The mystery "Stone" in the 2008 December issue of the Carnegie Courier is located atop the Champeny Building at the northwest corner of Third Avenue and Main Street. John Mortimore's name was drawn from the correct entries submitted, and he receives a gift certificate to Fanny Horner's Eating Establishment.

This issue's "Stone" is located on a building on Main Street. If you can identify the building bearing this date stone,



send your entry, along with your name, address, and telephone number on a postcard to CRC-Stones Contest, P. O. 263, Mitchell, SD 57301. The winner will receive a gift certificate to Fanny Horner's Eating Establishment.

An Excerpt from "Early Pioneering in Davison County" by Nellie M. Lindsey

Mr. J. O. Walrath, before coming to Firesteel, carried mail from Yankton to Milltown, going one way each day. Later, he came to Davison County, made his headquarters at the Greene home and carried the mail between Firesteel and Milltown. He made this trip and return the same day, using but one team at a time but changing teams when half-way to Milltown, at Milltown, and half-way back to Firesteel. He said that he drove along at a good rate of speed (for horses). The stage usually carried both mail and passengers though many times there was no one to go; the driver must have had a rather lonely time on many trips. Mr. Walrath tells about getting "lost" once when on the Yankton- Milltown route. He was all alone driving along when he noticed he was passing the little country church a long his route, but he was so puzzled to find it was on the wrong side of the road. It took him a little while to study out what had happened—the team had turned around and was going in the opposite direction, while the driver had been napping.

Funding Needed to Repair CRC Windows

Unfortunately, the thermal pane windows at the CRC have seals that have deteriorated and no longer provide efficient insulation. Additionally, original wood frames of some of the 1903 windows are in poor condition except for the windows in the lowest level that CRC volunteer David Wright has scraped, sanded, and painted. Similar attention—after making necessary repairs—is needed on the many larger windows. If storm windows exist, their whereabouts is not known. Many of the window frames leak a "small gale" when the winter winds blow.

A company, experienced and conservative in price, can remedy the problems using approaches that are historically correct for a building on the National Register of Historic Places. The company's bid for the project is \$56,500 for the 55 windows. The stained glass windows, some of which need re-leading, are not included in the bid.

Now, the \$56,500 question is how we raise the money to accomplish this project during the summer of 2009. When the windows project is complete, MAHS and MAGS will have completed preservation of the Carnegie building and the contents by (1) tuck pointing the exterior, (2) roofing, (3) providing insulation beneath the roof membrane, and (4) improving the efficiency of the heating system, In addition, ceiling fans, small fans beneath the heating elements, and sensors have improved heating efficiency.

MAHS and MAGS need your help to raise the \$56,500. For a contribution of \$1,000, the donor may specify an honorary or memorial dedication. However, a contribution of any amount is welcome and brings success closer. Please use the form on page 11 of this issue. Remember that direct transfers from an IRA continue to be NOT taxable until December 31, 2009. Credit card donations are also possible. To accomplish this work prior to the winter season, your help is needed now. Kathryn Crockett

Mitchell's Early History

Mitchell was incorporated as a village in 1881, and the first elections took place on May 7, 1881. The first officers were J.J. Devy, James S. Foster, P.T. McGovern, J.L. Davenport, A. J. LaBarre—Trustees; Frank Stiles, Marshal; Israel Green, Assessor; F. E, Moses, Treasurer; C. W. Taylor, clerk; and A.H. Daniels, Justice of the Peace. During their first meetings in May 1881 the Board of Trustees elected LaBarre as president, drafted rules of order, and created an ordinance committee.

The first village ordinances were issued in June 1881 and license fees and violation fines from these laws were the town's first sources of income. These laws were licensing of dogs within city limits, regulation of liquor sales, defining and drafting penalties for violations against peace and order, licensing billiard tables and restricting general nuisances. To increase village operating funds, the Board imposed a tax on Mitchell citizens in May 1882. The Trustees used the receipts, \$1,500, to establish a general town fund from which specific projects could be financed.

These revenues made it possible to develop the Mitchell townsite; an initial improvement included sidewalk construction. Members of the business community asked the Board to authorize walkways on both sides of Main Street from the railroad depot to the northern city limits. The businessmen donated eight streetlamps to be placed on Main Street corners and the Board allowed \$34 a month to pay J. A. Walworth to be the lamplighter.

Early Mitchell officials dealt with various problems associated with urban living, such as a sanitation problem associated with road maintenance. Mitchell's dirt streets, holes and ruts were filled with manure. In April 1882 the Board decided this method of repair was unhealthy and the practice was discontinued. A similar problem was confronted the same month when Mr. Goodykuntz presented a petition protesting the "piling of manure and dead animals" on the town's southeast corner. The Marshal was ordered to remove the nuisance and bury all dead animals found within the town limits.

Pam Range

Donors of archival items or money to the CRC, June 1, 2008, through May 31, 2009. Call 605-996-3209 or email rangep@mitchellcarnegie to make corrections. Your gifts are greatly appreciated. Look for membership and memorial lists in the next issue of The Carnegie Courier.

Anonymous(4) Connie Ackerman Jon and Janice Airhart Meda J. Anderson Mike and Annie Asher Stella Ramos Angelucci David B. Bale

Kenneth and Gladys Baldwin

Ellen Jo Baron John Bauman

Harvey and Sharon Beedle

Pat Bellinghiere Dean F. Berkley

Garvin and Marge Bertsch Tanis Knabe-Binfield Lois (Tessier) Bisenius Bittner Funeral Chapel Frank .A. Bjodstrup

Boehnen Foundation (David and Daniel A. Boehnen, Vikki Lansing)

Michael and Lily Bollinger Ione Bouton

Don Boyden, D.D.S. Joy Brandt

George and Pat Breidenbach Brenda's First Impression Antique

Mall Dale Brick, D.D.S. Larry and Peg Brooks Arden J. and Patricia J. Brower

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Zelma Bucholz Robert D. and Betty M. Buelow

Phyllis Bush Business Products, Inc. Ken Bussmus Norma Cameron Canton Public Library

Keith M. and Kathleen L. Carlson William and Elsie Carlson Mary Chilton DAR Foundation

Janice Chronister Patrick Clark Lola Clift

CA, Inc. employer match of Kim

Nedved Rosy Cox Carol L. Courier Cindy Andrews Courtier Ellen M. Crockett Kathryn C. Crockett Dakota Discovery Museum Gerald and Jean Dale

John A. Day The Daily Řepublic

Davison County Clerk of Courts

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Ron Dusseau Laurie Ell James Ellwein Laurie Ellwein Nancy Ellwein

Enchanted Doll Museum

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Doris Fenenga Chris Festvog Tom Flowers **Betty Folkerts** Dean Fitzler Don and Donna Fitzler

Beverly Frey Ernie Frev

Ron and Nola Freyer Ron Fuchs

Nona Fuerst Ronald and Arlene Gates

Jean Geverman Paul Gilbert

Betty (Earles) Giovando La Vay Godber Les and Laura Goll Larry and Sharon Graber

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Barbara Mecham Ine Meier

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Nursing Alumni John and Joyce Metz Shirley Metzger Arlene Miller M. Jeanne Miller Patricia K. Miller Vivian Miller

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Jerry and Ruby Pattison Sandy (Pesicka) Pederson Constance C. Perkins Harlan and Carol Phinney

Shirley Pierson

Philip Morris USA Inc employer

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Richard Ziegler

Page 10 The Carnegie Courier

Yes, I want to help make the former Carnegie Library a useful asset for the Mitchell area! Name_ Notre Dame or MHS Class of 19____ (please print) (If applicable) Address ___ State ____ Zip Code _____ Work Telephone: Home Email ___ Fax _____ MAHS: Individual \$10 ____ Couple \$15 ____ New ___ Renewal ____ One Year **Memberships:** MAGS: Individual \$10 ____ Couple \$15 ____ New ___ Renewal __ New memberships received after December 1st will be considered members through the following year. Membership renewals are due in January. I am also contributing to the nonprofit 501(c)(3) Mitchell Area Historical Society \$25 \$50 \$100 Other (\$ Note; It is our understanding that Congress renewed through December 31, 2010, the favorable law regarding contributions to non profit organizations made directly from an IRA. Please check with your financial advisor if you plan to donate in this manner. MAHS now accepts VISA, Master Card, and Discover credit cards. Please provide your telephone number ______ and we will call you for your credit card information or call Kathryn Crockett, our volunteer, at 605-996-2723. If no answer, please leave a message. "A Window Into Our World" We have 55 windows at the Carnegie Resource Center that are in desperate need of repair or replacement due to deteriorating glass and frames for a total project cost of \$56,500.00. This work will be our final project to weatherproof the 1903 historic Carnegie Library building With your generous tax-deductible donation we hope to complete this energy saving project in 2009. All donations are appreciated, and those gifts of \$1,000.00 or more will be prominently recognized and will include your designation of an honoree or memorial. My gift of \$ _____ In honor or memory of____ Check payable to nonprofit Mitchell Area Historical Society is enclosed. I prefer to use my credit card. Please call me at _____ PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO: MITCHELL AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 263 - MITCHELL, SD 57301 An envelope is not enclosed because the weight of this mailing would then exceed one ounce. Thank you for your interest and support that have enabled us to make significant progress. (Circle Requests below) Send MAHS monthly minutes? Yes Nο If yes by email or USPS? Email regular mail I wish to receive Carnegie Resource Center newsletter? Yes No

I wish to volunteer at the Carnegie Resource Center.

For more information call; Carnegie Resource Center-605-996-3209

Yes

No

The Carnegie Courier

Newsletter of the Mitchell Area Historical & Genealogical Societies 119 West Third Avenue PO Box 263 Mitchell, SD 57301

Return Service Requested

June 2009 Newsletter

Page 1

Upcoming MAHS Programs

June - Dave Kranz-Political Buttons

July- Wayne Holznagel

August-Trip to first Episcopal Church site.

September – Don Loudner Oscar Howe Day

November-Jim Traupel-WWII

Carnegie Resource Center is open Monday - Saturday, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Call 605-996-3209 for additional times. Contents

Lyle's Corner

Volunteers Are Us!

Page 2 Where's Calhoun Street?

Page 3 Where's Calhoun Street? (continued) Volunteers Are Us! (continued)

Page 4 History of Room 221

Mitchell Schools History and Reunions

Page 5 A "Corny" Idea Bradley Young School

Pages 6,7 Mitchell Main Street- Then and Now

Page 8 MAHS 2009 Meetings Carnegie Networking Department 56 Dickens Village

Page 9 Stones

Excerpt from "Early Pioneering in Davison County" Funding Needed to Repair CRC Windows

Page 10 Donors

Page 11 Membership and Donor Form

Mitchell's Early History