

MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

VOLUME 14 - NUMBER 53

OCTOBER, 1992

1ST QUARTER

ESTABLISHED JUNE, 1973

Meeting date and time - 3rd Tuesday of each month not including December  
7:30 p.m. - First Baptist Church - 404 Benjamin Ave., Norfolk, NE.

OFFICERS: President - Lottie Klein Vice President - Harold Lyon  
Sect. - Marjorie R. Fuhrmann Treasurer - Donald and Dorothy Munson  
Newsletter Editors - Joyce Borgelt and Jeanne Allison

DUES: Due September 1 of each year  
\$6.00 for individual or \$8.00 per couple

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Summer has slipped away and Autumn has arrived. The summer of 1992 really did not feel like a typical Nebraska summer. We missed the sunny hot days of July and August. Our cool summer slipped into Autumn with very little change weather wise.

This summer was a very difficult one for me. I watched my dear husband, Don, suffer from very early May until September 23rd and finally passed away from that dreadful disease, cancer. Another member in our society, Ardith Logan, was also left alone from the death of her husband, Gary, from the same dreadful illness.

Now with a brighter note - the colorful foliage of the trees and the lovely colors of the late summer flowers are a delight to one's eyes as we travel to libraries, court houses, and many other sites in our research.

The Madison County Genealogical Society has added another great book to our library, "RESEARCH GUIDE TO GERMAN - AMERICAN GENEALOGY," compiled by German Interest Group - a Branch of the Minnesota Genealogical Society. This book is an excellent guide to anyone who is of a German background.


May each of you have a pleasant Autumn and good Luck in your genealogy adventures.

Most Sincerely,

*Lottie Klein*

Lottie Klein

DUES ARE DUE



Time to  
Renew Your  
Membership



## NEBRASKA

The Nebraska legislature considered a bill last February to make state vital records confidential, but it didn't pass. Some changes were made, however. Previously, birth, death, marriage, and divorce records could be ordered by mail for a fee, or hand copied at the vital records office for free. Under the new policy, a search costs \$8 for a birth record, and \$7 for death, marriage, or divorce records. Another bill is expected to be submitted in January 1993 to close vital records, and we will be fighting to see that it doesn't pass. (from Cheryl Wray, editor, Adams County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 424, Hastings, Nebraska 68902-0424.)

Source - Linn Co. Heritage Hunters  
Oct. 1992

## LAND PATENT OFFICE MOVES

You may want to know that the government office which handles requests for land patents has moved. Land Patents are records of the first sale of government lands to our ancestors. The cost is \$15.00 and requests including the complete land description can be sent to the following address:

United States Department Of The  
Interior  
The Bureau Of Land Management  
Eastern States Office  
7450 Boston Blvd.  
Springfield, VA 22153  
Fed of Gen Societies Forum-Fall 1992

## Preserving Old Books

Sometimes it's necessary to take drastic measures to preserve our old books and records. Here's how to Library of Congress takes care of books they believe might contain silverfish, lice or cockroaches. They pop each book in a microwave oven and "cook" it for 60 seconds on the warm or low setting. The heat effectively kills the insects and any of their eggs.

Another tip for old smelly musty books is to put them in a garbage bag with cat litter and let sit for about a week.

(Courtesy KYOWVA Gen Soc, V 19, 1992)

Both from NSGS Aug/sept 1992

## BUFFALO CHIPS

A Meade County editor wrote in 1879: "It was comical to see how gingerly our wives handled these buffalo chips at first. They commenced by picking them up between two sticks, or with a poker. Soon they used a rag and then a corner of their apron. Finally, growing hardened, a wash after handling was sufficient. An now? Now it is out of the bread into the chips and back again--and not even a dust of the hands!"

(Trails to the Past, Ft. Hays Gen Soc, Apr 92)

## ZIP PLUS-4

Members please send in your

ZIP PLUS-4 Zip Code

This is your ZIP CODE plus the four numbers.

Example:  
68701-6153

These zip-codes help the Post Office sort mail more efficiently.

## Daughters

### Are YOU a Descendant of a Union Soldier of the CIVIL WAR???

Preserve your Civil War Heritage, while honoring and revering your Civil War ancestor by affiliating with the DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865. For more information about the DUV, call (308) 345-3695 in McCook or (308) 278-2797 in Culbertson, NE.

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DID YOU KNOW? - The magnetic photo album, the kind with sticky backing and a clear plastic overlay, is very destructive. The chemical reaction from the backing and plastic will eventually cause deterioration and discoloration. If you've already started using this kind, you should consider removing your heritage prints by first putting the album in the refrigerator overnight. The cold helps make the material more willing to separate without destroying your prints. From Diablo Descendants via Oregon Gen. Soc.

Ancestors Unlimited, Spring 1992

## SSA Telephone Requests

Social Security's toll-free information phone is 1-800-772-1213. It is available for people who need information about SSA's procedures and services. This service is excellent if you are asking about common Social Security topics, such as death benefits, social security payments, and so on. But depending on which operator finally answers, questions of a genealogical nature may cause the operator to leave the room and get a book, or ask a supervisor what to do, because they are not prepared for genealogists asking obscure questions like, "How do I get a copy of my grandfather's SS-5 form", or "I want to see if a person is alive or not." It may be worth the call to ask these questions, and you may even get a good answer — but in the preparation of this report, I called this number three different times and got three somewhat different answers to the same question. (One call resulting in an operator telling me, "I've never been asked that question before...").

On the other hand, this toll-free telephone number is the quickest and best way to find out where to write for a death certificate, and the current fee for obtaining a certified copy. That information is readily available because SSA deals with people inquiring about death benefits on a daily basis. You can use this free service to find out where to write for a birth or marriage record (indirectly), because by asking about death certificates, the same state vital statistics office is the source for birth and marriage records. SSA maintains a current database of addresses and fees for all U.S. States and Territories. This is superior to using published lists of State vital statistics offices (including the "Where to Write..." booklets from the Government Printing Office) which are usually out-of-date soon after being printed.

## Finding a Social Security Number for a Deceased Person

When writing to the Social Security Administration for a person's Form SS-5, and you do not know the Social Security Number, unfortunately, you must provide the same information you are trying to receive. Since SSA can locate a deceased person's records by

the Social Security Number alone, having the number is a shortcut to more information. But how can you find a SSN for a person? Here are some suggestions:

■ Obtain a death certificate for the person. Since 1936, the standard form for death certificates includes a place for the deceased's Social Security Number.

■ Locate papers normally found in a home, such as insurance records, payroll check stubs, business papers, bank statements, cancelled checks (if it was part of person's printed address information), and anything else that might show a Social Security Number.

■ If a person had a driver's license, some states include the Social Security Number on the license. Motor Vehicle Departments in most states are open to inquires about a person's driving record. (Massachusetts and Washington are the only two states that will not run a license check). Some states require more information, such as the license number, and last known address in the state. If you write and give the person's name and the nature of your request, it may be possible to obtain a Social Security Number and other information about a person, but primarily for persons still living.

■ Records of previous employment may still be on file at the company where a person once worked. As private records, the company does not have to tell you anything, but by explaining the nature of your request as "family business" and that the person is deceased, you may have success.

■ If the person was a member of a trade union, professional association, fraternal organization, or even a private club, there may be membership records still available and which may reveal information about a person, including Social Security number.

■ Public and private schools maintain records for former students, particularly trade schools or colleges where a certificate or degree was earned by the person.

■ If your subject was a federal employee, contact the Bureau of Retirement and Insurance of the Civil Service Commission, 1900 East 'E' St., Washington, DC 20415. *continued...*

**Finding SSN....continued...**

■ If your subject died in a hospital or nursing home, the "face sheet" of the patient's file has vital statistics about the person, including a Social Security number. Nursing homes and hospitals are busy places and such requests will likely be denied if requested over the phone. A written request explaining the purpose or a visit in person may be better.

■ If your subject served in the military for either World War I or World War II, a record of his discharge was required to be recorded at the county courthouse where he resided at the time of discharge. For WWII discharges, the court record will include a military Service Number for the person, and with that information, detailed military records may be available by writing to the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132. However, there was a disastrous fire in this facility in 1973, which caused a considerable loss of modern military records, including about 80 percent of the Army records from 1912-1959. If your subject was on active duty or receiving veteran benefits from 1973 forward, the records were reconstructed.

The form DD214 is the "separation from service" document for all branches of the military and will give a Social Security Number for the subject — and other vitals.

**Social Security Prefix Numbers**

Every Social Security Number has nine digits. The first three digits can be used to learn where the number was issued. The place where the SSN was issued is where the applicant first applied for an SSN number, usually where a person's first job was located, not necessarily the birth state.

A complete list of the first three digits along with the State or Territory is shown below. Railroad workers were assigned a different prefix regardless of which state issued the number, because the railroad workers retirement system preceeded Social Security and administered by a federal board.

We would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Dan Ferrell, Regional Public Affairs Director, Social Security Administration, Region 10, Seattle, Washington, who provided pertinent information to us for the preparation of this article.

SSN Prefix	Place Issued	SSN Prefix	Place Issued	SSN Prefix	Place Issued
001-003	New Hampshire	318-361	Illinois	521-524	Colorado
004-007	Maine	362-386	Michigan	525	New Mexico
008-009	Vermont	387-399	Wisconsin	526-527	Arizona
010-034	Massachusetts	400-407	Kentucky	528-529	Utah
035-039	Rhode Island	408-415	Tennessee	530	Nevada
040-049	Connecticut	416-424	Alabama	531-539	Washington
050-134	New York	425-428	Mississippi	540-544	Oregon
135-158	New Jersey	429-432	Arkansas	545-573	California
159-211	Pennsylvania	433-439	Louisiana	574	Alaska
212-220	Maryland	440-448	Oklahoma	575-576	Hawaii
221-222	Delaware	449-467	Texas	577-579	District of Columbia
223-231	Virginia	468-477	Minnesota	580	Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico
232	West Virginia or North Carolina	478-485	Iowa	581-584	Puerto Rico
233-236	West Virginia	486-500	Missouri	585	New Mexico
237-246	North Carolina	501-502	North Dakota	586	Guam, Phillipine Islands, or American Somoa,
247-251	South Carolina	503-504	South Dakota	587	Mississippi
252-260	Georgia	505-508	Nebraska	700-729	Railroad Workers
261-267	Florida	509-515	Kansas		
268-302	Ohio	516-517	Montana		
303-317	Indiana	518-519	Idaho		
		520	Wyoming		

# Maps for Genealogists

*An Update on USGS Maps, Gazetteers, and Map Information Sources*

## Topographic Maps

The best maps for genealogical research are those that blow up an area large enough to show the location and names of small towns, cemeteries, roads, and man-made or natural features. The best source for such map detail are the maps produced by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), or 7.5 minute series maps. These maps cover 7-1/2 minutes of one degree of latitude and longitude, at a scale of 1:24,000. One map represents a rectangle of about 7 to 8 miles across by about 8 to 9 miles deep, and printed on a sheet that is about 24 inches by 30 inches in size. A map that size can show every road, building, mountain, valley, stream, cemetery, and even the playgrounds and parks within a town or city. The scale is large enough to easily visualize a family farm of 40 acres or less.

Over 53,000 of these large scale maps have been published and are printed in seven colors, yet they are available for a low price of \$2.50 per map from USGS. The coverage of the 7.5 minute series is for the entire U.S., except certain desolate areas or areas where the 15 minute series of maps provide adequate coverage.

The steps to order these maps may not be well known to genealogists, but USGS makes the process very easy. Before ordering, however, you need to know the name of the map you want. USGS provides an excellent index for each state in a booklet showing a grid map and the name of each 7.5 topo map. The index booklets are free.

In addition to the Index to Map Coverage, there is another free booklet for each state called the Catalog of Published Maps, which lists the 7.5 maps by name, order number, prices, and order forms for mailing in an order. The catalog also describes other maps for a state, including a new series of large scale county maps, (which only applies to a few states so far) plus state, regional and national maps. A third free item is a large

folded index map for each state which has a grid, and from which either the 7.5 or 15 minutes series maps can be identified. All three items can be obtained by calling the USGS hotline: 1-800-872-6277 (1-800-USA-MAPS). You can request one to fifty state index/catalog sets, which are all free of charge.

## New Publication for Genealogists

USGS has something new for genealogists. A free 12-page booklet, "Maps Can Help You Trace Your Family Tree" is now available. This booklet is an introduction to what a genealogist needs to know to access USGS maps, as well as maps in the Library of Congress, National Archives, and many other sources. The booklet presents an excellent review of directories to map collections, bibliographies, atlases, and place-name sources. You can request this booklet by calling the USGS hotline.

## The National Gazetteer

"The National Gazetteer of the United States of America", still in progress by USGS, is a compendium of placenames that identifies and describes over 2 million manufactured and natural features in the United States. The project is now complete through phase 1, in which the placenames from the 7.5 minute series of USGS maps were extracted. The names were entered into a large computer database and alphabetical lists (gazetteers) for each state were prepared.

As an example of the genealogical value of the gazetteers, someone interested in the name Dollarhide can discover the location of Dollarhide Creek in Marion County, Indiana; Dollarhide Cemetery in Little River County, Arkansas; Dollarhide Oilfield on the Texas-New Mexico border, and Dollarhide Mountain, Camas and Blaine Counties, Idaho.

continued...

## Maps for Genealogists....continued...

Work is now progressing by USGS to complete phase II of the Gazetteer project, which adds placenames from many other sources, including older USGS maps, historical maps, state maps and gazetteers, and several other federal agencies. In the phase II lists, obsolete placenames will be included and referenced with a current name. For example, Sandy Hook, New Jersey is listed in a phase II gazetteer with the following former names for that place: Sandy Point, Sandy Pointe, Godyns Punt, Goodwins Point, and Gradyns Point.

After the placenames for each state are completed through phase II, a gazetteer will be published in quality book form. As of May 1992, seven states have been completed through phase II of the project and available as published gazetteers: Arizona, Delaware, Indiana, Kansas, New Jersey, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Several more states are complete through phase II, but the published gazetteers are not ready yet. However, the interim printed listings for these states include phase II information: Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Utah.

Phase I states with some phase II information: Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

Phase I states and territories: Alaska, American Samoa, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Micronesia, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia.

The published gazetteers are available in book form, and interim listings for all other states are available in the form of bound computer listings. The lists can also be supplied in the form of magnetic tapes, or on microfiche. The prices for the phase I printed lists or phase II gazetteers range from \$4.75 (Delaware) to \$34.00 (Virginia). The lists are also available on microfiche for \$2.00 per state/territory. By calling the USGS hot-line, you can receive a price quote for a particular state, or a free "fact sheet" concerning the

gazetteers which lists prices for each state.

The phase I placename lists for all fifty states have been made available to private publishers, and at least one published set (OmniGraphics, Inc.) is now on the market.

USGS will conduct custom searches of the placename data lists. Each search is individually priced and can be requested via mail or in person at any of the USGS's Earth Science Information Centers (ESIC's), and the results can be requested as bound listings or on magnetic tape. All USGS mail orders are handled from their Denver, Colorado distribution center. The starting point for ordering maps or gazetteers, however, is to use the USGS hotline for further information and ordering instructions.

### USGS Earth Science Information Centers

All USGS maps and gazetteers can be purchased in person at one of twelve Earth Science Information Centers. They are located in Anchorage and Fairbanks, AK; Stennis Space Center, MS; Denver, CO; Los Angeles, Menlo Park, and San Francisco, CA; Reston, VA; Rolla, MO; Salt Lake City, UT; Spokane, WA; and Washington, DC. For an address, use a local phone book listing for U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Earth Science Information Center.

### Map Information Sources

USGS recently prepared an 18-page listing of "Map Information Sources" which can be obtained for no charge by calling their hotline. Many types of maps, charts, atlases, publications, etc., are available from commercial firms and professional societies. For convenience, USGS prepared a listing of some of these sources, along with addresses and phone numbers. The complete list is available from USGS — we have reprinted a selective listing from that publication below, showing some firms with maps and services that may be of interest to genealogists:

■ Intergraph Corp., One Madison Industrial Park, Huntsville, AL 35807. Phone: (205) 772-1672. Map publishing systems, software, and hardware.

# TIPS & tricks

**TOMBSTONE RUBBING:** A successful rubbing of a tombstone inscription can be made by using Pellon attached with masking tape and using a lumberman's crayon. Pellon is a brand of interfacing material and can be purchased in any fabric store. It is available in white, cream and black. It can be framed to make a very attractive wall hanging. Lumberman's crayons come in a variety of colors and can be purchased at your local hardware store. They do not melt, smudge or smear like chalk or graphite. Source: Zion Gen Soc. Zion, Ill.

**DO YOU WANT CIVIL WAR PHOTOS OF YOUR ANCESTOR?** If you are seeking a photo of a Civil War soldier or soldiers, contact the US Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013. Their staff will check their card files for names and/or regiments and send photocopies (limit 10 per patron) of what they have, along with copy costs. They are also seeking to obtain photos of any and all Civil War soldiers. If you have a photo of a Civil War soldier and will loan it to the Department of Army for copying, they will send you a complimentary copy (8 x 10) of each. Contact: Michael J. Winey, Curator, US Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013. Source: Heritage Quest.

**NORWEGIAN RECORDS** -- microfilm of Norwegian records can be borrowed for 1 month for \$5 plus postage. Write for information to: Vesterheim Genealogical Center, Norwegian American Museum, Decorah, IA 52101. Ancestors Unlimited.

**MUSTY BOOKS:** To refresh those great old, but musty-smelling books found in an attic or at a garage sale, place them in a paper bag filled with cat-box litter. Close the bag and leave it for a week. When you take the books out, the odor should be gone. ENGS, Fremont.

**UNREADABLE GRAVESTONES** -- Many markers in old cemeteries are almost impossible to read. When nothing would bring out the inscriptions, Jeff Meyer of Fayette Co, IL went back to the cemeteries at night. By shining a flashlight on the stones at just the right angle, he was able to read them. Fayette Facts, Vandalia, IL

**ORPHAN TRAIN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF AMERICA INC.** 4912 Trout Farm Rd, Springdale, AR 72764 will send a brochure giving the annual events during the year. Descendants of the over 150,000 homeless children placed from New York and Boston between the year of 1854 and 1929 now count into the millions. All are invited to attend their annual events. A quarterly newsletter, "Crossroads", is published full of stories of these children. There are over 2,000 documented "placed out" children.

**UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS.** The U.S. Census Bureau's age and citizenship searching service has relocated from Pittsburg, Kansas to P.O. Box 1545, Jeffersonville, IN 47131. Write for new forms (BC-699) to make request. Source: Adams Co. (Ohio) Gen. Soc.

To remove a snapshot from a magnetic photo album that is stuck to it, lift up a corner and aim a blast of hot air from a hair dryer underneath the photo. The picture can be easily removed. Source: Seward Co (NE) Gen Soc.

**SCOTLAND**-- Write to General Register Office for Scotland, New Register House, Edinburgh EH1 3YT, Scotland, for the brochure entitled "List of Main Records in the Custody of the Register General for Scotland", and information regarding facilities for searching in the records and for the issue of extracts. The information includes all the records that can be searched, instructions for searches requested by mail and carried out by the General Register Office staff. Fees for searches and extracts are also listed.

For records of births, deaths, marriages, wills and other documents, write to the Scottish Record Office, General Register House, Edinburgh EH1 3YY.

For records about Coats of Arms and Genealogies, write to The Lyon Office, New Register House, Edinburgh EH1 3YT. New York Times

**ENGLAND AND WALES** -- For those interested in searching records of births, deaths and marriages in England and Wales, requests can be mailed to: General Register Office, Smedley Hydro, Merseyside PR8 2HH, England. Personal searches can be made at the Registrar General, St. Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP. New York Times

**IRELAND** -- Records of births, deaths and marriages in Ireland can be requested from: Registrar General, Oxford House, 49-55 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4HL, Northern Ireland, or Registrar General, 8-11 Lombard Street East, Dublin, Ireland. New York Times

**KENTUCKY PUBLICATION LIST** -- Free computer listings of over 450 publications pertaining to Kentucky are available from Ms. Glenda Harned, at The Historical Confederation of Kentucky, P.O. Box "H", Frankfort, Kentucky 40602. To receive this list, which gives instructions for ordering, pricing, etc., send a large SASE and ask for the Cooperative Marking Plan list. Greater Omaha Genealogical Society

**OBITUARIES FROM DER CHRISTLICHEBOSTSHAFTER** relating to families affiliated with the German Evangelical Association (later the Evangelical United Brethren Church and later merged with the United Methodist Church) are available. Written in German, they often give birth dates, places, dates of immigration and marriage dates, as well as death dates. Obituaries for 1836 to 1879 have been indexed. They are located at Garrett Theological Seminary Library, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60450. Inquiries can be sent to Dr. David Koss, 114 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, Illinois 60010. South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society

**RAILROAD** -- If your ancestor had a Social Security number of 700-728, he worked for the railroad at one time; probably between 1937-1943. The Railroad Retirement Pension was set up at the same time as Social Security and railroaders received their own SS numerical prefix. The Railroad Pension Records are available from the Railroad Retirement Board, 844 Rust Street, Chicago, IL 60611. "The Sunflower" Hutchinson, KS.

**QUICK ANSWERS TO GENEALOGICAL PROBLEMS** -- For a quick answer to a quick question, you may call the Family History Library in Salt Lake City at 1-800-453-3860. The number is the LDS church offices switchboard which will connect you to the library (you get a recording, after which an operator comes on the line, and you tell her you need a question answered by someone at the library and she connects you.) If you have a long, involved question, don't expect a long involved answer, but they might know where you can turn for help. "Leafy Branches" Adams Co, NE Gen. Soc.

Source PPGS March 1992



## NEBRASKA FOLK CURES

Compiled by Roger L. Welsch in his book "A Treasury of Nebraska Pioneer Folklore" - University of Nebraska Press, 1967.

Until a baby is six months old his clothes must be put on over his feet rather than over his head to prevent stunting his growth. His nails, until he is a year old, must be bitten off instead of cut or he will steal when he is grown.

To prevent still-birth, get all children in the neighborhood to beat tin pans in the sick room to drive the devil away. (Used in Kearney.)

Do not eat chokecherries and then drink milk within three hours. It will cause horrible swellings and probably death.

Wrap a spider in silk and seal it in a nutshell. Then suspend it around the neck on a string. This will prevent or cure disease.

A string of greased yarn worn around the neck will prevent colds, croup and other infectious diseases.

To cure bladder trouble, follow a coyote or a badger until you see him urinate on the brush or the grass on a prairie. Gather only the wet brush, boil it and drink the tea. The cure is almost instantaneous.

For rattlesnake bite, apply buffalo manure to the wound.

To cure earache, make a tea from sheep pellets and pour while warm into the ear.

To cure freckles and tan, wash your face in human urine every night. (Practiced in Thomas County.)

If a person is insane, stick his head in a furnace and he will be normal.

To cure mumps, take the tonsils from a squirrel and bind one tonsil under each jaw where the mumps are. (This cure was used by a citizen of Nebraska City.)

If a person is in bed with a fever, burn black feathers in a pan under the bed to cure him.

To cure lockjaw, make a tea from cockroaches and drink it.

Hold the edge of a sharp axe against the abdomen of a woman suffering from labor pains. This will take her mind off her trouble and ease the pain.

Let a cow lick straight hair to make it curly.

To cure asthma, go down to a river and catch a frog. Pry its mouth open and blow your breath into it. This must be done before daylight. The frog will die before sundown with asthma, but the person will never have it again.

Rub the swollen gums of a teething child with the brains of a freshly killed rabbit to bring the teeth through.

-----And there are many, many more listed in the book. Needless to say, I am glad I'm living today instead of in the pioneer days of Nebraska! How about you? Source PPGS - March 1992



**NATIONAL ARCHIVES FEES:** The fees for copies of records from the National Archives were increased in 1991, and the first fee increase in almost ten years. The fee schedule is as follows: NATF Form 80, "Order for Copies of Veterans Records" - \$10.00; NATF Form 81, "Order for Copies of Ship Passenger Arrival Records" - \$10.00; NATF Form 82, "Order for Copies of Census Records" - \$6.00; NATF Form 83, "Order for Copies of Eastern Cherokee Applications" - \$10.00. The forms are free and can be requested by writing to: General Reference Branch (NNIR), National Archives and Records Administration, 7th and Pennsylvania Avenues NW, Washington DC 20408.  
-Source Watn Gen Society-August 1992

## Patronymic Prefixes & Suffixes

*Patronymic* means "named from the father." Patronymics are formed by adding a prefix, suffix, word, or particle to the father's given name.

Language	Beg/End	Example	Meaning
Armenian	-ian	Simonian	from Simon
Bulgarian	-off, -eff	Georgieff	from George
Chinese	-tse, -se	Tao-tse	son of Tao
Czech	-ov, -ek	Pavlov	son of Paul
Danish	-sen	Hansen	son of Hans
Dutch	-se, -sen, -z -szen, -en	Pieterse	son of Peter
English	-son, -s	Johnson	son of John
Finnish	-nen	Heikkinen	son of Henry
French	de-	Dejean	son of Jean
German	-sohn, -s -zohn	Mendelsohn	son of Mendel
Greek	-antis -poulos	Georgantis	son of George
Hungarian	-fi, -f	Petőfi	son of Peter
Irish	Mc-, Mac- O' (grandson)	O'Reilly	grandson of Raghallach
Italian	de-, di-, d' degli-	d'Alberto degli'Alberti	son of Albert of the Albert's
Lithuanian	-aitis	Adomaitis	son of Adam
Norman	Fitz-	Fitzgerald	son of Gerald
Norwegian	-sen, -son -datter	Knutsen Knutsdatter	son of Knut dau. of Knut
Polish	-wicz	Janowicz	son of John
Portuguese	-es, -az	Pires	son of Peter
Rumanian	-escu	Ademescu	son of Adam
Russian	-ovich, -na -ovna	Pavlovich Pavlovna	son of Paul dau. of Paul
Scottish	Mc-, Mac-	MacDonald	son of Donald
Slovak	-ak, -ek, -ic	Matuscak	son of Matthew
Spanish	-es, -ez	Gonzalez	son of Gonzalo
Swedish	-son -dotter	Jonsson Johansdotter	son of Jon dau. of Johan
Ukrainian	-enko	Ivanenko	son of Ivan
Welsh	ap-, -s	apLloyd	son of Lloyd
Yugoslavian	-ovich -evich	Stefanovich	son of Stephen

Source: *Treasury of Name Lore* by Elsdon C. Smith.

## German Surnames and the Umlaut

In German, the "umlaut" is a double dot marking over an *a*, *o* or *u*, (i.e. *ä*, *ö*, *ü*) which may have been dropped from a German surname when a family came to America. The umlaut was originally the letter *e*, written sideways above the vowel, which eventually became two short vertical strokes for speed in writing. The correct way to write an umlaut without using the double dot is *ae*, *oe*, or *ue*. This spelling tries to preserve the

Source LLCGS Oct 92  
MCGS - VOL 14-53

original umlaut sound, which does not have an English equivalent and cannot be spelled in English. When working with German surnames, keep in mind that an original umlaut in the accented syllable of a family or place name may have become lost.

Sources: *Guide to Spelling & Pronunciation of German Names* by Art Johnson and Warren Co. (IA) G. S. Newsletter.

## German Surname Suffixes

German surname suffixes often contain clues to the regional origin of the surname:

-bach .....	from southwest Germany
-berg .....	from throughout Germany, except northern Germany
-burg .....	from throughout Germany
-ecke .....	from Hesse and Thuringia
-haus, -kamp .....	from Westphalia
-ingen .....	from Baden and Wuerttemberg
-inske .....	from Upper Silesia
-reuth .....	from Bavaria
-ski, -zje .....	from East Pomerania

Source: *Clark Co. (WA) Genealogical Society*, Feb 1992.

## The First Surnames

The Chinese were the first known people to acquire more than one name. Emperor Fushi is said to have decreed the use of family names, or surnames, about 2852 B.C.

Source: *NENGS Notes*, Feb 1992.

## German Occupational Names

Name	Occupation
Becker .....	Baker
Bauer .....	Farmer
Bergmann .....	[Mountain-man] = Miner
Dreher .....	Lathe-worker, Turner
Gerber .....	Tanner
Kaufmann .....	Merchant or Peddler
Koch .....	Cook
Krämer .....	Shopkeeper
Maurer, Steinmaurer .....	Mason, Stonemason
Müller .....	Miller
Richter .....	Judge
Schäfer .....	Shepherd
Schneider .....	Tailor
Schu(h)macher .....	Shoemaker
Schuster .....	Shoe Repairman
Shultz .....	Mayor
Wagner .....	Wagonmaker
Weber .....	Weaver
Zimmermann .....	Carpenter



## Origin of Surnames

Surnames originated in Europe around the 12th century because there was a need for additional identification of people. The need was even greater in the cities where many people living closely together shared the same name. For example, in England, 17% of the male population was named William, Robert, Richard, or John and two-thirds of the female population was named Mary, Elizabeth, Ann, or Sarah.

Surnames were not just randomly selected. In order for the surname to be remembered and used, there usually was some logical connection between the individual and the second name by which he came to be known.

The surname, meaning a name "over" or "in addition to" the given name, had four basic origins: a place or locality; a parent's name (patronymic) or relationship; an occupation, trade, office, or status; or a personal characteristic or nickname.

Today almost half of our surnames (40%) indicate places (Hill, Brooks, Meadows), 30% are patronymics (Johnson, Harris, Jones), 18% occupations (Baker, Miller, Smith), 12% descriptive (Brown, Short, Longfellow), and 2% are others.

## Naming Traditions

Different countries have traditions for the naming of children. Taking the time to understand the naming customs of the country can be valuable in extending pedigree lines.

The following naming system is often called the "Dutch system" and according to one source, used in Scotland and Germany.

First son was named after the paternal grandfather.  
Second son was named after the maternal grandfather.  
Third son was named after the father.  
Fourth son was named after the father's eldest brother.

First daughter was named after the maternal grandmother.  
Second daughter was named after the paternal grandmother.  
Third daughter was named after the mother.  
Fourth daughter was named after the mother's eldest sister.

The source went on to say that in the Netherlands, the males were named the same way as in Scotland, but the first female child was named after the paternal grandmother, and the second female child was named for the maternal grandmother.

Source: LLCGS Oct 92  
MCGS - VOL 14-53

## Naming Traditions (cont.)

The following interesting quote comes from pages 43-44 of *A Guide to the Spelling & Pronunciation of German Names* by Arta F. Johnson:

One can find in print the statement that the German practice of naming the children called for the first son to be named for his paternal grandfather, and the first daughter to be named for her maternal grandmother, with other rules for naming subsequent children. Such a practice would make research easier for the genealogist, if true, but following such a rule blindly is likely to result in incorrect data. This so-called rule is simply not true for all periods of time and all geographical areas. The Netherlands and parts of northern Germany did follow such a practice; Switzerland and most of southern Germany did not. The Palatinate, from which came so many of the 18th century immigrants, did not. Nor did early Pennsylvania.

Members of the Church of England usually used New Testament names for the given names of their children.

In many countries, when a child died in infancy, it was very common for the next child born of the same sex to be given the name of the deceased child.

## Signed with an X

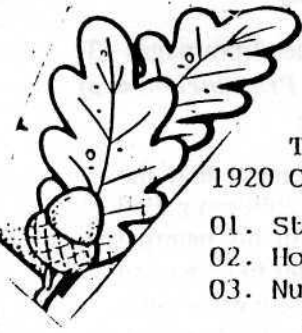
Did you know before the 17th century educated persons often used an X to sign official papers? The X, which symbolized the Sign of the Cross, meant by the signer's Christian faith, the document was proper. Witnesses often signed with their signatures. The St. Andrew's Cross (✕), the Cross of Calvary (†), and the Greek Cross (⊕) were all used on a variety of documents, wills, deeds, and royal decrees. Eventually, the X was adopted by people who did not know how to write. If your ancestor signed with an X, don't assume he was unable to sign his name.

Source: Adapted from *NENGS Notes*, Feb 1992.

## Irish Surnames

Are you researching an Irish surname? You may want to contact the Irish Family Names Association, P.O. Box 2095, La Mesa, CA 91943-2095. To be added to their database, send a list of the surnames you are researching, along with an SASE.

Source: *Lake Co. (IL) G. S. via Prairie Pioneer G. S.*, Jun 1992.



CONTENTS OF THE 1920 FEDERAL CENSUS

The following is a list of items that are covered by the information in the 1920 Census Population Schedule:

- |                                                |                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01. Street, avenue, road, etc.                 | 16. Attended school any time since 1 Sep 1919                  |
| 02. House number or farm                       | 17. Whether able to read                                       |
| 03. Number of dwelling, in order of visitation | 18. Whether able to write                                      |
| 04. Number of family, in order of visitation   | 19. Person's place of birth                                    |
| 05. Name of person                             | 20. Mother tongue                                              |
| 06. Relationship of person to head of family   | 21. Father's place of birth                                    |
| 07. Home owned or rented                       | 22. Father's mother tongue                                     |
| 08. If owned, free or mortgaged                | 23. Mother's place of birth                                    |
| 09. Sex                                        | 24. Mother's mother tongue                                     |
| 10. Color or race                              | 25. Able to speak English                                      |
| 11. Age at last birthday                       | 26. Trade, profession, or kind of work                         |
| 12. Single, married, widowed or divorced       | 27. Industry, business, or establishment of work               |
| 13. Year of immigration to U.S.                | 28. Employer, salary or wage worker, or working on own account |
| 14. Naturalized or alien status                | 29. Number of farm schedule                                    |
| 15. If naturalized, what year                  |                                                                |

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