

MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

VOLUME 18 - NUMBER 71

April, 1997

3rd 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 - Margerie Fuhrmann

Secretary - Ginger Houser

Treasurer - Donald and Dorothy Monson

Newsletter Editors - Joyce Borgelt and Jeanne Rix

DUES: Due September 1 of each year

\$6.00 for individual or \$8.00 per couple

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Spring arrived and it is the season again when plans and preparations are made for summer time family reunions. Which means a time to update our family trees.

Several members of Madison County Genealogical Society attended the free seven week classes "Learning to Trace Your Roots," hosted by the Norfolk Public Library. The first meeting was well attended by many interested genealogists in the Norfolk area. The video program was an excellent learning aid for new beginners and a great review for seasoned genealogists.

Madison County Genealogical Society welcomed five new members in the March meeting; Marlyn and Betty Low, Wilbur and Julie Koenig, and Verda Fisher.

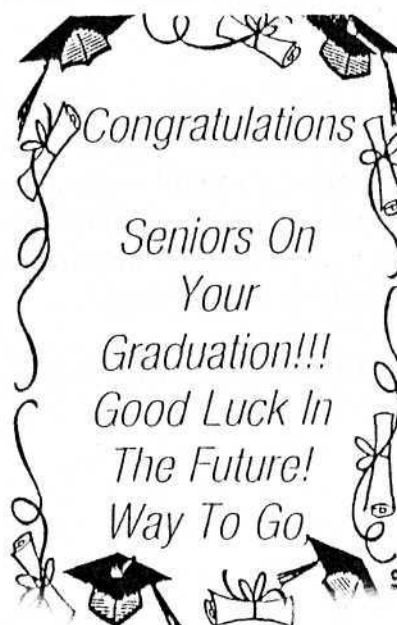
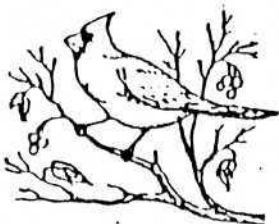
Don and Dorothy Monson gave a very interesting slide review of their trip to Germany last Autumn. The program for April will be by Bud Bridges, "Memories of WWII." Mr. Bridges will talk about his experiences of his time in service and while being a prisoner of war. May's program is a video "The Amish - A People of Preservation."

I hope all of you genealogists are enjoying the awakening of Spring and the pleasant days throughout this season.

Sincerely,

Lottie Klein

Lottie Klein



LEARN TO TRACE YOUR ROOTS!

Norfolk Public Library will host a free seven-week class called "The Genealogist's Video Research Guide." This seven-week video course will be held in the library's meeting room beginning Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7:00 P. M. Classes will last an hour and fifteen minutes. A 4 page synopsis containing notes on the topics presented, research instructions, and bibliographies of resources cited will be available each week to class participants. The class schedule will be:

April 2nd--HOME SOURCES--Genealogy's most common question: "Where do I begin?" The answer: learn what's already been done for you! You'll see how to use family memorabilia, the FamilySearch computer system and published histories to find out what's already been done on your lines. Plus, you'll learn to track your research properly using standard genealogy forms and a unique note-keeping system.

April 9th--CENSUS RECORDS AND PROBATE RECORDS--How to plunge into original sources. You'll learn to glean information from the U. S. Census--it's loaded with your ancestors! Plus, you'll experience the power of probate.

April 16th--LAND RECORDS, MILITARY RECORDS, AND VITAL RECORDS--How to use three of the most information-laden sources available: land, military and vital records. Learn the rich details these documents provide, and see how they can push your research back through the generations! Naturally, you'll see examples of how to do it all!

April 23rd--COMPILED SOURCES--How to find your ancestors in places that many people don't even think to look! You'll be amazed at the information you can find in city directories, newspapers, cemetery and sexton records, fraternal society records, lineage society records, tax lists, and genealogical and biographical indexes.

April 30th--PASSENGER LISTS AND PASSPORTS--Tells you which lists are indexed and how to access those indexes. You'll learn which other genealogical records contain the clues that provide access to passenger lists. And, you'll learn what to look for in the passenger lists themselves to propel your research forward! You'll also learn to research passport applications--an underutilized record that may provide exactly the ancestral information you need!

May 7th--NATURALIZATION RECORDS--Learn which genealogical records provide the clues that lead you to your ancestor's naturalization file. You'll learn strategies for deducing a record's location based on the activities of your ancestors. And, you'll learn how naturalization records can make your research leap ahead!

May 14th--FEDERAL LAND RECORDS AND NATIONAL ARCHIVES MAPS--How to access federal land records, and how these records can help you advance your research! You'll also learn how to get your hands on National Archives maps. There are roughly two million maps in the National Archives, and you won't find them most of them anywhere else! One map may be the earliest cartographic record of an ancestor's estate. Another may help you locate your ancestor in the census. Still others may show you exactly where your ancestor was deployed at Gettysburg!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT Karen Drevo, Judy Hilkemann, or Nancy Zaruba at Norfolk Public Library, 644-8711.

SEVENTY -FOUR ARE CALLED

Will Entrain at Madison Wednesday for Camp Funston and Fort Riley

Seventy-four men will constitute Madison county's quota for the June draft and the men have been called to report at Madison Tuesday for entrainment the following day. One-half will go to Camp Funston, Kansas, and one-half to Fort Riley. Following is the list named by the local board:

To Camp Funston

351-Simon W. Steffen, Battle Creek
720-Irving Carmody, Newman Grove
771-Clair M. Hamilton, Norfolk
791-Floyd E. Crosier, Norfolk
793-Floyd Newsome, Fort Dodge
795-Jacob Mehner, Dallas, S.D.
800-Earl Milow, West Point
804-Tony Wingate, Independence, VA
809-Clarence Wetzal, Norfolk
817-William G. Rinkel, Norfolk
820-Alfred E. Sterfer, Madison
837-Henry Vogth, Hitchcock, OK
878-Chas Zimmerman, Battle Creek
884-Frank Kalk, Norfolk
890-Rudolph Linke, Chicago
900-Olaf Stole, Newman Grove
927-Alfred Edens, Battle Creek
975-James Crowell, Ewing, Ill
983-Willie B. Morris, Norfolk
1007-Wardie Allen, Wutscheville, VA
1019-Irvine W. Klug, Norfolk
1020-William L. Mueller, Norfolk
1027-Grover E. Mayhew, Norfolk
1038-Felix H. Taylor, Madison
1057-Fred Meyer, Seward
1078-Aloysius Husman, Carlisle, ILL
1097-Harold Holton, Genoa
1122-Emil Hayzles, Schuyler
1133-Max S. Heppner, Norfolk
1139-William Randall, Omaha
1149-Alvert McKnight, Tilden
1151-Hugh Cleveland, Madison
1153-Clyde R. Smith, Madison

1154-George H. Voss, Norfolk
1159-Elmer J. Sanderson, Newman Grove
1170-Arthur Hinman, Newman Grove
1190-Tobe Thompson, Humphrey

To Fort Riley

1194-Kinley F. Hogrefe, Battle Creek
1218-Burt E. Moriarity, Grand Island
1221-Fred Studts, Madison
1222-Arnold Luschen, Tilden
1246-William Luttman, Norfolk
1247-Leo J. Werner, Battle Creek
1250-Edwin Johnson, Newman Grove
1253-Thomas O'Shea Jr., Madison
1274-Louis H. Buckendorf, Norfolk
1275-Archie Brown, Madison
1278-Archie Jacobs, Norfolk
1289-Ernest Sandin, Newman Grove
1312-Cyril Hoferer, Norfolk
1345-Walter Welsh, Norfolk
1347-Emmans Sanderson, Newman Grove
1349-Ralph Wensel, Norfolk
1357-Earl E. Nelson, Norfolk
1361-Edward P. Scott, Battle Creek
1369-Arnold Born, Norfolk
1386-Art Solso, Newman Grove
1397-Vernin Patterson, Brunswick
1415-Albert Ohrmund, Norfolk
1425-Adolph Uecker, Norfolk
*1542-Herman Middleman, San Francisco
1545-Lawrence Hale, McKinley, N. D.
1567-John Nelson, Newman Grove
1573-Carl O. Johnson, Newman Grove
1592-Frank Nelson, Norfolk
1598-Alfred Zrienders, Norfolk
1613-Floyd Blackburn, St. Joseph, MO
1915-Carl Henatsch, Gering, NE
1628-Charles Gerhard, Lawrence, NE
1657-Bernhart Holton, Tilden
1661-Ray Owen, Waterloo, NE
1670-Johnson Dogan, Meadow Grove
1781-Richard Ahlman, Norfolk
1684-Henry Sanslow, Redfield, S. D.
*Reported as a deserter

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, 20 June
1918

FROM CAMP FREMONT

Battle Creek Boy Thinks Nothing Better than California Cantonment

Camp Fremont, California, May 26--Battle Creek Enterprise: I thought you might be interested in hearing from me, as there are only a few Battle Creek boys in this camp. I left Omaha May 3, going direct to Fort Logan, Colo., which was our equipment camp only. After remaining there until Sunday night we left for the west, at that time not knowing just where we were going, but finally landed here and we don't regret it a bit. The camp as you know is located some thirty miles from San Francisco. This sure is some camp and some state. The climate is of the best, though they say we are here during the chilliest part of the year.

I am in what they call the machine gun battalion. Thus far, however, we have had practically nothing but infantry drill, which is necessary for everyone to have. We are to start in our machine gun work proper tomorrow. The machine gun itself weighs some 38 1/2 pounds and the tripod on which it rests weighs 48 pounds. We are divided into squads of eight, one squad to handle a gun. The gun shoots regulation size bullets, but in place of firing as a rifle it shoots some 600 shots per minute, or is capable of shooting that many. I took a sight on one of these guns the other day and I believe I can bring the boches down (that is if they don't get me first). I was in what they call the gas house the other day and it sure is bad stuff. I hope the boches don't turn loose with a gas __aid while I am around.

This is our first Saturday and Sunday out of quarantine and I am celebrating it by going to San Francisco. Practically half of our company went on the trip. San Francisco is some town, take it from me. They give you the best of everything at the best possible price. Usually these cantonment towns take advantage of the soldiers but am glad to say that San Francisco is the exception. San Francisco is a wet town, but we could get nothing but pop yesterday. Pretty hard!

San Francisco at present is raising its Red Cross quota but they wouldn't let the soldiers give them a cent. When we volunteered to help with the Red Cross subscription they simply replied, "You are doing your duty." That seems to be the spirit throughout. At the hotel last evening all of us had invitations out to Sunday dinner.

I had heard a lot about the west before ever coming here, but a fellow will never believe all he hears until he really sees it. The buildings are beautiful, the boulevards simply wonderful, and the paing?? runs everywhere.

Our treatment here at the camp is the best and we have a dandy bunch of officers. Two Y.M.C.A. buildings are close so we have some place to go every evening. They put on both movies and musicals. Our eats have been excellent--absolutely the best of everything. I think I am very lucky because I got to come out to this camp. We do not expect to be here very long, however. We have been told that we would eat our 4th of July dinner in New York. We are a part of the __th division, the last to leave, so we will undoubtedly get out of here as soon as possible and either finish up our training in the east or in France. The sooner the better suits me.

My address is Co. B. 23rd Machine Gun Battalion. Would appreciate hearing from any of the home folks at any time. We also like the smokes. Your friend, Allen Cassel. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, 13 June 1918

CLELAND WARNS HOUSHOLDERS

J. J. Cleland, federal food administrator for Madison County, addresses the following communication to Wenzel Koryta, the local food administrator:

"I find that there is a great deal of misunderstanding, as to the amount of white flour allowed for each person. I think it would be well for you to have published in the Enterprise that the allowance for each person is 6 pounds per person per month, and where a person buys bread they are buying one-half of flour and that amount should be deducted from the flour bought so as to have the purchaser live up to the rules of the government. There are a great many people living in town that have the idea that when they buy the victory bread they are living up to the rules of the government. This is not a fact for the loaf of bread as sold now by the baker contains 8 ounces, or one-half of wheat flour. There is a tendency for the people to buy bread instead of doing their own baking and this practice should be done away with as much as possible. Every loyal person will bake their own bread rather than buy from the baker even though the bread they bake is not a good as the baker's bread; for we must save all the wheat flour we can in every way we can. Every housewife can, if she will, make quick raising bread and use no wheat flour at all and save all the wheat flour.

Not more than two-thirds of a pound per person per week of sugar is allowed for the general use in the home. The sugar for canning comes under a different head and you have the instructions on it. I would be well to advise the housewife to buy her sugar for canning as early as possible and in that way they will be sure to have sugar to can with when the fruit is ready. I have interpreted the rule as follows: If a person used 100 pounds last season for canning they will be allowed to buy a like amount this season as follows: 25 pounds per week until they have bought the 100 pounds. If they used more than 100 pounds they will be allowed to buy more after they have used up the 100 pounds they have already bought. In this way it will be possible to have sugar and still not cause a run on the sugar market and cause congestion in freight."

Source: Battle Creek Enterprise 13 June 1918

ARE YOU A FAMILY HISTORY JUNKIE?

- ✓ Do you always brake for a library?
- ✓ If you were locked in the library all night would you notice?
- ✓ Do you hyperventilate when you see an old cemetery not yet explored?
- ✓ Would you rather browse in that cemetery than a shopping mall?
- ✓ Do you think every home should have a microfilm reader?
- ✓ Is your closet carefully stacked with notebooks, books, and journals, and your clothes stuffed under the bed?
- ✓ Does all of your correspondence begin "Dear Cousin?"
- ✓ Are you more interested in what happened in 1693 than what happened in 1993?

-Adapted from Will-Grundy Counties, Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter, November 1996, which credited the Times Union, Jacksonville (IL), Jun 17, 1996.

Via LLCGS, Lincoln, NE Jan 1997
MCGS Vol 18 - 71

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DEAR HELOISE: Because so many people are becoming more and more interested in their roots, I suggest that we plan better now for the future.

Frequently, people will clip a news item or an obituary of a family member and send it to others or store it away, but they fail to clip the top of the page showing the source (the name of the newspaper) and the date it appeared.

In later years, the name and date of the newspaper will make it much easier for researchers who are tracing their genealogy.

I suggest they just cut out the corner containing the name of the newspaper and the date, and tape it to the clipping.

MARY S. GREENE

via Norfolk Daily News 5/3/95
April, 1997 - 3rd Quarter

Books recently put into circulation at Norfolk Public Library

Genealogy books donated by Edna Myers

Supplement to South Carolina Marriages 1688-1820	R929.3757 HOL (Genealogy)
Corrections to the Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications	R929.3 GIL (Genealogy)
Lewis Research Notes (Kentucky) by Mary Barnett Curtis	R929.2 CUR (Genealogy)
Abandoned and Semi-active cemeteries of Kansas Vol. 1/Don L. Ford	R929.5 FOR v.1 (Genealogy)
Doll Show/Nebraska State Historical Society	R745.444 NEB (Neb. History)
Cemetery Inscriptions of Fulton County, IL	R929.373 FUL v.3 (Genealogy)
Cemetery records of Reno County Kansas 1865-1978	R929.5 CEM (Genealogy)
Our Welsh Heritage by Dr. islyn Thomas	369.1 THO (Genealogy)
Nebraska Territorial Pioneers Assn.: Reminiscences & Proceedings	R978.2 NEB v.1(Closed Stacks)
Lewis Family /American Genealogical Research Institute	929.2 AME (Genealogy)
Huguenot Society of New Jersey Inc. Directory 1977	R929.3 HUG (Genealogy)
Huguenot Society of New Jersey Inc. Membership Roll 1985-86	R929.3 HUG (Genealogy)
Nebraska, its characteristics and prospects by Prof. James Butler	978.2 BUT (Nebraska History)
Oglala sources on the life of Crazy Horse	R970.2 HIN
Dutch systems in family naming: New York (and) New Jersey/Bailey	R929.4 BAI (Genealogy)
Huguenot Historian: a journal of Huguenot History & Genealogy	R973.0441 HUG (Genealogy)
Taylor Genealogy by J. Montgomery Seaver	929.2 TAY (Genealogy)
Development of early emigrant trails in the U.S. east of the Mississippi River	388.2 LEW (Genealogy)
Two and One Quarter centuries on Old Mine Road by Robert W. Blasberg	R285 BLA (Genealogy)
Genealogy of the French Settlers of New Paltz (NY) by Louis Bevier	R929.3747 BEV
Hunt family records by J. Montgomery Seaver	R929.2 SEA (Genealogy)
Roster of Revolutionary War soldiers & widows who lived in Illinois Counties	R929.3773 DAV (Genealogy)
Official list of counties and incorporated municipalities of Illinois 1961	R320.85 ILL (Genealogy)
Huguenot Historian a journal of Huguenot History & Genealogy 1980-82	R973.0441 HUG (Genealogy)
Housing Nebraska's governors 1854-1980 by Peg Poeschl	R392.36 POE (Nebraska History)
Osterhout Family History	R929.2 OST (Genealogy)
Gard Family History	R929.2 GAR (Genealogy)

New Books 12/96

Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the families of Great Britain & Ireland
Burke's American Families

R929.6 FAI (Genealogy)
R929.2 BUR (Genealogy)

WALKING STICKS -- Before the advent of modern transportation, our ancestors often walked, and they often used walking sticks. Big crooked ones were the most memorable, and you can grow your own! They are the branches of the Walking Stick Bush or Corkscrew Filbert. Every stem and branch twists, turns, & corkscrews. The spiraling stems provide an interesting accent even when the branches are leafless in winter. The plant is available from Mellinger's Nursery, 2310 West South Range Rd., North Lima, OH 44452-9731, or call 1-800-321-7444. The order no. is 62100L and the cost is \$15.95 plus s/h. Planting instructions are available from the nursery. -- June-July 1995

Leafy Branches--Summer 1995

WARNING

In the Summer 1996 issue of *NEW BRASS KEY* (page 6) there is a warning about the use of shaving cream on tombstones. The stearic acid found in shaving cream is known to dissolve MgCO₃/CaCO₃ that makes up typical **marble** stones. "It has been determined the long-chain organic acids like stearic will remain on the surface after the cream dries. One knows what happens if shaving cream is applied to the finish of a car, so why take a chance on damaging a gravestone with shaving cream, it's not really your property anyway."

Source: LLCGS-Dec 96

TIPS AND TRICKS

REINFORCED MAPS—Here's help with reinforcing heavily used maps.

1. Place map face down on ironing board.
2. Place thin plastic(dry-cleaning bag) over map back.
3. Cover with old sheeting.
4. Press area for 10 seconds. Do not move iron.
5. Cool and trim excess from edges.

This method also works on pictures, and newspaper clippings. The plastic will adhere to cardboard or heavy paper, too. Be sure the iron isn't too hot, but hot enough to melt the plastic bag.

—Decatur Genealogical Soc. via The Illuminator.

FADED WRITING— If you have a document with faded writing that is too dim to read, try a 75-watt black light bulb. It works wonders.

—Ancestors Unlimited via The Illuminator.

NEWSPAPERS—The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has the second largest collection of newspapers in the United States, surpassed only by that of the Library of Congress. It is national and spans the period from the 17th century to the present. More than 4000 titles are included and many are microfilmed and available by inter-library loan.—Westward Into Nebraska via The Illuminator.

POSTAL GUIDELINES—The high-speed equipment of the Postal Service works best only when the postal patrons make their postings compatible with the machines. In order to do this there are ways of addressing your mail that will facilitate the processing.

1. Type or print address in all caps
2. Align the address on the left margin
3. Do not use punctuation marks as space
4. Use black ink. Print clear and sharp
5. Keep address from slanting
6. Attention line should be above address
7. Use Apt., Bldg., etc. instead of # sign
8. Zipcode is the last line on envelop

-via The Illuminator

CONSANGUINITY—When trying to decide how you and a cousin are related, if your common ancestor was:

- a grandparent—————you are first cousins
- a great-grandparent—————you are 2nd cousins
- a g-g-grandparent—————you are 3rd cousins
- a g-g-g-grandparent ————— you are 4th cousins.

If your parent is a 3rd cousin to someone, then you are a 3rd cousin once removed, not a 4th cousin, and your child is a 3rd cousin twice removed.

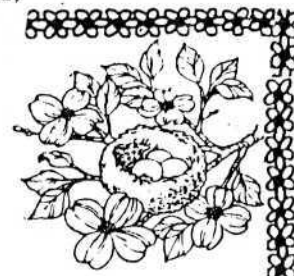
-via Ancestors Unlimited

LOST SOMEONE?—The Salvation Army operates a Missing Persons Locator Service in 90 countries. You must be searching for a near relative and be able to provide essential information about the missing person. The fee is \$10.00 non-refundable donation. Contact your nearest Salvation Army Office for full information.

—Via Long Beach Questing Heirs and Ancestors Unlimited

BRITISH VITAL RECORDS—New address for requesting birth, death and marriage certificates for England and Wales: Postal Application Section, General Registrar Office, Smedley Hydro-Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH, United Kingdom.—Via Nuggets in Paradise

Source: Prairie Pioneer - Jan. 1996



MORE TIPS AND TRICKS

RESEARCH SOURCES—The best can be listed a Judicial Court Records, Property Records, Probate Records, Vital Records, Church Records, Fraternal Records, Alliance Records, Insurance Records, Military Records, Newspapers, Manuscripts, and Ethnic Sources. The second best sources are Personal Diaries, Family Bibles, Old Photographs, Gov't. Publications, School Records, Employment Records, City Directories, Institutional records, Monument Makers, Undertaker's Records, Surname Registries, and Surname Folders. The worst sources are Family tradition, Histories, Lineage Books, Federal Census, Tombstones, Death Certificates, Obituaries, Reference Works, Family Group Sheet, Adamic Lineages, Periodicals, and Count Histories. Via Ron Bremer

FORGOTTEN PUBLIC RECORDS—Business Licenses, Divorce Records, Lawsuits, Wreckers Compensation Claims, Voter Lists, Driving Records, Criminal Records, Ownership Records, Bankruptcy, and Professional Licenses.

Keep in mind that most states have a public records act, and the accessibility of these records will be affected by this act. Your local library or law library most likely has copies of the relevant statutes and will all you to make copies for yourself.

The key to fully utilizing public records is thorough research, preparation, and persistence. If you tell the clerk exactly what you are doing, usually, he or she will be more than willing to help you. Remember to keep what you have learned confidential. Most clerks will provide assistance to researcher they perceive to be honest and mature.

ADOPTION RECORDS—are often filed in county record books under "IN RE". Ask the clerk to see the records of probate or divorce; never mention that you are looking for an adoption. Then turn to the "I's" and under "In Regards to" you will often find name changes and petitions for adoption filed in alphabetical order. Anything that the clerk wishes to hide from the public might be found there.

DEED BOOKS—look under "Commissioners" and "Sheriff" for land held by your ancestors. The land may have been held for minors, mortgage non-payment or other reasons.

POWER OF ATTORNEY—look for these in Probate Record and Deed books. A great way to trace missing persons.

PREVIOUS RESEARCHER SOURCES—

Home Sources—close and distant relatives

Surname Registries—choose one who has been around the longest

National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collection- this multi-volume reference work is available in most large libraries

Mormon Library in Salt Lake City or a branch library near you—request a copy of their TOIR (Temple Ordinance Index Request) form

Photo Duplication Service—Library of Congress will send you a copy of all the cards for books published on any given surname.

First Decennial Digest (vol. 21-25)—this is an alpha listing by plaintiff surname of all reported appellate court cases in the U.S. from 1658-1911. This is usually located in most county courthouses and law libraries.

National Society DAR Library catalog, Volume 1: Family Histories and Genealogies, Washington DC DAR 1982

American Genealogical Biographical Index-Fremont Rider Ed. Middletown CT

AYER'S DIRECTORY—an excellent resource listing all newspapers in the United States

—Via Ancestor Unlimited

PLAT MAPS—Can be used to pin-point where your ancestors lived. To locate a plat map, contact the Title Company or Abstract Office in the town you are searching and ask for one. There will be a minimal charge for an entire book or the cost to make you a copy of the page or pages needed. Besides showing your ancestor's property, the maps show the names of neighbors, some of whom could be relatives or could be the families that your ancestor's children married into.

NEBRASKA SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDENTS; —Contact Dorathea Bartlett, 3021 Ida Street, Omaha Nebraska 68112

Source: Prairie Pioneer- Jan. 1996

WHY PEOPLE PRESERVE THEIR STORIES

"I wish I could see my grandchildren more often. When we are together, there are so many distractions, so little time to really talk. My book is the only way they'll ever know who I was."

"We have an album of old family photographs that will become meaningless unless I preserve the stories about the people pictured."

"I've done a genealogy, but that's just names and dates. Now I want to add some personal human detail to my family's heritage."

"The people I've known, my family, the friends I've made, that's what I treasure most. The highest tribute I can pay them is to preserve their lives, words, and thoughts in a living legacy."

"They call American the 'melting pot.'

Sometimes I think our family has become too much like everyone else. Saving my family's ethnic heritage in a book is important work that needs to be done as soon as possible."

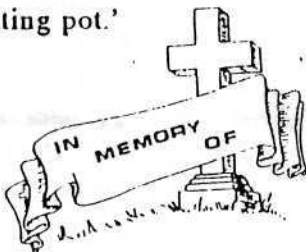
"I've seen so many changes in this century: new presidents, television, heart transplants, computers, the woman's movement, moon walks, and wars. I've lived through these changes, thought about them, raised my family through them. Here's my chance of a lifetime to tell about it."

"My grandchildren ask me, 'What was it like when you were little?' I want to preserve for all time my memories of the houses, schools, food, clothes, travel, games, jobs, and customs of those days."

"My family is scattered out all over the country. Doing our family history will bring us closer together."

"My values and beliefs are very important to me. I want these set down in a book showing

Source: Boone-Nance Co. Gen. Soc June 1996



how I followed them even through the tough times in my life."

"How can I not preserve my life story? It's like saying I never mattered, I never existed."

[Excerpted from an article by Maggie Meehan in the March/April issue of *Everton's Genealogical Helper*.]

TEN TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY

1. Visit the scenes of your past.
2. Review family papers and old photographs, and talk to family members.
3. Gather your memories.
4. Find a work station and establish a daily schedule.
5. Approach your book one step at a time.
6. Pick an imaginary listener and add detail by appealing to the five senses.
7. Keep a notebook handy to jot down memories as they come to you.
8. Combat writer's block. Try using one of the following techniques: read through what you wrote yesterday, leave till later what proves difficult, quit working in the middle of a paragraph so that you can return to it next time, write down any nonsense that comes to mind just to get started (nursery rhymes, jokes, shopping lists, doodles), write a letter to your imaginary listener.
9. Edit what you've written. Pay attention to chronology. Can the reader follow the events? Eliminate any repetition. Make sure you write in complete sentences. Don't use too many commas or exclamation points. Don't write sentences that are a page long, but do try for sentence variety. Explain terms that may be obscure.
10. Enjoy your refound memories.

[Excerpted from an article by Maggie Meehan, appearing in the March/April 1994 issue of *Everton's Genealogical Helper*.]

EPIDEMICS

Many cases of people disappearing from records can be traced to dying during an epidemic or moving away from the affected area. Some of the major epidemics in the United States are listed below.

- 1794 Philadelphia: yellow fever
- 1796-97 Philadelphia: yellow fever
- 1798 Philadelphia: yellow fever
- 1803 New York: yellow fever
- 1820-23 Nationwide: "Fever" (starts on Schuylkill River, PA and spreads)
- 1831-32 Nationwide: Asiatic cholera (brought by English immigrants)
- 1832 New York & other major cities: cholera
- 1837 Philadelphia: typhus
- 1841 Nationwide: yellow fever (especially severe in South)
- 1847 New Orleans: yellow fever
- 1847-48 Worldwide: influenza (one of the disease's greatest epidemics)
- 1860-61 Pennsylvania: smallpox
- 1865-73 Philadelphia, New York City, Boston, New Orleans, Baltimore, Memphis, Washington DC: a series of smallpox, cholera, typhus, typhoid, scarlet fever, yellow fever
- 1873-75 North America & Europe: influenza
- 1878 New Orleans: yellow fever (last *great* epidemic of this disease)
- 1885 Plymouth, MA: typhoid
- 1886 Jacksonville, FL: yellow fever
- 1918 Worldwide: influenza (high point year)

More people were hospitalized in WWI from influenza than wounds. US Army training camps became death camps with 80% death rate in some.

--from *The Genealogist*, 3/96; et al.

WISCONSIN BIRTHS

The Wisconsin Index to Registration of Births for 1852-1907 has been compiled and is available on microfiche from the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

--from St. Louis GS, et al.

Source Bureau Co., Gen. Soc-Jan+Feb 1997

HOW TOMBSTONES STARTED

The practice of putting a stone on a grave arose not from piety but from fear; its origin was not respect for the dead but the motive of self-protection. Even after all precautions had been taken, the living were still afraid that the dead person might return and act against his former community. To make absolutely sure he stayed in his tomb, they weighted the soil down with a stone.

At first, people were buried anywhere, generally near where they had died or been killed. Thus graves could be found in the most unexpected places.

Primitive society looked on a dead person as something impure. To touch it or even pass over its burial place was considered an act of dishonor. Thus, they marked graves with stones. These were meant to be warnings to passersby to keep well away. At times, to make the stones stand out more clearly, they were coated with lime.

This identification and consideration led to the origin of the cemetery. Special fields, removed from close human habitation, were set apart to isolate the dead in order to protect the living from contamination.

A later development was the worship of graves. The tombstone was looked on as a home for the spirit. Later on people were no longer worried about getting defiled, but became concerned that the grave may be desecrated. They placed stones on the grave to prevent animals from digging up the body.

--from *Twiggs*, NW IN G.S., et al.

IOWA RESEARCH

The State Historical Society of Iowa Library in Des Moines has announced that they will no longer do research for out-of-state residents. They will limit their responses to only Iowa residents. The new policy was necessary due to lack of reference staff. Out-of-state researchers will receive a list of people to contact who will search the library's records. Some of the library's records can be obtained by inter-library loan; others may be accessed through the Family History Centers.

--from *Pioneer Trails* 6/96, et al.

NEBRASKA
STATE
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

20TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

HOLIDAY INN
HASTINGS, NEBRASKA

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For Reservations Call
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Room Rates

\$56.00 1 person
\$61.00 2-4 persons

N.S.G.S. ANNUAL CONFERENCE - - MAY 2-3, 1997

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO N.S.G.S.

MAIL TO: N.S.G.S. CONFERENCE
C/O RUTH McCLURKIN
4252 LARIAT LANE
GRAND ISLAND, NE 68803

I wish to join NSGS and qualify for member rates. Separate check is enclosed payable to NSGS MEMBERSHIP

FOUR SURNAMES WILL BE LISTED IN THE SYLLABUS IF POSTMARKED BY APRIL 10, 1997.

Example: VESTAL 1750-1900 NC, VA, IL, IA, NE My four surnames are:

1. _____
3. _____

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NEBRASKA
GENEALOGISTS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL

RUTH

308-384-3218

PRE-REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
APRIL 15, 1997 (APRIL 10 FOR SURNAMES)

NSGS MEMBERS:
FRIDAY SESSIONS \$10.00 _____
SATURDAY SESSIONS \$10.00 _____
SATURDAY LUNCHEON \$10.00 _____

NON-MEMBERS:
FRIDAY SESSIONS \$15.00 _____
SATURDAY SESSIONS \$15.00 _____
SATURDAY LUNCHEON \$15.00 _____

SYLLABUS \$5.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED FOR
REGISTRATION, MEAL, SYLLABUS \$ _____

ALL REGISTRATIONS MADE AFTER APRIL 15
AND AT THE DOOR ADD \$5.00 TO TOTAL PAID

2. _____
4. _____

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a charge of \$5.00 for the Conference Syllabus which contains all handouts. Please mark the space and include the amount with your registration. All registrations made after April 15 and at the door please add \$5.00 to the total registration



THURSDAY MAY 1, 1997

7:00 P.M. AREA REPS
MEETING
7:30 P.M. EXECUTIVE
BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY MAY 2, 1997

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION
9:30-10:30 CATHERINE RENSCHLER
Church Records
BREAK
10:30-10:45 RONNIE O'BRIEN
Along the Mormon Trail
11:45-1:30 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
1:30-1:45 WELCOME AND MESSAGES
1:45-2:45 NANCY JOHNSON
Myths of Women's Madness
on the Plains
BREAK
2:45-3:15
3:15-4:15 EVELYN VOHLAND
D.A.R. Research
EVENING MEAL ON YOUR
OWN
7:00-8:00 P.M. CATHERINE RENSCHLER
Locating Your Immigrant
Ancestors
BREAK
8:00-8:15 P.M. BREAK
8:15-9:15 P.M. GEORGENE SONES
Grandpa & Grandma, Your
Vital Records Can't Be Found

N.S.G.S. NEW MEMBERS

Annual Dues:
\$15.00 Individual
\$18.00 Family

Anyone wishing to join for FY 97-98 (June 1-May 31
may receive member rates for this Annual Conference
Registration. Please include a separate check for
Membership payable to N.S.G.S. and mark the space on
the reverse side of this form.

SATURDAY MAY 3, 1997

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION
9:15-9:45 N.S.G.S. ANNUAL MEETING
10:00-11:00 ALTON KRAFT
Discontinued Post Offices in
Nebraska
BREAK
11:00-11:15
11:15-12:15 GEORGENE SONES
Digging For Your Roots in
Courtroom Records
12:15-1:30 NOON LUNCHEON
Outstanding Genealogists
Awards
1:30-2:30 BECKY WHEDON
Mayflower Descendants
Research
BREAK
2:30-3:00
3:00-4:00 CYNTHIA MONROE
Genetics in Your Research

VENDORS

Some Genealogical Books and Suppliers
Genealogical Society Tables
N.S.G.S. Publications for Sale

White Elephant Table
Bring old books or other genealogical related material
you want to sell marked with your name, address and
selling price. N.S.G.S. keeps 10%

Handout material will be supplied in the Syllabus for all
speakers. Audio taping will be allowed for personal
review of the sessions.

SURPLUS ITEMS FOR SALE

We have cleaned out our closets and found many items
that we can live without, but hope you can't. Items we
have for sale will be on display. Please come prepared to
make a bid on all of these items. Bids will be opened at
the noon luncheon, that way you will be able to take your
purchases home with you from the meeting.



"THE PARTY TELEPHONE LINE"

by

Bernice Jamison

Rock County Centennial Book -- 1888-1988

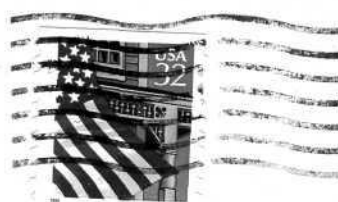
I sure do miss the old party telephone line,
You could call up "Central" just to find out the time.
Or who's up to what and who's courting Sue,
And when the neighbor's next baby is due,
Who did a big wash or made a big batch of soap.
And what poor neighbor's at the end of their rope,
And five long rings in the middle of the night,
Brought you springing from bed, heart pounding in fright,
It might be a prairie fire a few miles away,
And help was forth coming with little delay,
And when baby drank kerosene out of a cup,
Help was on the way before the receiver was up.
Reach out and touch someone is convenient, you bet,
But the party line closeness is hard to forget.



Remember Her on
Mother's Day

A mother stands alone
In the sea of time.
Her human heart
Modeled after God's own
Holds grief and joy.
The fire of love
Burns in it strong.
In her eyes
Children do no wrong.
Sometimes they cause pain,
But, through it all
Her love remains.
Gently, she makes way
For a new generation.
Stepping aside silently
Praising, caring, supporting
Her offspring.
Her love does not wither.
Rather, it blooms on, forever

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



Bernice Dewey
306 E. Prospect Ave
Norfolk NE 68701