

h e a d l i n e s



Interior (re)design

“Wow!” That word has been repeated by numerous people as they’ve walked into our museum. The difference is impressive. Instead of being met by a long narrow lobby, one finds a welcoming space that opens up into a more expansive gallery; “kind of Frank Lloyd Wright-esque!” one visitor said.

As our mercantile, featuring “local and locally grown” artisans and authors, continued to grow, our



Marty Larsen and Brian Skinner move an organ into the Kauffman Wing.

lobby space became increasingly tight and limiting. So last month, Linden Graber and Dan Haggerty of Graber Construction removed the block wall spanning from the restrooms to the archives. It’s opened the lobby to be spacious and inviting, and allowed us to double our mercantile space.

The interior space, formerly home to music instruments, quilts and handicrafts, is becoming our Faith Traditions Gallery.

This new gallery will share the faith traditions represented in the larger Freeman community. Many of those who immigrated here in the late 1800s did so in part because of their faith and their desire to worship in peace. Members of these congregations settled in close proximity on the wide open prairies. Faith was central to their lives and it needs to be central to the story we tell at HHM&A.

This gallery is taking shape. While we have an assortment of artifacts from many area congregations, we

invite those who have stories or photos from churches past and present to consider donating them to our efforts.

We’re excited to see this gallery and this entire space evolve; this re-design gives us flexibility and opens up new and exciting possibilities.



Dan Haggerty removes blocks from the wall to open up the space.

Heritage Hall Museum & Archives

PO Box 693 • 880 S Cedar St. • Freeman, SD 57029
(605) 925-7545 • info@heritagehallmuseum.com • www.heritagehallmuseum.com

The Director's Perspective

"I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is they must change if they are to get better."

—Georg C. Lichtenberg

I think we're getting better.

This year has been filled with some big changes at HHM&A. One of the most important happened last December when we were recognized as an independent non-profit corporation in the state of South Dakota.

By mid-May, we had signed a rental agreement with Freeman Academy for our buildings and grounds. We also applied for federal non-profit status. Unfortunately, the IRS is backlogged and we're still waiting.

We began the year by rearranging the exhibits in the Unruh-Tieszen Wing. We created the "Graber Service Station," and converted to LED lighting that reveals real colors and offers energy efficiency.

This summer, a grant from the Freeman Community Foundation allowed us to focus on our exterior. In my grant application, I wrote, "We want [our museum] to be a welcoming place. We want it to blend with the beauty of the Prairie Arboretum next door. We want it to give first-time visitors to Freeman, S.D., a positive impression. We want our community to feel good about their museum."

The facelift includes new paint, long-overdue rain gutters, and a metal sign hanging between pillars created from rocks from area fields.

Meanwhile, hundreds of hours were spent fixing, priming and painting the 1879 Deckert House. There is much more to do inside the home before it reopens to the public next summer as a prime example of German-Russian architecture.

We're also focusing on refreshing our Natural World Galley, thanks to a generous contribution from the Freeman Lions Club.

A major project this fall is the reimagined space in the front area of the museum. That allows us to focus on a pillar of this community – our faith traditions – and to expand our mercantile. With over 30 artisans and authors represented, our mercantile has a wonderful array of items that showcase the history, skills, and interests of this community. And we are thrilled to welcome Monica Hofer as our volunteer mercantile manager. Her experience in the retail world and her artistic flair and attention to detail will be vital to the growth and success of our mercantile — a win-win for our artisans and for our museum.

Big changes, yes. But, I do believe we're getting better!



Marnette D. (Ortman) Hofer
Executive Director/
Archivist



HHM&A programs return this summer

After a Covid-19 induced absence, programs have resumed at HHM&A. On Sunday, Sept. 19, we took an extended look at the historic Blizzard of 1888. That included a tour of the sites associated with the deaths of five East Freeman boys who died in the storm (pictured above). We also featured Lois Thieszen Preheim of Newton, Kan., who recently wrote "Trailing the Schoolchildren's Blizzard," That included a Saturday book-signing and Sunday evening interview.

On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 10, S.D. Humanities Scholar Phyllis Schrag shared the history of Francis Perkins, the first woman appointed to the U.S. Cabinet, serving as Secretary of Labor from 1933-1945.

On Saturday evening, Oct. 30, Dr. Nathan Bates, professor of German at University of South Dakota, offered a fascinating look at the history of German in this community and about his research of German language materials in our archives.

We're looking forward to scheduling additional programs in early 2022. We'll be sharing details in news releases, social media and emails to members.

Christmas is a-comin'

Freeman businesses are planning a "Hometown Christmas" event during the first week of December. We plan to participate with special holiday-themed activities at the museum and mercantile. Watch for more details in news stories and on social media.

Our Mission

is to preserve, educate and foster appreciation for the diverse natural and cultural history of the greater Freeman area, settled largely by Germans from Russia in the 1870s.

HERITAGE HALL
Museum
& ARCHIVES

PO Box 693 • 880 S Cedar St.
Freeman, SD 57029 • (605) 925-7545

HHM&A Board of Directors

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Marlan Kaufman, Mary Waltner,
Terry Waterman

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Terry Quam, curator
Brian Skinner, facilities manager
Tim L. Waltner, communication/
education coordinator
Monica Hofer, mercantile manager*

*VOLUNTEER

info@heritagehallmuseum.com • www.heritagehallmuseum.com

New space, leadership for mercantile

The major renovation of our front lobby area this fall opened a larger and more inviting space for guests. It also enabled us to dramatically expand our mercantile; in fact, that was part of our motivation. What began as a simple, single display two years ago has mushroomed in scope and scale.

We continue to add the works of local artisans to our offering.

As part of this expansion, we are pleased to welcome Monica Hofer as manager of our museum's mercantile. A Freeman community native, Monica brings the skills of both an artisan and a businesswoman to the museum. She

operated Grandma's Trunk - a quilting and craft store - in Freeman in the 1980s, is an experienced long-arm quilter, and earlier this year added her latest creations - repurposed linens from her home-based business Stitch'in Studio - to our mercantile inventory. She has now taken the lead on redesigning the mercantile.

We invite you to

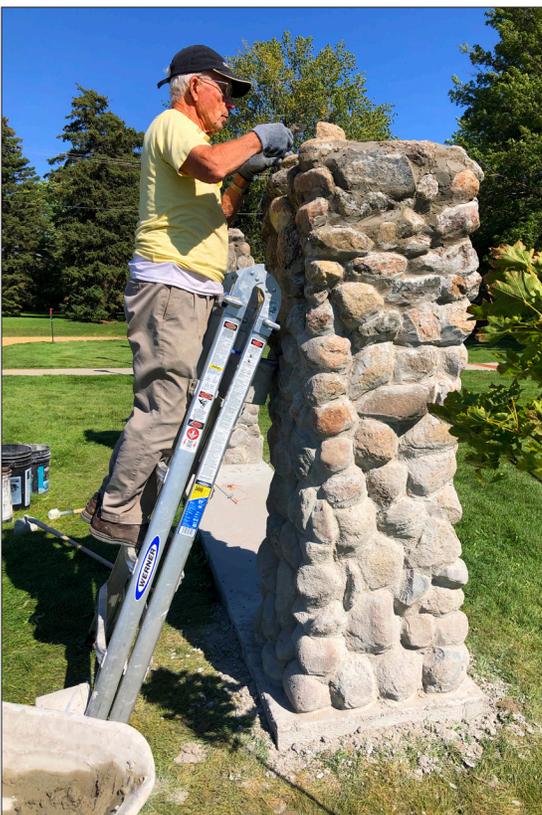
visit and see the refreshing interior design touch Monica has brought to our mercantile. We're looking forward to a busy holiday season as we feature her new arrangement that displays the wide array of items from local artisans ranging from stained glass to knitted items to note cards to calendars to books. We're open weekdays from noon to 4 and mornings and weekends by appointment. Call 605-925-7545 for more information.



Monica Hofer brings both her artistic touch and her business experience to her position as manager of our expanded mercantile.



New in the mercantile this fall are 2022 calendars including one featuring HHM&A. Check the insert to see much more of our new look and inventory.



Dr. Dennis Epp, a loyal museum booster, shared his talents doing masonry work in September. He used rocks to create pillars for a new sign that's part of our major exterior facelift. The project, funded in part by a grant from the Freeman Community Foundation, is expected to be complete this fall.



Volunteers Donovan Friesen, Teresa Dick and Connie Friesen have helped refresh the Deckert House exterior with primer and the historic colors in recent weeks.

The original colors of the 1879 Deckert House are believed to have been yellow and maroon.



The removal of the block wall in the lobby area of the museum in October has created a more spacious, welcoming space for our guests and enabled us to expand our mercantile.



Thank You

To Our 2021 Heritage Hall Museum & Archives Members

Your support enables us to continue developing our museum.

August-October 2021

Emerald

Marlan & Rosemary Kaufman, Canistota

Platinum

Owen & Allyson Hofer, Huntsville, Ala.

Ron & Lois Preheim, Newton, Kan.
S.D. Chislic Festival, Freeman
Ellie Unruh, Bluffton, Ohio

Gold

Dawn Stahl, Freeman
Larry Tschetter, Freeman

Silver

Graber Construction - Linden & Judy Graber, Marion

William and Sally Little, Mililani, Hawaii

Dorothy Preheim, Freeman

Bronze

Lonna Beshai, Sioux Falls
Ken & Deanna Kehn, Benson, Ariz.
Cheryl Koch, Sioux Falls
Salem Mennonite Church, Freeman

Conductor

Lee & Marilyn Brockmueller, Freeman
John Buhr, Newtown, Penn.
Jeanne Carter, Sioux Falls
Michael Epp, Wichita, Kan.
Rodney Hofer, Lawrence, Kan.
Tri-State Old Iron Association, Yankton
Vision Care Associates, Freeman

Shopkeeper

Yvonne Mast, Freeman
Rozella Pearson, Rochester, Minn.

Homesteader

Roy Doerksen, Sioux Falls
Larry & Barb Olesen, Hurley

We have also received several honor and memorial gifts in recent months.

Gifts in Memory/Honor of:

Vivian Gering by Tim L. & Mary Waltner
Ruby Miller Hale by Lynn Rieskamp

Martin & Caroline (Ganske) Hafner and Heinrich & Jacobina (Dubs) Hafner by Marilyn (Hafner) Hanson

Merlin Hofer by Vernon & Norma Hofer

Merlin Hofer by Ellen Ortman
Darlas Lehmann by Larry & Barb Olesen

Arlen Miller by Larry & Barb Olesen

Mary Waltner (H) by AnnaMarie Cornett

Full listing of 2021 members in the accompanying insert.

											
HOMESTEADER \$30	SHOPKEEPER \$50	CONDUCTOR \$100	BRONZE \$250	SILVER \$500	GOLD \$750	PLATINUM \$1,000	EMERALD \$5,000	RUBY \$10,000	SAPPHIRE \$25,000	DIAMOND \$50,000	FOUNDER \$75,000+

All members receive annual admission to the museum and archives, our quarterly newsletter and special pricing for museum events.
Shopkeepers: 2 annual patron passes; Conductors: 4 annual patron passes; Bronze: 6 annual patron passes;
Silver & above: Additional passes and personal tours for six guests upon request. Recognition for sponsoring businesses.

*"A generation which ignores history has no past and no future."
Robert Heinlein*

We value your ongoing support through your memberships, donations and volunteer time. Your contributions enable us to continue and to expand our mission of sharing our community's history.

2022 Heritage Hall Museum & Archives Membership Form

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Total: \$ _____

Newsletter Preference: Paper edition Digital edition Both Digital/Paper editions

HHM&A, Box 693, Freeman, SD 57029 • 605-925-7545 • info@heritagehallmuseum.com

The logo for Heritage Hall Museum & Archives features the words "HERITAGE HALL" in a bold, black, serif font, arched over the word "Museum" in a red, cursive script font. Below this, the words "& ARCHIVES" are written in a black, serif font.

November 2, 2021

Season's Greetings!

Thank you for your continued support of HHM&A and for being essential partners in our mission to preserve, educate and foster appreciation for the diverse natural and cultural history of this community.

2021 brought many changes to our museum, both inside and outside, and in our day-to-day operations. As a brand new independent non-profit corporation in the state of South Dakota, we are working hard to move forward with boldness and a new vision.

With sincere gratitude, we acknowledge Freeman Junior College and the Freeman Historical Society for their efforts to preserve the history of this community and for their vision to create Heritage Hall Museum back in 1975. It is not often that a new organization has the benefit of over 100 years of history behind it and we are humbled by the efforts of all those who have gone before us.

We are working hard to utilize the resources we have been given, as we focus on better presentation and work to tell the incredible story of the perseverance and determination of those who have called this community their home.

Our efforts have been noted in a number of local and regional publications and, despite Covid, this year we've seen an almost 40% increase in summer visitors over our best numbers of years past. We have an amazing collection, and the "best kept secret of southeastern South Dakota" is getting out!

With your support, we have accomplished so much! And, we are just getting started.

We believe that our museum and archives can be an even stronger and more vital and meaningful resource for the community around us, as well as those who travel from afar. We continue to explore new ways to encourage people of all ages to experience and learn from our impressive collection in creative and exciting ways.

But it takes time and resources to be responsible stewards of what we are entrusted. Your donation to your museum is a powerful and essential way to make an impact that will last for generations and continue the legacy of those who came before us.

Join fellow change-makers in supporting HHM&A as we move forward with our mission, and thank you again for joining us in this exciting journey!

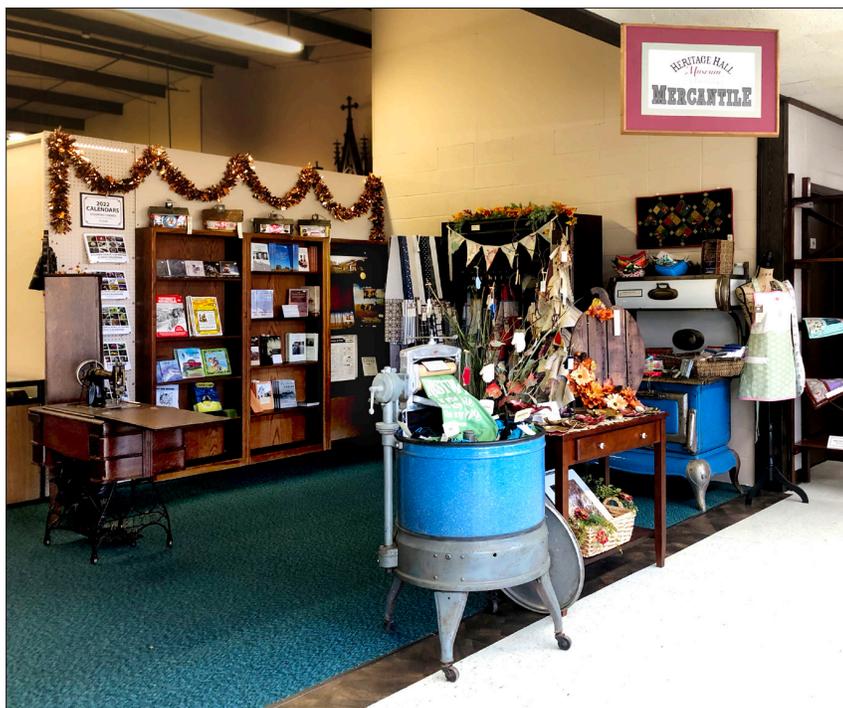
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marnette D. Hofer".

Marnette D. Hofer, Executive Director & Archivist

We feature the work of local artisans and authors with ties to our community.

- Aprons
- Art Prints
- Birdhouses
- Bison Teeth
- Books
- Bowl Cozies
- Calendars
- Christmas Tree Decorations
- Coin Purses
- Décor for the Home
- Decorative Leaf Bowls
- Dish Towels
- Freeman in Print Boxed Set
- Games
- Homemade Soap
- Hanging Kitchen Towels
- Kitchen Items - Scrubbies, Trivets, Potholder/Mitts, Etc.
- Knitted Items - Baby Blankets, Hats, Mittens, Scarves
- Neck Scarf Towels
- Notecards
- Postcards
- Pottery
- Quilted Coasters
- Quilted Placemats
- Rocks/Gems/Pottery Shards
- Scarves
- Stained Glass
- T-Shirts - Museum, Freeman, Chislic Festival, Schmeckfest
- Vintage Linen Aprons, Baby Bonnets, Banners, Hanger Covers, Shoulder Bags
- Vintage Tractor Keychains
- Wallhangings
- Willow Baskets & Trivets



HERITAGE HALL *Museum* & ARCHIVES **MERCANTILE**

880 S. Cedar Street - Freeman, S.D.

Open Monday-Friday Noon.-4 p.m.
& by appointment - (October-April)

Phone 605-925-7545

We invite you to stop and see our expanding inventory of unique handcrafted items and selection of books for sale.

We welcome orders by phone and email for items listed by price on this sheet, including books, calendars, notecards, T-shirts etc. We will also work with you to order other "one-of-a-kind" creations from local artisans.

For more information or to order, call 605-925-7545 or email us: info@heritagehallmuseum.com

www.heritagehallmuseum.com



Visit our new, expanded and rearranged mercantile including new items. If you're looking for unique, locally made gifts, this is the place to visit. We're open weekdays from noon to 4 p.m. and by appointment.



NOTECARDS/POSTCARDS

Freeman Vintage Postcards

Reproductions - 10-card set\$10

HHMA Notecards - 8-card set\$16

Notecards - Photography by Polly Waltner

- Farm 8-card set\$16
- Flowers 3-card set.....\$6
- Four Seasons 4-card set\$8
- Fruit & Flowers 4-card set\$8
- Livestock 6-card set.....\$12
- Livestock 6-card set.....\$12
- Native Flowers 4-card set.....\$8
- Pasque 8-card set\$16
- Produce 7-card set.....\$14



BOOKS

- Cat and Mouse** by Yvonne Mast\$5
- Freeman In Print** - (100-Year History recorded by the Freeman Courier) Box Set of 13 issues \$15
- Hutterites in North America** by Rod Janzen..... \$50
- Hutterites in Romania** by Rodney Hofer \$15
- If A Farmer Gets A Pickup** by Lee Friesen \$13
- Kauffman: 3 Merchants of Integrity** by James Kauffman \$20
- Lester Light** by Yvonne Mast\$8
- Marty's Counting Adventure** by Elma Maendel.. \$10
- Old Time Agriculture in the Ads** by Robert F. Karolevitz \$10
- If A Farmer Gets A Pickup** by Lee Friesen..... \$13
- Pacifists in Chains** by Duane Stoltzfus \$35
- Paul Tschetter** by Rod Janzen \$35
- Prehistories: Mososaur** by Becky Barnes.....\$5
- The Drama of a Rural Communities Life Cycle** by S. Roy Kaufman \$29
- The Medicine Quilt** by Margaret Doom.....\$18
- The Natural World** by T. Mangelsen \$25
- The Plains Across Unabridged** (hardcover) by John D. Unruh Jr. \$75
- The Plains Across Unabridged** (softcover) by John D. Unruh Jr. \$60
- The Prairie People** by Rod Janzen \$35
- The Times and Life of Smokey Joe Mendel** by Tim L. Waltner\$8
- Trailing the Schoolchildren's Blizzard** by Lois Thieszen Preheim..... \$16
- Yesterday's Motorcycles** by Robert F. Karolevitz \$25

CD/DVDs

- Darkness in the Garden** - Music CD/DVD.\$12
- Jesus the Man, the Christ** - Music CD\$12
- Nimbus Sphere, Decree** - Music CD\$10
- The Family Vines** - Music CD\$10
- Three Groups One Story** - DVD/BluRay ...\$25

HHM&A T-shirts

Blue/Green/GreyS-L \$20; XL-XXXL \$22

2022 Calendars

- Photography by Tim L. Waltner
- Six Themes** - Each \$16
- A Closer Look At Our Heritage
- Earth & Sky
- Natural Line and Form
- Petals and Wings
- The Wonderful World of Critters
- Wings, Petals and Clouds

Thank You

To Our 2021 Heritage Hall Museum & Archives Members

Your support has enabled us to make great strides in developing our museum as we pursue our mission of preserving and promoting the rich heritage and history of our community.



Emerald Level
Janice Dunlap, Phoenix, Ariz.
Marlan & Rosemary Kaufman,
Canistota



Platinum Level
James Adrian, Marion
Complete Media - Matt Luke, Sioux Falls
Dennis Epp, Freeman
Terry & Anne Eyler, Elkhorn, Neb.
Freeman Lion Club, Freeman
Cal & Linda Graber, Hurley
Viki Graber, Goshen, Ind.
Rachael Grant, Los Angeles, Calif.
Robert & Lois Haar, Yankton
Owen & Allyson Hofer, Huntsville, Ala.
Paul & Priscilla Hofer, Freeman
Steve & Janie Hofer, Energy, Texas
Wyona Hofer, Freeman
MAX - Carlos Hofer, Freeman
Merchants State Bank, Freeman
Ron & Lois Preheim, Newton, Kan.
Donald C. Schenk, Sioux City, Iowa
Orpha Schrag, Nashville, Tenn.
S.D. Chislic Festival, Freeman
Ellie Unruh, Bluffton, Ohio



Gold Level
Cheryl Koch, Sioux Falls
Dawn Stahl, Freeman



Silver Level
Kevin Albrecht, Marion
Anonymous
Bethany Mennonite Church, Freeman
CorTrust Bank, Freeman
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Freeman Courier/Waltner Media -
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Rachel Graber, Parker
Norman & Darlene Hofer, Freeman
Vernon J. & Norma Hofer, Freeman
Hutterite Centennial Committee,
Freeman
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Dorothy Preheim, Freeman
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Duane & LaVonne Schrag, Freeman
DJ & Karen Sims, Maize, Kan.

Larry & Edie Tschetter, Freeman
Jorgiann Waltner, Robbinsdale,
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Jim & Teresa Dick, Marion
Donovan & Sherryl Friesen, Freeman
Marlyn & Maureen Friesen, Freeman
Marian Gering, Freeman
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Graber, Marion
Christine Graber, St. Louis, Mo.
Joe L. Graber, Augusta, Kan.
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Elmer & Judy Gross, Freeman
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Keith Hofer & Joann Smith, Marion
Kerry & Lori Hofer, Freeman
Lynell & Pauline Hofer, Freeman
Merlin & Sylvia Hofer, Freeman
Stewart & Chantel Hofer, Bridgewater
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Bill & Roberta Morfeld, Clayton, Calif.
Leron & Carol Peters, Omaha, Neb.
Valley Electric - Ted Pidde, Freeman
Laurel & Twila Preheim, Omaha, Neb.
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Freeman
Leroy & Winifred Saner, Elkhart, Ind.
Winona Senner, Saskatoon,
Saskatchewan
Loren & Carolyn Tschetter, Freeman
Ivan & Betty Waltner, Freeman
Keith & Sharon Waltner, Parker
Kevin & Amy Waltner, Hurley
Russell & MarJean Waltner, Freeman
Tim L. & Mary Waltner, Freeman
Salem Mennonite Church, Freeman



Conductor Level
Clinton & Darlene Bauer,
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Clellan & Joanne Becker, Marion
Lee & Marilyn Brockmueller,
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John & Jeri Butkus, Freeman
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Dennis Delzer, Richardson, Texas
Michael Epp, Wichita, Kan.
Everence - Dan & Heather Haggerty,
Freeman
Steve & Charlene Friesen, Freeman

Phil & Judy Glanzer, Sioux Falls
Golden West Telecommunications,
Freeman
Charles & Connie Graber, Salem, Ore.
Cordell & Clara Graber, Freeman
Darryll & Linda Graber, Renton,
Wash.
LaVerne & Janice Graber, Freeman
Lerace Graber, Freeman
Great Western Bank, Freeman
Jake Jr. & Irene Gross, Freeman
Perry Gross, Huntley, IL
Kathy Hacking, Sioux Falls
Harriet Haggett, Wickenburg, Ariz.
Darrel & Renee Hartman, Freeman
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Rodney Hofer, Lawrence, Kan.
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Vanessa Hofer & Hans Weaver,
Lancaster, Pa.
Vernon P. & Twyla Hofer, Freeman
Lloyd Huber, Sioux Falls
Jamboree Foods - Bob & Karen Piede,
Freeman
Rod Janzen, Fresno, Calif.
Larry & Lois Kaufman, Parker
Maynard Kaufman, Bangor, Mich.
Paul E. Kautz, Princeton, Ill.
Sharon Kleinsasser, Freeman
Cheryl Lehmann, Sioux Falls
Darlal & Donna Lehmann, Freeman
Yvonne Mast, Freeman
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Ellen Ortman, Marion
Marlo & Mavis Ortman, Marion
Lyle & Lois Preheim, Freeman
Dennis & Shirley Ries, Freeman
Lynn Rieskamp, Cincinnati, Ohio
Roth Law Offices/Realty - Glenn
Roth, Freeman
Saarie Auto Body - Blaine & Penny
Saarie, Freeman
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Gayle & Joyce Stalheim, Painesville,
Ohio
State Farm Insurance - Mark Kasten,
Freeman
Tri-State Old Iron Association,
Yankton
Gary & Jen Tschetter, Freeman
Neil & Peggy Tschetter, Rapid City
James & Sharla Unruh Marion
Vision Care Associates, Freeman
Derrold & Peggy Waltner, Freeman

Loren & Carolyn Waltner, Freeman
Ruby Waltner, Freeman
Vintage Vault - Dawn Walz, Freeman
Margaret Wipf, Salem, Ore.
Jo Wohlenberg, Yankton



Shopkeeper Level
Palmer & Ardys Becker,
Waterloo, Ontario
Yvonne & Jerome Bentz, Platte
Evelyn Blum, Aberdeen
Broders Trucking - Randy Broders,
Freeman
AnnaMarie Cornett, Georgetown,
Kent.
Sidney & Randy Garry, Dolton
Harris Haar, Wagner
Marilyn Hanson, Huron
Todd & Marnette Hofer, Dolton
Hutterthal Mennonite Church,
Freeman
Steve & Jan Graber Johnson, Goshen,
Ind.
S. Roy Kaufman, Freeman
John D. Kautz, Tucson, Ariz.
Cathy Neuharth, Fairmont, Minn.
Ann Waltner O'Donnell, Yellow
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Orville & Janelle Ortman, Freeman
Will & Sherilyn Ortman, Marion
Rozella Pearson, Rochester, Minn.
Brett & Kelsey Pidde, Freeman
Alan Ries, Freeman
Truman & Beverly Schwartz, St. Paul,
Minn.
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John & Alice Suderman, North
Newton, Kan.
Heritage Pharmacy - Barry and Lori
Uecker, Freeman
Maynard & Barb Yoder, Freeman



Homesteader Level
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Roy Doerksen, Sioux Falls
Gary Jerke, Tripp
Myron & Edna Koerner, Freeman
Dee Millar, Freeman
Crystal Gering Nelson, Viborg
Paul & Charity Ortman, Marion
Terry Quam, Menno
Leann Schulz-Thomas, Marion
Lynn Sommer, New Holland, Pa.

We Encourage You To Renew Your Membership For 2022

You'll find a clip-out coupon on page 3 of the newsletter and a convenient return envelope included with this mailing. Please know that regardless of the level you choose to be a member, we appreciate your gift.



HOMESTEADER
\$30

SHOPKEEPER
\$50

CONDUCTOR
\$100

BRONZE
\$250

SILVER
\$500

GOLD
\$750

PLATINUM
\$1,000

EMERALD
\$5,000

RUBY
\$10,000

SAPPHIRE
\$25,000

DIAMOND
\$50,000

FOUNDER
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