



# The Stage Line Quarterly

Spring 2018

Happy Spring!

Volume 4, Number 1

## In This Issue

- Silos: Project Update
- 2017 Miles Family Reunion a Success
- Artists of Miles Ranch Exhibit held at the Falls City Library & Arts Center
- Colonel Miles' Desk Restored!
- Rare Photographs Found
- Miles Ranch on TV: Featured on 10/11 Pure Nebraska!
- Current Needs
- Quarterly Quotes

Our mission is to preserve the history of the Miles Ranch and to create a legacy of sustainability for future generations.

## Silos: Project Update

In 2017 we were able to remove the trees that were growing too close to the silos. We also began the process of salvaging as many brick tiles as possible. We will continue this process this spring and summer. We will also continue cleaning and maintaining the area. If time and funding is available we will attempt to start repairing one of the silos.

The silos were the first of their type to be built in Richardson County and used to be a crucial component of the massive operation at the Miles Ranch. A total of three silos were built at the Ranch in the early 1900s, but only two remain standing. The two structures stand 50 feet tall and 25 feet in diameter. They can be seen all the way from Hwy 8.

If you wish to contribute to this important project, please send donations to F&M Bank payable to the Miles Ranch Foundation. F&M Bank's address is 1701 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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The history of the Miles Ranch is a wonderful heritage. We should do all we can, so it will not be forgotten.



*"Each morning sees some task begin,  
Each evening sees it close;  
Something attempted, something done,  
Has earned a night's repose."* From The Village Blacksmith, a Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 – 1882) poem apparently often recited by Colonel Stephen B. Miles

The Miles Ranch Foundation is a Nebraska non-profit corporation with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations should be made payable to the Miles Ranch Foundation and mailed to the following address:

F&M Bank  
1701 Stone Steet  
Falls City, NE 68355

## 2017 Miles Family Reunion a Success



Once again, Miles Family descendants from across the country held their family reunion at the Miles Ranch last summer. There were some family members visiting the Ranch for the first time. The group shared many stories and worked on updating the Miles Family Tree. They all enjoyed great meals catered by Cross Creek Catering and some great Miles Ranch wine. The next reunion will be held in the summer of 2019.

## Artists of Miles Ranch Exhibit held at the Falls City Library & Arts Center



Approximately 130 people attended the opening night of the Artists of Miles Ranch Exhibit on June 16, 2017 at the Falls City Library and Arts Center. The exhibit featured works by Mary, Elsie and Flora Belle Miles. Jonnie Einspahr, Great-Great-Granddaughter of Colonel Miles and Vice President of the Miles Ranch Foundation shared stories and information about each artist. Paulo Bruxellas, Executive Director of the Foundation, talked about the rich history of the Miles Ranch. The exhibit stayed open until August. According to Christina Wertenberger, art gallery curator, the exhibit was one of the most, if not the most successful ever held at the Falls City Library.

## Colonel Miles' Desk Restored!

The restoration of Colonel Miles' desk has been completed. The desk was donated by Steven Miles, great-great-grandson of the Colonel. The desk had to make the trip from Oregon back to Nebraska and arrived at the Miles Ranch June 13, 2017. It arrived in two large boxes. The desk dates back to 1868. The restoration was completed in consultation and following the instructions provided by the Gerald Ford Conservation Center in Omaha, Nebraska.





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## Rare Photographs Found

Christina Joy, great granddaughter of D. F. Harbaugh has shared about 100 rare photographs depicting life at the Miles Ranch. Mr. Harbaugh was a famous Old West detective and General Manager of the Miles Ranch from 1902 to 1914. Under his management, the Ranch's cattle often topped the market at the Kansas City Stockyards. The two ladies pictured were Maude and Clara Harbaugh. What a fantastic find! Thank you, Christina!

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## Miles Ranch on TV: Featured on 10/11 Pure Nebraska

This past October the Miles Ranch was featured on the 10/11 show called Pure Nebraska. If you missed it, you can still watch it by going to the following web address:

<http://www.1011now.com/content/news/The-Historic-Miles-Ranch-452499183.html>



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## Current Needs/Projects

- Archival grade boxes and containers
- Period appropriate picture frames to preserve and display historic photographs
- Help with general expenses and cost to maintain website, insurance, and legal status
- Collections Management software to track and catalog artifacts
- Development of web-based exhibit
- Visitor Center Project
- Silos Preservation Project

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## Quarterly Quotes

*"We all die. The goal isn't to live forever, the goal is to create something that will." Chuck Palahniuk, American novelist and journalist*

*"We have dreams of America- The Nation of opportunity, the land of promise. We work and move and struggle to realize our dreams. We Build, we rebuild. We succeed, we fail. We agree, we disagree. We change. We learn. We make the United States TOGETHER." Unknown*

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