

# Madison County Remembers...

A Publication of the Madison County Genealogical Society

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## W. C. T. U.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union has been an organized body since its inception during the winter of 1873 and 1874. Their first work was in the nature of a direct onslaught on the saloons that were in active operation. It began in a small way in a country town out in the state of Ohio north of Cincinnati, when some earnest elderly women organized a part of women to go right to the saloon and sing gospel hymns, exhort the saloon keepers to change their ways and then go down on their knees and pray. It was a novel form of opposition and caught the saloon proprietors with no developed plan of defense. The results were so encouraging that activities were at once transferred to the city of Cincinnati where beer was almost as plentiful as was water in the Ohio river.

The writer was attending school in Cincinnati at the time and witnessed this first effective work of the W. C. T. U. women. Sometimes meals were a little late at his boarding place because the woman who prepared them had gone with the "praying bands" as they were called. She was young and strong and was depended upon as a guard more than ability to make a prayer. To a green country boy the procedure was as novel as it was to those staid and industrious german people, or to the hoodlums from the slums along the river streets.

The procedure consisted in meeting at a church and after getting up their courage by a season of prayer, song and exhortation, they formed columns and marched by twos with the strong arm women in front and bringing up the rear and the elderly ones would be leaders in the devotions in the center. The streets were narrow and paved with cobble stones. In the fog and soft coal dust and smoke of the city and the careless sanitation of the times the streets were not overly

## Celebrating M. C. G. S. 40th Year

The Madison County Genealogical Society celebrated their 40th year of serving the genealogical community on June 8, 2013.

It all started when five people drove to Omaha to attend a conference and on the way back to Norfolk decided to start a genealogical society. Those who were in that original group were Joyce Borgelt, Joyce Barlow, Leatta Stortvedt, Frances Praeuner, and Harlow Butcher.

Those who joined the society that first year were considered to be charter members of the society. We still have in our membership a few from the original group and of our charter members.

A big Thank You to those who where in our first year as a society. Our success and accomplishments come from the many ideas and fortitude of our members both past and present. If you like to join our group please let us know. Details on memberships can be found on page 71 of this issue.

clean especially along the streets where the point of contact was likely to take place.

Down the narrow side walk went this double file of women till they reached the first place designed to have their attention. A crowd of hundreds of curiosity attracted people followed them and the police saw to it that the streets were not blockaded. One file of the women would line up along the curb and face inward. The other file backed up against the wall. Then followed singing, an exhortation and the women all got down on their knees on the dirty side walk and fervent prayers arose. Sometimes they would go into the saloons and hold meeting.

W. C. T. U. continued on page 63

## President's Message

Greetings to our members,

Summer is already upon us and what have we accomplished so far? I know I wanted to get out and do some cemetery recordings and photographs. Have you set some goals for this year? Where are you in the process of getting them accomplished? Keep setting goals and doing them and when the year is over you can look back on this year and all the things you have accomplished.

We are looking for a location to take our annual outing/meeting either in August or September. It depends upon the weather conditions when we can go and have an enjoyable time there. So if you have suggestions or a location we should go to please let us know at our July meeting.

Our society is a great society because of our members and all of our varied interests and family research we do. If you have something to share please let us know as we all benefit from each others contribution.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Richard Streng

## Society notes

Bobette Ferguson, Secretary

The monthly meeting of the Madison County Genealogical Society was held at 10:00 on May 18th at Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasure's report has had no activity.

Our website has been updated at a cost of \$50. We viewed the website changes.

July will be election of officers. All officers said they would run for office again.

The next meeting will be at the Homestead at 10:00 A. M. to celebrate the society's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

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The monthly meeting of the Madison County Genealogical Society was held at 10 A. M. on June 8th at the Homestead for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

It was voted that the savings account at Elkhorn Valley Bank be closed because there is now a monthly fee charged if the account is under \$100. The treasure's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Next month officers will be elected.

Ideas for a field trip or program should be brought to the next meeting.

There was a discussion about the up keep of some of the cemeteries in the area. Some of them are not being kept up.

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:37.

After the business meeting, the members shared information on the history of the Madison County Genealogical Society. Refreshments were served and enjoyed by the those present.



**W.C.T.U.** continued from page 61

Many were small places where the whole family attended the bar, usually the wife being head bar-keep. As a rule the men treated the visitors respectfully and the police protected them as long as they did not blockade the street so that people could not pass. Without being made to move on the streets would be blocked with people for a long distance on either side till the procession moved to another place.

Sometimes the women who kept bar with their husbands would throw beer on the praying band as they knelt but they did not seem to be in the least dismayed. That crusade attracted so much attention by its novelty that the "praying bands" were organized into the permanent organization of Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Without discussing the W. C. T. U. tactics or whether their direct work has been successful since they knelt in the filth of those stone side walks on foggy, misty days in late winter in Cincinnati, the W. C. T. U. has since stood as organized womanhood of the highest, cleanest type of our citizenship. Their objective is elevating even if their direct activities do not always bring noticeable results. It is a collective demonstration of public sentiment. It is more effective because it is a body of women. Theoretically, there is no double standard of morals and uprightness between men and women but practically women must be better than men. The organization of the W. C. T. U. carries it out.

It is common for men folks to be amused at the feminine way women go about their activities in the W. C. T. U. organization but the women have only to stand solid as a living expression of public sentiment as they did when they appeared in a body in the Madison County district court room at the hearings of some of those charged with violations of the prohibitory law. It some times takes moral courage to do their work. The writer has never lost the mental picture of a narrow city street, flanked with two story stone or brick buildings, street paved with round cobble stones, side walk stone slabs, little dirty windowed dinky store rooms and saloons, a misty

foggy wet day, muddy tracks, cigar stubs, fruit rinds, tobacco spit and quids on the wet walks. Along the curb about twenty women of different ages. Another twenty facing them with their backs to the wall. While they were singing and on their knees praying hundreds of jeering men and a few women and street urchins such as only a city can produce, hooting at them and making uncomplimentary remarks. A few curiosity seekers in the crowd were well behaved and cleanly dressed but others were dirty and depraved. River men, drunken sots, bad women and negroes in abundance and the picture remains as plain as though photographed. Look about you and pick forty men who would have had the courage to do just what those women were doing. That was collective public sentiment and the example, not what they said, bore fruit.

Their work today is not so much to save the chronic drinker nor can the praying band line up in front of the bootleggers still. One of their tasks might be to get a few more clothes on some of the girls and have them dance a little farther away from their partners. Frown upon the parked automobile so common nights along the public highway. Then hit hard at the shocking habit many girls from the best families have got into of leaving dance halls to insist upon a drink of the bootleg whiskey the boys have outside. The flappers of 1925 are not all of them as good as the flappers of 1874 and the W. C. T. U. might do good by making a collective stand to save the girls, because the girls of the future must become better women than the boys are men or the world will suffer. Only in heaven will there be equality. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, Sept. 10, 1925,

Experiences that are shared are added to life's beautiful memory book. (author unknown).

Genealogy - a search for the greatest treasures, our ancestors.

Still searching, after all these years!

There is no such thing as a useless piece of information.

**1923 Milestone****Norfolk, Nebraska High School Annual**

{Names typed as found in the Milestone.}

**Alumni Class of 1921**

Eugene Andress, Arthur Bauredel, Rosella Baurmeister, Maurine Berquist, Guy Best, Earl Bohl, Dorothy Boyle, Ruth Casselman, Dorothy Campbell, Mildred Christoph, Georgia Cowles, Marion Craven, Amanda Diedricksen, Darrell Dudley, Luree Evans, Charles Evans, Edna Felger, Eva Goldsworthy, Ronald Gow, Violet Granlund, Clara Harrington, Carl Henning, Charles Hudson, Everett Isaacson (deceased), Krissie Kingsley, Richard Kingsley, Agnes Klug, Leora Klug, Marie Kraemer, Allen Landers, Florence La Velle, Eleanor Lewis, Fred Low, Meryl Mayfield, Elmer McGinnis, Helen McNair, Dwight Merriman, Mildred Miller, Lee Moore, Margaret Munro, Lee Oneil, Lawton, Phinney, Paul Pyche, James Rees, Veda Rees, Carrie Rosenthal, Florence Seder-Johnson, Alyne Seymour, Lynn Smith, Leona Radenz, Jean South, Marjorie South, Marjorie Stevens, Ruth Terry, Marguerite Willey.

**Alumni Class of 1922**

Gwendolyn Ahlman, Arthur Avery, Margaret Allen, John Allen, Mary Ball, Margaret Barnard, Mildred Barry, Lawrence Beckenhaur, Amber Benedict, Pearl Bennett, Elizabeth Benning, Charlotte Beverly, Maud Bradley, May Brennan, Lyle Burdick, Edith Danford, Florence Daniels, Martin Davenport, Gerald Davis, Dorothy Drebert, Alma Edwards, Alta

Edwards, Genevieve Finn, Rose Freeland, Lillie Gall, Eva Grey, Hortense Hazen, Vyvyeann Hazen, Gerald Henning, Frieda Hille, John Hofferber, Aimee Howard, Francis Jarett, Hilda Johnson, Luella Juhl-Sellin, Carlton, KaDel, Cadwell King, Ruth King-Ravenscroft, Helen Kloke, Fred Kraemer, Otto Kraemer (deceased), Clara Kreuch, Madalene Kroeger, Gretchen Lizer, Ruth Manzer, Barton McClow, Ruth McCune, Lloyd Michols, Karin Nord, Hertha Oestrich, Bernard Orr, Elsa Perske, Sylvia Potras, Mary Pyche, Max Raasch, Marian Ruehter, Leon Riordan, Francis Schefold, Minnie Soost, Charlotte Traub, Dorothea Watson-Morris, Agnes Winter, Dorothy Wittters, Hans Wulff, Esther Zutz.

**Seniors . . . . .**

Edwin J. Scheurich, President "A great office holder is he, politicians beware."  
 Joyce Schane, Secretary "She asks no questions. She passes no criticisms."  
 Ruth Pyche, Treasurer "I'd rather study books than men."  
 Robert Hutchinson, Vice Pres. "As a manager he was a dandy and with the girls about as handy."  
 Pearl Anderson "Ain't got no use for fancy dressing."  
 Eleanor Bathke "To be good is enough."  
 Esther Bathke "Oh! How she can tickle those keys."  
 Elga Benedict "A demure maiden, who let's her virtues speak for her."  
 George Bennish "His taste in trousers is exquisite."  
 Florence Bentz "Who knows how much she knows."  
 Esther Bick "To do her justice would take a



book."

Arthur Breyer "I tell you the world needs more like me."

Bertha Brown "Rough and tough and hard to bluff."

Robert Davenport "The greatest men may ask foolish questions now and then."

Charlotte Dickinson "Truly generous is the truly wise."

Dorothy Jean Donisthorpe "Full of life and sunshine."

Frieda Dorr "Happy thru making others so."

Elizabeth E. Dorr "Weighed in the balances and found not wanting."

Dorothy Dunhaver "Another one of Salhstrom's Proteges."

Esther Dommer "A proper maiden this, and thoughtful."

Gordon Eberly "Another one of our Radio bugs."

Dale Eberly "An up and coming milkman."

Pauline Engelka "My smiles must be sincere or not at all."

Lenore Evans "She seems dignified but wait till you know."

Rosella Filter "A pretty smile that is easily provoked."

Francis Gifford "Sometimes I think I'd like to do something unlady-like."

Harry Gleason "I would be a good student if studying could be eliminated."

Raymond F. Granlund "I don't bother work and work don't bother me."

Willie Green "His face betrays his name."

James Hand "A very affectionate boy is he."

Loriena Harms "Let such teach others, whom themselves excel."

John Harned "He burns the audions long into the night."

Francis Hartman "She's just a different style."

Rachel Hofferber "True constancy no time, no power can move."

Joseph W. Hough "My home is in heaven, I'm only here on a visit."

Gertrude Howard "She lived as peaceful as a dove."

Bernice Hyde "Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever."

Clair Johnson "I love to wind my tongue up, I love to hear it go."

Zella Johnson "Pleasure before duty."

Hattie Kell, "It more becomes a woman to be silent than to talk."

Louise Klug "No one would suppose it but I am naturally bashful."

Ruby Lightfoot "Of manners gentle of affections mild."

Boyd Limes "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust, I never saw the woman that I could trust."

Katherine McGrane "If to her share some errors fall, Look to her face, and you'll forget them all."

Iris McNabb "Art is my second nature."

Ida Marotz "All that is pleasant in woman."

Francis Marotz "Oh she was perfect past all parallel."

Evelyn Mollencoff "I loved, I wooed, I won. And?"

Ellen O'Gorman "My Wild Irish Rose."

Elmer Ohlund "He had so many bright ideas his hair turned red."

Robert W. Palme "He can get a kick out of a glass of water."

Leland F. Perry "The best all-round man that ever graced the Halls of the N. H. S."

Howard Pettit "Another boy from the great metropolis."

Minnie Rader "If I remain single it's not my

fault."

Robert Reed "Wait till the cows come home."

Roy Reed "The distinguished gentleman with the face."

Ned Rice "Don't judge a may by the noise he makes."

Ernest Roberts "A jockey of no mean ability."

Irene Roberts "I'm sure about everything."

Margaret Saunders "Never do more than you must, but talking is an exception."

Selma Schneider "A cog in Sahlstrom's office machine."

Warren Sewell "He hasn't got over the high buildings yet."

Bernice Terry "I don't fuss: But I am fussed and get fussed."

Edith VanAlstin "As to men Gr-r-r-r!"

Leona Wachter "She speaks and acts just as she ought."

Mildred Waining "Her voice was ever soft, gentle and low."

Irvin Weber "Greater men than I have been born, but I doubt it."

Henry Zehner "I have an ambition to be tough and drink pop."

### Junior Class

Dean Allen, Leonard Alstadt, Alice Anderson, Helen Anderson, Lois Atkins, Edna Barrit, Cora Beal, Mae Beal, Mary Behmer, Avis Besk, Ruben Best, Delilia Bick, Jack Blum, Goldie Bowers, Esther Carlin, Stella Clifton, Frances Cochran, Bessie Cowles, Mary Cowles, Robert Craven, Glen Davis, Mildred Dean, Keith Demmon, Gladys Dubbert, Ruth Duff, Kenneth Durm, Iona Fraser, Harld Frohloff, Adolph Gettman, Carl Gettman, Carroll Drebert, Mary Gill, Edna Harrington, Willis Hedrick, Lloyd Higgenbotham, Carl Hille, Myrtle Himes,

Harold Hinson, Ardith Holmes, Marjorie Holtman, Caroline Hoopman, Bernice Horrocks, Margaret Huebner, Mary Hough, Mary Jira, Viola Johnson, Lillian Kennerson, Everett King, Margaret Latimer, Lewis Lederer, Halbert McClintock, Ervin McGinnis, Florence McGrane, Warren McNair, Larence Mahm, Ralph Marshall, Arlyne Moore, Helen Margritz, Alfred Mueller, Mildred Mullen, Victor Nenow, Alice Nelson, Dorothy Noerenberg, Lenora O'Gorman, Walter Ohlund, Anna Orr, Vera Parker, Helen Perske, Margaret Peterson, Bruce Pfeifer, Irene Radenz, Franics Raymond, Alice Renninger, Mildred Renninger, Lewis Rosenthal, Juanita Rozalez, Margaret Ruether, Marjorie Nims, Elna Sasse, Vesta Sasse, Ida Schmidt, Nora Schneider, Norris Schroeder, Clarence Schroeder, Fred Schroer, Martha Shultz, Mildred Smith, Ruth Smith, Velma Smith, Ruben Steffan, Dora Lee Stewart, Jessie Tatge, Edward Wamsley, Charles Tracy, Linda Winter, Boris Zeimer, Allen Zurbrigen.

### Birthday Dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Munger entertained at a dinner Thursday evening, Oct. 30.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. William Avery of Norfolk, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Avery, Jo Anne and Lloyd, Raymond Duhachek and Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Schulze and Paulette.

The group helped William Avery celebrate his 85th birthday. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thurs. Nov. 6, 1952, page 1.

### Card of Thanks

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the kind friends who picked our corn Thursday and to the ladies who contributed food and helped serve the dinner. These neighborly acts of kindness are deeply appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Howard. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Nov. 13, 1952, page 1.



### Cheeky Tramps

Monday afternoon a daring attempt at robbery was made by two tramps who entered the home of F. H. Gruenwald in broad day light.

The family were all away from home at the time, but a neighbor lady saw the thieves enter through a window and proceeded to give the alarm. One of the tramps, is supposed, became alarmed and dashed through a window and off toward the river. The ladies entered the house to investigate and were looking over the tumbled dresser drawers, which were standing open, when out dashed the other intruder from behind the dresser where he had been secreted, and made his escape through the open window. He also made for the river. A hot chase was given him, but he was too far in the advance and swam the river and was lost to view in the timber. It is well for them that they made their escape for had they been captured they would have been given a good hard dose of law.

They were discovered too soon to escape with any valuables as nothing was missed, although things were scattered promiscuously about the room.

These house-breakers had better not be too free with their daylight work as the police force of this city is not slow in nailing such fellows. Source: The Norfolk Journal, Friday, July 14, 1899, page 1.

### Will Discontinue County Poor Farm

No longer can it truthfully be said in Madison County "over the hill to the poorhouse".

The county commissioners passed a motion to stop operations of the county poor farm located southeast of here, as of Dec. 31, 1952, and rent the place on a share rental basis.

The commissioners also voted to sell the furniture, equipment, livestock and supplies at a public auction, date of which will be announced later. The money will be placed in the county general fund.

Mr. and Mrs. George Barry have been operating the place for the County, and have

### Fred Kurtz

Madison, Neb., May 17 Special to The News. Funeral services for Fred Kurtz, 74, were held here at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon at his home with the Rev. Mr. Bessler officiating. Interment was in Fairview cemetery.

Mr. Kurtz died Wednesday at his home after suffering a paralytic stroke May 11, 1934, from which he never recovered. He was bedfast for the intervening year.

He was born in Naaau, Germany, Jan. 12, 1861, and came to this country when about twenty years old, settling in Holt county. A few years later he came to Madison and lived here the remainder of his life.

He was married Nov. 15, 1893, to Miss Renete Calmer. She died Aug. 10, 1911.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Martha Mauer and Miss Elizabeth Kurtz and two grandchildren.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Fri. May 17, 1935, page 7

### Brother Dies at Tilden

J. I. Osborn, 87, of Tilden brother of H. R. Osborn, died at a Norfolk hospital and funeral services were held at Tilden.

Other survivors are: three sons, Whitney of Tilden, George of Omaha and Jack of Vallejo, Calif.; four daughters, Mrs. Wm. Leverenz, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Eldon Baker, North Platte, Mrs. Wallace Gerritsen, Manhattan Beach, Calif. and Mrs. R. H. Zuehlke, Fort Worth, Tex., also three brothers, Herbert and Will of Tilden and Hubert of Meadow Grove; two sisters, Mrs. Harold Hales of Tilden and Mrs. Lulu Cushman of Los Angeles, Calif., also many other relatives. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Nov. 6, 1952, page 1.

decided to quit farming because of her failing health. The county farm now has three residents.

Madison County purchased the land for the poor farm on July 24, 1894, more than 58 years ago, for \$4,000.—Norfolk Daily News. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Oct. 30, 1952, page 1.

## **Old Hospital Building Sold To Catholics**

**Benedictine Sisters to Open Hospital  
Here it is understood**

**Structure to be Rebuilt**

**Group for many years has been Successful  
Operator of Hospitals, including One at  
Lynch. One of Best in this section**

The building formerly used by the General hospital on West Norfolk avenue, has been sold by Dr. P. H. Salter of this city to the Benedictine order of Catholic sisters, who it is understood, plan to open a hospital in it some time in the summer, although no official announcement has been made to that effect.

The Catholic sisters, is also is understood, plan to remodel the building, now an apartment house, so it will be modern in every detail for hospital purposes. Tenants in the apartments have been notified the building will not be use for residence purposes after July 1.

The Benedictine order for many years has been a successful owner of hospitals, including Sacred Heart hospital at Lynch, one of the best in northeast Nebraska.

The opening of a hospital in Norfolk by Catholic sisters will mark another step in the growth of this city. The institution, it is generally agreed, will be an asset to Norfolk and northeast Nebraska.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Wed. May 15, 1935, page 5.

## **Mrs. Ravenscroft Hostess—**

Mrs. A. F. Ravenscroft entertained members of her contract bridge club Tuesday at a 1 o'clock luncheon with lilacs, pink roses and pink tapers centering the table. Mrs. H. J. Gibbs and Mrs. S. A. VanLandingham were club guests. High score prize was received by the hostess and second by Mrs. Charles Housh. This was the final meeting of the club this season.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Wed., May 22, 1935, page 2

## **Pioneer Woman, 88, Raises Own Garden**

**Mrs. Martha M. Thatch, Battle Creek, Also  
Does Own Housework**

Few northeast Nebraska residents who are 88 years old can match the industry of Mrs. Martha M. Thatch of Battle Creek, who has one of the finest home gardens in the county, the result of her own diligent efforts.

Early in the spring, with but little help, Mrs. Thatch planted her garden. Almost daily since she has been seen in the garden, keeping it free from weeds. Saturday morning she spent considerable time hoeing the garden.

Most of the time she lives alone in her home, does all of her own housework, and is active from morning until night. She will celebrate her eighty-ninth birthday in October. Her children are grown.

Her husband, the late Samuel Thatch, was the first county clerk of Madison county. In 1867, he and his brother, A. J. Thatch settled on the Elkhorn River, south of Norfolk.

Madison county was organized in December, 1867, and the first election was held in a small frame house on Taylor creek, Jan. 21, 1868. The following officers were elected at that time: County commissioners, Herman Braasch, August Raasch and Henry M. Barnes; probate judge, Frederick Wagner; clerk, Samuel H. Thatch; treasurer, Frederick Heckendorf; surveyor, August Lentz; coroner, Horace J. Severance; sheriff, Fielding Bradshaw; county assessor, Fredercik Boche; justice of the peace, John Allison and William Bickley; constables, Thomas Bickely and Fred Haase.

The commissioners held their first meeting at the house of Samuel H. Thatch, April 6, 1868, at which meeting they appointed C. W. Braasch, probate judge, to fill a vacancy, and divided the county into three commissioners' districts.

The first regular election was held Oct. 11, 1868.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Sat. June. 22, 1935, page 2.



## Pioneer Woman of Norfolk is Dead

### Ashes of Mrs. John Koenigstein, 83, Arrive in this City

Ashes of Mrs. John Koenigstein, 83, mother of Jack Koenigstein of Norfolk, who died May 13 at her home in Glendale, Calif., arrived in this city Tuesday night and will be committed privately to Prospect Hill Cemetery.

It was Mrs. Koenigstein's request that her ashes be committed to Prospect Hill Cemetery on Memorial day, on which day in 1923 those of her husband were committed. Mr. Koenigstein died in December, 1922.

Mrs. Koenigstein died after a brief illness. She was born June 21, 1852, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and came to the United States with her parents when a small girl. The family lived for a number of years in Illinois. She and Mr. Koenigstein were married after the latter had served in the Union army during the Civil War. Following their marriage they moved to Watertown, Wis., and were living in that town when the first Norfolk settlers left for this city in the summer of 1866 to establish their homes.

It was on May 9, 1872, that the Koenigstein family arrived in Norfolk where Mr. Koenigstein opened the first drug store in this city, the location being in the 100 block, Norfolk avenue. The family immediately became prominent in the affairs of this growing city.

Mrs. Koenigstein was the mother of seven sons and one daughter. Those who survive her are: Jack, Norfolk; Louis, Portland, Ore.; William, Glendale, and Arthur, Ojai, Calif. Three sons, Dan, Ernest and Philip and the daughter, Meta, preceded their mother in death. A number of years ago Dan and Jack Koenigstein ran against each other for mayor of Norfolk, the former being elected.

More than twenty-two years ago, Mr. and Mrs. John Koenigstein left Norfolk and moved to California.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Wed., May 22, 1935, page 2.

## Emil C. Spiering

Funeral services for Emil C. Spiering, who died Monday morning in a local hospital after a week's illness, were held Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Johnson, Thenhaus and Howser chapel with Dr. George S. Morrell, minister of the First Methodist Episcopal church in charge. The Rev. and Mrs. Morrell sang three selections.

Born Nov. 2, 1881, in Daber Kreiss, Naugard, Province Pommern, Germany, Mr. Spiering came to America April 19, 1892. He was married in Norfolk Oct. 6, 1903, to Ida Olga Kerber, who had also been born in Germany. To this union sixteen children were born. Two sons have preceded their father in death, Clifford, who died Oct. 9, 1919, and Albert, who died last November. Mr. Spiering was 53 years of age.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ida Spiering, and fourteen children, Arthur of California; Mrs. Mildred Troutman of Hudson, S. D.; Mrs. Bertha Walker of California; Mrs. Ruth Coon of California; Harry, Herman, Mrs. Marian Felthorn, and Mrs. Helen Bauckman, all of Norfolk, and Dorothy, Lorine, Betty, Donald, Junior and Alice May, all living at home.

He also leaves nine grandchildren: two brothers, Charles of Norfolk, the Rev. Herman Spiering of Junction City, Kan.; four sisters, Mrs. Marie Dreesen, Mrs. Minnie Stengel, Mrs. Ida Schultz and Mrs. Augusta Stevens, as well as many other relatives.

Interment was made in the New Lutheran Cemetery.

Source: Norfolk Daily News, Fri., May 17, 1935, page 7.

## Uncle Dies

Members of the Schutt family received word of the death of their uncle, Fred Lulow, 86, at Marion, Iowa. He died Tuesday, Dec. 2.

He is survived by a son, Walter, and five grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Augusta Dorr of Norfolk, and many other relatives. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Dec. 4, 1952, page 1.

### Family Gathering

A family gathering was held at the Jay Ryan home south of Norfolk Sunday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Voss and son of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Alfred Schneider of Springfield, Minn., brother and sister of Mrs. Ryan.

Those present were: Hans Voss, Ponca; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Voss and family, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Addison and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Voss and son, Newcastle; Mr. and Mrs. Vernie Larson and son and Mr. and Mrs. Harold White, Allen; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Qualls and Marcia, and Mrs. Nellis Voss and family, Wakefield; Mr. and Mrs. Will Voss and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Voss, Laurel; Mr. and Mrs. Don Wiedeman and Ronnie, Thayer; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ryan, Norfolk; and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Voss and Mrs. Alfred Schneider.

Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. August 28, 1952, page 1.

### Honored on Anniversary

A picnic was held at Ta-Ha-Zouka Park Tuesday honoring Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Collins of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on their 35th wedding anniversary. The couple were presented a cash gift.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Collins and son, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Collins and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Burleigh Sessler, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Buffington, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Horrocks, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Werner, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hamley and children and Mr. and Mrs. Fern Wilson, Bill and Kay, all of Meadow Grove; Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hogsett, Omaha; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Koh, Tilden; Mrs. Zed Sessler and Mr. and Mrs. Loren Unkel and son, Battle Creek; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Collins and sons and Ralph Segar, Atkinson; Mrs. L. Wilson, Milton, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Stoffer and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. William Sessler and daughters, Norfolk—Norfolk Daily News. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Aug. 28, 1952, page 1.

### Mayor Saves Life of Game Warden

An incident that might have been tragic too place here a week ago, in which Mayor W. E. Lewis can be given credit for saving the life of one game

warden, Robert Benson.

Here is the complete story:

Beaver had built a dam on the creek north of town that backed the water to the point of drainage of the sewage disposal plant. If allowed to continue and to freeze, our sewage system would not function. So Mayor Lewis and the Village Board secured permission to get rid of the dam by use of dynamite. Supervising the work was Mr. Benson and on the job of doing the work were Wendell Lewis, George Elliott, David Higbee, Everett Collins, Virgil Lewis, and Art Berg.

If you have ever been near a beaver dam you know that the beaver have slides where they enter the water with food and material for the dam. The slides are very slick.

The dynamite was properly place about the dam to get the maximum benefit from the first blast and then the fuse was lit and dropped into the spot that was thought by all to be just right. This was the time to take off as the fuse was good for about one minute.

Here was the point of tragedy. Mr. Benson was standing on one of those slick beaver slides and when he turned to run from the blast, his feet went from under him and he slid into the water, about nine feet deep. Fully clothed, he would have difficulty swimming. He came up the first time and yelled for help. (Who wouldn't). He came up a second time and yelled again. The third time he came up he was nearer the bank and Lewis was able to get hold of his jacket. Needless to say both scrambled ashore as quickly as possible and managed to get about fifty yards away before the blast came.

A ten inch tree was in the immediate vicinity of the blast and it was splintered, so it is self-evident what would have happened had Lewis not been able to reach Mr. Benson on his third effort.

Such bravery and presence of mind should not go unheralded.

Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Dec. 4, 1952, page 1.



<p align="center"><b>2012—2013 Officers</b></p> <p>President: Richard Streng    Vice-President: Phyllis McCain  Secretary: Bobette Ferguson    Treasurer: Bernice Walters</p>	<p align="center"><b>Our future meetings</b></p> <p align="center">July 20  August 17  September 21  October 19  Join us and bring some one  along with you</p>
<p><b>Madison County Genealogical Society</b>  <b>P. O. Box 1031, Norfolk, NE. 68702—1031</b></p>	

MCGS established in June 1973

**Memberships** are \$15 per year starting at the time of your membership and it includes our 12 page bi-monthly newsletter. If you would like to join our society please send your payment to our mailing address. Please let us know if you want your newsletter by mail or by e-mail.

**Meetings** on 3rd Saturday of each month except December and January at 10 a.m. at 515 Queen City Blvd., Norfolk, NE., Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center.

**Website** at <http://mcgs.nesgs.org> or [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/)

**Queries, Society contact, Change of address, or Newsletter submissions** can reach us by mail at our mailing address or [mcgs.nebraska@centurylink.net](mailto:mcgs.nebraska@centurylink.net). We are here to help you in your research for your ancestors in Madison county and in the nearby counties.

### Husking Bee Held at Jack Howard Farm

Neighbors and friends, 24 of them, gathered at the Jack Howard home Thursday, Nov. 6, and during the day picked and cribbed the corn from 80 acres of land.

Mr. Howard underwent a major spinal operation some time ago and still wears a cast.

The men helping pick the corn were Harry Niebuhr, O. M. Odlund, Keith Lewis, Louis Mewes, Charles Mather, Earl Beed, John Larson, Raymond O'Banion, Roy Muhm, Ray Kunz, Arland Pulley, Bud Werner, Joe Brozek, Dallas Lee, Ted Pulley, Wayne Halsey, Bill Mozer, Arnold Werner, Raymond Larson, Archie Nelson, Paul Werner, Dwayne O'Banion, John Wieting and Ed Shenshaw. Mechanical pickers were furnished by John Wieting, Keith Lewis, John Larson, Harry Niebuhr, Joe Brozek, Dallas Lee, Wayne Halsey, Arnold Werner and Dwayne O'Banion, and elevators were brought by Harry Niebuhr and Arnold Werner.

The following ladies brought food and helped Mrs. Howard serve the dinner: Mrs. Earl Beed, Mrs. O. M. Odlund, Mrs. Archie Nelson, Mrs. John Wieting, Mrs. Ted Pulley, Mrs. Raymond O'Banion and Mrs. Wayne Halsey. Sending food but unable to be present were Mrs. C. G.

Baker, Mrs. Maxine Nelson, Mrs. Ed Bridge and Mrs. Joe Brozek. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Nov. 13, 1952, page 1.

### Husking Bee Held at Richard Allen Farm

Kind neighbors and friends, 17 of them, gathered at the Richard Allen home Thursday and picked fifty acres of corn and cribbed it.

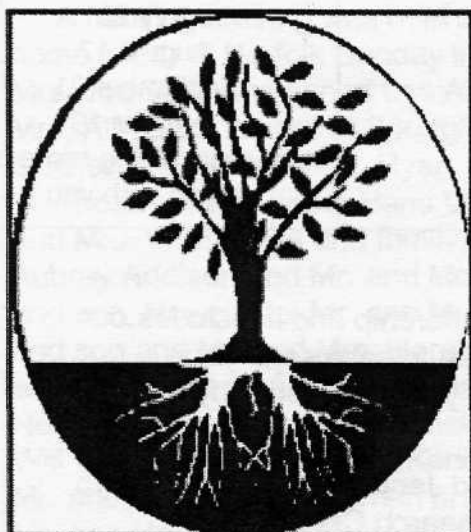
All of the Allen family were injured in a car accident last September and Mr. Allen is not yet fully recovered.

Those who helped were Pete and Hans Michaelson, Eldon and Max Schnoor, Bill Davison, Elmer Kloepper, Clair Kee, Art Kahland, Archie Kilmer, Lloyd Timperley, Fred Salyers, Verlon Frusteneau and Adoff Mahin, all of Tilden; Walter Hansen of Neligh; Arlie Novotny, Kenneth Sparr and Theodore Martell of Meadow Grove.

The ladies who brought food and helped serve dinner were Mrs. Max Schnoor, Mrs. Adoff Mahin, Mrs. Bill Davison, Mrs. Hans Michaelson, Mrs. Jack Howard, and Mrs. Art Kahland.

Those who sent food but not able to attend were Mrs. Clair Kee and Mrs. Verlon Fursteneau. Source: Meadow Grove News, Thur. Nov. 20, 1952, page 1.

Madison County Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 1031, Norfolk, NE. 68702—1031



**TEMP RETURN SERVICE FIRST CLASS**

Your membership renewal date is on the address label.

6-16-2013  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

### Ballot for Election of Officers is below.

Cast your vote by our July 20, 2013  
meeting.

**Election of Madison County Genealogical Society officers** will be held July 20, 2013. If you like to vote please copy this ballot and either mail it to our society or attend the meeting with your votes. If you mail it please make sure we get it by July 20th.

If you like to have some one other than the candidates listed below please place the name on the blank line for that office.

President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Streng

Vice-President: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis McCain

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobette Ferguson

Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bernice Walters

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