

# MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

VOLUME 17 - NUMBER 65

October, 1995

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                      V. President - Margerie Fuhrmann  
Secretary - JaNelle Linnaus                      Treasurer - Donald & Dorothy Monson  
Newsletter Editors - Joyce Borgelt and Jeanne Allison

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

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Madison County Genealogical Society met September 19th, the first meeting of a new year. We enjoyed a travel video tape of Germany presented by Richard Streng. The program for October may be an eyebrow raising as each of us will release a skeleton from the closet or relate some other oddity of our ancestor.

On October 7th, I attended a Genealogy workshop in North Platte presented by Ruby Coleman. Ruby is an outstanding genealogist and historian. Her motto is "We can do it", if we have faith, courage, enthusiasm, set a goal and enjoy searching out our ancestors.

I am looking forward to a very good year of progress in my genealogy work.

May each of you enjoy these lovely Autumn days full of lovely colorful vegetation, the crisp mornings and warm sunny days.

Sincerely,

*Lottie Klein*  
Lottie Klein.

We extend our sympathy to Bob Plisek on the death of his father Rudolph.

The program for the November Genealogy will be on England. There will not be a meeting in December. We will have the Christmas party in January.





C R E A T I V E  
*Memories*<sup>TM</sup>

Workshops & Classes  
Photosafe Albums & Supplies

## SAFE AND CREATIVE PHOTO PRESERVATION TIPS

"In this age of disposable everything, we must be careful not to dispose of our past...It is no small task to find, organize, restore and preserve our photos but if it is not done, a VALUABLE LEGACY will be lost. We must establish a new tradition of the family photo-historian." —Thomas Davies, author and photographer.

1. Select photo-safe albums and adhesives. The scrapbook photo album allows for the greatest flexibility and creativity: You can document your family history right on the album page and important mementos can be displayed right along with the photos. Scrapbooks with acid-free pages are recommended. (Rough-textured pages often indicate high acidity). Album bindings should allow pages to lie flat, to keep photographs from bending and/or cracking.
2. You'll feel less overwhelmed by the task of sorting years of photos if you begin with the most recent ones first. Get this year's photos into the album and add the new ones as you receive them - at least keep from getting any further behind. When you tackle the rest, sort them by decades first, then break down by approximate years and put them into albums. If your photos are in a "magnetic" album that chemically destroys pictures, start by putting those into photo-safe albums.
3. Make one "family album" and one album for each child. What nicer way to send off a son or daughter to college or their first apartment?
4. Document your photos. It's important to write in names, dates and events. But it is just as important to write in feelings, humorous captions, appropriate quotes and family stories. These are what will be remembered and appreciated years from now.
5. Creative Cropping. Trim pictures that include too much sky, a thumb or camera strap. Use templates to trim photos into shapes—a heart, circle or oval. However, be careful not to cut out the '79 car, hobby horse or furniture that defines an era.
6. Do not cut Polaroid prints. Exposing the print's chemistry to the air may cause the image to deteriorate and the alkaline developing gel can irritate skin and eyes.
7. You needn't keep every shot of Sally's first smile. Be selective—mount only well-focused, varied shots.
8. Include special mementos with your photos: Mikey's first hair cut photo with a lock of his hair; family vacation photos with color brochures and post cards.
9. Take at least one roll of black and white film per year—they outlast color prints. Put some in your family album and keep a few each year in a second album, stored in a cool, dry, dark, safe place—for posterity, and in case something happens to your family album.
10. Do not store your negatives in the same place as your album—if something happens to your album, your negatives are gone, too. Some people even store their most important negatives in a safe-deposit box.
11. Always store your albums in an upright position; stacking them causes abrasion problems. Don't put them in hot attics or damp basements. The best place to keep your albums is in the rooms where you live—a temperature range of 65-70 degrees.

Source - Platte Valley Kinseeker, Columbus, NE Summer 1995

Madison County Probate Index Record Prior to 1918 (continued) Listing started in July, 1994

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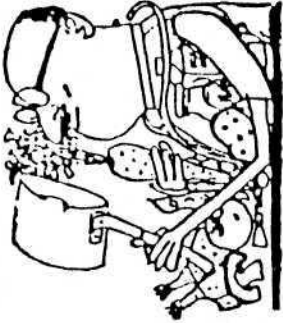
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# Doctor in the Kitchen®

by W.W. Bouff, M.D.  
Consultant, National Dairy Council



• • •  
At  
this  
time of  
the year,

when the house  
is filled with  
the delightful aroma  
of Christmas bakery,  
when cakes, candies, nuts  
and all sorts of

goodies tempt the snacker  
on every hand, it is  
a wise idea to stop and consider  
how easy it is to put on  
pounds and how hard it will be  
to take them off after New Year's  
Day. Nobody wants to take all

the joy out of the holiday season,  
but a reasonable degree of moderation  
should not be too hard to achieve.

The children will feel better and  
have more fun if they do not go  
overboard on the sweets, and the  
older children, who call themselves  
grown-ups, will do just as well to go a  
bit easy on the cup that cheers as  
well as on the Christmas dinner. This  
dinner should be a pattern for good nutrition  
containing, as it does, a variety of many foods  
But, it should not become

an excuse for  
eating  
more  
than

is wise

and sensible. A light breakfast and a good  
brisk walk BEFORE dinner will also be help-  
ful in maintaining a feeling of well-being  
which is so essential to a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

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## October Surprises

These are things I did not know or had forgotten about what happened in the month of October. How many of them do you know about?

Of course, everyone knows that October was the month (twelfth day) that Columbus "sailed the ocean blue" and made his first landfall in the New World, but October has other important

Henry Ford introduced his first "Tin Lizzie" on October 1, 1908. Could that be the reason for the early fall showing of new cars?

The famous Sergeant Alvin C. York of Tennessee made his singlehanded kill of 20 and capture of 132 German soldiers during World War I on October 8, 1918.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States was first recited in public exercises on Columbus Day 1892.

It was October 13, 1775 when the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet for the rebellious colonies. October 17, 1777, General Burgoyne surrendered to the Americans at Saratoga, New York. On this occasion, General Benedict Arnold, later so ignobly traitorous, was the hero. October 19, 1781, General Cornwallis' world turned upside down at Yorktown, Va. ending the official battles of the Revolution.

John Brown, whose body "mouldering in the grave" was credited with some responsibility for the Civil War, made his abortive raid on Harper's Ferry, Virginia, October 16, 1859; and surrendered to Robert E. Lee, in command of Federal Troops on October 18.

Yale University was founded October 16, 1701; and Harvard was founded October 28, 1636.

The Star Spangled Banner was sung for the first time October 19, 1814 at Baltimore, Md.

Germany accepted President Wilson's surrender terms on October 20, 1918; and the Senate ratified the peace treaty with Germany and Austria on October 18, 1921. The second war between Germany and the United States was formally ended on October 19, 1951.

In 1915 (October 23) twenty-five thousand women marched in New York City demanding the vote for women in all 48 states.

Among other anniversaries in October are: World War II landing in the Phillipines (October 20, 1944); the confrontation with Soviet Russia over Cuba (October 22, 1962) and the withdrawal of the Russian "missiles" (October 28, 1962).

A long remembered October anniversary is the Stock Market "crash" of October 29, 1929, which officially began the Great Depression of the 30's.

It's a pretty full month, isn't it?

Battle Creek Enterprise  
20 Oct 1966

## How Battle Creek Got Its Name

Battle Creek is rich in historic lore. Our past will become alive before our eyes during the pageant "Faith of Our Fathers" July 12 and 13.

Members of the P'Mers Extension Club will produce a chapter. The Pawnee Indian War of 1859 from the book "Centennial Reminiscing. A Story of the People of the Community of Battle Creek."

During the spring and in the early part of the summer of that year, the settlers, particularly in the Platte Valley and about the Elkhorn River, as well as other places were subject to depredations and outrages by an aggravated character of the Pawnee Indians. For a season, no one within their reach was safe in person, habitation or estate. The citizens residing in districts not very thickly settled, were exposed to personal violence and injury, and their property was not only secretly stolen, but boldly taken or driven away in the presence of themselves and their families. Houses were broken into and plundered of their contents, and in some cases families were driven from their homes. Post offices were entered by violence and the mail of the United States either robbed or destroyed.

On June 21, 1859, a band of 700 or 800 Pawnees stole a hundred head of cattle on the Elkhorn near Fontanelle. The next day, near West Point, they stole an ox. The settlers surrounded a party of them

in a house and ordered them to surrender. Instead of doing so, they opened fire and wounded a man named Peters in the shoulder. The settlers replied with a volley, killing four Pawnees, after which they sent a courier bearing the news to Omaha and asking for assistance. Since Governor Black was absent from the capital, an expedition was organized with the approbation of Secretary Norton, and under the direction of General John M. Thayer, they started for the scene of the trouble. Information was conveyed to the governor by telegram and he started immediately for the capital. With him were a few Government troops under Lieutenant Robinson of the Dragoon. They arrived in Omaha on the evening of July 5. With these troops and some volunteers, he overtook the expedition under General Thayer on the morning of July 8. The entire force then numbered 200 men with one six-pounder cannon.

After a forced march of four days up the Elkhorn Valley, the Indians were found at a camp stretched along the banks of a small stream, about ten miles above the fork of the Elkhorn. They were engaged in their usual summer hunt. The Military were about to charge when Chief Petal-sharu hastily wrapping a United States flag about himself, calling "me good Indian, don't shoot," advanced to parley, and the soldiers were halted. A conference followed, which resulted in the unconditional surrender of the Indians, who turned over six of their young men as the guilty culprits and signed agreement that pay for the property destroyed, should be taken out of their annuities.

The little stream on the bank on which the Indians surrendered was thereafter called Battle Creek to commemorate the battle that might have been. The same name survives as an additional reminder of the affair in the prosperous town situated a few hundred yards southwest of the place where the Pawnee camp was situated July, 1859.

"How Battle Creek Got Its Name" will be one of 15 scenes in the pageant "Faith of Our Fathers", July 12, 13. The 210 page history book is obtainable from the Battle Creek Improvement Club.

Battle Creek NE Enterprise  
6 July 1967

# Fees For Certificates Increase

The fees for copies of vital records will increase July 1 as the result of a bill passed during the last legislative session.

The cost of certified copies of birth certificates issued by the Nebraska Department of Health will increase from \$8 to \$10. Copies of death certificates and certificates of marriage and divorce or annulment will increase from \$7 to \$9.

The increase in fees is expected to pay for an optical imaging system which will store a major portion of the 5.5 million records on file at the Bureau of Vital Statistics. One disc can store 195,000 records.

An imaging system will save space and protect records from the ravages of time, said Judy Vidlak, a program analyst at the Department of Health.

"Some of our oldest birth and death certificates fall apart when you handle them," Vidlak said.

Another benefit of the system is that staff will be able to locate and make copies of records much more quickly than is presently possible, Vidlak said.

People who need copies of certificates can send a written request to the Bureau of Vital Statistics at the Nebraska Department of Health, P.O. Box 95007, Lincoln, NE 68509-5007. The request should include the individual's full name at birth, the date and place of birth, the parents' names (including the maiden name of the mother), and a check or money order made out for the correct amount.

Battle Creek Enterprise  
26 July 1995



## ANCESTOR COUNTRY CORNER

By Shirley Siems Terry

### HOLIDAY LETTERS AND THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

ADVICE COLUMNISTS may hate receiving photocopied letters from their friends at Christmas, but they are a wonderful resource for the family historian. Such letters provide details and reminders of family stories we might otherwise forget. Many of us who cannot discipline ourselves to keep a daily journal will spend an afternoon or evening on our word processor with our yearly calendar at hand to remind us of the year's happenings.

EVEN IF you have been writing annual letters, are they all in one place, easily accessible? How about ones received? Get that box down from the attic and organize the letters in notebooks by family. Relatives' letters are a great source for writing your family history.

I RECENTLY had thirty years of my own letters photocopied and bound for my children, using spiral binding, because the books are 1 1/2" thick. In addition to the annual holiday letter, I've written similar letters after each of our many moves, most vacations, and other special events.

Included in the books is an introduction, covering the five years of our marriage prior to the letters, a family time-line including our 25 moves and addresses, names of schools and grades attended by our three children, their birth, graduation and marriage dates, a few other pertinent dates, and an attractive cover on card-stock. I later wished I had

made a couple more copies when I found my husband's step-mother trying to read it cover to cover to catch up on all the years she missed in our lives.



### TIPS FOR THIS YEAR'S LETTER

IT'S USUALLY more cost and time efficient to prepare one master copy to be photocopied than to use your printer and the merge capabilities of your word processing program. We offer the following tips to help this year's letter be your best:

**RETURN ADDRESS.** Include your address, month and year, even though it takes an extra few precious lines. Make a special effort to mail your letter early if you have a new address. Some of us really appreciate these clues at the top. *CONTINUED*

## ANCESTOR COUNTRY CORNER

(continued)



**GREETING.** Be sensitive to your recipients' religious beliefs when writing letters or sending cards. There are many religions, including Christian ones, that do not celebrate Christmas.

**CONTENT.** A brief, interesting, chronological accounting of your family's activities and/or a paragraph for each family member in age order seems to work well. Some significant event, such as birth, death or marriage, might make an appropriate opening. Limit yourself to one or two pages (which can be printed back to back) if at all possible. Those of us who can't seem to do this, might do well to send our "newsletters" after the rush of the holidays to insure being read.

Keep your letter up-beat and interesting. Include mentions of political, weather or other major events and their affects on your family. Mention current jobs, school activities and special talents, but go easy on details and long lists of awards and accomplishments.

Be thoughtful of your recipients. There are times when you might refrain from sending your glowing letter to someone you know is having a rough time. A personal note on a special card might be more appreciated. In thirty years, I've received only one negative response to my annual "report." It came from a mother with a large family who had never been further than 100 miles from home. She got tired of hearing about our last trip and our "perfect" kids, mailed from

some new exciting place. Of course, I neglected to mention the frustrations, inconvenience and problems associated in moving and getting acquainted. Each year as I send her car, sans letter, I'm reminded what a full and happy life I've lived.

**PICTURES.** We love letters with pictures of family, home and pets. Your copy shop can do a marvelous job these days with either black and white or color photos. If you want multiple pictures on a page, keep them similar in tone for best results. Use your computer's scanner only if you can get good, clear pictures that will reproduce well.

**CLOSING.** Sign your letter before copies are made. You might have each member of the family sign for an interesting addition.

**PERSONAL NOTES.** Leave several inches of white space at the bottom to allow for personal notes. You can even use your computer for personalization by running individual sheets through the printer. Think ahead about collating and stapling by your copy shop.

**ENVELOPE.** Prepare them early. If you're sending cards, buy them large enough to fold your letter in quarters. Use unusual stamps, once again remembering the religious caution. Source Southeast NE Gen. Soc Summer 1994

## GENEALOGIST STEW

Take 1 curious beginner.

Add: 1 age discrepancy

1 unreadable microfiche

1 census record written in "disappearing ink"

Fold in: 1 ton of correspondence.

Simmer while awaiting answers.

That's enough to make any GENEALOGIST STEW!





**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**

**VERMONT**

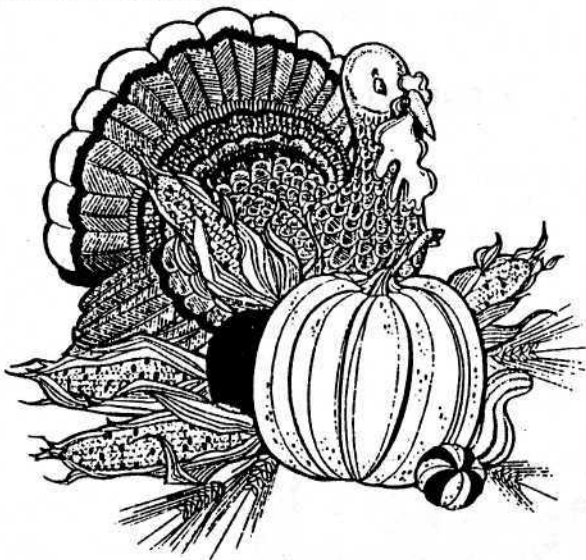
Apply for BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE certificates at General Service Center, US Rte 2 Middlesex, Drawer 33, Montpelier, VT 056333-7601. The cost is \$5.00 for a full certified copy with seal. Search fee is included.

FOR SERVICE RECORDS apply at State of Vermont, Office of the Adjutant General, State Veterans Affairs, Montpelier, VT 05620-4401

They do not charge for their services but if you are so inclined and choose to do so, they would appreciate a donation to the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery, which was opened and dedicated on July 24, 1993. Please make check payable to Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery, c/o State Veterans Affairs, 120 State St., Montpelier, VT 05620-4401.

Researcher has over 17000 names of Civil War Vets buried in NEBR. Most have Rank/Company, Unit, Enlistment & Discharge Date., DOB, DOD w/place of birth & death, and Cemetery & County. B. Morrison 1306 S. 9th St., Beatrice, NE 68310-4919.

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\* MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY \*  
\* P. O. Box 1031 \*  
\* Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031 \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
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*Happy  
Thanksgiving*