

MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

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October, 1997

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 - Audrey Polenske

Secretary - Ginger Houser

Treasurer - Donald and Dorothy Monson

Newsletter Editors - Joyce Borgelt and Jeanne Rix

Library located at home of Harold Lyon, 604 So. 14th Street, Norfolk, NE Phone 402-371-2589

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Autumn finally arrived with rain, cool weather, and the foliage is beginning to show very lovely colors.

Madison County Genealogy Society is growing in membership which is very encouraging. With more members we will get more input and more accomplishments for a healthy growth in our society.

In September we had an excellent program given by Deborah Arenz about the Elkhorn Valley Museum which has recently moved into a newly constructed building. October's program will be given by Dale Pinnt with his collection of Helsey Glass. The meeting in November will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We will get a preview of what they have to offer for the benefit of our society. We have no meeting in December. In January the society members and their spouses meet in a restaurant for a post-Christmas dinner.

May each of you enjoy the remainder of the Autumn season and have a joyful time throughout the Christmas holidays.

Sincerely,

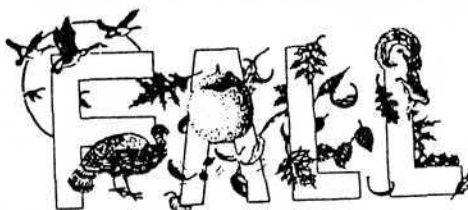


Lottie Klein

We welcome two new members:

Jean Rumsey, 1900 Sunset Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701, 402-371-0672

Eleanor Meuse, 6617 N. Windmount Ave., Parker, CO. 80134, 841-4290



The Story of America's Comeback from Pearl Harbor



1941
December
 December 7—Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. On the same day (December 8, East Longitude Time), they hit Wake, Guam, Philippines, Malaya and Hong Kong and invade Thailand.
 December 8—United States and Great Britain declare war on Japan. Japanese attack Midway, take Thailand, move into Malaya.
 December 9—Japanese occupy northern Gilbert Islands.
 December 10—Enemy lands in Philippines, sinks British battleship Prince of Wales and battle cruiser Repulse off Malaya.
 December 12—Guam occupied.
 December 22—First American troops arrive in Australia.
 December 24—Wake falls.
 December 25—Hong Kong fortress falls to Japanese.
 December 27—Manila bombed despite declaration as open city.

1942
January
 January 2—Japanese occupy Manila and Cavite naval base.
 January 11—Celebes invaded.
 January 15—Japanese advance into Burma.
 January 23—Enemy lands on New Britain.
 January 23-24—United States destroyers attack Japanese forces in Makassar Strait.
 January 29—Yanks land in Fiji Islands.

February
 February 1—United States carriers and cruisers attack enemy bases in Marshall and Gilbert Islands.
 February 15—Singapore surrenders.
 February 27—Allies lose 13 vessels in Battle of the Java Sea.

March
 March 4—United States Navy raids Marcus Island.
 March 5—Japanese take Batavia.
 March 10—Rangoon falls; Japanese conquer Java.
 March 12—Yanks land in New Caledonia.
 March 13—Japanese invade Solomon Islands.
 March 17—General MacArthur arrives in Australia, leaving Philippine command to General Wainwright.
 March 31—Enemy opens all-out assault on Bataan.

April
 April 9—Fighting ends on Bataan Peninsula.
 April 18—Doolittle's "Shangri-La" bombers raid Tokyo, Yokohama and Nagoya.
 April 30—Lashio, Burma Road key, falls to Japanese.

May
 May 5—British land in Madagascar.
 May 6—Corregidor falls; organized Philippine campaign ends.
 May 4-8—Carrier Lexington lost, Yorktown disabled in Battle of the Coral Sea.
 May 13—Japanese occupy Burma.

June
 June 3—Dutch Harbor, Alaska, is air-raided. Landings in Aleutians (Attu, Agattu and Kiska) follow.
 June 3-6—United States routs enemy force in Battle of Midway.

July
 July 4—"Flying Tigers," in China, join United States Army Air Forces.
 July 22—Japanese land at Buna and Gona, New Guinea.

August
 August 7—United States Marines land on Guadalcanal and Tulagi in first major Allied offensive of the Pacific war.
 August 8—Enemy resistance overcome at Tulagi.
 August 9—Battle of Savo Island ends with one Australian and three United States heavy cruisers lost after Japanese night attack.
 August 17-18—United States force raids Makin.
 August 26—Japanese land at Milne Bay, New Guinea.
 August 30—Adak occupied by United States forces.

September
 September 15—U. S. S. Wasp sunk in Solomons area.
 September 25—Japanese turned back from Port Moresby.

October
 October—Japanese evacuate Agattu in Aleutians.
 October 26—Battle of Santa Cruz Islands. United States carrier Hornet sunk, but nine enemy ships are damaged.

November
 November 13-15—Battle of Guadalcanal gives United States decisive naval victory as 16 Japanese warships and four transports are sunk.

December
 December 9—Allies occupy Gona in New Guinea.
 December 11—Yanks occupy Buna village, New Guinea.

1943
January
 January 12—United States forces occupy Amchitka Island, Aleutians.

February
 February 9—United States forces completely occupy Guadalcanal. Enemy loses 50 thousand men.

March
 March 2-6—Battle of Bismarck Sea, cost Japanese three cruisers, seven destroyers, 12 transports and 15 thousand troops.
 March 23—Allies completely occupy Mombare River area in New Guinea.

April
 April 1—Chinese drive Nipponese from Yunan province into Burma.
 April 30—Kiska bombed for one hundred and forty-fifth time in a month.

May
 May 4—United States announces occupation of Russell Islands in February.
 May 11—Yanks land on Attu.

June
 June 22—Americans move onto Woodlark, Trobriand Islands, off east tip of New Guinea.
 June 30—Yanks and Aussies land on Rendova and New Georgia Islands in the Solomons and Nassau Bay, New Guinea.

July
 July 5-6—United States Fleet scores heavily in Battle of Kula Gulf.
 July 12-13—Navy sinks Japanese cruiser, three destroyers in additional action in Kula Gulf.
 July 16—Allies occupy Mubo, New Guinea.

August
 August 6—Yanks conquer Munda, New Georgia.
 August 15—United States and Canadian forces invade Kiska to find Japanese have fled the island.
 August 17—Yanks occupy Vella Lavella in Central Solomons.
 August 27—Japanese quit New Georgia.
 August 30—Americans win Arundel Island in the Solomons.

September
 September 11—Army announces capture of Salamaua.
 September 16—Lae, New Guinea, falls to United States.

October
 October 27—Allies land in Treasury Islands in the Solomons.

November
 November 1—Marines invade Bougainville.
 November 21—Marines and soldiers land on Malin and Tarawa.
 November 23—United States forces capture Makin.

December
 December 15—Yanks invade Arawe, New Britain.
 December 26—Marines land at Cape Gloucester, New Britain, opposite Arawe.

1944
January
 January 2—Allies land at Saifor, New Guinea.

February
 February 1—United States invades Kwajalein atoll in Marshall Islands.
 February 7—Enemy resistance ends on Kwajalein.
 February 20—Americans invade Eniwetok.
 February 29—Yanks invade Admiralty Islands.

March
 March 10-14—Americans capture Wotho, Ujae and Lae atolls in Marshalls.
 March 16—Liberators make first land-based attack on Truk.
 March 18—Americans and British landed from planes behind enemy lines in Burma.
 March 19—India invaded by Japanese in Burma.

April
 April 22—MacArthur's forces land at Hollandia and Alape.
 April 24—Yanks complete Marshalls operation.
 April 28—Conquest of Hollandia completed.

May
 May 27—Allies land on Biak Island.

June
 June 15—Americans land on Saipan.
 June 16—B-29 Superfortresses bomb Yawata, Japan, from China in first land-based raid on Japanese home islands.
 June 20—American carrier planes drive off enemy fleet near Saipan in First Battle of the Philippine Sea, sinking or damaging 18 war ships.

July
 July 9—Organized resistance ends on Saipan.
 July 20—Premier Hideki Tojo and his cabinet resign. Koiso takes over.
 July 21—Yanks invade Guam.
 July 24—Marines land on Tinian.

August
 August 1—Organized resistance ends on Tinian.
 August 3—Myitkyina, important base in north Burma, falls to Chinese troops after three-month siege.
 August 10—Yanks win Guam.
 August 15—Japanese driven completely out of India by British.

September
 September 15—Yanks invade Peleliu in the Palau and MacArthur's troops land on Morotal in the Halmaheras.

October
 October 8—Japanese land on coast of Fukien province in China.
 October 13—Organized resistance ends on Peleliu.
 October 20—MacArthur "comes back" as his forces storm ashore Philippines at Leyte.
 October 23—Yanks take Tacloban, Leyte's capital.
 October 23-26—United States Fleet sinks 24 Japanese ships in second Battle of the Philippine Sea. America loses six ships.
 October 26—Yanks move to Samar from Leyte.

November
 November 24—Superfortresses bomb Tokyo for first time from Saipan base.

December
 December 15—United States forces invade Mindoro in the Philippines.
 December 21—MacArthur announces end of organized resistance on Leyte.

1945
January
 January 9—Yanks land in Lingayen Gulf area of Luzon.
 January 23—Ledo-Burma Road is opened.
 January 29—United States landings made at Subic Bay area of Luzon.



February
 February 5—Yank troops enter Manila.
 February 16—Americans take Bataan after landing in Mariveles Harbor.
 February 16—United States paratroopers land on Corregidor.
 February 19—Marines land on Iwo Jima against fanatical opposition.
 February 23—Marines reach summit of Mount Suribachi at southern tip of Iwo Jima.
 February 25—Virtually all Japanese resistance at Manila ends.

March

March 17—Iwo Jima captured.

April

April 1—United States Tenth Army invades Okinawa.
 April 5—MacArthur and Nimitz appointed to lead Army and Navy drives in Pacific.
 April 5—Russia denounces neutrality pact with Japan as Koiso cabinet falls and Suzuki takes over.
 April 29—Americans take Baguio, Philippine summer capital.

May

May 1—Allies invade Tarakan, Borneo.
 May 6—MacArthur announces complete liberation of Davao, Mindanao.
 May 24 and May 26—Superfortresses devastate Tokyo with fire bombs.
 May 27—Chinese recapture Yungning to cut Japan's lifeline from North China to Indo-China and Malaya.
 May 29—Marines storm into Shuri castle, Japanese stronghold on Okinawa.

June

June 4—Yanks land on Oruku Peninsula, Okinawa.
 June 10—Australians land at Brunei Bay, Borneo.
 June 18—Lieut. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., United States Tenth Army commander, killed on Okinawa.
 June 21—Organized resistance ends on Okinawa.
 June 26—Australians complete recapture of Miri oil fields in West Borneo.
 June 26—Yanks seize Kume Island just west of Okinawa.
 June 28—All Luzon is liberated, MacArthur announces.

July

July 1—Australians land at Balikpapan, Borneo.
 July 5—Entire Philippine Islands liberated, MacArthur says; campaign is "virtually closed."
 July 11—Balikpapan Bay won.

August

August 3—Japan complete blockaded by B-25's, United States Air Forces says.
 August 6—First atomic bomb history obliterates 60 per cent Hiroshima on Honshu. American and British scientists had harnessed the energy of the earth.
 August 8—Russia declares war on Japan, effective at midnight.
 August 9—At one second after midnight, Russian troops slash into Manchuria. Americans drop atomic bomb on Nagasaki and Kyushu.

August 10—Domei, official Japanese news agency, broadcasts Japanese willingness to surrender provided the prerogatives of Emperor Hirohito were not prejudiced. Several hours later the White House said the war was continuing in the absence of an official communication.

August 11—Allies accept Japanese surrender offer on condition that the Emperor take orders from supreme Allied commander.

August 14—Tokyo Radio says Japanese will surrender on Allied terms.



The War in Europe

As a memory refresher—and as a link with the war now brought to a victorious close—the important dates of the European war are listed here:

- September 1, 1939—Germans invade Poland.
- September 3—Britain and France declare war on Germany.
- September 28—Germany and Russia partition Poland.
- April 9, 1940—Nazis invade Norway and Denmark.
- May 10—Hitler invades Lowlands. Churchill becomes Prime Minister.
- May 29—British begin escape from Dunkerque.
- June 22—French sign armistice with Germany.
- August 8—German air force begins blitz of Britain.
- March 11, 1941—President Roosevelt signs Lend-Lease bill.
- June 22—Nazis invade Russia.
- August 14—Roosevelt-Churchill sea conference; draft Atlantic Charter.
- December 11—Germany and Italy declare war on United States.
- January 26, 1942—First American troops arrive in Ireland.
- September 17—Nazis penetrate Stalingrad.
- October 23—British break Axis line at El Alamein.
- November 8—Americans and British invade north Africa.
- January 18, 1943—Russians break siege of Stalingrad.
- May 12—Axis resistance ends in Tunisia.
- July 10—Allies invade Sicily.
- September 3—Italy invaded.
- September 8—Italy surrenders unconditionally.
- June 4, 1944—Allies take Rome.
- June 6—Anglo-American forces invade Normandy.
- July 20—German generals fail in attempt to kill Hitler.
- August 25—Paris liberated.
- October 20—Russians smash into East Prussia.
- December 16—German counter-offensive opens in Ardennes forest.
- January 17—Soviets capture Warsaw.
- March 7, 1945—Americans cross Rhine at Remagen.
- March 24—Anglo-American drive over Rhine in force.
- April 25—United States, Soviet troops link at Torgau.
- May 1—Nazis announce Hitler's death.
- May 2—Berlin falls.
- May 7—Germany surrenders unconditionally.

Source: Omaha World Herald 1945

WORLD WAR II MEMORIES

The Nebraska State Historical Society is asking people write down their **World War II recollections** and submit them for inclusion in their Library-Archives. The questions (which we've copied from a hand-out from the Museum of Nebraska History) may help you get started.

Send your reminiscence to:

World War II Memories
Nebraska State Historical Society
Box 82554, Lincoln, NE 68501

MILITARY SERVICE: Males and Females

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Date of birth
5. Ethnic background
6. Address during the war if different from above. Was this your place of birth or considered by you to be your hometown?
7. Your occupation immediately prior to the start of World War II.
8. When did you join the military?
9. Why did you join the military?
10. What was the reaction of your family and friends when you did join?
11. With what branch of the military did you serve?
12. Within what division, regiment, unit, etc. did you serve?
13. List the places you served and the duties you performed.
14. Describe the kind of training you underwent.
15. What was your rank?
16. What were your duties?
17. If you fought overseas, in what major campaigns did you participate?
18. Did you ever become a P.O.W? Please explain.
19. Please share your recollections regarding:
 - a. V-E and V-J days.
 - b. Nebraska's participation in World War II.
 - c. Post WWII years (How did the war affect our later life?)
20. Any other World War II memories?

Additional Questions for Women

1. Did you encounter any discrimination?
2. Do you feel the military operated efficiently especially in regard to women?

CHILDREN/TEEN-AGERS: During the War

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Sex
5. Date of birth
6. Ethnic background
7. Address during the war if different from above. Was this your place of birth or considered by you to be your hometown?
8. Your parents' occupations immediately prior to the start of World War II.
9. Did this change during the war? Please explain.
10. Was any family member employed in a war production plant or in the military? In what capacity? For what length of time?
1. Were you or anyone you knew a member of the Junior Commandos, Junior Red Cross, High School Victory Corps, or USO? Were you a member of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or Camp Fire Girls? What activities did these groups participate in on behalf of the war effort?
2. In what local war efforts did you or your family participate? (scrap drives, victory gardens, etc.)
3. How did the war affect your leisure time activities? Please explain.
4. List as many of your favorite popular songs of the war years.
5. List your favorite stars of the war years. Favorite radio shows.

16. Please share your recollections regarding the following:
 - a. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
 - b. Rationing
 - c. Civil Defense (air raid warnings, black outs)
 - d. V-E and V-J days
 - e. Nebraska's participation in World War II
 - f. Post World War II years (How did the war affect your later life?)
17. Other World War II memories?

ADULT CIVILIANS

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Sex
5. Date of birth
6. Ethnic background
7. Address during the war if different from above. Was this your place of birth or considered by you to be your hometown?
8. Your occupation immediately prior to the start of World War II.
9. Did this change during the war? Please explain.
10. Were you or anyone you knew employed in a war production plant? In what capacity? For what length of time?
11. Did a member of your family serve in the military during World War II?
12. In what local war efforts did you or your family participate? (scrap drives, victory gardens, etc.)
13. Please share your recollections regarding the following:
 - a. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
 - b. Rationing
 - c. Civil Defense (air raid warnings, black outs)
 - d. V-E and V-J days
 - e. Nebraska's participation in World War II
 - f. Post World War II years (How did the war affect your later life?)
14. Other World War II memories?

Additional Questions for Farmers

1. What type of farming were you engaged in?
2. How did the start of the war affect your farming activities?
3. Did the government purchase any of your farmland? Did you receive a fair price?
4. Did you use prisoner of war labor on your farm? What camp were the prisoners from? What nationality were they? Describe the kind of work they did for you. How were the prisoners treated? Were you afraid of them?
5. How did rationing specifically affect your farming activities?
6. What percentage of your crop or livestock production went to the armed forces?
7. Any other comments you'd like to make about farming during the war years?

Additional Questions for Americans of Japanese Descent

1. If you were not living in Nebraska prior to the war, where were you living and what were the circumstances which brought you here?
2. What was your reaction to the attack on Pearl Harbor?
3. What was the reaction of your community to you and your family following the United States' entry into the war?
4. Did any of your family members serve in the military during the war? If so, who and in what capacity?

[Copied from: A Nebraska State Historical Library NEWSLETTER; suggested by Duane Burham.

The small type style had to be used because of space limitations. Ed.]

Source LLCGS-Feb. 96

WORLD WAR I DRAFT RECORDS

The draft registration cards resulting from the Selective Service System of World War I, can provide useful data on men born between 1873 and 1900. The information requested of draft-eligible men (between the ages of 18 and 45) included full name, home address, date of birth and age in years, employer, and information about citizenship. A brief personal description indicates race, color of eyes and hair, height (tall, medium, short), and build (slender, medium, stout).

Additional questions were asked, as well; however, the information available upon a particular draft card will depend on which of the three registrations enrolled the draftee.

The Selective Service System was authorized by the Selective Service Act of 18 May 1917. Registration was left to the states, where local draft boards registered, classified, inducted, and delivered to mobilization camps, men eligible for the draft.

Three registrations were conducted, the first 5 June 1917 and two the following year (June and August 1918 and September 12, 1918). More than 24,234,021 men between the ages of 21 and 31 were registered, and more than 2,800,000 were inducted into the military service. By the third registration the age limits were extended to include men between the ages of 18 and 45.

Two volunteers at the National Archives undertook a detailed study of these records. Particularly in Georgia and other areas of Indian population, the question as to Indian citizenship provides an incentive to Native Americans. Also, for states (such as Georgia and Iowa) with post-1918 mandatory registration of birth records, the details on nativity are critical.

The draft records have been filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah and are available through the Family History Library. Microfilm copies are available at the National Archives regions which serve the respective states. The originals are held by the National Archives—Southeast Region
(Information provided from the FGS Forum)

WORLD WAR I DRAFT REGISTRATION CARDS			
Information asked at specific registration:	June 5, 1917 (A)	June & Aug. 1918 (B)	Sep. 12, 1918 (C)
Age of men registered	21-31	21 since 5 June 1917	18-21 and 31-45
Birthplace (town, state, nation)	✓	✓	no
Present trade, occupation or office	✓	no	✓
Dependents (father, mother, wife, child or sibling under 12). State which	✓	no	no
Nearest relative & address	no	✓	✓
If bald	✓	no	no
Married or single	✓	no	no
Previous military service (rank, branch, years, nation or state)	✓	no	no
If exemption claimed, on what grounds	✓	no	no
Father's birthplace	no	✓	no
Indian citizen or non-citizen	no	no	✓

Source: Prairie Pioneers Gen. Soc. - Oct. 96

IF ONE OF YOUR ANCESTORS FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR..

...Here's how to track down all his military records for a minimum investment of time and money.

by David R. Cuttler

Somewhere in the attic is stored an old, rusting musket dated 1862. In a trunk in the corner is a battered haversack and a half-dozen letters spelled phonetically and almost illegible with age. They belonged to your great-grandfather and you know he fought in the Civil War. But what did he really do in the war? The answer can be quite easy and cheap to discover.

The first step is the easiest. You may obtain free from the National Archives GSA Form 67851 called "Order and Billing for Copies of Veteran's Records,"(NNCC), National Archives (GSA), Washington, DC 20408.

To fill out the form you must have at a minimum the veteran's full name, the state from which he served, and whether the service was with the Union or Confederate Armies.

Civil War service records are indexed at the National Archives by state and then alphabetically by soldier. The Archive staff members will run the index for you and then locate your veteran's file. The cost is surprisingly small, averaging about \$4 per soldier per file.

You will want both pension and military records for your research. The military record may be extremely sparse and consist of nothing more than muster rolls which indicate when your ancestor enlisted, when he was paid, and when he was discharged. Pension records are apt to be far more informative. While his military records may state "wounded at Gettysburg," the pension records will show exactly what happened, how and where, and what happened to the veteran after he was shot.

For additional information, ask the National Archives for a listing of all their services and this will bring you a wealth of pamphlets explaining how you can get copies of censuses, lists of immigrants coming through New York, and who obtained land grants from the government. Again, most of these services are wither free or available for a nominal cost

Another route is available also, if you have the services of a good public library or a university that has access to the Library of Congress lending program.

Following the Civil War many volunteer regiments put down in writing the accomplishments of their nit. As a result, hundreds upon hundreds of regimental histories were written. Those units that saw a gret deal of action may have had more than one publication devoted to their services.

To find out if there is a history of your ancestor's regiment, there is one standard work to which you may turn. It is the Military Bibliography of the Civil War, compiled by C.D. Dormbusch and printed by the New York Public Library and Readex Books. While the cost prohibits the casual researcher from buying the entire 3-volume set (it runs more than \$75), your local library or university ought to be able to obtain a copy for you on loan. The Dornbusch volumes list, by regiment, all known works in print as of the date of publication(1972) as well as where they may be located.

State archives are another source of information on your Civil War ancestor. Many of the states kept better records than the federal government on their troops and most archives will check their index for you to see what, if any, record they might have on your veteran.

Massachusetts residents have one clear advantage over most other states. A monumental set of records called, appropriately enough, *Massachusetts Soldiers and Marines in the Civil War*. A lot of copies of this work are still around and a check of your public library may well produce a copy of it. This lists virtually every man who went to war from Massachusetts with a brief description of his service.

One final resource is available—again through the larger university or public libraries. It is the *War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union And Confederate Armies*. Printed by the United States Government at the turn of the century, This massive work contains the orders, reports, letters, and commands which resulted from the battles of the Civil War. Arranged chronologically and then grouped by battles and campaigns, it presents a wealth of information for the amateur genealogist.

With a small investment of time and money you may find out that, you are, indeed, descended from a hero.

Source: Prairie Pioneer Gen. Soc. Apr 97

CIVIL WAR DESIGNATIONS

From *AntiqueWeek*, 20 May 1996, comes the following article by Harold "Sonny" Wells of Liberty, Miss., considered by many to be an expert in finding the graves of Confederate soldiers who earned the Medal of Honor for service. Wells admits to being a "Civil War Nut" who likes to share his information about the war. Whenever he makes a speech he also has handouts explaining military markings you might find on tombstones while doing research.

Civil War Unit Designations

Federals - Also known as Yankees
Inf - Infantry, can also be mounted
Cav - Cavalry, can be mounted or dismounted
Art - Artillery, can be light or heavy
Eng - Engineers, road builders, telegraph lines or trains
Reg't - Regiment, part of division comprising several companies
Troop - Same as company, only mounted
EMM - Enrolled Missouri militia, organized unit
Prov EMM - Provisional EMM, Reserves of EMM, on call
Vol - Volunteers, not drafted
VV - Veteran volunteer, serving 2nd or 3rd hitch
Galv - Galvanized-Confederate POWs who served in Federal blue on Western Plains fighting Indians
MHGRC - Missouri Home Guard Reserve Corp
USCT - U.S. colored troops, all black in the ranks led by white officers
AC or AD - African corps or African descent. Black units from Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama
SC - Signal corps
Med Co or MC - Medical Corps
VRC - Veteran Reserve Corps
Confederates - Also called Rebels, Secessionists, Sesesh's
MSG - Missouri State Guard, organized state troops
IN - Indian Nation, Oklahoma
Partisan - Sympathizer or guerrilla, not in regular service

Terms

Enlisted - Signed up for service...3 mos, 6 mos, 1

yr, 3yrs

Mustered in - Sworn into service at Assembly point
Mustered out - Officially released from duty
Bounty - Fee paid to enlistee, can be federal, state and/or county
Disenfranchised - Right to vote taken away for not signing loyalty oath

Post-War Veterans Units

GAR - Grand Army of the Republic - Union Army Veterans
Ladies of the GAR - Women's support group
MOLL - Military Order of the Loyal Legion
WRC - Women's Relief Corps
Ex-Confederate Assoc. - Confederate Veterans
UCV - United Confederate Veterans
DOC - Daughters of the Confederacy
CLO - Confederate Ladies Organization
UDC - Formed in 1890s from DOC and CLO
SUV - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
SCV - Sons of Confederate Veterans
MOSB - Military Order of the Stars and Bars (descendants of Confederate soldiers)
DUV - Daughters of Union Veterans

Source: Bureau Co. Gen. Soc. Vol VII-5

ILLINOIS RECORDS

Illinois State Archives has indexed names of men who served in the Illinois regiments during the Indian Wars, Civil War and Spanish-American War. On request they will search one index and provide information on two persons at a time. Send a SASE to Illinois State Archives, Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756.

--from Decatur GS, et al.

Source Bureau Co. Gen. Soc Jan-Feb 1997

CIVIL WAR PHOTOS

The U.S. Army Military Institute in Carlisle, PA is attempting to collect pictures of every person who served in the Civil War (either side). The photo need not show the person in uniform or at the time of the war. If you are interested in helping with this project, send the photo (which will be returned to you) to:

U.S. Army Military History Institute
Upton Hall

Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5008

Be sure to include full identification and documentation for each picture submitted.

Copied from the Will-Grundy Counties, Illinois Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

Source LLCGS-Jan 95

Buffalo Soldiers get overdue recognition



NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

▲ This photo of a Buffalo Soldier in the Great Plains is part of a program scheduled today and Saturday at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Museum of Nebraska History at 15th and P streets. The event features an exhibit on loan from the Colorado Historical Society and photographs of Buffalo Soldiers in Nebraska.

BY DON WALTON
Lincoln Journal Star

At the end of the Civil War, grateful citizens honored triumphant Union soldiers in a parade in the nation's capital.

It took two days for the victorious troops to pass.

Two hundred thousand black soldiers served in the Union cause, but none marched in honor in Washington that day.

Blacks had either been mustered out of the Northern army or had already been sent West. There, on the Great Plains and as far south as Texas, they would write their own chapter in the history of the American West.

They became the Buffalo Soldiers.

And when at the end of the fighting in the West they set out upon a forced march from Fort Robinson in Nebraska to ride to

the rescue of the 7th Cavalry at Wounded Knee, they probably fired the last volley in what became known as the Indian Wars.

It was then, Bill Gwaltney says, that the black soldiers were asked to parade in honor past a grateful white general on the plains of South Dakota. It was an ending quite different than that of the Civil War.

Gwaltney, superintendent of Fort Laramie National Historical Site and curator of Buffalo Soldiers West, told the story of the Buffalo Soldiers to participants at the opening session of a symposium on African Americans and the Great Plains Thursday night. The three-day symposium, sponsored by the African American and African Studies program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln,

Soldiers/Get recognition

will conclude Saturday.

The Buffalo Soldiers "thought they could change America's racist views and racist behavior by serving well in the U.S. Army," Gwaltney said.

Eighteen black soldiers received the Medal of Honor.

The Buffalo Soldiers got their name from American Indians, apparently because their curly hair reminded Indians of the matted hair of the buffalo.

Blacks actually had proved their military valor long before they headed West, Gwaltney said. They first served in the army in the Revolutionary War.

For the Buffalo Soldiers, service in the Army was "the best job and the only career available to a black man in the United States at the time," Gwaltney noted. It also provided their first opportunity for an education.

Life was difficult for the soldiers, who served in harsh conditions and were paid \$13 a month. And they still were subjected to racism. But, Gwaltney said, "they served their country well."

His exhibit of Buffalo Soldiers West is featured at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Museum of Nebraska History this weekend.

Mayor Mike Johanns greeted the opening of the symposium with a proclamation declaring Friday as Aaron Douglas Day in honor of the noted African American artist who graduated from the university in 1922.

Douglas is "a source of great pride for all Nebraskans," Johanns wrote in a proclamation read to the audience by City Council member Jerry Shoecraft.

Source: Lincoln Journal Star - Feb 21, 1997

SOCIAL SECURITY DEATH BENEFIT RECORDS

1. The Social Security Death Benefit Records File (SSDB) is the only Social Security file that is released to the general public for open use. This record can lead you to additional information if used properly. The SSDB is a different file from the Master Social Security File (MSSF). ONLY the SSDB is released to the public.
2. The individuals who are on the SSDB are deceased only. The following conditions MUST exist in order for a name to be on the SSDB:
 - a. Must have had a SS# and collected benefits while they lived OR,
 - b. Must have died, and survivors applied for benefits against the SS# holder.
 - c. The Social Security Administration at the local or federal level must move the name and # from the MSSF to the SSDB File.
3. Does this mean that there could be individuals in the Master file who are dead? Yes! The proof of death for the Soc. Sec System is an application for benefits which must have copy of a death certificate with it.
4. Does this mean that benefits could be applied for and the name not show up on the SSDB records file? Yes! The "system" must move the name from one file to another.
5. If an individual is not on the SSDB they can, in theory be moved by applying for the Death Benefit Check which is authorized for all who have a SS#. This is done by filling out the application for this specific benefit and sending in the death certificate with the application.
6. Are the records published by the LDS Church, Automated Archives Division of Banner Blue and Cambridge the same? They should be but seldom are. Even though each organization may receive the same dated tape of information, the production process often causes the data to be different. For example, the Rail Road Pension info can be found on the AA set but not on the LDS set. Why?, I do not know. I suspect that it has to do with the way the production process is done.

WHERE CAN YOU GET OR VIEW THIS INFORMATION? - Nearly every LDS Family History Center has the set published by the LDS Church. Some have the AA set also. You can also receive these CDs as an accepted applicant of the home lease program conducted by the LDS Church. You can write to the LDS Church Office Building 50 East Temple St. Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 Attn Family Search CDs. The AA set can be ordered on CS via E-Mail through the undersigned. Price is \$45. The Cambridge version is available through Cambridge publishing. I do not have their address but you can find their advertisements in the Genealogical Helper.

One of the little know search benefits of the SS is the incredible number of individuals who were born in the 1840s thru the end of that century who can be found on the SSDB.

Downloaded from CompuServe from material written by John F. Whitaker.
Source: Plains Gen. Soc. - Winter 96

Civil War Pension Files Not in the National Archives

Often when genealogists are learning about the existence of both the service and pension files of a Civil War veteran (Union side), several publications advise them that such files were deposited with the federal government's National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC. If they just complete and submit a certain form, they will be able to obtain copies of those files. They are also informed that from a genealogical standpoint the pension file would be more useful than the service file.

One researcher, after learning the claim number of that file, through the filmed pension records index available from Salt Lake City, obtained and filled out the necessary form, NATE Form 80 (Order for Copies of Veterans Records), and mailed it to the NARA. Six weeks later he received the form back with the mimeographed advice that although the requested file existed, it was not in the custody of the NARA. Instead, it was one that was under the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Included was the address of the nearest regional office. A phone call revealed that the requested pension records were on file in the VA's facility in Suitland, Maryland. They could be accessed by

submitting a formal letter of request (there was no standard form) to the regional office. They in turn would submit a request to Suitland to have the file shipped to the regional office, after which the researcher could come in and extract copies of whatever he wished or could have copies of the entire file made by them and sent to him.

About six months from the time he first contacted the NARA, he received copies of the entire contents of the files, 90 pages in all.

A partial explanation for the location of these files is found in *A Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*. Regarding pension application files, it is stated that "Excluded (from the Archives) are records of pensioners still on the rolls in 1934." Nothing is said about that category of files being with the VA and the necessity of contacting the VA to access them.

Paraphrased from *FAMILY CONNECTIONS: The Quarterly of the Family History Society of Arizona*, Jul-Aug-Sep 1995.

Source: SENGs-Beatrice - Winter 95-96

Genealogy Resources at the Mid-Continent Library

If you have ever been to the Mid-Continent Public Library, you know what a great resource there is available within the Midwest region of the country.

Ann Reinert, Head Reference Librarian, at the Mid-Continent Public Library will describe the genealogical holdings available for use at the Mid-Continent Public Library. It includes 40,000 titles of family genealogies, local and state histories and compiled county records especially of Missouri as well as border states and the eastern states. It also contains all available federal

population schedules and many other special sources on microfilm. In addition it holds most of the UMI Genealogy and Local History Series and other special microfiche materials. The program will discuss particular sources available for research with emphasis upon those sources not usually found in this state.

Ann has lived in Lincoln, Nebraska as well as other towns in the area. She has a long family tradition of interest in family history which was encouraged by her work at the Nebraska State Historical Society.

(There is an article about the Mid-Continent Public Library in the November/December 1996 issue of the *National Genealogical Society Newsletter* - Ed.)

Source LLCGS - May 97

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: PPGS Jan. 96

USING NEWSPAPERS IN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH (Part 1)

by Cindy Drake of the Nebraska State Historical Society

Newspaper obituaries are one secondary source to use when beginning family research. If obituaries are not readily available within a family collection, us the following steps to locate them:

First, find the date and location of residence at the time of your ancestor's death.

Second, is a death certificate on file for the ancestor? In Nebraska, statewide birth and death records are not available in most cases until after 1904. (These are on file with the Bureau of Vital Statistics, not the historical society).

Third, are cemetery records/tombstone transcriptions available for that community or county? The NSHS Library/Archives Reference Room includes tombstone transcriptions from various counties in Nebraska. If the death date is not located from one of these sources, local sources such as church records and funeral home records might exist that provide a date.

Once the death date has been established, locate where the existence of newspapers for the locality where the ancestor lived.

Reference reminder: "The staff of the Archives/Library will answer mail requests for information when the requests are specific, clearly stated, and limited in scope. A \$5.00 minimum fee is required before research is started. Requests should be limited to 3 searches per letter and only one letter at a time should be sent requesting searches. When you receive a response to one letter, you may send another request for 3 searches. For more advice on Nebraska genealogical research provided by mail from the Library/Archives Reference staff, request the Reference Information Guide entitled Genealogical Services. Address: Nebraska State Historical Society, P.O. Box 82554, 1500 "R" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

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