

Woman gets ring back after 41 years

By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News
A class ring lost 41 years ago has been returned to a Goodland woman.

Annette (Clark) Knitig, 902 W. 15th, said she only had her class ring for nine months before her steady boyfriend lost it. At that time it was common for a couple to exchange class rings and wear them if they were going steady, she said. The girls wrapped tape around the back so the boy's larger ring would fit their finger and the boys wore the girl's ring on their little finger or on a chain.



Knitig

Daughter Trish Langley, Grainfield, thought Knitig and her steady were visiting a cousin in Denver when the ring was lost.

Knitig did not marry that boyfriend but did marry a classmate, Bill Knitig.

Recently a classmate of Knitig, Avis (Elfman) Alcorn, called Knitig's mother, Betty Clark, to get her phone number as Knitig just has a cell phone. She and Diann (Schlepp) Ross had seen a class ring on sale on the Internet auction site eBay on the Internet and thought it was Knitig's. The ring was from Sherman County Community High School with the initials AC and '67 on it.

Nancy Solis from Las Vegas said she put the ring on eBay to sell. Solis said her father worked in Denver when Interstate 70 was being built,

tearing down houses. He found the ring in a window well in one of the houses being torn down. He threw the stuff he found in a box.

The box went to Texas with Solis' father. He gave her the ring and the box was stolen.

When Knitig first talked to Solis, she said, she was skeptical that the ring was hers. Solis thought the '67 on the ring meant 1867, not 1967. Knitig said she told her Goodland didn't exist in 1867. Knitig said she sent proof that she was who she was and not running a scam.

"I believe you," Solis finally said.

The Nevada woman said she had been scammed before on items she tried to auction on eBay. Solis said she put a hold on the ring so it didn't sell to anyone else and sent it to Knitig.

Knitig had placed a bid on eBay for the ring of \$41, so she sent Solis that amount.

"It was a dollar a year for storage," Knitig said.

Knitig's parents had paid for the ring in 1967. At that time her parents paid around \$20, she said, adding that she thinks the ring has done more traveling than she has.

"When I got the ring, I could read the initials without glasses," she said. "Now I can't read them."

She said she had been thinking about the ring for a while. About six months ago, she went to a discount store and tried to order a replacement. The ring that came it wasn't at all like her original, she said. She said she told the clerk that she had gotten her ring back, and the woman told her to bring it out and show her.

"Sometimes things happen that make you feel good," said Knitig. "Anything is possible."



Annette Knitig's class ring on top of the "Buckeroo" of 1964, year book for Sherman County Community High School. Knitig's ring disappeared 41 years ago until classmates of hers saw it advertised for sale on eBay. The yearbook is open to the picture of Knitig then Clark and her two sisters.

Photos by Tom Betz and Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Most of horses doing better, moved to pasture

Sheriff Kevin Butts told the commissioners that most of the 10 horses they took to the Prairieland Animal Clinic have been moved to a pasture, and are doing better.

He said people have called the clinic and contributed feed and money to help care for the horses. He said the owners, Tim and Shaunna Armknecht, were in court last Tuesday, charged with 14 counts of animal cruelty and four counts for not properly disposing of the four dead horses.

"We are getting lots of help," Butts said, "and have calls from around the state from people asking what they can do to help and to know what we are going to do with the horses."

In other business, the commissioners:

• Heard that the sally port door at

the jail has been fixed. Sheriff Butts said repairmen from Overhead Door had found something out of adjustment. He told the commissioners he and his deputies found all the vent fan motors were frozen. They will be replacing them.

• Decided to clarify the county policy about work-related injuries. The commissioners were in closed session for about 20 minutes to discuss medical issues dealing with injuries to a county employee with a representative from the Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative in Topeka, which handles the workers' compensation coverage.

The commissioners had been asked to consider designating a doctor to handle all injury cases. After talking to the insurance representative, the commissioners said they would not designate a doctor, but

would make it clear that any county employee who is injured on the job must report to their supervisor.

"After this, we need to make it policy that no one can get medical treatment without notification," Commissioner Kevin Rasure said. "Designating a doctor doesn't always solve the problem if they go out on their own and get medical treatment."

He said the problem is if an employee goes to their doctor, and then comes back months later and makes a report, it will not be covered by the workers compensation insurance.

• Heard that a Household Hazardous Waste collection is set for 7-11 a.m. on Saturday, April 1.

• Heard an update on the radio

repeater. Rasure said the best idea is to get a new repeater and put it on the city water tower. If there are issues later, he said, the commissioners can move the radio.

• Talked about the electrical service for the speedway. Rasure said he will ask the city to provide a bid for putting in a new service on the north side of the pit area.

The next commission meeting will be 8 a.m. on Friday, March 31 in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

Police arrest two men for Army desertion

Police looking for the man who tried to rob the Comfort Inn on Sunday morning got a tip Monday that a man fitting the description was staying at the Economy 9 Motel.

When officers went to check the room, no one was there, but as the they drove up Commerce Road, they spotted two men walking in front of Howard Johnson Hotel.

Neither was the robber, apparently, but it turned out both were wanted for desertion from the Army.

Chief Ray Smee said Richard K Love, 21, and James M. Meson, 24, were stopped and questioned about 5:30 p.m. Love came close to fitting the description of the would-be robber, but did not have a tattoo behind his left ear. He was short, had short cropped black hair and a goatee, Smee said, but the tattoo Love had was on his neck and not behind the ear as the motel clerk had described.

Tuesday morning, Smee said, police were called by Steve Raymer, activity director and vice principal at Goodland High School to say a student had been expelled. He said the boy had made some threats and thrown a bottle.

Smee said the boy, 17, was arrested at Pizza Hut on charges of criminal threat and battery. He said the student was taken to the Sherman County Bastille and the sheriff's department took him to the juvenile detention center in WaKeeney.


He was expected to be in court Thursday afternoon.

corrections

A news item in the "Brewster News" in the Friday, March 10, edition of *The Goodland Star-News* said Betty Wolfe has a new great-granddaughter. The grandparents' names and the girls height were incorrect. Micki and Tim Goossen are the grandparents, and Connie and Joe Nicks from Kenai, Ala., are the parents. Giaseena Lauree weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 1/8 inches long, not 10 1/8. These were typographical errors.

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