

Madison County Remembers...

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Happy New Year Fellow Genealogists;

The holiday season has gone by again...it seems to come more quickly every passing year. Most people have had their Thanksgiving dinners, opened their Christmas presents, celebrated New Year's Eve, and watched football games on New Years Day. I often wonder how my ancestors spent their holidays. Were they thankful for their blessings at Thanksgiving or did they have a feeling of worry about where the next meal was coming from and who was taking care of the animals if they were ill? Did they tear the wrappings off the Christmas presents or were there presents? Did they go to church in the morning and give praise to God for the birth of his Son and then get to enjoy their friends and fellow churchgoers in a meal, or did they not take time to rejoice in the Lord? Of course, there were no college football bowl games to entertain them but, maybe, they did get out and challenge others to a shooting match or a rousing game of cards? Hopefully these holidays of the past and those of last week were shared with family and friends.

The Christmas season is a special time for remembering those who are no longer among the living, but who are with us in our hearts and memories. The New Year signifies a new start for many. It may be a new diet, a new life without a loved one, or a new resolution. I have made a resolution again this year (last years' did not get fulfilled). I resolve NOT to make resolutions, but to take life one day at a time and do the very best I can each day. If it doesn't get done, too bad...that is what tomorrow is for.

The museum was decorated so beautifully this year. I hope that some of you got a chance to come in and see it. The members of the historical society were invited to bring in some special thing that had special significance to them to put on display in the LaBarre Gallery. They were a wide variety of items from Nativity crèches to Santas, from toys to snowmen. It reminded me of the wide diversity of people.

January 14th will be the grand opening of the Antelope County display in the LaBarre Gallery. As some of my relatives still live in Antelope County, I am interested in what will be displayed. (Maybe I can learn some more family tidbits.) One of our own, Lowell Kimble, will be presenting the Sunday Series program on January 21st on antique cars. Lowell has two of his cars on display in the main gallery now. One is a 1903 Cadillac and the other a 1902 Crestmobile. Both have been getting a lot of attention by museum visitors. Maybe one of our ancestors drove one of these—or worked in a factory assembling them – or more than likely worked in a service station and pumped gas into them. January 27th & 28th are the proposed dates for the grand opening of the Children's Discovery Zone at the museum. There has been lots of activity associated with this room. There has been carpentry, painting, electrical wiring, railroad building, loud bangs, and strange smells coming from that room when the different workforce is there. We are anxious for the Zone to be completed for the younger children to enjoy. This will be geared for ages 2 – 11. Bring in your children and grandchildren to experience this awesome room.

The Norfolk Daily Newspaper negatives are being scanned weekly. A volunteer has been in every Friday afternoon and scanning at least 15 negatives into the computer every week. She has also done a couple of stories for the Museum's newsletter based on some negatives that piqued her interest. The obituary cards are getting copied, cut, and filed. There are so very many to do though.

Happy researching and come in and see me some time.

Karen Rogat, President

November minutes for the Madison County Genealogical Society

12 members attended the November 20, 2006 meeting. The meeting was called to order by Pres., Karen Rogat. Sec. read minutes of the last meeting. The treasurer's report was given. Karen read an e-mail she had received pertaining to a 1995 revised edition of a "Genealogist's Address Book". We decided we didn't need the book. She also read several queries she had received. She had found an e-mail from a son of Harry Machmiller who was inquiring about family believed to have been buried in St. Paul's cemetery.

Karen showed the obituary cards that need to be cut and filed. Many have been done, but a lot still remain.

Marg Fuhrman invited everyone to the Madison County Museum in Madison on Dec. 3-4 as they have Christmas set up all over.

Karen reminded everyone of the open house at the Elkhorn Valley Museum on Dec. 17, from 1-4 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on January 16, 2007, and will be our annual Christmas party. We will be having an ethnic potluck supper in the museum meeting room, beginning at 6 p.m. with Take-Away Bingo to be played afterward.

Refreshments were served by Sharon Thompson.

A very interesting program was given by one of our members, Phyllis McCain who talked about the Amish colony she had visited this past summer. She told about many of their customs and had lots of pictures and brochures to share.

Patty Eucker, Secretary

A Country Paper's Mix

One of the small papers published an item lately which was a weird mixup of an account of a wedding of an auction notice. The most interesting part of the item follows:

William Smith, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Smith, and Miss Lucy Anderson were disposed of at public auction at my farm, one mile east, in the presence of seventy-five guests, including two mules and twelve head of cattle.

"The Rev. Mr. Jackson tied the nuptial knot for the parties, averaging 1,250 pounds on hoof. The beautiful home of the bride was decorated with one sulky rake, one feed-

grinder and two sets of work harness nearly new, and just before the ceremony was pronounced, Mendel & San-wedding march was rendered by one milch cow, five years old, one Jersey cow and one sheep, who carrying a bunch of bride's roses in her hand was very beautiful. She wore one light spring wagon, two crates of apples, three racks of hay one grind-with about one hundred bushels of spuds. The bridal couple left yesterday of 'musseline of sole' trimmed terday on an extended trip.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, January 6, 1927, page 7.

Donating Personal Papers By Christine Phelps

I work for a state library, which is the keeper of our state's history. If people have personal papers that they don't know what to do with, or don't have a family member who wants them, consider donating them to the state library. These papers could help future genealogists.

Upcoming Events:**5-10 March 2007, Galesburg, Illinois**

Genealogy Computing Week Conference

14 April 2007, St. Charles, Missouri

All-day computer workshop

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April 13-14, 2007 - Oconomowoc, WI -Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Gene-a-
Rama**April 21, 2007** - Boston, MA - New England
Historic Genealogical Society**October 4-6, 2007** - Des Moines, IA - Iowa
Genealogical Society Annual Fall ConferenceGenDisasters.com chronicles the events that
touched our ancestors' lives-- train wrecks, fires, floods, tornadoes, hurri-
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Making a Memory Book

By Mary Jo Bailey

When my dad died last week I asked my kids
to begin putting together a list of things they
remember about their grandparents. When
we get it all collected, I plan to put together
a book with pages for each person that lists
the memory and the person who contributed
it.I will make copies for each of my kids and
grandkids. I may add some pictures, too.
That way, the names will have a personality
and future genealogists will have some
"fodder to chew on!"**Evolution of a Country Newspaper**

January 1927 will be the fifty-third anniversary of the first newspaper published in Madison county. It was on that foundation that the Star-Mail has grown in continuous line to the present time. At a time when Madison county was very new and sparsely settled T. M. Blakely began the publication of the Madison County Review at the place that later became the city of Madison. Different editors helped to keep it going till it passed to other ownership and in December 1878 its name changed to Madison Chronicle. The Chronicle was published in Madison until 1921 when it was combined with the Star-Mail by Conley and Silletto under the name of the Star-Mail

and Chronicle Combined.

Other newspaper attempts were made at different times. A small cyclone smeared the Chronicle office all over the surrounding territory in 1881 and the outlook was dark, but it lived. Editors and publishers changed but the ancestor of the Star-Mail lives on and on.

In 1889 J. B. Donovan appeared and started the Madison Reporter to fill what printers called a long felt want. He soon found that it wanted something itself and that was a place to earn its bread and it was moved to Newman Grove. Then in 1893 Donovan & Wright started a new paper and named it The Star. In 1902 Senator Allen started the Madison Mail. Of course there

was but one result and that was that three papers could not live where only one could make a grub stake. Allen withdrew and Donovan united the Star-Mail and gave it the name of the Star and Mail. All this time the Chronicle was published. The two papers went on till 1921 when the progressive people of Madison tiring of a continued warfare and supporting two papers by giving the publishers credit for something to live on and making it compulsory to buy advertising space, by a great effort succeeded in having the papers united as had become the usual custom in other towns.

Thus it seems that the Star-Mail is the direct descendent of the first Madison county paper and some of the old equipment and files may still be found packed away in corners of the Star-Mail quarters.

It takes years to start and bring to a successful maturity any newspaper, whether in the country or city. It may be strengthened by uniting as the Star and Mail did and later by uniting with the Chronicle that had been remained from the Review during the seventies. It may have gained by accretion from other undertakings that failed but the failures were only tilling the soil for the more worth while newspaper.

A newspaper grows like a tree. It starts small and if it escapes the dangers that lie in wait for it after many years buffeting the storms that it must pass through, it become a more or less strong tree.

A somewhat irreverent story was once told of a boy who was seeking to widen his information by asking his father questions about the power of God. His questions were searching and father was troubled and inclined to seek safety by evasion. The boy wanted his father to substantiate reports he had heard that God could do anything and make anything. The father assured his son that he had been correctly informed and that nothing was impossible to God. Can God make a two year old steer, father. Certainly my son he can. But father, could he make it in a minute. The answer like the first was an affirmative. But father, the boy persisted would the steer be two years old.

That is the idea people sometimes get

about newspapers. They see a paper grow and grow but it takes years to plant its roots firmly and even then some storm may uproot it and destroy it. But they think if a tree has taken forty years to grow they can start a twig and make it overshadow the forty year old tree in one year. But would it be forty years old?

Fifty years ago a country newspaper could start with little effort and little equipment. The Star-Mail forbears was meagerly equipped. Soon after postal laws did not permit newspapers to be admitted to the mails till they showed a bona fide circulation of subscribers who had paid for the paper themselves. State laws defined a legal newspaper as one having 200 legitimate subscribers and only after it had been published 52 weeks. Nebraska laws now make it mandatory that before a newspaper can become a legal paper and publish official or legal notices it would have 300 bona fide paid up subscribers and have been published 52 weeks.

The U. S. Postal laws bear harder on newspapers at each time congress tampers with them. Since the last change four cents postage is exacted on a ten page Star-Mail and on a 16 page, eight cents. The same enclosure will go to England with a two cent stamp, the former rate holding good on international mails.

The evolution of the Star-Mail and its advancement has not been checked. It is stronger and never had a better year than the year 1926. More improvements have long been contemplated but have been held back because of unsettled local conditions. It may materialize and the drags on public advancement be ignored, and again the voice of prudence may restraint it. The signs in the economic world point toward a time when people engaged in business begin to take in sail and not assume too many new undertakings. The panics of 1873, of 1893, 1907 left warnings that were not heeded. The same marks our now visible on the world's sky.

New Newspaper at Madison

Otto Metschke, proprietor of the Art Printery at Madison will start a new newspaper at Madison opening sometime next month. For sometime he has been issuing a monthly advertising sheet and according to reports has secured the backing of several Madison merchants who have put \$2,000 apiece into the new venture.

The new paper will be called the Madison News. Mr. Metschke has purchased the Allen building in the rear of the Madison County Building and Loan Association office and is remodeling it for the new plant.

About five years ago Frank Conley purchased the Star-Mail plant and shortly afterward it and the Madison Chronicle the other weekly newspaper published in Madison, were merged together forming one newspaper. Under the management of Mr. Conley the combined newspapers prospered and everything apparently ran smoothly. About three years ago he sold the plant to Dr. Cass G. Barns of Albion. Dr. Barns is a newspaper man of the old school. He is a brilliant editorial writer but being utterly fearless in the expression of his opinion has apparently been unable to harmonize with the divergent elements of the place and the reopening of another newspaper as the result.

Opinions differ as to the outcome of the new venture. Madison being a county seat town will no doubt be able to support two newspapers although it is doubtful if either one will prosper. Neither will be able to completely cover the field in their circulation and the result will be added expense to Madison merchants in their advertising especially when conducting sales as it will be necessary to use both papers in order to have complete coverage.

Mr. Metschke is an experienced newspaper man having formerly operated a newspaper at Wisner.—Newman Grove Reporter.

The Reporter has not been fully advised. Dr. Barns is not a newspaper man of the old school but of the school of journalism and acting in harmony with journalism instead of working

for a grub stake, with some one's collar around his neck. Conditions have not changed since Conley's time. There is a bolshevik element here but are far outnumbered by a higher class of people. Dr. Barns has not tried to harmonize the two elements. It would be just as easy to harmonize the Almighty with Satan. Editorial feed must be held high for the most of the people and it has been too high for the other class. Happily the new proposition can buy boiler plate brain food to feed his sheep.

After all, while there are signs of decadence in all country towns is it not a sign of a live community when some one has sand enough to start a fight. If Dr. Barns has been unable to harmonize one class what is there wrong in some one coming to their keep out opposition and it don't play rescue? It was wholly impossible to try to. Mr. Price should realize that another paper could start up in his town.

So far as covering the field is concerned, it is covered now thoroughly by the Star-Mail, with local papers in our different neighboring towns. The world is open to advertisers and the sky is the limit. The Star-Mail will not change its policy nor will any disciplinary measures tried by any one make as much difference to the ownership as to the employees. A lessening of support only means a lessening of jobs. As the income grows less the pay roll will keep pace with it.

Don't feel sorry for the Star-Mail and don't feel sorry for the merchants if they have to patronize two papers. If it hurts them they have only themselves to blame. In fact don't feel sorry for any one. It isn't half as bad as it looks and is only a sign that there is still live in Madison. If not now, there will be.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, January 6, 1927, page 1.

Norfolkan Late Once in 27 Years

Julius Fisher Has Nice Bit Laid Up for Rainy Day Out of Wages Earned---Went on Retired List Last Week---Will He Go Back?

Julius Fisher, right hand man for the Eichelberger Lumber company, is on a vacation. In fact, he has retired from active work and this after some twenty-seven years employment in the one lumber yard and with scarcely a day's absence.

A year ago Mr. Fisher, who is well along in years, decided he had worked long enough without a vacation and decided to rest up. He told Mr. Eichelberger he wanted a month off during the winter so as to escape the rigors of zero weather. His employer agreed he might absent himself during the month of February. "But February is the shortest month in the year", demurred Fisher, "why shorten my vacation?" February arrived in due season. Mr. Fisher did not report for work. He did not show up on the second or the third, but the morning of the fourth he was on hand and announced: "If you don't mind, I'll go back to work. I find vacationing tiresome and besides my wife finds too many things for me to do."

Now he's retired. He resigned his position last Saturday and the boys are betting he will be back on the job by Monday if he manages to stick it out until then. Every morning, the year through, he opens the gate at the yard at quarter to seven. He has been known to be late only one morning in all these years. Mr. Eichelberger says he has every stick of timber in the yard named. He knows every shingle, every lath. He is as much a part of the yard as the lumber itself. Folks passing by have come to look for him to be locking up the gates at night, opening them in the morning, keeping things in apple pie order in the yard during the day. He is as much a habit to those in the neighborhood as the yard is to him. And out of the wages he has earned during the years he has saved a goodly portion, demonstrating that fancy sala-

ries are not necessary if you really want to save. He owns a farm and could afford to go to winter resort and live happily away from work and worry; but, no, that is what he can't do. He has worked so long he doesn't know how to live without working and the boys are betting he'll be back opening the gate on time next Monday morning.

Source: The Norfolk Press, Thursday, January 27, 1927, page 1 and 4.

Dan Cupid On Job In Madison County During Past Year

Records in Office of County Judge Show Total of 152 Licenses Issued

Eight More Than In 1925

Man Who Built First Road Bed For Union Pacific Among Victims of Cupid

More marriages were performed in Madison county in 1926 than during the previous year, so records in the office of county judge Ernest Reeker show.

During the year just ending, a total of 152 licenses were issued, eight more than during 1925. Of the 152 licenses, since January 1926, Judge Reeker performed 42 ceremonies.

The oldest couple married during 1926, the records show was Albert Alliss, 75 of Belwood Nebraska and Sarah Curtis 74 of the same place.

Aside this distinction this couple without question experienced most difficulty in having the nuptial knot securely tied. To start with the automobile in which they were riding to Madison overturned near Columbus and it was necessary to charter another automobile to continue the journey here. After securing a license they set about to find a minister and unsuccessful in this returned to the county judges office where they were married by Judge Reeker.

Mr. Alliss is said to have built the first road bed for the Union Pacific when the rail-

road passed through the state in 1867.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, January 27, 1927, page 1.

AGED FATHER MISSING FIVE YEARS; FOUND

ILLNESS BRINGS CHILDREN TO BED SIDE OF MAN WHO KEPT NAME SECRET

The identity of Robert Meyers, 60, who for some time dealt in cattle and hogs here, became known last week when Iowa relatives learning of his serious condition in a Norfolk hospital, came here to look after him.

Meyers, whose real name is Pettitt, came to Madison about six months ago from the Adolph Knapp farm, where he was employed for some time. While in Madison, he bought live stock on a small scale and in more than one instance, after making a small down payment, was unable to raise sufficient money and consequently was forced to call off a number of deals.

While the man's acquaintance in Madison was somewhat limited, people with whom he was associated in business transactions, suspicioned that Meyers was not his real name. This belief was substantiated last week when a son and daughter from Mount Damon, Iowa, came to Madison after having been advised by hospital authorities at Norfolk that their father was in a critical condition.

Until he was taken to Norfolk about a month ago, Meyers refused to talk of his past life or of his relatives. So far as it can be learned, he kept no correspondence with them, until he was urged by the nurse in charge of his case at Norfolk, to allow her to

advise his children of his condition. This he consented to do and the son and daughter left Iowa immediately for Norfolk. They came to Madison after the father had told them of certain belongings he had here.

The man left his home in Iowa about five years ago and was not heard from, with but one single exception, until a short time ago, when he consented to have the family advised of his illness.

While in Madison, Meyers kept his livestock at the Jess Reeves place in northeast Madison and when his children arrived here, they found a vast amount of almost valueless articles of household equipment, and obsolete farm tools. Aside from telling local people that he owned a valuable quarter section of Iowa land, he had little to say concerning his past.

Through a telephone message to the Cameron hospital at Norfolk last night, the Star-Mail learned that Meyers was recovering nicely and that his son and daughter had returned to their Iowa home some time ago.

While in Madison, Meyers roomed at various places. "He seemed to be a well meaning man", said Joe Hide, at whose home the man roomed for about two weeks. "I was not at home when he made arrangements to occupy the room, but his first remark to me on the following day was that he was Irish. When I asked him his name he told me it was Meyers, I remarked that that was not an Irish name. This seemed to bother the old gentleman and it was then that I had my first suspicion that Meyers was not his real name," Mr. Hide said.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, February 8, 1927, page 1.

Query: My great great grandfather was Albert Elroy Ward (Madison, Nebraska), born May, 1870, son of Charles P Ward and Mary (Thomas) Ward. My great grandmother was Cecile (Ward) Bolding (later moved to Detroit, Michigan), daughter of Albert and Jessie (Gates) Ward. Cecile had one sister, Zella and several half siblings. Albert and Jessie were married in 1890. Albert remarried in 1910 (Jessie had died a few years earlier) to Juila Kelcher. Cecile married Charles Bolding (Tuxedo Park, NY, later moved to Detroit, Michigan) and had two daughters, Jessie Fern and Blondell. My grandmother was Jessie Fern (Bolding) Hudyma (Livonia, Michigan). Any information on this line would be appreciated. Thank you in advance! Charisse (Hudyma) Haas charissehaas@yahoo.com

RootsWeb's Guide to Tracing Family Trees Guide No. 12: Creating Worthwhile Genealogies for Our Families and Descendants

Evidence

Nature of Evidence:

- Direct — speaks directly to the point in question (e.g., a birth certificate is direct evidence of the date and place of birth of the person for whom it was issued).
- Indirect or Circumstantial — provides facts from which a conclusion can be inferred (e.g., approximate year of birth can be inferred from the date of an infant's baptism).

Sources

Type of Evidence

- **Primary** — personal testimony of an eyewitness or a record created shortly after the event by a person with personal knowledge of the facts
 - Where and when was the record made?
 - Who made it?
 - For what purpose was it made?
 - Did the information come from someone with personal knowledge of the facts?
 - Was there any reason for the informant to provide inaccurate information, either intentionally or unintentionally?

Applying the answers to those questions:

An official birth certificate is better evidence of a date of birth than a diary entry made by an individual not present at the birth. (However, even an official birth record might not provide good evidence of the child's parentage in the case of an adoption because in some places concealment of the identities of the birth parents of an adopted child is officially sanctioned and substitute certificates falsely showing adoptive parents as birth parents are put on record.) Moreover, even official records can and do contain errors.

Death information provided by the attending physician is primary evidence of the date and place of death, but birth information on the same certificate (provided by someone with no personal knowledge of the date and place of birth of the decedent) is secondary evidence.

- **Secondary** — Evidence that is copied or compiled from other sources or that is written from memory long after an event occurred.

A genealogist should not rely solely on secondary sources but should locate and examine the primary sources upon which a compiled account was based, if extant, of course.

In weighing genealogical evidence, remember that two pieces of evidence from the same source are not really two pieces of evidence. For example, a newspaper obituary might give information which later is used in a compiled county history.

Original Sources

- **Family Records:** Family Bibles, vital records, correspondence (letters), memoirs, journals, diaries, unrecorded deeds and wills, diplomas, certificates, and testimonials.
- **Public Records:** Censuses, government records, military, pensions, land bounty records, passport applications, passenger lists, original grants, naturalization or immigration records, records of entry, state, province and local records.
- **Institutional Records:** Church records, cemetery records and inscriptions, educational institutions, societies and fraternal organizations.

Secondary Materials

- **Printed Materials:** Family histories, collected genealogies, source materials [abstracts and transcriptions of records], local histories, other printed materials such as newspapers, reference works and directories (city, telephone, trade and professional), websites, Mailing Lists,

Message (Bulletin) Boards, and e-mail messages.

- **Manuscripts:** Commonly refers to handwritten or typed, not professionally printed, works.

Forms of Evidence

The best form of evidence is the original document or record.

When an original document is not available, a legible scanned copy, photocopy, or microform (film or fiche) copy of the original document should be obtained.

If an original document is not extant, one must rely on the official transcript of a document (such as a deed or will) entered in a record book by the clerk.

One should not rely on an unofficial transcript of, extract from, or abstract of an original document if the document itself or a copy of it is available.

Documentation

Family historians must learn to weigh and evaluate evidence similar to the way juries do. There are differences, however.

In a court of law there are two major categories of evidence:

- Admissible; meaning it is worth considering, but still varies in degrees of reliability.
- Inadmissible; meaning it is not allowed to be heard because it is not reliable enough.

But we genealogists do not have judges to tell us what can or cannot be heard. We "hear" it all. We look at every shred of information we find and sometimes draw incorrect conclusions because we do not know how to weigh it or how to resolve the frequent occurrence of conflicting evidence.

Researchers often assume that if several pieces of information agree, the data must be correct. Such assumptions often lead to erroneous pedigrees and frequently create genealogical dead-ends. There is a great deal of confusion surrounding the terms "evidence," "proof," and "sources." Donn Devine, a certified genealogist and practicing attorney, in an excellent article on "Evidence and Sources" in *Ancestry* magazine, provides this guidance:

- **Source** is the means by which information comes to a researcher.
- **Evidence** is the physical form in which information is presented to the senses.
- **Proof** is a name for a process that takes place in the mind, not for the evidence on which it is based. However, the term is also used to refer to the documents utilized as evidence for many lineage-society applications.

5. Virgil Walter³ Earp¹⁴ (Nicholas Porter², Walter¹) He married **(1) Magdelana C. "Ellen" Rysdam¹⁵** September 21, 1861 in Knoxville, Marion County, Iowa.¹⁶ He married **(2) Rosella Drago¹⁶** 1870 in Lamar, Barton County, Missouri.¹⁷ He married **(3) Alvira Packer Sullivan** about 1874, daughter of John B. Sullivan and Mary Norman.¹⁸

Endnotes:

14. Jean Whitten Edwards, *Earp Family Genealogy*, (Breckenridge, Texas: Breck Printing, 1991), 150-151.

15. Myra Vanderpool Gormley, *American Genealogy Magazine*, Vol. 9, No. 4, July-August 1994; published by Datatrace Systems, P.O. Box 1587, Stephenville, TX 76401; James Pylant, editor, pages 23-24, [Ellen's maiden name is given as Sysdam and Rysdam. In *I Married Wyatt Earp*, (Note 5, Chapter 3) it says Virgil Earp married Ellen Rysdam in Marion County, Iowa using his middle name, Walter, and listing her as Ellen Donahoo; however, that marriage record is that of Walter McKendree Earp (1836-1935), the son of Peter Asbury Earp, according to *Earp Family Genealogy*, 148.

16. Jean Whitten Edwards, *Earp Family Genealogy*, (Breckenridge, Texas: Breck Printing, 1991), 151.

17. *U.S. Census, 1870 Barton County, Missouri, Population Schedule*. (NARS M593, Roll 757, p.

830B). Lamar township, Barton post office, page 830B, family numbers 212, 213 and 214.

18. Glenn G. Boyer, *Wyatt Earp: Facts* (Volume Three), (Rodeo, New Mexico: Historical Research Associates, 1997), 26.

Family historians should be cognizant that most genealogy software programs use predetermined terms in their report format, such as "married" that may or may not be 100 percent accurate. The compiler may or may not have overridden default options or included footnotes to indicate variants. In this instance (above) the term "married" is used (FN16) and that is how the relationship was referred to in the sources so cited. Nevertheless, research in primary sources has not turned up a marriage license or record to either the first or third "wife" assigned to Virgil Earp.

Remember to cite the specific sources *you actually used* in compiling your family history.

"Source notes have two purposes: to record the specific location of each piece of data and to record details that affect the use or evaluation of that data." (*Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*).

After collecting information, take a careful look at what you have and sort it into two groups:

- Primary evidence or sources. These usually are written records; the first or earliest documents in which a particular piece of information was recorded, and created at or near to the time of the event.
- Secondary evidence or source. Think of this as second-hand information that has come from some other person or record.

Get as close to the primary records and original documents as you can. However, keep in mind that even they may contain errors. Just because it is a primary source does not guarantee the information is 100 percent correct, but it is more likely to be. Additionally, make the effort to trace your secondary evidence back to primary sources. Don't blindly accept information you find in a book, CD, or on the Internet — or from your relatives' memories.

How do you resolve conflicting evidence?

Follow the advice of Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, given in a National Genealogical Society Conference lecture: Judge Each Item of Evidence with the test of the four "Cs":

- Closeness (in place and time).
- Credibility (of person who made the record).
- Causality (why the record was made).
- Corroboration (with other evidence).

Of course, if you do not know where the information came from, how can you evaluate it? That is why you should carefully record and cite your sources. To create worthwhile genealogies for our families we need to use the best records and sources available, do the best work we can so our family histories may be continued by our descendants, and so they will not have to duplicate all of our work because they do not what sources we used to reach our conclusions.

Ancestry.com offers numerous free professional charts and forms that you can download.

Haines query and response

An email request was received from Susan Haines seeking information on David Haines died in Clarion, Madison Co. about Dec. 12, 1876 and his burial location, his wife Emily Jane Haines seeking her death and burial location, and any obituary or probate information and photographs of any grave sites. They are buried in Fairview Cemetery along with a granddaughter Emma Haines. Their markers are very clear and readable including inscriptions. No probate record was found for David but Emily J. had a very extensive probate file including signed affidavits from grown children, mortgage deed and even the order for her cemetery marker. Emily died Mar. 3, 1886, and David died Dec. 10, 1876. The Madison paper is on microfilm at the Elkhorn Valley Museum, however the one issue needed from 1876 was missing and the entire year of 1886 was missing except for one issue (the wrong one) so no obituary was found. A short history of Fairview was sent along with 60 pages from the probate file and photographs of the cemetery markers. gothbergranch@starband.net

Madison County Directory 1919-1920

Extractions by Richard Strenge

The following is listed by business type, then by city and then the surname in that city in which that person was located or doing business in at the time the directory was printed.

Insurance Agent

Battle Creek: G. M. Wright, C. C. Zimmerman

Norfolk: P. H. Davis, W. J. Gow & Bro., J. A. Huebner, O. H. Johnson, F. D. Koester,
R. S. Lackey, Rose McHenry, T. E. Odiorne, G. W. Phelps,
Ernest Raasch & Bro., J. W. Ransom & Son, C. E. Shaw, W. C. Williams,
C. L. Wilson**Jeweler Retail**

Battle Creek: L. C. Truesdell

Madison: C. J. Kortman, J. P. Miller

Newman Grove: Oscar Samuelson, C. G. Texley

Norfolk: G. H. Burton, E. N. Hewer

Tilden: G. E. Kierstead

Justice of the Peace

Battle Creek: Henry Neuwerk

Madison: Wm. Bates

Tilden: F. K. Cornett

Ladies Ready to Wear Apparel

Norfolk: I. H. Brown

Land Agent

Madison: O. V. Scheer

Lawyer

Battle Creek: H. H. Kilburn

Madison: M. B. Foster, Jas. Nichols, A. C. Schmidt

Newman Grove: Helmer Halderson

Norfolk: H. J. Boyle, J. R. Hays, Jack Koenigstein, H. E. Robbins, R. J. Shurtleff,
W. C. Traub, M. D. Tyler

Tilden: F. L. Putney

Livery, Feed & Sale Stable

Battle Creek: Henry Stoltenberg

Meadow Grove: E. H. Crook

Norfolk: Melvin Benedict, E. C. Rains, J. A. Rice

**MADISON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 1031
Norfolk, NE 68702-1031

Meetings: The 3rd Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:00 p.m. at the Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center, 515 Queen City Blvd., Norfolk, NE.

MCGS Library is located at the Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center, 515 Queen City Blvd., Norfolk, NE
Hours are Fridays 1-4 and other times by appointment. Please call: (402) 371-3886.

Memberships are \$15 per year.

Research Requests: \$10 and a family group sheet to MCGS, P.O. Box 1031, Norfolk, NE 68702-1031.

Information and queries:

madisoncgs@cableone.net

Membership and newsletter:

nzaruba@kdsi.net

TEMP RETURN SERVICE FIRST CLASS

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Page 29: New Newspaper at Madison

Page 30: Norfolkian Late Once in 27 Years ; Dan Cupid On Job In Madison County During Past Year

Page 31: Aged Father Missing Five Years ; Query: Ward, Bolding, Hudyma

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Page 34: Query answered: Haines

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Page 36: Index ; Germans from Russia ; January Christmas party

The Northeast Nebraska Chapter of the Germans from Russia are still trying to renew the chapter and membership. Anyone interested in Germans from Russia should please come to a meeting or contact Ruthie at the Genealogy Society PO Box or the Elkhorn Valley Museum.

Don't forget!

**January 16, 2007 at 6 pm, Elkhorn Valley Museum meeting room
Ethnic potluck dinner and entertainments**