



The Carnegie Courier

Newsletter of The Mitchell Area Historical & Genealogical Societies

Volume VIII, Number 1

www.mitchellcarnegie.com

June 2014

Lyle's Corner

With a large anonymous donation received in December, we moved into a construction mode with some problems but throughout the winter and spring we were able to remain open for business most of the time. With the donors generosity we have made huge improvements in the building while maintaining the historic integrity of our beautiful 1903 Carnegie Library building.

In our large gallery we removed the drop ceiling that was installed in the 1980's and have replaced it with an acoustical ceiling and a new state-of-the-art LED lighting system. A new projection system has been installed that will make video programming much more enjoyable for you the viewer.

The "cute bathroom" as many of our visitors refer to it, had deteriorated to the point where major repairs were needed. When completed, it made for a great looking room and still is a "cute bathroom". We still have two projects to do, replacement of the non-insulated east door which sticks due to swelling of the summer heat and in the winter leaks warm air. We believe it is the original door from the 1960 addition.

Also the replacement of the south basement entryway into the boiler room is a must as water pools at the bottom of the stairway during a heavy rain and comes in under the door. The concrete retaining walls and railing will be replaced and a reservoir will be constructed with a pipe bringing the overflow into the sump pump for removal from the building. All work to be completed this summer we hope.

Another year has gone by and we are still here, open for business, Monday through Saturday, cutting, copying and filing the history of the Mitchell area as well as the people that made it all

happen. From the early beginnings of Firesteel which was located just east of the present Mitchell we have collected everything of significance so that it might be preserved for future generations. And this is where you come in, as you begin to clean out your home or apartment, keep us in mind so that when the family has picked over the keepsakes you have saved and there are still items remaining, please call us to come see the items so that we can determine what is needed for our files. What you and your family members may determine as throw away may be just what we are looking for. Thanks for your kind considerations.

This past winter, Chris Festvog, our secretary and a very involved member, moved with his wife to Minnesota to be close to their grandkids. This is a big loss as Chris was a real asset in taking minutes of the Board meetings as well as handling a great deal of correspondence.

We also just lost one of our long time loyal members, Don Boyden due to a heart attack. Don had worked the desk, given tours to visitors, authored numerous articles for our newsletters as well as whatever else needed to be done. THANK YOU, Don for your service, we will truly miss you.

Which leads me right into a critical need we have for volunteers to help out as the load is getting heavier for those remaining. Please consider donating a day or two of your time to help us chase history into our files.

Lyle Swenson

Inform Us of Your Summer and Winter Addresses

The Post Office does not forward bulk mail. They charge 70 cents to return each item to us. Help us avoid that expense by giving us your correct addresses for our two mailings of the newsletter. Please contact Pam Range at 605-996-3209 or by email at Pam@mitchellcarnegie.com.

You can find the newsletter on our website www.mitchellcarnegie.com or if you would like to receive the Carnegie Courier newsletter by email, please contact Pam. Thank you!

2014 Membership Dues - MAHS and MAGS

If you have not paid your 2014 dues, please do so today. Check our membership lists on pages 4 and 5. The lists include persons who are members in 2013 and new and renewing members from whom payments were received by June 14, 2014 are included. We apologize for any errors.

To the reader: To conserve space and ink, throughout this newsletter these abbreviations are used:

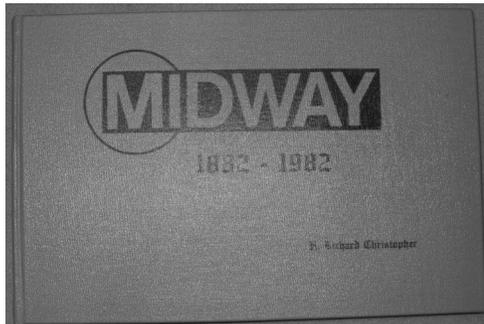
- CRC- Carnegie Resource Center
- MAGS- Mitchell Area Genealogical Society
- MAHS- Mitchell Area Historical Society
- SDSHS - South Dakota State Historical Society

Look for the Carnegie Resource Center on Facebook and at www.mitchellcarnegie.com.

If you change your postal or email address, do let us know at 605.996.3209 or Pam@mitchellcarnegie.com

Midway (1882-1982)

By H. Richard Christopher



“In the South Dakota countryside, about midway between the towns of Mount Vernon and Woonsocket near Letcher and some distance from Plankinton ... “We who live here in this area seem to be assigned various vague addresses: ‘south of Woonsocket’, ‘out west of Letcher’, ‘north of Mount Vernon’, ‘Storla’... I am naming us Midway” writes H. Richard Christopher.

A little store remembered by that name, located on the Storla corner on the Mount Vernon- Woonsocket road has been closed for years and since removed from the country corner.

This area covers Blendon Township in Davison County, Belford Township in Aurora County and Elliott Township in Sanborn county, old Post Offices of; Victor and Blendon of Davison County; Parsons, Belford and Stanton of Aurora County and Leet, Amboy and Letcher in Sanborn county. This is the area homesteaded in the early 1880’s by mostly Norwegian immigrants.

This book, assembled in a fashion that resembles clippings from newspaper sources, church records, family contributors, atlases, and South Dakota history texts. Part I- is called “traces” giving glimpses into the general history of the tri-county area. Part II- “places” lists the churches, townships, post offices and towns in the area. Part III- “faces”- gives a detailed in depth portrait of the early settlers of the area.

Richard told us upon donation that he had also given a copy to the King of Norway. A few years ago those preservationists came from Norway to the area to take back a rural school. The school was dismantled, shipped to Norway and rebuilt in a pioneer village as a tribute to immigrants from their country to America, showcasing how they lived in early America.

“When the first settlers came to the Midway area it was over and through a sea of tall, rustling, waving grass. Rolvaag, the author, said the grass could speak, ‘Tish – ah!’ it exclaimed as it twisted and swayed in the wind, ‘Tish – ah’, ‘Tish – ah’, it had been saying for unknown centuries, ‘Tish – ah’, it murmured as the settlers began to come from the East.”

What a sight that must have been in early 1882 to those early settlers to Dakota Territory.

A companion index was written in 2010 by [Alice Lintereur](#) accompanies this book. Richard also compiled a book entitled, “Trinity Cemetery- Elliott township- Sanborn County”.

Reviewed by Ronald Fuchs

Don Boyden

The Carnegie Resource Center lost a treasure and a loyal friend with the recent passing of Don Boyden on June 11, 2014. Donald Kent Boyden was born June 28, 1934, at Des Moines, IA, and was adopted by Carl and Clara (Wallace) Boyden on August 14, 1934; he was adopted from the Polk County Hospital Orphanage. He graduated from Mitchell High School in 1952 and attended the University of South Dakota, Dakota Wesleyan University and Nebraska Wesleyan University. He graduated from Northwestern University Dental School in 1962 with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. He served in the US Navy from 1954 until 1956 as a Dental Technician. On June 6, 1957, he married Norma Fay Farris at the United Methodist Church in Mitchell.



He was a dentist in Mitchell until his retirement in 2002 and was a member of the Medical/Dental Staffs of Methodist Hospital and St Joseph and Queen of Peace Hospital in Mitchell. He was a member of the American Dental Association, South Dakota Dental Association, and Southern District Dental Society and was a Fellow in the American College of Dentists. He established dental facilities at the Methodist Hospital, St Joseph Hospital and Avera Queen of Peace Hospital. He was a United Way Campaign Chairman and President in Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer and Past President of the Mitchell Rotary Club, Past District Governor of Rotary International and was Past State Vice President of the South Dakota Jaycees.

He was a member of the Mitchell Area Historical Society and had served as Vice President. Don volunteered at the Carnegie Resource Center, he enjoyed writing articles for the newsletter as well as giving tours to visitors.

He is survived by his wife Norma, two sons, Drew Boyden of Mitchell and Dr. Derek Boyden and wife, Nancy of Ollala, WA and one grandchild, Sofia. His funeral was June 20, 2014; he is buried in Graceland Cemetery in Mitchell.

Wish list for the CRC

Elevator Funds
1910 Hutchinson County Platt Book
Volunteers
City and Town History Books
Pictures of Mitchell and area businesses

Genealogy Corner

As Seth Tupper discovered (refer to "Tend to Your Tree" on page 7) – discovering ancestors can open up a rewarding chapter in your life. Our volunteers continue to clip and file stories. We invite you to come in and see what we have on file that is of interest to you.

We sincerely thank the family of the late Janet Martin for donating the six beautiful book cases pictured here in our West room to our genealogy society, and to Mel Pooley for the work he did in staining, attaching casters and attaching the cases back to back. The front shelves contain Davison County resources and the back shelves are reserved for other counties and South Dakota in general.

The local resources include births, yearbooks, marriages,



city and county directories, obituaries and cemetery records. The South Dakota resources include; the Kingsbury Editions, Robinson Volumes, and the South Dakota Historical Collection, all this material is available for research.

We have many ongoing projects which include:

Notebook of Davison County births 11,687 records & clippings from 1879 to present date.

Notebook of Davison County marriages 9,268 records & clippings from 1879 to present date.

Thirty large Notebooks of Obituaries

Notebook of Biographies of Davison County Pioneers

Mitchell Area Directories & Telephone books 1880-Present Maps.

Also included in our West resource room for members use is a computer where one can log onto *ancestry.com*, *familysearch.com* and *find-a-grave.com*, three of the best research sites for genealogy as well as our list of other great genealogical url's. MAGS subscribes to two genealogical magazines which members may check out to read. "Family Tree" and "Internet Genealogy".

There has been an interesting topic of discussion lately on the use of the words "genealogy" and "family history". Some maintain that the two words are the same but most believe genealogy refers to the research and study of names, dates and relationships whereas family history is the study of the pedigree with events and stories. Family History is where the fun is.... so the two terms do mean entirely different things. By combining and working together MAGS and MAHS are able to supply you with both genealogical and historical events.

MAGS have had several very informative programs lately. It is always a treat to listen to our State Archivist, Virginia Hanson. She has so much to share on the information of the records within the state. Also Jean Healy, Digital Resource Coordinator of the SD State Library presented us with a program on the Genealogy E-resources at the State Library in Pierre. Her presentation also included lessons on how to use the Ancestry Library, Heritage Quest and the Sanborn maps.

Gary Jerke gave a fun, lively and very interesting talk on the Germans from Russia. If you get a chance you will want to visit the Germans from Russia Heritage Society in Kaylor, SD, and take part in one of Gary's guided tours.

Laurie Langland, DWU & Methodist Conference Archivist gave a talk on the records that can be found within her office as well as Methodist Church records in general. Laurie is certainly the "go to" person if you have questions regarding your Methodist ancestors.

Tom Riggert, a 1958 MHS graduate now living in Australia visited us and gave a talk on the History of the Riggert Family.

The construction project and lack of light fixtures in most of the building didn't stop Ron Fuchs from giving a very informative talk on his Czech Heritage. All gathered in one small room under construction lighting to hear Ron who also presented many pictures and resources of interest. Most of the Czech immigrants came to the 100th meridian states to homestead during the great Dakota boom of settlement 1878-1888 from Bohemia (now the Czech Republic)

We hosted the SD Genealogical Annual Business Meeting in April along with three speakers who were all highly praised for their fabulous presentations.

Daniel Flyger "Understanding the German Russians"

Mike Martin "The Quaker Movement"

Nathaniel Hofer "Hutterite History"

MAGS set up a booth to sell hot dogs, chips, and refreshments at the Summer Soulstice held on Main Street on June 21, 2014.

Many events are scheduled across the state this year to celebrate South Dakota's 125th Anniversary. This would certainly be an excellent time for you to order for yourself or a family member one of our three certificates to honor your pioneer ancestor. These certificates are printed on quality paper and make great gifts. A Pioneer certificate is obtainable

(Continued on page 8)

2013/2014 Mitchell Area Historical Society Members

Membership support is vital to the continued success of MAHS. The following persons are paid members in 2013/2014. Special appreciation is extended to the many members for their generous contributions included with their dues. You truly encouraged us to keep working hard to make the CRC an increasingly valuable repository and research source about Mitchell history.

MAHS Members: 2013 and 2014 dues received through June 14, 2014

& = 2013 Member, # = 2014 Member,
+ = 2015 member. * = Donation

John and Connie Ackerman &#	Rosy Cox &*	Gary D. Johnson &#*	Bruce Pearson #
Jon Airhart & #	Kathryn C. Crockett &#*	James B. and Joan Johnson &#	Norman and Faye Pearson &#
Lee Anderson &#*	Glenn and Norma Cunningham &#*	Lisa L. Johnson &#+*	Delbert and Marie Peterson &#
Stella Ramos Angelucci &#	Jerry and Carolyn Damon &#	Thomas and Nancy Johnson #	Harlan and Carol Phinney &#
Kenneth Axemaker #	Earl Davis #	Thomas J. A. Jones &#*	Gordon R. and Betty J. Plowe &
Betty Baird #*	Tom and Charlys Dice &#*	David and Karen Jorgenson &	Beverly Pooley &
Joel and Sandra Baier &	Dennis and Pat Dicus &#*	Paul and Linda Kaus &#	Mel and Karen Pooley &#
David Bale &#	June Danforth Downs &	James and Carol Kenton &#*	DeEtta (Riggert) Powell &*
Steve Bamberg &#	Katherine Drew &*	Dave and Tonya Klingaman #	Gary and Ruth Ann Powers &
Keith and Glynn Bartels &#*	James V. Ellwein &#	Daryl and Velda Kilstrom &#	Georgia Ramos &*
Robert and Gladys Bassett &#	Leonard and Kathleen Ellwein #	Gary and Jeanice Korzan &#*	Dean Randall &
John Bauman &#*	Rod Evans #	Steve Kracht &	Pam Range &#
Bertha Beach &#	John J. (Jay) Fernholz &	Lloyd and Bernice Kucker &#*	Carol J. Rees #
Harvey D. and Sharon Beedle &*	Chris and Carole Festvog &#*	Deanna Kurtenbach &#*	Jerry and Mavis Regynski &#
Pat Carr Bellinghiere &*	Don and Donna Fitzler #	Joni Kyriaco #	Paul and Tamie Reiland &*
Marjorie Bertsch &#*	Dean Fitzler &	Valerie LaBreche &	Ray and Betty (late) Roby &*
George and Michele Bittner &	Steve Frank &#*	Wayne and Connie Laird #*	John and Mary Roeder &
Boyd and Evelyn Blumer &#*	Ronald Fuchs &#	Ross and Caroline Lee &*	Ronald M. and Betty Ross &#
Michael Bollinger &#*	Jerry and Laurie Garry &#	Paul and Fredda Lesser &#*	Darwin and Pat Roti #
Anna Marie Bosma #*	Ronald and Sheilah Gates &	Dale and Sheila Letcher &#*	Letha Rowley &#
Gary and Jan Bowar &#*	Jarold and Jeanette Gebel &#	Jeff and Linda Logan &*	Cynthia Elyce Rubin &#*
Don Boyden &#*	Megan George &	Rolland and Ella Loon &#*	Bill and Ila Rumbolz &
Bob Brady &#*	Jean Geyerman &#*	Jerry and MaryAnn Lulewicz &#*	Annika Russell &#
Bob and Murle Breer &#	Rick Geyerman &#	Troy Magnuson &	Helen H. Rutan &#*
Philip Breidenbach &*	Floyd Gillis &*	John and Judy Magstadt &#*	Sharon Walz Ryan &#
Dale Brick &#	Rev. Loren and Helen (Hersey) Gisselbeck & #	Dorothy M. Malde &#*	Dorothy A. Sattler &*
Arvid Brown #	Dick and Patricia Goldammer &#	Richard and Lucinda (Weller) Marcello &#*	Doris Schaffer &*
Sherri Brummett #	Howard and Darlene Goldhammer #	Mildred McGrew &#*	Joseph and Janice (Kaus) Schlingmen #*
Dennis and Zelma Buchholz #	Richard Gould &#	Susan McIntosh &*	Bernie and Maxine Schmucker #
Evelyn Buckley &	Gerald E. Grady #*	James and Donna McLaird #*	Ron Schmierer &#*
Ryan and Stacy Buckley &#*	Reva G. Gregg &	Barbara (Bruske) Mecham &#*	John and Debra Scott #*
Harriett Bunch #*	Larry and Judy Griffith #	Carol Mertens #	Wallace A. Scott &#*
Florence Kimball Burau &#*	Roger Grohs, Jr. &#	Louise Metz &#*	Patricia Sedlacek #*
Norma Cameron &#*	Earl and Ruth Guymon #	John and Pam Miedema &#*	Ruth M. Sejnoha #
Larry and Deb Cap #*	LaVon Hall &	Patricia K. Miller #*	Gary and Kay Shafer #
Pat and Barb Carlon #*	Dvonne Hansen &#*	Vivian Miller &#*	Jerry and Joanne Shaw &
Douglas and Bonnie Carlson &#*	Jeff Hansen &#*	Ralph and Jean Minehart #*	Andrea Sindt &#
Marlyn and Corinne Christensen &#	Milton and Marjorie Hanson &#*	Dave Mitchell &#*	Joseph P. Skelly and Bonnie Scott &#
Alice Claggett &#*	Gayle Harmon &*	Bill and Janese Montgomery &#*	Mildred Skogmo &
Pat and Bobbie Clark &#*	Mary E. Hase &*	Janet Harmon Murphy &	Dale and Anne Smith &#*
Sharon Clunk &#	Bonnie Hatzenbuhler &#	Dennis and Beth Nemmers &#*	Lana J. Spalding &
Dennis and Nancy Comp #	Myrna Hayen &#	Luvern and Elaine Neugebauer &	Richard Stedman &#*
Mary Ellen Connelly &*	Marion T. Hersey &	Genevieve M. Newell &#*	Edward and Jane A. Stone #*
Carla Cooper &#+*	Ed and Lynette Higgins &#*	Charlotte Nicholson &#*	Wayne and Myrna Stone &#*
Kenneth and Valerie Cox #*	Pat Hohbach #*	Pat and Patty O'Connor &*	Dean V. Strand &#*
	Lori Holmberg #*	Patty O'Connor #*	Helen A. Strong &*
	Lou Ora Houk &#*	Loyd and Maxine Oleson &	Jim Strong &#
	James and Gerry Hunt &#	Charles and Linda Oster #	Gaylord D. and Mary Stumm &
	Merv and Dottie Iverson #*	Doug Papendick &	Donald H. Swanson &#*
	Ron and Eleanor Jenkins #	Gene and Mary Paradeis &#*	Lyle and Irene Swenson &#*
		Jerry and Ruby Pattison &#*	Shirley Tanner &#

Lyle and Irene Swenson &#*
 Shirley Tanner &#
 Dale and Ruth Thomas &
 Delores Thomas #
 Perry Thompson &#*
 Ronald and Susan Thompson #
 Evelyn Thomsen &#*
 Gordon and Shirley
 Thomsen &#*
 Bart Thune &#*
 Kevin Thurman &#*
 Margaret Toben #&
 Ione Tracy #*
 Ken and Lois Tracy #*
 Marilyn K. Stumm Valberg &#
 Larry and Ruth VanNatta &#*
 Donna Van Overschelde &#
 Donna Weiland &#*
 Richard F. Weller &#*
 Gary Widmann #*
 Wayne Wilcox #
 Jim and Mary Willems &
 Donna Wold &
 Paul J. and Sheron Wolf &#
 Vernon M. Wulf #*

MAHS Life Members

Kenneth Sr. and Gladys Baldwin*
 Charles W. Deter *
 La Dawn Stenson Dykhouse *
 Dale and Marla Holm *
 Laurie Langland *
 Jeff Logan *
 Carol Ragle *
 Dean Sorenson *
 Lois Stenson Estate*
 Beth Walz

Corporate

Bailey Metal Fabricators, Inc. &#
 John W. Claggett &
 Iverson Chrysler Center &
 Art Rew &
 Donald H. Swanson* &

Donations – 2013

Adventure Caravans
 Anonymous (3)
 Harold D. (Corky) Atkinson
 Jackie (Streetman) Austin
 Keith Carlson
 H. Richard Christopher
 Paul and Mary Ellen Connelly
 Janice Felton
 Ron and Nola Freyer
 Pat Hetland Family Foundation
 Peggy Hofmeister
 Ethel L. Hughes
 Ron and Eleanor Jenkins
 Freda Johnson
 Wilford and Jean Johnson

Lawrence “Pete” and Chris Jones
 Wayne and Janet Klinger
 Maxine Knox
 Dennis R. Kiner
 Pamela W. Korsgaard
 Methodist Hospital Alumna
 Mitchell Area Genealogical
 Society
 Mitchell Foundation for Catholic
 Education
 Arlis and Mary Ann Osen
 Harlan and Jan Quenzer
 Thomas Riggert
 Beverly Rowley
 Terry and Deb Sabers
 Lou Sebert
 Sherma Seitzinger
 Dean and Rita Sorenson
 Mary C. Starke
 Thrivent Financial
 Kenneth Titze
 Donna Wiczorek

Endowment

Bill Weller

Elevator

Don Boyden

Memorials

Donna Alexander
 Marvin and Yvonne Dorgan

John A. Day

Kathryn Crockett

Gerald Hatzenbuhler

Bonnie Hatzenbuhler

Jerry Nicholson’s 75th Birthday

Charlotte Nicholson

James Schneider

Kathryn Crockett

Gladys Scott

Wallace Scott

Edith Tyerman

Gary and Charlene Forbes

Anna M. Sadler Winters

Carol Jane Morgan

Honorary**Mel Pooley and Windows Project**

Kimberly Pooley Nedved

Mel and Karen Pooley

Lyle and Irene Swenson

Notre Dame Alumni

Lyle Swenson

In Memoriam

Don Boyden
 Florence Kimball Burau
 LeMay Britain
 Lola Clift
 John A. Day
 Nancy Erck
 Darlene Frank
 Stanley Johnson
 Ross Korsgaard
 Shirley Marken
 Janet Martin
 Vivian Miller
 Betty Roby
 James Schneider
 Gladys M. Scott
 Reva Stedman
 Delbert Toben
 Edith Tyerman

2013 MAGS Membership

***= paid for 2014**

Ackerman, John & Connie *
 Airhart, Jon *
 Angelucci, Stella *
 Baird, Betty *
 Bamberg, Steve *
 Baier, Joel & Sandra
 Bartels, Keith & Glynn *
 Bauman, John *
 Bertsch, Marge *
 Blumer, Boyd & Evelyn *
 Bosma, Anna Marie *
 Breer, Bob *
 Brick, Dale
 Brummett, Sherri *
 Buchholz, Dennis & Zelma *
 Buckley, Ryan & Stacy *
 Buffington, Lee & Wilma
 Bunch, Harriet *
 Burau, Florence *
 Cap, Larry and Deb *
 Christensen, Marlyn & Corrine *
 Clunk, Sharon *
 Crockett, Kathryn *
 Davis, Earl *
 Deter, Charles -lifetime
 Dice, Tom
 Ellwein, James V. *
 Finney, Cheryl
 Fuchs, Ronald *
 Gates, Ron & Sheilah
 George, Megan
 Goldammer, Richard & Pat *
 Gregg, Reva

Grohs, Roger Jr *
 Handrahan, Becky
 Hayen, Myrna *
 Hersey, Mick *
 Higgins, Lynette *
 Hohbach, Pat *
 Holm, Dale & Marla - Lifetime
 Holmberg, Lori *
 Hunt, Jim *
 Johnson, Dusty & Jacquelyn
 Johnson, Lisa *
 Johnson, Thomas & Nancy *
 Jones, Thomas *
 Juntunen, Roger *
 Kaus, Paul & Linda *
 Klingaman, Kleve & Tonya *
 Korzan, Gary & Jeanice *
 Kurtenbach, Deana *
 Loon, Rolland & Ella *
 Marcello, Richard & Lucinda*
 Miller, Vivian *
 Montgomery, Bill & Janese *
 Nemmers, Dennis & Beth *
 Oleson, Loyd & Maxine
 Peters, Janice
 Pooley, Mel & Karen *
 Powell, DeEtta
 Ragle, Carol *
 Ramos, Georgia
 Range, Pam *
 Rowley, Kris *
 Rutan, Helen *
 Schmucker, Bernie and Maxine *
 Scott, John and Debra *
 Sindt, Andrea *
 Sindt, Austin
 Steinberg, Rolland
 Strong, Helen *
 Stumm, Gaylord
 Swanson, Don *
 Swenson, Lyle & Irene *
 Thomas, Dale & Ruth
 Thomas, Delores *
 Thomsen, Gordon & Shirley *
 Thompson, Ronald C. *
 Tracy, Ione *
 Valberg, Marilyn *
 VanOverschelde, Donna
 Walz, Beth - Lifetime
 Weber, Bonnie *
 Weiland, Donna *
 Wiczorek, Jim *
 Wolf, Paul and Sheron *
 Wulf, Vern *

In July, 2013, MAHS and MAGS received the following letter from Ruth Hall Rutan, daughter of Charles Hall who passed away when Ruth was only eight years old. During a week in September 2007, Ruth came to know her father by research she did at the CRC, in Belle Fourche, and at the archives of the SDSHS Museum in Pierre. Through these efforts, Ruth felt that she had come to know her father.

A Father's Life Discovered

"A Teacher Named Mr. Hall

A genius at figures is Hall,
He writes them all over the wall;
His scholars won't heed them,
They can't even read them,
'Tis well he has turned to football."

A Mitchell High School student wrote the above poem about my father, Charles Hall, in 1912. My father was teaching math, and, when the football coach unexpectedly resigned, coaching football was added to my father's responsibilities. Was my father successful? Yes! Mitchell High defeated arch rival Sioux Falls for the first time in eight years.

This I did not know until my son, his wife, and my daughter convinced me that we should spend a week in South Dakota investigating my roots. My father died when I was eight, and I grew up feeling that I had scarcely gotten to know him.

Our first stop in the fall of 2007 was Mitchell. I knew my father had taken his bride to Mitchell, following the then popular slogan, "Go West, young man." When we entered the Carnegie Resource Center, staff member Shirley Tanner answered our questions by providing us with copies of the "Crocus," a literary magazine that MHS junior classes were required to publish monthly. When news was scarce, the students turned to writing about the faculty.

The "Crocus" contributors told me a lot about my father. I learned that my father and a fellow teacher had worked together to build houses. He was part of a group of teachers who went duck hunting every year. His method of disciplining students was a "stern, silent glare" which meant "cease and desist whatever you're doing." He could also be ferocious, and he was certainly a good football coach. Since he and my mother attended school events, they probably chaperoned dances. My mother once told me how much she loved dancing - something her strict Ohio parents had not allowed.

When my father left Mitchell, it was to become a high school superintendent in Belle Fourche. In 2007, we nearly missed seeing his high school since it was due to be razed. We found the house where I was born, but the woman who lived there was too alarmed by the four strangers standing on her porch to invite us in. We thanked her for letting us take a picture of the house, and it matches the photo in the family album.

When my father was appointed State Supervisor of Second

dary Education, we moved to Pierre. Although Pierre may be the smallest capital in the country, it has one of the largest archival museums. We were required to wear white gloves to handle any information regarding my father. We had access to more copies of the MHS "Crocus" as well as to census records that showed where and when my older sisters had attended elementary school. When we flipped the census records over to return them to their box, we found my father's signature. He had taken the school census.

We did not live in Pierre for long. My father's doctor told him that his heart condition had worsened and that he had not long to live. He decided to move his family back to Ohio to be near his parents. He got a job as a superintendent in Solon, Ohio, but did not live long after.

I was in my eighties when we made our trip to South Dakota in 2007. I returned home feeling that, at long last, I had come to know my father better. The MHS students who contributed to the "Crocus" made that possible.

Helen Hall Rutan

John A. Day, Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts

The MAHS and MAGS members who became acquainted with Professor of Fine Arts John A. Day in September 2007 when he spoke at the CRC about his friend, Oscar Howe, were saddened to learn of Day's passing away at age 74 on September 29, 2013. Professor Day was responsible in 1979 for preserving the mural "Sun and Rain Clouds over Hills" painted in 1940 in the dome of the then Mitchell Carnegie Library.

Day received his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Notre Dame. He began his teaching career at Mount Marty College in Yankton, South Dakota. In 1971, he joined the University of South Dakota and served as Chair of the Art Department. From 1980 to 2004 he served as Dean of the College of Fine Arts, and from 1984 -1985 he was USD's Vice President for Academic Affairs. From 1977 to 2009 Day was Director of the USD Art Galleries. During that time, he curated over 50 major exhibitions, including several which toured nationally. As Curator of the USD Oscar Howe Collection, he oversaw the world's largest collection of Howe work and was instrumental in establishing the Oscar Howe Archives and the Oscar Howe Memorial Association at USD. Day lectured and wrote on the art and life of Oscar Howe for over 30 years, in addition to organizing over 20 Oscar Howe exhibitions.

Day served on the South Dakota Arts Council for ten years and from 1982 was a member of the South Dakota Capitol Beautification Commission. He was the recipient of the South Dakota Governor's Award for Outstanding Support for the Arts by an Individual and the 2003 Western American Award from the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College. Professor Day was awarded an honorary Ph.D. by USD and was honored as Professor Emeritus.

MAHS is greatly appreciative of the support and interest so generously contributed by Professor Day.

Tend to your tree

Surprises, satisfaction found in family research

I was waiting for my wife one day in the foyer of the Mitchell Congregational United Church of Christ when I noticed an old wall plaque engraved with a list of donors. I bent close to peruse the names, and my eyes caught on one: Louisa C. Tupper.

Must be a relative of mine, I thought. When we got home, I pulled out some family history papers my dad gave me years earlier. Louisa, it turns out, is my great-great-grandmother.

She's only four steps back from me on the family tree, and yet this was the first I'd heard of her or any Tupper with a Mitchell connection. I had ignorantly thought the current generations of Tupper, whose home turf is Wessington Springs and Kimball, were the first to take up residence in Mitchell.

Luckily for me and my sudden interest in family history, genealogy is undergoing a renaissance. The website Ancestry.com and its trove of archival materials is at the forefront of the movement. During the months after I discovered my great-great-grandmother's name on that church plaque, I built my family tree at Ancestry.com and dabbled in family research. I learned that Louisa Tupper is buried here in Mitchell, and one summer day my wife and children indulged me as we walked through a block of the cemetery looking for and eventually finding the grave.

"MOTHER," the headstone says, along with "Louisa C. Tupper, 1859-1941."

It was in 1882 that Louisa and husband William Henry Tupper left Illinois and "removed to the northwest, settling on a homestead near Plankinton," according to Volume IV of "History of Dakota Territory" by George W. Kingsbury.

"Hardships and privations awaited them," Kingsbury wrote in a short biography of my great-great-grandfather, "but with resolute spirit and unflinching courage they endured hardships and trials and in time their perseverance won them success. ..."

The trail goes cold after that. Kingsbury doesn't say what caused the

**Seth
Tupper**

Editor



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death of William Henry Tupper in 1897 at the age of 41. Nor does Kingsbury say when or why the widow Louisa Tupper ended up in Mitchell.

I hope to fill in those blanks. Meanwhile, I have already learned some important things from my great-great-grandmother.

One is that the shade under a large family tree is a good place to pause and gain perspective. Louisa's story reminds me that I — and all of us, really — stand on the shoulders of giants in the earth, to borrow the title of a novel about Dakota pioneers.

I shudder to think of the "hardships and privations" that William and Louisa must have suffered during those early years in what was probably a claim shack on the raw, unbroken prairie, where the specter of death was probably ever near. It makes me appreciate the path they forged for a descendant like me, whose primary stressor is not the prospect of death but mere deadlines.

The other lesson is that many of us will be forgotten after we die. Perhaps there are other Tupper who've kept the flame of Louisa's memory burning, but among the family members I know, it was blown out and swept away like chaff in the prairie wind.

That's why, in some small way, I feel like I've brought my great-great-grandmother back to life. She was a dying branch on my family tree, at least from my perspective, and now she's sprouting new leaves.

If I keep that branch alive, maybe somebody will do the same for me someday, and like Louisa I'll spring to life in the mind of a great-great-grandchild long after I'm dead.

In this uncertain world, that's at least one small comfort I can take to my grave.

As seen in this "Tend to Your Tree" article which appeared on page 3 of the October 24, 2013, issue of the Daily Republic, Seth Tupper, editor, found that discovering his ancestry is a rewarding experience. Genealogy Society members stand ready to aid anyone who is searching his ancestry. The CRC has access to on-line data bases and houses a wealth of documents about Mitchell area history and genealogy.

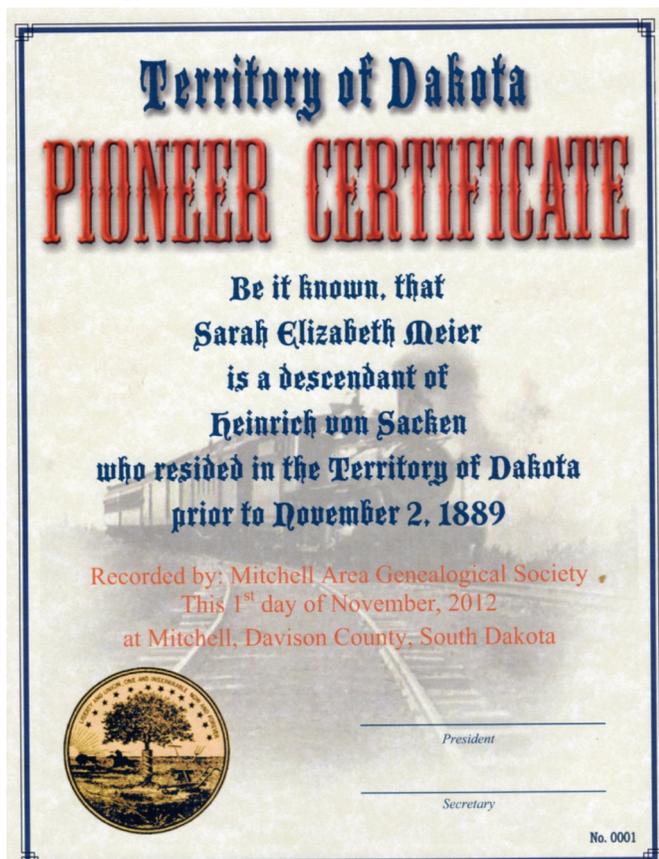
Fun Facts about Mitchell's Progress

City founded	1879
Fire Department organized	1880
First School built	1880
City Incorporated	1881
First County Courthouse built	1882
Police Department	1883
Dakota Wesleyan University	1884
First Corn Palace built	1892
First telephone in Mitchell	1894
Telephone Service started	1898
Carnegie Library built	1903
Modern sewer and water system	1904
Second Corn Palace built	1905
Northwestern Public Service	1907
Artesian Water	1910
First Street Paving	1912
Third Corn Palace built	1921
Disposal Plant	1927
Survey for lake	1926
Lake Mitchell construction	1928
Lake Mitchell filled	1929
Second Courthouse	1937
Armory built (now City Hall)	1938
Dam at Lake Mitchell washed out	1942
Mitchell Horseshoe spillway built	1943

Buy Your Woolworth Caramel Apples!

Corn Palace Festival and the delicious Woolworth caramel apple sales will begin on Wednesday, August 20 through August 24. MAHS and MAGS volunteers, along with other community volunteers based at Einstein's Costume Rentals (317 North Main Street), will prepare and sell the traditional caramel apples on a stick or sliced in a bowl. Also available will be foot-long chili dogs, walking tacos, and beverages. Free delivery available for 10 items.

Fundraising project benefits not only Carnegie Resource Center, but also Mitchell Main Street and Beyond. We are looking for volunteers to come polish apples each morning. Call 605-996-3209 to volunteer.

Genealogy Corner (Continued from page 3)

if your ancestor settled in South Dakota before November 2, 1889 when South Dakota became a state and provide public documents to prove it. An Early Settler certificate if they arrived during South Dakota's first 20 years of statehood, and a Century Family certificate if they arrived 100 years ago. Applications to order the certificates can be picked up at the CRC or by contacting Pam at 996-3209 or email Pam@mitchellcarnegie.com.

MAGS members will volunteer again this year at the SD Genealogical booth at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron, SD from Thursday August 28 through Monday September 1, 2014 in the Arts & Education Building. Programs are presented every morning and afternoon which has become very popular with fair visitors. Each year there is a picture display on the wall and this year the theme is South Dakota Cemeteries and Tombstones. The Beadle County Genealogy Group always puts the display together from pictures sent to them. Pictures may be sent to Pam Reilly, SDGS President via e-mail mini@midco.net or may be mailed to Beadle County Genealogical Society, 1808 Indiana Ave. SE, Huron, SD 57350. The pictures will be used in the display and will not be returned. Pictures from previous years have been put into scrap books and are available for booth visitors to view. The genealogical booth will be set up with computers for research help and assis-

tance.

Following are war records to look for depending upon when your ancestor was born:

- Born 1726-1767; Revolutionary War (1775-1783)
- Born 1762-1799; War of 1812 (1812-1815)
- Born 1796-1831; Mexican War (1846-1848)
- Born 1811-1848; Civil War (1861-1865)
- Born 1848-1881; Spanish-American War (1898)
- Born 1849-1885; Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902)
- Born 1872-1900; World War I (1917-1918)
- Born 1877-1925; World War II (1941-1945)
- Born 1900-1936; Korean War (1950-1953)
- Born 1914-1955; Vietnam War (early 1960s-1973)

MAGS business meetings are now held on the 4th Thursday evening of the month and our MAGS programs are held on the 1st Monday evening of the month. In scheduling different evenings we not only have more time for business but more time to help members with genealogical research or as time allow working on our various projects. Our MAGS membership fee is \$10 a year which runs from January to December. The CRC is always busy whether with meetings, programs, research of business's and genealogy, visiting tourists or just daily gab sessions. We invite all to come in and see what we have to offer...

Andie Harmes-Sindt

Photo Preservation

A good solution for long-lasting photos is just down the street or on the internet. Discount stores print photographs from digital files, both from uploads and files brought in to the store. The prints they produce last significantly longer than any print you can make on your home printer. A traditional darkroom process is a chemical process that relies on silver-infused photographic paper. The modern process uses silver halide paper where the image is essentially developed in the paper, not printed on the paper like your home printer.

Your home printer deposits ink on top of the paper where it is susceptible to direct and environmental damage. But, some of these stores use the do-it-yourselfes instant machines. If you print it yourself and it pops out of the machine this is not the permanent silver-halide photograph you want. You want a printer with the name of Noritsu, Fuki, or Kodak which are silver-halide printers. In addition online photo services such as SnapFish, Shutterfly, and other high volume services use the silver-halide process. Printing good color images on your computer on photo paper takes a lot of ink so having prints made, whether local or online, may actually be cheaper.

Carnegie has own 'Person of Interest'

Every month the Carnegie Resource Center is featuring a new 'Person of Interest'. We include picture(s), timeline, family information, accomplishments, and the reason we consider them 'of interest'.

Our first Person, George Blum, also known as "Kernel Korn" to the kids, was a radio announcer, program manager, engineer and weatherman for KORN TV.

Currently the 'Person of Interest' is a 'pioneer', one who has been instrumental in the early development of Mitchell.

The month of May was Abner Hitchcock, mayor of Mitchell from 1908-1916 for whom Hitchcock Park was named.

Then the Greene Brothers, Heman C. Greene and Israel Greene, who were the land surveyors plotting out the first streets of Mitchell.

July is A.J. Kings who built the first Corn Palace and many other historic buildings in Mitchell including our Carnegie Library Building.

Stop by each month to see the person we've chosen and learn a little about the history of Mitchell.

Andrew Jackson Kings

Andrew Jackson Kings, architect and builder, best known for building the first Corn Palace, also built many other prominent Mitchell and surrounding area buildings.



He was born in 1855 in Macopin, New Jersey and later moved with his family to LaSalle, Illinois. In 1880 he married Mary Ann Finkler and April 1883 they moved to Mitchell, SD, where he entered the contracting business.

He built the first Corn Palace in 1892 in a matter of 64 days. He built the Mitchell Fruit Company at 220 South Kimball in February 1903 in just 60 days. Although the ground

was frozen explosives were used to remove the dirt as far down as the frost exists.

He also built the first building at Dakota Wesleyan University, the first Davison County Courthouse, the addition to the Junior High School, the Carnegie Public Library built in 1903 for \$12,000, and in 1904 the Mitchell City Hall. The Mitchell National Bank was built in 1906 for \$26,000. His bid was the lowest. He saved a considerable amount of time and money because he used the sidewalls of the adjoining buildings. He built the Western National Bank building, the Holy Family Catholic Church, the Elks Building in 1910 with a 600 barrel

cistern in the rear, the Methodist State Hospital, the addition to the A.J. King building at 417 North Main, home to the Redline Piano Company (became the Dreamland Ballroom in 1930), Eugene Field Elementary School, St. Joseph Hospital and the S. T. Greene Building at 4th and Main and L. E. Beckwith building at 4th & Main and the Masonic Lodge in 1922. He built the Security State Bank in Ethan in 1908 for \$7,500. He was awarded the contract for a new school in Rock Valley, Iowa for \$22,000 in 1909. He built the High School and the cyanide plant at the Homestake Mine in Lead, South Dakota.

In 1909 at 220 East First Ave he built his own building, the Mitchell Planing Mill, where they manufactured window and door frames, storm sash, window and door screens, store fronts, store fixtures, show cases and all kinds of millwork.



Mitchell Planing Mill

They also carried a complete line of window and ornamental glass, varnish, paint, oils and roofing.

He built his home at 902 East Second and lived there until he died, his daughter and son-in-law Laura and Frank McMahon lived in it as well as grandson Robert McMahon.

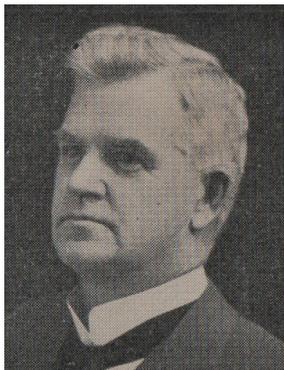
Andrew served as a city councilman for 24 years and served as a member of the school board for seven years. He retired in 1916. His wife, Mary Ann died in 1920. He passed away January 22, 1939 leaving behind two daughters and two sons, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

His son, Floyd F. Kings, was a prominent architect who designed many of the public buildings in Mitchell. He was born in 1893 in Mitchell and died August 9, 1939 at the age of 46, seven months after his father.



Tools displayed at CRC

Abner E. Hitchcock



Abner E. Hitchcock practiced law in Mitchell for 40 years before retiring and moving to California. He was Mayor of Mitchell from 1908 to 1916. Prior to that he acted as city attorney from 1887 to 1892.

Hitchcock was born in 1853 in North Bergen, New York, and in 1868 he and his family moved to Iowa. He attended school in Anamosa, Iowa. Then he began to teach and worked in a bakery. In

1872 he headed to Ames, Iowa to

attend Iowa State Agricultural College, graduating in 1876 with honors. He became principal of a grade school and instructed in teachers institutes during the summer.

In 1879 he and another professional teacher applied for the Superintendent position of the Mason City schools (the best school position in northern Iowa). For two months the school board met and the votes ended in a tie, eventually Hitchcock lost.

Because he always wanted to be a lawyer he promptly enrolled in law school and graduated in 1880. With his law degree he headed west to Sioux City and then to Mitchell, arriving on September 29, 1880, (the same year the first train arrived in Mitchell) when the population was about 150 citizens.

He married Louise Lawton, a school teacher in Iowa in 1882. In 1890 he was elected state's attorney for Davison County. He served as trustee of Brookings College and Dakota Wesleyan University. He was appointed to the State Board of Regents by South Dakota Governor, Robert S. Vessey and later elected President.

Hitchcock was elected Mayor of Mitchell in 1908 and re-elected Mayor in 1910 without opposition. In 1912 he refused to become a candidate, but the citizens of Mitchell absolutely refused to accept his declination. They nominated him by petition against his own will and he was unanimously re-elected. In 1914 he defeated L. E. Stair, a local photographer, for Mayor.

He is the father of the Mitchell Park System. Shortly after being elected in 1908 he created the Mitchell Park Board, consisting of five members. Hitchcock encouraged the Park Board and City Council to purchase 27 acres of land. Since the City lacked funds, he and three other prominent local men loaned the city the money for the purchase. The City did reimburse the men for the loan a few years later. The park on Mitchell's east side, first known as the Driving Park, was renamed Hitchcock Park in his honor in 1913.

In 1916 he moved to California and by 1920 became the City Manager of Santa Rosa. He died in 1937 at the age of 83. He was buried in California, but later his remains were buried in Graceland Cemetery in Mitchell. His wife died in 1947.

George Blum aka "Kernel Korn"

George Stewart Blum's long and distinguished broadcast career spanned five decades at radio and television stations throughout the Midwest. While in high school he entered broadcasting as an announcer at KWAT in Watertown, South Dakota, returning there after serving in the US Army during World War II in New Guinea, the Philippines and Japan, as well with the Armed Forces Radio in New Guinea.

On July 6, 1947 he married Ruby Ahrens at the UCC Church in Armour, South Dakota.



George Blum shooting commercial at KORN - 1960

He worked at KMHK and KORN in Mitchell, South Dakota. He also helped build KORN TV where he developed the popular children's character "Kernel Korn" as well as being the weatherman, engineer and program manager. He and his wife Ruby owned KLME in Laramie, Wyoming, he managed



KBOM in Bismarck, North Dakota and KXGN/KXGN TV in Glendive, Montana. He owned WRJC AM/FM in Mauston, Wisconsin before building KOLV FM in Olivia Minnesota with their sons Chuck and Philip.

He was named Pioneer Broadcaster in 1996 and inducted into the Minnesota Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2001. Throughout his career he was driven by his belief in the value of community service, personal integrity, loyalty to family and hard work. George passed away on January 16, 2005 at the age of 82 at the Olivia Healthcare Center, Olivia, Minnesota of alzheimers. He is buried at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, in Armour, South Dakota.

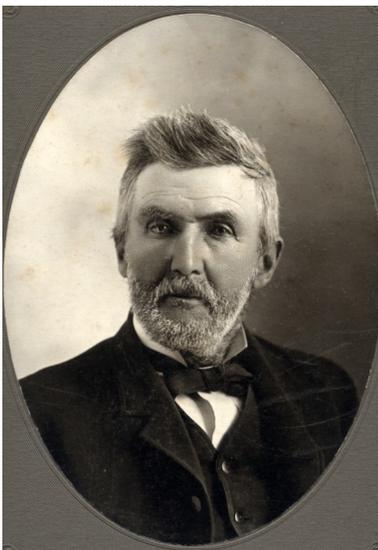
The Greene Brothers

Israel Greene born 1825 Plattsburgh, Clinton, New York- died May 24, 1909 Mitchell, Davison, SD

Heman Cady Greene born 1831 Plattsburgh, Clinton, New York- died March 16, 1924 Mitchell, Davison, SD



Israel Greene



Heman Greene

Lieutenant Israel Greene led a detail of 12 Marines who carried out the assault and capture of the infamous John Brown at Harper's Ferry, Virginia on October 15, 1859. This was an event that led to the outbreak of the Civil War. Lt. Israel was later to leave the service of the U.S. Marine Corps to join the South as a Major under Robert E. Lee. Although a Northerner by birth, he had married Edmonia Taylor, daughter of a Virginia planter in 1851. One can only suppose that Greene tossed away his oath and career because of his wife and they lived in Virginia, which went with the South.

Israel was also a member of the crew of commodore Mathew Perry that sailed in to Tokyo Bay in 1853 seeking to establish relations with the Japanese. On May 25, 1861 Israel was nominated Captain in the Provisional Army of Virginia by Governor Letcher, and on June 17, 1861 he was nominated Lieutenant Colonel.

Heman Greene, Israel's brother, had been in the business of civil engineering. He went Missouri and surveyed the line of road of the Missouri Pacific, the first railroad constructed west of the Mississippi River. Six years later he returned to Rochester Minnesota. He set up a store and was just getting established when the citizens associated him with Israel and Israel was considered a southern rascal, by the northern soldiers and citizens. His business slumped and gave him reason to move his wife, Francis Maria Baker, and family to Bon Homme, Dakota Territory in 1870.

In 1871 Heman and John Head, his brother-in-law, filed claims on land near the Firesteel Creek. The following year they constructed dugouts and in 1873 they erected frame dwellings, hauling the lumber from Marion Junction, 50 miles away. In 1874, Greene enlarged his house and for several years, it served as a hotel, courthouse or church, as the occasion required, but still remained the Green home.

Israel came to Davison County in 1873 and his family followed 3 years later. He began surveying land in the James River Valley in 1874. The Territorial Legislature engaged Israel to survey a route from the James River Valley to Ft. Thompson and Pierre called the Fort Thompson Trail where it joined up to the Deadwood Trail, a route to the Black Hills Gold Rush.

When the railroad came west, they picked the cur-



Heman Greene's house at Firesteel

rent site of Mitchell and businesses of Firesteel picked up and moved to Mitchell. In an early

account of pioneer claims printed by the Mitchell Capital newspaper, Israel's property was described as the SW of 13, 103, 60-160 acres, 16 acres broken, six in corn and 10 in oats, one pony, four cows, three yearlings and two calves; frame house and barn, values his improvements at \$800.

In Graceland Cemetery is the Greene family monument, a large red stone marker bearing the coat of arms of the Greene family along with individual family stones. Heman Green and his wife share a modest tombstone in another block in Graceland Cemetery.

In 1997, Edmonia S. Greene Kobes (granddaughter of Israel Greene) donated the original surveyors compass used by Heman and Israel to the Mitchell Area Historical Society where it is on display at the Carnegie Resource Center. Stop by the CRC and learn more about our early Mitchell pioneers and "Persons of Interest".

The Carnegie Courier

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

Return Service Requested

June 2014 Newsletter

Program Schedules

MAHS and MAGS programs are held at 7:00 p.m. at the CRC, 119 West Third Avenue unless otherwise noted. Admission is free and all are welcome.

2014 Historical Society Programs are held on the third Monday

July 14 Dr. Alan Outram – Adventures in Archeology
Aug. 18 Barb Young – Coca Cola in Mitchell
Sept. 15 Annual Meeting– Speaker to be announced
Oct. 20 Jim Wagner - Oak Room
Nov. 17 Brenda Oleson– Einsteins
Dec. 11 Christmas at the Carnegie - Barbershop Chorus

2014 Genealogical Society Programs are held on the first Monday.

July 7 Anna Marie Bosma - E-Books for Resources
Aug. 4 Do You have Quakers in your Family?

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**The Carnegie Resource Center is open
Monday through Saturday
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Call 605.996.3209 for additional times.**