



# Talmage Historical Society *Museum & Library Newsletter*

Volume 8, Issue 4

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Winter 2017

## Calendar

Saturday

December 2

Join us for a  
*Community Garage  
Sale and Soup  
Luncheon, 10 am-1 pm,  
at the Talmage School,  
now Talmage Library  
The soup lunch is by  
donation only with  
proceeds helping cover  
costs of repair work  
being completed.*

Sunday

December 3

Join us at the  
*museum for the  
Annual Christmas  
Open House,  
2-4 p.m.! Treats and  
Christmas cheer will  
be served!*

## In Memoriam

**Dean Ausherman**

9/7/1919 - 10/15/2017

**Kay Doris**

5/12/1928 - 8/20/2017

**Gene Fields**

2/06/1930 - 9/28/2017

**Leo Ponton**

4/7/1925 - 10/13/2017

**Lee Swanson**

3/14/1930 - 10/21/2017

**Marguerite Tasker**

2/19/1923 - 8/5/2017

**Jon Dale Thayer**

2/23/1924 - 10/26/2017

**Anna Mae Watt**

7/5/1922 - 11/2/2017

## *Library finds a home in Talmage School*

By **Pat Gormley Bowell**

Thanks to help from some of the men and women in the community, all of the library books have been moved from the Talmage Historical Society building at 2978 Main Street to the old Talmage School building at 2994 Main Street.

“Barbara Wuthnow and others have been busy helping me place books on shelves, and we plan to have our grand opening in January,” said Library Board President Shawni Sheets.

“In the meantime, anybody is welcome to stop in and check out books while we work,” Sheets said.

A variety of community outreach programs are planned and will be detailed in upcoming newspaper and newsletter articles.

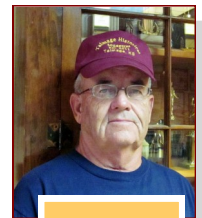
Some of the plans include community garage sales, access for family reunions, exercise groups, game nights, basketball games with former basketball players, and community meetings and entertainment.



Barbara Wuthnow places books on shelves at the Talmage Public Library, now located in the Talmage School building.

## *Talking History with Verl Coup...*

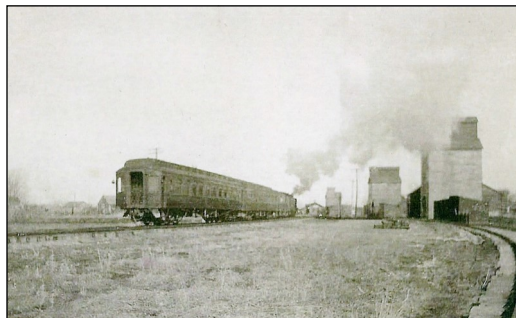
The picture below, taken south of Talmage looking north, is of a steam engine train with passenger cars. It was a gift, along with other Talmage artifacts, sent to me by Melvin Brillhart of Missouri, who grew up



Verl Coup

in Talmage. Also, a big thanks to Melissa Brown whose family has just bought the Wolfenbarger place. She shared pictures of early day Talmage and the Saylor family.

This is what makes our museum. Thank you.



Noel remembers..

## Talmage athletes were champions at Talmage School

By GREGG NOEL

The last eighth grade class to graduate at Talmage Grade School, the Class of 1972, had the opportunity to do some special things before they left TGS and move on to Chapman High School.

As Harold Mosher, retired physical education teacher for the rural schools of USD 473, Chapman, stated, "I always had good athletes throughout the school district I taught in, but I never had so many good athletes in one class, from one school."

The TGS Class of 1972 was unique in that area. Most of the boys stayed together from kindergarten (6 weeks in 1963) until 13 years later when they all graduated from Chapman High School in 1976. The boys from this class were Bill Gibson, Glen Snider, Howard Engle, Gregg Noel, Ricky Lake, Keith Schwab, Murl Garver, Kelly Bledsoe (who joined the class in second grade), Arlan Bebermeyer (who joined the class in third grade), and Danny Wuthnow (who joined the class in fifth grade). Some of the other boys who spent years in this class but were not able to graduate at Talmage were Dusty Hammond, who moved to Longford, Kansas in 1971; and Mike Alexander, who transferred to Chapman Junior High in 1970.

This class was very competitive when it came to almost anything. They all started off early playing tag and a favorite of many, Kickball. But their favorite game was Bombardment. It was ball tag, played on the basketball court and with teams and boundaries. Most recesses during winter or on rainy days were spent playing Bombardment. Looking back, it was a game which developed quickness, hand and eye coordination, team work and strategy. It also developed physical fitness. It prepared the boys for sports.

The first organized sport this group would encounter was playing in the summer baseball program, beginning in 1966. They would play other schools and small towns in Dickinson County, including Chapman, Solomon, Rural Center, Enterprise, Woodbine, and Hope.

The team was sponsored by the Talmage Lions Club. The boys began as third graders and their first coaches were Loren Noel (Gregg) and Francis Hammond (Dusty). The next year, Verl Coup was roped into coaching these eager athletes, thus started a special relationship between this class of boys and Verl.

After three years of coaching the peewees, Verl handed the coaching duties off to Butch Shivers. Butch coached the boys for a few years and in 1970, the Talmage Lions won the Dickinson County Baseball Tournament.

The players on the championship team were Glen Snider, first base; Gregg Noel, second base and pitcher; Keith Schwab, short stop and pitcher; Howard Engle, third base; Murl Garver, outfield; Dusty Hammond, second base and outfield; Bill Gibson, pitcher and outfield; Ricky Lake, outfield; Arlan Bebermeyer, outfield and infield; Danny Wuthnow, infield and outfield; Max Strunk, catcher; and little Kalen Bebermeyer, outfield.

The championship game at Rural Center was a high scoring affair with a lot of nervous ballplayers. I believe the score was 19-17 over Enterprise.

Another interesting note from this tournament...no parent brought a camera to take a picture of the championship team. Lyle Snider (Glen) was a very good and avid photographer and always had his camera with him, but the night of the championship, Lyle purposely left his camera at home, believing by bringing it, overconfidence might be shown and bring us bad luck. (It worked, Lyle.) We did finally get a picture. I believe Lyle or Dorothy asked some relatives who brought their camera to take a picture. Fun times, great memories.

With the taste of victory, there was no stopping us now. As a class of boys who were athletic and competitive, they turned their attention to basketball. In 1968, Verl Coup was asked if he would teach and coach the game of basketball to this group of athletes. As fifth graders, they knew the game of basketball but they didn't

***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***

*Continued from Page 2, Noel remembers....*



### **8th Grade Basketball Team, April 1972**

**Standing, L to R: Verl Coup, Don Shorman, Arlan Bebermeyer, Keith Schwab, Kelly Bledsoe, Murl Garver, Glen Snider, Howard Engle, Myron Lady. Kneeling: Bill Gibson, Gregg Noel, Dan Wuthnow, Rick Lake.**

know the “real” game of basketball. Verl taught the boys the skills and fundamentals of the game.

#### ***Breaking bad habits...***

There were a few ballplayers who were very good dribblers. Verl constantly emphasized to the team, it was much better and faster to pass the ball than trying to dribble all the time.

To break that habit, Verl had the boys play with a flat basketball. It was quite obvious what was going to happen when one of the boys began dribbling...PLUNK! To add insult to injury, if someone tried to dribble instead of passing, they were replaced by another player, and that player would sit out until another player broke the rule and dribbled the ball, then they would replace that player. Needless to say, the best dribblers on the team, sat out most of the time but the lesson on passing instead of dribbling was taken to heart. It helped the players be successful down the road.

We learned a lot about basketball and teamwork that year. To show off what we learned, there was a special evening basketball game scheduled. They were thinking, the fifth grade boys should play their dads, but the dads were still much bigger and better than the fifth grade boys. It was decided that it was going to be the fifth grade mothers versus the fifth grade boys. I will miss a few moms, but I do remember, Barbara Wuthnow, LaVerna Bebermeyer, Lucille Marsteller, Shirley Howard, and Gladys Alexander playing on the mothers’ team. I know I missed some moms, and I apologize for that.

The sixth grade boys were nervous playing in front of an evening crowd on the TGS basketball court for the first time. To put even more pressure on the boys, Verl said he had a bottle of pop waiting for each boy after the game, but only if we won.

It was a lot of fun, and we were impressed by how good our mothers were at playing ball. The moms didn’t exactly play by the rules...they would untie our basketball shoes and stand on our shoe strings so we couldn’t move, and the officials would score for the moms every once in awhile. Eventually the fifth grade boys would win and receive our bottle of pop.

Fun times, great memories!

### ***Did You Know?***

**By Kathy Marsteller Coup**

In a recent article in the Wichita Stamp Club newsletter, it talks about the history of the Talmage Post Office. In the last sentence, it states that the post office sits next door to the finest small town museum in Kansas.

Thank you, Jeff Lough!



**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:**  
talmagelibrary@gmail.com  
PO Box 746

Talmage, Kansas 67482

**Winter Hours:**

Mon., Wed., Friday

Saturday-Sunday

2-4 p.m.

Closed Tues. & Thursday

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.talmagekansas.com](http://www.talmagekansas.com)



***Around Town...***

**Library plans reach fruition...**

We are moved and now we are in need of more donations to come in from alumni or anyone interested in making a tax-deductible donation to make improvements to the Talmage School building. Some lighting and flooring are in need of repair.

Anyone interested in making a donation, should contact Shawni Sheets at 785/643-9126 or mail a donation to Talmage Public Library at PO Box 746, Talmage, Kansas 67482.

Winter library hours will be posted at a later date, but plans are to keep it open as much as possible for public use. Stop in now, while we work, to check out books and watch the progress.

Pat Bowell shared history about the Talmage UMC to celebrate the 100th anniversary.



A vintage tablecloth displayed at the community garage sale. The next community garage sale will be Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

NCKLS delivers new books in December, so visit the library today!

