



# Talmage Historical Society

## Museum & Library Newsletter

### In Memoriam

- Josephine Anguiano  
1/09/1939-2/03/2021
- Teresa Barton  
3/27/1955-1/06/2021
- Rev. Jim Fredrickson  
1/20/1939-12/14/2020
- Rita Gilbreath  
9/01/1942-11/22/2020
- John Henderson  
4/05/1956-12/19/2020
- Olaf Herrman  
12/08/1959-12/21/2020
- John Iseli  
2/09/1924-12/27/2020
- Francis Kneer  
1/31/1934-12/27/2020
- Martha Lady  
3/20/1927-11/17/2020
- Max Lake  
7/26/1932-12/14/2020
- Faith Landis  
5/20/1931-1/16/2021
- Mary Matteson  
11/07/1926-12/11/2020
- Robert Murnahan  
4/25/1923-1/04/2021
- Becky Davis Nielson  
12/11/1960-1/17/2021
- Freda Schaich  
5/05/1930-12/18/2020
- Edith Scripter  
9/19/1924-12/27/2020
- Larry Sims  
3/04/1942-11/15/2020
- Reva Smith  
9/17/1925-1/31/2021
- Jason Zook  
4/24/1924-11/19/2020

*Remember  
Donation Day  
March 26*

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## Talmage Hotel provided shelter

### By Verl Coup

About 1910 as the town continued to grow, there became a need for a hotel. Salesmen who had arrived on the train, needed a place to stay, before departing for the next town (Manchester). In 1912 Harley Watt built a hotel just south of the post office. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Borin were the first operators. Mrs. Borin (Vera) was Lena Benson's sister. Lena owned (Lena's) on the curve just west of Abilene, that is now Mr K's Farmhouse. In the late 1920's the hotel became a boarding house where teacher's (Esther Lowe and Mary Lexow) stayed as well as some students. My mother Opal (Fenn) Coup stayed in the room on the front on the south side. The room was just big enough for a single bed, dresser and one chair. She was a student at the Talmage High School. In



Talmage Hotel, south of the Millinery and Post Office on Main Street.

1937 Zera Davidson bought the building and turned it into a store. Mr. Davidson was blind but I swear to this day he could see as he seemed to know how much money you would hand him. After Mr. Davidson

died, the Clarence France's ran the store followed by Helen Langdon and the Read sisters. It was sold to the Talmage Co-op who used it for storage. In 1985 it was torn down and the land become part of the park.

## Talking History with Verl Coup...

We have been closed for about a year but have been open for appointments only. It looks like there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully we will be back to normal soon. This has been a great time for people to go through stuff that was in their attic or store room. We have received many items and are busy displaying them. If you are interested in viewing the museum just call, I will be happy to open for you. Don't forget Donate Day on March 26. Thanks for your support!



Verl Coup

## Help the Talmage Library & Event Center and Talmage Museum reach our goals by donating on March 26

Donate Dickinson County Day is a little different this year. Due to covid-19 the event is virtual, but local donors still have the option of using the drive through window, same as last year.

The Community Foundation of Dickinson County has \$100,000 available for a match. Whatever amount that you donate will be matched by CFDC up to \$5000 per organization.

Make sure you designate an organization such as the **Talmage Library & Event Center** and/or the **Talmage Museum** to receive your donation. The donation has to be received on March 26, 2021. You can donate by using the drive up window on Third Street in Abilene, donate virtually at [www.donatedickinson.com](http://www.donatedickinson.com) or send a check to the Talmage Library or the Talmage Museum. The check must be made out to the Community Foundation of Dickinson County, and they will be turned in that day.

What a wonderful way to support the library and the museum and double your donation at the same time.



## **CHECK OUT OUR NEW BOOKS AT TALMAGE LIBRARY & EVENT CENTER**

*By Shawni Britt Sheets*

**Every year, the library receives grant money from the State of Kansas for the purchase of books, and we receive a large number of bestsellers, which are delivered once or twice a year to add to our shelves.**

**These are books that will remain at the library, unlike the books delivered every other month by the North Central Regional Library System. Those books are picked up and replaced every other month with new books.**

**We recently received a delivery of both kinds of books, so call and make an appointment to check out some new books!**

**We hope to open this spring after a thorough cleaning.**

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TALMAGE, KS 67482  
talmagelibrary@gmail.com  
Or shawnisheets@gmail.com  
785/643-9126**

*Coming of age in Talmage, Kansas..*

## *At one time...Talmage had a boy scout troupe*

**By Kathy Marsteller Coup**

At one time, Talmage had a Boy Scout troop. Troop #248 was organized in February 1967.

Paul Alexander was Scoutmaster and Glen Gibson was the assistant. They met in the back of the bank, now the museum.

The members were: John Herman, Kevin Langdon, Karl Paxton, John Paxton, Mike Alexander, Rick Lake, Terry Lake, Kenny Constable, Lyndon Constable, Keith Schwab, Danny Howard, Murl Garver, Bill Gibson, Bruce Gibson, and Morey Rose.



**Troop #248: Left to Right, Morey Rose, Karl Paxton, John Paxton, Terry Lake, Dan Howard, Rick Lake, John Herman, Bruce Gibson, Kevin Langdon, and Lyndon Constable.**



**Troop #248 Scouts with their Troup Leaders: Jerome Herman, Carl Minick, Bill Lake, Marvin Langdon, and to the right of the flag, Glen Gibson. (If anyone can identify everyone in the photo, please e-mail your information or bring your information to the museum.)**

## ***The Bennett Family***



**The Bennett Family: Front Row, left to right, Lincoln, Mabel, Iva, and Helen; Back Row, left to right, Clarence, Emerson, and Virgil.**

## *Bennetts grew and prospered in Dickinson County*

*By Jennifer Smidt*

Guy and Florence Bennett and their seven children moved to Cheever Township in 1920. Guy was a successful real estate agent in Abilene and continued this vocation while farming.

Their children were Ruby, Iva, Mabel, Clarence, Emerson, Virgil and Lincoln. Another baby Golda, born between Iva and Mabel, lived only a year.

The story goes that while living in Abilene, Guy and Florence decided they'd better move their four ornery sons back to the farm to properly raise them. Florence and the children were responsible for running the farm in Guy's absence.

It's well known that all the children were smart, creative and mechanically minded especially Virgil who designed and built the first tractor driven post hole digger in the county. In fact, his father offered to send him to engineering school but he declined loving the outdoors and farm life best.

Clarence did attend Lincoln Flying School in Lincoln Nebraska.

Ruby married Harold Stone, Iva married Guy Prichard, Mabel married Carl Minick, Clarence married Etha Fouse, Emerson married Dorothy George, Virgil married Olive Norton and Lincoln married Velma Neaderhiser. There remain many Bennett offspring in the area today.