



Talmage Historical Society

Museum & Library Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 2

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Summer 2017

Calendar

Monday, May 29
Annual Memorial Day Tribute
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Prairiedale Cemetery
Talmage Museum

Monday, May 29
Museum open for visitors and their families who are home for Memorial Day festivities.
Come see us!

June 1
Talmage Public Library moves to Talmage School.

In Memoriam

Mahlon Engle
9/20/1922-03/05/2017
Shirley Gormley Gray
06/13/1935-3/11/2017
Herb Koelling
5/19/1924-2/26/2017
Mary Tyrell Macy
11/29/1924-2/27/2017
Wava McCosh McDonald
03/20/1935-03/02/2017
Barbara Allen Anderson
3/18/1938-2/26/2017
Roberta Sleichter
1/13/1921-3/02/2017
Leon Williamson
8/11/1938-3/9/2017

Korean War veterans to be honored

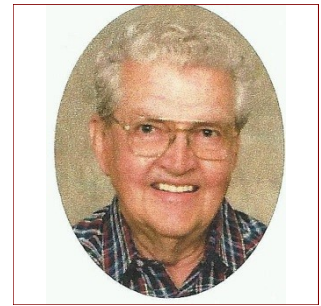
Memorial Day services to honor all deceased Korean War veterans buried at Prairiedale Cemetery will begin at 10:30 a.m., May 29, at the cemetery.

The Chapman American Legion Post 240 will present the program at this annual observance. Everyone is welcome.

The honored veterans are Keith Alden, US Army; Don Bender, CPL, US Marine; Thomas J Durham, MM3, US Navy; Clarence Keim, US Army; Melvin Neaderhiser, SGT US Army; Elmer Louis Nelson, PVT, US Army; James Walter Perkins;



Don Bender



Henry Regeher

SGT, US Army; Verle D Reese, CPL, US Army; Henry Regehr; Darrell Dean Van Wie, US Marine; Leslie Vestal, Major, US Air Force; Gerald Watt, SGT, US Army; Russell Yant, S SGT, 424 Med Co.



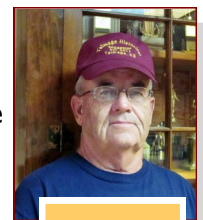
Melvin Neaderhiser

Talking History with Verl Coup...

By the time you receive this newsletter, a new fence should be in place on the south side of the Prairiedale Cemetery, just north of Talmage. Orban Haas, his wife Shirley, her sister Maxine Hammond, and Shirley's parents, Archie and Hazel Maring made the fence a gift to the cemetery.

In addition, Jill Watt Elwood has gifted flags and flag poles for the cemetery to be installed with the fence. These are in memory of her daughter, Rylee Miller. This makes me feel good to know the community cares about their cemetery.

The fence and flags will be dedicated on Memorial Day, May 29, at 10:30 a.m.



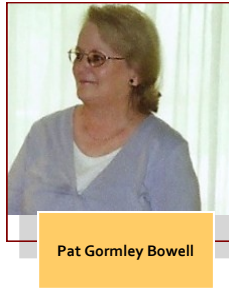
Verl Coup

Let's Make History...

By **Pat Gormley Bowell**

Thanks to those of you who stopped by the Museum on Sunday, April 30, to check out the Talmage United Methodist Church's 100th Anniversary of the church building displays and slideshows during the Open House. Around 40 persons attended; everyone had a good visit and remembered those special people who so affected our growing up in the Talmage church.

The church is having several opportunities this year to celebrate. On June 4 there will be "Church in the Park" at 10 a.m. with special music and grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Other dates are September 17 and November 12.



Pat Gormley Bowell



Open House—Former and current Talmage United Methodist Church members and their friends enjoyed a display of pictures and artifacts from the church's history. Pictured, l to r, Shirley Howard, LeRoy Bennett, Talmage Museum Director Verl Coup, and Pat Bowell.

Have a story to share?

If you have a story to share with our readers about days gone by in the Talmage or surrounding communities, please e-mail thsoc@live.com or mail them to PO Box 766 Talmage, Kansas 67482



Open House—Pat Bowell and Ray Snider shared information about the Talmage United Methodist history and the 1917 construction of the current building on one of the story boards created for the open house.

Did You Know?

By Kathy Marsteller Coup

We may soon have a Moonlight display, thanks to Linda Crawford Bletscher.



Life in the early 1900s...

Granddaughter shares memories of Talmage

**Transcribed by Amy Manley,
Kalamazoo, Michigan**

My grandfather, Dena E. Huitt, shared some family history/childhood memories of Talmage before he passed away in 2015. This is the typed script from the video recording of his story, so it is truly in his own words.

In the late 1800's Miles Huitt and his parents came in a covered wagon from Illinois to start a new life by homesteading in Kansas. They built a sod house and later lived in a cabin, which was on the then Huitt farm seven miles from Abilene, Kansas and one mile from Talmage. Miles was a reserved, quiet boy who became a farmer. Miles married a girl named Myrtle Laney. She was an outgoing, lively girl who even had her own 22 caliber rifle. She was one of the first women in Talmage to drive a car.

I was born Sept. 16, 1918. My parents were Miles and Myrtle Huitt. I was born at Abilene Hospital in Abilene, KS. My parents were farmers and lived on a farm a mile north of Talmage, KS, which is about 9 miles north of Abilene. In 1919 they bought a farm one mile south of Talmage as they had been renting the farm north of Talmage.

I was born after they had been married 12 years and was an only child. I always found ways to keep busy. When I was about 10 my dad gave me a pony. Her name was Bonnie. She later had a colt which I named Beauty. Beauty was smart and found she could use her mouth and slide the wooden latch on the corral gate and she got out one time and ate too much green corn which affected her legs and was never the same. Before that I rode her to school a few times.

I ran a trap line along the creek in the pasture for muskrats where they had been sliding in the creek. Their hide was worth a \$1.25, maybe a little less. Skunk and possum were a little over \$2.00 per hide. I would catch them and skin them to make money. I would help dad farm with horses, and a couple of summers in high school I worked for my cousins plowing with a tractor after harvest for \$1.00 per day plus room and board and no shade on the tractor. I



This is the Miles Huitt home, south of Talmage, formerly the Saylor home.

also helped a friend deliver his ice in rural areas as most everyone had ice boxes. Ice was in 300 lb. cakes at 1 cent per lb. and we sold it for 2 cents per lb.

The Talmage School was a 2 story wood building located a short distance north of Talmage. There were 3 rooms on the first floor and 3 on the second floor. Grade 1, 2 & 3 were in one room, 4, 5, & 6 in another and 7 & 8 in the 3rd room. Upstairs was a 2 year high school.

Our drinking water was from a well some distance from the school building. Someone would pump while you held your hand over the pump outlet and drank. No one thought about germs. I carried a lunch in a lunch pail – some kids used gallon syrup cans. In grade school we had wooden teeter totters and maybe someone would jump off and let someone down – you can't do that now! We had one of those merry-go-rounds with the iron chains and they would get running around. The swings were wood seats and chain deals. That's about all we had.

The year I started 8th grade, a new school building was completed with a gymnasium, inside plumbing which was a treat as at the old school there were 2 outhouses, one boys and one for girls. The new building included 4 years of high school. I graduated from Talmage School in 1936 with a class of 8 students.

(If you enjoyed reading this, send your story!)

**TALMAGE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

**TALMAGE MUSEUM
AND
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

2978 Main Street
P.O. Box 766
Talmage, Kansas 67482

Museum E-Mail:
thsoc@live.com

Library E-Mail:
shawnisheets@gmail.com

Website:
talmage.mykansalibrary.org

Winter Hours:
Mon., Wed., Friday
Saturday-Sunday
2-4 p.m.

Closed Tues. & Thursday

We're on the Web!
www.talmagekansas.com



Around Town...

Church to donate school building to library

New Hope Church members have decided to donate the Talmage School building to the Talmage Public Library to give the library a chance to expand and to offer a place for community events.

“We are thrilled with the donation as it will give us a chance to expand our offerings to include community activities,” said Library Board President Shawni Sheets. “The building will continue to operate as a place for school and family reunions, the annual pancake feed, and other family oriented activities.”

The library’s move will also give the Talmage museum the opportunity to expand into the rooms currently used by the library. The success and growth of the museum led to a need for more space to house artifacts and memorabilia.

The transfer of deed will take place June 1, and anyone interested in making a tax-deductible donation, should contact Shawni Sheets at 785/643-9126 or e-mail shawnisheets@gmail.com as there are some minor repairs needed while the library awaits grant approvals. Completion of the move will take place after June 1.

NCKLS delivered new books in April so visit the library and museum today!



Edna Swanson, right, greets Talmage All-School Reunion attendees during the September 2016 annual reunion, one of the activities which will continue because of New Hope Church’s donation of the school building to the Talmage Public Library.